



Key Judgements

PARIS 2024 AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION FRANCE



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INTRODUCTION

Major events such as the World Cup and Superbowl attract traffickers in significantly increased numbers to service the demand of the visitors to that event and the Paris Olympics this year is likely to follow that pattern. Commercial sex is building up to be available in quantity and tailored to market expectations as evidenced by the number of ads on adult service sites, and it seems that charging rates are high.

Disclaimer: Please note that this assessment is based on a combination of open-source research, input from subject matter experts on the ground, survivor accounts, and data analysis.

We assess as follows:

RECRUITMENT

a. The profile of those advertised for sex services in Paris may be a strong indicator of trafficker recruitment and has changed over the last 10 months to the following demographics (of 1,000 ads):

- i. 30% Ukrainian; 25% Russian; 14% Chinese; and this is a doubling of the representation in % terms over May 2023.
- ii. Others: 6% Poland; 5% Brazil; 3.5% French (significant reduction) and 2.5% Baltic States. Over 35 nationalities appear in the advertised set

b. Almost 50% of all ads reference the term 'Teen', which may indicate the age of recruitment preferred by traffickers or be a reference to the nature of the market. This is an increase from 35% in May 2023.

c. 31% of those advertised are operating using Estonian cell phone numbers and the majority apply to Ukrainian and Russian ads. This may be an indication of routes into exploitation or a security tactic on the part of the traffickers

DEMAND

a. Since 2016 it is a crime to pay for sex in France, albeit prosecution statistics indicate little use of the power.

b. The fact that the term 'Teen' appears disproportionately in the ads indicates the nature of current or anticipated demand.

c. Significant percentage of the set offer in call services in 'private apartments' which may well indicate strong take up of short term lets as 'pop up' brothels by traffickers.

MONEY

a. Ads indicate price per hour @ €300 and for a day €3,000. This would indicate monthly incomes for each person in commercial sexual exploitation of €40,000 - €50,000.

b. At €300 per client, cash payments are likely to be fewer than other markets.

c. Traffickers operate as if they are a strong revenue small business and require access to financial services in the same way as every business, taking payments from clients, paying for travel, accommodation and making cash deposits into bank accounts and using other financial instruments.

d. The market for commercial sex in Paris is likely to generate €2bn a year at a minimum. The massive majority passing through everyday financial systems.

INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

STOP THE TRAFFIK GROUP WOULD LIKE YOUR EXPERTISE AND INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. STOP THE TRAFFIK (STT) would like more information on survivor feedback on payment and travel patterns for the exploited set, particularly Ukrainian and Russian.
2. STT would appreciate any insight into why there is so much reliance on Estonian cell phones?

If you are able to share any additional information relating to the requirements above. Please contact us via email at exploitationanalytics@stopthetraffik.org