

Rapid action via Eurojust leads to arrest of 10 human traffickers



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An organised crime group (OCG) in **Romania, Austria** and the **United Kingdom** allegedly forced its victims into prostitution, using the so-called 'loverboy' approach, where young men tempt women from deprived backgrounds to work for them. It is also alleged that the suspects subjected the victims to physical aggression and rewarded them using stolen golden jewellery.



May 2020 – Coordinated action day



Ten suspects of trafficking in human beings **are arrested** and five others placed under judicial control by the Romanian authorities. Two female **victims are brought to safety**, one of whom was under immediate threat from the criminal network.



Eurojust facilitates the execution of **European Investigation Orders (EIOs)** to Austria and the United Kingdom and assists with the coordination of the operation.



The authorities search three places in Austria and the UK and seize weapons, such as guns and machetes, as well as jewellery, luxury clothes, cash and IT equipment.



April 2020 – Within one week, Eurojust identifies the competent authorities in Romania, Austria and the United Kingdom, and puts them in contact with each other.

This **rapid intervention** allows the authorities to immediately coordinate efforts, in spite of the challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

