

Dismantling a criminal group trafficking women in Romania, Spain and the Czech Republic



December 2019

A joint action day was carried out by judicial and law enforcement authorities in Romania, Spain and the Czech Republic, with Eurojust playing a coordinating role and enabling the successful execution of several EIOs, and Europol supporting law enforcement officers in the field.

Operational results included the arrest of 14 suspects, 11 house searches, and the seizure of assets.

Nine young women forced into prostitution for the benefit of the criminal network were located and brought to a place of safety.

Further coordination will be necessary to tackle jurisdictional issues.



2018

Criminal proceedings were opened in Romania by the Public Prosecutor's Office in Constanta, and in Spain by the Investigating Court number 5 in Valencia, in coordination with the Valencia Provincial Prosecutor's Office, as well as national police authorities, against a criminal network recruiting young women in Romania. These women were often drugged, threatened or severely physically abused, and trafficked several times into other countries, including Spain and the Czech Republic, to work as prostitutes. The women were regularly moved, making detection difficult.

