

Uncovered: Shocking investigation reveals sex trade in girls bought in Romania and sold as prostitutes in Ireland

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Gangs making millions from human trafficking

Young sex slaves from Romania are being sold in Ireland by trafficking gangs making millions from the seedy vice trade.

And today we can reveal the Eastern European 'Mr Big' offering the girls for sale.

Shortly after this photograph was taken in a seedy Romanian club, evil Adrian Meder boasted to our undercover reporter that women could be bought for as little as €600 and be working in Ireland by Wednesday.

Gloating Meder said: “The girls will do 20 clients a day, no problem. These girls can make you a millionaire.”

We can reveal Meder, 31, is one of a network of gang bosses selling young women to pimps and arranging for them to be brought here, exploiting the relaxation in EU border controls.

Our investigators infiltrated a trafficking gang operating out of Sibiu, in the poverty-stricken heart of Transylvania, making huge profits from women in squalid conditions.

Meder told us: “If you are okay with the girls and don’t beat them they will be good. They know what they do.”

For the first time since migrants from Romania and Bulgaria were allowed to freely enter and work anywhere in the EU, we can reveal the sickening plight of girls lured from high school and sold into the Irish sex trade.

On Thursday, just weeks after Romanians and Bulgarians were granted the new working rights, we were offered a deal to buy four girls three weeks after contacting a UK fixer.

For €2,500 we were promised they would be delivered and would be ready to work straight away.

The gang boss told our team: “The Romanian girls have 20 clients per day, no problem.

“There is no problems with them going anywhere because they have opened the gate on working. This kind of work it is between the rules. They can’t do nothing to you.”

Gerardine Rowley, from Ruhama, an organisation that supports women affected by prostitution, told the Irish Sunday Mirror she was not surprised by our horrific findings.

She said: “We know Ireland has a booming sex trade and we know the majority of women are migrants.

“When we look at our figures each year, Nigeria would be the nation most represented among the women we work with and the next would be Romania.

“It is quite disturbing to hear these women are bought and sold like pieces of meat in a market.

“It highlights once again that Ireland is on the trafficking route for these criminal gangs.”

Meder told us the girls were instructed to dupe immigration officials into believing they were entering Ireland to work in legitimate professions.

And on Thursday night, he invited our investigators to Liquid night club in Sibiu so he could show off.

The gloating pimp plied girls with spirits as he auctioned them, then led us to a seedy VIP area.

There he ordered bottles of Absolut Vodka for his table and told the girls to parade for our benefit.

Introducing a tiny 22-year-old wearing only a black boob tube and leather trousers, Meder told us she spoke only “a tiny bit of English” but was extremely keen to go abroad.

Asked if she knew what kind of work she would be expected to do, he grinned and said “of course”.

A 23-year-old was the next to be brought to see us. We were told she had an exam to sit the next week.

But Meder said: “This is no problem. I can speak with people and they’ll give her a pass. She can travel next week.”

Once in Ireland, the girls disappear into a black market of backstreet saunas, brothels and escort agency work. Most charge more than €150 per hour for sex, but only get to

keep less than €60. And many use drugs to numb the pain.

Meder introduced the Irish Sunday Mirror to two other girls, a 21-year-old and a 22-year-old brunette, who asked to be taken abroad as a pair for safety.

As our investigators made their excuses and left, he pushed the 22-year-old towards us and she said: "I look forward to seeing you next week."

In a vain attempt to legitimise his operation, Meder assured our team: "They go because they want to go, I do not tell them. They are not forced. It is no longer working like that."

The victims of his evil trade are conned into believing Ireland and Britain are prime destinations where demand is constant and prices are high. But the grim reality is often a life of endless poverty and misery.

Bulgaria and Romania joined the EU in 2007, but eight countries including the UK, France and Germany imposed restrictions on the work they could do.

The restrictions were lifted on New Year's Day, allowing their citizens "free movement" anywhere in the EU.

But this means sex-trafficking now goes largely undetected by Interpol.

Scheming Meder told us: "In our country it is not legal something like that. You cannot speak about money on the phone. If you speak about money you will have the police."

Negotiating a minimum €600 price-tag on the head of each girl, he said: "If one girl is quality, then price it is more. But that's why I say nothing first time because you must see. After that we discuss a fee."

Just a few hours after our first meeting on Wednesday, we were invited to join Meder at a restaurant called El Gringos on the outskirts of Sibiu where he explained why local girls were prized.

He said: "Romanian girls go all around. They are good for this because it's the job they know. They stay in school and then can't find work. The only solution is to work in other countries.

"If you want to make good money you have to change them. I have girls two weeks in England. After that I go three weeks with them in Norway and then after that Swiss and after that Ireland. One friend of mine in one year with three girls he make €1million. When I meet him in Austria he come with a Maserati. A €350,000 car. With just three girls in one year."

Knocking back vodka and Red Bulls at another restaurant on Thursday, he told us the pimped girls were guaranteed money-makers.

And responding to our concerns about their immigration status, he insisted: "There

will be no problem.

“If somebody asks her (at an immigration desk) ‘what do you do here?’ Then she say, ‘I work in a hotel’ or, ‘I have a friend’.

“They have 1,000 possible lies. Don’t worry about it, the Romanian girls are not stupid. They go with an identity card now. They don’t need nothing. Romania is in Europe now. ”

Outside Liquid that same night as he rubbed his hands at the thought of finalising yet another sale, Meder added: “You tell me exactly when you want the girl to come. You book the flight for Wednesday and the girls will be with you on Wednesday.”

Ruhama’s Gerardine Rowley said his comments highlight the scale of the problem. She added: “The Irish Sunday Mirror investigation highlights that Ireland can be seen as a soft touch for traffickers.

“We will be calling on the Minister of Justice to act on the recommendation of the Oireachtas report which was published last summer and which unanimously recommended that Ireland should criminalise the purchase of sexual services.”