

24 -11- 2011

Ares save 1370813

Dear Ms Roux,

The Commission takes note of the petition of the Fair Sex Campaign, launched on 18th October and marking the the 5th EU Anti-Trafficking Day. We understand that the campaign is addressing the Directive on prevention and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims. Indeed, the petition goes further than the Directive Article 18 paragraph 4 which encourages Member States to consider taking measures to establish as a criminal offence the use of services of victims of human trafficking.

The Commission will, in line with the Directive, report in 2016 on this specific paragraph. On this specific issue, the Commission is also considering to launch a study to increase our knowledge on this aspect of trafficking in human beings.

The petition appears to address at the same time the question of prostitution. Please note that under the Treaty of the European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the EU has no competences on prostitution policy at national level.

The European Commission funds projects on trafficking in women for sexual exploitation, inter alia under the violence against women and children funding programme (Daphne) or the prevention of and fight against crime funding programme (ISEC). All projects financed by the Commission in this area can be found on the European Commission anti trafficking website launched in December 2010.

Yours sincerely,



Cecilia MALMSTRÖM

Ms Malin Roux
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