

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0093/04
by Martin Kastler (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Trafficking in humans and prostitution in the German-Czech border area

A few months before enlargement, the prostitution of young women from Eastern Europe and Asia and illegal trafficking in humans on the German-Czech border remain an unsolved problem on a worrying scale, and one that is getting worse.

1. What follow-up measures has the Commission taken since the framework decision in 2002 on combating trafficking in human beings and growing illegal prostitution and related offences in the German-Czech border area?

With regard to prostitution, experts are concerned about a drastic increase in sexually transmitted diseases such as syphilis around the German-Czech border and an even more dramatic rise in HIV/AIDS cases in Central and Eastern Europe.

2. As part of which programme and with what level of funding is the Commission supporting projects to improve the health situation in the German-Czech border area in the period 2003-2006 (e.g. Streetworking, JANA etc.)?

3. Is the Commission considering launching a new, widescale campaign or possibly a European year of action on this important subject?

4. Trafficking in human beings and prostitution account for an increasingly large proportion of crime statistics in the border area. Does the EU have the means and the ways to support the efforts of those countries affected in terms of police and judicial cooperation?

5. Are further measures specifically planned for the German-Czech border area?