

PUBLIC PETITION: FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Țândărei network - throughout Europe

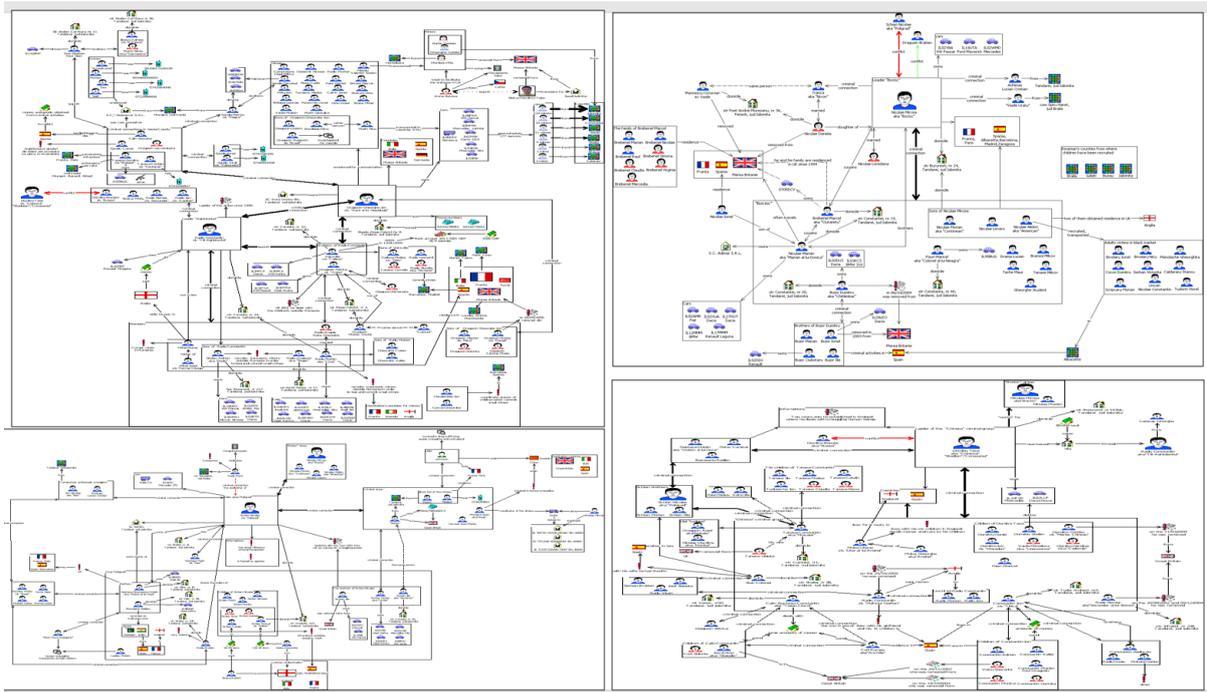
The financial investigations conducted in the UK, Italy and Spain reflect the scale and financial power of the network

Official reports on human trafficking in Romania often claim that the Romanian networks are not developed, nor organized at transnational level: *"During the period taken into consideration, the number of large-scale, specialised, active groups was found to have decreased... and, implicitly, there has been a decrease of the phenomenon, often criminals randomly organising themselves, without a predefined hierarchy within a network, aiming only at obtaining easy and quick profits. And during this period there is a remarkable number of small and non-specialised groups, or individuals committing human trafficking offences in simple forms (1-3 offenders/1-2 victims)"*, National Agency against Trafficking in Persons Annual Report.

The status of criminal investigations is similar. Romanian networks are being investigated only at the base, as small, individual networks, without extensive investigations being conducted and individuals who actually coordinate them being questioned, sometimes even representatives of state structures being involved. Rapoartele oficiale pe trafic de persoane din România susțin adesea că nu există rețele românești mari și organizate la nivel transnațional: *„în perioada analizată s-a constatat diminuarea numărului de grupări mari, specializate, active... și, implicit, o scădere a fenomenului ierarhizării infracționale, în sensul că deseori se întâlnesc cazurile în care infractorii se organizează aleatoriu, fără o ierarhie prestabilită în cadrul unei rețele, urmărind doar obținerea unor profituri facile și rapide. Și în această perioadă se înregistrează un număr apreciabil de mici grupuri, nespecializate sau de indivizi ce săvârșesc infracțiuni de trafic de persoane în modalități simple (1-3 autori/1-2 părți vătămate)*, Raport annual ANITP 2012.

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The Tândărei network (below a small part of the UK-Romania structure)

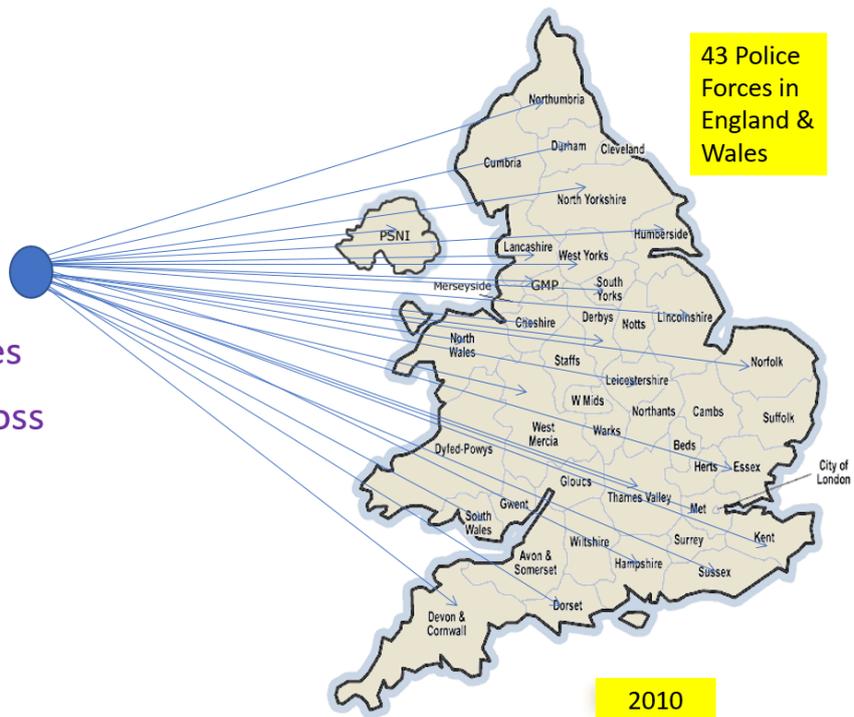


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In the UK, the network was present in the following areas ([here is the summary of the 7 network investigation operations](#))

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- 2,000 UK criminal convictions
- Active in 41 police force areas
- 350 child associates
- 450 addresses across the UK
- 260 addresses in London



Financial investigation carried out in the UK

Every trafficked child brought the network an income of approximately €40,000 every 3 months, approximately € 160,000/year.

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Why traffick a child just to beg?

For the gangs it's good business!

Each child's potential earning in London

€40,000 per quarter

200 Roma Children - £16 million
Then add state benefit crime!

How many children?
1000 children - £100 million

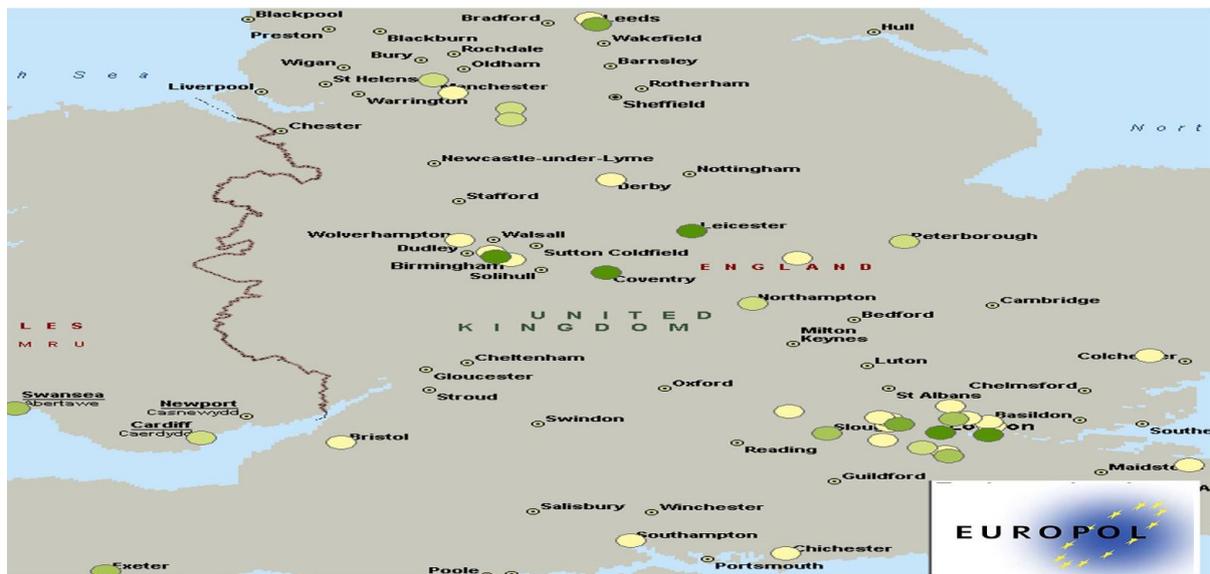
Children sold for £20,000
Dowry – £25,000
Slave Families

The money is not kept in the UK

According to Europol's investigations, the money earned by the victims was sent to Romania from the following working points of Money Gram UK.

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Money Transfers: Source country UK



Europol and Money Gram show that the network was much stronger in Spain and Italy.



In Italy, Europol noted that the Tãndãrei network was cooperating with the Italian mafia and the Albanian network.



In order to combat organised crime effectively, Romania must carry out parallel financial investigations to criminal investigations in cases of trafficking in persons

Unfortunately DIICOT (Directorate for Investigating Organized Crime and Terrorism) does not have the institutional ability to carry out parallel financial investigations to criminal investigations in cases of trafficking in human beings. We believe that the effectiveness of combating this transnational phenomenon is only possible if the proceeds of crime can be confiscated; the application of criminal sanctions itself is not sufficient.

ECLER, together with some of the signatory NGOs of the [International Petition](#), calls for:

1. The Judicial Inspectorate (both the Directorate for Judges and the Directorate for Prosecutors) to look into the continuous postponing of the case trial and into the basis of sending back the case to the prosecutor, as well as to investigate suspicions of gross negligence, and the extent to which the evidence lodged on the file following investigations carried out by the UK and Europol were used in the court of first instance/will be used on appeal;
2. The Minister of Justice, the General Prosecutor of Romania and the DIICOT Chief Prosecutor to implement the provisions of the Emergency Ordinance 78/2016 for the organisation and functioning of the Directorate for Investigation of Organised Crime and Terrorism, as well as for the amending and completing some normative acts, approved by Parliament in May 2018.

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Experts:

- Camelia Bogdan – Judge specialized on financial investigations in Romania
- Bernie Gravett – Former Superintendent & Coordinator of UK and transnational operations conducted in the Tandarei case