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## EU: Euro 2012 could lead to increase in human trafficking

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Levels of human trafficking may rise during both next summer's Euro 2012 soccer championships in Poland and Ukraine, and the London Olympics, according to European Union officials.

Speaking to journalists in Warsaw on Tuesday, Myria Vassiliadou, the EU's anti-trafficking coordinator, said "sporting events are a hub for criminal gangs," adding that it appears that similar large sporting events in the past have been accompanied by a spike in prostitution and trafficking, reported the Associated Press.

Ms Vassiliadou, who was attending an EU conference on human trafficking, said the issue rests largely with EU nations, leaving Brussels with little power to launch a crackdown. She added that the EU was nevertheless trying to raise awareness of the problem.

From Warsaw Business Journal by [David Ingham](#)

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