

IN CASES OF VIOLENCE OR DANGER FOR UNDERAGE PROSTITUTES:

The following is prohibited in Austria and **LIABLE TO PROSECUTION**:

- Nobody can force you into prostitution.
- If you are younger than 18 years, you are not allowed to work in prostitution.
- Neither you nor your family may be subjected to threats of violence.
- You cannot be forced to work without a condom.
- Nobody can force you to perform sexual practices you do not want to perform.
- Nobody is allowed to take away the payment you receive from your customers.
- Nobody is allowed to take away your passport.
- Nobody can force you to work as a prostitute, if you want to get out of the business.
- Nobody can force you to stay in the prostitution establishment at all times.

If these things have happened to you or one of your colleagues, please contact the police or one of the following advisory centres:

24h – Frauennotruf (Women's Emergency Hotline)

☎ 01 71 71 9 E-Mail: frauennotruf@wien.at
www.frauennotruf.wien.at

24h – Helpline for Human Trafficking (Police)

☎ 01 248 36-85383 E-Mail: menschenhandel@bmi.gv.at

LEFÖ – IBF Interventionsstelle für Betroffene von Frauenhandel

1040 Wien, Floragasse 7A/7
☎ 01 796 92 98 E-Mail: ibf@lefoe.at

SOPHIE BildungsRaum für Prostituierte

1150 Wien, Oelweingasse 6–8
☎ 01 897 55 36 E-Mail: sophie@volkshilfe-wien.at

Beratungsstelle COURAGE Wien

1060 Wien, Windmühlgasse 15/1/7
☎ 01 585 69 66 E-Mail: info@courage-beratung.at

☎ Police: 133
☎ Ambulance: 144
☎ Fire brigade: 122

ADVISORY CENTRES FOR FEMALE PROSTITUTES

LEFÖ

1050 Wien, Kettenbrückengasse 15/4
☎ 01 581 18 81 E-Mail: tampep@lefoe.at

SOPHIE BildungsRaum für Prostituierte

1150 Wien, Oelweingasse 6–8
☎ 01 897 55 36 E-Mail: sophie@volkshilfe-wien.at

ADVISORY CENTRES FOR MALE PROSTITUTES

MEN-MännerGesundheitsZentrum im Kaiser Franz Josef-Spital

1100 Wien, Kundratstraße 3
☎ 01 601 91-5454 E-Mail: info@men-center.at

Verein Männerberatung

1100 Wien, Erlachgasse 95
☎ 01 603 28 28 E-Mail: info@maenner.at

Türkis Rosa Tipp – Trans-Schwulen-Queer-Beratung

1060 Wien, Linke Wienzeile 102
☎ 01 585 43 43 E-Mail: traschq@villa.at

Beratungsstelle COURAGE Wien

1060 Wien, Windmühlgasse 15/1/7
☎ 01 585 69 66 E-Mail: info@courage-beratung.at

ADVISORY CENTRES FOR FEMALE AND MALE PROSTITUTES

STD Ambulatorium der MA 15 (STD Outpatient Clinic of Municipal Department 15) Counselling from medical professionals and social workers

1030 Wien, Thomas-Klestil-Platz 8/2 (TownTown)
☎ 01 4000-87796
Opening hours: Mon – Fri 8:00 a.m. –11:30 a.m.

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YOUR RIGHTS

Received a penalty notice?

You can appeal within 14 days. The advisory centres will help you!

Request for payment by instalments:

There is no legal right to payment by instalments. The advisory centres will help you with this matter.

You have lost your leave to remain because you have worked in prostitution "illegally", that is without a medical check-up card: if you get your card, the leave to remain may be re-granted.

STD outpatient clinic

- Diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases is free of charge.
- Free access to medical care and counselling from medical professionals and social workers for everyone.
- Regular health check-ups can mitigate penalties for "illegal" prostitution.

Advantages from registering your business with the Tax Office?

- Proof of income is important: for example in relation to your right of residence, access to the labour market, family allowance or housing benefit.
- Tip: Even if you do not reach the income limit, getting a tax number and/or registering with the Tax Office prevents your income from being estimated by the Tax Office if they conduct inspections at your workplace.
>> CAUTION: debt trap ahead
- Unfortunately, the Tax Offices do not all follow the same procedure. If you need help with enforcing your rights, please contact one of the advisory centres.

Advantages from social and health insurance?

You are covered by health insurance only after you have registered with the Social Insurance Office for Persons Engaged in Trade and Commerce!

Social insurance includes

- Health insurance: e.g. the cover of medical costs (patient's contribution of 20%), maternity benefit
- Accident insurance: e.g. right to benefits after an accident at work
- Pension insurance: e.g. right to an old-age pension.

Opt-in insurance:

If you are not covered by statutory social insurance, you can take out your own voluntary health insurance policy (health insurance: 7.65% of your income + 8.20 €/month for accident insurance).

By paying higher contributions you can obtain additional benefits: unemployment insurance: e.g. right to financial support for further training/re-training courses.

As the issue of social insurance is rather complex, you should contact one of the advisory centres for detailed advice.



Information leaflet for female and male prostitutes

Soliciting customers safely and legally on the street

You have voluntarily chosen to work in prostitution in Vienna. **Prostitution is generally legal in Austria, provided that you are older than 18 years.** You have numerous rights, but there are also a number of regulations you should be aware of.

This leaflet wants to support **you in actively claiming your rights and inform** you about the **legal situation in Vienna to help you** avoid violating any laws.

REGISTRATION OF PROSTITUTION

Step 1

Registration with the Registration Office for Prostitution Issues of the Federal Police Directorate of Vienna

1. *Make a personal appointment for registration – bring an official ID document that includes your photo* (e.g. passport, ID card, driving licence): on that occasion you will also receive an information sheet on where to get free advice before your registration.
2. *Come in person for the appointment and bring along an interpreter, if you need one!*
Bring the following documents with you: official photo ID, residence permit or asylum application card, residence registration confirmation, 16.40 €, birth certificate, marriage certificate (if applicable), 2 passport photos.

**Contact: Federal Police Directorate of Vienna
Registration Office for Prostitution Issues
1010 Wien, Deutschmeisterplatz 3
☎ 01 313 10-21180**

The police will issue you a confirmation of registration, which authorises you to work as a prostitute once you have received your medical check-up card.

Step 2

Outpatient clinic for the diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STD outpatient clinic) of Municipal Department 15

1. Go to the STD outpatient clinic on the next working day.
Bring the following with you: confirmation of registration issued by the police and 24.11 €
At the clinic you will have your first exam, where you will be tested for STD and HIV (smear tests, blood test, counselling from medical professionals and social workers).
2. You will then be given another appointment 7 days after your first exam to come back for the results and a follow-up exam. *If at that time your results are normal, you will receive your medical check-up card and can start to work legally as a prostitute, provided you go to the weekly check-ups.*

**Contact: STD Ambulatorium (STD Outpatient Clinic)
1030 Wien, Thomas-Klestil-Platz 8/2 (TownTown)
☎ 01 4000-87796
Opening hours: Mon – Fri 8:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
Patients coming for their first exam will not be accepted after 10:00 a.m.**

Step 3

Registration with the Tax Office

- You have to inform your competent Tax Office that you have started self-employed work within one month after you have received your medical check-up card. In 2011, income below 11,000 € is tax free. The tax threshold may vary from year to year.
- A list of Vienna's Tax Offices is available at the STD outpatient clinic, the advisory centres or on the website of the Austrian Ministry of Finance <http://dienststellen.bmf.gv.at>.
- Make a list of your expenses (collect bills and receipts) and your earnings for your tax return.
- If you do not file a tax return, the Tax Office may estimate your income (when inspecting your workplace) and will often arrive at very high amounts
>> CAUTION: debt trap ahead.
- Contact one of the advisory centres for support!

Step 4

Registering with a social and health insurance provider

- If you only work as a prostitute and your annual income in 2011 is above the insurance threshold (6,453.36 €), you have to register as a "New Self-Employed" with the competent social insurance provider within 4 weeks after you started work, or, at the latest, as soon as you know that you will exceed the insurance threshold. If you work as a prostitute alongside another job, the insurance threshold is 4,488.24 €.
- If you register within the first 4 weeks, your (health) insurance cover starts on the day you have actually taken up work.
- If your annual income is below the statutory insurance thresholds, you can take out a voluntary insurance policy. In this case, the insurance cover starts on the day of registration (opt-in insurance).
- The compulsory insurance contribution for 2011 is 26.68% of the contribution base + 8.20 €/month for accident insurance (also with retrospective effect). Put this amount aside >>CAUTION: debt trap ahead.
- The Tax Office informs the insurance provider when you exceed the income threshold >> CAUTION: debt trap ahead.
- Contact the advisory centres for more information!

**Contact: Social Insurance Office for
Persons Engaged in Trade and Commerce
1050 Wien, Wiedner Hauptstrasse 84-86
☎ 050 808-27500**

LEGAL SOLICITING ON THE STREET

Soliciting prostitution on the streets of residential areas is prohibited. As of 1 November 2011, the 150-metre protection zones, the prohibition zones and the hour restrictions will no longer apply to soliciting prostitution on the street. If the soliciting has taken place outside a residential area and is already completed, you are allowed to walk with your customer through the residential area to the prostitution establishment or the customer's home.

Performing prostitution on the street (any kind of sexual acts) is in any case prohibited.

Police inspections? You have to show your ID and medical check-up card. You should also carry your residence registration certificate with you.

STD OUTPATIENT CLINIC

In order to keep your medical check-up card you have to get a weekly check-up with the STD outpatient clinic. At these check-ups you are tested for STDs and every three months you are tested for HIV infection. If you do not go for your check-ups, you may lose your check-up card.

Holidays, illness? You cannot come to the STD outpatient clinic for your check-up?

You no longer have to inform the police about holidays, illnesses or any other interruption of your work. However, if you continue your work afterwards, you immediately have to undergo the required medical exams.
Please inform the STD outpatient clinic in your own interest if you cannot come to the STD tests and HIV checks because you are ill, on holiday or otherwise unable to continue your work. If you fail to come to the check-ups for more than six months, your data will be deleted by the police. If you resume your work as a prostitute, you have to register again with the police. Should you have any questions, contact the STD outpatient clinic or any of the advisory centres.

RIGHT OF RESIDENCE

Legal residence in Austria is a prerequisite for working as a prostitute in Vienna. Asylum seekers must have been in Austria for a minimum of 3 months. Since there exist different regulations under alien law, we recommend that you contact one of the advisory centres.

REGISTRATION OF YOUR ADDRESS OF RESIDENCE

Registration of your address of residence at the Municipal District Offices:
<http://www.wien.gv.at/verwaltung/meldeservice>

STREET PROSTITUTION – ENSURING GREATEST POSSIBLE SAFETY!

Clothes

- Don't wear necklaces, scarves or other items that can be used to choke you.
- Always wear your jacket either fully closed or fully open. If you wear it half open, it can be pulled over your shoulders so that you won't be able to move your arms any more.
- Wear comfortable shoes that you can run in.

At work

- Try not to work when you are on withdrawal (alcohol, drugs, etc.) or when you are extremely drunk. This will make you seem more helpless and the customer has greater power over you.
- Protect yourself against infections by practising safer sex.
- Get regular health check-ups for your own benefit.
- Don't get talked into anything you don't want to do.
- Take a close look at the customer and pay particular attention to prominent physical features.
- Try to stand in a well-lit place where you can see well and be seen clearly by others.
- Arrange price, service and location outside the car.
- Tell your colleagues exactly where you are going with your customer (address, license plate number), and make sure that the customer knows that you did so.
- Listen to your gut feeling! Don't get into the car, if the customer makes you feel uneasy.

In the car

- Memorise the car details (make, colour, licence plate number).
- Once in the car, try to close and open the car door to see how it functions. Check whether the car has a central locking system.
- Stay with your customer near your usual location.
- Always keep your eyes on your customer and especially his hands.
- Avoid positions that put you at a disadvantage: e.g. between the customer's knees during a blow job. Try to stay on top, if possible.
- Make sure that your handbag and mobile phone are within easy reach and that your mobile phone is always fully charged.
- Follow your intuition when you feel uneasy or frightened! Try to think of a way to get out of the situation.
- Show self-confidence! In this way, the customer has less power over you and is less likely to get any funny ideas.

In the case of violence

If a customer or a pimp threatens you with violence or becomes aggressive, try to stay calm and not to show fear. If there is no other way, attract attention by screaming or yelling.

Further tips are available from your colleagues and the advisory centres.

Build a network with your colleagues and fight for your rights. The advisory centres will also help you with these efforts!

