

Organization Attributes Sheet – Unnamed Russian Human Trafficking Organization

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A. When the organization was formed + brief history <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is evidence of Russians engaging in human trafficking and prostitution since the early 1990s.¹
B. Types of illegal activities engaged in, <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. In general<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human Trafficking/Prostitutionb. <i>Specific detail: types of illicit trafficking activities engaged in</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human Trafficking/Prostitution – In Mexico (particularly in Cancun) there is a Russian criminal organization involved in human trafficking, specifically as it pertains to the sex trade.² The group brings in women from the former Soviet Union, who become “Diamond VIP class” prostitutes – those able to charge higher prices (as much as 2,000 dollars) in Mexico.³
C. Scope and Size <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Estimated size of network and membership<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unable to determine exact size from available information, but it would appear that the group is smaller if operating on its own. However, if it is linked with a larger Russian criminal organization, size could be considerable.b. Countries / regions group is known to have operated in. (i.e. the group’s operating area)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As pertains to Central America and the Caribbean: Mexico• Globally: Russian Federation, Eastern Europe, United States
D. Leader Characteristics <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Who is/are the leader(s)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.b. Leadership timeline<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.c. Leadership style (autocratic, diffuse, etc.)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.
E. Organizational Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Topology (cellular, hierarchical, etc.)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.b. Membership – is there formal or informal membership in the organization or network? What role do informal or nonmembers play in trafficking and other criminal activities?<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Although speaking in 2003, the Mexican deputy attorney general for international affairs, José Luis Santiago Vasconcelos, stated that “the mafias bringing in European women were made up of ‘well-trained and highly dangerous people,’ several of whom had belonged to the KGB, the intelligence agency of the former Soviet Union.”⁴c. Command and Control (decentralized or centralized)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.
F. Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Financial<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.b. Human<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.

c.	Logistical
	i. Forgery, safe-houses, etc.
	• Information not found.
	ii. Key routes
	• Information not found.
d.	Transportation
	i. Land
	• Information not found.
	ii. Sea
	• Information not found.
	iii. Air
	• Information not found.
	iv. Intermodal container
	• Information not found.
G. Trafficking Methods and Modalities	
a.	Corruption
	• The group is reported to “operate in a network of corruption in which authorities are involved.” ⁵
b.	Concealment
	• Information not found.
c.	Deception
	• Information not found.
d.	Circumvention (avoiding border entry points)
	• Information not found.
H. Prior / Existing Relationships	
a.	Other criminal organizations (cooperative and conflictual)
	• Information not found.
b.	Corrupt politicians, law enforcement , political parties and other state entities, etc.
	• Information not found.
c.	<i>Specific detail: Any alliances / past dealings with terrorist groups.</i>
	• Information not found.
I. Ideological / Ethnic / Familial Orientation (if any)	
	• Information not found.
J. Technical Sophistication	
	• Information not found.
K. Penchant for Innovation	
	• Information not found.
L. Activities in United States	
a.	Includes both criminal and non-criminal activities
	• Information not found.
b.	<i>Specific detail: trafficking activities ; logistical activities</i>
	• Information not found.
c.	Linkages with US groups
	i. Market/transaction links
	• Information not found.
	ii. Stable supplier
	• Information not found.

iii. Franchise arrangement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
iv. HQ and Branch office
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
M. Evaluations
a. Strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unable to determine from available information.
b. Weaknesses and vulnerabilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unable to determine from available information.
c. Additional insights
<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Other Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is very little information on this group and, in general, on human trafficking by Russians in Mexico. It might be that this group and its operations are not extensive, but it also cannot be ruled out that this group may be a part or subdivision of a larger, more elusive Russian criminal organization operating in the region (e.g., Solntsevskaya Bratva, Tambovskaya, Mazukinskaya, Izmailovskaya, and/or Podolskaya). The Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition (BSCC) has noted that criminal gangs from Russia have been discovered attempting to traffic victims across the U.S.-Mexico border.⁶ They have succeeded in some cases: Using Mexico as a transit point, Russian groups have moved East European/Russian victims to New York.⁷

¹ "Organized Crime and Terrorist Activity in Mexico, 1992-2002," *United States, Federal Research Division - Library of Congress*, February 2003, 25 and 29.

² "Highlights: Mexico Southeastern Crime/Narcotics/Security Issues 17 Nov 08," *Mexico -- OSC Summary*, November 14-17, 2008, OSC: LAP20081117470001.

³ Cevallos, Diego. "Prostitution Rings Flourish at all Levels," *IPS News*, July 23, 2008.

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=43284>.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Seelke, Clare Ribando. "Trafficking in Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean," *Congressional Research Service*, December 9, 2010.

⁷ Lin Goh, Janice Phaik. "Deterritorialized Women in the Global City: An Analysis of Sex Trafficking in Dubai, Tokyo and New York," *Intersections*, Spring 2009, 271-324.