

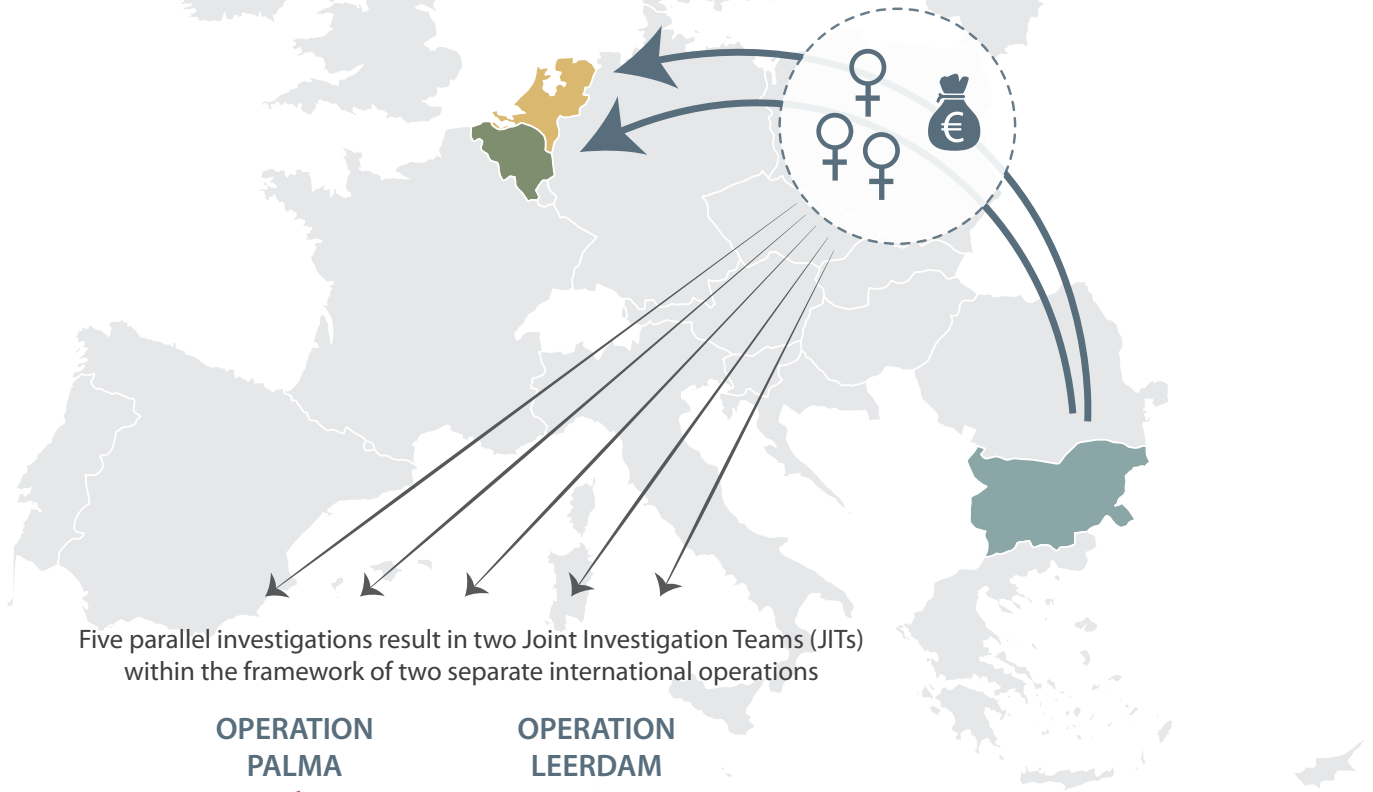


# Stopping the trafficking of women

## Operations Palma and Leerdam

Organised crime group is active in trafficking of human beings and money laundering, 2003-2016

Bulgarian women are trafficked to the Netherlands and Belgium for purposes of sexual exploitation



Five parallel investigations result in two Joint Investigation Teams (JITs) within the framework of two separate international operations

**OPERATION PALMA**

**OPERATION LEERDAM**

Links are detected between the various investigations, and in Germany

**EUROPOL**  
Europol involvement in the investigations



### CRIME GROUP DISMANTLED

- 10 members of organised crime group arrested
- Simultaneous searches in the three countries
- Evidence/documents seized
- Drugs seized
- Assets seized (cash, vehicles, real estate)
- Witnesses questioned in the three countries