

Information for sex workers

Sex work is offering sexual services for payment.

englisch

You can get help and advice from the following offices, all of whom are bound by professional secrecy:

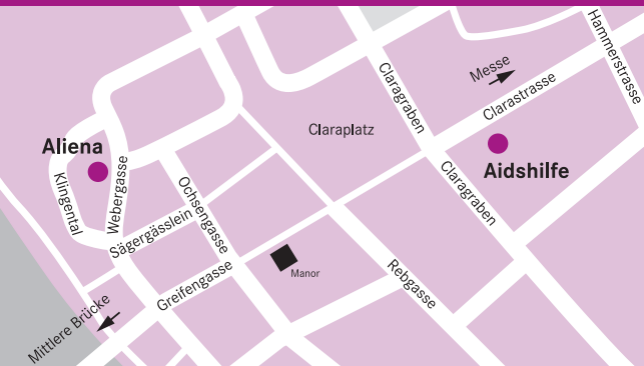
Aliena Advisory center for women in the sex trade Webergasse 15, 4058 Basel	061 681 24 14
Opferhilfe beider Basel	061 205 09 10
Aidshilfe beider Basel BHIV/Aids prevention and counseling	061 685 25 00
FIZ Makasi Zürich For victims of the trafficking in women	044 436 90 00

You have a right to support and protection regardless of your origin or your residence permit status.

All advisory offices are bound by professional secrecy.

Rahab Heilsarmee Assistance and counseling for sex workers	061 270 25 05
frauen_oase Contact and advisory center for female addicts, who prostitute themselves	061 693 22 59

In emergencies:	Police hotline	117
	First-aid hotline	144



Your rights as a victim of threats, injury, robbery, rape or human trafficking

- **Free support from the Opferhilfe**
(psychosocial und legal counseling, immediate financial help, reimbursement and compensation)
- **Medical treatment and protection**
- **The right to file a complaint with the police:**
we need your cooperation
in order to catch the offenders

You are a victim of human trafficking if
you were brought into Switzerland under false pretences, were forced to do sex work or other work, must pay off debts or referral fees, are being subjected to violence and threats, or have had your money taken from you.

Human trafficking is a serious crime against human rights and is prosecuted as a crime in Switzerland.

Prostitution is legal in Switzerland, if you obey the rules.

Important: As a tourist you are **not** allowed to work, also not in prostitution.

As a sex worker you have the right

- to be treated with respect and courtesy
- to always demand a condom for sex: your health is at stake, protect yourself!
- to make the decisions about your own body and services
- **to say no!** – your guardian and your client have no right to demand services from you against your will
- to visit a counseling office

Your duties: You must

- obey the laws of Switzerland
- show your papers when there is a control

If you break a regulation and

- are here without permission, you will be fined and may have to leave Switzerland
- commit criminal offences, such as drug dealing, theft, causing bodily harm, criminal proceedings will be initiated against you.
Conviction may result in fines, prison sentences or deportation

Duties of the police

- to protect victims of crimes such as threats, bodily harm, human trafficking and to make referrals to an advisory office,
- bring charges for all criminal activities, for example, human trafficking and violent crimes
- Control bar owners regarding punishable activities such as promotion of prostitution
- Control of identity, residence and work permits

During a control the police may

- control your papers (pass, residence and work permits)
- enter the room
- search you - if there is a suspicion that you have committed a crime.
- **You have the right to be searched by a police woman!**
- arrest you if you don't have a work or residence permit
- take you to the police station if you cannot present an identity card

You have the right

- to know the name of the officer
- to refuse your signature if do not agree or understand the document
- to refuse to make a statement if there is an accusation against you
- to receive a receipt for the all things the police have taken from you

In the course of a procedure you have the right to

- an interpreter
- a lawyer