

## Attention! Scammers!

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The Embassy would like to draw your attention to the activity of a **fraudulent website www.consulateofrussia.com**, which is used to extort financial resources from foreign citizens by deception. The general scheme of such malpractices is very simple:

- 1. After making an acquaintance with a "Russian lady" on a dating website, a foreign citizen invites her to stay with him as a guest;
- 2. Under the pretext of clarifying the visa requirements the "lady" gives the address of the fraudulent website of the "Consulate General Russia";
- 3. The "Consulate" confirms the necessity to transfer financial means to the "lady's" bank account for the "financial guarantees of her stay" during her departure from Russia to the EU.

In this regard we would like to remind all, whom it may concern, about the necessity to exercise utmost vigilance when making acquaintances through dating sites. If under any pretext you are asked to transfer money, you must never do it under any circumstances.

<u>The legislation of the Russian Federation does not require</u> Russian citizens to provide to the authorities in the airport of departure any proof of possessing the financial means for the period of their stay abroad.

If you are advised to ask the above mentioned "Consulate General Russia" for the confirmation of the necessity to transfer the financial means, we request you to keep in mind that its website is fake and has no relation whatsoever either to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia or to Russian Consular Missions abroad.

Please note also that the only authentic official website of the Embassy and the Consulate of Russia in the Netherlands is http://netherlands.mid.ru. The Embassy e-mail: rusembassynl@mid.ru. The e-mail for enquiries of the Consular section of the Embassy: infocon.nl@mid.ru.