



Stichting Landelijk Ongedocumenteerden Steunpunt

Kanaalstraat 243 | 3531 CJ Utrecht | tel 030 2990222 | fax 030 2990223 | e-mail info@stichtinglos.nl

NEWS LETTER, year 1 nr 14

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Network Meeting Undocumented Women 23 September 10 -16 hrs, Utrecht

This network meeting has been set up to make contact with other organizations working with women without residence permits and to gain more knowledge regarding their rights and legal opportunities. Professionals from the field give workshops, informing their audience about topics such as arranging healthcare for women without residence permits, reception facilities and residence permits. You can exchange experiences and jointly seek solutions for bottlenecks with respect to welfare services. At the information market you can introduce your organization and get acquainted with other organizations. At the end of the day, the website Legalevrouw.nl ('Legalwoman.nl) will be officially launched.

Please, apply before 8 September through anne@stichtinglos.nl. Participation is free of charge.

The LOS foundation is the supporting organization for the assistance of migrants without residence permits. By means of this newsletter we inform you of current developments. If you have any questions about this newsletter or about the rights of migrants without residence permits, please feel free to contact LOS.

1. Basic rights

Court: supplementary benefit for single-parent families who have exhausted all legal remedies

In two cases, the court has decided that single-parent families who have exhausted all legal remedies are to receive an allowance for subsistence or assistance. The decisions related to families whose provisional residence permits had been retracted. Since a new procedure had been initiated, the families did not have to move to Ter Apel. The court rule that an allowance was necessary to prevent that children will be turned out into the street. (Leeuwarden court 11/1572, 11/1679 and 11/1680, 3.8.11; Assen court 11/369, 5.8.11)

Liberian man who set himself on fire in Echt has died

On 23 August, the Liberian man who set himself on fire at the Echt Asylum seeker residence centre died. The minister has reported that a total of 40 people have died as a result of suicides between 2002 and 2010. Self help organizations for refugees suspect there are more cases.

2. Admission policy

Not only prostitution is human trafficking

All types of forced labour may relate to human trafficking. For instance, an illegal alien who has to work in the catering industry 16 hours a day for an employer who has confiscated his passport and pays him a pittance. Or a woman from an EU country who, in exchange for housing, is forced to marry an illegal alien, who thus becomes legal. Victims of these types of human trafficking are given a temporary status and reception.

UNHCR demands solution for displaced persons

UNHCR has estimated there are approximately 12 million displaced persons worldwide. The Netherlands has its own share of displaced persons, for instance, Roma or people from former Soviet states. UNHCR feels that the rights of the Convention relating to the status of stateless persons are not sufficiently assigned.

3. Check and deportation

Border controls allowed once again

Last year, the European Court of Justice ruled that border controls at internal EU borders was forbidden. Since then, the Netherlands has amended the law, so that border controls no longer have 'the character of border surveillance'. The Council of State decided (201108181/3/V4, 9.8.11) that this type of control is allowed.

Fine for help with repairing a car

A garage will be fined € 2.000,- since an illegal alien helped the mechanic repair a car (he pushed a button to check the system). (Council of State 201104185/1/V6, 24.8.11)

Uprising in Rotterdam detention centre

After a peaceful protest on 26 August against the length of detention of aliens and against the circumstances of detention in Rotterdam detention centre, dozens of inmates were put in isolation cells (occasionally using violence).

Return Directive limits detention of aliens

The EU Return Directive will be effective as from December 2010. The Directive determines when illegal aliens may be detained. One condition, for instance, is that aliens must first be given a notice for voluntary return. Moreover, there must be a risk that the alien will go into hiding. Recently, the Council of State ruled that not having a fixed address is insufficient grounds for detention of aliens (Council of State 201101860/1/V3, 5.8.11).

4. What can be done?

Film 'Northwards' at Casa Brasil Holanda, 18 September 12-17 hrs Rotterdam

Admission, brunch, film and debate upon advance payment: €12,50

Location: Centrum Djoj - Antony Duyklaan 5-7 - Rotterdam

Info: www.nataliamachiaveli.com/trocaotropico; mail:

trocatropico.casabrasilholanda@hotmail.com

Refugee consultation day Council of Churches, 5 November 10-16 hrs, Amersfoort

On 5 November, the project group on refugees will organize its annual consultation day. Minister Leers has promised to speak on this day. The day takes place in the Bergkerk in Amersfoort. The programme starts at 10.30 a.m.. Admission free of charge, apply through rvk@raadvankerken.nl or (033) 463 38 44. The full programme will follow soon.

PICUM Conference on Undocumented Migrant Women, 12-13 December Brussels

This high-level conference will mark a significant gathering of key policy-makers and field-practitioners to discuss concrete improvements for the protection and promotion of undocumented women's rights in Europe. We invite migrant organizations, NGOs, services providers, women's shelters and support services, social workers and healthcare professionals, trade unions, key policy makers, and all others working on these core issues to please mark this date in their diaries and disseminate this announcement throughout your contact network. For more information about this event and online registration, please visit our [website](#).