



NEWSLETTER, VOLUME 4 NO. 25

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Contentpage	2
1. BASIC RIGHTS	
2. ADMISSION POLICY	2
3. CHECK AND DEPARTURE	3
4. WHAT CAN BE DONE?	

SAFE REPORTING PILOT AMSTERDAM EXTENDED

Last year, the Amsterdam police ran a pilot project 'Safe reporting' enabling people without residence permits to contact the police safely if they wanted to report a crime. This pilot project is now extended and hopefully will be adopted in other cities in future.

People without residence permits can report a crime using an NN identity (a Latin acronym for 'name unknown'). When they report serious crimes, they may be given temporary reprieve of departure, although their name must be noted to apply for this.

People without residence permits can produce these cards to request to report a crime as an NN:

Reporting a crime without worries	Aangifte opnemen van ongedocumenteerde
am a victim or witness of a crime and	Bij het ontbreken van een geldig
wish to file report. I am an illegal alien	legitimatiebewijs wordt de opgegeven
and therefore I cannot identify myself.	informatie gebruikt als voorlopige
have the right to be protected by the	identiteit. Deze gegevens worden alleen
police. I can leave the police station	gebruikt voor het onderzoek naar het
whenever I want to without being	misdrijf waarvan aangifte is gedaan.
arrested. I can only be arrested when I am	
a suspect of a criminal act or convicted	Vragen over het opnemen van de
for a criminal act.	aangifte? Neem contact op met de
	recherche van Flierbosdreef via 0900-8844
Please guide me to the responsible officer.	

1. BASIC RIGHTS

<u>Prosecutors-General: reserved regarding hospital orders for people without residence permits</u> Hospital orders should preferably not be imposed on aliens who are about to lose their right of residence as a result of a criminal record, the Prosecutors-General advise. Hospital orders complicates returning to the country of origin, since the treatment usually does not exist there rendering transfers unfeasible. You can find further information <u>here</u> (in Dutch only).

2. ADMISSION POLICY

Council of State: loss of residence permit due to criminal record

In the past few weeks, the Council of State made (at least) two decisions regarding the repeal of residence permits due to a criminal record. Both cases are about adults who came to the Netherlands as children, through family reunification. An Afghan 20-year-old male lived here from his 14th to his 19th. He has been given a 24-month sentence (You can find further information <u>here</u>- in Dutch only). Another man lived here legally for twenty years and had eight convictions, ranging from a few weeks to 12 months (further information <u>here</u> - in Dutch only).

Court: court fees exempt for victim human trafficking who has no money

The court finds that the right of access to the judge weighs heavily. This man has no income, as becomes evident from the fact that the Legal Aid Board has annulled his personal contribution. The court fees should not be an obstacle to access to the judge, the court states You can find further information <u>here</u> (in Dutch only).

<u>EU Court of Justice: no intimate questions or tests for assessing homosexual asylum seekers</u> De Council of State has asked the Court of Justice of the European Union whether it may assess if homosexual asylum seekers speak the truth. The Court rejects questions that are overly intimate. Tests are not allowed either, and western stereotypes of homosexuality may not be departed from. You can find further information here

Court: highly skilled people run risk of circumcision in Guinea as well

This case is about a highly skilled woman who is to return to Guinea with her daughter. According to the state secretary she can find a job there and settle in the capital, where there is less risk of being circumcised. The judge considers this to be an uncertain future event and estimates the circumcision risk to be higher. (Zwolle court, 14/24601 and 14/24663, 21.11.14)

Council of State: no re-circumcision risk in Somalia

The Council of State has found for the state secretary, who states that women in Somalia are not recircumcised. That is why the asylum request of the woman who had her circumcision reversed is rejected. You can find further information <u>here</u> (in Dutch only).

<u>State secretary Security & Justice: positive decisions Iraqi Yazidis, Christians and women are possible</u> In spite of the decision moratorium for certain regions of origin in Iraq positive decisions *can* be made for vulnerable groups, such as Yazidis, Christians and women. You can find further information <u>here</u> (in Dutch only). <u>State secretary Security & Justice: arrangement highly skilled migrants to be adjusted</u> The state secretary likes to welcome highly trained migrants. If companies need people the law should not hinder them. That's why the policy is to be adjusted. You can find further information <u>here</u> (in Dutch only).

3. CHECK AND DEPARTURE

State secretary Security & Justice: deporting Somalis once again possible

The state secretary has written that he deported two Somali people on 23 and 30 November. As a result, alien detention of Somalis is once again possible. (VW Update 47, 3.12.14)

4. WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Night of the Replacement, 10 Dec Amsterdam/ Utrecht

On 10 December, Dutch celebrities and city council members in Amsterdam and Utrecht will give shelter to asylum seekers who have exhausted all legal remedies for one night. It is over a month ago since the European Committee for Human Rights judged that the Netherlands must provide people without residence permits with food, clothes and shelter. Can we finally say out loud that reception is conditional to working at a future and that counselling is needed to attain that future? Info Amsterdam: Petra Schultz, tel 06 22605845 / info Utrecht: Suzanne Hautvast, tel 06 – 12230591

Demonstration DON'T LEAVE WOMEN IN THE COLD (WOMAN GEEN VROUW IN DE KOU!,) 10 Dec 12.30-14.30 Spui Amsterdam

Through the demonstration, we want to call for attention to the special circumstances of women who have no residence permit. The municipality of Amsterdam is preparing 'night reception' for 135 refugees. For various reasons this is totally unsuitable for women. Women are particularly vulnerable, as they are an easy prey to exploitation and sexual violence. Hence this demonstration.

Presenting Clara Wichman medal, 10 Dec 18.30 hrs, Vondelkerk Amsterdam

Every year, the Clara Meijer-Wichman medal is presented to a person or institution in the Netherlands working at challenging and ending human rights violations relating to other persons or groups and meeting with opposition from government or their environment in the process. This year, the medal is to be presented to El Mouthena, the initiator and coordinator of <u>WijZijnHie</u>r. Please apply by e-mail to: gerardvancranenburgh@ligarechtenvandemens.nl

Arts & Humanity: asylum policy dilemmas, 12 Dec Humanity House, the Hague

Third-year students of the AKV St.Joost art academy in Breda en 's-Hertogenbosch dedicated six month of their time to the topic of art and engagement. Together with the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) the students have studied dilemmas surrounding the implementation of the asylum policy: reception of asylum seekers who have exhausted all legal remedies, 'proving' homosexuality, the IND image in the media, the impossibility of remaining objective, etcetera. On this night, the students present their work.

Information : http://www.humanityhouse.org/agenda/arts-humanity/

Since 2003, the LOS Foundation (the Dutch acronym for 'Landelijk Ongedocumenteerden Steunpunt') has been the knowledge centre for people and organizations providing assistance to undocumented migrants. LOS Foundation devotes itself to the basic rights of these migrants and their children.