

NEWSLETTER, volume 9 no. 21 14 October 2019

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START AMSTERDAK! CAMPAIGN 15 OCT 5-7 PM DIACONIE, AMSTERDAM

Amsterdammers with a big heart, common sense and space in your homes: we need your help. Since 1 October there have been approximately 200 people sleeping on the streets of our city: undocumented refugees, ranging from males under 18 from Eritrea to mothers with children from Nigeria. They are not yet officially Dutch, but they are Amsterdammers.

That is why we are starting the AmsterDak! campaign. We are residents of the city and are setting up this platform together with help organisations including het Wereldhuis, ASKV, Artikel 8EVRM, Vrouwen tegen uitzetting and Amsterdam City Rights. We believe in the hospitality of Amsterdammers and are therefore inviting you to join us so we can look for solutions together. Who has a spare room? Who knows of a commercial premises with a friendly owner? Which organisation has an empty room?

Location: Nieuwe Herengracht 18, 1018 DP Amsterdam. https://www.facebook.com/events/513240072831841/

BASIC RIGHTS

Court: Rvb for EU victim of human trafficking lasts for the same length as the case

EU citizens who have respite as a victim of human trafficking can get Rvb (Provision for Certain Categories of Aliens) for the first three months of their stay. In this case, the question is whether Rvb should continue after the three months. The judge finds that the Netherlands must deal with each individual on a case-by-case basis.

In this case, the victim had to file a report and was waiting for a decision from the IND. That is why the Rvb had to be continued. See here.

ADMISSION POLICY

CEDAW: risk of gender-related violence for stateless Palestinian from Jordan

This Palestinian woman married a Jordanian man and had two daughters. She fled to Denmark because of domestic violence against her and her daughters. Denmark rejected her asylum claim, but according to CEDAW, too little consideration was taken of the subordinate position of women in Jordan and the lack of support from the authorities. Denmark should have made an individual assessment. See here.

Court: no exemption from integration exam despite evidence of payment for course and exam In this case, a Moroccan woman asked for an exemption from the obligation to take the integration exam abroad. She has failed the exam three times. According to the judge, she has not demonstrated that she done her best to learn Dutch. The evidence of payment for a Dutch course in Nador does not prove that she has actually studied. She also did not use the self-study packages. Therefore the judge decided that she was not entitled to an exemption from the integration obligation. See here.

<u>Court: consider the interests of children with independent right of residence when considering their</u> mother's right of residence

This Nigerian mother has two children who have independent right of residence. She is now asking to stay with her children. An orthopedagogical study showed the importance of the mother for her children. The judge finds that the IND must do better research to show what it will mean for the children if their mother has to leave NL (VK Court Amsterdam, AWB 19/3180, AWB 19/3181, 3.9.19)

<u>Court: residence of father with Dutch child; little contact but important nevertheless, according to the Council for Child Protection</u>

This father requested residence with his Dutch child, on the grounds of the Chavez ruling. The IND had rejected the requested as the father was not sufficiently involved with the child. But a report from the Dutch Council for Child Protection (Raad voor de Kinderbescherming) showed that the child would be damaged if their father had to leave the Netherlands. In line with its own policy, the IND must take this into account when deciding upon the father's right of residence. Furthermore, the father has since moved so he can be more involved with the child. The IND must reconsider their decision. See here.

ECJ: EU child receives right of residence if the parent supports the child with illegal income
EU citizens are granted the right of residence if they have the means to live independently. EU citizens

under the age of 18 are granted the right of residence if someone guarantees their income. According to the European Court of Justice this is also possible with illegal income. The EU child can then legalise their parents. See here.

ACTIVITIES

<u>Documentary: Together against Human Trafficking, 18 Oct 8pm, Pakhuis de Zwijger, Amsterdam</u>
According to estimates, every year there are between 5000 and 7500 victims of all forms of human trafficking in the Netherlands. The eradication of slavery sometimes seems like an impossible dream, but it must still remain a priority. Especially as it is hidden it is crucial to keep it in the spotlight. View the programme here.

Oxford University: "Safe reporting" of crime for victims and witnesses with irregular migration status in the USA and Europe

Oxford University has done research into 'safe reporting' in the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Spain and the US. In the US they have also looked at 'Sanctuary Cities'. You can download the report about NL here.

Master's thesis by Martens, Manon Willemijn Jeanne: Legal empowerment through legal aid: An examination of the Support to Victims of Human Trafficking programme.

This master's thesis is about the importance of legal help for the empowerment of victims of human trafficking. See here.

Established in 2003, Stichting LOS (Landelijk Ongedocumenteerden Steunpunt) has been a knowledge centre for people and organisations that provide help to people without residence permits ('undocumented'). Stichting LOS is committed to the basic rights of these migrants and their children.