

NEWSLETTER, volume 12 no. 18, 29 August

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## **NEW PREMISES THE HAGUE WERELDHUIS**

The Hague Wereldhuis has relocated to Hooftskade 87. Opening days are Monday and Thursday from 10 am to 2.30 pm.

On 6 October, the official opening will be celebrated with a substantive programme between 2 and 5 pm, followed by an informal part with a party, until 8 pm. You can register at <u>ikranendonk@stekdenhaag.nl</u>.

## **BASIC RIGHTS**

#### <u>Court: social assistance justly cut to 50% of the norm for married couples due to marriage with partner in</u> <u>Morocco</u>

It becomes clear from this case that the municipality is justified in halving the social assistance for married couples, because one partner is still living in Morocco. The criterion of 'permanently separated' does not apply as the ultimate goal is to live together. The fact that the partner in NL now has to get by on very little money, is not exceptional enough to adjust the assistance amount, the Municipality argues. The judge agrees. See here (Dutch only).

#### Court: judge dismisses criminal case as suspect has been deliberately evicted

In this criminal case, the judge finds that the prosecution has deliberately evicted the suspect, so that they are unable to attend. this appears to be a standard procedure. The judge finds that that this procedure has seriously violated the suspect's fundamental rights and declares Prosecution's claim inadmissible. See <u>here</u> (Dutch only).

# **ADMISSION POLICY**

#### Council of State: revoking asylum status by sending notice to GBA-address suffices

The Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) has revoked a refugee's asylum status by sending a notice to their last known address, even if they were no longer living there. As a result, the refugee heard about this revokal much later and their appeal was sent too late. The Council of State finds that the refugee is responsible for sending a change of address to the IND, or for ensuring the mail reaches them in time. According to the Council of State, the fact that the refugee had family problems during this time is irrelevant. The revokal can no longer be contested. See here (Dutch only).

#### Council of State: weighing behaviour parent in children's pardon refusal

In the Final regulation of the children's pardon the parent's behaviour is weighed in. For instance, if the parent has lied, or has a criminal record, the child is refused pardon. According to lawyers, this approach disproportionally harms the child's interests.

In two cases, the Council of State has asked the State Council to advise regarding this policy. Following the State Council's advice, the Council of State has judged that the parent's behaviour has unjustly been conclusive in refusing the children's pardon. It acknowledges the 'proportionality principle' has been violated. One case concerns a mother who had stated different names. See <u>here (Dutch only)</u>. The other case concerns father who has been condemned for growing cannabis. See here (Dutch only).

### WHAT'S ON

<u>Migration and Technology Monitor (MTM) : support bottom-up work on border and migration</u> Through this fellowship programme, MTM aims to create opportunities for people with lived experience of migration to meaningfully contribute to research, storytelling, policy, and advocacy conversations from the start. Among the aims is a collaborative, intellectual, and advocacy community committed to border justice and priority is given to opportunities for participatory work, including the ability to pitch unique and relevant projects by affected communities themselves. Deadline for expressions of interest is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. You can find more information <u>here</u>.

<u>Pharos: Making sexual and gender-based violence discussable among female refugees</u> In This <u>method description</u> (Dutch only) you can read how to make sexual and gender-based violence discussable in five sessions and increase knowledge about this subject among women with a refugee background. The method description is aimed at organisations, individual professionals and/or volunteers. Read the underlying study <u>here (Dutch only)</u>.

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.