

NEWS LETTER, VOLUME 4 NR 7

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WEB HUMAN TRAFFICKING ONLINE

<u>Mensenhandelweb</u> [Web Human Trafficking] is a database that contains information about human trafficking and child trafficking. On this site you will find new documents and recent court rulings pertaining to this subject. Web Human Trafficking is initiated by the het <u>Centrum Kinderhandel</u> <u>Mensenhandel</u> [Centre against Child Trafficking and Human Trafficking] in co-operation with<u>Terre des</u> <u>Hommes</u>.

1. BASIC RIGHTS

<u>CVZ [College Zorgverzekeraars, Health Care Insurance Board] no factual basis for own contribution 5.-</u> for costs pharmacy

The CVZ pays physicians when they provide care to migrants who cannot be insured if they cannot pay their medical costs themselves. Since 1 January the CVZ asks patients to pay 5.- per prescription. Especially ill undocumented migrants do not have money to pay their health bills. But CVZ claim that they are unwilling to pay. They are said to pay their hospital bills. Information from INLIA shows that CVZ does not provide sufficient information to substantiate this claim. You can read the letter <u>here</u>. The VNG [Vereniging Nederlandse Gemeenten, association Dutch municipalities] has asked to rectify this measure; you can read their appeal <u>here</u>.

2. ADMISSION POLICY

<u>State Secretary of Security and Justice: Programme streamlining admission procedures in effect on 1</u> <u>April</u>

With this programme the secretary of State wants to deal with applications for residence permit, asylum, and applications on humanitarian grounds at the same time. When applications for one residence objective are submitted, the other grounds will be investigated at the same time. This aims at preventing new applications from being submitted for new and very similar reasons. The programme had already been implemented in part, but will take full effect on the 1st of April. From then on with each asylum application and each application on humanitarian grounds it will be investigated whether there are other grounds to grant a residence permit such as medical reasons. Therefore it is important to include all medical information from the start. https://zoek.officielebekendmakingen.nl/stb-2014-135.html

Council of State: no status if trauma is caused by reliving rape

The Netherlands know a special admission policy for traumatised people. This policy takes into account the cause of the trauma exclusively and not its medical effects. Under certain conditions rape can be a reason to issue such a permit. In this case the woman had not fled immediately after the rape, but only after a new confrontation with the perpetrator. The Council of State claim that the trauma policy does not apply here and has denied the application for a residence permit. (ABRvS, 201304140/1, 4.3.14)

<u>Council of State: NAPTIP helps restore social network, protection from risk of female genital mutilation</u> This female applicant (former victim of human trafficking) has claimed that NAPTIP (support organization for victims of trafficking in Nigeria) cannot help her escape genital mutilation in Nigeria. The Council of State have decided that NAPTIP can help her build a new network that is capable of offering her this protection. Therefore she can be sent back. You can read the decision <u>here</u>.

<u>Council of State: undocumented Somali partner of Somali refugee has to submit application in Kenya</u> This application been submitted by a Somali refugee who had illegal residence in the Netherlands and has started a family here. Her Somali husband has refugee status and they have a child together. The woman has applied for family reunification. The Council of State have claimed that she has to submit the application in the country of origin (or in Kenya), just as other applicants for family reunification. In this limited period of time her family (husband and child) can either accompany her to Kenya or stay in the Netherlands. You can read the decision <u>here</u>.

<u>Council of State: no right of residence with Dutch child, ill Dutch partner can organise care</u> This application concerns an undocumented woman with a Dutch partner and Dutch child. The woman asked for right of residence with her Dutch child because her partner is ill and cannot take care of the child. The Council of State are of the opinion that the man can organise care for his child and has denied the woman's application. You can read the decision <u>here</u>.

Secretary of State: new permit for innovative entrepreneurs

The secretary of state wants to give innovative entrepreneurs the possibility to obtain a residence permit in the Netherlands. They will get a permit for a year during which time they can develop their business plan and organise funding. The entrepreneur needs to have an experienced 'facilitator' and the ministry of Economic Affairs will investigate the feasibility of the plan. You can read the proposal <u>here</u>.

3. CHECK AND DEPORTATION

Secretary of State: no more strip-searches in detention centre Rotterdam

The Secretary of State has implemented a body scanner in Rotterdam. This means that migrants no longer need to be strip-searched each time they left the centre. Many organisations, including Stichting LOS', have expressed criticism on strip-searches because they are extremely humiliating,

4. WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Help Fairwork combat exploitation of labour

FairWork is looking for field workers concerned with migration. People with a different background who want to volunteer to help spot exploitation of labour within their community. Link: <u>http://www.fairwork.nu/wie_zijn_wij/vacature/cultural-mediator.html.</u>

Debate about Human Trafficking 3 April 15.30u Humanity House The Hague

Speakers are Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen (National Reporter Human Trafficking), Maria Grazia Giammarinaro (at the moment working as a Judge in the Criminal Court of Rome, former representative of the OVSE for the fight against human trafficking), Aurélie Hauchere Vuong (of the international labour organisation ILO) and representatives of governments and social and political organisations. Info: http://www.humanityhouse.org/agenda/europas-slaven-anno-nu/

Two reports about asylum applications in western countries in 2013

Both reports show that many more refugees came to western countries in 2013 and that more asylum applications were granted. Especially more people from Syria and Russia have applied for asylum in western countries. Throughout Europe 35% of the applications were granted, in the Netherlands this amounted to 60%.

UNHCR : Download the Asylum Trends 2013 report Eurostat: <u>http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/3-24032014-AP/EN/3-24032014-AP-EN.PDF</u>

<u>3</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.