

NEWSLETTER, VOLUME 6 NO. 6

14 March 2016

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Being dependent, lacking any grip on your own future or any chance to make a difference in other people's lives makes people ill. In the Netherlands, this is the social reality of people who have no (residence) status and whose lives have become stuck since they cannot go back and are not allowed to do anything here. The legislation that excludes these people is based on the idea that it will make them leave.

This notion ignores reality on different levels. Those involved in supporting people without a status think it's time to face this reality and to starting working on solutions. Looking away doesn't solve anything.

Please, sign on: <u>www.iedereen-aandeslag.nl</u>. And do share your experiences with activation through info@iedereen-aandeslag.nl

1. BASIC RIGHTS

ECSR: Freedom-restriction centre also for aliens during admission procedure

In November 2015, the Dutch Administrative High Court (CRvB) and the Council of State responded to the decision by the European Committee of Social Rights regarding the right to shelter, saying that the freedom-restriction centre (VBL) is the designated accommodation. This case concerns a man who is still in the process of awaiting a residence permit and who's been allowed to await a decision in the Netherlands. Nevertheless, the CRvB has decided he be accommodated in the VBL. Read <u>here</u> (Dutch only).

In another case, the Council of State has made clear that accommodation in the VBL is only vailable if someone is willing to cooperate towards their return. Read <u>here</u> (Dutch only).

Supreme Court: Dutch nationality for child that has only been acknowledged by father at adult age This case concerns the child of a Dutch father in Australia, that grows up with both parents as a family, even though the father is formally married to someone else. The Supreme Court has decided that in the Netherlands, this situation would result in parentage, and thus that the child has been a Dutch national from birth. Read <u>here</u> (Dutch only).

<u>Council of state: Bill of Divorcement is needed for registration Liberian divorce in NL</u> In Liberia, the wedding has been performed traditionally. The Certificate of Divorce has not been appended by an apostil or legalisation, but by a Notary Certificate. The Council of State has decided that this is insufficient according to Liberian law and refuses registration. Read <u>here</u> (Dutch only).

2. ADMISSION POLICY

<u>State secretary Security & Justice: extension moratorium on decisions for Yemen</u> The moratorium on decisions and departures for aliens from the Yemen will be extended by six months, until 13 August 2016. The reason is that the situation is still very insecure. Decisions are suspended and Yemenites will be accommodated. Read <u>here</u> (Dutch only).

<u>Court: request of Central Authority needed for placing as a Moroccan foster child</u> For more than two years, this Moroccan child has been cared for financially and emotionally by the foster parents who are living in the Netherlands. They want to invite the child to NL. The judge has

decided that a formal request of the Moroccan Central Authority regarding Children's Issues is needed, as well as a report on the necessity. They are lacking in this case. Read <u>here</u> (Dutch only).

Court: no residence with child as Somali nationality is not certain

This man has requested residence with his child, which has been placed under supervision. He has resided in the Netherlands illegally for 17 years. The judge has rejected his request, as he cannot prove his Somali nationality (VK Rotterdam court (mk), AWB 15/2205, 28.1.16).

Court: decision commencing date EU citizenship only feasible when necessary

The judge has decided that the EU citizenship will be granted without any application, as soon as the conditions are met. Thus, it's not possible to ascertain the starting date. Sometimes the commencing

date is relevant, for instance for the long-term residence after 5 years and for a decision on the consequences of using social security. The commencing state must be decided in a procedure about the consequences, the court has decided (VK Amsterdam court (mk), AWB 15/8320, 2.2.16)

<u>Council of State: psychological problems children demand special assessment framework</u> Centrum 45 has issued a report regarding the psychological problems of children, detailing the differences with adults. However, the BMA, IND's medical department, has not taken these into account when it assessed the psychological problems of the children. The judge has decided that the BMA needs to write a new report. Read <u>here (Dutch only)</u>.

4 ACTIVITIES

<u>Week programme Vluchtroute, 14-18 March Pakhuis de Zwijger Amsterdam</u> All this week, there are programmes, films, food & talks about departing, being on thge road and arriving. Further information: <u>https://dezwijger.nl/special/vluchtroute</u>

Peoples Global Action on migration, development and human rights, 6-10 dec 2016 Dhaka

The PGA provides an essential space to enable civil society to critically engage the governments' GFMD process and to challenge states to undertake migration and development policy-making from a human rights framework, as well as hold governments accountable to their international human rights and development commitments. Info : http://dhaka.peoplesglobalaction.org/

Vacancy social psychiatric nurse at Seguro in Utrecht, 32 hrs/week

Seguro foundation shelters and supports the most vulnerable people without residence papers in Utrecht. Residents often have trauma-related issues. Some of them (are suspected to) have personality disorders. Many residents have lost all faith in assistance and avoid care and counselling. Seguro is looking for a social psychiatric nurse to support this target group. Apply to the board before 21 March, info@seguro-opvang.nl. Read <u>here</u> (Dutch only).

Dokters van de Wereld: new website and 'medical card'

Dokters van de Wereld has a new site with all the health care information for people who cannot obtain health insurance, including a page for <u>undocumented migrants</u> as well as a page for <u>health care providers</u>.

Moreover, Dokters van de Wereld has developed a 'medical card', a pocket size information leaflet, meant for undocumented migrants who need medical care. These cards can be ordered through: Cleering@doktersvandewereld.org

Petition Welcome Refugees

The refugees must be rescued and welcomed! Sign on: https://www.policat.org/validate/0002329923-83618547413

Sign for Hananias De Oliviera

At the age of 14, Hananias De Oliveira fled Angola in 2001 and has been living in the Netherlands for 15 years. He must be allowed to stay! <u>https://petities.nl/petitions/oliveira-hoort-in-nederland</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.