

NEWS LETTER, volume 12 nr 1 3 January 2022

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GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT 2021

On the 15th of December 2021 the government <u>agreement</u> was presented. The government agreement includes the following statements:

We will crack down on honour revenge and limitation of the freedom of girls, women and other vulnerable people and those who are guilty of these crimes. We protect victims of forced marriage, abandonment or genital mutilation for example by having a judge issue a preventative protection order and by the prohibition of advocating, encouraging or performing hymen reconstruction. There will also be a notification requirement for healthcare and education workers when they are faced with honour violence, forced marriage or female genital mutilation.

It remains to be seen whether supplementary investigation into the extent of and the interaction with long-term undocumented immigrants and stateless people in The Netherlands is relevant

In the interim it has become known that Eric van der Burg will become the Secretary of State of Asylum and Migration. He was councillor in Amsterdam and is currently member of the Dutch Upper House for the VVD [Dutch liberal party].

BASIC RIGHTS

Secretary of State Justice and Security: numbers of departures from AZC [Asylum Seekers' Centre] Information from the Secretary of State shows that 64% of the asylum seekers from the AZC were granted a status and a house in 2021 and that 22% of the asylum seekers left on their own with 'unknown destination'.

Asylum seekers from Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, who have little prospect of a status, leave with unknown destination much more frequently (ranging from 78% to 81%). Over half the asylum seekers who leave with unknown destination later appear in a neighbouring country. You will find more information here.

ADMISSION POLICY

Secretary of State Justice and Security: asylum policy Iraq

As a general rule single women from Central-Iraq are granted asylum permit. The Secretary of State decided that in future this will also be the case for single women from the Kurdish Autonomous Region (KAR). You will find more information here.

Secretary of State: 'postponement of departure' for rejected Unaccompanied Minor Asylumseekers In January 2020 the Court of Justice ruled in the case TQ. The Court ruled that The Netherlands cannot hold unaccompanied minor asylum seekers in The Netherlands without status. Either these minors should be transferred to the country of origin or they should be granted a status. Currently The Netherlands keeps these minors without status in care until they are 18 years of age. This ruling resulted in a lot of new jurisprudence. Only now the Secretary of State has announced new policy. Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers who have exhausted all legal remedies will be granted 'postponement of departure', a status with few rights that can be withdrawn as soon as the minor has reached the age of 18 or when he can be deported to the country of origin. You will find more information here.

CHECK AND DETENTION

Court of Appeal: transport from France to The Netherlands for asylum application is human trafficking. At the end of December the Court of Appeal Groningen sentenced a woman on account of human trafficking. She had brought a psychologically depressed man with her car from Dunkirk to The Netherlands. She had not received any money for this transport. Yet she was given a suspended sentence of three months. You will find more information here.

ACTIVITIES

Registration Dutch dreamers

In cooperation with other organisations we want to give undocumented young persons who have

predominantly grown up in The Netherlands an opportunity to continue studying after they have become 18 years of age. Preferably by helping them with a study residence permit. But this is only possible for young persons who dare to apply for an MVV [machtiging voorlopig verblijf - authorisation for temporary stay] in the country of origin. In some cases those people who do not dare to do so can continue studying without a permit. If you are interested: please contact Stichting LOS: info@stichtinglos.nl.

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.