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# **PETITION: SAVE LIVES, STOP FRONTEX!**

For years, tragic disasters have taken place in the Mediterranean Sea, involving loss of lives for thousands of migrants who attempted crossing to Europe. The figurehead of European border policies, Frontex is complicit in many of these incidents by failing to intervene or even conducting pushbacks. This has rendered the European borders lethal to many people who make the crossing. It is time to stop funding deadly border policies and controversial migration deals, and ensure humane accommodation and safe migration routes.

The signatories of this petition call on the government to cease funding and facilitating Frontex by means of resources and staff. The Netherlands contributes significantly to Frontex; however, these resources can be much better utilised to provide accommodation and safety for people arriving in Europe. That is why we urge that these contributions be allocated to life-saving initiatives.

Refugees are entitled to safe shelter rather than lethal border enforcement. Stop Frontex! <a href="https://campagnes.degoedezaak.org/campaigns/red-levens-stop-frontex">https://campagnes.degoedezaak.org/campaigns/red-levens-stop-frontex</a>

### **BASIC RIGHTS**

#### Court: No placement in Family Location upon admission in clinic for medical reasons

If someone is too ill to travel, or if vital treatment is not available in the country of origin, that person is granted 'suspension of departure for medical reasons'. The same applies to the family members. The person involved and their family are then entitled to a place in an asylum seekers' centre. In this case, the family was placed in a Family Location and a restrictive measure was imposed, stating the family could only stay in the municipality where the Family Location was located. During the week, however, the family resided in the clinic where it received treatment, outside the municipality of the Family Location.

The judge finds that the placement in the Family Location has been negligent. It should have been checked if the family could reside in the weekends as well, and whether a reporting requirement would suffice. See <a href="here">here</a> (Dutch only).

### **ADMISSION POLICY**

### State secretary Justice and Security: new country policy Yemen

Up to now, asylum seekers from Yemen were always granted asylum status, due to the living conditions in Yemen. This policy is being revoked. Everyone will be assessed individually. The new policy does acknowledge that human rights activists and journalists are more at risk. The same applies to single women and women at risk of gender-based violence. See <a href="here">here</a> (Dutch only).

Court: weighing importance private life Armenian with son and grandchildren, convicted 20 years ago. This case concerns an Armenian who has lived in the Netherlands for 27 years. In 2005, he was convicted to 2 years in prison for attempted manslaughter. However, this was nearly 20 years ago, and there is no of reoffending. The judge finds that the importance of his private life should be more carefully weighed against any public order interest and that the entry ban must be lifted. See <a href="here">here</a> (Dutch only).

### Court: no return to NL for Kenyan sisters, forcibly returned as teenagers

This case concerns two sisters who, in 2014, at the age of 16 and 17, were forcibly returned to Kenya with their father, following eight years' legal residence in the Netherlands. Life in Kenya was disappointing: They could no longer go to school and living conditions were poor. The father has since returned to NL, and now the sisters want to come back, too. However, since they had lived in Kenya for 8 years when one of them filed the application, the judge finds they no longer have sufficient ties to the Netherlands and dismisses the appeal. see <a href="here">here</a> (Dutch only).

# **ACTIVITIES**

#### Launch of Recognising human trafficking e-module

In the Netherlands, an estimated 5,000 to 20,000 people are victims of human trafficking. Migrants and youths are at an increased risk of becoming a victim of human trafficking. They could be exploited in

sectors such as the sex industry, hospitality, or agriculture. Or they are forced to do criminal tasks. Human trafficking is a serious violation of human rights and has a huge impact on the lives of victims. Victims often cannot or dare not seek help for their situation. It is therefore important that professionals working with migrants are able to recognize the signs of human trafficking.

Do you want to learn more about human trafficking, recognizing signs, and how to follow-up on signs of human trafficking? Then make the e-learning now! The e-learning is available in <u>Dutch</u> and <u>English</u>. The English e-learning is made possible in part by the AMIF-fund.

#### Sign the call to strengthen rights of all victims of crime regardless of residence status

On March 14th, the European Parliament's Committees on Civil Liberties, Justice, and Home Affairs (LIBE) and Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM) <u>voted on their draft report</u>. While there were notable improvements, unfortunately, comprehensive protections from immigration enforcement weren't introduced. You can read more about this in our press release <u>here</u>.

The draft report is scheduled for a plenary vote in the European Parliament on April 10th/11th. After that, the European Parliament, Council and Commission will enter the next stage of negotiations, also known as 'trilogues'.

We're still welcoming **new signatories (organisations)** to our call to action.

Since 2003, the LOS Foundation (the Dutch acronym for 'Landelijk Ongedocumenteerden Steunpunt') has been the knowledge centre for people and organisations providing assistance to undocumented migrants. LOS Foundation devotes itself to the basic rights of these migrants and their children.