

NEWSLETTER, Volume 15 no. 02
20 January 2025

CONTENTS

ADMISSION POLICY	2
ACTIVITIES.....	2

WODC: DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS OF FAMILY MIGRATION UNDER FAMILY LAW AND MIGRATION LAW

How the concept of family is interpreted differs between migration law and family law and from how society views family. In contrast to family law, migration law ignores the development of new family ties. Migration law also treats the interests of children differently. In addition, the norms are much stricter, leaving little room for exceptions in distressing cases.

Researchers of the WODC (scientific research and data centre of the Dutch Government) make several recommendations to reduce the differences between family law and family migration law and to allow for more customisation in the latter.

<https://repository.wodc.nl/handle/20.500.12832/3425>, 14.1.25

ADMISSION POLICY

District Court: criteria for admission of dependent family member of EU labour migrant

EU policy allows for co-legalization of family members when an EU citizen settles in another EU country. A [ruling by the Dutch Council of State](#) shows that legalisation is possible for illegal family members of EU citizens who were already in the Netherlands before the EU citizen moved there.

A [ruling by the District Court](#) does show that the precondition of dependence on the EU citizen is extremely strict: financial support must have been necessary for survival.

District Court: [Afghan victim of domestic violence in the UK may be considered a 'distressing' case in the Netherlands](#)

This Afghan woman was married off to a man in the United Kingdom. There, she suffered domestic violence. Eventually, she fled to the Netherlands where her sister lives. She wants to stay in the Netherlands because she fears to become a victim of an honour killing if she were to be sent back to the UK. She has psychological problems as a result of the abuse.

The judge thinks that her medical situation should be considered more, and that it should also be weighed whether she falls under the criteria for 'distressing' cases (since this is her first application, this would be an option).

ACTIVITIES

Conversation: [Fortress Europe](#), 21jan 20u WORM Rotterdam

Pushbacks are turning the Mediterranean into a mass grave. Invasive surveillance technologies are being deployed against people on the move across the Polish, Romanian or Croatian borders. And unprecedented footage documents the EU's continuous involvement in racially motivated anti-migrant operations in North Africa. What is happening at Europe's borders?

In this conversation we will unpack how and why Fortress Europe continues to raise its walls against the global south – and what can be done to better manage migration without violating human rights.

Debate: [Migration Myths](#), 23 Jan., 19:30 hrs, De Zwijger in Amsterdam

Recent elections in the US and Europe have propelled migration to the forefront of political debate, with anti-migrant sentiments reaching a fever pitch. What is urgently needed is a responsible and balanced discussion on this critical issue. In this programme, we aim to provide the audience with a range of perspectives. We will hear from migrants (including undocumented domestic workers who are members of the FNV Migrant Domestic Workers Union), as well as migration law experts, economic analysts, and policymakers.

Debate: [The legal maze of international love](#), 24 Jan., 19:30 hrs, De Zwijger in Amsterdam

In this programme, we will discuss migration policy, love and families: how do you prove love or family life to the government? How does the Dutch legal system reflect potentially entrenched stigmas? And how can we strive for a more inclusive and fairer migration policy?

Founded in 2003, the LOS national foundation for undocumented migrants (Landelijk Ongedocumenteerden Steunpunt) is the knowledge centre for people and organisations providing assistance to undocumented migrants. The LOS foundation is devoted to the basic rights of these migrants and their children.