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RED CROSS AND FAIRWORK: ONLINE TRAINING TOOL HUMAN TRAFFICKING

There is exploitation in the Netherlands. Some people take advantage of the vulnerable position of others by forcing them to work for little or no pay in bad (working) conditions. The risk of becoming a victim of exploitation is greater for migrants. Therefore, it is crucial for them to know their labour rights and to know where and when they can ask for help and advice.

The training tool is available in [English](#) and [Indonesian](#).
You will find more information [here](#).

ADMISSION POLICY

Minister of Asylum and Migration: [asylum policy Colombia](#)

From the Official Notice the minister has concluded that Colombia disposes of appropriate legislation to protect trans people but that this does not work in practice. The same applies to female victims of honour-related and domestic violence. Therefore, Colombian trans people and women who have fallen victim to gender related violence will be granted asylum in the Netherlands.

Council of State: [risk of female genital mutilation Guinee Bissau](#)

From the report '28 Too Many' it becomes evident that 95% of Muslim women in Guinee Bissau have become victims of genital mutilation. This case concerned a woman with a Fula father and a Madinga mother who stated that she is at risk of genital mutilation. Female genital mutilation is an almost universal practice within both ethnical groups. According to the Council of State the rejection of the application by the IND was unjust.

Council of State: [Armenia not safe in cases of domestic violence](#)

From the country information the Council of State has concluded that Armenia does not provide protection from domestic violence. Therefore, the rejection of the application of this female asylum seeker was unjust.

European Court of Human Rights: [Surinam son to mother in the Netherlands, other child under supervision in the Netherlands](#)

This case concerned a Surinam son who wants to join his mother in The Netherlands. Previously his mother had joined her Dutch partner with whom she had another child. She left him because of domestic violence and her Dutch child has been placed under supervision. The European Court posed questions to The Netherlands whether it is in line with the right to family life that the Surinam son did not get permission to join his mother.

Court of Appeal: [no residence adult child with Dutch mother, insufficient care duties](#)

This case concerned an Iraqi man who applied for a residence permit as carer of his elderly Dutch mother. The Court has ruled that the Chavez ruling could apply to this situation if the Dutch mother was forced to leave the EU in case her caring child had to leave the country. But this is not a case of actual care duties.

In [another, similar case](#) a 65-year-old Moroccan man applied for a residence permit to join his Dutch mother. In this case there was no sufficient evidence of care duties either; moreover, in practice the mother stayed in Morocco for long periods of time.

CHECK AND DETENTION

Minister of Social Affairs and Employment: [higher penalties in case of illegal employment](#)

In cases of illegal employment, the Dutch Labour Inspectorate can impose a fine ranging from € 2250 to € 11,250 per employee as of 1 February. Until recently the standard fine for the violation of the Labour Act for Foreign Nationals amounted to € 8000 per illegally employed employee. The Council of State is of the

opinion that the culpability of the employer should always be taken into account as well as malpractices such as bad labour conditions, bad housing and taking away passports.

Council of State: [temporarily stricter regime does not render border detention Schiphol unlawful](#)

At Schiphol many people applied for asylum during the months of November and December 2024. They were placed in border detention. Subsequently the detention centre decided to reduce their time outside the prison cells, because the Detention Centre did not have enough staff to carry out surveillance.

Various Courts have ruled that because of the reduced time outside of the cells, there was not enough difference with criminal detention and that the asylumseekers had to be released. Because the Ministry immediately applied to the Council of State for a temporary provision, which was granted, the asylumseekers were not released. In the final appeal of last Wednesday, the Council of State ruled that there were enough differences between border detention and criminal detention in spite of the reduced time outside of the cells.

However, last Friday the Court of Appeal in Amsterdam visited the detention centre and [concluded](#) that there is in fact no difference between criminal detention and detention of asylumseekers. In this case the Council of State granted a temporary provision as well.

Council of State: [reading out mobile phone in connection with border detention not allowed](#)

The Council of State has ruled that it is not allowed to read out the phones of people in border detention Schiphol solely because of the detention. It is allowed to read out phones in connection with asylum applications. Because most people in Schiphol have applied for asylum in practice this ruling does not change much.

ACTIVITIES

CGM Seminar: [Female labour migrants in the Low Countries](#), 27 February 13-17, Leuven

This event explores the experiences of female labour migrants in Belgium and the Netherlands, both past and present, covering a broad definition of labour, including unpaid work and activities in the informal economy. The program includes presentations, discussions, and a poster session where students, researchers, heritage workers, and policymakers can show ongoing projects.

Vluchtelingenwerk: [sign against Adverse policy](#)

Because of abrupt cutbacks refugees without guidance are left to their own devices, reception centres are overcrowded and some people may even end up in the streets. This has to stop. Let your voice be heard! Will you also leave your name? In doing so you:

- speak out against adverse policy that disregards refugees;
- and you will shortly receive an action package to make your own voice heard.