

This monthly press review covers Eurafrican migration control, migration and displacement in African countries and news on the European border regime. In case there is a news item, report, or campaign you would like to flag for in next month's review please write us to: [migr-contr@ffm-online.org](mailto:migr-contr@ffm-online.org) or on Twitter [@MigControl](https://twitter.com/MigControl)

### NEW ON MIGRATION-CONTROL.INFO

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#### **Blog** [الطريق الأطلسي نحو أوروبا ونظام الحدود في موريتانيا](#)

Arabic version of **Atlantic Route to Europe and the Border Regime in Mauritania** by Hassan Ould Moctar. This irredeemably Eurocentric approach to migration stands in contrast to that which had subtly underpinned earlier decades of Mauritanian independence. We have translated this [blog entry by Hassan Ould Mokhtar](#) into Arabic, in which he describes this discrepancy and the logic behind it. It shows that the pre-existing social context is of little importance to the logic of the EU border regime. In doing so, the author focuses on often overlooked aspects of the European border regime.

#### **Blog** [وكالة فرونتكس وعمليات الترحيل](#)

Arabic version of **Frontex Deportations**. Read our brief retrospective analysis of Frontex's reports for the first half of 2021 on return operations and on Frontex's active and overt participation in the EU's deportation policy. [English Version](#)

#### **Blog** [تطورات جديدة على الطريق التونسي](#)

Arabic version of **New Developments Along the Tunisian Route**. Over the last two years, the number of people leaving Tunisia by boat to reach Italy has been increasing. This [analysis by Civil MRCC](#) describes the latest developments along this route, while placing them in the broader framework of European border outsourcing policies. The analysis is also available on our blog in [English](#).

#### **Blog** [La question migratoire et protestation: Cas de Zarzis](#)

French article by Khaled Tabbabi: **The Issue of Migration and Protest - The Case of Zarzis**. After the disappearance of 17 people on their way to Europe in September 2022, protests are taking place in Tunisia. They are aimed at European migration policy but also at the Tunisian State. Khaled Tabbabi, researcher for the Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights, writes for our blog on the nature of the protests, on the duality of the absence and presence of the Tunisian state and the struggle for freedom.

#### **Wiki** [Israël](#)

French version of [Wiki: Israel](#) by Judith Poppe. Using the example of Eritrean teacher Mahari, one of the approximately 30,000 refugees and asylum seekers currently living

in Israel (2021), Judith Poppe explains Israel's role in the system of outsourcing borders and the control of migratory movements.

## CENTRAL AFRICA

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**Chad** 15.01.23 Farmlandgrab: **Logone Occidental: Polémique autour de 3500 hectares réquisitionné par l'Etat dans le Lac-Wey (Logone Occidental: Controversy over 3500 hectares requisitioned by the state in Lake Wey)**: “By Ordinance 002 of July 28, 2022 establishing the General Framework for the Creation and Governance of Special Economic Zones in the Republic of Chad, the State is taking over 3,500 hectares in various cantons. It is a project that will create more than 3,500 jobs and could generate more than 1,700 billion in sales each year, according to online information. The beginning of the demarcation of this area for the establishment of industrial units is already causing a lot of ink and spit. [...] The young people of Kana, meeting in General Assembly on January 8, 2023, say they learned with amazement and indignation that a memorandum in which the authors declared that the population of Kana agreed to give up plots for the installation of the industrial zone.”

**DRC** 29.01.23: taz: **Kämpfe im Osten des Kongo: M23-Rebellen erobern weitere Stadt (Fighting in eastern Congo: M23 rebels capture another town)**: “According to UN figures, more than 520,000 people have fled since the M23 war flared up again in March 2022. Aid agencies are now reporting new clusters of destitute refugees. In the town of Mweso, aid agencies say 200 families from Kitshanga, or more than 1,000 people, have been without food, water and shelter for four days.”

*See also* 10.01.23: Al Jazeera: **Rwanda says it will not accept DR Congo refugees any more**

## EAST AFRICA

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**Somalia/Kenya** 26.01.23: The Guardian: **Children go hungry at Kenya refugee camp as malnutrition numbers soar**: “MSF charity reports 33% rise in malnourished patients at giant Dadaab complex after influx from drought-stricken Somalia.”

**Sudan** 05.01.23: Sudan Tribune: **Sudan deployed troops on CAR border, military official says**: “Sudan has deployed troops along the border with the Central African Republic (CAR) for security purposes including preventing infiltration of armed elements into and out of Darfur”, this article notes. It demonstrates the public argumentation of Hemeti to increase the securitization and militarization of the border.”

**Sudan/Ethiopia** 26.01.23: Al Jazeera: **Ethiopia's PM Abiy Ahmed in Sudan on first visit since 2021 coup**: "Relations between the two Horn of Africa countries have been fraught with tensions in recent years, including over a border dispute and refugees from the two-year conflict in Ethiopia's northern Tigray region. [...] Tensions heightened between Khartoum and Addis Ababa following the conflict that broke out in November 2020 between Ethiopia's federal government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). Fighting drove tens of thousands of people to seek refuge in Sudan."

## **NORTH AFRICA**

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**Egypt** 23.01.23: NYT [Paywall]: **Inflation Is So High in Egypt That Eggs Are a Luxury**: "After months of punishing inflation and a plummeting currency, Egyptians are growing louder about the crisis. In exchange for a bailout, the I.M.F. is imposing stern conditions on the government. [...] For the fourth time in six years, Mr. el-Sisi's government turned to the International Monetary Fund for a bailout, receiving \$3 billion over four years, far less relief than before and with far sterner conditions. [...] In a demand that strikes at the heart of Egypt's power structure, the I.M.F. is also requiring Egypt to sell off some state-owned companies to raise money and to strip military-owned companies of tax breaks and other privileges, allowing private businesses to compete. Mr. el-Sisi's government, which gained power in 2013 through an army takeover, had handed control over an enormous swath of Egypt's resources to the military, which had long operated a sprawling parallel economy. Those assets included military-owned pasta and cement factories, hotels and movie studios, and experts warned this was suffocating growth. Under Mr. el-Sisi, Egypt spent billions on flashy megaprojects like a new capital city, highways, bridges and presidential palaces, declaring them essential to development. Financed mainly by debt, the spree enriched military-owned companies without producing meaningful jobs, housing or other gains."

*See also* 23.01.23: taz: **Wirtschaftskrise in Ägypten: Leere Bäuche, volle Häfen (Economic Crisis in Egypt: Empty bellies, full ports)**; 18.01.23: Al Jazeera: **As economic crisis deepens, will Egypt slow megaprojects down?**

**Libya** 12.01.23: The Guardian: **Libyan politicians' pay goes up 40% as election impasse continues**: "Western leaders are losing patience with an entrenched Libyan political elite that has collectively failed to agree on the basis of elections for more than a year but has boosted politicians' salaries by more than 40%, according to official figures. [...] The growth of the Libyan economy is projected to be 17.9% this year, the highest in Africa, but despite this some estimates show that nearly a third of Libyans, especially in the south, live at, or below, the poverty line."

**Libya/Italy** 28.01.23: Al Jazeera: **Italy's Eni signs \$8bn gas deal with Libya amid energy crunch**: "'The energy agreement, signed during Italian PM Meloni's visit to Tripoli, seeks

to boost Libya's gas output through new offshore gas fields." During her visit, Meloni met Libya's Prime Minister for talks that also focused on migration across the Mediterranean. Rome will support Libya by providing new search and rescue ships, Dbeibah said. "Italy's prime minister needs to show "some kind of a step up compared to her predecessor in terms of migration and energy policy in Libya", said Jalel Harchaoui, a Libya expert and an associate fellow at the Royal United Services Institute. "[But] it will be difficult to improve upon Rome's existing western Libya tactics, which have been chugging along," Harchaoui said."

**Mediterranean/Libya** 05.01.23: InfoMigrants: **IOM: Migrants repatriated to Libya decreased by 24% in 2022**: "The number of migrants who were intercepted at sea and brought back to Libya by Libyan authorities last year is equal to 24,684 persons, a 24% decrease compared to 2021 when they were 32,425."

**Tunisia** 07.01.23: AlJazeera: **Five dead after boat carrying refugees sinks off Tunisia's coast**: "At least five people have died and 10 are missing after an overcrowded boat carrying refugees attempting to cross the Mediterranean from Tunisia to Italy sank. The boat sank off of Louata, in the Sfax region [...]. Another 20 people were rescued by the Tunisian coastguard."

**Tunisia** 14.01.23: Al Jazeera: **Tunisia: Anti-gov't protests take place on revolution anniversary**: "The central Avenue Habib Bourguiba – the artery of the capital, Tunis, and a key site for the revolution – was crowded on Saturday with thousands of protesters waving Tunisian flags, amid chants of "people demand the fall of the regime". A heavy police presence remained outside the Interior Ministry building on the street along with water cannon. Protesters had pushed past police and metal barricades to reach the avenue, defying initial efforts by the authorities to keep separate several parallel protests that had been called by different political parties and civil society organisations."

**Tunisia** 20.01.23: InfoMigrants: **Italian ministers in Tunisia, Egypt to discuss migration, repatriations**: "On a visit to Tunisia the Italian ministers for foreign affairs and the interior met with their counterparts to discuss stability in the Mediterranean region and stopping migration flows. The Italian delegation will travel to Egypt on Saturday, another key departure and transit country."

*See also* 02.01.23: Al Jazeera: **Tunisian transport strike adds more woes for President Saied**

**Tunisia** 21.01.23: taz: **Hilfe aus dem Bürgerkriegsland (Aid from the civil war country)**: "The Libyan unity government under Abdulhamid Dabaiba sent trucks loaded with flour, milk, sugar, rice and cooking oil to Tunisia. For months, these and other staple foods have been in short supply on the shelves of Tunisian supermarkets. Outrage over the

authorities' inability to restock the shelves is high in the former showcase country of the Arab Spring. That's because food prices have been rising incessantly since the Russian attack on Ukraine began. Inflation is as high as it was last 30 years ago.”

## WEST AFRICA

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**Burkina Faso** 04.01.23: Al Jazeera: **Burkina Faso requests French ambassador withdrawal, Paris says**: The apparent expulsion signals a further deterioration in relations between Burkina Faso and former coloniser France which maintains strong ties with other former colonies in West Africa and has special forces stationed there.

**Burkina Faso** 25.01.23: Al Jazeera: **Burkina Faso confirms it has ended French military accord**: Burkina Faso's government spokesman says the country wants to defend itself and France has one month to pull out troops.

*See also* 25.01.23: NYT: **France to Pull Troops Out of Burkina Faso, as Its Unpopularity in Africa Grows**; 24.01.23: Franceinfo: **"Nous sommes les démons de Macron": des dessins animés discréditent l'armée française au Sahel et encensent le groupe Wagner sur les réseaux sociaux** ("We are Macron's demons": cartoons discredit the French army in the Sahel and praise the Wagner group on social networks); 24.01.23: Africa News: **Timeline from a year of political turmoil in Burkina Faso in 2022**

**Burkina Faso** 21.01.23: The Guardian: **66 women and children freed after kidnap by armed assailants**: “The mass kidnapping was unprecedented in Burkina Faso, which is facing a violent Islamist insurgency that spread from neighbouring Mali in 2015. On 12 and 13 January, armed men seized the women and their children while they were scouring the bush for fruit and leaves outside two villages in the district of Arbinda, in the Sahel region's Soum province.”

**Mali** 16.01.23: Sahel Research Group: **Mali Seeks Stronger Cooperation with Algeria Against Jihadist Groups**: “Malian minister of foreign affairs, Abdoulaye Diop, met with his Algerian counterpart in Algiers on 15 January in the hopes of strengthening cooperative ties between the two countries. [...] During the visit, the head of the Malian armed forces (FAMA) and the Algerian spokesperson for the Algerian General Staff signed a series of military cooperation agreements to establish greater coordination between the two countries in the fight against terrorist groups and to contain their spread.”

**Mali** 20.01.23: The Defence Post: **Mali Gets More Warplanes, Helicopters From Russia**: “AFP counted eight planes and two helicopters at a ceremony attended by Russian ambassador Igor Gromyko and the head of Mali's junta, Colonel Assimi Goita. Mali's military said the shipment included Sukhoi Su-25 attack planes designed to support

ground troops; and the Czech-designed Albatros L-39. L-39s, while initially designed for training purposes, have also been used as attack aircraft. Bamako also received Mi-8s, a Soviet-designed Russian transport helicopter that, as well as transporting troops and equipment, can be fitted with weapons to defend ground troops.”

**Niger** 23.01.23: TV5Monde: **Niger: rencontre entre ONG et donateurs sur la crise dans la région du lac Tchad (Niger: NGOs and donors meet to discuss the crisis in the Lake Chad region)**: “At the two-day meeting, co-organized by Niger, Germany and Norway in collaboration with the United Nations, participants are expected to “renew their commitment” to “enable a quicker return to peace” and “strengthen the resilience of more than 24 million people” affected by the crisis [...]. In Berlin, more than \$2.17 billion had been pledged for humanitarian action and “peacebuilding” in the region. However, the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and the impact of climate change have “exacerbated the humanitarian situation” and 5.3 million people are still displaced, the UN points out. Niger, Nigeria, Chad and Cameroon established the 8,500-strong Mixed Multinational Force (MMF) in July 2015, operating against armed jihadist groups.”

**Sahel G5** 18.01.23: Tschadinfo: **Voici le communiqué final de la réunion des ministres des Affaires étrangères du G5 Sahel (Here is the final communiqué of the G5 Sahel Foreign Ministers' meeting)**: “Meeting this Wednesday, January 18, 2023 in N'Djamena to reflect on the fortification and sustainability of the G5 Sahel, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs adopted a final communiqué.”

## WEST ASIA

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**Yemen** 18.01.23: Al Jazeera: **Saudi foreign minister sees progress towards ending Yemen war**: “Speaking in Davos, Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud said a political settlement was needed to end the eight-year conflict. Saudi Arabia’s foreign minister said ... that progress was being made towards ending the Yemen war, in which Riyadh leads a military coalition, but more work was needed, including reinstating a truce and transitioning to a permanent ceasefire.”

## EUROPE

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**France** 20.01.23: ECRE: **Council of State Leaving People in Destitution on Doubtful Vulnerability Criteria, 40 Per Cent of Asylum Seekers Without Material Reception Conditions, Evictions in Paris, Calais and Dunkerque**: “The high threshold of vulnerability criteria leaves pregnant women and small children destitute as emergency capacity is at its maximum. Authority statistics reveal that almost 40 per cent of asylum seekers in France are left without material reception conditions. Violent evictions continue in Paris and North of France.”

**Germany** 13.01.23: Mediendienst Immigration: **Die wichtigsten Asylzahlen 2022 (The most important asylum figures 2022)**: “According to the UN refugee agency UNHCR, 28.6 million people were living as refugees outside their country at the end of 2022 - 24 percent more than in the previous year. The strongest driver was Russia's war of aggression on Ukraine: Almost eight million refugees from Ukraine were taken in by Europe. Of these, it is estimated that around one million people live in Germany. In addition, Germany took in around 200,000 asylum seekers from other countries in 2022.”

**Germany/France** 23.01.23: neuesdeutschland: **Deutsch-französische Migrationsabwehr (Franco-German migration defense)**: “Germany and France want to strengthen their cooperation against "migration flows". To this end, the two countries had established a "Joint Franco-German Service Unit" (GDFD) in 2021. At the joint Council of Ministers on Sunday, German Interior Minister Nancy Faeser and her counterpart Gérald Darmanin converted this initially provisional structure into a permanent organizational unit with an administrative agreement. To "combat irregular migration," the GDFD is to conduct joint patrols on the border of the two countries.”

**Greece** 09.01.23: Al Jazeera: **Refugee aid workers to go on trial in Greece**: “Twenty-four defendants are expected to go on trial on the Greek island of Lesbos on Tuesday in relation to their work with refugees, in what has been described by experts as “the largest case of criminalisation of solidarity” in Europe. Rights groups have also decried the legal proceedings as chaotic, confusing and farcical.”

**Greece** 21.01.23: DW: **Greece expands fence along border with Turkey**: “Greece will almost double the length of the 5-meter (16-foot)-high steel fence on its border with Turkey [...].”

*See also* 22.01.23: euronews: **Greece says it prevented 260,000 migrants from entering in 2022**; 18.01.23: Alarm Phone: **We have renewed contact to the group that was stranded on an islet in Evros River**; 17.01.23: Legal Centre Lesbos: **Forensic reconstruction video released today, evincing the Greek authorities' illegal expulsion of 200 migrants off the coast of Crete in 2020**; 13.01.23 ECRE: **Greece: Increase of Pushbacks with Impunity Amid Ongoing Crackdown on Solidarity, Türkiye Considered “Safe” by Greek Authorities Sets New Record of Deportations, Thousands of Vulnerable Refugees Left Without Adequate Accommodation After Closing of ESTIA Programme**

**Italy** 06.01.23: MEMO: **NGOs: Italy's new decree 'obstructs' migrant rescue operations in Mediterranean**: “Several international NGOs concerned with the search and rescue (SAR) of migrants in the Mediterranean Sea yesterday condemned the Italian government's intention to "obstruct assistance to people in distress" by virtue of a decree on rescue operations at sea, which, according to them, will lead to new deaths.



[...] The new Italian decree [which came into force on 2 January] requires civilian rescue ships to immediately head to Italy after each rescue, which according to the NGOs would delay further life saving operations, as ships usually carry out multiple rescues over the course of several days.”

*See also* 05.01.23: Alarmphone: **New decree obstructs lifesaving rescue efforts at sea and will cause more deaths**

**Italy/Turkey** 17.01.23: InfoMigrants: **Turkey and Italy's priority is fighting 'illegal migration', ministers agree**: “The Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Antonio Tajani, met with his Turkish counterpart, Mevlut Cavusoglu, in Ankara to take stock of the migration issue, and stated that “contrasting illegal migration is a strategic priority” for both countries.”

**Italy/Greece** 18.01.23: Lighthouse Reports: **Detained Below Deck**: Research by SRF, Lighthouse Reports, Al Jazeera, ARD Monitor, Solomon and Domani show how asylum seekers, including children, are being detained in unofficial jails – in the form of metal boxes and dark rooms –for sometimes more than a day on commercial ships to facilitate illegal pushbacks from Italy to Greece. The research team spoke with more than a dozen pushback victims, ship employees, border police officers and experts. For the first time, there are also pictures and videos of secret prisons on passenger ferries in the Adriatic Sea.

**Italy** 19.01.23: Alarmphone: **Landmark court ruling on 2013 shipwreck: Italian coast guard and navy responsible for deaths of 268 refugees**: “Court of Rome ruling on the shipwreck of 11 October 2013: Italian coast guard and navy are responsible for the death of 268 refugees due to failure to provide assistance. The court confirms once again: People in distress at sea must always be rescued from drowning!”

**Italy** 19.01.23: Zeit: **Italien will mehr Einwanderer aus Tunesien ins Land lassen (Italy wants to let more immigrants from Tunisia into the country)**: “Italy wants to take in more Tunisian immigrants in exchange for Tunisia pushing back boat people and other "irregular" migrants. The Italian government wants to work with the North African country to "reduce irregular immigration and promote regular immigration," Italy's Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani said during a visit to Tunisia.”

*See also* 20.01.23: InfoMigrants: **Italian ministers in Tunisia, Egypt to discuss migration, repatriations.**

**Poland** 16.02.23: InfoMigrants: **Several migrants found dead at Polish border, fear over rising death toll**: “Grupa Granica says that since the summer of 2021 when migrants began crossing along the route from Belarus "about 285 people" have been reported missing.”



**Switzerland** 17.01.22: Republik: **Abschiebungen um jeden Preis (Deportations at every price)**: “Research by the Republic shows: Last year, [...] the Confederation secretly set up a system of deportation flights on which it could deport unwanted foreigners against their will, without attracting public attention and without human rights observers being on board. The federal government falsely declares these special flights on the route from Zurich to Lyon in France as ordinary scheduled flights.”

**UK** 17.01.22: InfoMigrants: **UK Court of Appeal to reconsider Rwanda asylum plan**: “London's High Court has granted permission to asylum seekers in the UK and charities supporting them to appeal against a ruling that deemed the UK government's plan to send asylum seekers to Rwanda lawful.”

*See also* 25.01.23: The Guardian: **Nearly half of asylum seekers facing removal from UK to Rwanda are married**

## EUROPEAN UNION

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**EU** 25.01.23: InfoMigrants: **EU pushes for more irregular migrant deportations**: “The European Commission has presented a new strategy to increase the return of irregular migrants. EU member states were called on to work closer together as well as collaborate with EU authorities like Frontex.”

**EU** 26.01.23: The Guardian: **EU toughens stance on non-EU countries taking back citizens denied right to stay**: Based on a ~~non-paper~~ from April 2022, the EU's 27 national leaders could endorse a plan at a summit in Brussels next month to use “all relevant EU policies, instruments and tools, including development, trade and visas as well as opportunities for legal migration” as “leverage” over migrants’ countries of origin. The draft reflects growing momentum to get tougher with non-EU governments – usually in the Middle East, Africa or Asia – who are deemed unhelpful in taking back their citizens denied the right to stay in Europe.”

*See also* 26.01.23: Politico: **EU ministers pledge visa restrictions to increase migrant returns**; 11.01.23: Statewatch: **EU: Democracy as a problem for deportations**

**EU** 29.01.23: Deutschlandfunk: **EVP-Chef Weber schlägt Zäune an EU-Außengrenzen vor (EPP leader Weber proposes fences at EU external borders)**: “In addition, the CSU politician stressed that asylum procedures do not necessarily have to take place in the EU. At the external borders, there should at least be a “quick check” to see who has a chance of being granted asylum.”

**Frontex** 07.01.23: Le Monde: **How Frontex surveillance equipment is used by the Libyan coast guard to intercept migrants**: “In a video investigation, 'Le Monde' shows how the European agency is facilitating migrant interceptions by Libyan officials in the Mediterranean.”

## REPORTS

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13.01.23 **ACLEED**: **Actor Profile: The Islamic State Sahel Province**: “IS Sahel is the second most active armed actor — after its al-Qaeda rival Jamaa Nusra al-Islam wa al-Muslimin (JNIM) — in the Sahel regional conflict. From its strategic home in the border area between Mali and Niger, where villages such as In-Araban, Akabar, and Infoukaretane are important bases, IS Sahel operates primarily in the Liptako-Gourma area. The group has become the dominant actor in several of the regions encompassing this area, including the Gao and Menaka regions in Mali, the Oudalan and Seno provinces in Burkina Faso, and the Tillaberi and Tahoua regions in Niger, as well as areas adjacent to the aforementioned regions.”

23.01.23 **Agenzia fides**: **AFRICA/NIGER - Migrants: the story of those who did not make it and cross the Sahel again to return home**: “Father Mauro Armanino, a missionary of the Society of African Missions (SMA) based in Niamey, collected some testimonies of migrants who failed in their attempts to migrate to find a better life and are now in Niger waiting to return home. “Cécé, who was a tiler in his native Guinea has just returned from Algeria where he could never leave the construction site where he found a precarious job. He says he was paid sometimes and underpaid. It was not worth staying any longer and so he chose to return home to find the same job he had left the year before. A roundtrip in stages tracing political geographies, imagined borders, expulsions, deportations, targeted removals and defeated destinies. The feeling of shame for what has been invested in terms of time, money, energy, dreams and regret is mixed with the bitter relief of being, in spite of everything, still alive. That is no small thing in these times in which the seas, deserts and especially the use of borders are nothing but sophisticated systems of point elimination.”

18.01.23 **Alarm Phone**: **Contesting Borders in a Racist Environment**: Alarm Phone has published the report “Contesting Borders in a Racist Environment”, which covers the second half of 2022.

01/23 **Arci Porco Rosso and Alarmphone**: **From Sea to Prison. The Criminalization of Boat Drivers in Italy**: Italy has spent decades pursuing people who have done nothing other than drive a boat of migrants towards its shores, utilizing criminal law, undercover police operations and emergency anti-Mafia powers to re-enforce Europe’s border regime. We have spoken to hundreds of people involved – persons accused of boat driving, ex-prisoners, lawyers, researchers, activists, judges and

members of the police and Coast Guard – and studied dozens of court sentences to reveal the full extent of Italy’s process of criminalizing migration.

17.01.23 **Border Violence Monitoring Network: [Balkan Regional Report – November 2022](#)**: “In November, the Border Violence Monitoring Network (BVMN) shared 13 testimonies of pushbacks impacting 175 people-on-the-move (POM) across the Balkans and Greece. This report brings together first-hand testimonies from a range of countries in the region to look at the way European Union states and other actors are affecting systemic violence towards people crossing borders.”

01/23 **Caminando Fronteras: [Victims of the Necrofrontier 2018 – 22](#)**: “In the last five years, 11.522 people have lost their lives on migration routes leading to the Spanish State. This corresponds to a total of six deaths per day. Our analysis of the data we have collected shows that this tragedy has been enabled by a series of policies. People crossing the borders of the Spanish State face structural vulnerability, which begins when they are forced to leave their countries of origin and continues throughout their migration journeys, resulting in loss of life along the way.”

17.01.23 **Civil MRCC: [Echoes From the Central Mediterranean. Issue 4: Struggles along the Tunisian Route](#)**: The Civil MRCC is a network of different non-governmental actors and individuals with Search & Rescue experience in the Mediterranean. Its fourth brochure focuses on Tunisia as a target of European border externalization policies and controls which have been tightened along the route to Italy. It also speaks, among other topics, about the Piantadosi decree and the new-old strategy of obstructing sea rescue by the Italian government.

09.01.23 **'From Sea To Prison' project (ARCI Porco Rosso and borderline-europe): [As Long As You Can Still Listen: The Criminalization of Migrant Boat Drivers in 2022](#)**: The new report by the From Sea To Prison project answers questions such as how many boat drivers were arrested in 2022, and who they are. It presents the casework the project does and introduces the growing support network in Italy.

22.01.23 **Koraki: [2022 Summary: Pushbacks: the facts, and the realities behind them](#)**: “In our 2022 summary, we reveal that the numbers of people pushed back are far higher than most people have so far imagined, as well as the manifest and enormous failure of pushbacks even to do what the Greek government wishes.”

09.01.23 **The New Yorker: [The Crisis of Missing Migrants](#)**: What has become of the tens of thousands of people who have disappeared on their way to Europe? A longread about identification of migrant bodies.

18.01.23 **Tous Migrants: [Pratiques policières du contrôle de la frontière : Un an de refoulements \(pushbacks\) et de déni de droits à la frontière franco-italienne dans le](#)**

**Briançonnai. Novembre 2021-Novembre 2022** (Police practices of border control: One year of pushbacks and denial of rights at the French-Italian border in Briançon. November 2021-November 2022): "This report includes numerous testimonies that illustrate the non-respect of migrants' rights as well as practices that hinder solidarity towards people who carry out marauding in the mountains."

05.01.23 WOZ: **«Die EU spielt ihre Druckmittel gut aus»** ("The EU is playing its leverage well"): "Europe's isolationist policies are robbing countless people of their freedoms, far beyond its external borders. Mauritanian human rights and migration activist Amadou M'Bow on selfish governments in West Africa, border regimes as an economic model, and the indispensable value of migration."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**CommemorAction** Around the 06th of February 2023, Europe, North and West Africa: **CommemorAction. MIGRATION IS A RIGHT!**: Around February 6, 2023, jointly coordinated, decentralized commemorative actions will take place in many cities in Europe and in North and West Africa: CommemorActions. The occasion is February 6, 2014, when the Spanish Guardia Civil used rubber bullets and tear gas against migrants trying to swim from Tarajal in Morocco to the Spanish exclave of Ceuta. In the process, they killed 15 people.

**Conference 27.-28.02, Niamey and online: Conference by the Alarme Phone Sahara on the Substantive review of Law 036-2015 in Niger - for freedom of movement and human rights in the Sahel-Saharan region:** "Alarme Phone Sahara would like to invite you to a conference in Niamey/Niger on the 27th and 28th February 2023, in order to strengthen with you a transnational campaign for the substantive revision of the Nigerien "anti-passenger" law 036-2015, as this law is a central element of the repressive and murderous regime of externalised borders. Contact us for any question concerning the conference: [apsniger@proton.com](mailto:apsniger@proton.com)."