

This monthly press review covers Eurafrikan 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 or on Twitter @MigControl.

NEW ON MIGRATION-CONTROL.INFO

Blog **Das Gemetzel an der Grenze zwischen Nador und Melilla:** Übersetzung des Reports „Masacre Frontera Nador-Melilla 24J“ von Caminando Fronteras. Die englische Fassung des Reports gibt es [hier](#) als Upload.

Blog **Internal EU-Document: Solidarity Platform 'Pact':** We've received an internal document from the EU-Commission which summarizes the first meeting of the Solidarity Platform on the Declaration on a Voluntary Solidarity Mechanism (Solidarity Platform 'Pact'). The meeting took place on Monday, 27 June and included representatives from EU Member States, Schengen Associated States, EU Agencies (EUAA, FRONTEX), and the Council General Secretariat. The Solidarity Platform 'Pact' aims at establishing a platform and voluntary mechanism by which asylum seekers should be relocated from European states at the EU's external border (the „MED5 countries“) to other European states.

Wiki **L'Organisation Internationale Pour les Migrations (OIM)** d'Inken Bartels: En ligne et à découvrir maintenant aussi en français: Qui est l'OIM, c'est quoi son programme et qu'est-ce que cette « gestion des migrations » ? Inken Bartels a répondu de manière critique à ces questions et à d'autres et situe l'OIM dans le cadre des politiques européennes d'externalisation.

MIGRATION-CONTROL.INFO EVENTS

Workshoo **19.09.2022, SOAS London/Hybrid: De-centring and Contesting Externalisation in West Africa and Beyond:** Organised by the West Africa working group of the migration-control.info network, this project aims to bring scholars, activists and practitioners based in West Africa to exchange around these issues. We aim to bridge barriers between academic and activist knowledge. The workshop will do so by organising

discussion in a range of formats, beyond the standard academic panel formula, while the special issue equally seeks contributions in the form of short reflective pieces, op-ed style articles, interviews, in addition to academic journal articles. Editorial Team: Leonie Jegen, Aino Korvensyrjä, Laura Lambert, Hassan Ould Moctar, Ngozi Louis Uzomah, Moctar Dan Yaye & Franzisca Zanker

Please contact us if you would like to participate: migr-contr@ffm-online.org

AFRICAN UNION

Rwanda/Libya 20.08.22: **Tenth group of asylum seekers from Libya arrives in Rwanda:** “A group of 103 refugees and asylum seekers from Libya arrived in Rwanda on the night of Thursday, August 18, becoming the tenth group from the country to be temporarily hosted in Rwanda. According to the Ministry of Emergency Management, the group is now accommodated in Gashora Transit Centre located in Bugesera District, that currently shelters 421 refugees and asylum seekers evacuated before.”

EAST AFRICA

Ethiopia 16.08.22: Addis Standard: **News: Thousands of Tigrayans illegally held in Afar camps begin return to Ab'ala town:** “Thousands of Tigrayans who were forcibly kept in detention camps in Semera, in Afar regional state, began returning to Ab'ala town. [...] In June this year, the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) documented the detention of around 9, 000 Tigrayans who were held “illegally and unconstitutionally” since December 2021 in Semera and Agatina camps in the town of Semera, Afar Regional state. The Commission has called for the immediate end to the detention. The Tigrayans who spoke with EHRC’s monitoring team said they had been evicted from their homes and were being held without their consent.”

Ethiopia 25.08.22: taz: **Äthiopiens Krieg bricht erneut aus (Renewed Fighting in Tigray):** After several months of relative calm, Ethiopia's civil war between the central government of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and the regional government of the breakaway northern province of Tigray has flared up again. The government and Tigray rebels blamed each other Wednesday for the resumption of heavy fighting. Their extent and course were not immediately clear, but eyewitnesses quoted by Reuters news agency confirmed the use of heavy weapons since early morning in the town of Kobo, a

border town of the Amhara region on Tigray's southern border. The Tigrayan side also reported fighting in several parts of Tigray itself.

See also 20.08.22: The East African: **Conditions slow Ethiopia government peace talks with TPLF**; 02.08.22: Aljazeera: **EU, US envoys urge Ethiopia to restore services in Tigray**;

Somalia 18.08.22: Addis Standard: **News: Somali region says thousands displaced in clashes bordering Afar state; victims in dire need of aid** [Background Read]: “The Somali regional states government said thousands of civilians who are displaced after renewed clashes in areas bordering the Somali and Afar regional states are in need of humanitarian assistance. This is the first official statement released following days of reports on social media about ongoing militarized clashes. The Somali regional government said the displaced civilians were currently sheltered in Sitti Zone, Erer Woreda (located in Sitti Zone) in Asbuli and Bedwey localities.”

NORTH AFRICA

Algeria 27.08.22: Al Jazeera: **France's Macron concludes Algeria visit with new pact**: “French President Emmanuel Macron and his Algerian counterpart Abdelmadjid Tebboune have declared a “new, irreversible dynamic of progress” in their nations’ ties, concluding a visit by Macron aimed at ending months of tensions. In their joint declaration, the two leaders said ‘France and Algeria have decided to open a new era ... laying the foundation for a renewed partnership expressed through a concrete and constructive approach, focused on future projects and youth’.”

Libya 15.08.22: InfoMigrants: **At least 15 migrants die in Libyan Sahara desert**: “At least 15 migrants have been found dead in the desert region along the country’s southeastern border with Sudan. Some sources claim there could be more victims. Libya’s Department for Combating Irregular Migration said the migrants were apparently on their way from Sudan to Libya when their vehicle ran out of fuel. The migrants did not have enough food and water with them — though it is not yet clear whether they died of dehydration.”

Libya 22.08.22: swissinfo: **140 personas migrantes devueltas a Libia en la última semana**: A total of 140 migrants, including eight women and one minor, were intercepted during the last week while trying to cross the Mediterranean and returned to Libya despite being considered an “unsafe” country, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reported Monday.

Libya 29.08.22: taz: **Erneut Kämpfe um Tripolis (Renewed fighting around Tripoli)**: Heavy fighting killed at least 32 people and injured more than 160 in the Libyan capital Tripoli on Saturday [27 August], according to local hospitals. Militias fired anti-aircraft guns and missiles at each other in several residential areas of the metropolis. The renewed war for Tripoli began with an attack on a pro-government militia in a street in the center. At the same time, supporters of Fathi Bashaga's parallel government in eastern Libya attacked strategically important checkpoints west and south of the capital.

See also 15.08.22: AP News: **Libyan police detain dozens of migrants in fresh crackdown**

Morocco 25.08.22: Süddeutsche Zeitung: **Baerbock repariert Beziehung zu Marokko (Baerbock repairs relationship with Morocco)**: The German government sees great potential for cooperation in renewable energies, green hydrogen, trade and investment, but also in issues of security, regional stability and counterterrorism.

See also 25.08.22: German Foreign Policy: **Flüchtlingsabwehr und grüner Wasserstoff (Refugee defense and green hydrogen)**

Morocco 24.08.22: ISS: **Migrants at the mercy of Morocco's iron fist** [Background Read]: Rabat's migration policy underlines that the country is an authoritarian regime that rules with an iron fist. In the wake of the Melilla massacre, it is surely 'time for Western chancelleries – as well as the AU – to review their naivety' towards Morocco, starting with sanctioning their close ally.

See also 18.08.22: InfoMigratns: **Morocco: 13 migrants sentenced for Melilla border crossing attempt**

WEST AFRICA

Burkina Faso 03.08.22: Al Jazeera: **Burkina Faso army admits to killing civilians in air raid**: Burkina Faso's army has said it accidentally killed civilians during a military operation in the country's southeast earlier this week. It did not say how many civilians were killed. The victims were hit by projectiles in the zone between Kompienga and Pognoa, near the border with Togo, on Monday, it said. Togo, which has been contending with the spillover of militancy from Burkina Faso, accidentally killed seven children in an air raid last month near the same border.

Burkina Faso 15.08.22: The Defence Post: **Burkina Rights Groups Say Troops Killed Over 40 Civilians**: “Two local rights groups on Sunday accused Burkina Faso soldiers of massacring more than 40 villagers in the country’s deeply troubled north. The Collective Against Immunity and Stigmatisation of Communities (CISC) said the incident took place early this month in the village of Taffogo in Tougouri, citing several eyewitness accounts. ‘There were many cases of kidnapping followed by summary executions’, it said. It said the attackers were members of the military ‘dressed in black clothes and hooded’. The Observatory of Human Dignity said ‘more than 50 unarmed civilians’ were kidnapped on the road to Bouroum by soldiers.”

Burkina Faso 18.08.22: Le Monde: **Burkina Faso condemns 'ethnic cleansing' messages circulating on WhatsApp**: “Burkina Faso's government on Thursday, August 18, condemned calls on social media to attack the country's Fulani minority, describing them as a campaign for "ethnic cleansing" similar to the Rwanda genocide. Audio postings, mainly disseminated on WhatsApp, have urged ‘native` Burkinabe to attack Fulani people, particularly in the southwest region bordering Ivory Coast.”

Mali/MINUSMA 12.08.22: Tagesspiegel: **Mali-Einsatz der Bundeswehr wird vorerst ausgesetzt (German Armed Forces' Mali Deployment Suspended for the Time Being)**: Germany is suspending the Bundeswehr mission in the West African country of Mali until further notice. This was announced by a spokesman for the Ministry of Defense in Berlin on Friday. The Malian government had repeatedly denied the Bundeswehr overflight rights, he said. The flight was intended to replace local personnel on a regular basis.

Mali 15.08.22: NYT (Paywall): **French Soldiers Quit Mali After 9 Years, Billions Spent and Many Lives Lost**: The last unit of the French military mission, Operation Barkhane, crossed into neighboring Niger, after a major fallout with Malian authorities.

Mali 24.08.22: Foreign Policy: **New Mali PM**: “Mali’s military junta has appointed a new interim prime minister, amid speculation that civilian politician Choguel Maiga, who previously held the role, is currently unwell. The new prime minister, Col. Abdoulaye Maiga (no relation) is a critic of Mali’s unpopular former president, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, who was toppled in 2020. Maiga’s appointment, announced in a decree that was read out on state television, means both of Mali’s top government jobs are now held by the military.”

Mali 31.08.22: Guardian: **UN says 50 civilians killed in April by Mali’s army**: At least 50 civilians were killed during a military operation conducted by Mali’s army and “foreign troops” on 19 April, according to a report by the UN. The UN has repeatedly accused

Malian soldiers of summarily executing civilians and suspected militants during their decade-long fight against groups linked to al-Qaida and Islamic State.

Nigeria 02.08.22: HumAngle: **Tragedies As Flood Renders Many Borno IDPs Helpless** [Background Read]: “Many Nigerians have been rendered helpless at the Banki Internally Displaced Camp (IDP) in Borno State, Northeast Nigeria, as a result of heavy rainfall and release of water from a dam in Cameroon, Central Africa. The development, according to Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) assessment carried out by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in late July and published on Aug. 1 further displaced no fewer than 7,389 persons from 2,332 households.”

Senegal 19.08.22: Africa News: **Senegal's army, drawn into politics, says it will maintain its numbers in Mali:** “Contrary to some information given in the press, Senegal has not disengaged from Mali”, it said. This week's rotation is ‘a normal operation to replace, the number for number, the troops engaged` by Senegal ‘from the first hours of the crisis`, he said. Senegal has 1,300 soldiers, gendarmes and police officers in the Minusma, he said. The Minusma has about 17,500 men and women, including more than 13,000 soldiers and police.”

CENTRAL AFRICA

Cameroon 29.08.22: Al Jazeera: **In Cameroon, refugees get a new lease of life with digital IDs** [Background Read]: “Cameroon – which hosts about half a million refugees in all – joins a handful of African nations, including Senegal, Mali and Rwanda, that have issued a limited number of refugee IDs, said Mbav Tshilombo, UNHCR deputy representative in Cameroon. More than one billion people globally – 40 percent of whom live in Africa – do not have official proof of identity, greatly limiting their ability to access basic public and financial services, according to the World Bank.”

DR Congo 03.08.22: Aljazeera: **DR Congo expels UN peacekeeping mission spokesman after protests:** “The Democratic Republic of the Congo has asked the spokesman of the United Nations peacekeeping mission, MONUSCO, to leave the country, blaming him for stoking tensions that led to deadly protests last week. The decision was announced in a statement from the foreign affairs ministry dated July 28 and seen by the Reuters news agency on Wednesday [3 August].”

WEST ASIA

Iraq 31.08.22: Deutschlandfunk: **Zahl der Toten gestiegen – Iran schließt Grenzen (Number of dead increased – Iran closes borders)**: The number of dead in the unrest in the Iraqi capital Baghdad has risen to at least 30. This was announced by the country's health authority. The number of injured rose to about 400. According to the military, the so-called Green Zone in central Baghdad continued to be shelled with rockets today. In the area, supporters of Shiite leader al-Sadr are engaged in skirmishes with Iraqi security forces and militias. Because of the unrest, neighboring Iran closed its border with Iraq.

Jordan 18.08.22: The National News: **UN to cut food aid for Syrian refugees in Jordan amid huge funding shortfall**: “The United Nations World Food Programme will cut food stipends to hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees in Jordan by a third, partly due to having to accommodate aid requirements stemming from the war in Ukraine, the group tells The National. The cuts, due to take effect next month, are the first tangible sign of international focus on Ukraine undermining aid to Syrian victims of a civil war, with the Middle East increasingly confined to the shadows as the war in Europe takes centre stage.”

Lebanon/Syria 18.08.22: InfoMigrants: **Thousands of Syrian war refugees face repatriation from Lebanon**: Syria and Lebanon are about to launch a controversial repatriation program for ‘tens of thousands’ of refugees who fled from war in Syria. Meanwhile, migrants who want to reach Europe continue to make use of the porous borders between the two countries. [...] In addition to the hundreds of thousands of Syrian nationals, who have fled to Lebanon in the past 11 years of civil war in the country, the number of departures from the Mediterranean coasts of Lebanon have also increased considerably over the past few months.”

Syria 19.08.22: AP News: **Market blast in north Syria kills 15 people, wounds dozens**: “A rocket attack on a crowded market in a town held by Turkey-backed opposition fighters in northern Syria killed 15 people on Friday and wounded dozens, an opposition war monitor and a paramedic group said. The attack on the town of al-Bab came days after a Turkish airstrike killed at least 11 Syrian troops and U.S.-backed Kurdish fighters. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an opposition war monitor, blamed Syrian government forces for Friday’s shelling, saying it was in apparent retaliation for the Turkish airstrike.”

Turkey 17.08.22: Hürriyet Daily News: **'Nearly 70,000 irregular migrants deported'**: "The number of irregular migrants deported from Türkiye in 2022 has soared to nearly 70,000 and increased by 142 percent compared to the same period of 2021, Directorate General of Migration Management has announced."

Yemen 02.08.22: AlJazeera: **Yemen's warring sides agree to renew existing truce: UN:** "The United Nations says Yemen's warring parties have agreed to renew an existing truce for another two months, the UN envoy has said, despite international pressure for an extended and expanded deal. Special Envoy for Yemen Hans Grundberg said in a statement on Tuesday that Yemen's internationally recognised government and the country's Houthi rebels agreed to extend the truce."

EUROPE

Czech Republic 28.08.22: Der Spiegel: **Tschechien probt mit Grenzschutzübung für mögliche nächste Flüchtlingskrise (Czech Republic rehearses for possible next refugee crisis with border guard exercise)**: In addition to numerous police officers, 150 soldiers and 30 customs officers are taking part in the two-day exercise at the border with EU neighbor Slovakia. At more than 20 rail and road border crossings, the reintroduction of checks on persons is being practiced. Both countries belong to the Schengen area, where freedom of travel actually prevails.

Denmark/Rwanda 17.08.22: InfoMigrants: **Denmark to resettle 200 refugees from Rwanda**: "The Danish government has announced that it will take 200 refugees from Rwanda under a resettlement quota scheme. But the door remains firmly closed to asylum seekers. Denmark has announced plans to take in 200 refugees from Rwanda under the nation's resettlement scheme. Kaare Dybvad Bek, the minister for immigration and integration, said last week that the focus would be on resettling women and children. In a press release, the minister also referred to the current asylum system as "broken", and blamed "cynical people smugglers" for determining which migrants reach Europe."

English Channel 19.08.22: euronews: **Hundreds of UK-bound migrants rescued from sea in just four days**: "More than 250 migrants have been rescued trying to cross the English Channel by boat in just four days, say French authorities. It's a sign that departures from France to England are continuing despite UK government efforts to deter migrants from making the crossing. London has been criticised for its controversial deal with Rwanda to send asylum seekers who arrived illegally on British soil to the east African country."

See also 18.08.22: BBC: **Channel migrants: MoD says 606 cross Channel in single day**;
15.08.22: taz: **Tagesrekord im Ärmelkanal (Daily record in the English Channel)**

Greece 19.08.22: EURACTIV: **Clashes as Greek authorities evacuate Athens refugee camp**: "Police and migrants faced off Thursday (18 August) as Greek authorities started evacuating one of the last refugee camps in Athens, officials said, with videos showing authorities using tear gas and a flash grenade. [...] Migrants and activists clashed with riot police, who used tear gas and a flash grenade to push back protestors, according to videos posted by activists at the scene. Migration Minister Notis Mitarachi said on Twitter Thursday that the government was "proceeding with the closure of the Eleonas camp" as part of an upgrade of the area and with places available in other areas."

Greece/Turkey 22.08.22: InfoMigrants: **Greece stops large number of migrant crossings at Evros border**: "Greece says its security forces stopped around 1,500 migrants from crossing the Evros River from Turkey, as the government announced it would extend the border fence between the two countries. [...] The Greek foreign ministry had called the incident "yet another attempt by Turkey to weaponize migration and possibly create a border issue as well," Ekathimerini news reported. During a visit to Evros last Tuesday, [August 18] Migration Minister Notis Mitarakis accused Turkish police of pushing the migrants into Greek territory."

See also 19.08.22: MEMO: **Turkiye rescued over 11,000 migrants in Aegean Sea in 7 months**

Mediterranean 22.08.22: InfoMigrants: **Geo Barents with 106 migrants on board allowed to dock in Italy**: "Doctors without Borders says its Geo Barents ship, with 106 rescued migrants on board, has been given permission to dock in Taranto, southern Italy. The international medical NGO Doctors Without Borders (MSF) said Monday (August 22) that the Geo Barents rescue vessel had been given permission to dock in the Italian port of Taranto, a day after the aid group announced that it had rescued 106 migrants off Italy. "Despite the rapid response and coordination provided by the Italian coast guard, the Geo Barents will have to navigate for more than a day to reach the assigned place of safety," MSF said in a tweet."

See also 22.08.22: epsocial: **Rescatados 83 migrantes en tres pateras en Canarias y Andalucía**; 22.08.22: EFE: **Rescatan al sur de Fuerteventura una neumática con 61 personas, entre ellas cuatro niños (A rubber dinghy with 61 people, including four children, is rescued south of Fuerteventura)**; 20.08.22: EFE: **Rescatan a 43 inmigrantes magrebíes en una patera cerca de Lanzarote, ocho de ellos menores (43 Maghrebi**

immigrants rescued in a skiff near Lanzarote, eight of them minors); 19.08.22: InfoMigrants: 20 migrants rescued from ship adrift off Lampedusa; 19.08.22: InfoMigrants: Another 67 migrants reach Greek island of Kythera on sailboat; 18.08.22: InfoMigrants: Dozens of migrants reach Greek island on sailboats; 17.08.22: swissinfo: El nuevo barco de Open Arms rescató a 101 migrantes en Mediterráneo central

Netherlands 25.08.22 taz: **Camp Moria in den Niederlanden (Moria Camp in the Netherlands)**: Dramatic images are now coming daily from the registration center in Ter Apel, a village in the northeast of the country, directly on the German border: People holding out in tents outside the complex, police officers clearing tents, tension erupting in conflicts between asylum seekers. Speaking to Dutch media, Doctors Without Borders said the conditions were reminiscent of the notorious Moria refugee camp on the Greek island of Lesbos. Among those sleeping in the open were pregnant women, children and people with chronic diseases such as diabetes, they were quoted as saying by TV station NOS.

See also 18.08.22: InfoMigrants: **Refugee Council sues Netherlands government over reception crisis**

UK 17.08.22: Independent: **High Court forces government to reveal parts of Rwanda human rights assessments after secrecy bid**: “The government has been forced to reveal internal advice on Rwanda’s alleged human rights abuses after a bid to keep passages secret. The Foreign Office applied to keep parts of assessments that addressed reports of torture and killings by Rwandan authorities out of a High Court case, which is challenging the legality of Priti Patel’s deal to send asylum seekers to the country.”

See also 17.08.22: inews: **UK offers lower tariffs to a Assad-run dictatorship of Syria sparking condemnation**; 16.08.22: BBC News: **Rwanda asylum scheme: Warning over political killings before UK flight**

EUROPEAN UNION

Frontex 05.08.22 Statewatch: **Frontex interrogates people arriving in Spain, but offers no legal assistance**: For many years, officials deployed on Frontex missions in Spain have sought to interrogate individuals arriving in the country via irregular routes. These “debriefings” are used to gather information that is fed into the agency’s risk analyses. Under Spanish law, those who are interrogated by Frontex officials have a right to legal aid – but at the moment, they receive none.

EU Court 02.08.22: euobserver: **Migrant-rescue ships win greater EU freedoms:** “Ports in Italy cannot impound NGO migrant-rescue ships on grounds they take on board too many people to be safe, the EU court has ruled. The law of the sea contains “a fundamental duty to render assistance to persons in danger or distress at sea”, the Court of Justice in Luxembourg said on Monday (1 August). And so the number of rescued people on board “must not be taken into account when verifying whether the rules on safety at sea have been complied with,” it added.”

EU 27.08.22: Reuters: **EU says Serbia, Kosovo settle dispute over identity documents:** “Serbia and Kosovo have settled an ethnic dispute over the movement of citizens across their border, European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said on Saturday. “We have a deal,” Borrell said in a tweet. “Kosovo Serbs, as well as all other citizens, will be able to travel freely between Kosovo & Serbia using their ID cards. The EU just received guarantees from PM (Albin) Kurti to this end.” The dispute stemmed from predominantly ethnic Albanian Kosovo's declaration of independence from Serbia in 2008, something Belgrade has refused to recognise.”

REPORTS

08/22 **ACLED** **The Sahel Mid-Year Update: Persistent, Expanding, and Escalating Instability:** 2022 is on track to be the deadliest year for both Burkina Faso and Mali since the Sahel crisis began more than a decade ago. Conflict intensity, as measured by the number of organized political violence events in the first half of 2022, remains highest in Burkina Faso among Sahelian states. Meanwhile, reported fatalities so far in 2022 are highest in Mali, which has been regaining its place as the epicenter of the crisis after being surpassed by Burkina Faso in the count of conflict-related deaths in two of the last three years

See also 30.08.22: NYT (Paywall): **Main Target of Russian Mercenaries in Africa Is Civilians, Report Says:** As Russian mercenaries from the private military group Wagner have been operating in Ukraine, their counterparts in Africa have received little scrutiny and have made civilian populations their primary targets, according to a newly released report on their activities in two of the continent's most fragile countries.

08/22 **Alarm Phone** **Rising arrivals, continuous struggles:** “In this analysis, we reflect on developments that occurred over the first six months of 2022: First, we offer a detailed chronology of events in the central Mediterranean Sea. Documenting these developments is important: no other actor compiles such detailed account – we have to

create our own archive of migrant struggles and acts of solidarity, as well as forms of border violence at sea. Second, we reflect on boat departures from the very east of Libya, places such as Tobruk or Benghazi. This migration route is not only very long, about 500 kilometres, but also very dangerous, not least due to the absence of civil rescue assets in that region of the sea. Third, we examine Malta's actions and inactions at sea, leading to only 35 people reaching the island nation over the past six months. Alarm Phone has witnessed this non-assistance policy in action innumerable times, abandoning boats at risk of capsizing within the Maltese Search and Rescue (SAR) zone. Fourth, we highlight the situation within Libya, the mass arrests and detention campaigns there that have also sought to undermine self-organised refugee activism by imprisoning the courageous protestors in inhumane camps."

08/22 Alarm Phone **The border crimes continue - two years of systematic violence in the Aegean region! Attacks and human rights violations against people on the move from March 2020 until April 2022:** "In memory of Alaa Muhammad Al-Bakri who died on the 2nd of September 2021 on an islet in the Evros/Meric river after a pushback and denial of medical assistance – and in memory of all the people who have lost their lives as a consequence of the never-ending border crimes carried out by European authorities."

08/22 Amnesty International **"They don't treat us like humans". Unlawful returns of Afghans from Turkey and Iran:** "This report presents Amnesty International's research on the hazardous journey undertaken by Afghans fleeing their home country. It documents unlawful killings, pushbacks by shooting and other unlawful returns, arbitrary detention, and torture and other ill-treatment of Afghans at the hands of both Iranian and Turkish officials. [...] By shooting at people trying to cross the border to find refuge and summarily forcing them back across an international border, Turkish and Iranian security forces have violated their obligations under international law, including the right to life and the right seek asylum and the principle of non-refoulement."

07/22 Ca-minando Fronteras **Slaughter at the Nador Melilla Border 24 June 2022:** "Since May this year, the camps in the woods around Melilla have become a war zone. Military incursions using increasingly aggressive strategies and military equipment have taken place two or three times a week, resulting in significant harm to people and property."

08/22 Mixedmigration Snapshot: **Contact between smugglers and refugees and migrants in West and North Africa:** Family and friends are the main channel through which migrants and refugees make contact with smugglers. This was the most frequently cited response by both refugees and migrants (42%) and smugglers (69%).

03/08/22 **Open Heroins** **The Invisible Figures: The Experiences of African Migrants in the Middle East**, by Olufunmilayo Obadofin: The Kafala System is a legal framework that regulates the relationship between migrant workers and their employers in Jordan, Lebanon, and all Arab Gulf states except Iraq. Under this system, migrant workers are required by the system to have an in-country sponsor or employer who is responsible for their visa and legal status. However, many employers seize their employees' passports, and the government offers immigrants little or no legal protection.

CAMPAIGNS

Review Medico 09.08.: **Transnationale Solidarität gegen das Europäische Grenzregime (Transnational Solidarity against the European Border Regime)**: "At the Transborder SummerCamp in Nantes/France, which lasts several days, activists and those affected come together. They report and discuss about the EU's refugee policy at the external borders."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinar 05.09.22, 13h - 15h CET, online: **The Many Tools of OPCAT for Preventing Harmful Migration-related Detention**: The **Global Detention Project** is excited to announce the third instalment in our interactive webinar series on how civil society organisations can mobilise international and regional human rights monitors to promote the rights of detained refugees and migrants. This webinar will focus on the various mechanisms established by the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture (OPCAT) that can help prevent human rights violations in migration-related detention, including the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture (SPT) and National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs).

One day conference 26.09.22, 9.30 am - 5 pm (CEST): **In a Permanent State of Emergency? - Human rights challenges at the EU's external borders - and across the Mediterranean Sea** by Brot für die Welt, Equal Rights Beyond Borders, European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights, Medico International and others: "A militarised state of emergency at the Polish-Belarusian border, pushbacks in Croatia, "expulsiones en caliente" in the Spanish exclaves of Ceuta and Melilla, prison-like arrival centres on the Greek islands - increasingly, means are being used that are incompatible with the principles of the rule of law and fundamental human rights. [...] How can the rights of

asylum seekers be defended when emergency measures threaten to become the new normality at many external borders? [...] We want to discuss these questions [and will] not stop at the EU's external borders, but also take a look at the externalisation of EU asylum and migration policy in African countries, which plays an increasingly important role in the European border architecture.”