

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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**Wiki Frontex** by Chris Jones and Jane Kilpatrick, updated by Fine Bieler and Marie Hakenberg: Our wiki about Frontex' involvement in European externalization policies. **Deutsche Version hier.**

### ALL AFRICA

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**All Africa** 06.10.22: The Guardian: **Russian mercenaries 'exploiting Africa to fund war in Ukraine'**: "The United States has accused Russian mercenaries of exploiting natural resources in Central African Republic, Mali, Sudan and elsewhere to help fund Moscow's war in Ukraine, a charge Russia rejected as 'anti-Russian rage'. The US ambassador to the United Nations, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, said the Wagner Group of mercenaries are exploiting natural resources and these ill-gotten gains are used to fund Moscow's war machine in Africa, the Middle East and Ukraine".

**All Africa** 15.10.22: Tagesspiegel: **Der Fluch der Ressourcen: Wer profitiert von den Ölgewinnen in Afrika? (The resource curse: Who benefits from oil profits in Africa?)**: Oil wealth is not a blessing for the continent. The planned gas rush does not bode well either. Germany's new Africa strategy will have to find answers.

*See also* 12.10.22: Al Jazeera: **Europe turns to Africa for gas as alternative to Russia**

### CENTRAL AFRICA

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**Chad** 20.10.22: The Guardian: **Dozens dead in Chad capital as security forces fire on protesters**: Security forces in Chad's capital, N'Djamena, have violently dispersed banned protests calling for a quicker transition to democratic rule, leaving at least 50 dead and dozens injured, according to the country's prime minister."

*See also* 21.10.22: Al Jazeera: **Dozens of protesters killed in Chad. What happened?**; 20.10.22: Al Jazeera: **Chad declares state of emergency as floods affect one million**; 20.10.22: taz: **Gewalt gegen Proteste (Violence Against Protest)**; 19.10.22: The Guardian: **Unity 'the only way forward' says Chad PM as anti-junta anger rises**

**Malawi** 20.10.22: AP: **Bodies of 26 Ethiopians found in mass grave in Malawi**: Villagers found the bodies in a forest located near the main road that connects Malawi and

Tanzania, which is known as a route traffickers use to transport people to South Africa. The early evidence suggested the men buried in Mtangatanga Forest may have suffocated while traveling in a van, police said. Investigators are looking into the deaths as a potential human trafficking case.”

**Rwanda** 10.10.22: NYT: **The West Doesn't Want More Migrants. But Rwanda Will Take Them:** Rwanda's president, Paul Kagame, has said his government is motivated by altruism and a moral responsibility to provide a solution to a very complicated problem all over the world.” But critics say the country is seeking to benefit financially and geopolitically from the arrangements, and is offering itself as a refuge to deflect attention from its problematic record on human rights.”

**Rwanda/Congo** 31.10.22: taz: **Kongo macht gegen Ruanda mobil (Congo mobilizes against Rwanda):** In Goma, capital of the eastern Congolese province of North Kivu, where the M23 is on the advance, thousands demonstrated against Rwanda and demanded war against their neighbor. Goma, a city of over a million people, is located right on Rwanda's border. On Friday, M23 rebels had captured the district capital of Rutshuru, 70 kilometers north of Goma, and on Saturday captured the Rumangabo military base just 40 kilometers north. Fighting with the army outside Goma continued Monday.

**Uganda** 16.10.22: Al Jazeera: **Uganda locks down two districts in bid to check spread of Ebola:** Places of worship, markets, bars and entertainment will be closed and restrictions have been placed on movement in and out of the two central districts of Mubende and Kassanda for 21 days.”

## **EAST AFRICA**

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**Ethiopia** 18.10.22: Al Jazeera: **Ethiopian army captures several towns in war-torn Tigray:** The Ethiopian military has taken control of three towns from rebel forces in the war-torn northern Tigray region, the government said, amid growing alarm about the resurgent conflict pitting federal forces and their allies against Tigrayan rebels. [...] United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk earlier on Tuesday warned that air attacks in the turbulent region risked seriously exacerbating the already devastating impact” of hostilities on civilians, a day after UN chief Antonio Guterres warned that the war was spiralling out of control.”

*See also* 17.10.22: Al Jazeera: **Ethiopia says it will seize airports in rebel-held Tigray region**

**Sudan** 23.10.22: Al Jazeera: **Death toll in Sudan tribal clashes rises to at least 220:** Fighting in Blue Nile province, which borders Ethiopia and South Sudan, reignited this month over a land dispute. It pits the Hausa people, who have origins across West Africa, against the Berta community.”

*See also* 26.11.22: The Guardian: **At least 230 Sudanese villagers killed in tribal attacks over disputed land**

**Tanzania** 01.10.22: **Regional court dismisses Maasai eviction case against Tanzania:** The regional East African Court of Justice has ruled that Tanzania's decision to cordon off land for wildlife protection was legal, dealing a blow to the Maasai Indigenous group who had protested against the move, accusing the government of trying to force them off their ancestral land to promote tourism."

## **NORTH AFRICA**

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**Morocco** 07.10.22: **The New Arab: Morocco triples jail time for migrants over Melilla border storming:** A Moroccan court has tripled jail sentences it gave 18 migrants who tried to storm the Spanish enclave of Melilla earlier this summer. [...] "Eighteen migrants arrested on 24 June have been sentenced by the Nador appeal court to three years in prison," defence lawyer Mbarek Bouirig told *AFP*."

**Morocco** 28.10.22: **ECRE: Weekly Bulletin:** While Spanish and Moroccan authorities have yet to ensure a thorough investigation of the deadly tragedy at the Melilla border, Morocco has responded with waves of arrests of migrants. Reportedly the crack-down continues with activists on the ground seeing repression towards black people on the move and days of attacks, imprisonment and deportations by authorities in the northern border region. Meanwhile, **Statewatch** quotes **local media reporting** that Spain's Council of Ministers: has approved sending another €30 million to the Moroccan authorities for migration control purposes". According to the coverage: Morocco has now received €123 million from Spain for migration control since 2019. The EU has distributed €346 million to the North African state in the same period, and is due to send €500 million more up to 2027".

**Tunisia** 19.10.22: **africanews: Tunisia: Pressure piles on authorities to find shipwreck victims:** After Tunisian fishermen found the ten dead bodies of people who tried to cross the Mediterranean to Italy and after local authorities buried four Tunisians in a private cemetery, around 4,000 people demonstrated in Zarzis, a city in southeastern Tunisia, demanding an investigation into the shipwreck and the procedures for the search and burial of the remains found. The protests were accompanied by a general strike.

## **WEST AFRICA**

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**Burkina Faso** 25.10.22: **Defence Post: Burkina Recruits 50,000 Civilians to Help Battle Jihadists:** "Just before being designated minister of territorial administration, Colonel Boukare Zoungrana announced more civilians would be enlisted to push back the armed groups. [...] Their mission "will be to protect the population and belongings of their districts alongside the security forces," he added. The authorities on Monday had already announced it would build a force of 15,000 other volunteers "who could be deployed across the whole of the national territory".

**Burkina Faso** 18.10.22: **AP News: Russian role in Burkina Faso crisis comes under scrutiny:** "The recent coup "could be a gateway to a more assertive Russian policy towards the Sahel," said Samuel Ramani, associate fellow at the Royal United

Services Institute, a defense and security think tank. "The Burkina Faso coup that we just witnessed could be the first example of Russia playing a part in instigating a coup rather than just capitalizing on pre-existing unrest," Ramani said."

*See also* 11.10.22: The Conversation: **Burkina Faso coup raises questions about growing Russian involvement in west Africa**; 10.11.22: DW: **Germany at a crossroads over Sahel mission**

**Burkina Faso** 12.10.22: Africa News: **Burkina Faso : les élèves de Djibo revendiquent leur droit à l'éducation (Burkina Faso: Djibo students demand their right to education)**: Several hundred students demonstrated on Tuesday in Djibo, the main town in northern Burkina Faso which has been under a jihadist blockade for several months, to demand their right to education, in particular the sending of teachers.

The young demonstrators walked through the streets of the city holding up signs that read: "We are also Burkinabè, we have the right to education", "Education is a right for all", "Dotted school in Djibo".

**Burkina Faso** 02.10.22: Al Jazeera: **Burkina Faso coup: Ousted military leader Damiba 'resigns'**: "Burkina Faso's overthrown military chief agreed to step down two days after army officers announced his deposition in the country's second coup in a year."

*See also* 21.10.22: Le Monde: **Burkina Faso : après son putsch, le capitaine Traoré se rêve en nouveau Sankara Burkina Faso: after his putsch, Captain Traoré dreams of a new Sankara)**

**Mali** 21.10.22: DW: **Mali: la loi sur la militarisation de la police adoptée (Mali: The law on the militarization of the police adopted)**: The National Transitional Council unanimously adopted the text on the militarization of the police. The police had denounced the lack of consultation. According to the Malian transition, the purpose of this remilitarization is to allow the deployment of national police and civil protection units "in the areas recaptured by the army in order to ensure the security of the population and their property and prevent the return of terrorist groups. The purpose of this militarization of the police is to ensure the security of the administration and the population.

**Mali** 14.10.22: Reuters: **Islamist militants in Mali kill hundreds, displace thousands in eastern advance**: The gains by the militants highlight Mali's struggle to fill the vacuum following the departure of French and other European forces, while relations with neighbouring Niger have deteriorated, preventing joint military operations near the Niger and Burkina Faso borders.

**Mali** 13.10.22: RFI: **Mali's draft constitution marks major shift towards presidential regime**: The most important element, apart from the shift towards a presidential regime, is the insistence of the constitution that Mali will remain a unitary state, according to Professor Samaké. "There will be no federation, no regional autonomy," he insisted."

**Niger** 17.10.22: RFI: **Niger: les opérations d'enrôlement biométrique de la diaspora ont commencé (Niger: Biometric enrollment of the diaspora has begun)**: The Independent

National Electoral Commission (CENI) launched the biometric enrolment operations for Nigeriens abroad on Saturday, October 15. They should last two weeks. The operations have been held since Saturday in 15 countries in Africa, the United States and Europe. The Electoral Commission will then draw up a biometric electoral list of Nigeriens abroad, and then voter cards.

**Niger** 28.10.22: North Africa Post: **Niger closes gold mining site in Say department after terrorist attack:** Nigerien authorities have shut down the gold mining site of Tamou in the department of Say in reaction to a string of attacks that targeted the site, anadolu news agency reports.”

**Senegal** 17.10.22: AfricaNews: **Senegal: Fishermen fear the worst from new gas terminal:** [...] a new offshore gas terminal, located in the Atlantic Ocean about ten kilometres off Saint-Louis, is beginning to upset fishermen who are lamenting the loss of an area rich in fish.”

## WEST ASIA

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**Iran** 08.10.22: Al Jazeera: **‘Not afraid anymore’: Iran protests enter fourth week:** Workers went on strike and street clashes erupted across the country over the death of Mahsa Amini in police custody.”

*See also* 27.10.22 Flüchtlingscafe Göttingen: **Manifest und Erklärung einiger linker Iraner: innen im Exil zum iranischen Aufstand: Jin, Jiyan, Azad;** 26.10.22: Tagesschau: **40 Tage nach Tod Aminis Landesweite Proteste im Iran (40 days after Amini's death Nationwide protests in Iran);** 26.10.22: New Lines Magazine: **Asef Bayat: A New Iran Has Been Born — A Global Iran;** 22.10.22: NZZ: **"Es gibt kein Zurück mehr in Iran. Diese Bewegung will den Sturz des Regimes"** ("There is no going back in Iran. This movement wants the fall of the regime."); 16.10.22: NYT: **Fire Erupts at Iran's Most Notorious Prison Amid National Protests**

**Turkey** 24.10.22: HRW: **Turkey: Hundreds of Refugees Deported to Syria:** Turkish authorities arbitrarily arrested, detained, and deported hundreds of Syrian refugee men and boys to Syria between February and July 2022, Human Rights Watch said today. Deported Syrians told Human Rights Watch that Turkish officials arrested them in their homes, workplaces, and on the street, detained them in poor conditions, beat and abused most of them, forced them to sign voluntary return forms, drove them to border crossing points with northern Syria, and forced them across at gunpoint.”

**Yemen** 03.10.22: Al Jazeera: **Yemen's warring sides fail to agree extension to UN-backed truce:** Yemen's warring sides have failed to reach an agreement to extend a nationwide ceasefire, the United Nations has said. In a statement, the UN's envoy to Yemen called on all sides to refrain from acts of provocation as the talks continue, after an October 2 deadline for extending the agreement expired.”

## EUROPE

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**Bulgaria** 25.10.22: Bordermonitoring Bulgaria: **Report about hospitals in Burgas, which are allegedly full of unclaimed dead bodies of refugees:** While discussions emerged in the European parliament and in the European council whether Bulgaria and Romania should join the Schengen Area, the Bulgarian English-language based webpage Novinite reported recently about unclaimed dead bodies of refugees in several hospitals of Burgas. The province Burgas (Oblast Burgas) is bordering Turkey in the South and the Black Sea in the West. [...] Meanwhile the flow of refugees continues to and through Bulgaria. On the beginning of October a truck was found with 75 refugees on the Trakia highway, a group of 26 refugees was arrested during a police operation in the Tsaribrodskia Street in Sofia and another group of 35 people in the Banishora district."

**Croatia** 25.10.22: Welcome Initiative: **Croatia is ready for Schengen, but has yet to face the consequences for Madina Hussiny:** "During the past few weeks, an increasing number of people on the move can be seen passing through some of the larger, as well as smaller, towns and cities in Croatia in search of safety and protection. For months now, the main train station in Zagreb has served as a home to many different groups of people – those seeking protection as well as those passing through on their way to other countries, where some of them have family members, established communities, job opportunities. A growing number of people is also present in Rijeka, with hundreds of people sleeping night after night at the main bus station and the surrounding area, in highly inappropriate and inhumane conditions."

**Germany** 20.10.22: Der Spiegel: **Faeser fordert Stopp der illegalen Einreisen über den Balkan (Faeser calls for a stop to illegal entries via the Balkans):** The German minister of interior, Nancy Faeser, demanded to curb irregular migration movements via the so-called Balkan route. This week, she meet representatives of the six Western Balkan states Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Northern Macedonia and Serbia as well as delegates of the EU and European states to discuss measures such as aligning the visa policy of the Western Balkan states with EU standards, anti-smuggling policies, border controls, and deportations.

*See also* 25.10.22: Tagesschau: **Fluchthelfer: Humanitäre Hilfe oder kriminelle Schleusung? (Escape helper: Humanitarian aid or criminal smuggling?);** 28.10.22: InfoMigrants: **Czech Republic extends checks on border with Slovakia;** 25.10.22: ZeitOnline: **EU-Kommission will Einfluss von Frontex im Westbalkan stärken (EU Commission wants to strengthen Frontex's influence in the Western Balkans);** 23.10.22: The New Arab: **Serbia ends visa-free entry for Tunisians amid European pressure;** 21.10.22: InfoMigrants: **Border controls in Slovakia lead to increased interception of migrant entries;** 20.10.22: Tagesschau: **Balkanroute: EU will Migration eindämmen (Balkan route EU wants to curb migration);** 06.10.22: Salzburg24: **Bayern verstärkt Kontrollen an Österreichs Grenze (Bavaria strengthens controls at Austria's border)**

**Germany** 10.10.22: DW: **Germany at a crossroads over Sahel mission:** Germany has about 300 troops under EUTM mandate and 1,000 soldiers as part of MINUSMA in Mali. When France withdrew its troops, it left the Bundeswehr soldiers without any air



cover. However, the lower house of German parliament, the Bundestag, voted in April to extend the troops' mission[...]. Some strong objections to the mission were recently made in the Die Welt newspaper by Joe Weingarten of the Social Democrats and Marcus Faber of the business-friendly FDP. But Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock of Germany's environmentalist Green Party is sticking to the mission. The three parties form Germany's coalition government."

**Greece** 17.10.22: The Guardian: **Greece and Turkey trade blame after 92 naked migrants rescued at border**: The discovery of 92 naked migrants on the border of Greece and Turkey over the weekend has prompted accusations of blame between the two countries and condemnation from the United Nations." Blaming each other is nothing unusual, Turkey regularly accuses Greece of violently pushing back migrants entering the country through land and sea, while Greece accuses Turkey of "pushing forward" migrants to put pressure on the EU."

**Greece** 25.10.22: Amnesty International: **People found handcuffed and injured on the Greek island of Lesbos**: On 20 October 2022, an emergency team from Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) received an official alert about a group of people, newly arrived on the Greek island of Lesbos, in need of urgent medical care. When an MSF team arrived on site, they found three people tightly handcuffed and four injured, reportedly from beatings. [...] According to testimonies, shortly before we arrived, seven or eight people approached the group, saying they were doctors and they had food," [...] They reportedly started to beat them and handcuff them as soon as they found them."

**Hungary** 26.10.22: Mein Bezirk: **Lokalaugenschein an der ungarisch-serbischen Stacheldrahtgrenze (On-site inspection at the Hungarian-Serbian barbed wire border)**: The meeting point is an EDO gas station, on the M55 at road kilometer 29. All the arrested migrants are taken there. Put into a police bus called "Tornado". To then be deported by collective transport back to the border and to Serbia.

**Italy** 21.10.22: taz: **Träume der Piazza della Libertà (The Dreams of Piazza della Libertà)**: Thousands of refugees who have experienced violence on the Balkan route arrive in Trieste in northern Italy. More and more are unable to find shelter in Italy.

**Italy** 24.10.22: Altreconomia: **L'Italia cede alla Libia altre 14 navi veloci per intercettare le persone. Il ruolo di Invitalia (Italy cedes 14 more high-speed vessels to Libya to intercept people. The role of Invitalia)**: The order was definitively awarded in the spring of this year for €6.65 million as part of a procedure overseen by Invitalia, the national agency owned by the Ministry of the Economy which [...] since August 2019 has entered into an agreement with the Ministry of the Interior to guarantee technical 'support' on the Libyan front as well. The financial coverage of the new "boats" is guaranteed, as well as many others, by the "first phase" of the project "Support to integrated Border and migration management in Libya" (Sibmmil) dated December 2017, co-financed by the European Union, implemented by the Viminale and included in the framework of the Trust Fund for Africa (Eutf).

**Italy** 25.10.22: Deutschlandfunk: **Meloni kündigt restriktive Migrationspolitik an (Meloni Announces Restrictive Migration Politics)**: The aim is to stop illegal crossings and human trafficking in the Mediterranean, Prime Minister Meloni told parliament in

Rome. To this end, talks should also be held with North African countries. The aim is to set up centers where international organizations can check whether people have a right to asylum.

*See also* 28.10.22: SZ: **Italien verfolgt einen zynischen Plan (Italy follows a cynical plan)**; 26.10.22: Standard: **400 Migranten warten vor Italien auf Schiffen auf Landungsgenehmigung (400 migrants wait on ships off Italy for permission to land)**; 26.10.22: RND: **Italien: Küstenwache rettet über 1100 Migranten (Italy: Coast Guard rescues over 1100 migrants)**; 25.10.22: DW: **Flüchtlingshelfer erwarten neue Hürden in Italien (Refugee workers expect new hurdles in Italy)**; 25.10.22: IOM: **More than 5,000 Deaths Recorded on European Migration Routes since 2021: IOM**

**Switzerland** 30.10.22: SZ: **Kritik aus Deutschland: Schweizer winken Migranten durch (Criticism from Germany: Swiss wave migrants through)**: Switzerland sends hundreds of arriving migrants who want to travel to other countries on to Basel at the border with Germany and France. The police in the canton of St. Gallen confirmed the practice to the newspaper "NZZ am Sonntag": "We formally allow the onward journey".

**UK** 02.10.22: The Guardian: **Lifeboat crews accuse RNLI managers of complacency over Channel crossings**: Lifeboat crews dealing with small boats crossing the Channel say they lack equipment, guidance, qualified staff and support in coping with the trauma involved as they accuse managers of complacency over the situation. One member suggested crews needed bigger life rafts, more personnel, increased training for mass casualty events, and better onboard welfare facilities for rescued people. Another crew member said: "We know we couldn't cope with 30 people in the water and they have never arranged any training for what to do".

**UK** 31.10.22: FAZ: **Britisches Asylbewerberzentrum absichtlich überfüllt? (British asylum seeker center intentionally overcrowded?)**: At the center at the former "Manston Airport," which is designed for a maximum of 1,600 asylum seekers, a decision is to be made within 24 hours on who is to be transferred to a deportation facility and who to asylum seeker accommodation - usually a hotel. There are currently up to 4,000 people at the site, some of whom have been there for weeks. Independent observers speak of "dangerous" conditions.

## EUROPEAN UNION

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**EU** 03.10.22: DW: **EU countries again ordering more deportations**: While 23,110 deportations were carried out, including some people being sent from one EU member country to another, the deportation of 96,550 non-EU citizens from EU nations was ordered in the second quarter of 2022. Compared to the second quarter of 2021, the numbers represent a 15% increase in deportation orders and an 11% increase in the number of deportations actually carried out.

**EU** 31.10.22: Tagesspiegel: **Migrationsforscher Knaus rechnet mit Fluchtwinter: „Darauf ist weder die EU noch Deutschland vorbereitet (Migration researcher Knaus expects winter of refugees: "Neither the EU nor Germany is prepared for this")**:



Millions more refugees could arrive from Ukraine in the winter, predicts migration researcher Gerald Knaus.

**EU** 25.10.22: Zeit: **EU-Kommission will Einfluss von Frontex im Westbalkan stärken (EU Commission wants to strengthen Frontex's influence in the Western Balkans):** According to the EU Commission, the EU border protection agency Frontex is to be given a greater role in the fight against migration via the states of the Western Balkans. To this end, negotiations are to take place with Albania, Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Frontex officials are to be stationed directly in these countries and also be active at their borders with third countries. In addition, the EU Commission wants to support border management in the region with 39.2 million euros.

**EU** 27.10.22: Politico: **EU drafts plan to share migrant influx – voluntarily:** The EU is discussing a proposal for countries to voluntarily relocate a minimum of 5,000 or 10,000 migrants a year, according to a draft document seen by POLITICO.”

**EU/Egypt** 30.10.22: Reuters: **EU funds border control deal in Egypt with migration via Libya on rise:** EU officials signed an agreement with Egypt for the first 23 million euro phase of an 80 million-euro border management programme for the procurement of surveillance equipment such as search and rescue vessels, thermal cameras, and satellite positioning systems for Egypt's coast and border guards. The programme will be implemented by the IOM and CIVIPOL.

**Frontex** 13.10.22: FragDenStaat: **Der OLAF-Bericht über Frontex (The OLAF report about Frontex):** The infamous internal report of the EU anti-fraud agency OLAF shows how Frontex tried to systematically cover up human rights violations. The report was never meant to become public. We publish it here.

*See also* 21.10.22: ECRE Weekly Bulletin: **MEPs Vote to Refuse Approval of Budget, Commission Shocked” by OLAF Report; October 2022: BVMN: Submission to the Evaluation of the Frontex Regulation; October 2022: Statewatch: Evaluation of the 2019 Frontex Regulation: Statewatch submission to the European Commission call for evidence; WOXX 27.10.22: Der Skandal um die EU-Grenzschutzagentur Frontex: Schild und Schwert (The Scandal of the EU Border Protection Agency Frontex: Shield and Sword)**

**Frontex** 26.10.22: DW: **Frontex und Nordmazedonien wollen enger zusammenarbeiten (Frontex and Northern Macedonia want to cooperate more closely):** Northern Macedonian Interior Minister Oliver Spasovski and EU Home Affairs Commissioner Ylva Johansson signed an agreement that will allow the EU border agency Frontex to cooperate more closely with the authorities of Northern Macedonia in the future. The European Parliament still has to approve the agreement with Northern Macedonia.

**Frontex** 31.10.22: Schengenvisa: **Frontex & Morocco to Tighten Their Partnership on Border Management:** [Frontex] Director Kalnaja said that together with its Moroccan partners, Frontex will work on the implementation of a joint roadmap, which included activities in the field of guard cooperation, risk analysis and the treatment of human trafficking.”

**Mediterranean** 26.10.22 Alarmphone: **RESCUED!!**: After long operations carried out by Italian assets during the night, over 1,300 people were rescued off the two boats that had called us in distress. These were some of the largest boats Alarm Phone has ever assisted and we are very relieved they were rescued."

**UNHCR** 22.10.22: „**Asyl in der EU ist extrem wichtig** (**"Asylum in the EU is extremely important"**): Filippo Grandi: Think of war. The UNHCR does not talk about war refugees, but refugees. War is a major driver of that. It's the same with climate. The 1951 Refugee Convention definition is broad enough to include people fleeing because of climate change."

## REPORTS

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10.10.22 **Brot für die Welt: Wider den Ausnahmezustand - Konferenzbericht (Against the State of Emergency - Conference Report)**: On September 26, Bread for the World, together with seven other organizations, organized the conference "In a permanent state of emergency? Human rights challenges at the EU's external borders - and beyond the Mediterranean". Around 120 participants discussed the alarming developments at the external borders - and what we can do to counter them.

11.10.22 **No Name Kitchen: Report Summer 2022**: Extreme difficulties in crossing Croatia make the route shift during the last months and there has been an increase in the number of people on the move in between Subotica, Horgos and Majdan, at the borders with Croatia, Hungary and Romania. The people on the move are located in informal settlements in forests, abandoned buildings, private apartments and hostels and, a minority, in the three camps run by the Serbian government in Sombor, Subotica and Kikinda[...]. Meanwhile, in Ceuta we find many minors living out on the streets. Many of them claim that they would rather be sleeping on the streets than in the centres for minors set up for their protection."

12.10.22 **Amnesty International: Latvia: Refugees and migrants arbitrarily detained, tortured and forced to 'voluntarily' return to their countries**: Latvian authorities have violently pushed back refugees and migrants at the country's borders with Belarus, subjecting many to grave human rights violations, including secret detention and even torture, according to new findings published in a report by Amnesty International."

14.10.22 **Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte 42/2022: Festung Europa? (Fortress Europe?)**: In terms of economic policy, the EU is one of the most open and integrated regions in the world market, despite some protectionist tendencies. Its refugee, asylum and migration policy, on the other hand, has the reputation of serving primarily to seal itself off from the outside world.

24.10.22 **Sudanese Archive: Patterns of violence against protesters in the year since Sudan's coup**: After the coup in October 2021, we refocused on understanding how security forces are working to suppress dissent and anti-coup demonstrations. This project has involved the archiving and reviewing of thousands of videos, and the publishing of videos or photos that have been subjected to a rigorous verification process."

*See also* 25.10.22: Al Jazeera: **Sudan's hidden resistance: The day that can no longer wait**; 24.10.22: DW: **Im Sudan liegen die Hoffnungen auf der Straße (In Sudan, hopes lie in the streets)**; 05.10.22: The Guardian: **Sudan faces 'generational catastrophe 'as millions of children miss school**

**27.10.22 Refugees Platform in Egypt: EU funding for the Egyptian Coast Guard (Strengthening a Partnership That Violates Human Rights):** The paper notes that the EU has previously provided funding to strengthen migration management in Egypt, but in fact, the funds and support of the EU have contributed to tightening restrictions on irregular migration in Egypt, by using law No. 82 of 2016, the law in which among several things, it criminalizes aiding irregular migrants and contradicts with other laws that expand the circle of human rights violations against people on the move."

## CAMPAIGNS

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**Action Days** 15.10.22: **Refugees in Libya 'Stop Italy - Libya Memorandum'**: On 15 October an international action day 'Stop Italy - Libya Memorandum 'was organized by Abolish Frontex, Diritto di migrare-diritto di restare and Solidarity with Refugees in Libya. In many cities in- and outside Italy people took to the streets to demand that the Italian government puts an end to the illegal and shameful Memorandum on migration cooperation. Outside of Italy most protests were held in front of Italian embassies and consulates.

*See also* **Refugees in Libya: STOP Italy-Libya Memorandum!! SATURDAY OCTOBER 15: PROTESTS IN FRONT OF ITALIAN EMBASSIES:** Refugees in Libya started their protests 329 days ago in October 2021 - still the conditions for refugees in Libya remain the same. They are exposed to structural violence, arbitrary detention in inhumane conditions, torture, enslavement and murder. People are still drowning in the Mediterranean daily or being pulled back by both the so-called Libyan coast guard (LYCG) and the newly established Stability Support Apparatus (SSA). The European Union (EU) is contributing to these atrocities daily by funding and training the so-called LYCG and supporting structures, which are holding the current system in place. Still, the echo of the protest of Refugees in Libya is ignored in the European public discourse."

**Petition FragDenStaat: Gewalt an Europas Außengrenzen: Deutschlands Beitrag zu Frontex beenden! (Violence at Europe's external borders: End Germany's contribution to Frontex!):** After the publication of the OLAF report, FragDenStaat launched a petition to the German chancellor Scholz and the Minister of Interior Faeser demanding to immediately withdraw all German equipment and recall the German Frontex officers. As of 2023, the German government must cease all contributions - equipment and personnel - to Frontex operations.

**Statement** 07.10.22: **Refugees Platform in Egypt: Joint statement: End arbitrary detention and forcible deportation of Eritrean asylum seekers:** RPE and 34 other organizations condemn the arbitrary detention of Eritrean asylum-seekers in Egypt

and call upon the Egyptian government to abide by international and regional treaties and conventions on refugee rights. RPE has documented the **forcible return of at least 70 Eritrean asylum seekers** from Egypt to Eritrea since October 2021. These deportations that violate the principle of non-refoulement happened on at least five separate flights between October 31, 2021, and June 30, 2022. Find the Arabic statement [here](#).

**Statement 11.10.22: Alarm Phone: 8 Years of Struggle! Alarm Phone Anniversary Statement:** "Migrant movements and the tenacity of people on the move remain the driving forces in the struggle against European and global apartheid regimes. Thousands of autonomous arrivals continue to challenge the sealing off and the externalising of EU borders. At the same time, self-organised struggles for the right to stay and against racist exploitation inside the EU continue. Relatives and friends of the missing and dead continue to organise CommemorActions to remember and search for their loved ones while protesting the border violence that disappeared or killed them. We have fought for eight years. We will continue. We will never give up."

**Contribution Fluchthelfer: Humanitäre Hilfe oder kriminelle Schleusung? (Humanitarian aid or criminal smuggling?):** "Last week, a group of escape helpers set out on a 1400-kilometer journey to Bosnia-Herzegovina to bring a family of six on the run to Germany. The helpers have to cross four well-secured borders. In doing so, they run great risks. If they are apprehended, they could face a prison sentence of up to ten years. The ARD political magazine Report Mainz was able to partially document this action. Why do the escape helpers risk their freedom for the freedom of others? "We do this out of conviction. We believe in freedom of movement for everyone. We believe in human rights. And I see that as being structurally violated at Europe's external borders," explains escape helper Sophie in an interview with Report Mainz."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**Event 17.11.22, ab 16h CET, Foyer, Franz-Mehring-Platz 1, 10243 Berlin: Vernissage of the exhibition and film programme: "10 Views on Migration (Vernissage der Ausstellung und Filmprogramm: «10 Views on Migration»):** With ten short documentaries, "10 Views on Migration" presents different perspectives of young African filmmakers on migration within and outside the continent. The emphasis is on perspectives and experiences that rarely appear in the mainstream of German and international reporting, such as the dimensions of migration within Africa, or the migrants' capacity for action and creativity. The film project "10 Views on Migration" is a joint project of the four offices of the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation in Africa. Migration-control.info project will be present with an infotable.

**Event 17.11.22, 17h CET, Online: Secrecy and the externalisation of EU migration control by Statewatch:** To "operationalise" the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, the Council of the EU, European Commission, EU member states and EU agencies are quietly extending collaboration with third countries on border and migration control, with little public oversight or transparency. Join us to hear about the findings of the

research of the "operationalisation" of the Pact in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Morocco and Niger.

**Action & Protest** 09./10.12.22, Headquarter of UNHCR in Geneva: **Refugees in Libya: From Tripoli to Geneva. Amplify the Voices of Refugees in Libya!**: "One year ago, thousands of refugees had been protesting for more than 100 days in front of the UNHCR office in Tripoli: an historical act of self-organization under the harshest conditions.[...] Against this background we call for two days of action in Geneva, directly in front of the UNHCR Headquarter and in reference to the International Human Rights Day (December 10)."