

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 [contact@migration-control.info](mailto:contact@migration-control.info) or on Twitter [@MigControl](https://twitter.com/MigControl)

### SPECIAL: AFGHANISTAN

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For a general view on Afghanistan, see 12.08.21: AlJazeera: [10 maps to understand Afghanistan world politics](#)

For geopolitics, see 25.08.21: ECFR: [The fall of the Afghan government and what it means for Europe](#); 25.08.21: Freitag: [Wird der Sahel zum neuen Afghanistan? \(Is the Sahel becoming the new Afghanistan?\)](#); 01.09.21: NYT: [Everyday Life in Afghanistan After Taliban Takeover](#)

For information about the Taliban, see 27.08.21: Heise: [Taliban: Die Entstehung einer sozialen Bewegung \(The Making of a Social Movement\)](#)

For US engagement, see 16.08.21: AlJazeera: [The US spent \\$2 trillion in Afghanistan – and for what?](#)

Regarding Germany, see 16.08.21: Tagesschau: [Machtwechsel in Afghanistan "Totalversagen der Bundesregierung" \(Change of Power in Afghanistan "Total Failure of the Federal Government"\)](#)

**Austria/Afghanistan** 16.08.21: Yahoo: [Austria calls for 'deportation centres' to host Afghans near Afghanistan](#): "Austria, which has insisted that it plans to keep deporting illegal immigrants back to Afghanistan even as the Taliban seized Kabul, suggested setting up "deportation centres" in nearby countries as an alternative."

**Civil Evacuation** 29.08.2021: [Luftbrücke Kabul](#): "We almost didn't believe it ourselves, but last night we were able to bring 189 people in buses with American support through numerous check points to Kabul airport. From there they were flown out on a US military plane".

**Denmark/Afghanistan/Pakistan** 31.08.21: The News: [Denmark to fund for combating smuggling of migrants](#): "The government of Denmark signed a DKK 10 million partnership agreement with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) – UN Migration Agency in Pakistan to assist Pakistani authorities and build capacity to meet the challenges occurred on Pakistan as a result of irregular migration. [...] Over a duration of three years, IOM will strengthen technical capacities of relevant stakeholders' immigration and border management officials to prevent irregular migration [...]."

**EU/Afghanistan** 31.08.21: euobserver: **EU prepares to keep out Afghan migrants:** “The EU and its member states stand determined to act jointly to prevent the recurrence of uncontrolled, large-scale, illegal migration movements faced in the past,” EU home-affairs ministers they have agreed to say after an emergency meeting in Brussels on Tuesday (31 August), according to a draft statement, dated 28 August, and seen by EUobserver. Some of the measures will try to “protect the EU external borders and prevent unauthorised entries”, including by deploying border-control officers from the EU’s Frontex agency. [...] Meanwhile, other measures will focus on paying Afghanistan’s neighbours to host refugees instead. [...] The money could come from the EU’s so-called Neighbourhood, Development, and International-Cooperation Instrument, a part of the EU budget worth €79.5bn between 2021 and 2027, [...]”

*See also* 05.08.21: **Letter by various EU Ministers of Interior to the EU Commission;** 31.08.21: Tagesschau: **Mit Geld gegen "unkontrollierte Migration" (Money against “uncontrolled migration”);** 31.08.2021: Council of the EU: **Statement on the Situation in Afghanistan**

**EU/Afghanistan** 31.08.21: euronews: **EU agrees to rely on Afghanistan's neighbours to avoid migrant crisis:** “The European Union has formally agreed to rely on countries neighbouring Afghanistan to manage and host a potential wave of refugees fleeing Taliban rule. Ministers from the 27 EU countries, in consultation with representatives from the European Commission, took the decision after gathering in Brussels for an in-person meeting of the EU Council. [...] Asked about possible recognition of the Taliban government, Johansson said the “EU is quite far” from taking the step and the Taliban must be judged on what they do, not what they promise to. The EU has frozen a multi-year €1-billion programme in development assistance for Afghanistan until there’s greater clarity surrounding the new government.”

**EU/Afghanistan** 01.09.21: taz: **Europäische „Stabilität“ (European “Stability”):** The EU cannot agree on a quota of refugees. A dispute erupts between the Slovenian Presidency and some EU states. A meeting of the different EU secretaries of Interior on August 31 ended without a joint conclusion, but rather revealed the ongoing dispute of an EU solution and joint asylum and migration policy.

**Germany/Afghanistan** 11.08.21: Zeit: **Deutschland setzt Abschiebung nach Afghanistan aus (Germany pauses deportations to Afghanistan):** “Aus Deutschland werden vorerst keine Menschen mehr nach Afghanistan abgeschoben. Das bestätigte das Bundesinnenministerium. Zuvor hatten bereits mehrere andere europäische Staaten angesichts der schweren Kämpfe im Land ihre Abschiebungen nach Afghanistan ausgesetzt. [...] Mit seiner Entscheidung vollzog Seehofer einen Kurswechsel. Erst vor wenigen Tagen [Anfang August] hatte er sich dafür ausgesprochen, die Abschiebungen nach Afghanistan zumindest für Straftäter fortzusetzen.”

*See also* 01.08.21: Tagesschau: **Seehofer will weiter nach Afghanistan abschieben (Seehofer wants further deportations to Afghanistan);** 08.07.21: WDR: **Krieg in Afghanistan: Die Taliban rücken vor, Deutschland schiebt ab (War in Afghanistan: The Taliban advance, Germany deports);** 12.07.21: Tagesschau: **Afghanistan bittet um Abschiebepause (Afghanistan asks for deportation break);** 10.08.21: SZ: **Seehofer fordert Abschiebungen nach Afghanistan (Seehofer caals for deportations to Afghanistan);** 26.08.21: taz: **“Abgeschobene gelten als Verräter” (“Deportees are considered**

traitors"); 31.08.21: German Foreign Policy: **Deutsche Bürokraten (German bureaucrats)**: Berlin has only taken 1.6 per cent of its ex-"local forces" and their family members from Kabul airport and is now providing half a billion euros for refugee defence.

**Turkey/Afghanistan** 04.08.21: Bloomberg: **Turkey Says It Won't Be 'Waiting Room' for Afghan Refugees**: "Turkey blasted the U.S. for recommending that Afghans fearful of a vengeful Taliban seek asylum in America from third countries. "Turkey does not, and will not, serve as any country's waiting room," Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's communications director, Fahrettin Altun, told Bloomberg on Wednesday. "We will continue to do everything in our power to preserve the safety of our borders."

**Uganda/Afghanistan** 19.08.21:TAZ: **Uganda nimmt Afghanen auf (Uganda accepts Afghans)**: 2,000 refugees are to find shelter - at least for a short time - in the East African country. Behind this is a deal with the USA. In return, Washington is helping to evacuate Ugandan security forces.

*See also* 29.08.21: DW: **Warum die USA afghanische Ortskräfte in Drittländern unterbringen (Why the US places Afghan local forces in third countries)**

**UK/Afghanistan** 22.08.21: The Guardian: **UK plans offshore asylum centres in other countries for Afghans**: "Britain plans to establish offshore asylum centres for Afghan refugees in countries such as Pakistan and Turkey, as ministers admit that the UK will not be able to rescue those eligible for resettlement before troops leave Kabul."

## **NEW ON MIGRATION-CONTROL.INFO**

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**Blog Different realities: people on the move, NGOs and the UNHCR [English // Deutsch]** by Katharina Lobermeyer: "In this article, in follow-up of a university discussion with a UNHCR representative, the author reflects on the different realities of people on the move, NGOs and the UNHCR. Which challenges occur from their diverging viewpoints, work environments and personal situations and what are misperceptions that NGOs and the UNHCR might have about each other and the people they are trying to help?"

**Wiki and List Border Business** [only available in German]: In recent years, there has been a growing awareness that the militarisation of Europe's external and internal borders not only produces numerous deaths but also considerable economic profits. The Frontex Files published in early 2021 prompted us and the Informationsstelle Militarisierung to compile a list of companies involved in and profiting from the technological upgrading of European borders. The list already includes more than 70 companies and research institutions and has been created as a collaborative project to which different people can contribute. Our goal is to constantly update and expand the list in order to be able to generate as diverse and comprehensive an overview of the business of exclusion as possible. For additions and suggestions: Contact us via [contact@migration-control.info](mailto:contact@migration-control.info)!

**Wiki Israel** von Judith Poppe [only available in German]: In her report, Judith Poppe takes a look at the Israeli border and migration regime using the story of Mahari from

Eritrea as an example. She impressively describes the situation of asylum-seeking refugees and their struggles for recognition and a dignified life in Israel.

## EAST AFRICA

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**Ethiopia** 26.08.21: African Arguments **An open call by African intellectuals for urgent action on Ethiopia**: A group of African intellectuals have in the wake of deteriorating conflict in Ethiopia called for dialogue and mediation in an open letter. The letter states: “All Ethiopians must recognise that a political rather than military solution is what is now called for, regardless of the claims and counterclaims, legitimate and otherwise, as to how Ethiopia has come to this place [...]”.

**Uganda** 20.08.21: Al Jazeera: **Uganda suspends more than 50 rights groups**: Authorities in Uganda have suspended more than 50 civic groups for allegedly not complying with regulations, dealing a blow to hundreds of thousands of people who directly benefit from the organisations’ activities. The suspensions, which target agencies ranging from rights watchdogs to women’s groups, were announced on Friday by the government’s Non-Governmental Organization Bureau.

## NORTH AFRICA

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**Egypt** 10.08.21: DW: **Streit um den Brotpreis in Ägypten (Dispute over the price of bread in Egypt)**: Egyptian president Abdel Fattah el-Sisi recently announced to increase the price for bread in Egypt, without introducing when the increase in price was going to take place. The situation of food subsidies is a delicate topic in the country’s history. With its limited agricultural possibilities, the country on the Nile imports more wheat than any other country in the world. And the political explosive power of the bread price was already experienced by the then president Anwar al-Sadat in 1977: His plan to increase the price of bread led to massive protests, the so-called bread riots.

**Egypt** 05.08.21: Amnesty International: **Egypt: Investigate evidence of extrajudicial executions by Egyptian army in North Sinai**: The Egyptian military has been accused of extrajudicial executions. The Egyptian Public Prosecutor must urgently investigate what appear to be extrajudicial executions by members of the military in North Sinai, said Amnesty International following an analysis of a military propaganda video.

**Libya/Mediterranean** 27.08.21: ECRE: **Med: More than 20,000 People Intercepted and Returned to Libya in 2021**: “According to new IOM figures, 22,419 people have been ‘pulled-back’ to Libya from the Mediterranean so far in 2021, compared with 11,891 in the whole of 2020. The civilian rescue vessel SEA-EYE 4 has been released after three months of detention by Sicilian authorities, and the Moonbird civil reconnaissance aircraft is back in operation. To date in 2021, the IOM has reported 392 people dead and another 632 missing in the Mediterranean, dubbed Europe’s ‘graveyard’. The UN agency recorded four times as much loss of life in the second quarter of 2021 compared with the same period of 2020.”

*See also* 08.08.21: Libya Observer: **Libyan Coast Guard rescues 96 migrants in the Mediterranean**; 25.08.21: Republicworld: **UNHCR Rescues 400 Illegal Immigrants Off Libyan Coast, Extends Humanitarian Assistance**; 29.08.21: Independent: **More than 500 migrants saved from boat off Lampedusa in 'one of biggest ever rescues'**

**Libya** 16.08.21: Arab Weekly: **Foreign powers jockey for share in Libya's reconstruction projects**: "Economist Kamal Mansouri expects Libya's reconstruction drive to be one of the biggest in the Middle East and North Africa. He estimates "more than 100 billion dollars" are needed to rebuild Libya".

**Tunisia** 13.08.21: InfoMigrants: **Six migrants found dead in Tunisian desert**: "The bodies of six migrants, two women and four children from Niger, were found in the south-western Tunisian Sahara desert, [just two kilometers from the Algerian border, near the Tunisian town of Tozeur] confirmed a Tunisian official on Thursday (August 12), to the news agency *Agence France Presse (AFP)*." Due to rising danger in Algeria, more and more people on the move enter Tunisia as a transit country to reach Europe.

**Tunisia** 23.08.21: North Africa Journal: **Enjoying popular support, President Saied re-asserts his authority, ups pressure on his opponents**: "Tunisian President Kais Saied has extended his suspension of parliament "until further notice", a month after sacking his prime minister and granting himself greater powers in a shock intervention that opponents decried as a coup". According to a statement that was released on 23 August, "Saied also extended an order freezing immunity for lawmakers".

**Western Sahara** 08.08.21: AlJazeera: **Boat capsizes off Western Sahara, 42 migrants feared dead**: "Some 42 migrants, including 30 women and eight children, are feared dead after their boat capsized in rough seas shortly after setting sail from the coastal town of Dakhla, in Western Sahara, a Spanish migrants rights activist said. [...] In the first half of 2021, arrivals increased by 156 percent compared with the same period last year, according to IOM."

## WEST AFRICA

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**Burkina Faso** 18.08.21: Al Jazeera: **Dozens killed in northern Burkina Faso rebel attack**: According to state media at least 47 people, including 30 civilians and 14 soldiers were killed by rebels in Arbinda. Killings have been increasing in the area, where different rebel groups, mostly linked to al-Qaeda and ISIS. The increasing killings are assumed to be connected to the French military decreasing the number of soldiers in the region, where they have been since 2012.

**Cameroon** 26.09.21: ISS: **Cameroon alone can't stop illicit arms flooding into the country**: "The proliferation of illegal arms in Cameroon increases violence and insecurity in a country already grappling with violent extremist attacks and a separatist conflict. The African Union Commission's Economic, Social and Cultural Council estimates at least 120 000 small arms and light weapons in illegal circulation in Cameroon, including revolvers, pistols, rifles, assault rifles and machine guns."

**Chad/Sahel** 15.08.21: North Africa Journal: **Impoverished Chad faces influx of Cameroon refugees**: During the second week of August “at least 10,000 people, mostly women and children, have fled into Chad from northern Cameroon”. On 15 August the UN reported that “the pressing needs are for health services, shelter and food”. Up to 85% of the people who fled are women and children.

**Chad/Sahel** 21.08.21: France 24: **G5 Sahel : le Tchad retire 600 soldats de la "zone des trois frontières"**: On 21 August, Abderaman Koulamallah, a spokesperson for Chad's Transitional Military Council, announced that the military had withdrawn half of its troops that had been deployed six months earlier in the 'three-border' area on the fringes of Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger. A military source said that the 600 troops would be redeployed to the north of Chad, at the border with Libya and Sudan, in an operation to disarm Chadian rebels in advance of peace talks with the Chadian government.

**The Gambia** 28.08.21: rfi: **Gambia says migrants expelled from EU are not welcome home**: “The Banjul administration says it will block all flights returning migrants from the EU, just as Germany was preparing to expel a number of Gambians.”

**Ghana/UK** 30.08.21: Ghana Ministry of Foreign Affairs: **UK-Ghana exchange on “asylum partnerships”** Ghana's Ministry of Foreign Affairs tweeted on August 30 that have been hold between the country and the UK on security and asylum, “notably in matters relating to third country asylum partnerships.” These talks take place with the backdrop of the UK reforming its asylum system.

**Mauritania** 17.08.21: AP News: **Mauritania rescues 7 migrants from sea, but 47 feared dead**: On 17 August a boat with 7 passengers on the move towards the Canary Islands was rescued by the Mauritanian coast guards, after it had stranded off the coast of Nouadhibou. After taking off from Morocco the engine broke and the boat drifted away from its course. 47 passengers are feared to be dead, due to the rough conditions and the long period of distress at sea.

**Mauritania** 28.07.21: Africanews: **Wary of militants, Mauritania watches its border with Mali**: “On a strategic road that leads to the border with Mali, a unit of Mauritania's National Guard is on a reconnaissance operation. The unit is one of several based in Nema. They have helped secure the corridor close to Mali, which is battling a militant insurgency and a political crisis. With security restored in the area, Nema residents are only unhappy about the high cost of living. Traders have to travel 1,200 km to go to the capital Nouakchott to buy vegetables to sell at their stalls. It is cheaper and shorter to go to Timbuktu or Bamako but the route is not safe.”

**Nigeria** 19.08.21: TNH: **Nigeria's secret programme to lure top Boko Haram defectors**: “Under sulhu, defectors are enrolled in a six-month “deradicalisation” course in the military's demobilisation and reintegration centre in Mallam Sidi, in northeastern Gombe State. After promising to renounce violence and be good citizens, they are issued with a graduation certificate, signed by a high court judge – and some have then gone on to set up businesses, from cap-making to chicken-rearing.”

**Sahel** 19.08.21: North Africa Journal: **A destabilized region: Awful week in the Sahel**: “The impoverished Sahel state of Burkina Faso was plunged once more into mourning

on Thursday, as the toll of people killed by suspected jihadists the day before climbed from 49 to 80, including 65 civilians. In Mali “suspected jihadists mounted an ambush” on 19 August “that left 15 soldiers dead and 34 wounded”. Meanwhile “a cholera epidemic has claimed 35 lives in Niger, the health ministry of the poor Sahel nation said Thursday. More than 800 cases have been recorded across the West African country including in the capital Niamey, it said”. At the same time, “clashes between fishermen and herders in Cameroon’s Far North region over the past week have killed 32 people and forced thousands to flee to neighbouring Chad, the UN said Thursday”.

*See also* 06.08.21: Defence Post: **30 Killed in Attacks in Burkina Faso: Official Toll**; 06.08.21: DW: **Chad: Dozens of soldiers dead after jihadi attack**; 06.08.21: Le Monde: **Attaque de civils au Mali : la population terrorisée par des groupes djihadistes**; 06.08.21: RFI: **Retrait annoncé de l'opération Barkhane au Sahel: la fin des illusions?**; 10.08.21: RFI: **L'Algérie organise une conférence sur la sécurité au Sahel**; 16.08.21: Journal de Niger: **Opinion: La chute de Kaboul, une alerte pour le Sahel (Opinion: The fall of Kabul, a warning for the Sahel)**; 17.08.21: Al Jazeera: **Dozens killed in Niger village attack**; 18.08.21: ISS: **Boko Haram desertions could be the tipping point**; 20.08.21: Le Temps: **Au moins 80 morts lors d'une attaque djihadiste dans le nord du Burkina Faso**; 19.08.21: Le Figaro: **Mali: 15 soldats tués dans une embuscade dans le centre**; 25.08.21: Al Jazeera: **Niger: At least 16 soldiers killed in Boko Haram attack**; 26.08.2021: The New Humanitarian: **No strings attached? How Europe's military support for Mali closes its eyes to abuses**

## EUROPE

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**Belarus** 05.08.21: Spiegel: **Belarus will Grenze zu Litauen schließen (Belarus wants to close border to Lithuania)**: Authoritarian Belarus wants to close parts of its border to prevent people who have fled to Lithuania from getting back to its territory. President Lukashenko said in the beginning of August: "As of today, no one is allowed to cross the border from any side, neither from the south nor from the west," said ruler Alexander Lukashenko, according to the state agency Belta." Recently people on the move had been able to cross Belarus to reach the EU. Neighbor states of Belarus and EU members Poland and Lithuania reacted by increasing the number of border security at the shared borders.

*See also* 07.08.21: Spiegel: **Verzweiflung im Niemandsland (Desperation in no man's land)**; 10.08.21: AP: **Latvia declares state of emergency along its Belarus border**

**Bulgaria** 27.08.21: InfoMigrants: **Bulgaria sends troops to Turkish and Greek borders**: On 26 August Bulgaria stated that it would send up to 700 soldiers to protect its border with Greece and Turkey. The border has been increasingly controlled by 1000 soldiers already. The aim is to stop refugees coming from Afghanistan, since western troops have started leaving Afghanistan. Since the beginning of 2021, 590 have been found in Bulgaria, who entered the country without permission.

**France/Spain** 19.08.21: Telepolis: **Verzweiflung sorgt für Tote an Grenzen im "Europa ohne Grenzen" (Desperation causes deaths at borders in "Europe without borders")**: Between France and Spain, as in the Basque country divided by both states, a border

with permanent border controls has again been erected. The Schengen Agreement has been suspended and barriers and massive border controls, mainly directed against refugees and immigrants, are included. This closure in the middle of Europe has led to three deaths at this border in the last three months.

**France/UK** 06.08.21: calais.bordermonitoring: 10.000 Bootspassagen und ein möglicher Frontex-Einsatz (10,000 boat passages and a possible Frontex operation): The number of successful channel crossings rose to over ten thousand at the beginning of August. The previous year's total of around 8,500 crossings had already been exceeded on 21 July. The BBC now reports that 482 exiles in 21 boats reached the island on 4 August, followed by 475 in 15 boats on 5 August. This represents a new high.

*See also* 26.08.21: RND: Migration über den Ärmelkanal: Frankreich hindert mehr als 10.000 Migranten an Überfahrt (Migration across the English Channel: France prevents more than 10,000 migrants from crossing)

**Greece** 06.08.21: ekathimerini: Northern Athens migrant camp evacuated: "Some 2,000 migrants and refugees have been evacuated from the Ritsona camp in northern Athens to another facility in Malakasa amid concerns about the fires in the broader vicinity". The evacuation took place on 5 August.

**Greece** 21.08.21: ekathimerini: Greece completes border wall extension to deter potential Afghan migrants: Greece has completed a 40-km fence on its border with Turkey. The border wall contains a new surveillance system with a "hi-tech, automated electronic monitoring system". The completion was announced on 20 August and is supposed to stop refugees from Afghanistan from entering the country.

**Greece** 27.08.21: ECRE: Tabled Bill Continues Erosion of Protection – Greek Authorities Imposing Fees and Fines on Asylum Seekers and NGOs: "On 25 August the Greek government tabled a Bill amending deportation and return procedures, residence permits and asylum procedures. The bill has been met with severe criticism for eroding protection and introducing new fees and fines imposed on asylum seekers and the organisations supporting them. Further, Greek Police are imposing fines of 5,000 euro for people on the move arriving by sea without Corona tests."

**Italy** 09.08.21: InfoMigrants: More than 800 migrants disembark in Sicily: The disembarkation of more than 800 migrants from the rescue ships Ocean Viking and Sea-Watch 3 began on 7 August after nine days of standby in the Mediterranean. The disembarkation took place at the port of Pozzallo, Sicily. The rescue ship had sheltered 555 people who were rescued by the crew. The main concern that was stated, was the heat that was exhausting rescued people.

**Italy/Mediterranean** 04.08.21: taz: Flüchtlinge in Seenot: Hunderte harren auf Mittelmeer aus (Refugees in distress at sea: Hundreds hold out in the Mediterranean Sea): The rescue ship "Ocean Viking" of the organisation SOS Méditerranée with 553 people on board continues to wait for a safe harbour.

*See also* 02.08.21: Alarm Phone: EU authorities leave over 500 people at risk of drowning in the central Mediterranean Sea

**Poland** 18.08.21: Politico: **Poland sends troops to Belarus border to halt migrants**: The country is stepping up its defenses. Poland's 19 border guard units along its 418-kilometre border have in recent days been bolstered by more than 900 soldiers. "The interior ministry has announced plans to extend a 100-kilometer barbed-wire fence by an additional 50 kilometers and on Tuesday [17 August] the government approved legislation to "streamline procedures" following illegal crossings."

*See also* 23.08.21: euronews: **Poland will build a fence on its border with Belarus to stop migrants**

**Spain/Ceuta** 14.08.21: Al Jazeera: **Rights groups slam Spain over child deportations to Morocco**: "Hundreds of unaccompanied minors were among 10,000 people who tried to enter Ceuta in May by scaling a border fence or swimming around it. Morocco has since taken back most of the migrants. Amnesty International spokesman Angel Gonzalo said the deportations of minors and refugees began on Friday and continued on Saturday. The Spanish radio station Cadena Ser said 15 children have been deported from Spain's North African enclave of Ceuta so far."

*See also* 17.08.21: Spiegel: **Rückführungen Minderjähriger nach Marokko ausgesetzt (Repatriation of minors to Morocco suspended)**

**Spain/Ceuta** 27.08.21: ERCE: **One in Three Journeys Ends Deadly on the Canary Route**: On 24 August a court judgement in Ceuta put a temporary end to attempts by Spanish authorities to return children back to Morocco after they had reached the Spanish enclave. Attempts to reach the Canary Islands from North Africa and especially Morocco are considered as "the most dangerous route to Europe. [...] During the first three weeks of August, the death rate for people travelling from Morocco, Senegal and Mauritania to the Spanish Islands rose as high as 47%, according to Alarm Phone".

*See also* 20.08.21: AlJazeera: **52 people feared dead as boat capsizes near Canary Islands**

## REPORTS

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28.08.21 Alarm Phone: **Interceptions and Death at Sea: Europe's Answer to Migrant Struggles for Freedom**: "In the first half of 2021, the period that is covered in this analysis, the Alarm Phone supported 193 migrant boats in distress in the central Mediterranean Sea. These boats carried approximately 13,750 people on board. It is and will forever remain unclear how many people have died in the central Med in the first 6 months of 2021. While official accounts speak of about 760 deaths, we have recorded 24 shipwrecks, several of which were never formally accounted for. This analysis provides a detailed month-by-month chronology in order to archive developments that are not thoroughly documented elsewhere. We then turn to the implication of merchant vessels in illegal returns and offer testimonies that we have received from people in Libya."

06.08.21 Border Violence Monitoring Network: **Border violence, pushbacks and containment in Ceuta and Melilla**: The report contains in-depth analysis of the unfolding

situation at the borders of Spain's enclaves, Ceuta and Melilla, analysing the continuities and shifts in border violence witnessed since May this year. Written by Disinfaux Collective, No Name Kitchen and Solidarity Wheels, and published by the Border Violence Monitoring Network, the report is based on first-hand testimony from people-on-the-move, on-field observational research, as well as photographic and video documentation.

26.08.21 **Dunya Collective:** [Lithuania and Belarus. Refugees as pawns in a political game](#): This report covers the current events concerning the situation at the Lithuanian-Belarusian border, where people on the move find themselves surrounded by border police, unable to move to one territory nor the other.

28.08.21 **Refugee Rights Europe:** [Five Years On. An Analysis of the Past and the Present Situation at the UK-France-Border, Five Years after the Peak of the Calais 'Jungle' Camp](#): "The aim of this report is to, firstly, provide readers with an overview of the political background which led to the build-up of a bottleneck in northern France in the first place and the emergence of the Calais 'Jungle' camp. In the following chapters, we seek to illustrate what the camp was like, what happened during the period of time it existed, and how and why the camp was eventually flattened to the ground. We then proceed to summarising the situation and key trends unfolding in the northern France area in the years of the camp's aftermath, from late 2016 until today, including the new depths of crisis brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. In the subsequent chapter, we seek to address the questions of why the situation has not yet been resolved and why the human suffering in the area persists."

August 2021 **medico international:** [Return Watch \(Returnee-Watch\)](#): "The EU and the German government are promoting the "voluntary" return of refugees and migrants by offering them the prospect of a promising new start in their respective countries of origin. What is the impact of these programmes – on the right to asylum and on deportation policies? How can reintegration and a new start succeed in precisely those circumstances that were themselves the cause of flight and migration in the first place? Or are the support programmes more about transporting people out of the country as effectively and quietly as possible? A cross-national research and documentation project by medico international."

## CAMPAIGNS

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**Kabul Air Bridge** [Kabul Luftbrücke](#) has been set up by a variety of organisations and alliances. You can find information about demonstrations, actions, donations, and also a simple online tool to write your MP in a few minutes.

**Campaign Free El Hiblu 3:** After [powerful voices](#) at this year's anniversary of the El Hiblu 3's arrival in Malta such as the Bishop of Malta speaking up and statements from several legal, humanitarian and religious groups, a range of formats to alert about the case were published with the BBC. It's also the first-time original voices and faces are shown in the media. [Report](#) // [Short video](#) // [Podcast](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**Action Days** 06.-12.09.21 // Zurich: **enough. Actions days on migration struggles and anti-racist resistance**: enough. is a platform, a meeting place, a stage, an information point, a place of exchange. We create space to make anti-racist initiatives and resistance against the migration system visible. These are days of networking, mobilisation and critical debate, through a diverse programme with different contributions - with the aim of sensitising people and organising together. On Saturday, the 11th September, there is a panel called "Externalisation of the European Migration Regime: Perspectives on Impact and Resistance".

**Workshop** 23.09.21 // 7 pm (CEST) // online: **Türsteher Europas – EU-Externalisierungspolitik am Beispiel Türkei und Senegal**: "Die Auslagerung von Migrationsabwehr fängt jedoch bereits vor dem Mittelmeer an und geht mit weiteren institutionellen Reformprozessen, oft, aber nicht ausschließlich, im sicherheitspolitischen Bereich und der Verbindung von entwicklungspolitischen und Migrationspolitischen Zielen einher. Dieser Workshop vermittelt zunächst einen Überblick über die sogenannte externe Dimension europäischer Migrationspolitik, bevor im nächsten Schritt auf die Beispiel-länder Türkei und Senegal eingegangen wird."

**Panel Discussions** 25.09.21 // 11 am (CEST) // Berlin and online: **Quo vadis Frontex? – Reform, control or abolish? Panel discussions on the illegal activities of the EU border agency and its glaring control deficit**: "Why is it so difficult to indict and prosecute the illegal activities of the agency? To whom is Frontex actually accountable? What are Leggeri's new narratives and how can we debunk them? We will discuss this in a two-part event. We have invited activists and experts who are confronted with the practices of Frontex at various EU external borders and in different fields of work. Together we then want to show possibilities of civil resistance."

**Book Launch** 14.10.21 // 5-7 pm (CEST) // online: **Immigration Nation. Aid, Control and Border Politics in Morocco**: "In this book, Lorena Gazzotti shows that migration control is not only exercised through fences and deportation. Building on extensive research in Morocco, Gazzotti shows that aid marks the rise of a substantially different mode of migration containment, one where power works beyond fast violence, and its disciplinary potential is augmented precisely by its elusiveness."