PUSHBACKS OR COLLECTIVE EXPULSIONS? ILLEGAL, HARMFUL AND HURTFUL PRACTICE OF EU BORDER MANAGEMENT

28th of July 2022

The aim of the seminar is to take a closer look at illegal collective expulsions in Europe by taking into account different perspectives, including legal, political and personal ones, and by discussing potential solutions how to make EU borders less violent and more human rights-oriented.

To participate in the seminar please register using this link: https://forms.gle/6xHC38mykyUbM77v7

AGENDA OF THE SEMINAR

12.00 – 12.05 – Welcome from the organisers and presentation of the aim of the seminar

12.05-13.15 - I panel: "Pushbacks - its causes and consequences"

The growth of pushbacks in contemporary migration control, **Stephen Phillips**, Abo Akademi Institute, Finland

Pushbacks on EU internal and external borders – Italy and Balkan route, Ivana Stojanova, Associazione per gli Studi Giuridici sull'Immigrazione (ASGI), Italy

Zone of hidden violence, extracts from the film about violence on Polish-Belarusian border produced by the Border Emergency Collective, Poland.

Consequences of pushbacks and its (not so) hidden violence – voices of people being subjected to those practices – personal stories of **Hikmatullah Karimi** (asylum seeker from Afghanistan) and **an asylum seeker from Syria**.

13.25-14.25 - II panel: "Legal and political responses of collective expulsions"

Overview of UNHCR advocacy to promote access to territory and asylum at EU external borders, Lorena Isla Rodrigues, UNHCR

The EU institutional responses: from informal cover-up push-backs to their legitimisation, Lina Vosyliūtė, Centre for European Policy Studies, Belgium

Pushbacks in the European Court of Human Rights' Jurisprudence: Permitted or Prohibited?, dr Maja Łysienia, Association for Legal Intervention, Poland

14.35-15.45 – III panel: "Solutions to change the harmful policy"

Introduction:

Push-backs at European borders: possible solutions to tackle them, dr Izabella Majcher, Visiting Fellow at the Global Migration Centre IHEID (Geneva) & independent consultant

Discussants:

András Léderer, Hungarian Helsinki Committee, Hungary

Giuseppe Platania, Borderline Sicilia, Italy

Iva Sverko, Associaton PANK - Active Independent Creative's Platform, Croatia

Katarzyna Czarnota, Grupa Granica and Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Poland

prof. Konstantinos Tsitselikis, University of Macedonia, Greece, former president of the Greek League for Human Rights, Greece

Discussion will be moderated by **prof. Witold Klaus**, Association for Legal Intervention and Migration Law Research Centre at the Institute of Law Studies Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland

15.45-16.00 – Closure of the seminar and the summary of the project "Eu-Pact on Asylum and Migration", **Harald Glöde**, borderline-europe Human Rights without Borders e.V., Germany

Organisers of the seminar: Association for Legal Intervention and Migration Law Research Centre at the Institute of Law Studies Polish Academy of Sciences





Partners of the seminar: Protecting Rights at Borders (PRAB) Initiative, Grupa Granica and Migration Consortium







The seminar is organised as a part of the project called "Eu-Pact on Asylum and Migration" funded by the European Union by the Europe for Citizens Programme.

