



PLATFORM FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON
UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS

PICUM QUARTERLY July - September 2014

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BORDERS

FRANCE / French and British authorities agree on a cooperation deal for Calais port

On 20 September 2014, the British Home Secretary, Theresa May, and her French counterpart, Bernard Cazeneuve, announced that they had come to a cooperation agreement regarding the situation of increasing numbers of irregular migrants trying to reach the UK through the French city of Calais. A joint intervention fund will be created and British authorities have pledged to spend 15 million euro over three years to strengthen security measures in the port of Calais and prevent migrants from crossing over to the UK. Police cooperation between the two countries will be reinforced to fight smuggling networks and joint information campaigns will be led in order to discourage migrants from attempting the crossing.

Sources: [La Voix du Nord](#), 20 September 2014 ; [The Guardian](#), 20 September 2014

GREECE / Demand for additional EU aid to protect sea borders

Greece has called for additional funds from the European Union to handle the increased numbers of irregular migrants who are entering the country, also due to conflicts in Syria and Iraq. At a press conference in Athens on 4 September 2014, Merchant Marine Minister, Miltiadis Varvitsiotis stated that the number of undocumented migrants intercepted in the Aegean Sea was expected to triple – compared with the same period last year – by the end of 2014. According to Ministry's data, more than 10,500 people were detained while trying to cross Greece's sea border in 2013, while 17,000 people, the majority of them Syrians, were arrested in the first eight months of 2014. The Greek government warned that without sufficient funds or resources to handle a fast-growing wave of refugees coming mostly from Iraq and Syria, Greece might slip into a "danger zone".

Sources: [Ekathimerini](#), 4 September 2014; [Reuters](#), 4 September 2014

LIBYA / Plans for partnership with the EU to deter irregular migrants

The Libyan government and the EU are discussing plans to deter irregular migrants from coming to Europe through Libya. Libyan Prime Minister Abdullah Al-Thinni addressed irregular migration in connection to politics, national security and human rights during a meeting with EU officials on 11 July 2014. Of the 88,000 people estimated to have arrived in Italy by boat so far in 2014, about 77,000 are believed to have departed from Libya. Sources: [South Africa Today](#), 12 July 2014; [Malta Today](#), 8 August 2014

MEDITERRANEAN / Over 700 migrants die at sea

Nearly 700 migrants died in two shipwrecks in the Mediterranean in the week from 9 to 13 September 2014. Human smugglers are accused of ramming and sinking the two boats. One boat, carrying nearly 500 passengers, sank near Malta. According to testimonies of survivors, the migrants were forced to change boats several times on their way to Europe and to shift into a vessel they considered unsafe. When the passengers refused to change, the smugglers allegedly rammed the boat until it capsized. Meanwhile, on 13 September, another boat carrying at least 250 African migrants sank off Libya's coast. The shipwrecks occurred one month before the anniversary of the tragedy near Lampedusa which occurred on 3 October 2013 in which about 360 migrants drowned. Previously, in July 2014, five men from Syria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia were arrested in the city of Messina, Sicily, for allegedly killing nearly 60 migrants who were travelling on the same boat to Italy. The boat departed from Libya on 17 July 2014 with approximately 700 migrants on board. According to the survivors, riots erupted when people crammed in the ship's hold began to panic because they could not breathe, due to the high temperatures and the fumes from the boat's motor. As they tried to get out from the compartment, the five arrested men allegedly started beating and kicking others and randomly stabbed them to death and threw them into the sea.

Sources: [Deutsche Welle](#), 15 September 2014; [Open Letter](#), François Crépeau, Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, 29 September 2014; [La Repubblica](#), 23 July 2014; [The Local](#), 24 July 2014

REPORTS / Loss of lives at the EU's borders

Amnesty International released two reports discussing the lack of protection of migrants and refugees at the EU's borders. The report "The Human Cost of Fortress Europe: Human Rights Violations Against Migrants and Refugees at Europe's Border", published on 9 July 2014, examines the key provisions of the EU's border protection policies and illustrates how such policies are putting migrants' lives at risk. It puts the overall amounts spent on protection policies and return of migrants in the context of the disproportionately lower amounts spent on their protection in the EU. The report is available [here](#). Another report by Amnesty International, "Lives adrift: Refugees and migrants in peril in the central Mediterranean", released on 30 September 2014, calls for more safe and legal routes to Europe to end the loss of life at sea. The report is available [here](#).

Sources: [Amnesty: News](#), 9 July 2014; [Amnesty International](#), 30 September 2014

REPORT / Data on migrant fatalities worldwide

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) released a report on 29 September 2014 providing new data on migrant fatalities worldwide. The report "Fatal Journeys: Tracking Lives Lost During Migration" estimates that more than 40,000 people have died while migrating since 2000, which is eight people per day on average. The research also found that Europe is the world's most dangerous destination for migrants, costing the lives of an estimated 3,000 people since the beginning of 2014 and at least 22,400 people are estimated to have lost their lives since 2000. The report was compiled within the framework of IOM's Missing Migrants Project and is available online [here](#).

Sources: [IOM](#), 29 September 2014; [The Guardian](#), 29 September 2014

UNITED NATIONS

UN / World Day against Trafficking in Persons

The United Nations designated 30 July 2014 as the first World Day against Trafficking in Persons. The aim is to raise awareness of the plight of the millions of women, men and children who are victims of trafficking

worldwide, as well as to encourage people to take action against this crime. On the occasion, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) published a [leaflet](#) with facts and figures on trafficking in human beings. For more information on the world day, click [here](#).

UN / Migrants workers committee adds its voice to the call to end detention of migrant families

The Chair of the of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW) issued a statement on Ending Immigration Detention of Children on 3 July 2014, calling upon states to cease the immigration detention of children, and to adopt alternatives to detention that fulfil the best interests of the child. Read the statement [here](#).

Source: OHCHR Civil Society Section, News on Treaty Bodies No 26, July 2014

EUROPEAN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

EU PARLIAMENT / Hearings of Commissioner-designates

As part of the public hearings of candidate commissioners by the European Parliament committees from 29 September to 7 October, the Commissioner-designate for the European Commission's Migration and Home Affairs portfolio, Dimitris Avramopoulos, appeared before the European Parliament's Civil Liberties and Home Affairs Committee (LIBE) on 30 September. Mr Avramopoulos identified the need to ensure the protection of fundamental rights as part of migration management and border control as a top priority. He emphasised that current challenges in the context of migration should not be addressed through the establishment of a "Fortress Europe", but that a new framework allowing for regular migration into Europe urgently needs to be established. The Commissioner-designate also reiterated the need to further strengthen Frontex and to effectively establish a new European Border Guard system, based on the principle of solidarity and aimed at assisting national authorities in border control.

Sources: [European Parliament](#), 30 September 2014

EU COMMISSION / New operation of EU border agency Frontex in the Mediterranean

The EU's Home Affairs Commissioner, Cecilia Malmström, announced on 27 August 2014 that a new operation in the Mediterranean will be launched in November 2014 by the border control agency, Frontex. The operation Triton has an estimated start-up cost of €20 million. The operation will not replace the search-and-rescue mission Mare Nostrum launched by Italy in 2013 but will be complementary and reliant on member state resources and budget constraints.

Source: [EU Observer](#), 3 September 2014; [The Guardian](#), 29 August 2014; [UNHCR](#), 26 August 2014

COUNCIL OF EUROPE / Call to uphold universal access to health care

Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Nils Muižnieks, called for universal access to high quality and inexpensive health care on 7 August 2014. He highlighted that access to care has been undermined by austerity measures during the economic crisis and that there needed to be a more people-centred human rights approach. He also pointed out that many people are being forcibly returned to their country of origin despite health concerns, even when it was unclear whether the necessary treatment would be available there. The commissioner also expressed concern regarding barriers preventing children's access to health care, referring to the [WHO's warning](#) of the possible life-long effects of extreme poverty on their emotional and physical health. To read the full comment, click [here](#). ([French version](#)).

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

GERMANY / Federal police report increase in irregular migration

The German federal police has reported a steady increase of the number of people entering the country irregularly. On the occasion of the presentation of the federal police's annual report in mid-August, the police highlighted that about 33,000 irregular entries were registered, which is an increase of almost 27% compared with the previous year. Meanwhile, the Christian Social Union (CSU), a conservative Bavarian sister party of the

Christian Democratic Union (CDU), demanded that border controls at the German-Austrian border be reintroduced to prevent African migrants entering Germany through Italy. Social Democrat policy makers criticised the proposal for promoting a policy of seclusion.

Source: [Die Welt](#), 14 August 2014; [Der Spiegel](#), 9 September 2014

ITALY / RESEARCH / Law and policy on entitlements to services for irregular migrants in Italy

Dr Sarah Spencer, Open Society Fellow at the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) at the University of Oxford together with Nicola Delvino published their report “Irregular Migrants in Italy:

Law and Policy on Entitlements to Services” in September 2014. The paper discusses the Italian policy and legislative context on irregular migration as well as the legal entitlements of irregular migrants. The report is part of a broader [COMPAS’ study](#) which explores the extent of, and rationales for, entitlements to service provision for migrants with irregular immigration status in EU countries. To view the full report, click [here](#).

NETHERLANDS / REPORT / Annual Report of National Rapporteur on Human Trafficking in The Netherlands

The Dutch National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings and Sexual Violence against Children, Corinne Dettmeijer, published her annual report on 17 September 2014 discussing the state of human trafficking in the country and recommendations for an effective strategy to combat trafficking. The report also focuses on the necessity for the government to better identify and protect victims. Addressing proposals to criminalise irregular residence in the Netherlands, the report argues that an irregular residence status should never discharge the police from their responsibility to inform potential victims of the relevant protections, noting that being a victim of human trafficking takes precedence over a person’s irregular status. The full report is available [here](#).

UK / Immigration status checks involving private landlords to be implemented in December

On 3 September 2014, the Home Office announced the introduction of the first phase of the “right to rent” scheme which requires private landlords in the West Midlands to pay fines of up to £3,000 as of December 2014 if they fail to check on the migration status of their new tenants. The measure is part of a package of the 2014 Immigration Act which was announced during the Queen’s speech in 2013. The Residential Landlords Association opposed the measure, arguing that checking migration status is the responsibility of the UK Border Agency and private landlords should not be used for immigration law enforcement.

Source: [The Guardian](#), 3 September 2014

UK / Residence test for legal aid unlawful

The High Court in the UK unanimously found on 15 July 2014 that the government’s plan to apply a residence test for legal aid was discriminatory, unlawful and unjustified by public savings. The judicial review was brought by the Public Law Project (PLP) and was decided on the same day that 33 organisations issued a joint briefing urging the Parliament to reject the measures. According to the joint brief and solicitors for the PLP, the test would have effectively withheld legal aid from particularly vulnerable groups of recent residents, including women fleeing domestic violence, pre-school age children, the homeless and victims of trafficking and other crimes.

Sources: [The Guardian](#), 15 July 2014 ; [Migrants Rights Network](#), 15 July 2014 ; [Migrants Rights Network](#), 15 July 2014

HEALTH CARE

SPAIN / NGOs demand Spanish government to reverse restriction on access to health care for undocumented migrants

To mark the second anniversary of the entry into force of the Spanish Royal Decree Act that restricts access to health care for undocumented migrants, a group of NGOs have sent a letter to the Spanish Minister of Health, Ms. Ana Mato, asking her to reverse the legislation and ensure health care for undocumented migrants once again. The organisations argue that Spain has failed to fulfil the recommendations of various United Nations instruments and of the Council of Europe, which had called for reform of the decree.

Source: [Europa Press](#), 3 September 2014; [El País](#), 2 September 2014

SWEDEN / Study reveals causes of death of undocumented migrants

Researchers of the Department of Women's and Children's Health, International Maternal and Child Health (IMCH) at Uppsala University in Sweden carried out a study on the causes of death among undocumented migrants in Sweden between 1997 and 2010. The research was based on death certificates which were issued in the period but never included in the country's Cause of Death Register (CDR). Although external causes were the main reasons for death among undocumented migrants, the researchers highlighted that unequal access to health care compared to residents makes a substantial differences in causes of death. Based on this result, the researchers noted that legal ambiguities regarding health care provision must be addressed if equity in health is to be achieved in a country known for its universal health coverage.

Source: [Global Health Action](#), 3 June 2014

UK / Home Office makes health care dangerous for migrants

The Home Office has used patient records from the NHS's National Bank Office to track down irregular migrants. A report by the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) reveals the regularity of this practice. Since 2010 the Home Office has requested more than 12,587 records, and has been granted access in more than 6,900 cases. Under the data protection law, medical records are confidential. However, the Home Office has taken advantage of an exemption for officials to receive information of where and when patients have used health services.

Source: [The Guardian](#), 13 July 2014

LABOUR AND FAIR WORKING CONDITIONS

GREECE / Court of Patras issues verdict on the shooting of migrant workers in Manolada

After the shooting of 155 Bangladeshi migrant workers during a pay dispute on a strawberry plantation in Manolada, Greece, on 17 April 2013, the Greek Mixed Jury Court of Patras issued its final determination on the case on 30 July 2014. The Court acquitted two of the four men on trial for shooting and injuring 35 of the 155 migrant workers. None of the four accused were found guilty of human trafficking, whereas the convicted foreman was handed a jail term of 14 years and seven months for serious bodily harm, while the other received a sentence of eight years and seven months as an accessory to the crime. The decision provoked criticism, both at national level within the Greek Parliament, as well as at EU level.

Sources: [The Guardian](#), 31 July 2014; [The Independent](#), 31 July 2014; [Ekathimerini](#), 31 July 2014

IRELAND / New legislation to address unpaid wages loophole

The Employment Permits (Amendment) Bill 2014 came into effect on 1 September 2014 and aims to further prevent the exploitation of undocumented migrant workers in Ireland. The new legislation is said to address deficiencies in the previous law, highlighted by the 2012 [High Court judgment](#) that overturned a €92,000 award of back pay for an undocumented worker. The new legislation allows exploited workers to take legal action against their employers for unpaid wages and prevents employers from benefitting from the previous unenforceability of the contract. To read the Bill's explanatory memo, click [here](#).

Source: [The Journal](#), 17 June 2014; [The Journal](#), 24 April 2014

UK / Supreme Court ruling: Discrimination claim upheld despite illegal work contract

The UK Supreme Court issued its [judgment](#) in the case of "Hounga v Allen and another" on 30 July 2014. The case concerned a discrimination claim presented by MS Hounga, an undocumented Nigerian national residing in the UK. Miss Hounga was subjected to serious physical abuse and threats while being employed for 18 months as a domestic worker by Ms Allen. After being violently evicted from her house by her employer, Ms Hounga submitted a discrimination claim against her employer. The UK Supreme Court unanimously ruled that Ms Hounga's discrimination claim could be admissible, as the illegality of the contract due to her irregular status was not sufficiently linked to the act of discrimination to defeat the claim. The full judgment is available [here](#).

USA / Tool to help migrant workers in recruitment and employment processes

The Centro de los Derechos del Migrante, Inc. (Center for Migrants' Rights, CDM) which has offices in the US and

Mexico, launched a new tool on 30 September 2014 which uses technology and art to increase transparency and combat abuse in U.S. foreign worker programs. 'Contratados', named after the process of being contracted under a temporary work program, is specifically directed to workers from Mexico but can be used by workers of all backgrounds and visa categories. With an interactive website, a hotline, pocket-sized comics, and a transnational radio campaign, the programme provides workers with resources to more securely navigate the recruitment and employment process. Using a crowdsourcing website and an accompanying hotline, workers themselves can write reviews of recruiters and employers and collectively fill critical gaps in publicly available information about international labour recruitment. For more information on the tool, click [here](#).

UNDOCUMENTED WOMEN

COUNCIL OF EUROPE / Entry into force of 'Istanbul Convention'

On 1 August 2014, the [Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence](#) entered into force. Also referred to as 'Istanbul Convention', it is the first European treaty specifically targeting violence against women and domestic violence. The Convention sets out, and calls for the implementation of, legally binding standards to prevent violence against women, protect survivors and punish perpetrators. Requiring state parties to ensure availability of services such as hotlines, shelters, medical assistance, counselling, and legal aid, the Convention prohibits discrimination on the grounds of migration status. To celebrate the entry into force of the Council of Europe Convention on Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence, also known as the Istanbul Convention, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Italian Chamber of Deputies, and the Council of Europe organised a conference in Rome on 19 September 2014. To view presentations of the event, click [here](#).

Source: [Council of Europe](#), September 2014

MOROCCO / SPAIN / Exploitation and abuse of migrant women

According to reports, sub-Saharan migrant women, mainly from Nigeria, are systematically abused and exploited on their way to Europe. Most of the women stay in Algeria or Morocco with the aim to reach Melilla and enter Spanish territory. According to Carlos Montero, Director of the migrant reception centre (CETI) in Melilla, almost all Nigerian women who arrive from Morocco have experienced sexual abuse. However, according to the Spanish Commission for Refugee Assistance in Euskadi (Comisión de Ayuda al Refugiado en Euskadi -CEAR-Euskadi) of the 40 asylum applications from women victims of trafficking processed between 2009 and 2013, 29 of whom were from Nigeria, none were approved. A report by Women's Link Worldwide has found that Spanish authorities often deport potential victims of trafficking.

Source: [El País](#), 18 July 2014, [Women's Link Worldwide](#), July 2014

UK / "Using CEDAW in Law: Bringing Women's Rights Home"

The "CEDAW Legal Working Group", a grassroots initiative, has produced the guide "Using CEDAW in Law: Bringing Women's Rights Home". The guide on the International Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) explains how to argue CEDAW points effectively in domestic proceedings. To highlight ways CEDAW can be useful for advocacy on migrant women's rights in the UK, the guide explores the example of using CEDAW to challenge immigration detention conditions for migrant women. More information on this initiative is available [here](#). To download the guide, click [here](#).

UNDOCUMENTED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

BOOK / The social and economic lives of young undocumented migrants

"Sans Papiers: The Social and Economic Lives of Young Undocumented Migrants" combines a contemporary account of the theoretical and policy debates around undocumented migration with an in-depth exploration of the lived experiences of undocumented migrants in the UK. Built around their voices, the book, by Alice Bloch, Nando Sigona, Roger Zetter, provides an understanding of migratory processes, gendered experiences and migrant aspirations. Moving between the uniqueness of individual experience and the search for commonalities,

the book explores the ambiguities and contradictions of being an undocumented migrant. For more information, click [here](#).

RESEARCH / City-level responses to migrant families with restricted access to welfare benefits

Jonathan Price, Research Officer and Dr Sarah Spencer, Open Society Fellow at the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) at the University of Oxford published their report “City-level responses to migrant families with restricted access to welfare benefits: A European pilot study” in September 2014. The research focuses on two European cities – Berlin and Madrid – examining how laws and policies in these two cities frame entitlements and exclusions to welfare benefits for migrant children and their families and the ways in which the state and NGOs have responded to any problems these exclusions create. The study also focuses on the particular situation of irregular migrants outlining limited access to services or even exclusion from rights and services such as accommodation. To access the Executive Summary in English, please click [here](#). To access the full report directly, please click [here](#).

REPORT / New report on quality legal assistance for unaccompanied children

A comparative report examining the legislation and practice for access to legal assistance for unaccompanied children in Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom has been released by the European Council on Refugees and Exiles in July 2014. The report entitled “Right to Justice: Quality Legal Assistance for Unaccompanied Children” demonstrates that even though legal assistance is provided for by law in a number of migration and asylum procedures, it is rarely available in cases where the age of the person is disputed or during an age assessment. You can download the report and view the findings per country [here](#).

USA / Violence driving force of wave of migration of Central American children

In the context of the large numbers of children from Central American countries arriving and being detained in the United States, gang violence and killings of family members in their countries of origin have been reported as a major reason for the high increase of migrant children arrivals. Officials estimated that more than 90,000 children might arrive irregularly in the 2014 fiscal year (compared to 24,493 apprehensions in the 2013 fiscal year). While many children are unaccompanied, some come together with their mothers. Meanwhile, on 2 September 2014, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) released a report countering the claims of “systematic abuse” against undocumented child migrants. The report followed accusations that undocumented migrant children were subjected to verbal abuse, denied medical care and held in “unsanitary, overcrowded and freezing cold cells”.

Sources: [Latin Times](#), 1 August 2014; [New York Times](#), 9 July 2014; [The New-York Times](#), 2 September 2014

DETENTION AND DEPORTATION

EU / Ruling against use of prison as detention centres for migrants

The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) ruled on 17 July, in its decisions on the joint cases of [Bero and Bouzalmate](#) and the case of [Pham](#), against the practice of detaining third-country nationals awaiting their removal in regular prisons. Ms Bero, Mr Bouzalmate and Ms Pham were all held in prisons alongside those convicted of criminal offences in Germany. The Court ruled that the use of prisons was not justified even in regions where no special migration detention facility is available or where the individual has consented to be detained in a prison. The judgment follows the provisions of the [EU Return Directive](#) which states that any detention of third-country nationals pending their removal should take place in a specialised facility and only in exceptional circumstances may prison facilities be used. The Court also ruled that, should an extension of a person's detention be warranted, the duration of the extension must not exceed 12 months.

Sources: [EU Court of Justice Press Release](#), 17 June 2014; [EU Law Analysis](#), 21 July 2014

NETHERLANDS / Changes to law on detention of unaccompanied children

The Foreigners Law in the Netherlands has been amended to limit the detention of unaccompanied children. According to the law, unaccompanied children should only be detained in exceptional circumstances and for the shortest possible period of time. Only the following circumstances are considered as exceptional: if children are suspected of or convicted for committing a crime; if their deportation will be realised within a maximum on 14

days; if they have previously absconded from a reception centre or otherwise not complied with measures that have restricted their freedom; or if there is a doubt about the child's age, they may be detained until their age is determined. The law still allows for undocumented children to be detained with their parents in facilities adapted to children. The Decision of the Minister of Security and Justice of August 29, 2014, issue WBV 2014/27, amending the Foreigners Act 2000 came into effect on 1 September 2014, and can be read [here](#).
Source: Stichting LOS, Newsletter Volume 4 Number 19, 15 September 2014

US / GERMANY / Abuse of migrants and asylum seekers by staff of private security firms in closed facilities

Attorneys in Texas, United States, filed a complaint to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Department of Homeland Security alleging sexual abuse and harassment by at least three guards and facility staff members at the privately run 537-bed Karnes County Residential Center. Several women detained at the facility said that staff of the GEO Group, which operates the center, abused them sexually. Similarly, a case of abuse of asylum seekers by staff of a private security firm in an asylum seekers' home in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany made headlines. Pictures showing staff of the firm European Homecare physically humiliating asylum seekers were transmitted to the police by a local journalist in September 2014. The incident triggered a debate about the deployment of private security firms for the protection of people as well as about the insufficient allocation of funds to municipalities for accommodating migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.

Sources: [Associated Press](#), 2 October 2014; [My San Antonio](#) 6 October 2014; [Die ZEIT](#) 29 September 2014

UK / Parliamentary inquiry into immigration detention

A Parliamentary Inquiry into the use of immigration detention was launched in the UK on 7 July, jointly led by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Refugees and the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Migration. The inquiry is said to focus on the conditions of detention centres, the impact on individual detainees and their families, the wider financial and social consequences and the future role of detention within the immigration system.

Source: [Migrants Rights website](#), 29 July 2014; [The Detention Inquiry website](#)

UK / High Court decision: Detained Fast Track asylum system unlawful

Detention Action, a UK charity supporting individuals detained for immigration purposes, challenged the lawfulness of the Secretary of State for the Home Department's policy and practice of 'detained fast track' (DFT). The Court ruled that the DFT system was indeed unfair and thus unlawful, this on account of its lack of sufficient time for proper legal advice. The Court consequently emphasised that the high risk of unfairness could be removed from the DFT by the early instruction of lawyers. The full judgment is available [here](#).

Source: [Detention Action](#), 9 July 2014

USA / Lawyers confirm that President Obama has legal authority to protect undocumented migrants from deportation

Over 100 immigration lawyers in the United States have signed a [letter](#) to President Barack Obama on 3 September 2014 arguing that he has expansive legal authority to act to temporarily protect additional groups from deportation. In conclusion, the lawyers argue that the Obama administration has the legal authority to use prosecutorial discretion as a tool for managing resources and protecting individuals residing in and contributing to the United States in meaningful ways. The lawyers' conclusion indicates that President Obama might expand the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) to other groups such as irregular migrants who are parents of US citizens. 'DACA' is a memorandum authored by the Obama administration on June 15, 2012, which temporarily protects young irregular migrants who came to the United States as children from deportation.

Source: [The Washington Post](#), 3 September 2014

PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER RESOURCES

REPORT / Access to housing and shelter for undocumented migrants in Europe

On the occasion of World Habitat Day on 6 October 2014, the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) together with the European Federation of National Organisations working

with the homeless (FEANTSA) and the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) launched their new report outlining strategies and good practices to overcome barriers for undocumented migrants to access housing and shelter. The report which is available in English, Spanish and French is the outcome of the organisations' joint conference on housing and homelessness of undocumented migrants in Europe, held in Brussels in June 2013. The report is available [here](#).

EDUCATIONAL GUIDE / Addressing irregular migration in the classroom

The Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) has launched a new guide to educate about the realities undocumented migrants face across Europe. The teaching guide, which is available in English, French and Spanish, shows how PICUM's web documentary 'Undocumentary' (www.undocumentary.org), which showcases the daily realities faced by undocumented migrants living in Europe, may be used in the classroom. To view the guide, please click [here](#).

MEDIA GLOSSARY / Terminology definitions and guidelines for reporting on migration

A "Media-Friendly Glossary on Migration" was officially presented by the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and Panos Europe Institute (IPE) during the UNAOC Sixth Global Forum in Bali on 29 August 2014. The glossary's aim is to ensure accurate language on migration in the media and to provide explanations on definitions to journalists and editors. Affirming that "the term 'illegal migrant' should never be used", the media glossary is available for download [here](#).

TOOLKIT / Information on engaging in Europe 2020 and the European Semester

The EU Alliance for a Democratic, Social and Sustainable European Semester (Semester Alliance) has published its "Toolkit for Engaging in Europe 2020 and the European Semester" in July 2014. The toolkit explains the European Semester and provides contact details, lists of stakeholders, template letters and a glossary of terms and acronyms. The aim is to assist organisations and other actors to engage in the Europe 2020 Strategy which seeks to lift at least 20 million people out of poverty by 2020. The Semester Alliance is a broad coalition bringing together major European civil society organisations and trade unions and is coordinated by the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN). To view the toolkit and find out more about the Semester Alliance, click [here](#).