



PICUM

PLATFORM FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS

PICUM, the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants, is a non-governmental organization (NGO) that aims to promote respect for the human rights of undocumented migrants within Europe. PICUM also seeks dialogue with organizations and networks with similar concerns in other parts of the world.

PICUM promotes respect for the basic social rights of undocumented migrants, such as the right to health care, the right to shelter, the right to education and training, the right to a minimum subsistence, the right to family life, the right to moral and physical integrity, the right to legal aid, and the right to fair labour conditions.

Based in Brussels, Belgium, PICUM has 114 affiliated members and 126 ordinary members in 29 countries primarily in Europe as well as in other regions of the world.

PICUM's monthly newsletter on issues concerning the human rights of undocumented migrants is produced in seven languages and circulates to PICUM's network of more than 5,100 civil society organizations, individuals and beyond.

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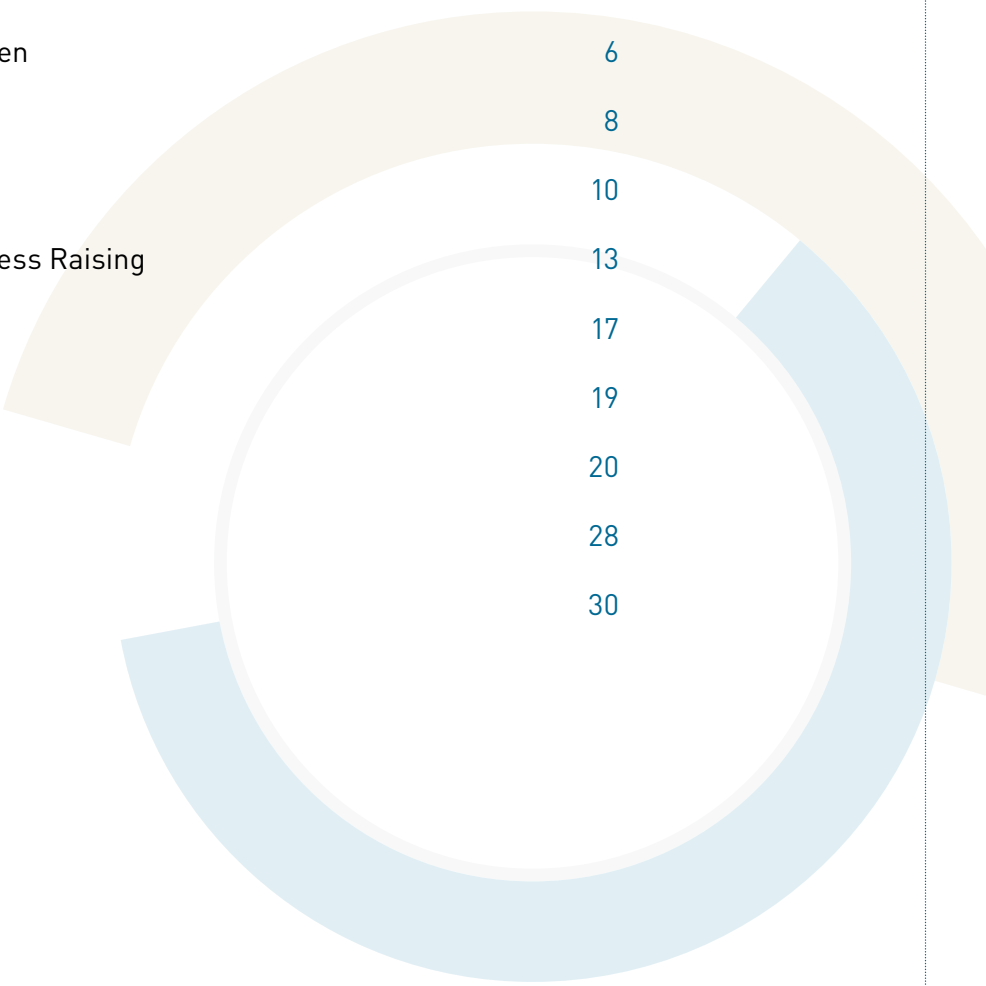
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Message from the Director

The beginning of 2009 was marked by policy developments on both the EU and national level that had a detrimental impact on the human rights of undocumented migrants. In February 2009, the European Parliament approved a **directive on sanctions for employers of undocumented workers**. PICUM is concerned that the directive may have a number of unintended effects which contradict EU policy priorities in the areas of migration, non-discrimination and integration, particularly since the focus of the directive remains on the status of the migrant, rather than on the exploitation by the employer.

Also in February, Italy's right-wing Lega Nord Party proposed amendments to the "**Security Package**" to include an obligation for Italian health care professionals to report undocumented migrants to immigration enforcement authorities. While the "duty to denounce" was not included in the final version of the bill approved by the Italian Senate in July 2009, the legislation did contain several other harsh provisions which criminalize irregular entry and residence on Italian territory and limit the fundamental rights of undocumented migrants.

Despite a restrictive political context in which the fundamental rights of undocumented migrants seem to be continuously jeopardized, PICUM has increasingly sought to promote its core message by **extending its network and building new partnerships**. In January, PICUM held a conference which was attended by more than 150 participants from more than 20 countries to specifically address the situation of **undocumented children**. Participants noted numerous violations of undocumented children's rights and called for more visibility and greater recognition of the inherent rights of undocumented children.

Michele LeVoy
Director



PICUM also strengthened cooperation with key EU institutions in 2009. To disseminate the main findings of the "**Clandestino**" project, PICUM and DG Research of the European Commission co-organized a closed-door workshop in November, which was attended by members of various DGs, the EU Council, and various EU agencies. Together with the Center for European Policy Studies (CEPs) and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), PICUM held a closed-door expert meeting in October on the **status and rights of undocumented migrants in the EU**.

PICUM's awareness raising in 2009 brought us to more than **13 countries worldwide**, where we were invited to contribute our expertise at more than **50 external events** throughout the year.

I would like to extend our gratitude towards our various funders and volunteers for their support, which has enabled us to expand our work and also our outreach to undocumented migrants.

As Europe's policies seem to be ever more restrictive concerning migrants, I draw inspiration from the constant and remarkable efforts made by an increasing array of actors who prioritize human dignity and respect for the fundamental human rights of undocumented migrants, and who thus give meaning to many of the values on which the European Union is constructed.

Michele LeVoy

Undocumented migrants in Europe face serious problems in gaining access to health care services. For them, a worsening of their physical and mental health is more likely to occur owing mainly to poor access to health care services and the continual fear of being discovered and expelled. While numerous international instruments in human rights law have been ratified by EU member states and refer to the right of everyone to health care as a basic human right (regardless of one's administrative status), the laws and practices in many European states deviate from these obligations.

PICUM's work in 2009 in promoting access to health care for undocumented migrants centered on two major European-wide projects, as well as continued awareness raising of issues surrounding health care to a wide range of actors.

NowHereLand: Improving Health Care Services for Undocumented Migrants in the EU



The "Nowhereland" project, co-financed by DG Sanco of the European Commission, aims at addressing migrants' and immigrants' access, quality and appropriateness of health and social services as important wider determinants for health, focusing on health care services for undocumented migrants as an especially vulnerable group, an increasing public health risk and a group providing difficulties for health care providers and health policy.

By participating in the NowHereLand initiative, PICUM has the opportunity to find out more about undocumented migrants' experiences regarding health care services and the strategies they use to overcome existing barriers in a total of 17 EU member states. Following interviews with

several expert NGOs in each of the countries involved in this research, PICUM will develop 17 country reports which will be made available to NGOs providing health care to undocumented migrants as well as health care providers within the national systems to encourage an improvement in the level of health protection provided to undocumented migrants across Europe.

Thanks to generous support from the Barrow Cadbury Trust, PICUM was able to hire a full time Project Officer in October 2009 to work on this project. In 2009, 34 interviews were conducted with NGOs and government agencies working on the health care issues of undocumented migrants in five countries.

Seriously Ill Undocumented Migrants



In June 2009, PICUM published a report entitled *Undocumented and Seriously Ill: Residents Permits for Medical Reason in Europe*, which aims to identify some of the main problems and obstacles in gathering information within 11 EU member states concerning residence permits for seriously ill undocumented migrants. For each country, an analysis of the legal framework for eligibility

of such a residence permit, the availability of medical stay permits, the application procedure and the involvement of health care practitioners during the procedure is addressed. The opinions of NGOs, authorities and health care practitioners on the creation of a European medical database of information on the availability and accessibility of medical treatment around the world are also presented.

External Representation



In addition to participating in meetings related to health care projects in which PICUM is a partner, PICUM staff, board and members took active part in many other events at the global, European and local levels.

PICUM Director Michele Levoy made a presentation on access to health care for undocumented migrants in Europe at **The 5th Annual World Health Care Congress Europe 2009**, Leadership Forum on “Addressing Patient Population Disparities: Managing Diversity to Optimize Care”, held in May in Brussels. The congress was attended primarily by government officials, hospital directors, IT innovators, decision makers from private and public insurance funds, pharmaceutical and medical device companies, and health care industry suppliers.

At the **EU-Level Consultation on Migration Health** – “Better Health for All”, organized by the Office of the Portuguese High Commissioner for Health and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Lisbon, Portugal, in June, PICUM Board member Reyes Castillo contributed findings from PICUM’s report on *Access to Health Care for Undocumented Migrants in Europe*.

PICUM member and Secretary of the Johannes Wier Foundation Jan Vosters attended the **EU Fundamental Rights Agency’s meeting** on Multiple and Intersectional discrimination on grounds of gender, age and ethnic origin in the area of health care in the EU member states, held in October in Vienna, Austria and raised the issue of status-based discrimination affecting undocumented migrants in relation to health care access in the European Union.

PICUM Programme Officer Eve Geddie gave a presentation on the role of civil society organisations in guaranteeing undocumented migrants’ right to health care in Europe at the **COST Meeting** - The role of NGOs and CSOs in health care for migrants and ethnic minorities, held in September in Lisbon, Portugal. In January, Michele LeVoy was invited to contribute to the first meeting of the partners of the **Médecins du Monde “Averroès” European project**, which aims to improve access to health care for undocumented migrants in Europe.

In Belgium, at a conference organised in June by **Siréas and Médecins du Monde** - L’accès aux soins de santé des sans-papiers : un droit respecté et appliqué en Belgique ? (Access to health care for undocumented migrants: a right which is respected and applied in Belgium?), PICUM member Veerle Evenepoel of Medimmigrant made a presentation on the entitlements and obstacles faced by undocumented migrants in gaining access to the mainstream health care system

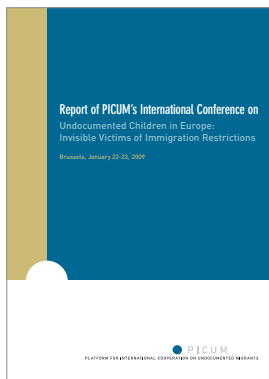
In September, in Seoul, Korea, PICUM member Irene Kohlmann made a presentation on access to health care for undocumented migrants in Europe at the conference “Migrants’ Right to Health in the Eyes of Human Rights. Migrant’s Health and Civil Society Responses: Developing Strategies in Human Rights Perspectives,” organized by the **Migrant Health Association**.

Undocumented Children

In many countries in Europe, undocumented migrants are excluded from basic social services that help to meet a decent standard of living in the areas of health care, housing, and education. This is especially the case for children, who are in a position of triple vulnerability as children, migrants and undocumented.

From 2007-2009, PICUM led a project entitled "Fighting Discrimination-Based Violence Against Undocumented Children," co-funded by the Daphne II Program, DG Justice, Freedom and Security of the European Commission. This project examined undocumented children's access to health care, housing and education in nine EU member states and developed a network of local actors who work directly with undocumented children and their families. This project came to an end in February 2009 and was marked by an international conference and release of a major publication on undocumented children.

International Conference



To mark the end of its two-year project on undocumented children in Europe, PICUM held an international conference on 22-23 January 2009, in Brussels, Belgium. The conference was meant to raise awareness and discuss the situation of undocumented children in Europe and was attended by more than 150 participants from throughout Europe as well



as neighbouring countries (more than 20 countries were represented).

The conference investigated the specific situation of undocumented children in Europe and how control policies directed against irregular migration affect them. The needs and problems that undocumented children face in Europe when trying to access their basic social rights were also discussed. The conference enabled participants to share experiences and good practices regarding the provision of protection to undocumented children.

A final report of the conference was disseminated widely and is available on the website.

Publications

In January 2009, PICUM published the final report of its two-year project. The report, entitled *Undocumented Children in Europe: Invisible Victims of Immigration Restrictions*, aims to investigate the particular vulnerability that characterizes the reality of undocumented children and analyze their specific needs and problems encountered in nine EU countries. The report is specifically focused on the



discrimination that these children might face in accessing their basic social rights in the areas of education, health care and housing. Good practices of civil society organizations in providing assistance to undocumented children are illustrated. The report also underlines the profound interdependence of all social rights and how denying access to one of these rights affects all the others.

In order to ensure wide dissemination, especially amongst grassroots organizations throughout Europe, the report is available on the PICUM website in pdf version in three languages (English, French and Spanish).

External Representation

In June 2009, PICUM Director Michele LeVoy contributed to a side event to the **UN Human Rights Council** on “Migrant Children: Unprotected and Neglected in Migration Policies?” organised by Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA), Migrants Rights International (MRI), National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR) and PICUM. Michele LeVoy presented PICUM’s research on undocumented children on a panel which included UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, Jorge Bustamante.



At a roundtable discussion entitled “Protéger les plus vulnérables : les mineurs sans-papiers”, (Protect the most vulnerable: undocumented children), organised by the **Colégio de España (College of Spain)** in May 2009, in Paris, France, PICUM Project Officer Martina Fava presented PICUM’s research and findings on undocumented children in Europe.

PICUM Acting Director Ms Eve Geddie delivered a presentation on PICUM’s project on children at a meeting entitled “Expertise on undocumented populations in the five selected cities: how is it possible to document the “undocumented?” This was the first meeting of the **“Migrations, Identities, Citizenship”** project of the Institut Français des Relations Internationales (Ifri) and was held in November in Paris, France.

PICUM Project Officer Eve Geddie contributed an article on undocumented children entitled “Access to Education for Undocumented Migrants in Europe: Protection Needs Vs. Immigration Control” to the **European Youth Forum’s** publication *Youth Opinion: Youth Working on Migration* to highlight the conflict between the protection needs of undocumented children and existing immigration control mechanisms.

"Clandestino" Project



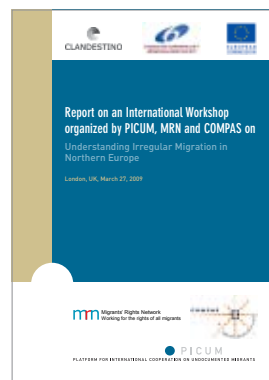
"Clandestino: Undocumented Migration: Counting the Uncountable – Data and Trends across Europe», was a 2-year project

funded by the Sixth Framework Program of DG Research, European Commission, which responded to the need for more reliable and systematic data on undocumented migration in the European Union. PICUM was one of six partners in a research consortium which was coordinated by the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP).

The project, which ended in November 2009, addressed a number of aspects of the irregular migration phenomenon and the relative lack of scientific knowledge on its various dimensions and consequences. The project addressed these aims in selected EU countries: Greece, Italy, France and Spain in southern Europe; Netherlands, UK, Germany and Austria in Western and Central Europe; Poland, Hungary, Slovakia in Central Eastern Europe as well as transit migration in countries and regions used as key 'stepping stones' by undocumented migrants en route to the EU, notably Turkey, Ukraine and Morocco.

The project contributed towards the creation of a database on undocumented migration that could become a useful tool for policy makers and non-governmental agencies alike. Equally, the project investigated the different dimensions of irregularity (related to entry, residence and work) and their different combinations (hence, distinguishing between different types of undocumented migration). It also investigated the connection between asylum seeking and undocumented migration data and estimates.

International Workshop in London



On 27 March 2009, PICUM, Migrants Rights Network and the Centre for the Study of Migration Policy and Society, Oxford held an international workshop entitled "Understanding Irregular Migration in Northern Europe" in London, UK. This workshop, held within the framework of the "Clandestino" project, brought together nearly 150 participants including representatives of

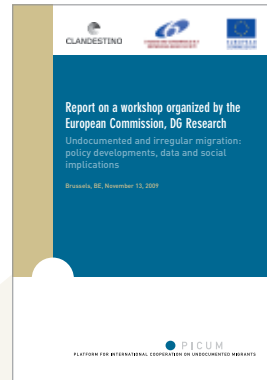
NGOs and trade unions, researchers, local authorities, policy makers, journalists, and other professionals to discuss policies and responses to irregular migration in the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, Germany and Austria.





PICUM produced a conference report which contains an overview of the contributions of the speakers as well as the main themes of discussion in the plenary and workshop sessions.

Final Closed-Door Workshop at the European Commission



PICUM's concerns regarding undocumented migrants were taken up by several EU officials during the final closed-door workshop of the Clandestino project, held on 13 November 2009 in Brussels. Held by the DG Research of the European Commission, the workshop aimed to disseminate the main results of the Clandestino research project on irregular migration to the policy

community in Brussels. The workshop brought together the Clandestino experts with various members of the DGs of the European Commission (namely, DG JLS, DG Employment, DG RELEX, DG AIDCO, DG RTD, BEPA), and members of the EU Council, the European Socio-Economic Council, FRONTEX, EUROPOL and the Fundamental Rights Agency.

The "Clandestino" project found out that the aggregate country estimate for the EU indicates a much lower level of irregular residence than previously assumed for a maximum of 3.8 million instead of 8 million undocumented immigrants. Furthermore, estimates show a clear decline in the stock of irregular resident populations from 2002 to 2008 in the EU15, which declines from 3.1 to 5.3 million irregular foreign residents to 1.8 to 3.3 million.

PICUM produced a report of the closed-door workshop which is available in pdf format on PICUM's website.

Gender Strategy

In response to increased calls for support and information from organisations working with undocumented migrant women throughout Europe, PICUM has developed a three-year gender strategy which was made possible with the support of the Sigrid Rausing Trust, Mama Cash and the Daphne III Program of DG Justice, Freedom and Security of the European Commission.

The violations of undocumented women's fundamental rights and the lack of protections afforded to them are significant challenges facing the international and regional human rights regimes today. Migrant women face many barriers to empowerment. Existing migration control regimes can often increase their chance of becoming irregular and once in this status, the systems of support, protection and means of redress are all withdrawn from them. Because of their unprotected status, undocumented women are seen as 'zero risk victims' and thus disproportionately exposed to systematic violence, abuse and discrimination.

Consolidating its expertise on promoting social inclusion, tackling labour exploitation and facilitating paths to social justice for those in an irregular status, PICUM is working closely with migrants' and women's groups throughout this strategy to develop a comprehensive approach to effectuate real social change for undocumented women.

In 2009, PICUM incorporated a gender aspect into its key outputs and built support for its strategy with key actors in the gender, migration and irregular migration fields. PICUM staff took part in several international and regional forums on gender and migration, added a women's section to PICUM's monthly newsletter, developed a concept paper in cooperation with its members and monitored reports and complaints procedures relevant to undocumented women's human rights.

Gender Strategy Meeting

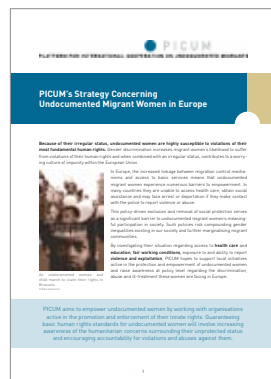
In the framework of this strategy, PICUM held a Gender Strategy Meeting on 10-11 December 2009, in Brussels. At this two-day meeting, participants discussed how to integrate a gender perspective into PICUM's four thematic areas of labour, healthcare, education and housing. PICUM members and invited experts gave thematic presentations to develop a better sense of the realities facing undocumented migrant women at national level and actions being taken to address these issues. Participants provided suggestions regarding PICUM's ongoing work on undocumented migrant women including advocacy aims and objectives and research methodology, suggesting reports and activities which would benefit the PICUM network in their work on the issue.



"This meeting really helped me to carry on with all the tasks that I have in front of me regarding undocumented migrants. I hope to continue working together despite all the difficulties we have everyday."

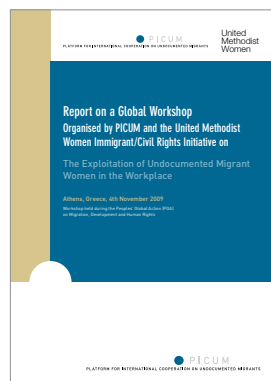
PARTICIPANT IN THE GENDER STRATEGY MEETING

Leaflet Outlining PICUM's Strategy



PICUM has produced a short, multi-lingual leaflet which summarizes the main issues it is addressing in its gender strategy. This document, translated in nine languages (English, French, Spanish, Dutch, German, Portuguese, Italian, Russian and Arabic) has enabled a more concise and easily accessible dissemination of PICUM's messages regarding the gender-based vulnerabilities facing undocumented women in Europe.

Workshop on Exploitation of Undocumented Women in the Workplace



The People's Global Action (PGA) is an alternative movement by migrants, trade unions, development advocates and others to pressure governments and international bodies to respect migrants' rights. Following the successes of its events in Brussels 2007 and Manila 2008, the 2009 PGA took place on 2-5 November 2009 in Athens, Greece to accompany the 3rd Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD).



During the GFMD, PICUM staff and board participated in different workshops to raise specific issues concerning undocumented migrants in Europe. PICUM co-organized a workshop with the United Methodist Women (UMW) Immigrant/Civil Rights Initiative entitled "The Exploitation of Undocumented Women in the Workplace". This workshop explored why the gendered nature of the employment systems in countries of destination resulted in migrant women being frequently relegated to "women's work", placing them in precarious situations during which they were more vulnerable to abuse.

PICUM released a report of the workshop in English, French and Spanish which is available in pdf format and which provides an overview of the contributions of the speakers from various parts of the world.

External Representation



PICUM Programme Officer Eve Geddie participated in a panel discussion in February along with other NGOs and a representative from the Filipino consulate in Brussels following the viewing of the film 'Ina...Anak Pamilya', which raised the effects of family separation caused by the emigration of Filipino parents to find work abroad. PICUM discussed the vulnerable situation of undocumented women in Europe and highlighted its gender strategy which would seek to address the specific situation of undocumented women.

PICUM Director Michele LeVoy attended the first meeting of the Steering Committee of the **ANDES project** on September 2009, in Brussels, Belgium. JRS Europe has set up this committee to provide support for the final conference of its project on destitution of migrants. Michele LeVoy gave input on the need to address the additional discrimination facing undocumented migrant women on grounds of their gender.

PICUM Project Officer Eve Geddie contributed an article highlighting the situation of undocumented migrant women in ENARgy, the quarterly thematic newsletter of the **European Network Against Racism (ENAR)**, whose November 2009 edition addressed the forthcoming 2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion. PICUM's article illustrated the conflict between the EU's Open Method of Coordination and the migration control

policies of many member states and the disproportionate impact that social exclusion has upon undocumented women and girls. This newsletter was disseminated in English and French versions by ENAR in both hard copy and online format.

An article by PICUM Project Officer Eve Geddie was included in the 2009 edition of the **International Planned Parenthood Federation's (IPPF)** annual thematic publication *Choices*. The article, entitled "Undocumented Migrant Women: Gender-based violence in Europe's fight against irregular migration" discussed the heightened gender-based vulnerabilities facing undocumented migrant women residing in Europe and the barriers they face to report abuse to the authorities without fear of repercussions. PICUM's inclusion in this important edition on gender-based violence highlights the success of the network in mainstreaming undocumented women's concerns in debates on gender-based violence, female genital mutilation and forced marriage.

At a Roundtable Discussion on Migrant Women, organised by **GERME (Groupe d'Etudes sur l'Ethnicité, le Racisme, les Migrations et l'Exclusion)** in May, at the Free University of Brussels (ULB), PICUM project officer Martina Fava discussed some of the preliminary findings of PICUM's three-year strategy on protecting undocumented women. As part of a research consortium on migration and integration of migrant women in Belgium, GERME will carry out research on Latin American women in Belgium.

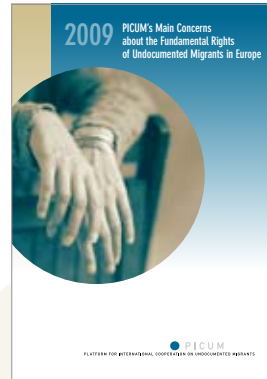
Advocacy and Awareness Raising

PICUM promoted respect for innate dignity and rights in the development and implementation of legislation and policies relating to undocumented migrants throughout Europe in 2009. PICUM highlighted its message regarding the human rights of undocumented migrants during the year by issuing policy papers and reports, participating in advocacy events, cooperating with leading organisations and providing expert input on undocumented migrants at key events. PICUM's advocacy strategy was focused on EU and international level and targeted those political systems which were failing to respond to the realities of irregularity but instead sought to criminalise those with the least resources and access to basic protections.

PICUM strives to inform policy makers, civil society organisations and the general public about the situation facing undocumented migrants. PICUM's awareness raising strategy fights an atmosphere in Europe of increasing public hostility and entrenched impunity for systematic violations of undocumented migrants' fundamental rights.

In 2009, PICUM raised awareness about undocumented migrants' human rights at 51 events in 13 countries worldwide, averaging more than 4 external speaking engagements per month.

Annual Report on Undocumented Migrants' Fundamental Rights



PICUM's publications serve as important information resources both to its network and to external professionals (as lawyers, academics and doctors), public organizations and private companies.

In 2009, in addition to releasing thematic reports on undocumented children and residence permits for medical reasons, PICUM issued

the report entitled *PICUM's Main Concerns about the Fundamental Rights of undocumented Migrants in Europe*. This publication, drawing on items and issues that were featured in PICUM's monthly newsletters in 2008, pieces together a year of European, national and local news issues on irregular migration to foster a better understanding of the main concerns of human rights of undocumented migrants. This report also highlights the multifaceted ways in which civil society throughout Europe is responding to this situation of social exclusion.

United Nations

In 2009, PICUM entered its third year of more substantial global activities, with particular emphasis on external representation at events organized by or within United Nations institutions.

PICUM Director Michele LeVoy was the only civil society representative on a distinguished panel which included the chair of the UN's Committee on Migrant Workers, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, and the head of the ILO's Migration Program at the **Durban**

Review Conference, OHCHR Side Event on “Discrimination, migration and economic, social and cultural rights”. This side event was held in April, in Geneva, Switzerland and organised by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Michele LeVoy also made a presentation in the panel entitled “Fighting Discrimination and Promoting Integration: Human Rights Challenges for Migrants and Societies” at the **International Dialogue on Migration, Inter-sessional Workshop** on “Effective Respect for the Human Rights of Migrants: A Shared Responsibility”, organised by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in March in Geneva, Switzerland.

In June, PICUM Board Member Edel McGinley gave a two-hour training session entitled “Best practices and policies to address irregular employment of foreigners in the EU” at the training meeting “**Capacity Building, Information and Awareness Raising towards Promoting Orderly Migration in the Western Balkans**”, organised by the International Labor Organization (ILO), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the European Commission. This training session, held in Skopje, Macedonia, was addressed to a group of approximately 30 policy makers, social partners and practitioners included in the implementation of the Macedonian National Labour Migration Policy.

PICUM Member Frances Webber of the Institute of Race Relations represented PICUM and contributed to a joint statement of NGOs concerning detention at the **United Nations Human Rights Council Session on Detention** in September, in Geneva.

European Institutions

While PICUM continues to extend its reach within both civil society and political forums on the global stage, the organization also continues to maintain a tight focus in conducting advocacy and awareness-raising towards European institutions.

European Economic and Social Committee

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), the Centre for European Policy Studies and PICUM co-organized a closed-door seminar entitled “**Undocumented Migrants and Human Rights: Whose Freedom, Security and Justice under the Stockholm Program?**” on 22 October, in Brussels. PICUM Board Member George Joseph was one of the discussants in this seminar which aimed at structuring a pluralistic dialogue on the status and the rights of undocumented migrants in the EU. PICUM director Michele LeVoy also made a contribution on undocumented migrants’ human rights at a hearing organized by the EESC in June in Brussels on fundamental rights and immigration.

Council of Europe

Within the framework of the Council of Europe, PICUM Board Member George Joseph contributed PICUM’s views to the Expert Workshop entitled “Human Rights Responses to Criminalisation of Migration in Europe,” which was called by the **Office of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights**, Thomas Hammarberg and held in September in Paris, France.

European Commission

Throughout the year, PICUM Director Michele LeVoy attended events organized by DG Employment and Social Affairs on poverty and social inclusion. She participated in the **First Meeting of the EU Stakeholders Expert Group on the 2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion**, held in March and the conference “How to measure extreme poverty in the EU”, held in September.

PICUM is a member of the **European-Anti Poverty Network (EAPN)** and raised various issues concerning the social exclusion of undocumented migrants from anti-poverty strategies throughout the EU at several events organized by the network. PICUM director Michele LeVoy was invited by EAPN to contribute to the **Meeting of its Mainstreaming Group on Discrimination**, held in Brussels in March. She also attended the **8th European Meeting of People Experiencing Poverty**, organized by the Czech Presidency and EAPN and held in Brussels in May.

PICUM is a member of the **EU Integration Forum**, a civil society gathering of more than 200 national and EU level networks working on integration. At the regular meetings of this forum, PICUM raises issues relating to the integration of undocumented migrants – whose irregular status officially excludes them from the official EU integration strategy.

PICUM director Michele LeVoy attended the **First Meeting of the European Integration Forum**, organized by DG Justice Freedom and Security and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and held in April and PICUM Acting Director Eve Geddie represented PICUM at the **Second Meeting of the European Integration Forum** held in November in Brussels.

European Parliament

In December, at the **European Parliamentary Launch of European Social Watch Report 2010** in Brussels, PICUM's Acting Director Eve Geddie presented her contribution to the 2010 Social Watch report which addressed violations of undocumented migrants' rights to education and housing in the EU at an event attended by MEPs, European networks and civil society organisations.

In 2009, PICUM director Michele LeVoy had several meetings with the **European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN)** and **European Women's Lobby (EWL)** to discuss plans

for a joint advocacy initiative in the European Parliament, to be scheduled during the 2010 European Year Against Poverty. PICUM would like more visibility of the poverty and marginalization facing vulnerable migrants during the European Year, and is keen to engage with MEPs on this issue.

Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)

In 2009, PICUM strengthened its relations with the **European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)**. PICUM was pleased to acknowledge that its main concerns on the fundamental rights and access to basic social services for undocumented migrants were included in the first paragraph of the section on irregular migration in the FRA 2009 work programme.

PICUM Director Michele LeVoy participated in several events held by the FRA in 2009, including the **Second Meeting of the Fundamental Rights Platform** and the **Expert Meeting to Discuss the Upcoming FRA Research on the Situation of Irregular Immigrants in the EU**, both held in May, in Vienna, Austria. These meetings enabled Ms LeVoy to provide extensive guidance on the realities facing those working to protect undocumented migrants' rights and to also encourage the FRA to build on the work which has already been done by PICUM and other civil society actors in this field.

PICUM Project Officer Kadri Soova participated in the **FRA Fundamental Rights Conference** entitled "Guaranteeing basic rights to everyone" which was held in Stockholm in December. PICUM member Fr. Paul Pace, former Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service Malta, made a presentation on access to health care for undocumented migrants at one of the workshop sessions, entitled "Access to basic rights for everyone – How to ensure access to health or education to persons with precarious legal status, such as irregular migrants?"

At the **EU Fundamental Rights Agency's expert meeting** on "Multiple and Intersectional discrimination on grounds of gender, age and ethnic origin in the area of health care in the EU member states", held in October in Vienna, PICUM Member and Secretary of the Johannes Wier Foundation Jan Vosters raised the issue of status-based discrimination affecting undocumented migrants in relation to access to health care in the European Union.

Networking

In 2009, PICUM strengthened its relations with key stakeholders including organisations, experts, professionals and migrants themselves who have benefited from the opportunities provided by PICUM for interaction, exchange and discussion at the EU and international levels.

For a couple of months at the end of 2009 and beginning of 2010, PICUM provided assistance to a team of Canadian lawyers on a case before the Federal Court of Canada that challenged a decision of the Canadian Minister of Immigration regarding the exclusion of undocumented migrants from Canada's Interim Federal Health Benefits program. This state program gives free access to health care services to refugees and a few other specific groups of migrants but excludes undocumented migrants. PICUM provided support in the case and gave expert evidence on European health care systems and undocumented migrants' access to health care services in various European jurisdictions.

Throughout the year, PICUM participated in a variety of networking events at European and local level. PICUM Director Michele LeVoy took active part in both the **European Program on Integration and Migration (EPIM) Workshops**, the first one on Advocacy on Immigration and Integration Issues in June, in London and the second one on Partnership, Networking and Collaboration at the European Level in September, in Brussels, where she chaired a session on "Partnership building across different backgrounds".

To promote awareness about undocumented migrants' fundamental rights on the national and local levels, PICUM board and staff contributed to several conferences and seminars.

PICUM Director Michele LeVoy made a presentation at the workshop "**Buiten de lijntjes? Mensen zonder wettig verblijf in het algemeen welzijnswerk**" ("**Outside the lines? Undocumented migrants within social work**") which brought together social workers and local authorities from Brussels and Flanders in May, in Brussels.

PICUM board member Reyes Castillo contributed to the roundtable on "Social participation, human rights and immigration" with an analysis of social movements and PICUM's experience in defending undocumented migrants' rights at the **Second Symposium on Migration, Diversity and Human Rights (II Jornadas sobre Migraciones, Diversidad y Derechos Humanos)**. This roundtable, organised by the CeiMigra Foundation School of Intercultural Citizenship (Escuela de Ciudadanía Intercultural de la Fundación CeiMigra), was held in May in Valencia, Spain.

PICUM Member and representative of Rosengrentsa Anne Sogren made a presentation entitled "Best practices in voluntary work for and with migrants on European level" at the meeting organized by the **Hellenic Red Cross on good practices in migrants' empowerment**, held in December in Athens, Greece.

PICUM also networked with key actors on the international level. PICUM Director Michele LeVoy was one of five external experts invited by **The Open Society Institute** to provide input to the discussions amongst its network members about their current level of engagement in the area of migration and identification of areas for further involvement at their strategy meeting held in New York in July 2009.

As a network of grassroots organisations working directly with undocumented migrants, PICUM holds a unique position which enables it to document evidence about their vulnerable position for dissemination and advocacy purposes.

In 2009, PICUM continued to improve its internal and external communications in order to ensure visibility of the network and promote its policy positions on EU developments in the field of irregular migration. At the European level, PICUM is becoming a contact point on this issue for various media and other stakeholders, answering an increasing number of queries every year.

Newsletter

In July 2009, PICUM hired a full-time Communications Assistant to improve its communication capacities. Part of this new staff member's tasks were to improve the layout and content of PICUM's newsletter and website.

PICUM's newsletter is currently the only information source dedicated to reporting exclusively on the situation of undocumented migrants in Europe. The monthly bulletin reports on violations perpetrated against undocumented migrants, particularly in the realm of social rights such as housing, education, health care and fair working conditions and also charts the deaths and ill-treatment of migrants occurring at the borders.

"What other organisation consistently gathers information on the plight of the undocumented across Europe? The PICUM newsletter is a rare and valuable resource. No human rights campaigner, or indeed researcher on European migration policy, can do without it."

LIZ FEKETE, INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS

Received by over 5,100 subscribers monthly, it is a valuable support to those working to protect undocumented migrants by offering comprehensive overviews of developments within the EU institutions and promoting networking among PICUM members, researchers and other civil society networks by announcing forthcoming events, reporting on new initiatives and opportunities for discussion and cooperation. PICUM receives almost 20 new subscriptions to its newsletter per month.

Thanks to a dedicated team of interns and volunteers, PICUM's newsletter is available in seven languages: English, French, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese, German and Italian.

In 2009, subscriptions to PICUM's monthly newsletter increased by 30%, bringing the total number of known recipients to 5,100. Many organizations forward the newsletter within their own networks, and it is estimated that the number of potential readers is much higher.

Promoting Broad Participation through Multilingualism

Language is a key element in reaching a wider audience and to increase access among NGOs, local authorities, medical and educational professionals and others who often lack information about the entitlements of undocumented migrants. PICUM's newsletter and website are translated into seven languages in order to effectively reach out to grassroots organizations throughout Europe.

PICUM's workshops in 2009 were completely trilingual events (English, French and Spanish) enabling the participation from an increased number of migrant themselves and an increased number of participants in general. Most of PICUM's publications are also translated in three languages.

Media Coverage

PICUM staff participated in different media-related activities in 2009, marking an increase in media activities for the organization as compared to previous years.

Director Michele LeVoy was asked to speak about undocumented migrants within the Stockholm Programme on Europarl TV on 14 July 2009 and Board Member Frank Duvell was interviewed by the Belgian magazine "Le Vif/L'Express" to provide insight on the situation of undocumented migrants in Europe, based on the recent findings of the "Clandestino" project. In addition, PICUM was quoted in several newspapers, magazines and informational websites including Der Spiegel, L'Espresso and Inter Press Service News Agency.

Communications Coordinator Nicola Flamigni gave a presentation at the European Journalism Centre in November to journalism students on EU migration policy, existing media coverage of the issue and the under-reported realities facing undocumented migrants in the field.

PICUM Volunteers Lunch Meeting



A number of years ago, PICUM held an annual brunch for its volunteer translators in December as a sign of appreciation for their volunteer efforts throughout the year. While this practice had not been continued in recent years, PICUM returned to this tradition by holding a get-together meeting with its volunteers on 12 December 2009 in Brussels.

Since PICUM relies heavily on volunteers to compile, translate and proofread its monthly newsletter, the meeting was an occasion to convey our immense gratitude for their support, to get to know each other and to receive some feedback about volunteers' experience working with PICUM. The meeting was also meant to open a discussion on the newsletter workflow, translation process and related issues. Revision of draft glossaries and guidelines on ethical reporting on undocumented migrants were also debated.

Governing Bodies

General Assembly

The general assembly consists of all ordinary and affiliated members. Each of the ordinary members is entitled to one vote and can be represented by a third party on the basis of a power of attorney. Decisions are taken by majority vote. The general assembly convenes at least once a year, usually in the first quarter.

Executive Committee (Board)

The Executive Committee provides advice and oversight in the implementation of the strategic plan. It carries responsibility for legal and financial duties as specified in the Statutes and Rules and Regulations. The Board also ensures that the general work of the organization is in line with the mission of the PICUM.

The board is composed of the following members:

Don Flynn (Chair)	Migrants Rights Network (MRN), UK
Didier Vanderslycke	Organization for Undocumented Workers (OR.C.A.), Belgium
Reyes Castillo	ACCEM, Spain
Franck Düvell	Medinetz, Germany
George Joseph	Caritas Sweden, Sweden
Pede Saya	Intercultural Management Consultant, the Netherlands
Nina Henkens	Kinderen Zonder Papieren, Belgium
Edel McGinley	Migrant Rights Centre Ireland (MRCI), Ireland
Fanny Detloff	Beauftragte für Menschenrechte, Migration und Flucht der Nordelbischen Ev.-Luth.Kirche

Management Committee

The Management Committee (MC) is a subgroup of the Executive Committee and was established to provide the secretariat with additional assistance with the day to day management of PICUM. The MC addresses strategic matters, liquidity, funding, staff issues and general housekeeping issues.

Staff

Michele LeVoy (Director)

Eve Geddie (Programme Officer – Gender Strategy)

Kadri Soova (Project Officer - NowHereLand – Improving Services for Undocumented Migrants in the EU)

Devin Cahill (Project Officer – FRIM – Fundamental Rights of Irregular Migrants)

Paul McDonough (Advocacy Officer)

Paul Geeraerts (Office and Financial Administrator)

Nicola Flamigni (Communications Coordinator)

Membership

PICUM represents a network of members throughout Europe and at international level. Membership of PICUM is divided into two categories:

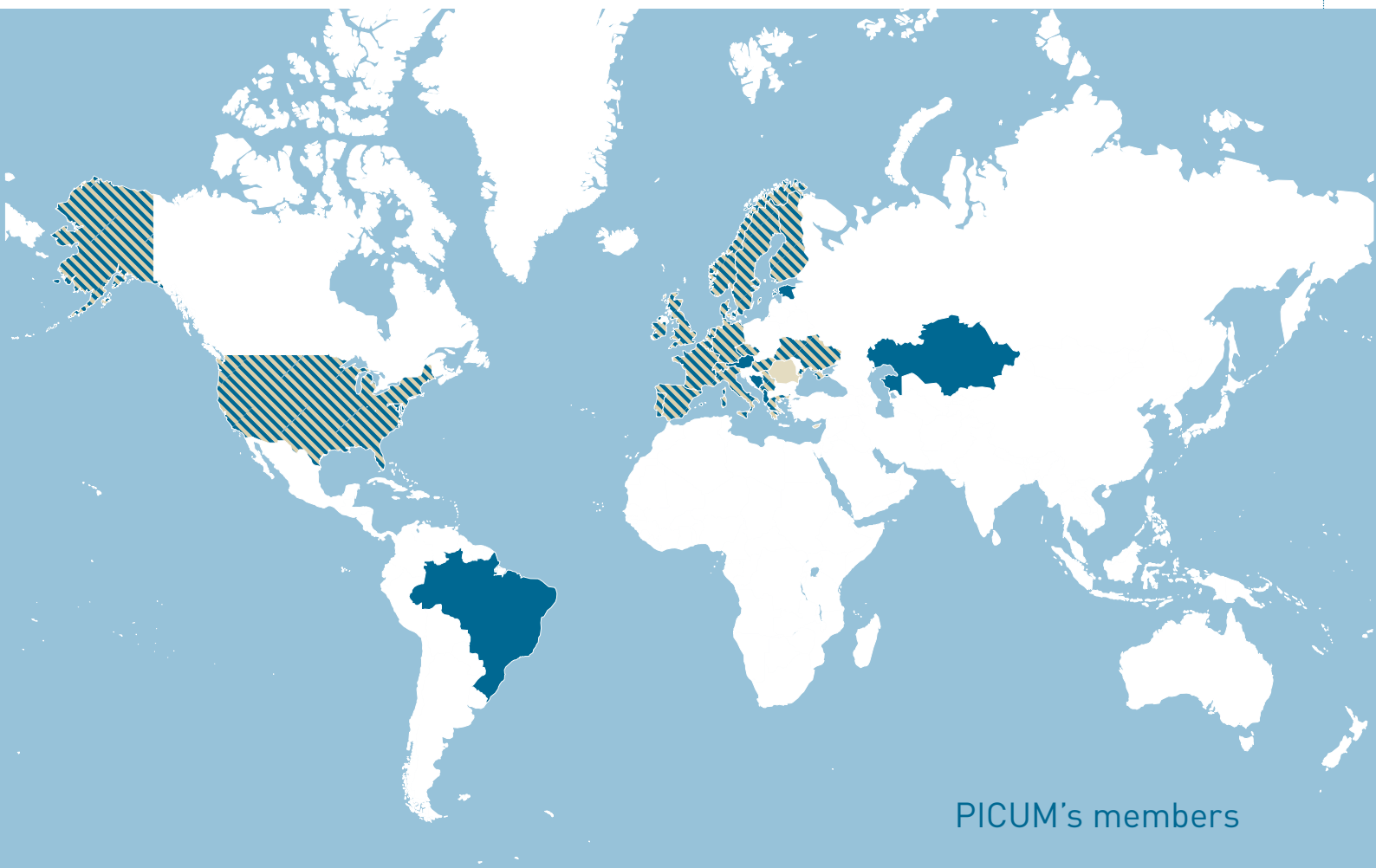
- Affiliated members are organizations whose activities fully or partly relate to the situation of undocumented migrants in Europe. They acknowledge the PICUM membership structure outlined in the PICUM statutes and bylaws (available from the Secretariat or website).
- Ordinary members are individuals who are usually involved in humanitarian activities concerning undocumented migrants and/or are active in NGOs. PICUM welcomes individuals who support and are willing to contribute to the aims of PICUM.

PICUM members actively contribute to the organization's work in different ways. In addition to participating in the management and long term planning of PICUM, they also play a valuable role in its events, research projects and daily operation. PICUM members benefit greatly from being part of an international network working for the rights of undocumented migrants




In 2009, PICUM's membership included 114 affiliated organisations and 126 individual members in 29 countries.

Draft policy statements and position papers prepared by the secretariat are regularly sent to our members enabling them to make comments and suggestions. Drawing on the knowledge and experience of its growing membership has strengthened PICUM's voice and created a high level platform from which to promote the basic social rights of undocumented migrants in Europe.

Membership fees ensure that PICUM has funds for year-round campaigning, and allows it to continue providing a high standard of expertise, information and support free of charge to those in need.



PICUM's members

-  Affiliated Members
-  Ordinary Members
-  Affiliated & Ordinary Members

PICUM Affiliated Members

Albania

- Qendra Avokatise Luli

Austria

- AFRA – International Centre for Black Women's Perspective
- Diakonie - Evangelischer Flüchtlingsdienst Österreich

Belgium

- Bond Zonder Naam
- Beweging voor kinderen zonder papieren
- CAW Artevelde Transithuis
- De Loodsen V.Z.W.
- De Meeting V.Z.W.
- De 8 (Antwerps Minderhedencentrum)
- Filipino Chaplaincy
- Foyer
- Kerkwerk Multicultureel Samenleven
- Haven (De Acht)
- Kerkwerk Multicultureel Samenleven
- Le Monde des Possibles ASBL
- Medimmigrant
- O.R.C.A. - Organisatie voor Clandestiene Arbeidsmigranten
- Oriëntatiepunt Gezondheidszorg Oost-Vlaanderen
- Point d'Appui
- Protestant Sociaal Centrum
- Samahan - Filipino Migrant Workers Union in Belgium
- Verenigde Protestantse Kerk in België
- Vluchtelingen Onthaalgroep Sint Niklaas
- VMC - Vlaams Minderheden Centrum

Bosnia & Herzegovina

- La Strada B&H Mostar

Brazil

- Sodireitos - Sociedade de Direitos Sexuais Amazônia

Czech Republic

- La Strada Czech Republic
- People in Need
- Poradna pro uprchiky o.s.

Denmark

- Babaylan Denmark - Philippine Women's Network

Estonia

- Legal Information Centre for Human Rights

Finland

- Unit for Diaconia and Society/Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland

France

- Enfants du Monde
- GISTI – Groupe d'information et de soutien des immigrés

Germany

- AGISRA, Köln
- BAG Asyl in der Kirche
- Europäisches Bürgerforum Flüchtlingsrat im Kreis Viersen e.V.
- Flüchtlingsrat Kreis Coesfeld
- Flüchtlingsrat im Kreis Viersen e.V., Germany
- Flüchtlingsrat Nordrhein Westfalen
- Förderverein Niedersächsischer Flüchtlingsrat e.V.
- IG Metall-Vorstand
- Medinetz Bremen
- Ökumenische Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft (BAG)
- Pax Christi Deutschland
- PRO ASYL

Greece

- I-RED (Institute for Rights, Equality and Diversity)

Hungary

- International Law Research and Human Rights Monitoring Organisation

Ireland

- Crosscare Migrant Project
- Immigrant Council of Ireland
- MRCI - Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
- SEEDS
- SIPTU - Services Industrial Professional and Technical Union

Italy

- Associazione centro Astalli
- Casa dei diritti sociali
- FCEI - Federazione delle chiese evangeliche in Italia, servizio rifugiate migranti
- NAGA – Associazione volontaria di assistenza socio-sanitaria e per i diritti di stranieri e nomadi

Kazakhstan

- Sana Sezim – The legal center for Women's Initiative

Luxembourg

- ASTI - Association de soutien aux travailleurs immigrés ASBL

Malta

- Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

Netherlands

- ASKV - Amsterdams Solidariteits Komitee Vluchtelingen
- BlinN
- Commissie Justitia et Pax Nederland
- Dokters van de Wereld
- EMFA - Ecumenical Ministry for Filipinos Abroad
- Netwerk Religieuzen voor Vluchtelingen
- OKIA
- PHAROS
- Respect NL
- Stichting INLIA
- Stichting LOS
- Stichting Mamre
- Stichting Ros
- Stichting Searchweb
- STIL – Solidariteitsorganisatie voor mensen zonder verblijfsvergunning
- Trusted Migrants
- UNITED for Intercultural Action
- United Migrant Domestic Workers in the Netherlands

Norway

- Antirasistisk Senter

Portugal

- Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

Serbia

- Felicitas

Spain

- ACCEM, Department of European Affairs
- AEAH - Asociación Emprendedora de Acciones u Ayudas Humanitarias
- APDHA - Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos de Andalucía
- Caritas Diocesana de Barcelona
- Centro Pueblos Unidos
- Federación Andalucía Acoge
- Interculturalia intercultural studies and research
- Movimiento por la Paz, el Desarme y la Libertad en Canarias
- Salud y Familia

Sweden

- Caritas Sweden
- Rosengrenska
- The English International Association of Lund

Switzerland

- Collectif de soutien aux sans-papiers de Genève
- Dreifaltigkeit Bern
- FIZ - Fraueninformationszentrum for Frauen aus Afrika, Asien, Lateinamerika und Osteuropa
- Sans-Papiers Anlaufstelle Zürich
- Solidaritätsnetz Region Bern für Menschen ohne geregelten Aufenthalt
- Syndicat interprofessionnel des travailleurs et travailleuses (SIT)

Ukraine

- Lviv Regional Branch of the European Youth Rep

United Kingdom

- Centre for Migration Policy Research
- God's Time Ministries Trust
- HACT – The Housing Association Charitable Trust
- Human Too
- Immigration Advisory Service
- Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants
- MRN - Migrants Rights Network
- North West Migrant Workers' Institute

United States

- NELP - National Employment Law Project

International Organizations

- Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME)
- December 18
- International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)
- Jesuit Refugee Service Europe
- La Strada International
- Pax Christi International
- Quaker Council for European Affairs

PICUM Ordinary Members

Belgium

- Joris Baeyens
- Carmelita Barnes, Executive Committee Member
- Mark Barwick - Pax Christi International
- Yves Bocklandt - Bond Zonder Naam
- Myriam Defeyter - December 18
- Apolo de Guzman - Filipino Chaplaincy
- Jos Deraedt - Vice Chair and Executive Committee Member
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- Verle Evenepoel- Medimmigrant
- Wilfried Gepts - Pax Christi International
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- Anna Van Der Borgh - De8-Antwerps Minderhedencentrum
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- Didier Vanderslycke -O.R.C.A. & PICUM Executive Committee Member
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Luxembourg

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Serbia

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- Caroline Meijers - European Civic Forum
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Ukraine

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United Kingdom

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United States

- Rebecca Smith - National Employment Law Project (NELP) - Immigrant Worker Justice Project

Interns

Interns play a key role in helping PICUM to realize its daily work and make enormous contributions to our daily activities and work program.

PICUM would like to thank the following interns for their contributions to the organization in 2009: Marleen Brouwer, Antoine Dubois, Gaby Felix, Leonardo Palumbo and Marianna Restaino.



Translators, Proofreaders and Compilers



PICUM's newsletter and website translation is possible thanks to the dedicated efforts of volunteers throughout Europe (and beyond) who dedicate their time and expertise to compiling articles, translating, and/or proofreading our newsletter and website content.

Over 100 volunteers contribute to PICUM's newsletter on a monthly basis.

PICUM would like to thank the following individuals for their invaluable contributions to our newsletter in 2009:

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PICUM Financial Report

January - December 2009				
INCOME			EXPENDITURE	
EUROPEAN COMMISSION		190,251.89	STAFF	222,585.76
DG Freedom, Justice and Security, Daphne III	88,616.57		ACTIVITIES	107,527.50
DG Research, 6th Framework Program	70,802.63		(Including travel, organization of conferences and meetings, publications)	
DG Sanco	16,020.81			
DG Freedom, Justice and Security, Daphne II	11,947.53		FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATION	40,052.58
DG Research, 7th Framework Program	2,864.35			
PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS		178,951.70		
Sigrid Rausing Trust	65,084.60			
Network of European Foundations - European Program on Integration and Migration (NEF - EPIM II)	48,044.43			
Barrow Cadbury Trust	27,489.34			
Konferentie Nederlandse Religieuzen - PIN	20,000.00			
Mama Cash	18,333.33			
MEMBERSHIP FEES		3,973.66		
UNRESTRICTED CORE		33,725.97		
TOTAL INCOME 2009		406,903.22	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	370,165.84

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- DG Sanco
- Network of European Foundations
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- Projecten in Nederland
- MamaCash
- Gasthuiszusters Augustinessen
- Missionaissen von Steyl.



SIGRID RAUSING TRUST





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on Undocumented Migrants**

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