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 healthcare, 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 127 affiliated members and 164 ordinary members in over 32 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 5,000 civil society organizations, individuals and beyond.
Message from the Director

Reflecting upon the human rights situation of undocumented migrants as reported in PICUM’s monthly newsletter in 2010, a series of highs and lows across Europe are evident. In the midst of the current economic crisis, policy makers both at the EU and national level have undertaken restrictive policies towards undocumented migrants. For instance, due to shortages in government funded urgent accommodation shelters for homeless people, some regional administrations decided to exclude migrants who were in an irregular status. In Italy, when six undocumented migrant workers climbed a building crane to protest against workplace exploitation, local authorities reacted harshly against the demonstrators as well as those who provided assistance to them. An enquiry was even lodged against a doctor who treated one of the migrants and released him without alerting the police.

PICUM’s role as a strong, informed and independent voice to address misguided policies and attempts to criminalize both undocumented migrants and those that assist them remains ever more relevant.

It is the proliferation of discriminatory laws and practices towards people due to their administrative status that push PICUM to pursue awareness raising at all levels. In 2010, our staff, board and members spoke at 65 events in 17 countries worldwide, representing an increase from 2009. PICUM is continually working to stay true to its core mission of promoting respect for the basic social rights of undocumented migrants. Broad external representation and mainstreaming activities remain some of the key ways that the organization strengthens relations with key actors.

Thanks to additional support in 2010, PICUM was able to substantially develop its advocacy work. In collaboration with NGO partners on the European level, we held two major events in December: a hearing in the European Parliament on access to health care for undocumented pregnant women and children, and a multi-stakeholder round table with key actors from the EU institutions on the EU2020 Strategy and undocumented migrants. Both of these events, as well as the various submissions that PICUM made to external consultations by the UN and EU bodies throughout the year, enabled PICUM to articulate key concerns about access to fundamental rights and services to high-level policy makers.

2010 also saw PICUM strengthen the work with its member organizations. In December, for the first time, PICUM offered a free training to members working with undocumented women who experience violence and abuse. When asked what they wanted from this training, many of the frontline organizations mentioned that they were looking for hope. Trainer Rosa Lograr, Executive Director of WAVE (Women Against Violence Europe), stressed that undocumented women’s life is not simply a sum of the discrimination, the restrictive laws and the exploitation they experience. Their whole existence is so much more. This training reminded us that it is important to never underestimate the power of hope, which is undoubtedly the most valuable resource our members give to the undocumented migrants they work with.

This report presents an overview of PICUM’s achievements and activities in 2010. We are pleased that the generous support of our funders, members, partners and volunteers throughout the world enables us to raise awareness on the issues that undocumented migrants are facing. We look forward to the continued collaboration and hope that our collective efforts will bring some much needed solutions.
Access to health care remained as one of the key thematic areas of PICUM’s ongoing work towards the promotion of social inclusion and respect for the fundamental rights of undocumented migrants. In 2010, PICUM increased its focus on the practical barriers that prevent undocumented migrants from accessing health care services and made advances in the political debate concerning health inequalities.

PICUM’s key activities included two major Europe-wide projects, a high-level hearing in the European Parliament on access to health care for undocumented pregnant women and children as well as seeking partnership on access to health care for undocumented pregnant women and children in 17 EU member states. The corresponding 17 country reports convey the wealth of information collected in each country on the main health needs and the strategies used by health care professionals, NGOs and migrants themselves to overcome these legal and practical obstacles. The reports are accessible online and intended to encourage improvement in the level of health protection provided to undocumented migrants across Europe.

Hearing in the European Parliament on access to health care for undocumented pregnant women and children

Through this two year project, PICUM was able to continue its strive towards improving access to health care services by identifying and addressing the practical barriers that prevent undocumented migrants from accessing health care services. The "NowHereLand" project, co-financed by the European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) and the Barrow Cadbury Trust, was concluded in 2010. PICUM was partner in the project with five other organizations from across Europe.

PICUM conducted in-depth interviews with a large number of health care providers and NGOs and collected valuable data on the health care needs and practical obstacles faced by undocumented migrants when accessing care in 17 EU countries. The corresponding 17 country reports convey the wealth of information collected in each country on the main health needs and the strategies used by health care professionals, NGOs and migrants themselves to overcome these legal and practical obstacles. The reports are accessible online and intended to encourage improvement in the level of health protection provided to undocumented migrants across Europe.

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

PICUM made an important advancement in the EU political debate by co-organizing a hearing in December in the European Parliament entitled "Preventing Undocumented Pregnant Women and Children from Accessing Health Care: Fostering Health Inequalities in Europe". This hearing was organized in partnership with Médécins du Monde, the European Women’s Lobby (EWL) and the European Parliament’s own report on health inequalities. In March 2011, the European Parliament adopted a resolution which called on EU member states to tackle health inequalities in access to health care for undocumented migrants. The resolution, titled “Reducing health inequalities in the EU”, is a significant step forward in ensuring equitable access to healthcare for all with no discrimination linked to administrative status.

Following the hearing and on the eve of International Human Rights Day, PICUM and the other co-organizers issued a joint press release calling on European and national decision-makers to take action to protect the rights and health of undocumented migrants by ensuring equitable access to healthcare for all, solidarity and the reduction of health inequalities, and implementing concrete policies with no discrimination linked to administrative status or financial resources.

Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN). PICUM and its partners were successful in involving several of the major political parties of the European Parliament as co-hosts of the hearing.

With an audience of over 250 participants, the hearing brought together experts from EU institutions, medical professionals and civil society to discuss the main barriers faced by undocumented migrants in accessing health care in Europe, with a special focus on undocumented pregnant women and children. A video providing highlights of the event and a written report of the hearing were produced and made available on the PICUM website.

In advance of the hearing, PICUM, along with the other NGO co-organizers of the hearing, submitted policy recommendations as well as amendments to the European Parliament’s own report on health inequalities. In March 2011, the European Parliament adopted a resolution which called on EU member states to tackle health inequalities in access to health care for undocumented migrants. The resolution, titled “Reducing health inequalities in the EU”, is a significant step forward in ensuring equitable access to healthcare for all with no discrimination linked to administrative status.

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Key Representation in 2010

PICUM’s expertise was sought by health care professionals during the Tenth International Congress on Drug Therapy in HIV Infection in Glasgow, UK. PICUM contributed to the Community Session on the Challenges of Treating Migrant Patients organized by the European Aids Treatment Group (EATG) by participating in the panel discussion and presenting information on the access to health care for undocumented migrants in Europe and the specific obstacles in obtaining treatment for chronic illnesses. In addition, PICUM’s discussion paper "Undocumented Migrants with HIV/AIDS in Europe" was included in a book produced by The German AIDS Federation and published in July 2010.
Undocumented Children

PICUM resumed its efforts to advocate for the rights of undocumented children and raise awareness on the specific difficulties faced by undocumented children and their families when accessing basic social rights in Europe. In 2010, PICUM continued to publicise the findings of its 2009 report Undocumented Children in Europe: Invisible Victims of Immigration Restrictions and searched for opportunities to bring these important findings forward to the policy level. In many European countries, undocumented children are still excluded from accessing health care services, housing, and education. Undocumented children continue to be detained and are disproportionately affected by discrimination based violence.

ON THE HORIZON: PROJECT TO BUILD ADVOCACY STRATEGIES ON UNDOCUMENTED CHILDREN STARTING IN 2011

In November 2010, PICUM was informed that its proposal to the Fundamental Rights and Citizenship directorate of the European Commission’s Directorate General for Justice, Freedom and Security’s DAPHNE III programme was successful. The result will be a two-year project building upon the findings of PICUM’s previous project on children. Through a series of intensive national workshops in seven EU member states (Belgium, France, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, UK), participants will build mutual understanding of the problems undocumented children face in exercising their rights to education, health care and housing, and devise concrete solutions to the range of challenges identified. An “Advocacy Tool Kit” detailing good practices designed during the workshops will be made available EU-wide.

PICUM’s expertise on undocumented children was requested for policy consultations by various institutions on international, regional and European level.

PICUM Director Michele LeVoy presented at the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly Committee (PACE) on Migration, Refugees and Population Exchange of Views where she discussed issues facing undocumented migrants in Europe, in particular with regard to their fundamental rights and access to basic social services, and with special focus on the situation of undocumented children.

PICUM represented the interests of undocumented migrants at the School Education Stakeholder Platform Meeting of the European Commission Directorate General for Education and Culture where the European Commission presented for discussion a set of recommendations and a policy framework aimed at combating early school leaving.

As well, PICUM was invited to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Consultation on Migrant Children where PICUM presented the education, health, and housing rights of undocumented children in Europe. The consultation will lead to a study on Human Rights Council resolution 12/6 of 1 October 2009 “Human Rights of Migrants: Migration and the Human Rights of the Child”.

Key Representation in 2010

PICUM also submitted written responses to a number of other policy consultations relating to child rights. PICUM submitted its response to the annual report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education, highlighting the obstacles undocumented children face in various EU countries. PICUM also answered the call for submissions to the OHCHR in April for its study on “Challenges and best practices in the implementation of the international framework for the protection of the rights of the child in the context of migration”. PICUM also submitted a response to a European Commission questionnaire feeding into the upcoming Communication on the Rights of the Child. The Communication will guide EU policy development regarding children’s rights during 2011-2014.


During the EU Belgian Presidency, PICUM was actively involved in events which promoted the right of children. PICUM Board Member Nina Henkens gave a presentation on the rights of undocumented children and the situation they face in Belgium at the EU Belgian Presidency Conference: Roadmap for a recommendation on Child Poverty and Child Well-Being in Marche-en-Famenne, Belgium. PICUM was also represented at the EU Fundamental Rights Agency and EU Belgian Presidency Fundamental Rights Conference, “Ensuring Justice and Protection for all Children,” which held in Brussels, Belgium.

Participants listen intently during the European Parliament hearing co-organized by PICUM on “Preventing Undocumented Pregnant Women and Children from Accessing Health Care: Fostering Health Inequalities in Europe.”

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Advancing undocumented migrants’ access to their basic workplace rights and engaging civil society and policy makers in this process constitutes a key part of PICUM’s work.

In 2010, PICUM continued to monitor and report on undocumented migrants’ working conditions in Europe and elsewhere. PICUM engaged in advocacy, awareness raising and networking activities to support organizations working on the issue, encouraged unions to protect irregular workers, and influenced policy makers to make more informed decisions.

2010 saw the continued interest and relevance of PICUM’s report Ten Ways to Protect Undocumented Migrant Workers. Published in 2005, PICUM’s practical and pragmatic report on undocumented workers and the methodologies which facilitate their access to rights continued to gain interest from a wide range of actors across the globe. In 2010, PICUM continued to provide input and expertise concerning its rights-based approach to NGOs, policy makers, academics and trade unionists.

The on-going applicability of PICUM’s “Ten Ways” report led the Spanish organization, ACCEM, based in Madrid, to translate the entire report into Spanish. While the Spanish version has increased dissemination of PICUM’s methodology in Latin America, it also inspired Asian organizations to initiate a Korean translation of the “Ten Ways”.

One highlight of our international work was a keynote speech delivered on the closing panel of the 2010 World Social Forum on Migration, in Quito, Ecuador, at which PICUM’s Programme Officer Eve Geddie presented the innovative practices gathered in its “Ten Ways” report to over 1,500 migrants’ rights advocates from across the globe.

In 2010, PICUM’s strategy on undocumented women enabled the network to increase its focus on their workplace rights, while at the international level PICUM joined the global movement in support of an International Convention on Domestic Work.

Throughout the year, PICUM continued to facilitate the development of coherent, pragmatic and rights-based approaches to the issues facing undocumented migrant workers. In addition to informing local organizations of developments at the policy level, PICUM participated in public debates, presented its research to policy makers and hosted training seminars.

PICUM continued to provide input and expertise at the European level. In the European Parliament, PICUM participated as a panellist in a hearing organized by the Greens/European Free Alliance Party in the European Parliament in Brussels entitled "Conference on Labour Migration as a Challenge for Europe: The Greens/EFA approach" which took place in December. In this discussion which looked at the role of Green Party in the migration debate, PICUM Director Michele LeVoy presented the realities facing migrant workers who become irregular and offered suggestions for future actions at European level.

In May, Director Michele LeVoy participated in a Legal Colloquium on Migrant Domestic Workers hosted by the Brussels UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to exchange views with participants from the United Nations and International Labour Organisation agencies, as well as a wide range of civil society organizations. In June, PICUM participated in an intensive training for twenty members of the Caritas network on domestic migrant workers’ rights.

These activities enabled PICUM to share insights into the problems domestic workers can face if they are, or become, undocumented and also, highlight the experiences of civil society organizations across Europe in advocating for their rights.

Slide from Powerpoint presentation given by PICUM Board Member Edel McGinley on Ireland’s Bridging Visa Campaign.

In this discussion participants discuss issues during the Asia-Europe People’s Forum which discussed the rights of domestic workers.

Participants discuss issues during the Asia-Europe People’s Forum which discussed the rights of domestic workers.
PICUM has undertaken a three year programme to examine the situation of undocumented women in Europe, and identify strategies which are working to improve their access to rights and capacity to engage in social change.

In the strategy’s second year, PICUM conducted field trips to nine EU member states to comprehensively explore the experiences of migrant women with an irregular or precarious status. By conducting site visits, hosting focus groups and interviewing human rights defenders, policy makers, service providers and women themselves, PICUM gathered essential evidence and expertise on the responses being developed across Europe. 2010 marked an important year for this project, which will conclude in 2011 with a report and conference.

PICUM TRAINING: “How to support victims of gender-based violence?”

In December, PICUM provided a free training to 25 member organizations working with undocumented women who experience violence and abuse. The training provided front-line service providers with essential coping strategies and practical tools for use in their daily work. For many participants, struggling to assist women and children who are exposed to violence, yet denied access to health services, shelter or the judicial system, this event proved both practical support and encouragement for their work.

PICUM INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP: Violence and Exploitation of Undocumented Migrant Women: Building Strategies to End Impunity

In June, PICUM brought nearly 150 governmental institutions, trade unions and a wide variety of civil society organizations together to discuss undocumented women’s experiences in Europe and identify the strategies which support and empower them. Fostering networking and exchange among actors from across the region, the workshop and subsequent report detailing discussions marked the first significant gathering of responses to the key human rights concerns of undocumented women in Europe.

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PICUM actively advocated for undocumented women’s basic rights in a diverse number of contexts and fora. From facilitating networking and knowledge sharing among civil society organizations, to promoting transfer of good practices among policy makers, PICUM was engaged at the local, regional, and international levels. Below is a highlight of key policy level debates in which PICUM engaged during the year.

PICUM gave two key note presentations at Council of Europe events during the year to highlight key concerns regarding the situation facing undocumented migrant women. In May, at a Seminar on Migrant Women held in Kiev, Ukraine, PICUM highlighted the need to address the disproportionate impact of migration-control policies upon undocumented women. In December, at a roundtable of the Parliamentary Assembly Committee (PACE) on Migration, Refugees and Population in Paris, France, PICUM focused on the exposure of undocumented women to gender-based violence and the need for reinforced protection of the rights of migrant women.

In November, PICUM attended the European Commission and EU Belserian Presidency conference on violence against women in Brussels, Belgium, and in June, gave input into the EU Fundamental Rights Agency Stakeholder Meeting on “Violence against Women”, which considered the development of an EU-wide survey on the issue to be conducted by the FRA in 2010-2011.

At the international level, PICUM participated in a number of high level discussions regarding migrant women. PICUM met with the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, Ms Rashida Manjoo and UNIFEM Global Advisor on Migration Dr. Jean d’Cunha to highlight its concerns about the human rights situation of women in an irregular situation in Europe. In Mexico City, PICUM was a keynote speaker at a consultation organized by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the Government of Mexico to a high level consultation, which was integrated into the deliberation and outcomes of the Global Forum Migration Development (GFMD) 2010.

PICUM continued to prioritise engagement at the civil society level, both supporting their actions and broadening its network of expertise.

As part of our activities to increase awareness within the women’s shelter movement, PICUM brought a delegation of four member organizations to the 2010 annual conference of Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE) and gave a keynote address on the barriers facing undocumented women to access essential support and services across the EU.

During the People’s Global Action on Migration, Development and Human Rights (PGA), in November in Mexico City, PICUM co-hosted a workshop on “Migrant Women’s Human Rights: Obstacles and Organising”. The workshop was sponsored by ten networks active on migrant women’s rights from around the world.

PICUM also presented the experience of its network at several national level events, such as that organized by the Belgian organization “La Voix des Femmes” at their conference, “Le deuxième sexe de l’immigration / The Second Sex of Immigration”.

>> PICUM submission to Consultation on EU Strategy to Combat Violence Against Women

As part of its commitment to bridge EU policies on migration with the real realities facing irregular migrant women, PICUM responded to a call from the European Union to provide input in advance of their strategy to combat violence against women. Identifying the main causes of violence against undocumented migrant women and girls in Europe, PICUM stressed the urgent need to address the issue from a perspective of empowerment, non-discrimination and equal access to services.

PICUM’s submissions are available online at: http://picum.org/en/publications/poinet-papers/
One of the final outputs of the project will be a comprehensive report with chapters on undocumented migrants’ access to housing, education, social care, employment status and fair working conditions and access to remedies against violations and abuse in the EU 27. This report is expected to be launched in fall 2011. PICUM was active in the project which examined key aspects of the situation of undocumented migrants in the European Union (EU) in order to assess the extent to which their fundamental rights are respected and protected. The project was funded by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) and is one of the first to provide a comprehensive look at the fundamental rights situation of undocumented migrants in the EU-27.

PICUM was one of four project partners in the FRIM project which examined key aspects of the situation of undocumented migrants in the European Union (EU) in order to assess the extent to which their fundamental rights are respected and protected. The project was funded by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) and is one of the first to provide a comprehensive look at the fundamental rights situation of undocumented migrants in the EU-27.

One of the final outputs of the project will be a comprehensive report with chapters on undocumented migrants’ access to housing, education, social care, employment status and fair working conditions and access to remedies against violations and abuse in the EU 27. This report is expected to be launched in fall 2011. PICUM was active in the comprehensive report particularly with the drafting of the report. PICUM Director Michele LeVoy joined the other project participants in September in Vienna, Austria to discuss the status of the project, the methodological issues of the FRIM surveys, the results and in particular the dissemination of the project.

FRIM intends to provide policymakers with a scientific basis with which to take actions ensuring that the fundamental rights of undocumented immigrants are protected. By examining current problematic situations and documenting good practices, FRIM also intends to give practitioners practical tools to promote the rights of undocumented immigrants.

In addition to the comprehensive report, two case studies which looked at laws and practice concerning human rights were launched by fall 2011. The International Coordinators of the health care area and the co-ordinators of the health care case study which looked at laws and practice concerning human rights of undocumented migrants’ access to health care. The case study focused on ten EU countries, with fieldworkers conducting interviews with irregular migrants, health care staff, public authorities and civil society. PICUM and ICMPD were tasked with the analysis, research and writing of the report.

PICUM Director Michele LeVoy joined the other project participants in September in Vienna, Austria to discuss the status of the project, the methodological issues of the FRIM surveys, the results and in particular the dissemination of the project.

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The ten FRIM fieldworkers and project coordinators met during the April kick-off meeting in Brussels, Belgium.

PICUM strives to inform policy makers, civil society organizations and the general public about the situation facing undocumented migrants, both at the EU and international level. PICUM delivered its message regarding the human rights of undocumented migrants during 2010 by issuing policy papers and reports, participating in advocacy events, cooperating with leading organizations and providing expert input on undocumented migrants at key events.

With assistance from funders, PICUM was able to significantly increase its advocacy activities in 2010 by hiring a full time Advocacy Officer. A draft Advocacy Strategy for 2011-2015 was shared with its members during PICUM’s General Assembly in June. With a coordinated strategy, PICUM will be able to more efficiently identify and target institutional actors and encourage them to respond to the realities of undocumented migrants in their policies. PICUM has increased its collaboration with other European civil society networks and NGOs in order to mainstream the issues of undocumented migrants into other thematic areas and join them in their efforts to conduct advocacy towards national governments and the EU institutions.

In September, PICUM Member Manfred Bergman was present at a side event to UN Human Rights Council: “Previewing the 2020 Strategy and Undocumented Migrants co-organized by PICUM.”

In 2010, PICUM staff, members and board spoke at 65 events in 17 countries worldwide on the need to improve protection for undocumented migrants.

Mainstreaming Activities at the International Level

PICUM’s network continued its engagement with the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), which took place in Mexico in 2010. PICUM participated in various meetings in preparation for the GFMD and the parallel civil society forum the People’s Global Action on Migration and Development (PGA) which was held in Mexico City on 1-5 November in advance of the GFMD.

In September, PICUM Member Manfred Bergman was present at a side event to UN Human Rights Council: “Previewing the
4th Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and 5th People’s Global Action (PGA) on Migration Development and Human Rights," in Geneva, Switzerland while in October, PICUM Advocacy Officer Kadi Soova attended a preparatory meeting of the European Working group ahead of the PGA in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

PICUM Director Michele LeVey co-chaired an exchange of views with other NGOs during the Asia-Europe People’s Forum (EA PH), Workshop on the GMG, in October in Brussels, Belgium and was an invited expert at the Global Migration Group (GMG) Experts Meeting on Irregular Migration in Geneva, Switzerland which aimed to support States and other stakeholders preparing for discussions during the forthcoming GFMD in Mexico.

Mainstreaming Activities at the European Level

PICUM participated in a number of events organized by civil society in 2010 which brought board, members and staff to over 17 different countries. As part of its work to mainstream the concerns of irregular migrants within other civil society networks, PICUM took part in advisory boards and steering committees set up by other NGOs and trade unions. Below are some examples from PICUM’s national and European activities.

Civil Society Platforms

PICUM staff participated in the Third and Fourth Meeting of the European Integration Forum, both held in Brussels, Belgium in June and December, and organized by the EU’s Directorate General Home Affairs and the European Economic and Social Committee. Staff interventions centered on the difficulties undocumented migrants faced in the integration process.

The Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) Civil Society Platform met in April in Vienna, Austria. PICUM Director Michele LeVey attended the meeting which involved around 150 representatives of civil society organizations from the EU and she shared views on how to translate the work of the FRA into a practical difference on the ground and the need to extend fundamental rights to undocumented migrants.

Social Inclusion

In December, PICUM, the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN), the European Women’s Lobby (EWL) and Médecins du Monde (MDM), with the support of the King Baudouin Foundation, held a Multi-stakeholder Meeting on the Social Pillar of the EU 2020 Strategy and Undocumented Migrants. The meeting was by invitation only and included representatives of various European institutions, including several Directorates of the European Commission, researchers, and civil society organizations. Speakers highlighted the main barriers faced by undocumented migrants in accessing various social services, including health care, housing, education and fair working conditions.

At the national level, PICUM Programme Officer Eve Geddie attended the launch of a photojournalism book entitled “Papírůvstřed” (“Without papers”), on undocumented migrants’ life stories by Katja Tähjä and Kaisa Viitanen, in Helsinki, Finland. Held in October, the event marked the first gathering of Finnish civil society to discuss the situation of undocumented migrants in the country, and examine policies and practices which have enabled their access to rights in other countries. Shortly following this event, a health clinic for irregular migrants was opened in Helsinki, the first service of its kind existing in the country, which would be staffed by volunteers and providing basic services a few hours a week.

In June, PICUM attended the European Anti-Poverty Network’s (EAPN) Annual General Meeting in Limnasos, Cyprus. PICUM Programme Officer Eve Geddie participated as a keynote speaker in a workshop on migration and poverty and also authored an article for the EAPN’s ‘Anti-Poverty’ magazine entitled “Social Inclusion or Strategic Exclusion? The Use of Poverty in the Fight Against Irregular Migration”.

>> PICUM Submits a Background Paper for the Civil Society Days of the GFMD

PICUM authored a background paper for the roundtable discussion on “Partnerships for Migration and Development” in the Civil Society Days of the 2010 GFMD held in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico on 8-11 November. The paper by PICUM Director Michele LeVey and Programme Officer Eve Geddie draws on PICUM’s extensive research into civil society initiatives and governmental responses to irregular migration in both the United States and the United Nations.

In July in Vienna, Austria, the world meeting brought select participants from United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and policy research institutes with expertise on migrant smuggling and related issues, with the objective of reflecting various perspectives into the UNODC’s work on smuggling.

PICUM participated in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Expert Group Meeting on the International Framework for Action to Implement the Migrant Smuggling Protocol, in July in Vienna, Austria. The working meeting brought select participants from United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and policy research institutes with expertise on migrant smuggling and related issues, with the objective of reflecting various perspectives into the UNODC’s work on smuggling.

Ms. Virginia Wangere Greiner from the European Network of Migrant Women makes a comment during the Multi-stakeholder Meeting on the Social Pillar of the EU 2020 Strategy and Undocumented Migrants co-organized by PICUM.

1 See Directive 2008/115/EC of 16 December 2008 on common standards for the reception of asylum seekers and on the implementation of the right of asylum and all other forms of immigration law, under which the notion of “undocumented migrant” is defined.


4 Findings of the research project “CLANDESTINO: Undocumented Migrants: Their Position in the Social Order in the European Union4 and such numbers are not likely to substantially diminish in the coming years.

5 The European Union undertakes numerous policies grossly ineffective in their aim to curb exclusion they face is not only tolerated, but so intolerable, that it should compel their driving them into a situation of destitution and a fair income, elements of social rights.

6 To ‘tackle’ irregular migration has done little to mainstream the concerns of irregular migrants within other civil society networks, PICUM took part in advisory boards and steering committees set up by other NGOs and trade unions. Below are some examples from PICUM’s national and European activities.

7 The legislative and practical barrier posing a significant risk of growing number of migrants. The legislative and practical barriers facing undocumented migrants in accessing various social services, including health care, housing, education and fair working conditions.

8 Instead of supporting vulnerable groups of undocumented migrants, strategies, and risk downgrading Europe’s social inclusion and social exclusion. The EU and she shared views on how to translate the work of the FRA into a practical difference on the ground and the need to extend fundamental rights to undocumented migrants.

9 Ms. Virginia Wangere Greiner from the European Network of Migrant Women makes a comment during the Multi-stakeholder Meeting on the Social Pillar of the EU 2020 Strategy and Undocumented Migrants co-organized by PICUM.
Trade Unions

Both PICUM Director Michele LeVoy and Advocacy Officer Kadri Souza took part in the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) Steering Committee meeting for the project “What price are the tomatoes?” in December, in Brussels, Belgium. The project focuses on the working conditions of undocumented workers, targeting trade unions and culminates in 2011 with roundtables and a conference bringing together trade unions and civil society.

Input on civil society advisory boards

PICUM’s expertise on undocumented migrants was requested for by a number of advisory boards in 2010 and provided advice on projects and program as they related to undocumented migrants.

In March, PICUM Director Michele LeVoy participated as one of two invited experts in a forward-looking discussion among the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) Board and Management Team in Leuven, Belgium. As a member of the Steering Committee, Ms. LeVoy also attended the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Europe ANDES European Conference Steering Committee Meeting, in April, Brussels, Belgium. The objective of the Advocacy and Awareness Raising Programme Officer Eve Geddie (far left) along with other advisory board members of COMP.ACT in Prague.

Ms. LeVoy also attended to group meetings in Brussels, Belgium for the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) DRIVE Project. The objective of the Transnational NGO Cooperation in Differentiation, Refugee Identification and Vulnerability Evaluation for Referral (DRIVE) project is to analyse current practices and make recommendations for better identification, protection and referral of boat people arriving in Italy, Malta, Greece and Spain. In July in Prague, Czech Republic, Programme Officer Eve Geddie attended the advisory board meeting for the European Action for Compensation for Trafficked Persons (COMP.ACT) and exchanged views on the issue of compensation for trafficked persons while Ms. Levoy took part in an advisory board meeting in November.

Communications

As a network of grassroots organizations 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. PICUM is building a reputation at the European level to serve as contact point on the issue of irregular migration for various media, politicians, researchers and other stakeholders.

In 2010, 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. To strengthen PICUM’s work, a Communications Strategy was created to outline changes in the newsletter format, distribution, media relations, website and social media, all with the intention of allowing PICUM to be able to provide more current, relevant and readable information to the PICUM network and general public. The changes will take place in 2011.

Newsletter

PICUM’s newsletter is the only information source in Europe dedicated to reporting exclusively on the human rights of undocumented migrants. PICUM facilitates access by offering the newsletter and parts of the website in seven languages (English, French, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese, German and Italian). A number of PICUM’s publications are made available in multiple languages. In 2010, thanks to Daphne III funding from the European Commission, PICUM was able to produce an information brochure which extended the seven ‘PICUM languages’ to include Arabic and Russian. As well, PICUM’s gender workshop in June 2010 was trilingual (English, French and Spanish), enabling the participation from an increased number of participants and PICUM members.

In 2010, subscriptions to PICUM’s monthly newsletter increased by approximately 350 subscribers, bringing the total number of known recipients to around 4,700. Many organizations forward the newsletter within their own networks and repost on their own websites so it is estimated that the number of potential readers is much higher.

Translation of PICUM Resources

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 facilitates access by offering the newsletter and parts of the website in seven languages (English, French, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese, German and Italian). A number of PICUM’s publications are made available in multiple languages. In 2010, thanks to Daphne III funding from the European Commission, PICUM was able to produce an information brochure which extended the seven ‘PICUM languages’ to include Arabic and Russian. As well, PICUM’s gender workshop in June 2010 was trilingual (English, French and Spanish), enabling the participation from an increased number of participants and PICUM members.

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Received by over 4,700 subscribers monthly, it is a valuable support to those working to protect undocumented migrants by offering comprehensive overviews of developments within the European Union and United Nations and promoting networking among PICUM members, researchers and other civil society networks. PICUM receives almost 30 new subscriptions to its newsletter per month. Compiled and coordinated by the PICUM Secretariat, the newsletter is translated with thanks to a dedicated team of interns and volunteers.

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PICUM Calls for an End to Racist Attacks in Cyprus

In November, PICUM and the European Network Against Racism (ENAR) published a joint press release to express their deep concern regarding violent attacks against the participants of the 13th Rainbow Festival which took place in Larnaca, Cyprus. The event was organized by KISA, a Cypriot NGO which is a member of both networks.

PICUM Volunteers Appreciation Dinner and Meeting

Without its network or volunteers, PICUM would be unable to achieve its desired success with a large amount of its communications work. As a sign of appreciation for their efforts throughout the year, PICUM invited its volunteers to Brussels in December 2010 for a volunteer dinner and meeting. The meeting provided an opportunity to convey our immense gratitude for their support, a chance to meet face to face and each other, to receive feedback from them and as well, an opportunity to discuss the Communications Strategy and convey the changes that would take place to the newsletter in 2011. As well, they were able to assist and attend the European Parliament public hearing which was held on the same day.

PICUM was founded in Brussels, Belgium in 2001 by a network of grassroots organizations to address the human rights of undocumented migrants.

All PICUM members receive the monthly newsletter which reaches approximately 4,700 subscribers a month!
PICUM represents a network of members throughout Europe and at the international level which promote the fundamental rights of undocumented migrants. The membership shows a great diversity, including faith-based organizations, shelters, trade unions, humanitarian assistance providing organizations, which range in size from a larger organization with a sizeable staff to small, grassroots organizations that work primarily on the local level. Developing PICUM’s network is an ongoing process and each year new members are voted into membership during PICUM’s Annual General Meeting.

In 2010, PICUM’s membership included 127 Affiliated Members and 164 Ordinary Members in 32 countries.

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 events, research projects and daily operation.

PICUM members benefit greatly from being part of an international network working for the rights of undocumented migrants.

PICUM works to strengthen the capacities of its members through trainings, workshops, networking and information sharing throughout the platform. Membership fees allow PICUM to continue providing a high standard of expertise, information and support free of charge to those in need.

PICUM supported its members’ participation in the training session on how to support victims of gender-based violence in December.

PICUM Affiliated Members

The following are a list of PICUM Affiliated Members as of December 2010

Albania
- Qendra Avokatise Luli

Austria
- AFRA - International Center for Black Women’s Perspectives
- Diakonie - Evangelischer Flüchtlingsdienst Österreich

Bosnia-Herzegovina
- La Strada B&H Mostar

Belgium
- Abraço
- Beweging voor kinderen zonder papieren
- Bond Zonder Naam
- CAW Artwoelde Translithuis
- De Lovendes v.z.w.
- De Meeting v.z.w.
- Antwerpse Minderhedencentrum de Acht
- Filipino Chaplaincy
- Foyer
- Haven - De Acht [DeB]
- Kerkerw Multicultureel Samenleven
- Kruspunt Migratie-Integratie vzw
- Le Monde des Possibles asbl

Brazil
- Sodireitos

Cyprus
- KISA - Action for Equality, Support, Antiracism

Czech Republic
- Association for Integration and Migration - Counselling Centre for Refugees
- La Strada - Czech Republic
- People in Need

Denmark
- Babayan 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/Droits de l’Homme
- GISTI - Groupe d’information et de soutien des immigrés

Germany
- Ägira - Köln
- BAG Asyl in der Kirche
- Europäisches Burgerforum in der BRD
- Flüchtlingsrat Kreis Coesfeld
- Flüchtlingsrat Nordrhein Westfalen
- Förderverein Niedersächsischer Flüchtlingsrat e.V.

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- Förderverein Niedersächsischer Flüchtlingsrat e.V.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Organizations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Malta</strong></td>
<td>Jesuit Refugee Service Malta</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Netherlands</strong></td>
<td>ASKV - Amsterdam Solidariteits Komitee Vluchtelingen</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BlinN - Bonded Labour in Nederland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Commissie Justitia et Pax Nederland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dokters van de Wereld</td>
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<td></td>
<td>EMFA - Ecumenical Ministry for Filipinos Abroad</td>
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<td>Netwerk Religieuze voor Vluchtelingen</td>
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<td>OKIA</td>
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<td>PHAROS</td>
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<td>Stichting Ros</td>
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<td>Stichting INLIA Groningen-International Network of Local Initiatives with Asylum Seekers</td>
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<td>Stichting Mamre</td>
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<td>STIL - Solidariteitsorganisatie Voor Mensen Zonder Verblifsvergunning</td>
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<td>St. OMZO - Pauluskerk</td>
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<td>Respect Network</td>
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<td>Trusted Migrants</td>
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<td>UNITED for Intercultural Action</td>
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<td>United Migrant Domestic Workers in the Netherlands</td>
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<td><strong>Norway</strong></td>
<td>Antirasistisk Senter</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pakistan</strong></td>
<td>ICHR - International Council for Human Rights and Social Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Portugal</strong></td>
<td>Jesuit Refugee Service Portugal</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PROSAUDESC - Asociación de Promotores de Saúde Ambiente e Desenvolvimento Sécie Cultural</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Serbia</strong></td>
<td>Felicitas</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spain</strong></td>
<td>ACCEM-Asociacion Comision Catolica Espanola de Migracion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>APDHA-Asociacion Pro Derechos Humanes de Andalucia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Caritas Diocesana de Barcelona</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Centro Pueblos Unidos</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Federacion Andalucia Acoge</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Interculturalia - Intercultural Studies and Research</td>
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<td></td>
<td>MCAPAZ- Asociación Movimiento Canario por la Paz</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Salud y Familia</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sweden</strong></td>
<td>Caritas Sverige</td>
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<td>Rosengrenska</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The English International Association of Lund</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Switzerland</strong></td>
<td>CCSI - Centre de contact Suisses-immigrés</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collectif de soutien aux sans-papiers de Genève</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FIZ- Fraueninformationszentrum für Frauen aus Afrika, Asien, Lateinamerika und Osteuropa Flüchtlingsgruppe</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sans-papiers Kollektive Bern</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sans-papiers Anlaufstelle Zürich</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SIT- Syndicat interprofessionnel des travailleurs et travailleurs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>United Kingdom</strong></td>
<td>Center for Migration Policy Research</td>
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<td></td>
<td>God’s Time Ministries Trust</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hackney Migrant Centre</td>
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<td></td>
<td>HACT - Housing Association Charitable Trust</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Human Too</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ukraine</strong></td>
<td>Lvv Regional Branch of the European Youth Parliament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USA</strong></td>
<td>NELP - National Employment Law Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**International Organizations**

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

**PICUM Ordinary Members**

PICUM has 164 Ordinary Members who are based in the following countries: Belgium, Cameroon, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom and the United States.
Interns
Interns play a key role in helping PICUM to realize its daily work and make enormous contributions to projects, activities and PICUM’s overall work program. With this in mind, PICUM would like to thank Alan Desmond and Olga Tsatsani for their contributions to the organization in 2010.

Translators, Proofreaders and Compilers
PICUM has 105 volunteers contributing to the production of the newsletter on a monthly basis. In 2010, PICUM received 72 applications by individuals interested in becoming a volunteer or assisting in the production of the newsletter.

PICUM’s newsletter and website translation is possible thanks to the dedicated efforts of volunteers throughout Europe and other parts of the world who dedicate their time and expertise to compiling articles, translating, and/or proofreading our newsletter and website content. PICUM would like to thank the following individuals for their invaluable contributions to our newsletter in 2010:

**NEWSLETTER COMPILERS**
- Tatiana Coutto (Portugal)
- Ida Di Pietro (UN)
- Barbara De Witte (Dutch speaking Belgium - The Netherlands)
- Sonja Dolinsek (Germany)
- Tania Ganzales (Spain)
- Katharina Haeusler (Austria)
- Iveta Hronova (Czech Republic)
- Rilke Mahieu (Dutch speaking Belgium - The Netherlands)
- Marina Niki (Bulgaria)
- Brita Pohl (Austria)
- Baerbel Reissmann (Germany)
- Silvia Rueda (Spain)
- Josefin Streling (Scandinavia)
- Dagmar Szuberska (Poland)
- Olga Tsatsani (Greece)
- Maurice van der Velden (Dutch speaking Belgium - The Netherlands)

**PROOFREADERS**
- Giuliana Giobbi (Italian)
- Mien De Grave (Dutch)
- Hélène Habart (French)
- Elena Novikova (Spanish)
- Silvia Pinheiro (Portuguese)
- Brita Pohl (German)

**TRANSLATORS - DUTCH**
- Joke Barbry
- Maaike Graaff
- Barbara De Witte
- Machteld Boussmeaere

**TRANSLATORS - GERMAN**
- Sonja Dolinsek
- Andrea Grossmann
- Katharina Haeusler

- Lillian Hoppers
- Rémy Koolschijn
- Walter Leenders
- Rilke Mahieu
- Sayara Maruf
- Ellen Martiniali
- Laura Pino
- Rut Van Caudenberg
- Dieter van Moerhem
- Tom Verhaeghe

**TRANSLATORS - FRENCH**
- Joaquine Barbet
- Julien Blanc
- Cloïlde Caillault
- Jean De Dieu Nikiema
- Bernadette Doutreligne
- Mounia Essaifi
- Sebastien Franco
- Élodie Mignard
- Marika Neville
- Miriam Perier
- Dominique Rodriguez
- Amandine Rozet
- Laura Pino
- Rut Van Caudenberg
- Tom Verhaeghe

**TRANSLATORS - GERMAN**
- Joke Barbry
- Maaike Graaff
- Barbara De Witte
- Machteld Boussmeaere

**TRANSLATORS - ITALIAN**
- Letizia Bartocci
- Ornella Bernardi
- Laila Castaldo
- Vera Cavallin
- Maria Diletta
- Maria Giovanna Mulè
- Andrea Piu
- Selma Seferovic
- Karla Valenzuela

**TRANSLATORS - SPANISH**
- Leonor Abujatum
- Paula Carello
- Enrique de los Ángeles Trenado
- Natacha Alesandra Dorval Defferary
- Bárbara Fernández García
- Ignacio Granados Laguna
- Carlos Lazaro Mazorriaga
- Carlos Martín Ciscar
- Debora Mateus
- Priscilla Solano
- Karla Valenzuela

**TRANSLATORS - PORTUGUESE**
- Isabel Allan
- Umme Ahmed
- Karolina Alves Pereira de Castro
- Luis Bernardo
- Susanna Carnihle
- Ana Catarina da Silva
- Alessandra Fontana
- Joana Fonseca Lima
- Paula Gil
- Natalie Martins Rullida
- Daniela Rodrigues
- Sandra Tavares

**TRANSLATORS - DUTCH**
- Joke Barbry
- Maaike Graaff
- Barbara De Witte
- Machteld Boussmeaere

Volunteers
PICUM volunteers listen intently during the European Parliament hearing co-organized by PICUM on “Preventing Undocumented Pregnant Women and Children from Accessing Health Care: Fostering Health Inequalities in Europe.”
General Assembly

The General Assembly (GA) consists of Ordinary and Affiliated Members. Each Ordinary Member is entitled to one vote and can be represented by a third party on the basis of appointing a proxy. Decisions are taken by majority vote. The GA convenes at least once a year, usually in the first quarter. PICUM’s 2010 GA was held in Brussels, Belgium.

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 PICUM.

The Board is composed of the following members:

- Don Flynn (Chair) Migrants Rights Network (MRN), UK
- Didier Vanderslycke (Treasurer) Organization for Undocumented Workers (OR.C.A.), Belgium
- Reyes Castillo ACCEM, Spain
- Franck Düvell Medinetz, Germany
- Nina Henkens Kinderen Zonder Papieren, Belgium
- George Joseph Caritas Sweden, Sweden
- Edel McGinley Migrant Rights Centre Ireland [MRCI], Ireland
- Pede Saya Intercultural Management Consultant, the Netherlands

Management Committee

The Management Committee (MC) is a subgroup of the Executive Committee that meets several times a year 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.

PICUM Secretariat

Michele LeVoy (Director)
Paul Geeraerts (Office and Financial Administrator)
Eve Geddie (Programme Officer – Undocumented Women)
Devin Cahill (Programme Officer)
Nicola Flamigni (Communications Coordinator)
Alexandrine Pirlot de Corbion (Communications Assistant)
Liliana Keith (Project Officer–Children’s Project)
Barbara Stricker (Children’s Project Assistant)

Governance and Staff

PICUM Financial Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EUROPEAN COMMISSION</strong></td>
<td>STAFF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG Justice, Daphne III</td>
<td>160,225.27</td>
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<tr>
<td>DG Sanco</td>
<td>19,213.85</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS</strong></td>
<td>ACTIVITIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barrow Cadbury Trust</td>
<td>15,081.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Network of European Foundations - European Program on Integration and Migration INEF - EPIM III</td>
<td>50,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)</td>
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<td>Zennström Philanthropies</td>
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<td>Sigrid Rausing Trust</td>
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<td><strong>MEMBERSHIP FEES</strong></td>
<td>FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATION</td>
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<td>3,875.00</td>
<td>50,477.16</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UNRESTRICTED CORE</strong></td>
<td>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22,065.28</td>
<td>509,841.57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL INCOME 562,169.15 TOTAL EXPENDITURE 509,841.57

January - December 2010

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Barrow Cadbury Trust 15,081.18
Network of European Foundations - European Program on Integration and Migration INEF - EPIM III 50,000.00
European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) 101,708.57
Zennström Philanthropies 115,000.00
Sigrid Rausing Trust 75,000.00
MEMBERSHIP FEES 3,875.00
UNRESTRICTED CORE 22,065.28
TOTAL INCOME 562,169.15

EXPENDITURE
STAFF 352,805.63
ACTIVITIES 106,558.78
FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATION 50,477.16
TOTAL EXPENDITURE 509,841.57
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- Barrow Cadbury Trust
- European Commission’s Directorate General (DG) for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO)
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- European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)
- Network of European Foundations/European Program on Integration and Migration (NEF–EPIM III)
- Sigrid Rausing Trust
- zennström Philanthropies
PICUM
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UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS

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