

A photograph of a woman riding a brown cargo bike with blue fenders on a city street. Two young children are seated in the front of the bike. The woman is wearing a green top and a brown skirt, and is holding a small object in her hand. The background is blurred, suggesting motion. The text 'PICUM 2011 Annual Report' is overlaid in the top right corner.

PICUM 2011 Annual Report



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 more than 150 ordinary members and 138 affiliated members in over 38 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.

Cover photo: Leyla, an undocumented woman living in Amsterdam and her two children.
From "Undocumentary", an upcoming web-documentary by PICUM ©2011 Pokitin

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We protect and promote the human rights
of undocumented migrants to reclaim
Europe's founding values of equality and
non-discrimination.

Find out how we turn our mission into reality



Undocumented migrant worker living and working in substandard conditions in Almería, Spain.
From "Undocumentary", an upcoming web-documentary by PICUM ©2011Pokitin

Message from the Chair

2011 Marked another significant year for PICUM as it continued its work to raise awareness about the position of migrants living without papers.

PICUM has always resisted the idea that irregular migration is an activity which, in itself, can be branded as criminal. As a network of grassroots organisations working closely with people who are living without immigration documents we know that the essential issue at stake is the failure of governments in the developed countries to produce the policies which both reflect the level of demand for migrant labour that exists in their countries, and to complement this with a robust framework of rights which provide vulnerable migrants with protection against exploitation and abuse.

Throughout all the years of our work, PICUM has aimed to get behind the headline claims of 'illegal migrants' to set out the realities which this term so often obscures. We have looked at the position of workers who are deprived of the right to resist exploitation through being branded as 'illegal'; at women placed at grave risk at the hands of traffickers and smugglers because of a failure to consider their need for adequate protection under the law; and children, whose special right to security and protection are so poorly considered by national authorities whose primary concern is immigration status.

During the past year we continued this direction of our work through collaboration with the EU Fundamental Rights Agency which was aimed at marking out more clearly the claim on dignity and rights which ought not to be denied migrants merely on the grounds that there residence papers are not considered to be in order.

Don Flynn
PICUM Chair



Our important programme of work on the right to healthcare was continued during the past year with activity in the European Parliament, where we were able to work with other health NGOs and concerned MEPs to advance policies aiming for universal coverage for all the medical needs of undocumented migrants.

We also pushed ahead in developing the global context for our mission in obtaining protection under the law for all migrants as they leave countries of origin and move in transit to their eventual destinations. We contributed to both the Global Forum on Migration and Development session in Geneva last autumn and the UN Migrant Workers Committee to help clarify the global agenda for the rights of undocumented migrants.

In the report that follows you will be able to read more about these and other items of work we have been involved in during the past year. Our heartfelt thanks to all who worked with us, and all who expect to be continuing as a part of the PICUM network in 2012 and beyond.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Don Flynn', written in a cursive style.

Welcome by the Director

2011 marked PICUM's Ten-Year Anniversary. A decade ago, a small group of grassroots organisations defending the human rights of the undocumented migrants in Belgium, The Netherlands and Germany felt the need of a pan-European initiative bridging local and national NGOs' concerns to the European policy level, where more legislative power was coagulating. Our founding members' vision was a society free of discrimination and marginalisation of the most vulnerable migrants.

Today, 134 PICUM member organisations based in 38 countries across the world share the same vision. Unfortunately, despite the amazing civil society movement fuelling PICUM's work and the growing public awareness of the common violations of the rights of the undocumented migrants, PICUM faces unprecedented challenges linked to the EU Member States' tendency to undertake restrictive policies towards undocumented migrants and portray them as scapegoats of the economic crisis. In 2011 the Dutch government launched a proposal to criminalise undocumented migrants. In Greece, the inhumane and degrading detention conditions of undocumented migrants and children did not improve despite the condemnation by various international institutions. We should not forget also the shameful diplomatic dispute between Italy and France over the reception of a group of Tunisian migrants escaping the north-African turmoil. These are clear signs of the dramatic escalation of racism and xenophobia on the European continent which is directly impacting the realities faced by undocumented migrants on a daily basis.

Michele LeVoy
Director



But 2011 was also the year in which the Swedish government, pressured by the civil society, started an inquiry on access to health care for undocumented migrants in the country, whose results will hopefully one day turn into a new legislation providing a wider access. In Poland, the government carried out a third regularisation programme. Learning from the past mistakes and thanks to the Polish NGOs active in the field of migration, this time the more applicant-friendly eligibility criteria proved to be more efficient than in the previous programmes.

Against this complex backdrop of regressive steps and positive achievements, PICUM multiplied its efforts to mainstream concerns regarding equality and social justice for undocumented migrants at all levels.

To mark a growing national level engagement, a conference was co-organised by PICUM in May 2011 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, with three of its Dutch members (Stichting LOS, Stichting ROS and Pauluskerk) entitled "Countering New Legislative Proposals Criminalising Undocumented Migrants in the Netherlands: Building on Experiences of Resistance Throughout Europe."

At international level, PICUM's role as an engaged and expert advocacy group to address policies violating the human rights of the undocumented migrants was reinforced and magnified by some momentous results. The Day of General Discussion on the Human Rights of Undocumented Migrants held by the UN Migrant Workers Committee, is only one of them obtained by PICUM and its partners in 2011 following strong advocacy activities.

Advocacy efforts were supported and oriented by PICUM new annual working groups aimed at directly engaging its members in PICUM's on-going thematic work and providing them with more opportunities to share best practices. Members took also an active role in the production of PICUM's ambitious project "Undocumentary", a web-documentary on the daily realities of undocumented migrants in Europe, filmed in seven EU countries with interviews with those on the frontline. We look forward to launching this project in September 2012 that will provide us with a new powerful awareness raising tool.

2011 also saw the end of the first PICUM three-year gender strategy culminated with the PICUM's conference on "Undocumented Migrant Women in Europe: Bridging local realities to the EU policy level" held on 12-13 December in Brussels. The event drew over 150 participants from more than 20 countries and brought the experiences of undocumented migrant women to the attention of key

civil society organisations, professionals and institutional actors both in Europe and beyond. The enthusiasm of the stakeholders and the pressing concerns around this issue shows us that still a lot work must be done to bring the particular vulnerabilities of undocumented migrant women to the attention of the policy makers.

Finally the beginning of the new two-year project "Building Strategies to Protect Children in an Irregular Migration Situation in Europe" confirmed PICUM's increased recognition from key stakeholders for its expertise on undocumented children. In particular, the Council of Europe worked closely with PICUM and made use of its research to draft reports and organize hearings on this issue.

My last thoughts go to our more than a hundred volunteers, to our partners, to our founders and to our members from whom we draw inspiration and energy, and whose high values and expectations lead our work. Thanks to them, we can continue reclaiming the humanity of the undocumented migrants to reclaim the humanity of Europe.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michele Lelay". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Michele" and last name "Lelay" clearly distinguishable.

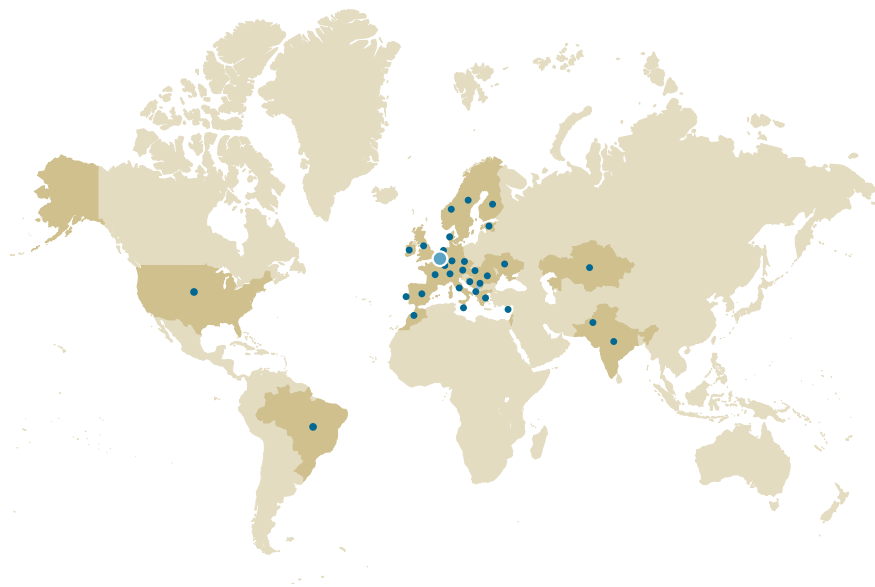
Who we are

Through 138 member organisations worldwide and a secretariat in Brussels, PICUM works with governmental institutions and civil society to develop and implement effective measures to uphold undocumented migrants' human rights in Europe and around the world.

PICUM was born as an initiative of grassroots organisations who wanted to bridge local expertise to policy agendas at the EU and global level. PICUM works to bring the voices of these organisations to policy makers and to strengthen its members' capacities through training, workshops, networking and information sharing throughout the platform.



PICUM Member Ksenia Naranovich, from FROG, Poland, speaking at a hearing on undocumented children at the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Migration.



PICUM members benefit greatly from being part of an international network that shows a great diversity, including faith-based organisations, shelters, trade unions and humanitarian organisations, which range in size from large organisations with a sizeable staff to smaller, grassroots organisations that work primarily at the local level.

WHAT WE DO

PICUM's activities are focused in five main areas:



Monitoring and reporting: improving the understanding of issues related to the protection of the human rights of undocumented migrants through improved knowledge of problems, policies, and practice.



Capacity building: developing the capacities of NGOs and all other actors involved in effectively preventing and addressing discrimination against undocumented migrants.



Advocacy: influencing policy makers to include undocumented migrants in social and integration policies at the national, European and international levels.



Awareness raising: promoting and disseminating the values and practices underlying the protection of the human rights of undocumented migrants among relevant partners and the wider public.



Global actors on international migration: developing and contributing to the international dialogue on international migration within the different UN agencies, international organisations and civil society.

2011 Major Successes

PICUM's strategic role in these discussions marks increased recognition of the rights and realities of undocumented migrants at policy level, and increased opportunity for PICUM's network to lead the debate concerning the situation of undocumented migrants.

Collaboration with the EU Fundamental Rights Agency on a landmark international conference

In November, the Fundamental Rights Agency of the EU held a landmark conference to launch its main report on the fundamental rights of irregular migrants in Europe and two case study reports on the situation of domestic workers and access to health care for irregular migrants. Bringing together keynote speakers from various EU institutions and hundreds of participants, the **FRA conference "Dignity and rights of irregular migrants"** and



PICUM Director, Michele LeVoy delivering a key speech on the rights of the undocumented at the FRA Annual Fundamental Rights Conference "Dignity and rights of irregular migrants", 21-22 November 2011.

its reports represent the first time that an EU institution has examined the basic social rights of undocumented migrants from a fundamental rights – and not a migration management – perspective.

PICUM was part of the research consortium responsible for the content of the published reports and its staff and members (around 30) played an active role in the conference held in Warsaw, Poland on 21-22 November 2011. Prior to the event, PICUM was busily involved in consultations with the FRA regarding the design and content of the event. Excerpts from PICUM's forthcoming web-documentary, "Undocumentary," were used by the FRA when preparing a short teaser video which was shown at the beginning of the event. PICUM continues to be closely involved with FRA's follow up activities and in the design of their new research project on labour exploitation.

European Parliament's resolution on "Reducing Health Inequalities in the EU"

PICUM together with Médecins du Monde, the HUMA network, the European Women's Lobby (EWL) and the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) were involved in joint advocacy activities concerning the **European Parliament (EP) Resolution on 'Reducing health inequalities in the EU'**. The Resolution, endorsed by the Parliament on 8 March 2011, calls on Member States to tackle health inequalities in access to health care for undocumented migrants and represents a significant step forward in ensuring equal access to health care for all, with no discrimination linked to administrative status or financial resources. This achievement is the result of years of advocacy efforts carried out by migrants' organisations, advocates and policy makers. PICUM produced a video and a written report of a hearing that was held in December 2010 which highlights how undocumented

migrants – especially undocumented pregnant women and children – are threatened by both legislative and practical barriers when trying to access health care.



The public hearing organised by PICUM and other EU networks in the European Parliament led to the adoption of a resolution calling on Member states to ensure that undocumented migrants are provided equitable access to healthcare.

The S&D group champions the fundamental rights concerns of irregular migrants in Europe

PICUM has had a longstanding working relationship with the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (S&D Group) and has collaborated closely on several policy issues with many key politicians from this group. A **conference** entitled “**Migration: The Rights of Migrants in an Irregular Situation**”, organised by the S&D Group on 19 October 2011 in Brussels raised the profile of the issue of fundamental rights of undocumented migrants and marked an important milestone in PICUM’s work in relation to the European Parliament. PICUM Director Michele LeVoy made a presentation on the panel entitled “Solutions and recommendations to address irregularity in the EU” and

called for a rights-based approach when dealing with this issue. Among the recommendations presented at the conference was an appeal for a permanent and transparent consultation process between the European Commission and civil society on the protection of fundamental rights of undocumented migrants.



PICUM Director, Michele LeVoy (first on left) and MEPs from the Socialists and Democrats Group at the hearing “Migration: The Rights of Migrants in an Irregular Situation” in the European Parliament.

Council of Europe reports reflect PICUM’s work on undocumented children and on access to health care

In September 2011, the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly adopted a **report and recommendations on “irregular migrant children in an undocumented situation”**, focusing on five key areas on which Member States of the Council of Europe and its institutions should focus to improve protection of these children: health care, housing, education, detention and working conditions. The final report drew heavily on PICUM’s 2009 report on undocumented children in Europe, and the specific areas of focus also closely mirrored PICUM’s approach to bringing more visibility and recognition to these children, who are often

overlooked due to the predominant focus on the situation of unaccompanied children in Europe. PICUM has worked closely with the Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Migration over the years, and was easily able to contribute to the Committee's work in examining this issue through the report as well as hearings with various stakeholders at which both PICUM members and undocumented migrants from PICUM's network were invited to participate.

In November 2011, the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers addressed a key **Recommendation to the Member States on mobility, migration and access to health care** which reflects some of PICUM's key messages. The Committee calls for governments to provide migrants with adequate entitlements to access health services which meet their needs and to pay special attention to the entitlement of irregular migrants to health service provision. The Ministers also state that no individuals or agencies responsible for health care should be required to inform the authorities and that health professionals who provide services to irregular migrants should not be liable to prosecution.

Key role for PICUM in the Global Forum on Migration and Development

PICUM played a key role in the Global Forum on Migration and Development with PICUM invited to give input at **three inter-governmental events** within the context of the

Forum in El Salvador, Turkey and Switzerland in October and November 2011. PICUM gave concrete examples of partnerships between civil society organisations and governments, as well as recommendations concerning the protection of undocumented migrants, which were incorporated into the final reports of these government-led events. At the main forum in Geneva, PICUM's Director, Michele LeVoy, was one of a selected few panellists at the 'common space' and spoke to an audience of nearly 800 civil society and government representatives.

UN Migrant Workers Committee's groundbreaking focus on undocumented workers

Following strong advocacy from PICUM and other members of Migrants Rights International (MRI), the UN Migrant Workers Committee held a **Day of General Discussion on the Human Rights of Undocumented Migrants** in September 2011. PICUM and several of its members submitted written contributions to the Migrant Workers Committee in advance of the Day of General Discussion and PICUM Director Michele LeVoy made a key presentation during the plenary session on the current human rights situation of undocumented migrants in Europe. The Committee confirmed during the discussion day that it would work towards drafting a General Comment on this issue, which is expected to be adopted in Spring 2013.



"Today PICUM is the European organisation that contains most knowledge and information on the issue of undocumented migrants. That is why we have very much appreciated working with them for the General Comment on migrant domestic workers and we will continue working together on the issue of migrant workers in an irregular situation."

From a PICUM interview with Abdelhamid El Jamri, Chair of the UN Migrant Workers Committee, on 5 March 2012.

Ten Year Anniversary

In 2011, PICUM succeeded in significantly intensifying and strengthening its strategic work with member organisations through a series of well-attended annual meetings.

PICUM's Ten Year Anniversary Workshop: "Advocating for the Human Rights of Undocumented Migrants: Strategies, Successes and Opportunities" provided a unique opportunity for PICUM members to exchange information and experiences on advocacy strategies at both the national, European and international levels, and to interact with key policy makers representing institutions at these levels.

The workshop was followed by **PICUM's Ten Year Anniversary General Assembly** which was attended by a record number of PICUM members, who praised PICUM for its work that has greatly intensified in its first ten years of existence. Members actively contributed in shaping the general strategy for PICUM's activities in the years to come.



PICUM's board, staff and members at the PICUM Annual General Assembly, 25 June 2011.



Member of the European Parliament, Jean Lambert (The Greens/European Free Alliance), speaking at the PICUM Ten Year Anniversary Workshop, 24 June 2011.

"Recent developments in the European Parliament concerning, for example, the Seasonal Workers Directive, are a sign that PICUM's work is having an effect."

Members' interests have always been at the core of the organisation's work and on the occasion of its Ten Year Anniversary, PICUM launched an invaluable new methodology for directly engaging its members in PICUM's on-going thematic work and for providing these organisations with an opportunity to share and gain relevant information from other countries as well as from the European perspective. These four **annual working groups**, launched in Brussels in November and December 2011, focus on fair working conditions, health care, undocumented children and families and undocumented women and aim to provide a space for members to discuss, devise strategies and implement joint actions in these four thematic areas.



Participants discussing during the PICUM Working Group on Undocumented Families and Children, 15 November 2011.

Policy and Awareness Raising

Staff and board members spoke at high-level public events

PICUM's expertise is increasingly sought by various actors, enabling PICUM to communicate its messages to a wide audience and mainstream the concerns of undocumented migrants into different policy areas.

At the global level, PICUM offered its expertise to international organisations by communicating its messages at events organised by the **Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**, **International Organization for Migration (IOM)**, **Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)** and **Global Policy Associates**. PICUM made presentations on the impact of EU labour migration policies on undocumented migrants, labour trafficking and the general fundamental rights situation of undocumented migrants in Europe.

PICUM spoke about different aspects of the realities facing undocumented migrants at various events organised by different actors at the European level such as universities, trade unions, and civil society organisations focused on

migration, trafficking, homelessness, mental health and violence against women. PICUM was invited to present its views at several political events in the European Parliament (see chapter "2011 Major Successes"). The European Commission invited PICUM to talk about the rights of undocumented migrants in preparation of the forthcoming **Global Approach to Migration and Mobility**. The European Migration Network (EMN), which is a European Commission funded network of national government-level contact points on migration, invited PICUM to two major conferences in 2011 to offer its perspective on addressing irregular migration. PICUM spoke at the **3rd Annual Dialogue between the Committee of the Regions and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)**, which this year focused on the implementation of the fundamental rights of irregular migrants, and in the context of the **5th Equality Summit "Promoting Equality at the Local and Regional Level"**.



PICUM Director, Michele LeVoy speaking at the Global Forum on Migration and Development, 1-2 December 2011.



PICUM Advocacy Officer, Kadri Soova, speaking at the 5th Equality Summit "Promoting Equality at the Local and Regional Level", 14-15 November 2011.

At the national level, PICUM staff made key presentations at events mainly organised by civil society in Sweden, Cyprus, Italy, the UK, Slovenia, Belgium and Germany on issues ranging from undocumented women and access to health care to fair working conditions.

Written contributions on key policy issues

In 2011, PICUM responded to **public consultations at the EU level** and provided input for the 5th EU Cohesion Report, EU Home Affairs funding in 2014-2020, the European Commission Discussion Paper “Migration and Mobility for Development: Towards a Migrant - Centred Approach”, the EU Global Approach on Migration and Mobility, the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) Multiannual Framework Programme, the EU Trafficking Strategy and the EU Commission recommendation on child poverty.

PICUM also contributed to several **joint civil society statements** which aimed at integrating the concerns of undocumented migrants into a wider range of policy initiatives. PICUM drafted the civil society joint statement on the **EU proposal for a directive on seasonal workers** and a call for action on the same issue and also contributed to other civil society statements concerning the EU Integration Agenda, the Social Open Method of Coordination and the EU Agenda for the Rights of the Child.

In addition to the written submissions to specific policy initiatives, PICUM presented a selection of good practices on local authority involvement in the protection of the fundamental rights of undocumented migrants for the **discussion paper “Protecting and Delivering Fundamental Rights of Irregular Migrants at Local and Regional Levels in the European Union”** prepared by the Centre for European Policy Studies for the EU Committee of the Regions. PICUM also drafted an extensive paper “Rights of Accompanied Children in an Irregular Situation” for UNICEF as a **background paper for the workshop on the “Rights of accompanied children in an irregular situation”** at the FRA Fundamental Rights Conference “Dignity and



PICUM partner Carla van Os, from Defence for Children – The Netherlands, actively participating in the workshops and discussions at the FRA Fundamental Rights Conference “Dignity and rights of irregular migrants, 21-22 November 2011.

rights of irregular migrants”, held on 21-22 November 2011 in Warsaw. PICUM prepared two **country briefs** detailing the situation concerning the situation of undocumented migrant children in relation to their access to education, health care services and housing in Poland and the UK in relation to PICUM’s on-going project on undocumented children.

Engaging with institutional stakeholders

At the international level, PICUM met with the **UN Committee on Migrant Workers**, held a series of meetings with several **Council of Europe Secretariats** and provided input to the **Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)** on trafficking and gender issues.



PICUM Director, Michele LeVoy, and other participants at a meeting of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), 20-21 June 2011.

At the European level, **Members of the European Parliament**, relevant officers from the **EU Commission' DG Home Affairs and DG Employment and Social Affairs**, the members of the cabinet of the **EU Commissioner for Home Affairs, FRA**, and the **European Economic and Social Committee** were among those contacted by PICUM to discuss concrete policy dossiers and the shortcomings in relation to undocumented migrants or to inform and raise awareness with a view to set the policy agenda for the future.

PICUM took the lead in bringing together a group of NGOs working on EU labour migration policies and developing a successful collaboration with the two parliamentary rapporteurs for the proposed **EU directive on seasonal workers**. Throughout the year PICUM hosted several meetings between the rapporteurs and civil society, which allowed for a fruitful exchange and possibility for civil society to have their concerns addressed in the parliamentary report released in June 2011. In April 2011, PICUM, together with 9 other NGOs released their joint statement, which highlights the main concerns regarding seasonal workers' lack of access to the full respect of equal treatment regarding, in particular, working conditions, social rights and access to legal redress within the more general framework of the recent labour migration legislation as well as more specific problematic aspects of the proposed directive.

Joint initiatives at the EU level and strategic alliances

In 2011, PICUM was able to increase its collaboration with other civil society networks and build strategic alliances with a view to integrating the concerns of undocumented migrants into the work of these organisations. As a member of various steering/reference groups, PICUM gave input on projects undertaken by the **European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)** on undocumented workers, the **International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)** on migrants arriving in the Mediterranean, **EUNOMAD (Migration and Development Contact Group)** on the link between migration and development and **COMP.ACT**, the **European action for compensation of trafficked persons**.

PICUM was able to reinforce and strengthen its engagement with important civil society platforms at the EU level such as the **Child Rights Action Group**, the **NGO Platform on Migration and Asylum**, the **European Anti-Poverty Network** as well as **Social Platform**, an EU-wide network of social organisations. PICUM acquired the status of full member at Social Platform in 2011 and has since then actively participated in its work. PICUM Advocacy Officer, Kadri Soova, was elected Vice-Chair of the Social Platform's Fundamental Rights and Non-Discrimination Working Group and has been actively calling for migration to be integrated into the work of the Platform. The Social Platform Strategic Plan for 2012 foresees migration as a new work strand.

PICUM staff also provided input on the realities facing undocumented migrants to various events organised by NGOs, think tanks and other stakeholders throughout the year. PICUM was able to harness the support of many EU networks by building an NGO alliance in connection with the proposal for an EU directive on seasonal work, which demonstrated success both in the collaboration process as well as policy results.

At the international level, PICUM continued to engage actively with **Migrants Rights International**, working together to advocate for more visibility in the UN mechanisms and explored new partnerships with the **International Detention Coalition (IDC)** and a newly launched **Global Coalition on Migration (GCM)**.

Growing national level engagement

PICUM's renewed efforts to strengthen the network were accompanied by the first steps towards a growing national level engagement. To mark this new ambition a national level conference was co-organised by PICUM in May 2011 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, with three of its Dutch members (Stichting LOS, Stichting ROS and Pauluskerk) called **"Countering New Legislative Proposals Criminalising Undocumented Migrants in the Netherlands: Building on Experiences of Resistance Throughout Europe."** The conference intended to provide a better understanding of laws, policies and practices concerning criminalisation of undocumented migrants in different European countries.



A speaker at the conference "Countering New Legislative Proposals Criminalising Undocumented Migrants in the Netherlands: Building on Experiences of Resistance Throughout Europe", 27 May 2011.



PICUM co-led an international campaign to support its member Doros Polykarpou, KISA Executive Director, who was unfairly prosecuted for his work as a migrants' rights defender in Cyprus.

PICUM, together with several other networks attended **two observation missions aimed at following the trial against Doros Polykarpou, KISA's Director**, and migrants' rights defender. The mission expressed its on-going concern regarding the criminalisation of Mr Polycarpou, accused of rioting during the Rainbow Festival 2010 in Larnaca during a press conference that followed several meetings with the Cypriot authorities. The objective was to pressure the authorities to put an end to the criminalisation of KISA and more generally the criminalisation of migrants and migrant's rights advocates in Cyprus. PICUM strongly condemned the prosecution of Mr. Polykarpou which it believes is aimed at damaging the reputation of and hindering KISA's efforts, an organisation that has been fighting xenophobia and racism in Cyprus for the last 13 years, and together with other international organisations, organised several trial observatory missions to put pressure on the Cypriot authorities to drop the charges.

Undocumented Children

PICUM gained increased recognition from key institutions and stakeholders for its work on undocumented children, especially in the context of the **PICUM 2-year project “Building Strategies to Protect Children in an Irregular Migration Situation in Europe”** started in 2011. The project aims to spread understanding of the numerous barriers faced by children in an irregular situation in accessing education, health care and housing in Europe, and to develop strategies to overcome them. In the frame of this project, **two country specific workshops** held in London, UK and Warsaw, Poland provided a unique opportunity to discuss the situation of undocumented children living with their families with representatives of local authorities, schools, health professionals, NGOs, migrant community organisations, research institutes and government officials.



PICUM member Ruth Grove White, Migrants Rights Network, makes a comment during the workshop in the UK on the PICUM project on undocumented children, 6 October 2011.

ON THE HORIZON

The **PICUM project on undocumented children** began in March 2011. The results of the workshops – in the form of a comprehensive ‘toolkit’ indicating the legal rights of undocumented children and effective means to fulfil those rights – will be published and presented at a final EU-level conference in Brussels. A platform will also be established for their on-going refinement and application.

PICUM is increasingly being recognised by key institutions for its work on undocumented children, and more recent examples include producing a paper for UNICEF for the workshop on undocumented children at the Fundamental Rights Agency conference on irregular migrants.

Undocumented Women

PICUM continued to gain attention and appreciation for its Strategy on Undocumented Women.

PICUM's conference on "Undocumented Migrant Women in Europe: Bridging local realities to the EU policy level" held on 12-13 December in Brussels drew over 150 participants from more than 20 countries and brought the experiences of undocumented migrant women to the attention of key civil society organisations, professionals and institutional actors both in Europe and beyond. The event complemented inputs from the front-line made by professionals and policy makers working in the fields of sexual and reproductive health care, workplace rights, and gender-based violence, and facilitated the development of strategies for policy change on undocumented migrant women's access to basic rights, services and justice across Europe.

The involvement of migrants themselves with an experience of irregular migration status in advocating for change is a key priority for PICUM. This not only allows migrants to become empowered through self-organisation but confronts policy makers with compelling personal testimonies that encourage a shift in attitudes and perceptions. PICUM held a **pre-meeting of migrant women** at its office in December 11, to foster networking and promote their involvement at the "Undocumented Migrant Women in Europe" conference. As migrant women proved an essential source of knowledge, experience and expertise for PICUM's research, PICUM was keen to familiarise them with the policy context surrounding the event so as to encourage their active participation. PICUM produced illustrated hand-outs in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, explaining the roles and functions of the European institutions and the avenues through which



Participants at PICUM's conference on "Undocumented Migrant Women in Europe", 12-13 December 2011.

PICUM's network is working for policy change. Over twenty participants, including several undocumented women, attended this interactive session that established a solid support base for the subsequent event – particularly for those providing testimonies in the plenary.



PICUM Board Member, Edel McGinley chairing the pre-meeting with migrant women and advocates, 11 December 2011.

These two events were framed within PICUM's Strategy on Undocumented Migrant Women addressing the triple discrimination faced by undocumented women, as women, migrants and undocumented. By investigating their situation regarding access to health care and education, fair working conditions, exposure to and ability to report violence and exploitation, PICUM hopes to support local organisations active in the protection and empowerment of undocumented women and raise awareness at policy level regarding the discrimination, abuse and ill-treatment these women are facing in Europe.

ON THE HORIZON

PICUM's research results on this issue were collected in the report **"Strategies to End Double Violence Against Undocumented Women"** offering a practical overview of the methods that address gender-based discrimination and violence against undocumented women in Europe to be launched in 2012. This report seeks to inform advocates about methods that can be used to empower undocumented women to advocate for their rights. At the policy level, this report will illustrate how the prevention, protection and prosecution of gender-based violence can be strengthened by the inclusion of undocumented women. Key legislative, financial and practical measures from across Europe will be detailed so they can be supported and replicated.

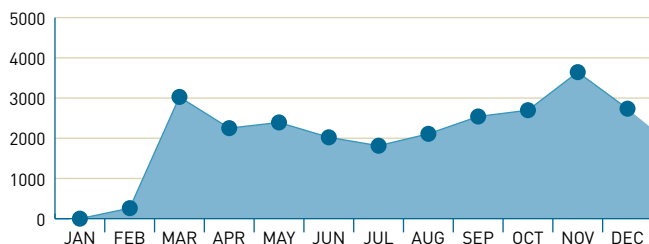
Communications

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. PICUM has built a strong reputation at the European level to serve as contact point on the issue of irregular migration for various media, politicians, researchers and other stakeholders.

Reshaping communication tools to reach out to wider audiences

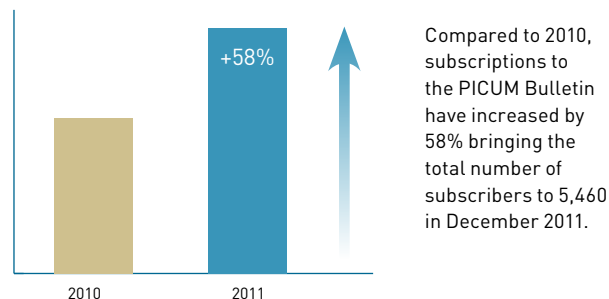
A series of new and updated communications tools, developed at the end of 2010 - a new website, news bulletin, quarterly news bulletin, blog and social media profiles (Twitter, Facebook, Flickr) were systematically employed in 2011 for the first time and outcomes can now be evaluated.

The **new website** was launched on 24 February 2011 and had a total of 107,529 page views and 39,162 visits in 2011. Of these 21,927 were unique visitors. Visits have been steadily increasing since the day of the launch and reached a maximum of 369 per day on November 28. Besides being regularly updated with new content, the website has also gone through a constant renovation of its structure. The PICUM blog was launched to serve as a spotlight area



Visits to the PICUM website have been steadily increasing.

for members and partners where they are able to share comments and articles. 17 blog articles were posted in 2011 on the PICUM website and further promoted through social media channels.



In 2011, a **bi-monthly bulletin and a quarterly newsletter** replaced the previous monthly newsletter and the total number of newsletters doubled. The quarterly newsletter is a summary of the previous six bulletins and is translated into 6 languages, as was the old newsletter, in recognition of the fact that a significant percentage of PICUM subscribers speak languages other than English. PICUM continues to evaluate these changes and improve its news service according to the feedback from the readers. PICUM's newsletters are currently the only information sources dedicated to reporting exclusively on the situation of undocumented migrants in Europe. They report 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 States' borders.

An important change in early 2011 was the use of the **social media tools**, Facebook, Twitter and Flickr. Thanks to a rapid increase in PICUM's Facebook page "likes" and

Twitter “followers”, social media became at the end of 2011 an integral part of PICUM’s communications strategy and played an important role in creating significant new opportunities for networking and awareness-raising activities, such as the web documentary.

Engaging with the media

In 2011 PICUM published six press releases and the PICUM staff and board was quoted by at least 12 newspapers, radio and television outlets. PICUM staff appeared on Danish and Cypriot national TV, on Czech radio and in the Swedish and Cypriot written press. PICUM’s Director participated in a EuroParlTV debate on seasonal workers and was featured in the European Voice newspaper.



Logos of some newspapers and broadcasters who quoted PICUM in 2011

The communications team started at the end of 2011 to elaborate different tools to help PICUM staff maintain coherence and improve messaging when responding to interviews and media queries and writing articles and editorials. PICUM developed narrative schemes for each area of PICUM’s work by breaking the main issues down into three main discussion points: the frame of the discourse, the suggested solutions and the values that inspire and drive our work. The narrative schemes were only the most concrete outcomes of a series of meetings and trainings on communications aimed at increasing PICUM’s visibility in the media.

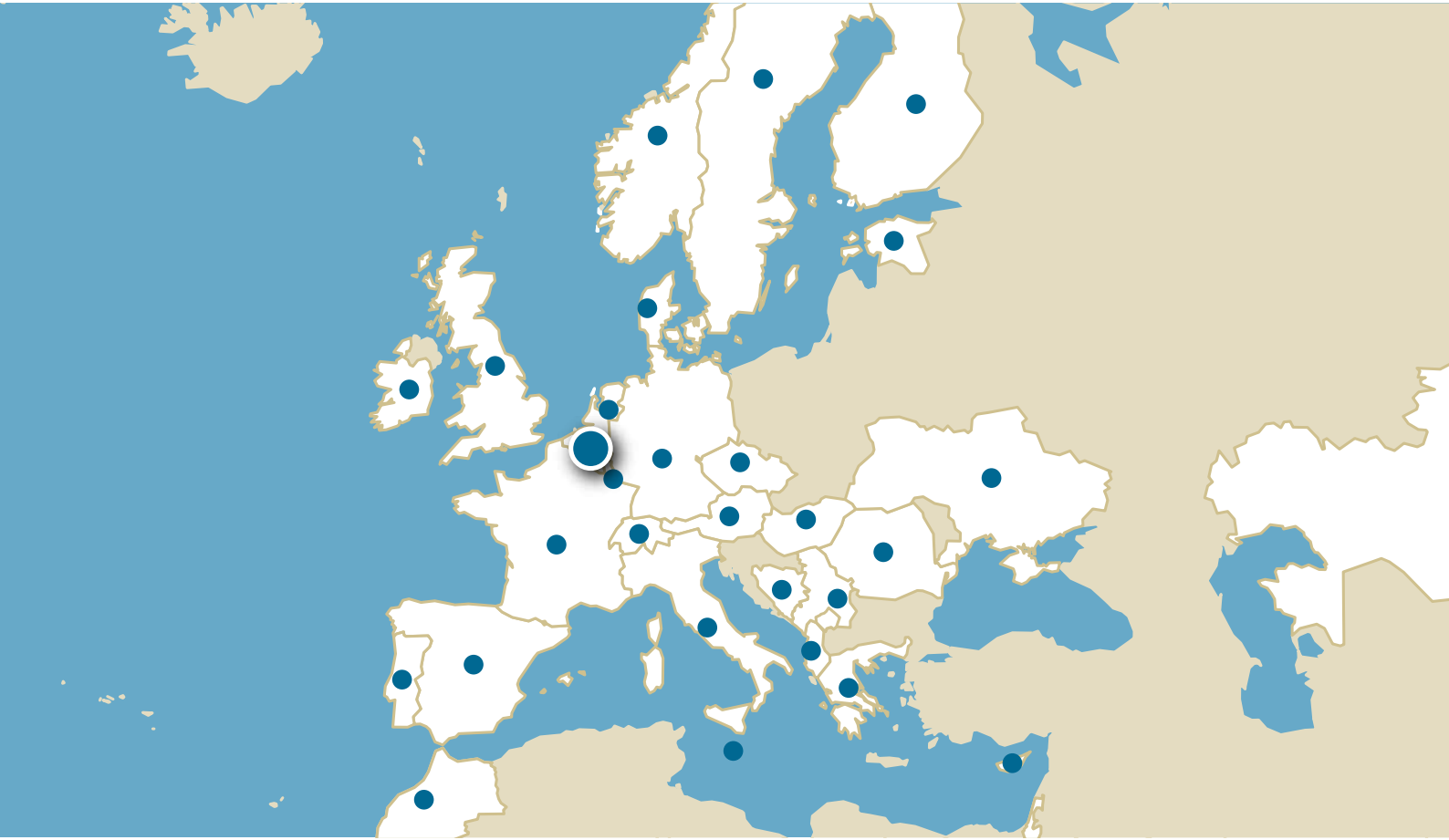
ON THE HORIZON

2011 saw the start of the production of PICUM’s ambitious project “**Undocumentary**”, a web-documentary on the daily realities faced by undocumented migrants living in Europe, with stories told by irregular migrants, migrants’ rights defenders, professionals and public authorities and collected in Almeria (Spain), Nicosia (Cyprus), Milan (Italy), Paris (France), Amsterdam (The Netherlands), Brussels (Belgium) and Gothenburg (Sweden). The interactive format aims at reaching out to the general public but, at the same time, it provides more informed audiences with extra instruments to deepen their knowledge of the issues. The official presentation of the “Undocumentary” will take place in 2012, but some videos were already used in 2011 in support of some PICUM presentations at conferences with very good results in terms of fostering interest and debate.



PICUM Communications Officer, Nicola Flamigni, interviewing Maja Lundqvist from the Ain't a Woman Campaign.

Membership



PICUM's membership extends across 38 countries with members present in 22 of the 27 EU member states

In 2011, PICUM's membership included 138 Affiliated Members and more than 150 Ordinary Members

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.

At the same time PICUM members benefit greatly from being part of an active and open international network that strengthens their capacities through trainings, workshops, networking and information sharing.

PICUM's member organisations (Affiliated organisations) differ in size, sector of expertise and type of services provided. They are faith-based organisations, shelters, trade unions, humanitarian assistance organisations and international NGOs.

PICUM Ordinary members are individuals who are involved in humanitarian activities concerning undocumented migrants and/or are active in NGOs.

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.

For details on joining PICUM, please visit www.picum.org



PICUM members convene once a year at the Annual General Assembly, which is held in Brussels.

List of Affiliated PICUM Members in 2011

Albania

- Qendra Avokatise Luli

Austria

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

Belgium

- Abraço
- Bond Zonder Naam
- CAW Artevelde Transithuis
- CSC Brussels
- De Loodsen v.z.w.
- De Meeting v.z.w.
- Antwerps Minderhedencentrum de Acht
- Filipino Chaplaincy
- Foyer
- Kerkwerk Multicultureel Samenleven
- Kruispunt Migratie-Integratie vzw
- Le Monde des Possibles asbl
- Medimmigrant
- Or.C.A. - Organisatie voor Clandestiene Arbeidsmigranten
- Oriëntatiepunt Gezondheidszorg Oost-Vlaanderen
- Plate-forme Mineurs En Exil - Platform Kinderen Op De Vlucht
- Point d'Appui
- Protestant Sociaal Centrum

- Samahan - Filipino Migrant Workers Union in Belgium
- Sante Mentale & Exclusion Sociale (SMES-Europa asbl)
- Verenigde Protestantse Kerk in België
- Vluchtelingen Onthaalgroep Sint Niklaas

Bosnia-Herzegovina

- La Strada B&H Mostar

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

- 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

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

Germany

- Agisra - Köln
- BAG Asyl in der Kirche
- Europäisches Bürgerforum in der BRD
- Flüchtlingsrat Kreis Coesfeld
- Flüchtlingsrat Nordrhein Westfalen
- Förderverein Niedersächsischer Flüchtlingsrat e.V.
- IG Metall - Vorstand
- Medinetz Bremen
- Pax Christi Deutschland
- Pro Asyl

Greece

- Hellenic Action for Human Rights-Pleiades
- I-RED - Institute for Rights, Equality and Diversity

Hungary

- International Law Research and Human Rights Monitoring Organisation

India

- RRHEDS - Redemption Research for Health and Educational Development Society

Ireland

- Immigrant Council of Ireland
- Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
- Ruhama
- SIPTU - Services Industrial Professional and Technical Union

Israel

- Kav LaOved

Italy

- Associazione Centro Astalli
- NAGA - Associazione Volontaria di Assistenza Socio-Sanitaria e per i Diritti di Stranieri e Nomadi

Kazakhstan

- Sana Sezim - The Legal Center for Women's Initiatives
- Women Support Centre

Kosovo

- Ojq shpresa demokratike

Luxemburg

- ASTI - Association de soutien aux travailleurs immigrés asbl

Malta

- Jesuit Refugee Service Malta

Morocco

- RMTMD - Réseau Marocain Transnational Migration Développement

Nepal

- Forum for Human Rights and Public Health-Nepal (Friendship-Nepal)

Netherlands

- ASKV - Amsterdams Solidariteits Komitee Vluchtelingen
- Commissie Justitia et Pax Nederland
- Dokters van de Wereld
- EMFA - Ecumenical Ministry for Filipinos Abroad

- FairWork
- Indonesian Migrant Workers Union
- OKIA
- PHAROS
- Stichting INLIA Groningen-International Network of Local Initiatives with Asylum Seekers
- Stichting LOS
- Stichting Mamre
- Stichting OMZO - Pauluskerk
- Stichting Ros
- STIL - Solidariteitsorganisatie Voor Mensen Zonder Verblijfsvergunning
- Respect Network
- Trusted Migrants
- United Migrant Domestic Workers in the Netherlands

Norway

- Antirasistisk Senter

Pakistan

- ICHR - International Council for Human Rights and Social Justice

Portugal

- Jesuit Refugee Service Portugal
- PROSAUDESC - Associação de Promotores de Saúde Ambiente e Desenvolvimento Sócio Cultural

Romania

- Soros Foundation Romania

Serbia

- Felicitas

Spain

- ACCEM - Asociación Comisión Católica Española de Migración
- APDHA - Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos de Andalucía
- Caritas Diocesana de Barcelona
- Centro Pueblos Unidos
- Federación Andalucía Acoge
- Interculturalia - Intercultural Studies and Research
- MCAPAZ- Asociación Movimiento Canario por la Paz
- Salud y Familia
- Federación Red Acoge

Sweden

- Caritas Sverige
- Immigrant - Institute
- The English International Association of Lund
- Rosengrenska

Switzerland

- CCSI - Centre de contact Suisses-immigrés
- Collectif de soutien aux sans-papiers de Genève
- FIZ - Fachstelle Frauenhandel und Frauenmigration
- Sans-papiers Kollektive Bern
- Sans-papiers Anlaufstelle Zürich
- SIT- Syndicat interprofessionnel des travailleurs et travailleuses

United Kingdom

- Centre for Migration Policy Research
- Hackney Migrant Centre
- HACT - Housing Association Charitable Trust
- Immigration Advisory Service

- JCWI - Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants
- Latin American Women's Rights Service
- Maternity Action
- MRN - Migrants' Rights Network
- Migrant Workers' North West
- Praxis
- SEEDS
- STEP - Law and Migrant Rights Centre, Northern Ireland

Ukraine

- Lviv Regional Branch of the European Youth Parliament

USA

- NELP - National Employment Law Project

European and International Organisations

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

Governance and Staff

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 organisation 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) – Organisation for Undocumented Workers (O.R.C.A.), Belgium

Reyes Castillo – ACCEM, Spain

Fanny Detloff – Beauftragte für Menschenrechte, Migration und Flucht der Nordelbischen Ev.-Luth.Kirche, Germany

Franck Düvell – Medinetz, Germany

George Joseph – Caritas Sweden, Sweden

Edel McGinley – Migrant Rights Centre Ireland (MRCI), Ireland

Pede Saya – Intercultural Management Consultant, the Netherlands Management Committee



PICUM Secretariat

Michele LeVoy (Director)

Paul Geeraerts (Office and Financial Administrator)

Eve Geddie (Programme Officer – Undocumented Women)

Kadri Soova (Advocacy Officer)

Lilana Keith (Programme Officer)

Nicola Flamigni (Communications Officer)

Alexandrine Pirlot de Corbion (Communications Assistant)

Marta Grosso (Project Officer – Beyond Irregularity)

Sangeetha Iengar (Project Officer – Children's Project)

Marta Mateus (Project Assistant – Children's Project)



Interns and Volunteers

Interns

Interns play a key role in helping PICUM to realise 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 Sylwia Czort, Tim Hoff, Kim Anh Nguyen, Deirdre Plant and Nicholas Hernanz for their contributions to the organisation in 2011.

Volunteer Translators, Proofreaders and Compilers

PICUM has more than a hundred volunteers contributing to the production of the newsletter on a monthly basis. 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 2011:

COMPILERS

Austria – Sonja Dolinsek
Austria – Brita Pohl
Belgium and The Netherlands – Maurice van der Velden
Belgium and The Netherlands – Barbara De Witte
Bulgaria – Marina Nikolova
Denmark – Louise Christensen
Finland – Anna Simola
France/Belgium (French speaking) – Hélisène Habart
Germany – Baerbel Reissmann
Germany – Katherina Häusler
Greece – Olga Tsatsani
Italy/UN – Elena Cusimano
Poland – Dagmara Szuberska
Poland – Kamil Pawlak
Portugal – Tatiana Couto
Spain – Tania Gonzàles
Spain – Silvia Rueda
Sweden/Scandinavia – Josefina Streling

TRANSLATORS - DUTCH

Joke Barbry
Machteld Boussemaere
Hanne Carlé
Rut Van Caudenberg
Verena Elders
Walter Ganzeboom

Deirdre Gouwy
Lillian Hoppers
Daniëlle Kurpershoek
Joke Lambelin
Johanna Leenders
Rilke Mahieu
Sayira Maruf
Laura Pino
Natalie Schut
Maurice Van der Velden
Dieter Van Moorhem

TRANSLATORS - FRENCH

Joaquine Barbet
Julien Blanc
Kim Bouisson
Clotilde Caillault
Anne-Charlotte Deschamps
Bernadette Doutreligne
Mounia Essefiani
Claire Alix Giraudet
Nawel Guellal
Hélisène Habart
Mariéme Kane
Nancy Katambala
Odette Klaes
Patrick Kouassi
Joke Lambelin
Mathilde Laroussi
Elodie Mignard

Marika Neville
Jean De Dieu Nikiema
Dominique Rodriguez
Amandine Rozet
Olga Tsatsani
Yasmina Zahraoui

TRANSLATORS - GERMAN

Anneliese Abney
Miriam Aced
Miriam Aced
Sonja Dolinsek
Martina Ferstl
Leon Freude
Andrea Grossmann
Katharina Haeusler
Lisa Hartlmüller
Anja Härtwig
Birte Homann
Hannah Huser
Stefanie Klank
Jonny Koerner
Sascha Marschang
Margret Müller
Mandy Roenicke
Sylvia Sánchez Villa
Katja Schatte
Barbara Schuler
Sandy Schuman

Franziska Simon
Lydia Turnwald
Katharina Vogels
Christina Vogt

TRANSLATORS - ITALIAN

Sara Alimenti
Sara Eloise Blangero
Valentina Brogna
Marzia Cardinali
Laila Castaldo
Rebeca Ciciola
Federica Cinadro
Elena Cusimano
Maria Diletta Damin
Niccolo Denti
Anna Maria Desiderio
Roberta Di Girolamo
Greta Faggiani
Chiara Giordano
Maria Giovanna Mulé
Letizia Lo Giacco
Facchini Lucia
Pietro Messina
Elena Mondo
Virginia Negro
Eleonora Nestola
Gabriele Pedrini
Andrea Piu

Francesco Positano
Raffaella Puggioni
Isabella Rossi
Carla Francesca Salis
Emanuela Salvo
Stefania Tedesco
Antonella Tesoro
Marta Udina
Barbara Maria Vaccani
Annalisa Vetrone
Elisa Zanini

TRANSLATORS - PORTUGUESE

Umme Ahmed
Isabel Allain
Renata Bernardo
Edgar Campos
Susana Carrilho
Daena Costa Neto
Tatiana Coutto
Teresa Esteves
Ricardo Ferreira
Alessandra Fontana
Joana Fontes Lima
Ana Furtado
Paula Gil
Magdala Gusmão
Maria Pilar Lopez Rod
Fernanda Martins

Debora Mateus
Daniela Medina
Dora Rebelo
Daniela Rodrigues
Ana Catarina Silva
Mariana Spratley
Sandra Tavares

TRANSLATORS - SPANISH

Leonor Abujatum
Maria Barreto
Paula Carello
Enrique de los Ángeles Trenado
Natacha Alesandra Dorval Defferary
Ignacio Granados Laguna
José Luis Gutiérrez Aranda
Pernille Jensen
Alba I. León Hernández
Carlos Martin Ciscar
Marta Mateos
Debora Mateus

Maribel Moya
Elena Novikova
Adriana Ortiz Martinez
Gloria Pardo
Ana Mercedes Pérez Camporeale
Carolina Poli
Dora Rebelo
María Ruigómez Moreno
Cristina Sánchez Bustamante
Selma Seferovic
Priscilla Solano
Karla Valenzuela
Maria Vidali
Carolina Villalta

TRANSLATORS - POLISH

Emilia Sroczynska
Dagmara Szuberska

TRANSLATORS - SWEDISH

Tanja Zhyla

PICUM Financial Report

J A N U A R Y - D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 1

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	590,450.00	STAFF	480,546.00
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion: "Progress: Framework Partnership For Operating Grants"	533,361.00	ACTIVITIES	255,807.00
		(Including travel, organization of conferences and meetings, publications)	
DG Justice, Freedom and Security - Directorate D: Fundamental Rights and Citizenship: "Building Strategies to Improve Protection of Undocumented Children in Europe"	57,089.00	FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATION	77,004.00
PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS	231,058.00		
Zennström Philanthropies	115,000.00		
Sigrid Rausing Trust	72,725.00		
Network of European Foundations - European Program on Integration and Migration (NEF - EPIM III)	33,333.00		
Commissie projecten in Nederland (PIN)	10,000.00		
MEMBERSHIP FEES	10,425.00		
UNRESTRICTED CORE	16,137.00		
TOTAL INCOME	848,070.00	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	813,357.00

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- DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
- DG Justice, Freedom and Security - Directorate D: Fundamental Rights and Citizenship
- Zennström Philanthropies
- Sigrid Rausing Trust
- Network of European Foundations/European Program on Integration and Migration (NEF-EPIM III)
- Commissie projecten in Nederland (PIN)



SIGRID RAUSING TRUST





PLATFORM FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON
UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS

Rue du Congrès/Congresstraat 37-41,
post box 5

1000 Brussels

Belgium

Tel: +32/2/210.1780

Fax: +32/2/210.1789

info@picum.org

www.picum.org