
Court victory: systemic pushback exposed

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International newsletter

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Dear reader,

In these tumultuous times, we find hope in taking action together. In this edition of our international newsletter, we bring you updates on a historic court ruling against Greece's systemic pushbacks, a new collaborative project on trauma-sensitive support, the ongoing challenges faced by refugees in Cyprus and the devastating impact of the U.S. aid freeze. Plus, discover new partnerships and wins for refugee legal support in the Netherlands.

Court victory: Greece's systemic pushbacks exposed

For the first time, the European Court of Human Rights has ruled that Greece is guilty of systematic pushbacks. This landmark case, brought forward by a Turkish asylum seeker, confirms what we and our partners have long documented: illegal, violent expulsions at Europe's borders. The ruling has major political implications - what happens next?

Read more about this crucial case →



Taking care of the carers: European project on trauma-sensitive support

The road to safety is not just about crossing borders; it's also about healing from trauma. Our new Caring to Include project focuses on trauma-sensitive approaches for refugees and those who support them. By addressing mental well-being, we aim to remove barriers to social inclusion together with partner NGOs in Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Estonia, Hungary and Malta.

Discover how we are making a difference →



Thousands perished on the Spanish migration route in 2024

In 2024 alone, thousands of people died trying to reach Europe through Spain. Our partner Caminando Fronteras has been fighting against pushbacks and for the protection of people on the move for years. We stand with them in this effort, because every life lost is one too many.

Learn how we support Caminando Fronteras →



Hope and hardship: refugees trapped in Cyprus

Amid systemic pushbacks and tightening asylum policies, Cyprus holds the highest number of asylum seekers per capita in the EU. Yet, those seeking refuge face endless waiting times, poor living conditions, and rising xenophobia. How do refugees navigate life in limbo while fighting for dignity and a better future?

Read more bout the situation in Cyprus →



From Curaçao to Türkiye: the devastating impact of the aid freeze

The Trump administration's sudden aid freeze is leaving millions of people, including many refugees, without vital support. As humanitarian programmes grind to a halt worldwide, displaced people face devastating consequences – left without protection, resources, or a path to safety. Our partners in Curaçao and Türkiye are also hit.

Read more about the impact of this decision →



Did you know...

...the Dutch Council for Refugees has selected six new partner NGOs in Greece, Italy, Romania and Spain for our Step Fund? This fund is aimed at empowering the capacity of NGOs and their impact on refugee support and human rights protection at the borders of Europe.

Meet our new partners →



Court blocks Minister's budget cuts on legal support for refugees, for now

A crucial court ruling has kept our Legal Protection Programme for asylum seekers running – for now. The Dutch Minister of Migration Marjolein Faber had planned drastic cuts to our legal aid by more than 50%, but the court has now ruled that she cannot do that just like this on such short notice. While this is a temporary win, uncertainty about the future remains.

Find out what this means for our work →



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