

NEWSLETTER, edition 13 no. 11
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CONTENT

1. ADMISSIONS POLICY	2
2. WHAT'S ON	2

PETITION SUPPORT THE EU-DIRECTIVE FOR THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN

We are calling on the EU to enhance and swiftly adopt the Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence, independent of status.

The Directive should criminalise all forms of sexual exploitation of women, including sexual violence and abuse over women's sexuality, and all forms of on-line violence against women and girls.

We also call to set high standards for specialised support mechanisms to protect survivors and ensure their access to justice and reparation.

<https://act.wemove.eu/campaigns/violence-against-women>

1. ADMISSIONS POLICY

Court: in case of a circumcision risk in Sierra Leone also no safety in another part of the country

This Sierra Leonean woman applied for asylum because she fears her daughter will be circumcised and she cannot protect her. The Netherlands rejected the asylum request on the grounds that the woman could settle in another part of Sierra Leone. The woman disputes that because she has no support network there.

The court agrees with her. After all, Nigerian women (or their daughter) who fear being circumcised are not expected to go to another part of the country. It is unclear why Sierra Leonean women are expected to do so. (Court of Amsterdam, NL23.8744, 28.4.23)

Court: balancing of interests required for Nigerian mother with legal child and father with status

This case concerns a Nigerian mother of a child with a residence permit with the father. The father has status in the Netherlands and he does not want to leave the Netherlands because he works here and also has other children in the Netherlands. The mother is the child's main caregiver, the father has a visitation arrangement and contributes financially.

The court finds that the child's interest in being able to be with his mother in the Netherlands weighs heavily. See [here](#).

Rb: compensation based on medical reports for trafficking victim

This man went with a Dutch man under false pretences and was subsequently held in a house for two months and forced to perform sexual acts with six men. He filed a police report and a psychiatric report and an iMMO report were drawn up. He is seeking compensation from the Compensation Fund. The judge finds that there is sufficient evidence of victimisation and awards the compensation of EUR 10,000. (Court of Amsterdam, AMS 21/4367, 7.2.23)

WBV 2023/11: adaptation of time limits for the reflection period for victims of human trafficking

Following a ruling by the EU Court of Justice in October 2022, the State Secretary decided to grant a reflection period to victims of human trafficking who have 'lawful residence', for instance if they are in an asylum procedure.

In principle, a reflection period of 3 months applies, but for victims who fall under the Dublin rules and are thus referred to another EU country by the Netherlands, a reflection period of 30 days applies. A few years ago, the Netherlands had abolished the reflection period for this group altogether. See [here](#).

2. WHAT'S ON

Conference "From Dependent to Independent Right of Residence!", 23 June 2023

To put the issue of dependent residence rights back on the public and political agenda, the Platform for Self-Determination and Residence Rights has undertaken various activities over the past two years, including research ([Research Report Be Patient](#)); information meetings and lobbying. The outcome of all these activities, with a look to the future, will be presented and further discussed on Friday 23 June.

For questions or to sign up in advance: zelfbeschikking.verblijfsrecht@gmail.com.

IOM: Monitoring the Reintegration of Trafficking Survivors: Study and Toolkit

This report presents findings from a study undertaken in four countries (Bangladesh, Nigeria, the Republic of Moldova and Tunisia) with 100 victims of trafficking (VoT) and 40 individuals with ties to or expertise in reintegration programming and introduces a tool kit to monitor the VoT's reintegration experiences. The monitoring tool kit aims to support the identification of factors that specifically affect the reintegration of VoT as well as best practices for effective support provision by capturing the individual understandings, preferences and reintegration priorities.

<https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/Study-and-Toolkit-Monitoring.pdf>, 25.4.23

Sudanese refugee organisation's petition

This petition aims to highlight the situation of Sudanese asylum seekers in the Netherlands and calls on the government to take immediate action to provide them with the protection and support they need. By signing this petition, you are lending your voice to an important cause and joining others demanding change.

<https://actie.degoedezaak.org/petitions/end-the-plight-of-sudanese-asylum-seekers-in-the-netherlands-in-light-of-ongoing-war-in-sudan>

Since 2003, the LOS Foundation (National Undocumented Migrants Support Centre Foundation) has been the knowledge centre for people and organisations who provide assistance to migrants without residence permits ('undocumented migrants'). The LOS Foundation is committed to the basic rights of these migrants and their children.