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EUROPEAN MIGRATION FORUM: 4-5 DECEMBER BRUSSELS

The EMF is a platform for dialogue between civil society and the European institutions on issues relating to migration, asylum and the integration. This year's EMF aims to address how to identify and support migrants and refugees with specific needs, examine public attitudes and communication on migration and inclusion, as well as look at sustainable labour market integration.

The forum will seek an interactive and participatory approach from participants and EU policy-makers alike. The core of the event will consist of roundtable discussions, working groups, and panel discussions. All participants will be expected to actively engage in discussions.

The deadline for applications is **14 September 2023**. We look forward to receiving your application.
<https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/agenda/our-events/events/european-migration-forum-8th-meeting>

1. ADMISSION POLICY

Council of State: gap in residence status correct if application to extend partner permit made too late
A residence permit on the basis of being a partner is valid for 5 years. After that, an extension must be applied for. If this is not done in time, the right to residence ends and a 'residencegap' arises. Consequently, no application for naturalisation can be made, according to two pronouncements by the Council of State: [here](#) and [here](#)

Court: ID check of terrified man who lived in shed was correct
This case was about an Indonesian man who lived in a shed. The police walked round the house to the shed and asked the man to show his passport. They are only allowed to do that if there are concrete indications that someone is staying in the country illegally, or if a crime has been committed. Nevertheless, the judge ruled that the police were within their rights to ask for the man's passport. See [here](#)

2. ACTIVITIES

DCI: Terminology checker about children and migration
Defence for Children have launched an online terminology checker about language around children and migration. The guide was created following discussions with children and young people with and without residence status. The aim is to help tackle discrimination and polarisation. See [here](#).

Pharos: easy-to-understand information about maternity care
Certain groups of women make too little use of maternity care, such as single mothers and families with low levels of formal education or a migration background. Yet it is precisely those families in vulnerable situations who need extra care in the first year of the baby's life. No maternity care, or too little of it, has an impact on the health of mothers and babies.
That is why Pharos has made information about maternity care easier to understand. See [here](#)

PACE: urgent need for regularisation and access to social rights for 'invisible workers' in EU
According to the Assembly, Europe is home to around 4-5 million undocumented persons, including many 'invisible workers'. They remain "fragile socio-economically – with poor or no access to socio-economic rights and at high risk of abuse, exploitation or even forced labour".
PACE proposes a set of good practices for Member States to adopt in regularising the status of undocumented workers and facilitating their integration. Some of these include providing multilingual information on official procedures, ensuring that changes in employment do not affect residence status, enabling direct applications by undocumented workers themselves and streamlining admissibility criteria, granting residence and work permits to those who cooperate with authorities in reporting abuses, considering family situations in admissibility criteria, and ensuring access to healthcare for all undocumented workers.
The Assembly also highlighted the importance of access to justice for undocumented or irregular workers, emphasising the need to separate courts from migration authorities to enable workers to exercise their rights without fear of deportation.
See [here](#).

Since 2003, the LOS Foundation (the Dutch acronym for 'Landelijk Ongedocumenteerden Steunpunt') has been the knowledge centre for people and organizations providing assistance to undocumented migrants. LOS Foundation devotes itself to the basic rights of these migrants and their children.