



NEWSLETTER, volume 13 no. 25
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VU CONFERENCE: MAKING RIGHTS A REALITY FOR UMW, 17-19 JUNI 2024

The "Making Rights a Reality for undocumented migrant workers" conference is aimed at bringing together international law instruments protecting the rights of undocumented people, with human rights activism and practice. The conference strives to break new ground in the possibilities for international norms and their effective protection.

We encourage contributions by migrant activists and social organizations which should include in particular the voices of undocumented migrants, and topics such as migrant worker rights-claiming, trade unions and the human rights of migrant workers and much more.

Please submit your proposal by 19 February 2024 at makingrightsreality.rch@vu.nl.
<https://acmrl.org/call-for-papers-acmrl-making-rights-conference/>

1. BASIC RIGHTS

Dutch Administrative High Court (CRvB): weigh in individual situation when cutting social assistance in case partner is undocumented

This case concerns a woman receiving social assistance, which was cut back to 50% of the amount for married people following her marriage to an undocumented man. The CRvB finds that the principle of cutting social assistance when marrying an undocumented person is not discriminatory. However, an individual assessment must always be made, weighing in all necessary costs. As Social Services had omitted taking into account certain costs (such as the policy excess of the health care insurance, dentist, hairdresser, and medication), the CRvB concludes that the woman is short of money. She is entitled to an adjustment of her social assistance. See [here](#) (Dutch only).

Court: reporting sexual violence does not protect from eviction

This case concerns an undocumented woman who reported sexual violence. Some time later, she was detained. She has applied for suspension of eviction. However, the judge finds that only human trafficking victims may be granted right of residence. This does not apply to victims of sexual violence. The woman can be evicted and thus was justly detained. See [here](#) (Dutch only).

2. ADMISSION POLICY

Council of state (RvS): even after 8 years human trafficker poses risk upon return to Nigeria

This case concerns a man who became a human trafficking victim in 2015. He entered this into his asylum request. This request was rejected because the event was too long ago. The judge agreed to these grounds. However, the Council of State finds that there may still be a risk of retaliation. This becomes clear from, for instance, the latest Nigeria country report. See [here](#) (Dutch only).

Minister for Legal Protection: forced marriage and abandoned women

Forced marriage is a complex and often hidden phenomenon, and no hard figures are known about it. In 2014, the Verwey-Jonker Institute made an estimate. This revealed that in 2011 and 2012, there may have been between 674 and 1914 cases of forced marriage. This estimate is much higher than the 180 reports of forced marriage both within the Netherlands and abroad that Statistics Netherlands registered for 2022. In 2022, the Dutch Centre of Forced Marriage and Abandonment established 2 cases of forced marriage and 14 cases of abandonment. See [here](#) (Dutch only).

3. ACTIVITIES

[Presentation: Labour migration: an economical and demographic solution?](#), 11Dec 15hrs The Hague

The Dutch Advisory Council on Migration will present its (Dutch-language) survey regarding the contribution that labour migration may make to alleviate future demographic challenges. Please, register before 7 December at: secretariaat@adviesraadmigratie.nl

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