

European Council on Refugees and Exiles

Annual General Conference 2019

And UNHCR Europe NGO Consultation

Organised by ECRE and UNHCR

Brussels, 23 and 24 October 2019

Venue: Renaissance Brussels Hotel, Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels, Belgium
Copenhagen/Essen/Warsaw Room

WORKSHOP 7

Title	Limiting the use of detention in the Common European Asylum System
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exchange with other ECRE members based on their own experiences• Engage with EU institutions on how to address the increased use of detention in the context of CEAS• Explore the use of alternatives to detention and exchange on lessons learnt of promoting those• Discuss about possible common advocacy synergies to reduce the use of detention in the current context of asylum
Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alexandra Segenstedt, Legal Adviser, Swedish Red Cross (chair)• Mariana Stoyanova, Programme manager, Refugee-migrant service, Bulgarian Red Cross• Margareta Djordjevic, Policy Officer, Asylum Unit, European Commission• Oreeditse Florah Mpanye, Voices Network (in the context of AVAIL project implemented in the UK by British Red Cross)• Stefan Maier, Senior Policy Officer, UNHCR Regional Representation for EU Affairs in Brussels (RREUA)
Description and structure	<p>Description</p> <p>This workshop aims at scrutinizing how the EU asylum legal framework increasingly allows for the use of detention and identifying alternatives.</p> <p>During the workshop, we will look at recent legislative proposals, that propose expanding the lawfulness of detention as well as in the implementation of the hotspot approach.</p>

Speakers will address the grounds for and conditions of detention as well as its consequences on the well-being of migrants.

This workshop will allow national and EU stakeholders to explore how alternatives to detention can be promoted in the context of the CEAS.

To this end, it will also build on the findings of previous programmes and projects implemented by non-state actors in Europe so as to inform current EU policy reforms.

Indicative structure:

- An interactive panel discussion is envisaged.
- First, each speaker will have 5 minutes to present themselves.
- The chair will ask concrete questions to each of the speakers. Each speaker will have around 10 minutes to respond to the respective question.
- Q&As will follow.
- Finally, each speaker will have 5 minutes available for recap/closing remarks.