

Annual General Conference 2022, 28 June, Brussels

Asylum in Europe: Strategies for Resistance and Resilience

Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Bruxelles

Workshop 8: Brussels plenary room, 14h00 – 15h30

Title: EU External Borders: Access Denied

Lead organisation(s): ECRE

Objectives:

- To explore methods for tackling the violations of human rights taking place at the EU's borders, including recommendations for action from the EU and from civil society.

Moderator: Eva Singer, Director of Asylum Department, Danish Refugee Council and Member of ECRE Board

Speakers:

- Tineke Strik, Member of the European Parliament, Greens/EFA
- Sophie Ngo-Diep, Senior Programme Manager, EPIM
- Josephine Liebl, Head of Advocacy, ECRE

Structure/method:

Comments from the speakers in response to the following questions:

- What are the most effective methods for ensuring accountability for violations taking place at the EU's external borders?
- How can accountability be assured for the Member States, as well as for the EU?
- How will the proposals for reform of the EU asylum law and for reform of the Schengen Borders Code (SBC) affect the situation at the borders?
- How can the proposals be improved?
- What is the role of the various EU institutions and agencies in addressing the current situation?
- What more can civil society do?

Followed by a facilitated discussion with all participants. All participants joining the session are welcome to share their views of methods for accountability and for prevention of violations.

Description:

There is extensive evidence of the violations of human rights taking place at the EU's external borders. Nonetheless, states, EU agencies and individuals appear to be able to act with impunity. The panel will discuss the different methods for addressing violations at the borders, including those based on prevention and punishment. The role of the EU institutions and agencies will be considered, as well as the role of civil society.