

Press release
12.05.2015

New EU Agenda on Migration.

Why thousands of migrants deaths are needed to propose a European Migration policy?

The European Commission will propose a new EU Agenda on Migration on May 13th 2015. In that framework ARSIS, Destination Unknown campaign and its partners will continue to occur on a regular basis as a result of an irresponsible security-based European migration policy. Among those who lose their life at sea there are children, pregnant women and babies.

ARSIS hopes that the proposed EU Agenda on Migration will include the opening of legal channels for migrants to enter Europe safely, restart serious operations to save lives at sea.

ARSIS, Destination Unknown and its partners call on again European Heads of States and Governments to understand this is a European responsibility, and not the sole duty of external border countries like Greece, nor the one of few countries like Germany or Sweden that already host higher proportion of migrants than to other countries in Europe.

Dublin Asylum System must be revised

ARSIS also considers that any new policy cannot be coherently applied without the overcoming and revision of the current **Dublin Asylum system**. As far as the EU keeps on applying Dublin, the burden of asylum applications procedures will stay with the frontline countries whereas this must also be implemented by all European countries whatever the first arrival country is.

A child-focused Agenda on Migration

Destination Unknown calls for an adapted and child-focused EU migration and mobility policy, including protection measures from the very first arrival of the child until a long-term solution, based on the best interests of the child is found. Increased measures of child protection in countries of origin should also be supported as integral part of this strategy. Moreover, ARSIS continues to call for enhanced protection of European children on the move within the EU. European children moving within the EU are at risk of exploitation and abuse, they denied their right to be adequately protected in practice.



Few data on migrant children in Europe

The lowest estimates available report that 1700 migrants lost their lives in the Mediterranean Sea since the beginning of 2015. In 2014, among the total number of undocumented migrants who arrived in Europe, 15% were children (Frontex, 2014), and 25% of the total number of asylum applications in Europe were filed by children.

Destination Unknown Campaign

a global campaign to protect children on the move

With **Destination Unknown**, a global campaign led by Terre des Hommes, we protect children on the move, including unaccompanied and refugee children, through field projects dedicated to the reception, protection, psychosocial and legal support of children.

In the Euro-Mediterranean region, Destination Unknown Campaign is active with direct access to migrant children throughout field operations in Sicily (Terre des Hommes), Malta (KOPIN), Greece (ARSIS), Cyprus (Hope for Children Cyprus), Central and South-East Europe, Lebanon (INSAN), Egypt (Terre des Hommes) and the Middle East.

Destination Unknown campaign was launched in 2012 to raise awareness about violation of the rights of children on the move who are fleeing war, poverty and violence. According to the most recent data, children on the move who cross borders are nearly 35 million worldwide (source: UN).

The Campaign also advocates for adequate policy changes enabling effective protection measures and to provide concrete solutions for these children who left their home, particularly those vulnerable to abuse, violence, exploitation and discrimination.

Know more on **Destination Unknown Campaign** to protect children on the move:

En. www.destination-unknown.org

El. <http://arsis.gr/drasis-ke-ipiresies/kampania-destination-unknown/>

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