

A permanent state of emergency? Human rights challenges at EU's external borders – and beyond

While millions of refugees are welcomed with open arms at EU's borders with Ukraine, those seeking protection at other external borders are exposed to a completely different reality. A militarized state of emergency at the Polish-Belarusian border, pushbacks in Croatia, “expulsiones en caliente” in the Spanish exclaves of Ceuta and Melilla, prison-like arrival centres on the Greek islands – everywhere measures are deployed that violate fundamental principles of the rule of law and human rights.

On which (different) discourses are European border policies based upon? How can the rights of asylum seekers be defended if emergency measures threaten to become the new normality at many external borders? And what is at stake for our constitutional state and our society as a whole if the state of emergency should become the leitmotif of European asylum and migration policy – as recently at the Polish-Belarusian border?

We want to discuss these questions with actors from civil society, politics and academia during the one-day conference. We will not stop at the EU's external borders, but also look at the externalisation of EU's asylum and migration policy to African countries, that plays an increasingly important role in the European border architecture.

The analysis of fundamental developments is not an end in itself. It is a necessary basis for discussing strategies on how, under the current circumstances, to implement the promise of the coalition agreement of the German government to “protect refugees” and to return to a “constitutional border protection” at all borders.

Time

Mon, 26.9.2022
09:30–17:00

Venue

Brot für die Welt
Caroline-Michaelis-
Straße 1
10115 Berlin

Languages

EN/DE
simultaneous
interpretation

Registration

Please register [here](#)

A permanent state of emergency?

Human rights challenges at EU's external borders – and beyond

09:30 Welcome and outline of the conference

Andreas Grünewald Brot für die Welt

09:40 Keynote I: On the state of EU's external borders

Prof. Tineke Strik MEP, Professor Citizenship and Migration Law (Radboud University)

10:25 Keynote II: Beyond the Mediterranean – Externalising the state of emergency?

Azizou Chehou Alarmphone Sahara, Niger

10:55 Break

11:15 Parallel Panels I

Border discourses: on the grammar of EU's asylum policies

Prof. Lars Castellucci Vice-Chairman of the Home Affairs Committee, Bundestag
Dr. Leander Kandilige Center for Migration Studies, University of Ghana

Lina Vosyliute Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS)

Chair: Franziska Vilmar
Amnesty International

Rule of law at the borders: on the ambiguous role of law in securing rights

Jakub Jaraczewski Democracy Reporting International (tbc)

Gruša Matevžič Hungarian Helsinki Committee

Dr. Dr. Maximilian Pichl, University Kassel

Chair: Hanaa Hakiki European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (tbc)

12:45 Break/Lunch

13:30 Parallel Panels II

Working in a state of emergency I: Humanitarian aid at the border

Agnieska Kosowicz
Polish Migration Forum (tbc)

Marie von Manteuffel
Médecins sans frontières

Chair: Katharina Voss
Diakonie Deutschland

Working in a state of emergency II:

Journalism and civic engagement at the border

Moctar Dan Yaye
Alarmphone Sahara, Niger

Franziska Grillmeier journalist, Greece

Milena Zajović Border Violence Monitoring Network, Croatia

Chair: Kerem Schamberger
medico international

15:00 Break

15:30 Strategic discussion: how to leave the state of emergency behind?

Minister of state Reem Alabali-Radovan (tbc)

Joanna Goodey European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (tbc)

Chair: Jonas Wipfler Misereor

17:00 End of conference