

ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE ON THE EU MIGRATION DEBATE



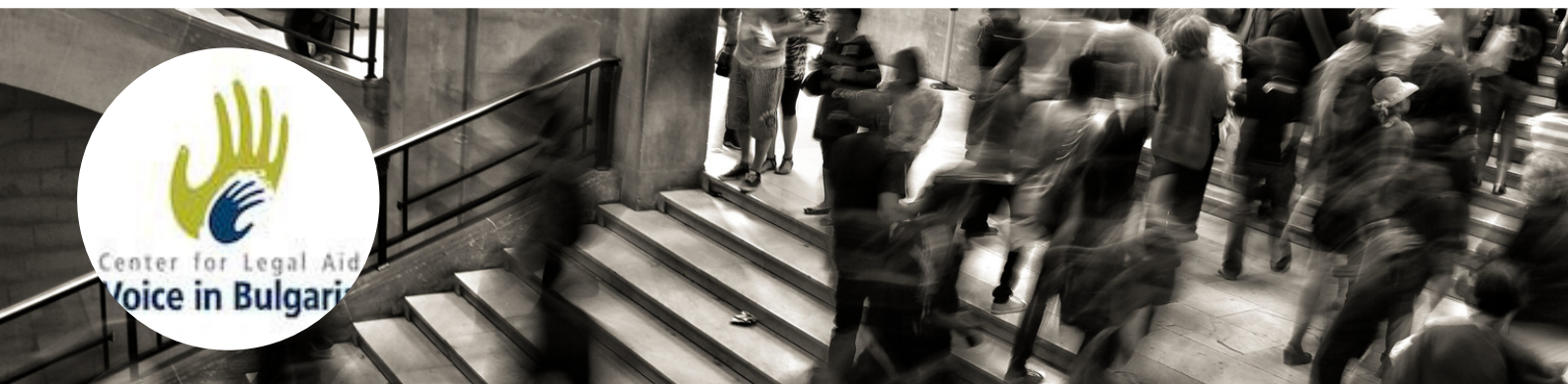
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BULGARIA AND THE EURO- MEDITERRANEAN REGION

Venue Project Lab
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Sofia, Bulgaria

Since its entry in the European Union, Bulgaria has been at the forefront of the challenges facing the establishment of a common European asylum and migration policy. After the Global Approach to Migration in 2005, and even more in the wake of the “Arab uprisings”, the European Union has engaged in a number cooperation processes on “mobility and security” where Bulgaria is involved as a Member State. If collaboration with MENA countries has intensified over the past few years in the field of migration and asylum at governance level, civil society organisations also have been very active across the Mediterranean in ensuring that cooperation processes are respectful of human rights, including the rights of migrants and refugees.

EuroMed Rights and the Centre for Legal Aid are please to invite you to an event bringing together over 15 participants from Morocco to Italy, from Spain to Turkey, from Tunisia to Jordan, with Bulgarian civil society organisations and officials. It will provide a unique opportunity to hear bring the Euro-Mediterranean perspective in this important debate.





EVENT PROGRAM

13:30 - 14:00 REGISTRATION

14:00 - 14:15 INTRODUCTION

Welcome speech, Diana Radoslavova, Centre for Legal Aid – Voice in Bulgaria
Introductory speech, Anitta Kynsilehto – TAPRI / EuroMed Rights EC Member

14:15 - 16:00 SESSION 1 The EU Agenda on Migration from a Bulgarian perspective

Challenges facing a first reception Member State of the EU

- International protection challenges, Shoira Ruzybaeva, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Bulgaria Representation
- Border management at the gate of the Schengen area, Stéphane Moissaing, Doctors Without Borders -MSF

Effective cooperation with third countries

- The importance of external cooperation to approach migration and asylum policies Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Bulgarian Presidency of the EU Council (TBC)
- The EU-Turkey declaration as a pattern for the region? Hakan Ataman, Citizens' Assembly, Turkey

Questions and answers

16:30 - 18:00 SESSION 2 EuroMed cooperation? Bringing the voice of civil society in the debate

When regional perspectives inform domestic policies

- Radostina Pavlova - Centre for Legal Aid, Voice in Bulgaria

EuroMed Rights' advocacy work on the list of "safe" countries

- Malek Kefif- Tunisian Forum on Economic and Social Rights

Solidarity as a response to restrictive policies

- Anitta Kynsilehto – TAPRI / EuroMed Rights EC Member

Questions and answers