

On the Move – Latest migration news

MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN BELGIUM

26/05/2021 – 07/06/2021

- Academics at the ULB and VUB Universities in Brussels [called](#) on the Belgian government to define clear and objective criteria for the regularization of undocumented people.

10/05/2021 – 26/05/2021

- On 19 May 2021, Myria, the Belgian Federal Migration Centre and independent national rapporteur on trafficking in human beings, published its [2020 Annual report trafficking and smuggling of human beings](#), *Behind closed doors*.
- On 19 May 2021, around 50 Vietnamese migrants were [rescued](#) off **Ostende**, on the Belgian coast, while their boat was in distress at sea. They had reportedly left France for reaching the UK but the boat went adrift towards Belgium.

29.03.2021 – 12.04.2021

- Amid the [#wearebelgiumtoo](#) campaign for regularisation, and following several actions and occupations, the Union of Undocumented Migrants for Regularisation (USPR) [met](#) with Belgian Secretary of State for Asylum and Migration Sammy Mahdi for a first dialogue on regularisation.

08/02/2021 – 22/02/2021

- The occupation of the Beguinage Church and of the University ULB [continues](#) in Brussels. Around 230 undocumented people, including 90 women and some children, of seven different nationalities are currently staying in the Beguinage Church. The people, united under the movement *L'union des sans papiers pour la regularisation*, are calling for their immediate regularisation and the recognition of their rights. Their actions are receiving more media attention and solidarity.

8/02/2021

- Since 31 January 2021, around 200 undocumented people **have occupied** the Beguinage Church in Brussels with the consent of the priest. They are calling on authorities to be heard and to be regularised.

24/11 – 08/12 2020

- Belgium **declared** it will transfer 150 refugees from Greece by the end of 2020.

15/10 – 26/10 2020

- The so-called “Bossuyt Commission”, in charge of evaluating the Belgian policy of voluntary returns and forced removal of foreigners, published its final report in mid-September 2020. Many Belgian civil society organisations **produced** a detailed analysis and assessment of this report, highlighting its flaws and loopholes.