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Issue 24/21, 28 November

Border externalisation: deportation, reintegration, documentation

Tunisia: Criminalisation of solidarity continues Italy abolishes transparency over border policies EU "operationalises" police data access plans New material from across Europe and beyond

## Border externalisation: deportation, reintegration, documentation

The latest edition of our bulletin *Outsourcing borders: Monitoring EU externalisation policy*, published in partnership with *migration-control.info*, came out earlier this week.

It includes analyses on Frontex's growing role in EU "reintegration" policy and its effects in The Gambia and Nigeria, and an examination of potential future changes to EU deportation law.

More than 15 new documents are published alongside the bulletin, many of them from the Coordination Group on Migration, a secretive body in which the European Commission and EU member states coordinate expenditure on external migration control projects.

The bulletin is available here.

## **Tunisia: Criminalisation of solidarity continues**

Dozens of organisations and individuals, including Statewatch, are demanding the release of individuals detained by Tunisian authorities for their work supporting migrants and refugees. The call comes in response to the recent arrest and detention of Abdallah Said, whose organisation, Les Enfants de la Lune, cares for disabled Tunisian and non-Tunisian children. His arrest is the latest incident in "a troubling trend of criminalizing solidarity in Tunisia, which has intensified since May 2024," says a joint statement.

Read the statement here.

## Italy has nullified the right to transparency regarding borders

The State Council has confirmed an "absolute" lack of access concerning acts related to the "management of borders and immigration". The decision follows a legal appeal by *Altreconomia*. Meanwhile, the government's procurement worth millions of euros for Libya, Tunisia and Egypt continues.

Full article here.

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## Policing by design: EU "operationalises" police data access plans

In June, <u>we reported on a plan</u> produced by the EU's High-Level Group on access to data for effective law enforcement, which called for the reintroduction of mass telecommunications surveillance and the creation of backdoors to access encrypted data. A follow-up report that seeks to "operationalise" the proposals has <u>now been made public</u>.

The report is organised into three themes:

- Digital forensics: "the collection, analysis and preservation of digital evidence";
- Data retention: information generated through the use of telecoms systems and devices, "notably IP addresses and port numbers," to identify users and work out who has been talking with whom;
- Lawful interception: "covert access to data from a suspicious communication."

The report "invites the Commission, the Member States, the European Parliament and all relevant stakeholders to draw inspiration from the recommendations and the report when developing measures to address the issue of access to data for effective law enforcement." A multitude of specific proposals are made.

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#### **New material**

Colombia to require visas for British citizens in response to UK visa restrictions ----- Uproar over the Italy-Albania migration deal continues ----- Did the Tunisian coast guard ram a migrant boat and cause 52 people to drown? ----- Regularization of migrants in Spain: what the new law contains ----- UK legal challenge against arms exports to Israel ----- Solidarity with Kurdish community after "anti-terrorist" raids in London ----- Rome: Extinction Rebellion activists stopped en masse and given exclusion orders ----- Ultranationalist candidate scores stunning first-round win in Romania election ----- Anti-racism campaigner's London book events cancelled amid threat of far-right violence

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### **New material**

**Asylum, immigration and borders** 

**Civil liberties** 

Law

**Military** 

**Policing** 

**Prisons** 

**Racism and discrimination** 

Secrecy and transparency

## Asylum, immigration and borders

### UK opens pre-travel requirement to non-Europeans

Government permission to travel: "The UK Government is introducing Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) for millions of visitors who pass through the UK border every year, including six million from the USA, Canada, and Australia. From today all eligible non-European visitors can apply for an ETA and will need one to travel to the UK from 8 January 2025."

UK Home Office, 27 November 2024

#### Colombia to require visas for British citizens in response to UK visa restrictions

"Colombia's President Gustavo Petro said Tuesday that his country will impose visa requirements on British citizens, in retaliation for a decision made by the United Kingdom to remove Colombia from a list of countries whose nationals can visit Britain without a tourist visa.

Petro cited the "principle of reciprocity" in response to travel restrictions imposed on Colombian nationals by the UK."

ABC News, 27 November 2024

#### Visas rules for Colombians visiting UK amid rising number of asylum claims

"The number of Colombians claiming asylum in the UK has soared, prompting the Government to impose visa rules on visitors from the country.

The changes, which came into force at 3pm on Tuesday, mean visitors from Colombia will now need a visa to travel to the UK.

Colombian nationals will also need a transit visa if they need to pass through the UK to travel on to another country."

The Independent, 26 November 2024

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#### Final asylum seekers have now left the Bibby Stockholm

"Most claims from 400 men on vessel moored in Portland, Dorset have been processed, with majority accepted.

South Dorset's Labour MP said: ""From the get-go, our entire community knew that this barge was an expensive and unworkable gimmick. The previous Conservative government landed us with this wasteful barge, by closing it down we are saving the taxpayer a small fortune.""

The Guardian, 26 November 2024

#### **Uproar over the Italy-Albania migration deal continues**

"Meloni's political opponents dubbed the deal a "colossal failure" as centre staff returned to Italy.""

Both the first and second transfers were halted and the asylum seekers were returned to Italy after a Rome court refused to validate their detention and referred the matter to the EU Court of Justice.

While awaiting the judges in Luxembourg to rule on the matter, the Italian government will face another challenge on 4 December when the Court of Cassation will rule on the Interior Ministry's appeal against the Rome court's decision and on the issue of 'safe countries'. The key question is whether judges can exercise discretion in assessing whether a country is 'safe' or whether they must strictly adhere to the government's list."

Euractiv, 25 November 2024

#### Eight migrants found dead off Samos as rescue mission continues

"The Greek Coast Guard said it had recovered eight bodies (six minors and two women) at sea off the northern coast of Samos (eastern Aegean), during a search and rescue operation to locate migrants aboard a dinghy. NGOs had notified authorities of the vessel facing difficulties."

Ekathimerini, 25 November 2024

#### Joint declaration: Commemoration of the 24 November 2021 shipwreck

"Two years after the shipwreck of 24 November 2021, as injustice and deaths at the border continue, we stand together to call for a world free from border violence."

Institute of Race Relations, 24 November 2024

#### Did the Tunisian coast guard ram a migrant boat and cause 52 people to drown?

"A series of reports on the Italian online news website Fanpage.it since early November allege that the Tunisian coast guard 'deliberately rammed a boat filled with 80 migrants,' potentially causing the deaths of 52 people. It is a charge the Tunisian coast guard vehemently denies.

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Fanpage reports that the rest of the group "were deported to the desert or sold to the Libyans", based on testimonies from survivors of this and similar alleged incidents, and posts from the NGO Refugees in Libya. Middle East Monitor also reported the story on November 21. They spoke to Tunisian opposition member and migration activist Majdi Karbai, who claimed that a migrant boat had been rammed by the Tunisian coast guard (part of the Tunisian navy), after which 52 people died."

InfoMigrants, 22 November 2024

See: The Tunisian Coast Guard rams into and kills 52 migrants: "My cousin Musa, is one of the minors who drowned that night"

#### Albania flop, the operators from the Italian migrant centre return to Italy

Everything points towards the Albania plan's implementation being put on hold for the winter, when crossings tend to decrease, the sea conditions worsen, and transfers to the Libre ship would become more perilous, as IOM also notes that on-board spaces and selection procedures are ill-suited to bad weather and cold temperatures, alongside the risk of the court of auditors filing cases for waste of public resources.

The next steps include an amendment submitted by MP Sara Kelany (Brother of Italy), to move validation of detention in Albania from specialised immigration sections to courts of appeal; then the Court of Cassation will rule on the interior ministry's appeals against refusals to confirm detention measures and on magistrates' competence to check on the "safe country list". Interior minister Piantedosi assures that the approach will not change.

Il Manifiesto, 22 November 2024

#### Regularization of migrants in Spain: what the new law contains

"The reform of the Immigration Act, which aims to regularize hundreds of thousands of undocumented persons in Spain, was published in the Official Gazette on Wednesday. What are the main measures? InfoMigrants takes stock."

InfoMigrants, 22 November 2024

#### Greek Court rules detention of unregistered refugees in RIC Malakasa unlawful

"The Administrative Court of Athens held that a family of refugees had unlawfully been detained under a "restriction of freedom" in the Reception and Identification Centre (RIC) of Malakasa, Attica, while awaiting their registration for more than two weeks.

On 14 November 2024, the Court accepted the objections of the three-member family with a minor child against their de facto detention in Malakasa. Detention had been ordered by a 20-day extension of their "freedom restriction" inside the camp since the Reception and Identification Service (RIS) had not completed their registration. The Court found that delays owed to the authorities do not justify the continuation of detention and ordered the RIC Malakasa to transfer the family to an open facility until the exact date it shall set for their registration. The family was registered on the day following the delivery of the court ruling."

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Refugee Support Aegean (RSA), 21 November 2024

#### Commemoration of the 24 November 2021 shipwreck - Dunkerque, 23 novembre 2024

"A commemorative action, three years after the shipwreck, to call for a world without border violence. Deaths at the French-British border reached an unprecedented level in 2024, and political authorities are asked to draw lessons from the 2021 tragedy.

On 24 November 2021, at least 33 people tried to reach the UK on an inflatable dinghy from the coast of Dunkerque. These 33 people mainly came from Iraqi Kurdistan, as well as Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Iran, Egypt, Somalia and Vietnam. "

GISTI, 21 November 2024

#### Opinion: Frontex in Serbia — a catalogue of 12 months of denials

"More evidence that EU migration policy externalisation promotes human rights abuses, this time in Serbia. Hope Barker writes:

"Frontex is ramping up its collaboration with Serbian authorities.

In June of this year, it signed a status agreement with Serbia to 'strengthen migration and border management cooperation', which former home affairs commissioner Ylva Johansson has lauded as 'excellent'.

In reality, Frontex's agreement with Serbia is likely to give the stamp of approval to a path of escalating violence from Serbian authorities against people on the move."

EUobserver, 21 November 2024

#### Boat carrying 25 Syrians sinks off the coast of Libya

"A boat carrying around 25 refugees, all of whom are Syrians, sank off the coast of Libya, while fishermen managed to rescue some of the drowning migrants.

The Consolidated Rescue Group stated today, Thursday, November 21, that the boat was carrying approximately 25 Syrian refugees, most of whom were from Daraa province, but it sank about two hours after departing from the shores of Tripoli."

Enab Baladi, 21 November 2024

#### In Morocco, judicial harassment and repression, against migrants

"On 14 November 2024, the Nador Court of Appeal handed down an extremely harsh verdict against 14 migrants, inflicting on them 10 years in prison. Their sole objective was to seek asylum in Europe (the occupied city of Melilla), fleeing wars and poverty in their country of origin."

l'Anticapitaliste, 21 November 2024

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#### Germany: Asylum accommodation contracts 'worth millions' to private enterprise

"At least 130 homes for asylum seekers in Germany are fully or partially run by private enterprise. The business is making huge profits for those companies, report German public broadcasters and the newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung."

InfoMigrants, 18 November 2024

#### Germany: understanding the new "airport procedure"

"In the context of the new European Asylum Pact, the German Government has approved faster "airport procedures". This is a provision of the CEAS which will make it possible to speed up the processing of asylum applications and the return of persons arriving directly from a "country of safe origin". Here's what that means."

InfoMigrants, 15 November 2024

#### Opinion: Does the fundamental right to seek asylum still exist in the EU of 2024?

"If Europe continues down the dark path of eroded asylum rights, we risk becoming an unrecognisable fortress, walled off from the world's most vulnerable by razor wire, suspicion, and the very xenophobia the EU was founded to overcome.

The signposts of this grim future are already emerging – several member states have suggested that Syria, a country where 70 percent of the population still requires urgent aid, is safe for returns."

EUobserver, 12 November 2024

#### **Civil liberties**

UK: Travellers demand 'accountability' after children 'forced on to trains' by Manchester police

"Legal action considered after dispersal notice reportedly led to children being transported 100 miles to Grimsby."

A 48-hour dispersal notice issued by Greater Manchester police (GMP) after reports of antisocial behaviour in the city centre, resulted in children being herded onto trains. Yvonne MacNamara of the Traveller Movement complained about this "disproportionate" action, adding that: ""I'm kind of lost for words, really, because it makes absolutely no sense whatsoever. It was just outrageously overzealous racial profiling of two entire communities – we're talking about Romany Gypsies, and Irish Traveller children."

The Guardian, 26 November 2024

Libya: Interior Minister Trabelsi's "chatter" about public morals went too far: PM Aldabaiba

The Tripoli-based Libyan PM, Abdel Hamid Aldabaiba, has distanced himself from comments made by Interior Minister Trabelsi about adopting a hard line on enforcing public morals. Trabelsi had warned that couples "sitting together in public places, such as cafes, who were

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not related to each other, would be detained. The statement caused a public storm and was interpreted as the new adoption of a hard line (Morality Police) by the Aldabaiba government.

Libya Herald, 24 November 2024

#### Moussi faces death penalty as Tunisia's political crackdown intensifies

"Lawyers for Abir Moussi, the imprisoned leader of Tunisia's Free Constitutional Party, have launched an appeal against charges that could carry a death sentence, amid growing concerns over the country's treatment of political dissent.

Moussi, 49, stands accused of "planning to change the state structure", a charge stemming from an incident at the Presidential Palace's Registration Office. She was arrested in October 2023 while attempting to file a grievance against President Kais Saied's decrees."

Libyan Express, 23 November 2024

#### Human rights activists face reprisals for opposing extractive industries, says report

"Human rights defenders have faced brutal reprisals for standing up to extractive industries with links to UK companies or investors, according to a report calling for a law obliging firms to do human rights and environmental due diligence."

The Guardian, 21 November 2024

# <u>Italy: 18 people acting in solidarity acquitted for occupying road inspection house [casa cantoniera] to assist migrants</u>

"18 No Border activists have been acquitted for the occupation of a former road inspection house in Oulx in the Upper Val di Susa, which was transformed into a refuge for migrants from 2018 to 2021. The Court of Appeal ruled that: 'They have saved lives, they can't be punished'."

Osservatorio sulla Repressione, 21 November 2024

#### Libya's new morality police set to curb women's rights

"A push for stricter rules for girls and women from the government in Tripoli has sparked an outcry among women, rights organizations and activists. Observers fear the rules signal a return to authoritarian policies. Libya's administration in Tripoli is stepping up efforts to fend off European influence and protect Islamic social values, with a new "morality police" set to start operating in December.

The morality police will enforce strict regulations regarding women's dress codes in public places, including mandating girls to wear a veil, or hijab, from the age of 9. Women will no longer be allowed to travel without a male guardian, and "inappropriate" behavior between women and men in public will also be banned."

Libya Tribune, 21 November 2024

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#### Migrants' rights workers forced out of Tunisia in latest crackdown

"Until the beginning of this year, Tunisia was a relatively safe space for civil society organisations supporting migrants. Many of those organisations were first set up in Libya, but harassment and allegations from the Libyan authorities and non-state actors had forced them to relocate west along the north African shoreline.

Now those groups, and the members who carry out their crucial work, are being forced out of Tunisia as well."

OpenDemocracy, 18 November 2024

#### Law

#### This is how the flows decree can sink the NGOs

"So far, despite repeated stops [imposed on vessels], conditions to assert repeat offending had only been envisaged a couple of times, for the Sea-Eye of its namesake organisation and the Geo Barents of MSF. Everything will now change. It will be as if, for example, offences committed by different people in the same car, also distant in time, add up, resulting in harsher punishment. Or as if a company that has a car fleet would be found guilty for what two different drivers do on different vehicles, leading to tougher punishment."

Il Manifiesto, 28 November 2024

#### Case T-511/24: Action brought on 4 October 2024 - FM v Frontex

"The applicant claims that the Court should:

declare that, following the defendant's having been called upon to act in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 265 TFEU by the applicant, the defendant unlawfully failed to act and to fulfil its obligations in conformity with Article 46(4) of Regulation 2019/1896, by not partly suspending or terminating its impugned activities in the Central Mediterranean, resulting in the direct and/or indirect unlawful provision of information to Libyan entities, or by not providing duly justified grounds for failing to implement the required measures pursuant to Article 46(6), or otherwise by not defining its position on the applicant's invitation to act of 29 May 2024."

Court of Justice, 25 November 2024

#### Netanyahu arrest warrant: Where can he still go in Europe?

"Theoretically, the ICC warrant means Netanyahu and Gallant could be arrested if they travel to any of the more than 120 countries that are parties to the court. But several governments in Europe have already signaled they may not arrest the Israeli leader if he steps foot on their soil."

Politico Europe, 22 November 2024

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#### Effective Remedies in Al: an Insufficiently Explored Avenue for Al Accountability

"The right to an effective remedy, or effective redress, enshrined in the European Charter of Fundamental Rights, accomplishes a crucial role in operationalising all rights in the EU — whether fundamental or not. It makes both the effective enforcement of legally-backed rights in the EU a free-standing fundamental right, and allows EU institutions — and member states, when implementing EU law — to be held directly accountable by individuals.

The right to effective remedies lays a foundation to ensure that the protections set in legislation governing the digital sphere, including the Al Act, are effectively applied. However, when it comes to Al and other complex technologies, challenges inherent to the functioning of the technology make access to an effective remedy more difficult."

Center for Democracy & Technology, 14 November 2024

#### Is the West really that different?

"Hungary and Poland have both faced accusations of violating the EU's democratic values. András Sajó argues that while it has become common to portray these states as implementing distinct forms of illiberal democracy, they share more in common with 'western' democracies than is commonly recognised. The actions of the Hungarian and Polish governments should be viewed as an abuse of constitutionalism and the rule of law, not as a different conception of these ideas."

LSE, 21 October 2021

## **Military**

#### UK legal challenge against arms exports to Israel

"The High Court in London has begun hearing a legal challenge to the UK government's continued arms sales to Israel.

The Global Legal Action Network (GLAN) and Palestinian human rights organisation Al-Haq originally brought the challenge against all weapons exports to Israel for use in Gaza.

However, following a partial suspension of arms exports licenses in September 2024, the case now focuses on the decision to exempt some exports for F-35 fighter jet components from the September suspension."

Irish Legal News, 18 November 2024

#### EU ministers reject suspending dialogue with Israel

"EU foreign ministers rejected a proposal from the bloc's top diplomat to suspend diplomatic dialogue with Israel. Josep Borrell had been a persistent and vocal critic of Israel in his last year in office."

DW, 18 November 2024

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# Opinion Piece: The EU Cannot Stand Idle as Israel Seeks to Dismantle UNRWA's Lifeline in Gaza

"As the EU Foreign Affairs Council convenes today, European leaders face a pressing choice: will they stand by as Israel dismantles UNRWA, a lifeline for over 2.5 million Palestinian refugees, or will they act before time runs out? With only 63 days left before Israel's new legislation halts UNRWA operations within its so-called "sovereign territory," including unlawfully occupied Palestinian territory, European leaders must act to prevent an irreversible humanitarian crisis."

EuroMed Rights, 18 November 2024

### **Policing**

#### EU: New SIRIUS report – accessing electronic evidence in 2024

"Today, Europol, Eurojust and the European Judicial Network publish the 2024 edition of the SIRIUS European Union (EU) Electronic Evidence Situation Report.

First presented at the SIRIUS Annual Conference to an audience of EU law enforcement and judicial authorities, policymakers, and representatives of service providers, the report reflects on the evolving legislative framework and the growing reliance on electronic data in criminal investigations, while highlighting the persistent barriers to effective cooperation in accessing electronic data across borders for investigation and prosecution of crimes."

Europol, 28 November 2024

#### Solidarity with Kurdish community after "anti-terrorist" raids in London

"Community centre closed off and six arrested in attempt to link Democratic Assembly to the PKK

. . .

"The raid on the community centre involved hundreds of police. The entrances and exits of the street where the building is located were closed. The building was invaded a year ago on the same anniversary.

Mezopotamya named five of the arrestees as Türkan Budak, co-chair of the Kurdish People's Democratic Assembly in Britain (KHM), his brother Hayri Budak, reported wounded during the raid, foreign relations representative Agit Karataş, assembly worker Ercan Akbal, and Kurdish writer and former political prisoner Ali Poyraz."

Freedom News, 27 November 2024

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#### Counter-terrorism police arrest seven in London raids connected to PKK

"UK-based Kurdish advocacy groups have condemned the arrest of seven people by counterterrorism police in London as part of an investigation into the banned Kurdistan Workers' party, known as the PKK.

*(…)* 

Acting commander Helen Flanagan, of the Met's Counter Terrorism Command, said: "This activity has come about following a significant investigation and operation into activity we believe is linked to the terrorist group PKK. These are targeted arrests of those we suspect of being involved in terrorist activity linked to the group."

The Guardian, 27 November 2024

#### Rome: Extinction Rebellion activists stopped en masse and given exclusion orders

"Extinction Rebellion activists unload 5 tonnes of manure outside the Viminale [seat of the interior ministry], 68 end up in the [Rome] police headquarters. Held for eight hours, 106 people identified, 32 orders to leave the city: 'It is not a democratic state'.

*(…)* 

In the evening... the adopted measures are 33 'fogli di via', orders to leave Rome within two hours, for periods ranging from three months to six years. 106 people were identified. "The operations were undertaken in a way that was unlawful and absolutely not transparent - the activists declared - it is not the method used in a democratic state"."

Osservatorio sulla Repressione, 23 November 2024

#### UK: New powers to clamp down on anti-social behaviour

"Meeting a manifesto pledge to crack down on anti-social behaviour, the new Respect Orders will give the police and local councils powers to ban persistent offenders from town centres or from drinking in public spots such as high streets and local parks, where they have caused misery to local people. These will be piloted prior to national rollout to make sure they are as effective as possible."

The "Respect Orders" are a descendent of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders. For background, see: **ASBOwatch: monitoring the use of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders** 

UK Home Office, 22 November 2024

#### Italy plans crackdown on database hacks

" Italy is planning a crackdown on cybercrime, according to a draft decree seen by Reuters on Thursday, after recent cases of alleged hacking into major state and financial databases prompted a swift response from the government."

Reuters, 21 November 2024

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#### **UK: Home Secretary announces major policing reforms**

"An ambitious programme of reform to policing has been unveiled by the Home Secretary, marking the start of a new partnership between government and policing."

UK Home Office, 19 November 2024

## UK: PM: Closer international collaboration will be key to smashing the criminal gangs who profit from migration misery

- ""- New agreements to be signed with Western Balkans countries to increase intelligence sharing and intercept criminal smuggling gangs.
- PM to chair migration meeting at European Political Community meeting in Hungary today and call on European partners to identify new ways to reduce irregular migration across the continent.
- Intervention follows speech to Interpol Conference in Glasgow this week, where the PM warned organised immigration crime must be treated like terrorism."

UK government, 6 November 2024

#### **Prisons**

#### UK: Tech firm Palantir spoke with MoJ about calculating prisoners' 'reoffending risks'

"The US spy tech company Palantir has been in talks with the Ministry of Justice about using its technology to calculate prisoners' "reoffending risks", it has emerged.

The proposals emerged in correspondence released under the Freedom of Information Act which showed how the company has also been lobbying new UK government ministers, including the chancellor, Rachel Reeves."

The Guardian, 16 November 2024

#### **Racism and discrimination**

#### Chronicles of ordinary racism. Sixth white book on racism in Italy

The White Book covers the 2021-2023 period, stretching its glance to 2024, with contributions about "the political and cultural context" and "everyday racism" to document forms of structural racism and mechanisms of exclusion that are deployed to further restrict the rights of people on the move, which are also acknowledged by other reports from 2024 that describe racism in Italy as "systemic". This report also draws on the complaints received through 1,125 complaints collected by the observatory "Cronache di ordinario razzismo" in association with Lunaria.

Lunaria, 25 November 2024

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#### <u>Ultranationalist candidate scores stunning first-round win in Romania election</u>

"Romanian ultranationalist Călin Georgescu won a shock first-round victory in the country's presidential elections, according to official results published Monday afternoon.

Georgescu won with 22.94 percent of the vote. He was followed by liberal reformist candidate Elena Lasconi on 19.18 percent in second place, after she edged ahead of center-left Prime Minister Marcel Ciolacu on 19.15 percent — a difference of just over 2,700 votes. Another hard-right candidate, George Simion, trailed in fourth with 13.86 percent support."

Politico Europe, 24 November 2024

# Anti-racism campaigner's London book events cancelled amid threat of far-right violence

"Hanif Kureishi, Billy Bragg and freedom of speech groups have voiced alarm after a number of venues cancelled events to promote a book by an anti-racism campaigner amid threats and fears that the recent riots have emboldened the far right.

An east London bookshop this week became the latest venue to pull plans to promote Rebel Sounds, a book about the role music plays in the fight against racism and other struggles."

The Guardian, 23 November 2024

# These Roma women were sterilized without their consent. Is compensation enough to stop the fight?

"Gorolová is one of thousands of predominantly Romani women who were sterilized without their consent in what is now the Czech Republic between 1966 and 2012. Twenty years ago, she broke taboos both in the marginalized Roma community and broader Czech society to become the face of the movement of women seeking justice for irreparable harms they suffered at the hands of a discriminatory medical system, both before and after the fall of communism."

Politico Europe, 21 November 2024

#### **White Riot**

Focus on people facing charges in the UK for defending their communities:

"It was not Britain's finest hour: after a horrific random stabbing attack in Southport, UK that left three children dead, fascists wasted no time falsely blaming the crime on migrants/Muslims and then organizing mass anti-immigration/Islamophobic riots and arson attacks on asylum seekers, Asians, and Muslims via chat apps. The country was then rocked by a horrific wave of race riots that left dozens injured and numerous mosques, refugee shelters, and homes and businesses owned by Asians badly damaged, looted, or completely destroyed by firebombs. Fortunately, anti-fascists in the UK soon mobilized to defend their communities and confront the racist mobs, to great effect."

International Antifascist Defence Fund, 15 November 2024

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## **Secrecy and transparency**

#### Ombudsman faults EU Commission for lack of paperwork on Tunisia deal

"The EU Ombudsman has faulted the European Commission over its controversial cash-formigrant deal with Tunisia.

A lack of transparency was among the ombudsman's core criticisms, with the commission shuffling aside demands for documents initially requested in June of 2023 by the office of Tineke Strik, a Dutch Green MEP."

EUobserver, 26 November 2024

