



FRANCE | Exiles and fundamental rights: the situation in the territory of Calais

The institution of the French Defender of Rights has committed a report in October 2015 on *“Migrants and Fundamental Rights: the Situation in the Territory of Calais”* based on the claims received by the institution and two visits conducted on the 16th and 17th of June, the 20th of July 2015 in Calais.

The massive arrivals of population groups on our continent call for collective rethinking of the way in which the movement of people, the fight against human trafficking and the reception of those obliged to leave their countries of origin should be organized at the European level.

While the Defender of Rights is very much aware of the difficulties facing public authorities trying to address the situation of Migrants in Calais, it is his duty to assess the factual situations in order to examine their compliance with the fundamental rights of women, men and children in Calais.

Indeed, the situation in Calais shows the limits of an action based on a national (if not local) approach aiming to assure the policing of foreigners when an unprecedented situation is faced that calls for substantive answers founded in the respect of Fundamental rights.

But again, it is the duty of the Defender of Rights, and his counterparts all over Europe, to set out the lines that can't be crossed, reiterate our fundamental values and our faith in the value of each person's rights and freedoms.

Link to the report (French version):

http://www.defenseurdesdroits.fr/sites/default/files/atoms/files/20151006-rapport_calais.pdf

Link to the summary (French version) :

http://www.defenseurdesdroits.fr/sites/default/files/atoms/files/synthese_reco.pdf

Link to the report (English version)

<http://www.defenseurdesdroits.fr/en/publications/rapports/rapports-thematiques/exiles-and-fundamental-rights>
