



Global Detention Project

Annual Report 2017

June 2018



The Global Detention Project (GDP) is a non-profit organisation based in Geneva that promotes the human rights of people who have been detained for reasons related to their non-citizen status. Our mission is:

- To **promote the human rights** of detained migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers
- To **ensure transparency** in the treatment of immigration detainees
- To **reinforce advocacy** aimed at reforming detention systems
- To **nurture policy-relevant scholarship** on the causes and consequences of migration control policies

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1. From the President and Executive Director

Late last year, two UN human rights treaty monitoring bodies, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on Migrant Workers, issued a “joint general comment” concerning the obligations of states with respect to migrating children. It was a watershed document: both committees had increasingly encouraged countries to stop placing children in immigration detention, but this was the first time that they gave an authoritative interpretation of their respective treaties to affirm that the detention of children in the context of migration is never legitimate:

“Offences concerning irregular entry or stay cannot under any circumstances have consequences similar to those derived from the commission of a crime. Therefore, the possibility of detaining children as a measure of last resort, which may apply in other contexts such as juvenile criminal justice, is not applicable in immigration proceedings as it would conflict with the principle of the best interests of the child and the right to development.”

Despite the rapidly expanding agreement among experts that children and a host of other vulnerable groups—including victims of torture, stateless people, and pregnant women, among others—should never be detained, the fact is that we live in dark times when it comes to the treatment of migrants and refugees. Which country in the world today welcomes the most vulnerable among us? It is not an easy question to answer. While some courageous public officials continue to speak out for the rights of non-citizens, the dominant political discourse in many countries is that undocumented foreigners are dangerous and must be blocked, arrested, detained, and deported, regardless of the repercussions.

“Which country in the world today welcomes the most vulnerable among us? Few courageous public officials speak out for the rights of migrants, the predominate message is that undocumented foreigners must go, never mind the repercussions.”

We at the Global Detention Project are constantly reminded of this fact. Every day, there are untold thousands of people—including families and children—locked up in immigration detention facilities, sometimes alongside criminal populations, often without the legal protections or due processes that are afforded criminals, simply because of their migration status. And no matter the country we are researching, the local partner we are working with, the journalist we are talking to, the UN body or national human rights institution we are addressing, or the scholars we are collaborating with, the overriding message is: things are going to get worse before they get better.



A Honduran mother and her son, recently released from detention, await assistance at the Catholic Charities relief centre in McAllen, Texas, United States. 14 April 2018. (Reuters/Loren Elliott)

For things to get better, there must be a fundamental shift in states' responses to the movement of people, along with a monumental effort to engage populations that feel threatened by these movements. Central to this shift must be a commitment to respect the core human rights treaties, all of which provide obligations that are intended to protect citizens and non-citizens alike, including the undocumented. And yet, as negotiations by UN member states on new "Global Compacts" on migrants and refugees enter their home stretch, what we hear is that these "old instruments" will have to make room for "new instruments," as the organisers of a recent human rights conference at the University of Geneva framed it.

The GDP is committed to working to ensure that these "old instruments" remain an effective tool for holding states accountable when they decide to place a person in detention based on his or her migration status. As this Annual Report makes clear, we have made important progress: we have expanded our engagements with human rights mechanisms; we have developed new collaborative agreements with a host of local partners from Europe to Asia, Africa, and the Americas; we have broadened the literature explaining and critiquing the politics and policies that are leading to more detention; and we have helped shape the global conversation on this issue.

While it may be tempting to see only the negative, there are signs of change. For instance, the growing acknowledgement that the detention of children is wrong has been bolstered by a string of recent cases at the European Court of Human Rights that have narrowed the permissible scope for detaining children, emphasising their vulnerability over considerations of their immigration status.

Several countries have adopted important reforms in recent years. Two notable cases: Taiwan, Province of China adopted a law ending the detention of several vulnerable groups including women who are more than five weeks

"There must be a fundamental shift in states' responses to the movement of people, along with a monumental effort to engage populations that feel threatened by these movements. Central to this shift must be a commitment to respect the core human rights treaties."

pregnant and Germany—responding to a judgment by the Court of Justice of the European Union—has stopped using prisons for immigration purposes.

Even in the United States, where the current administration is rapidly expanding its efforts to detain and deport undocumented residents, tearing thousands of families apart, crusading jurisdictions in states like California are refusing to end the "sanctuary" they provide to immigrants who are vulnerable to detention and deportation.

The GDP was founded with the mission of exposing the practices and impacts of immigration detention to the light of day to ensure that migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers are treated with dignity and respect and that states adhere to fundamental human rights in their immigration procedures. With support from our key institutional partners—the Oak Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, and the Human Security Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs—we continue to pursue this goal. We look forward to working with all of our partners in the coming year to continue this increasingly important work.



Michael Flynn
Executive Director



Roberta Cecchetti
President

2. About the Global Detention Project

The world's population is growing, as are the numbers of people on the move, driven by hunger, persecution, war, scarcity, or dreams of a better future. In 2017, according to UN statistics, there were 258 million international migrants, 60 percent of whom were living in Asia and Europe.¹ The UN High Commissioner for Refugees estimates that more than 22 million of these people fall within the protections provided by the UN Refugee Convention.

Whether a child migrant, a refugee, an asylum seeker, a victim of trafficking, or a stateless person, what is common to all of these vulnerable people are the growing numbers of obstacles being placed in their way, including detention and deportation, as well as increasingly hostile public attitudes.

While the world's leading migration experts and human rights bodies are taking notice of the plight of these people, as reflected in the negotiations over the Global Compacts on refugees and migrants, there remains a critical need for more detailed, systematic information about the treatment and conditions non-citizens face in detention in order to hold governments accountable and advocate for effective, meaningful reforms. This demand for more and better detention data was repeatedly affirmed by international bodies in 2017, including by the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights,² the UN Special Representative on Migration,³ and the UN Independent Expert of the Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty.⁴

Recognition of this need spurred the founding of the Global Detention Project more than a decade ago as a student-led research project at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. Motivated by the goal of measuring the worldwide spread of immigration detention, GDP researchers developed a first-of-its-kind methodology for



Syrian women and girls in an informal tented settlement in the Bekaa Valley, Lebanon. 3 February 2017. (DFID/Russell Watkins)

documenting where people are deprived of their liberty for migration-related reasons. This methodology has since expanded to include indicators on a range of other elements of detention systems, including conditions in detention, statistical trends, domestic and international law, and the institutions responsible for operating and providing services in detention. To date we have developed data on more than **100 countries** and **2,100 detention centres**.



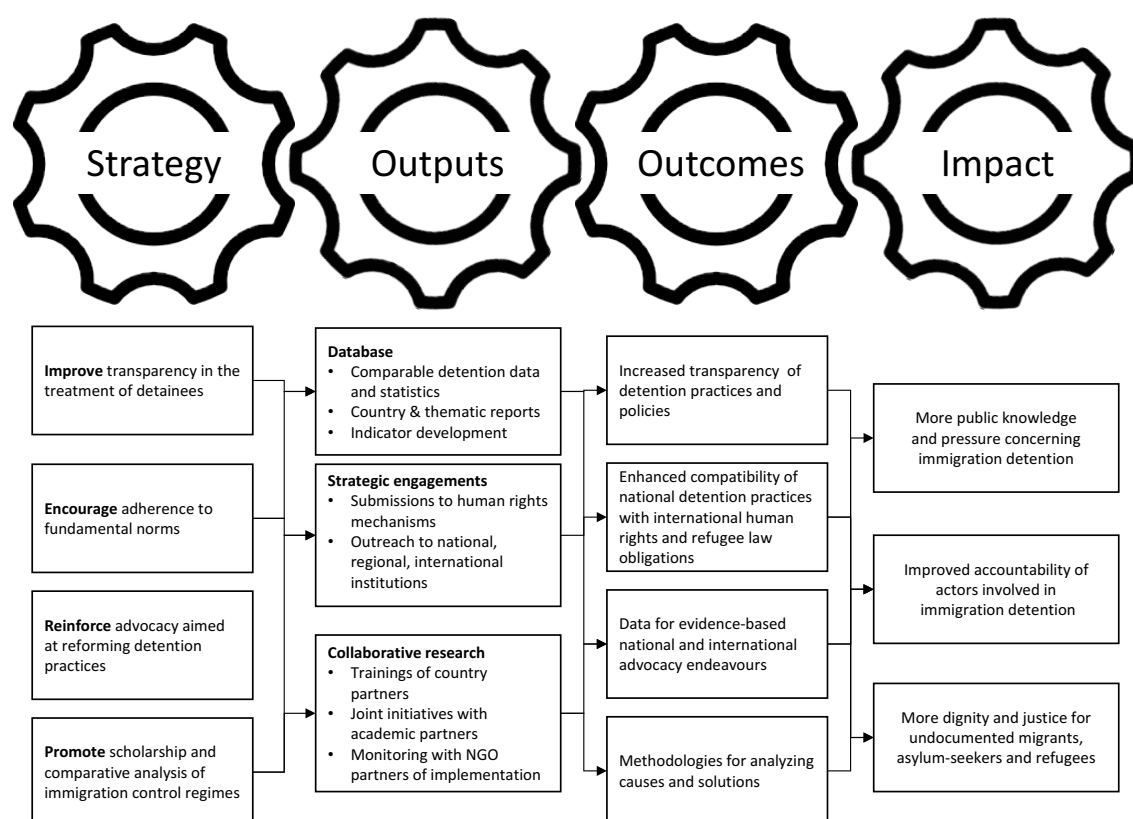
In the politicised and often divisive public debates about immigration detention, the GDP provides a data-rich and evidence-driven resource. But the GDP's efforts are not merely an exercise in information collection. Since leaving academia and becoming an independent non-profit research centre in 2014, we have pursued a variety of strategies aimed at using our data to encourage change and reform. These include: engaging with UN human rights bodies to document gaps in states' adherence to human rights treaties; partnering with local advocates to build awareness of detention practices and lend support to their calls for accountability; and nurturing policy-relevant scholarship and research by collaborating with external experts to better understand the forces spurring the growth of detention systems.

- **Improving transparency in the treatment of detainees** by expanding and refining our database of detention indicators and country reports.
- **Reinforcing advocacy** by developing tools to assist the documentation and reporting capacities of groups outside the Global North by launching the "Global Immigration Detention Observatory."
- **Encouraging adherence to fundamental norms** by deepening engagements with international human rights institutions and global initiatives addressing the refugee and migration "crisis."
- **Fostering policy-relevant scholarship** by encouraging the analysis of the causes behind, and responses to, growing global immigration detention regimes; as well as mentoring students in the field of immigration detention.

Strategic Plan and Theory of Change

In its "Strategic Plan 2016-2019," the GDP identifies four key overarching priorities:

The GDP's strategic priorities are informed by its nearly 15 years of engagement with the social and political environment surrounding immigration detention. Ultimately, this strategy is intended to lead to increased dignity and justice for migrants and asylum seekers, as framed in our theory of change.



The GDP's experience has led it to adopt a strategic vision that emphasises the importance of investigative research, carefully constructed data, and clearly defined indicators as essential components of advocacy on immigration detention. Debates about immigration policies are frequently hampered by misinformation and competing claims. Thus rigorously developed measures that are not politically shaped can serve to cut through uncertainty and ensure that advocacy campaigns have clearly defined and well-researched targets.

The GDP's strategic vision is also informed by the conviction that with an issue like immigration detention, knowledge itself is powerful. There is an extreme lack of transparency on this issue globally, which shields countries from scrutiny and complicates calls for reforms. Governments often attempt to disguise their immigration detention practices because they run counter to norms that are at the heart of modern liberal democracies—in particular, the right to liberty. These practices can also present challenging legal problems, which helps explain why comprehensive detention statistics are very difficult to find and why some states call immigration detention anything but detention. Thus, clarity in analysis, thoroughness and impartiality in constructing data, and the ability to bring attention to its findings are central to the way the GDP operates.

Total number of immigration detainees (most recently available annual data, 2015-2017)

United States	323,591 (2017)
Malaysia	86,795 (2016)
France	45,937 (2016)
Russia	37,522 (2014)
United Kingdom	32,526 (2016)
Greece	14,864 (2016)
Australia	8,588 (2015)
Canada	6,251 (2016)
Italy	5,242 (2015)

“There remains a critical need for more detailed, systematic information about the treatment and conditions non-citizens face in detention in order to hold governments accountable.”

Many local and international non-governmental organisations have focused their work on advocating reforms of detention policies. However, the GDP occupies a unique place in this area of social justice in its efforts to bridge different social groups, including the advocacy and scholarly communities. At the heart of our effort to bring together this diverse array of voices is our emphasis on evidence-based and data-driven reporting, which enables us to produce credible analyses of detention systems and trends. By using human rights laws and norms as the framework for constructing our variables and indicators, our reports are directly relevant to the efforts of international and regional mechanisms to hold states to account on their treaty obligations.

Finally, by developing a comparative analytical framework based on the analysis of detention systems for all types of non-citizens (migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, stateless persons, and victims of trafficking) across all regions of the world, we provide a truly comprehensive and unique empirical global tool.



Detainee in the custody of US Immigration and Customs Enforcements (ICE). 22 March 2018. (ICE)

3. Highlights from 2017

In 2017, the GDP website logged nearly 125,000 users, who came from every corner of the globe.⁵ The worldwide interest in the GDP's work is driven by both the quality of our work and the broad geographical scope of our coverage. In this section, we feature a select number of publications and interventions concerning a range of countries and global initiatives during 2017, highlighting the impact many of these efforts have had.

Children in Immigration Detention

2017 saw advancements in global efforts aimed at ending the immigration detention of children. In addition to the release of the “joint general comment” by the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on Migrant Workers discussed previously in this report, both the Council of Europe and the European Union held important events aimed at re-energising discussions about child detention. The UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty also made important progress in developing its methodology and securing some financing for its work. Progress on this issue was underscored in the “zero draft” of the Global Compact, released in early 2018. While this is unlikely to remain in the final version of the compact, the zero draft says: “Uphold the protection and respect for the rights and best interests of the child at all times, regardless of their migration status, by ending the practice of child detention in the context of international migration.”

Total number of detained minors

(most recently available annual data, 2013-2017)

United States	59,170 (2016)
Mexico	40,114 (2016)
France	4,507 (2016)
Thailand	4,000 (2014)
Australia	1,700 (2013)
Malaysia	1,196 (2014)
Canada	162 (2017)
United Kingdom	144 (2016)

The GDP was deeply involved in these initiatives. Among our activities, GDP staff members were invited to participate in a conference co-hosted by the Council of Europe (CoE) and the Czech Ministry of Justice in September entitled “Immigration Detention of Children: Coming to a Close?”; at the EU’s “11th European Forum on the Rights of the Child: Children Deprived of Their Liberty and Alternatives to Detention”; and at a “Data Collectors Meeting” jointly convened by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the EU Coordinator for the Rights of the Child.

After the GDP’s intervention at the CoE conference in September, during which the GDP director discussed challenges in making “alternatives” effective in ending child detention,⁶ we were invited by stakeholders



from EU and UN bodies to comment on the use of “alternatives” language in on-going efforts to develop rights-based standards for the treatment of children in migration-related procedures. Among the key points we raised was the inevitable contradiction between promoting “alternatives to detention” for children and calling for an end to their detention. Given the strengthening global view that it is never in the best interests of children to detain them for immigration-related reasons, we advised these stakeholders that if their intention was to promote a prohibition on the immigration detention of children, they should emphasise appropriate care settings for children and de-emphasise “alternatives” because they reinforce the legitimacy of child detention measures.

In November 2017, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and the UN Committee on Migrant Workers issued their “joint general comment” in which they for the first time gave an authoritative interpretation of their respective treaties to affirm that the detention of children in the context of migration is never legitimate. Notably, the joint general comment makes no mention of “alternatives to detention.” Instead, it affirms that “child and family immigration detention should be prohibited by law” and that “Resources dedicated to detention should be diverted to non-custodial solutions carried out by competent child protection actors” and “measures offered to the child and the family should not imply any kind of child or family deprivation of liberty.”

During the Global Study’s “Data Collectors Meeting” in Brussels in October, we focused our intervention on encouraging the Global Study team to: (1) develop an online database that would be easily accessible and user friendly, instead of relying solely on hardcopy questionnaires; (2) develop login procedures that would enable civil society participants to enter data as a form of “shadow” report that could be compared to data entered by state authorities, and also be used as a wedge for pressuring states to respond to the study to ensure that official statistics are accounted for

in the study; and (3) develop a publicly available website that would be connected to the online database and serve as a high-profile platform for publicising the results of the study and enable researchers to download data to be used in further projects and studies. After the meeting, the GDP privately advised the UN Independent Expert of the Global Study on methods and tools for developing online database and mapping tools, and helped encourage contacts between the Global Study team and database developers with experience in this area.

The ripple effects of these interactions continue to be felt into 2018 and will be the focus of our attention during the course of this year as we monitor and seek to impact the on-going conversations on strategising and framing the debate about ending the detention of children.

Global Compact on Migration

Throughout 2017, the GDP actively participated in civil society mobilisations around the negotiations on the UN Global Compact for Safe Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). We took part in early meetings of the NGO coordination group, under the auspices of Quaker House in Geneva, to plan human rights-based input into the GCM. We registered to accredit the GDP to the GCM process (as we are not yet in consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council) and were thus able to participate in the April 2017 meeting between civil society and the newly appointed Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration (SRSG), Louise Arbour. On this occasion, we reminded her of the existing relevant legal framework for the protection of migrants—including in detention, which she initially seemed to overlook—and other NGOs joined in this effort. Arbour subsequently placed stronger emphasis on the legal framework in her opening address to the first inter-governmental GCM consultation on human rights in Geneva.

We built on this early mobilisation and remained abreast of GCM developments through linkages with the NGO coordination group.

Later in the year, in our submission to the Special Representative as part of the preparatory stage of the UN Secretary General's report on the Global Compact, we highlighted three key issues: (1) concerns about the growing use of detention in migration management schemes, with a particular emphasis on the need for safeguards to prevent arbitrary detention and preclude the detention of children; (2) the importance of adopting measures aimed at improving transparency in detention systems, including supporting better data collection on immigration detention practices; (3) concerns about the UN's embrace of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), emphasising the need for the IOM to amend its constitution so that it makes a clear institutional commitment to international human rights norms.

Libya

The appalling conditions faced by migrants and asylum seekers detained in Libya was the focus of much attention in 2017—including the collusion between traffickers and some Libyan authorities, which nevertheless failed to halt EU support for Libyan interdiction efforts. In a submission to the UN Committee on Migrant Workers we highlighted the extraordinary levels of violence and suffering that non-citizens in immigration detention are exposed to and the role European countries like Italy are playing in supporting Libya's interception and detention regime. The GDP was the only NGO to make a public written submission, and all of our key points were addressed by the committee in its subsequent "List of Issues prior to Submission of Initial Report on Libya."⁷

Following the submission, an adviser on migration at the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights wrote to us, saying: "Thank you for this comprehensive submission, which we also were able to use in our comments to the draft SG's report

under Security Council resolution SCR 2312 (2016) of 6 October 2015." (The Security Council resolution deals with the extension of "authorisation" to intercept vessels suspected of illegal smuggling from Libya.)

The GDP used this submission as part of its efforts to explore the potential of using Facebook geo-targeting tools to raise awareness among specific audiences about immigration detention issues in the region. During a one-day paid promotion on Facebook, our sponsored advert regarding this submission reached more than 23,000 users and featured 4,185 "engagements."

This multi-faceted effort to raise public awareness about the human rights crisis in Libya served as the basis of a series of brainstorming conversations in late 2017 between the GDP and the Human Security Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs regarding challenges to promoting and protecting the human rights of migrants and asylum seekers across North Africa. Among the issues discussed were the GDP's efforts to use Facebook as an instrument for raising awareness of abuses in detention in various countries across the globe, including Libya. These conversations ultimately led to an agreement to produce a



Migrants are held in a detention centre in the coastal city of Sabratha, Libya. 9 October 2017. (Reuters/Hani Amara)

“scoping study” for the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in early 2018. The key aims of the study will be to undertake a comprehensive review of current social media tools and initiatives that are helping shape—for better or worse—the experiences of transiting migrants in North Africa; to investigate first-hand how people use these tools; and to provide a series of lessons learned for human rights practitioners who are exploring the potential uses of social media in their work within the region.

Czech Republic

While the numbers of detainees have decreased in recent years in the Czech Republic, migration-related detention continues to be used as an important measure of deterrence, with detainees regularly placed in prisons on legal grounds that are insufficiently clear and that raise the possibility of arbitrariness. The GDP, in partnership with the Czech NGO Organization for Aid to Refugees and the Central European NGO Forum for Human Rights, highlighted a number of concerns about the legal framework of detention in a joint submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

Several of the points raised in the submission were included in the UPR’s Summary of Stakeholders and subsequently reflected in the recommendations by states parties to the Czech Republic. These included: “Revise the Act on the Residence of Foreign Nationals so that migrants and refugees do not pay the costs of their detention” (Sierra Leone); “Improve the situation of asylum seekers and take measures to end the detention of all refugee children” (Iraq); “End the detention of migrants and refugees, in particular children, whether accompanied, unaccompanied or separated” (Brazil).⁸

Argentina

In a joint submission with seven Argentina-based human rights organisations to the Universal Periodic Review, we highlighted worrying developments in the country, including the decision to open a new detention centre and the adoption of a decree that emphasises the criminalisation and deportation of undocumented migrants, marking a sharp departure from Argentina’s traditional emphasis on integration and protection of migrants’ rights.

Many of the issues addressed in the joint submission were reflected in the recommendations by states parties to Argentina, including: “Guarantee that the decree of necessity and urgency that limits the procedural guarantees in deportation proceedings does not restrict the human rights of migrant population” (Mexico); “Strengthen migration laws to ensure protection of all migrants and their families against all forms of discrimination and adopt comprehensive public programmes with adequate budgetary resources for their effective implementation” (Indonesia); “Ensure access to fundamental human rights for all individuals residing in Argentina, including foreign nationals, regardless of their immigration status” (Bangladesh).⁹ Argentina’s Ombudsperson for Federal Prisons (*La Procuracion Penitenciaria*) subsequently contacted the GDP to explore ways to work together in the future.



Bělá-Jezová Centre, Jezová, Mlada Boleslav, Czech Republic. (Private)

United Arab Emirates

The UAE has one of the highest ratios of foreign-born residents in the world, with expatriates representing roughly 90 percent of the total population. This demographic ratio is starkly reflected in the country's prison population. In joint submissions with the Gulf-based Migrant-Rights.org to both the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Universal Periodic Review, we called attention to the disconcerting fact that there is currently nearly no up-to-date information about where and in what conditions migrants are held for immigration-related detention. Although the submissions had yet to result in any specific recommendations before the end of 2017, they were cited in multiple news outlets across the region.¹⁰

Australia

In 2017, Australia again came under international scrutiny for its restrictive immigration control regime, mandatory detention measures, regular abuses of vulnerable individuals, and use of offshore detention facilities. In a submission to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) we documented the impact that the country's regime has on the wellbeing of detainees in privately operated onshore and offshore facilities—and in particular, its effect on child detainees. In its subsequent “Concluding Observations on the Fifth Periodic Report of Australia,” the committee picked up many of the recommendations we—and other NGOs in Australia—made regarding detention practices, including in relation to the country's responsibilities for the treatment of detainees confined in offshore regional processing centres.¹¹

Germany

Having closely monitored the changes in Germany's immigration detention system following a 2014 ruling by the Court of Justice of the European Union, we published our most detailed profile of the country yet in 2017. Remarking upon some increasingly



Migrant construction workers in Dubai. (Paul Keller)

contradictory policies, the report observed that while Germany's detention infrastructure has shrunk from more than 20 to seven long-term dedicated facilities, new laws have simultaneously broadened the grounds justifying immigration detention and the country has sought to pay for “shelters” in countries like Morocco to enable the country to deport minors without breaching the law.

Our research for the Germany detention profile was simultaneously used to draft a joint submission with Jesuit Refugee Services-Germany to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), highlighting a host of issues including concerns about detention in airport transit zones, the use of private contractors, and the detention of children. As the submission was made late in the year, any impact on the UPR review will not be visible until 2018. However, the submission was noted by other German civil society groups, including the Council of Refugees in Saxony, which highlighted the submission's concern about the lack of sufficient grounds for detention in individual cases.¹²



Büren Detention Centre in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. (Private)

4. Objectives & Accomplishments

4.1 Advances in country reports and data development

During 2017, we continued to expand our global monitoring, publishing in-depth country reports covering laws, policies, practices, and the nature of detention systems. With a particular focus on Europe, we produced 11 country profiles. Research for these publications was rigorous, and included comprehensive reviews of available documents, submitting information requests to relevant officials and national human rights institutions, and collaborating with local partners who were able to provide us with on-the-ground updates and local knowledge.

We also continued to update our data on detention systems around the world. Among the large-scale data development projects we undertook in 2017 were: our work updating information on all detention centres in North



America, including the sprawling US detention estate that includes hundreds of jails and detention centres, Mexico's enormous network of specially designated detention facilities (*estaciones migratorias*), and Canada's extensive list of provincial prisons that are used for immigration purposes; the revision of treaty ratification data for all countries in the world; an update to our migration, asylum, and refugee statistics; and the development of new data sets on detention reporting by UN treaty monitoring bodies and at the UN Universal Periodic Review.

Country reports produced in 2017

Ireland: Where Migrants are Detained in Prisons
Latvia: A "Crisis" at the NATO-EU Border?
New Walls in Europe: Immigration Detention in Estonia
Austria's Expanding Immigration Detention Regime
Whither "Alternatives" in Belgium?
Immigration Detention in Trinidad and Tobago
Macedonia: Immigration Detention on the Balkan Route
Malta: Detention on Europe's Southern Border
Portugal: Refugees Welcome?
Immigration Detention in Germany
Italy's Confusing and Arbitrary Detention System



4.2 The internet as a tool for transparency and awareness

A core aspect of the GDP's efforts to increase transparency and awareness of immigration detention practices has been to raise the visibility of our data using new media, in particular the internet. We continue to have success at this. In 2015, the GDP set a target of improving its online readership annually by 10 percent. During 2017, the GDP's website traffic outpaced this target by a substantial margin. According to Google Analytics, the site logged 157,000 sessions, 125,000 users, and 266,000 page views, a significant increase over previous years. During 2016, the first full year since launching our new website and online database, we logged approximately 122,000 sessions, 94,000 users, and 230,000 pageviews. During 2015, we logged 81,000 sessions, 63,000 users, and 163,000 pageviews. (For more on the GDP's web statistics, see Annexes I, II, and III.)

GDP website analytics by year

via Google Analytics

	2015	2016	2017
Website Sessions	81,000	122,000	157,000
Website Users	63,000	94,000	125,000
Website Page Views	163,000	230,000	266,000

Although our research is published in English, traffic to our website is global and we are succeeding in reaching audiences outside English-language countries. Users from almost every country in the world access our site, including from both immigration source and destination countries. The top 15 website traffic sources were, by order of importance: the United States, Malaysia, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, United Arab Emirates, Mexico, India, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, France, Germany, Saudi Arabia, and the Philippines.

The GDP's top web traffic sources in 2017 via Google Analytics

Country	Total Number of Users/ Percentage of Total Users
United States	20,630 (16.52%)
Malaysia	10,341 (8.28%)
Canada	8,264 (6.62%)
United Kingdom	7,983 (6.39%)
Australia	6,387 (5.11%)
United Arab Emirates	4,874 (3.90%)
Mexico	4,342 (3.48%)
India	3,946 (3.16%)
Italy	2,942 (2.36%)
Spain	2,775 (2.22%)
Switzerland	2,362 (1.89%)
France	2,361 (1.89%)
Germany	2,256 (1.81%)
Saudi Arabia	2,212 (1.77%)
Philippines	1,732 (1.39%)

Our top read profiles also include many non-English-language countries, including Malaysia, Greece, and Libya.

Top ten most visited country profiles in 2017

via Google Analytics

1. Australia
2. United States
3. Canada
4. Malaysia
5. Greece
6. United Kingdom
7. Turkey
8. Libya
9. Italy
10. Mexico

We attribute part of this growth in readership to our adoption in 2017 of a new communications strategy, which included: the hiring of a communications consultant, ramped up use of Facebook promotions employing geo- and thematic targeting tools, evolving our Twitter presence, and growing our newsletter mailing list. On Facebook, our targeted promotions helped us reach as many as 46,000 users for a single post, while our Twitter content reached an average daily audience of 1,400 users, and our newsletters were regularly read by more than 27 percent of our mailing list—a figure that is well above the industry average.

An important impact of our success online is that we have become a resource for people across the globe seeking information about family members or loved ones who have disappeared or are otherwise impossible to contact after being detained during their migration journeys. As we are often the only online resource providing information about particular detention centres and national detention policies, we receive numerous requests for assistance from detainees' concerned family members seeking information on their relatives' whereabouts. Wherever possible, we direct these requests to relevant humanitarian organisations and field offices who are better placed to provide assistance.

As we noted above in "Highlights 2017," our publications and research have also helped drive public discussion, with journalists regularly making use of our work in their coverage of refugee and migrant issues. During the course of the year, the GDP was referenced in a range of international, national, and local outlets including Al Jazeera, The Conversation, Huffington Post, Die Tageszeitung (Germany), El Pais (Spain), France Culture, GhanaWeb, El Shaab (Egypt), and the Australian amongst others. In total, the GDP was featured in more than 40 news articles. The increasing number of references to GDP resources is now closely documented and reported in our monthly newsletters, in a section entitled "GDP on the Record."

Europa abraza los centros de detención de extranjeros

La legislación va mejorando las condiciones de estos recursos, pero a la vez consolida su existencia

How immigration detention compares around the world



إمارات الظلام... تقارير أميمة: تفرقة عنصرية وتمييز بين المواطنين

L'Europe doit-elle signer la convention de l'ONU sur les migrants ?

4.3 Reinforcing advocacy

Over the past decade, a global advocacy movement has emerged that is aimed at protecting detainees and promoting the rights of migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers affected by immigration detention. The GDP's research and datasets have played an important role in supporting the emergence of this movement with advocacy groups extensively using our material in their lobbying and campaign materials, and advocates regularly consulting GDP expertise on detention issues.

Today, a cornerstone of our work reinforcing advocacy is establishing the "Global Immigration Detention Observatory"—a formalised field researcher initiative which involves training local partners in how to input data directly into the GDP database, creating an international cadre of immigration detention monitors as well as a centralised resource for tracking detention developments globally.

The Global Immigration Detention Observatory



In 2017 we established formal partnerships with groups across Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas, including: Fray Matias Centro de Derechos Humanos (Mexico), GADEM (Morocco and West Africa), Migrant-Rights.org (Gulf States), Human Constanta (Belarus), Lawyers for Human Rights (South Africa), STARS-Egypt (Egypt), International Legal Initiative (Kazakhstan and Central Asia), and ADC Memorial (Russia). Having introduced these new partners to our database, the GDP will be rolling out the field researcher initiative throughout the course of 2018.

Another increasingly important part of our efforts to boost the impact of reform campaigns are the growing number of joint submissions we make with national NGOs to the international human rights bodies and mechanisms. In 2017, we produced joint submissions with partners from Argentina, the Czech Republic, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Spain, and the United Arab Emirates.¹³

In 2017, the GDP was invited to work with a number of national civil society groups on immigration detention-related projects. The Norwegian Red Cross (Norcross) contracted the GDP to produce a report comparing regimes inside comparable immigration detention centres in 4-5 peer countries in Europe, with a view to providing evidence for Norcross that it can use as a basis for developing reform proposals for how Norway operates its sole detention facility in Trandum. The final report for this project is due in the first half of 2018.

The Hungarian Helsinki Committee also invited the GDP to partner on its “Red Line Project,” a new research and advocacy project that aims to develop empirical evidence on how the EU and its member states increasingly blur the distinction between detention and non-detention (“reception”) measures, and to craft effective advocacy, litigation, and communications strategies to address problems arising from these developments. Launched in late 2017 with support from the European Project for Integration and Migration, the project also includes the Greek Council for Refugees, the Italian Refugee Council, the Foundation for Access to Rights (Bulgaria), and the European Council for Refugees and Exiles.



A guard at Norway's Trandum Immigration Detention Centre demonstrates how to use a restraining device while inside one of the facility's isolation cells. 7 February 2018. (Global Detention Project/Michael Flynn)

“Over the past decade, a global advocacy movement has emerged that is aimed at protecting detainees and promoting the rights of migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers affected by immigration detention. The GDP’s research and datasets have helped fuel the emergence of this movement.”

4.4 Encouraging adherence to fundamental norms

As outlined in our Strategic Plan 2016-2019, an important GDP goal is to ensure that states respect core human rights treaties, which provide obligations intended to protect citizens and non-citizens alike. Our research has regularly highlighted how states neglect to adhere to these obligations in their detention practices. A great deal of our energy is thus devoted to reporting on these failures to UN treaty monitoring bodies, often teaming up with external NGO partners to provide joint submissions, as we describe elsewhere in this report.

In 2017, we significantly expanded our engagements in this regard including ramping up submissions to the UN Universal Periodic Review. From calling on Denmark to ensure that immigration detainees have full access to fundamental legal safeguards, to highlighting deplorable detention conditions in Malaysia, the GDP made 20 targeted submissions and recommendations (compared to 15 in 2016) drawing attention to areas in which states failed to respect treaty obligations. See the table opposite for a list of our submissions from 2017.

The GDP was also invited to present its findings at a number of events organised by regional and international human rights bodies, including at the Council of Europe, at UN consultations with civil society organisations, and at thematic events hosted by UN working groups and special rapporteurs. These included:

- UN Working Group on the Use of Mercenaries panel, “PMSCs in places of deprivation of liberty and their impact on human rights” (April)
- NGO briefing with Louise Arbour, UN Special Representative on Migration (April)
- Council of Europe consultation, “European Rules on the Conditions of Administrative Detention of Migrants” (June)



A United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officer oversees the transportation of detainees in Chicago, Illinois. (DHS/Josh Denmark)

GDP Submissions to Human Rights Mechanisms

Submission to the UN Committee on Migrant Workers: Algeria
Submission to the UN Committee on Migrant Workers: Egypt
Submission to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child: Spain
Submission to the UN Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights: Australia
Submission to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women: Saudi Arabia
Submission to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination: United Arab Emirates
Submission to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women: Malaysia
Submission to the UN Committee on Migrant Workers: Libya
Submission to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child: Denmark
Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review: Czech Republic
Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review: Argentina
Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review: Guatemala
Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review: Argentina
Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review: United Arab Emirates
Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review: France
Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review: Germany
Statement to the UN Working Group on the Use of Mercenaries
Submission to the UN Global Compact on Migration
Expert Consultation of the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture: Migration-related Torture
Submission to the Council of Europe's European Committee on Legal Co-operation

- UN Special Rapporteur on Torture's "Expert Consultation on Migration related Torture" (August)
- Council of Europe conference, "Immigration Detention of Children: Coming to a Close?" (September)
- European Commission's 11th European Forum on the Rights of the Child, "Children Deprived of Their Liberty and Alternatives to Detention" (November)
- Civil society meeting with the new UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants (November)
- UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty, "Data Collectors Meeting" (November)

To assess the impact of our activities at this level, during the course of the year we have monitored deliberations of the treaty bodies and at the Universal Periodic Review to assess whether they include recommendations made in our submissions. We have observed a noticeable increase in the inclusion of detention-related issues in the public documentation (such as "List of Issues" and "Concluding Observations," and the Universal Periodic Review's "Summary of Stakeholders"). In total, GDP recommendations were included in four Lists of Issues/Lists of Issues Prior to Reporting, three Concluding Observations, and three Summaries of Stakeholders. Below are some key examples:

Example 1: Algeria, Submission to the UN Committee on Migrant Workers

Several points raised by the GDP were subsequently included in the List of Issues, including concerns regarding plans for the construction of a detention centre for irregular migrants, the need for Algerian authorities to better document the number of migrant workers placed in administrative custody or

judicial detention, the number of fines and prison sentences imposed on migrants in an irregular situation, and the need for more information on conditions in detention.

Example 2: Argentina, Submission to the Universal Periodic Review

The Summary of Stakeholders referenced the GDP's concerns regarding the changes in Argentina's migration policy: from its traditional emphasis on integrating and protecting migrants, to the recent introduction of its "2017 Necessity and Urgency Decree" which emphasises the criminalisation of undocumented migrants. In the Final Working Group Report, reference was also made to the country's limitation of procedural guarantees in deportation hearings.

Example 3: Malaysia, Submission to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women

The List of Issues contained multiple references to detention, which the GDP had flagged in its submissions. These included the need for alternatives to detention for pregnant women, a request for information on the number of women and girls placed in immigration detention, and a further request for information on what measures the state has taken to improve female detainees' access to adequate and appropriate health care services.

Example 4: Denmark, Submission to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

Having submitted questions regarding the number of children in detention, the committee's Concluding Observations included a request that Denmark refrains from placing children in detention, and that they are instead placed in child-friendly accommodation under the protection of child protection authorities.

Key questions

Article 59 of the Algerian Constitution sanctions arbitrary arrests.⁷ What safeguards are in place against arbitrary arrest, and detention of Sub-Saharan migrants? Do any of the Sub-Saharan migrants and refugees rounded up in December 2016 remain in detention and if so where are they detained? Are foreign workers in an irregular situation from China, Turkey and Egypt, who are referred to in the Second Periodic report, also subject to arrest and deportation?

4.5 Fostering policy-relevant scholarship

Since the GDP's inception as a student-led project at the Graduate Institute in Geneva, we have been actively involved in the promotion of academic research within the interdisciplinary field of immigration detention. The rationale for our continued engagement in this sphere is outlined in our Strategic Plan 2016-2019, which underscores how this enables us "to work with experts from a broad range of fields, encouraging different academic disciplines to employ their specific research tools to critique the causes behind growing detention systems and possible responses. Also, our analytical work serves as a feedback loop that impacts our ongoing refinements to the database, development of a framework for undertaking comparable analysis, and identification of gaps in regional and international legal frameworks relevant to immigration detention."

In 2017, we continued to advance scholarship through the publication of a new edited volume by a well-regarded academic publisher, numerous working papers, and several publications in academic journals. GDP researchers also participated in various academic conferences, provided trainings in documentation strategies and human rights norms, and continued to mentor young academic talent as part of its intern and fellows programme (see page 21: Mentoring students).

The GDP Working Paper Series has included contributions from scholars from around the world and covered themes ranging from family detention in the United States to the role of UN human rights mechanisms in monitoring detention.

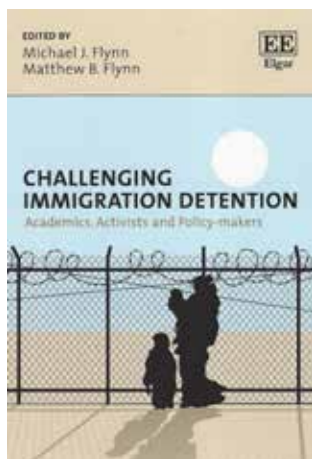


GDP Executive Director Michael Flynn speaks at the Council of Europe conference "Immigration Detention of Children: Coming to a Close?" Prague, Czech Republic. 26 September 2017. (Council of Europe/Czech Ministry of Justice)

"Challenging Immigration Detention brings together leading writers and thinkers to provide a greater understanding of why immigration detention is such an important social phenomenon, and to suggest ways to confront it locally and globally. Officially launched at the annual International Meeting on Law and Society, the book has been welcomed by many working within the immigration detention field."

Working Papers published in 2017	Author(s)
"Obstacles to Reforming Family Detention in the United States"	Dora Schriro
"When is Immigration Detention Lawful? The Monitoring Practices of UN Human Rights Mechanisms"	Izabella Majcher and Mariette Grange
"Immigration Detention, the Right to Liberty, and Constitutional Law"	Daniel Wilsher
"Immigration Detention through the Lens of International Human Rights: Lessons from South America"	Pablo Ceriani Cernadas
"Spatial Control: Geographical Approaches to the Study of Immigration Detention"	Deirdre Conlon, Nancy Hiemstra, and Alison Mountz

The Working Paper Series, which was launched in 2016, provided much of the raw material for the 2017 volume published by Edward Elgar Publishers, *Challenging Immigration Detention: Academics, Activists and Policy-Makers*, which was co-edited by the GDP's Executive Director and Prof. Matthew Flynn of Georgia Southern University. The book, which is aimed at encouraging cross-disciplinary investigation into the issue of immigration detention, brings together leading writers and thinkers to provide a greater understanding of why immigration detention is such an important social phenomenon, and to suggest ways to confront it locally and globally. Officially launched at the annual International Meeting on Law and Society, the book has been welcomed by many working within the immigration detention field.



GDP staff continued to publish articles on a range of issues related to immigration detention for a variety of external scholarly journals, books, and websites including the Journal on Migration and Human Security, the Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, and Border Criminologies. These, as well as our working papers, country profiles, and data sets were extensively used in external academic publications—in fact, more than 70 publications cited the work of the GDP during the year.

Elsewhere, we were regularly invited to participate in conferences and workshops around the world, providing us with opportunities to further discuss immigration detention trends and key migration issues with researchers, lawyers, and academics working

“This is an excellent book on the highly topical subject of immigration detention. The contributors are experts in the field and their work together creates impressive new knowledge.”

ELSPETH GUILD
QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

“The resort to immigration detention of asylum seekers and migrants is a global phenomenon that breaches fundamental human rights. In *Challenging Immigration Detention* the authors examine the impact on families and their children held in detention in the United States, Australia, the European Union and South America. This collation of research is an invaluable tool in responding to the growing movement of peoples across national borders in search of safety and a better life.”

GILLIAN TRIGGS
AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

within the field. From presenting trends in immigration detention in the European Union at the Onati International Institute for the Sociology of Law conference in Spain, to discussing the tendency for wealthy countries to externalise detention policies beyond their own borders at the Association of Global South Studies' annual conference in Morocco, the GDP took every opportunity to engage with scholars worldwide and to present our latest research.

In April, the GDP participated in a workshop at the University of Southern California co-hosted by the USC Gould School of Law, Border Criminologies at Oxford University, and the UCLA School of Law. Leading researchers

and lawyers working on immigration detention both inside and outside the United States were able to present their current research and legal cases, serving to foster interdisciplinary dialogue aimed at identifying key policy-relevant issues for future research. Many of those present at this workshop, including the GDP, teamed up later in the year with researchers from McGill University in Montreal to help jump-start a new international network focusing on immigration detention. As a result of an application that the GDP supported, the “International Network for Research, Advocacy and Policy on Immigration Detention” was awarded a grant from the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

In October, the GDP’s Senior Researcher gave a French language course on detention and other impediments to freedom of movement during the first course on the rights of migrants held by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in partnership with the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie. Some 50 participants from interior and justice ministries, national human rights institutions, and NGOs throughout francophone Africa attended in Sanremo, Italy.

Mentoring students

As part of our efforts to encourage scholarship, the GDP has a long-held tradition of mentoring research interns based at universities across the globe. During the last decade, we have worked with more than 40 interns. In 2016-2017, we built on this tradition by setting up a Fellows Programme that includes accomplished post-graduate researchers from several universities across Europe and North America.

During the internships, which typically last between 3-6 months, researchers receive regular mentoring from GDP staff, learning the GDP’s data-construction methodology, important trends in detention policies, and the relevance of the international human rights system in monitoring states’ treatment of detainees. For those interns who are able to visit us in Geneva, we arrange opportunities to attend conferences and workshops, focusing in particular on relevant activities at Geneva-based UN human rights bodies. We aim to

impart specialist knowledge and provide fellows and interns with critical insights into immigration detention research, international human rights law, and the workings of treaty monitoring bodies, helping to develop students’ skills and advancing their careers.

Many former GDP interns have gone on to devote their careers to the promotion of human rights, including some who have continued to focus their work on immigration and refugee rights. In this Annual Report, we take stock of the impact our mentoring efforts have had on the work of several former interns, including some who worked with the GDP during its formative years.

Inga Boecker – Fellow, 2017

During 2017, I completed a fellowship with the GDP as part of my Masters studies. The staff’s comprehensive knowledge and their valuable insights offered me the opportunity to gain a better understanding of immigration-related detention and to reflect on how to assess this issue from an interdisciplinary perspective. The experience led me to more closely orient the focus of my graduate studies on immigration detention, particularly with respect to my final thesis, which builds on my research at the GDP on the UN Universal Periodic Review.

Remi Vespi – Fellow, 2016

*Access to Justice Legal Support Officer
Creative Associates International
(Amman, Jordan)*

During my fellowship with the Global Detention Project, I was able to gain a better understanding of immigration laws and detention practices around the world, as well as how they interact with international law and impact the human rights of immigrants. I had the opportunity to conduct in-depth research and contribute to the drafting of profiles for the GDP website, which was invaluable experience. The team provided guidance and insight into working in a fast-paced NGO in the sector and my time at the GDP provided me with the skills necessary to begin building a successful career. More importantly, my experience motivated me to continue following my passion to work in the field of human rights, migration, and international law.

Sahiba Maqbool – Intern, 2014

Assistant Professor at Lloyd Law College (Delhi, India)

My internship at the Global Detention Project not only helped me learn about the conditions in detention centres throughout the world, it also provided me with an opportunity to begin taking responsibility for my own tasks and to express my own ideas. The experience sensitized me to the plight of refugees and spurred me to begin advocating for the rights of Burmese refugees in India. I have since become a law professor at Lloyd Law College, Delhi/NCR, India. Colleagues and students who are interested in refugee law often use the GDP website for their research, and in my refugee law classes I often discuss the GDP's research to support my arguments and increase awareness among my students about the plight of non-citizens in many countries. The "Global Detention Project" has become a household name at my college.

Yuki Kobayashi – Intern, 2013

Research and Programming Officer, Better Work, International Labour Organisation

My internship at the Global Detention Project equipped me with the basics of legal research in human rights. An important thing I learned during the internship is how international human rights norms are translated into national policy through legislative processes. The internship also gave me the opportunity to look into the difficult situation faced by detained foreigners and the efforts of local NGOs to assist these people. I went on to become an adviser/researcher to my government, researching international human rights and participating in negotiations at the UN Human Rights Council. While those negotiations can have a strong political nature, I have always tried to remember what "human rights violations" mean on the ground, as well as how we can make a difference through resolutions at the international level.

Christina Fialho – Intern, 2010

Director, Community Initiatives for Visiting Immigrants in Confinement (San Francisco)

After my first year in law school, I spent a summer working as a research intern for the Global Detention Project. I researched and wrote reports on immigration detention in the United States and Brazil, while learning about the history of immigration detention expansion across the globe. This work fuelled my desire to fight for an end to immigration detention in my home country of the United States, which detains more people than any other country in the world. I pursued this goal by founding the non-governmental group Community Initiatives for Visiting Immigrants in Confinement, which seeks to shed light on abuses people face in immigration detention by organising visits to detention centres and promoting alternatives for the treatment of people in immigration procedures.

Marizen Santos – Intern, 2009

Division Chief, Human Rights Policy Advisory Office, Philippines Commission on Human Rights

My first internship while studying at the Graduate Institute in Geneva was with the Global Detention Project. This was in 2009, the GDP's early years. I assisted the lead researcher (now Executive Director) in populating the GDP website with maps of detention sites as well as writing short profiles of states' migration policies. The internship proved to be very valuable for me, as the experience enriched my research on migration governance, my interest in human rights documentation, and later on my work as a migrants' rights and human rights advocate. Currently I work with the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines, supporting the commission in implementing its mandate as an independent national human rights institution that monitors, among its responsibilities, the Philippine government's compliance with international human rights treaty obligations.

5. Institutional development

In late 2015, the GDP launched a two-pronged Oak Foundation-supported initiative that has included (a) collaboration with an external consultant to examine, critique, and improve the GDP's strategic objectives and planning; and (b) a multi-phase resource mobilisation initiative working with fundraising professionals to establish a long-term fundraising strategy for the GDP, which is to be completed in early 2018.

The strategic planning phase of this initiative, undertaken with consultants from Agility3, concluded with the completion in early 2016 of the "GDP Strategic Plan 2016-2019." In addition to aiding the GDP in establishing its strategic priorities, which are discussed throughout this report, the strategic planning provided us with a number of important lessons, which emerged from the feedback we received from key GDP stakeholders and users who were interviewed for the planning initiative.

Our work with a resource mobilisation consultant associated with the Resource Alliance began in 2015. In early 2017, we completed our "Resource Mobilisation Strategy and Plan 2017-2019." During the course of 2017, the consultant provided monthly mentoring sessions for GDP staff, which included oversight of the implementation of the Resource Mobilisation Strategy and Plan and advice developing new funding sources. The resource mobilisation consultant has been of particular assistance in providing guidance for strengthening our fundraising processes by establishing a systematic approach to identifying, evaluating, researching, cultivating, asking, and stewarding donors.

These efforts helped lead to our establishment in 2017 of a new partnership with the Human Security Division of Switzerland's Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, whose support has enabled us make strategic investments



Manus Island Offshore Processing Facility in Papua New Guinea, prior to its closure on 31 October 2017. (DIAC Images)

in deepening our expertise and expanding our staff. It is thanks to their support, for instance, that we were able to hire a Research Consultant whose work is now ensuring we have an "on the ground" presence, for example, spearheading research into the uses and abuses of social media in the migration context of North Africa, assessing whether social media can be harnessed to assist migrants who are facing detention and deportation.

We were also able to fill a crucial role identified in our Strategic Plan and hire a Communications Consultant to support editorial production, promote greater use of GDP information, and assist with fundraising. In particular, our Communications Consultant has started to develop our social media presence and publications style, to help ensure that content is market-friendly, and that we continue to expand our reach.

Also in 2017 we consolidated our board by taking on a new member and introduced regular meetings with members of the Executive Committee and Executive Director to review progress on key goals. In November, we held our third annual General Assembly and Executive Committee meetings.

6. The GDP Team & Governance

Team

The GDP Team is comprised of the following staff members, advisers, and governance bodies.

Staff

Michael Flynn, Executive Director

Michael Flynn holds a BA in Philosophy from DePaul University and a PhD in International Studies from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. Flynn previously worked as a project director at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C.; as a project coordinator at the Graduate Institute's Programme for the Study of Global Migration; and as an associate editor of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists. His research has been supported by the Swiss Network for International Studies, the Geneva International Academic Network, the Pew International Journalism Program, and the Fund for Investigative Journalism.

Mariette Grange, Senior Researcher

Mariette Grange is a researcher and human rights practitioner. She co-established the Amnesty International office to the United Nations in Geneva and later provided leadership to Human Rights Watch during the institution-building years of the Human Rights Council. She worked on migrants and refugee operations at the World Council of Churches and the International Catholic Migration Commission and on emerging issues at the International Council on Human Rights Policy. She conducted research on UN treaty bodies and produced pilot training material for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Mariette acts as an advisor and trainer and participates in academic projects and inter-governmental processes. Mariette holds an MA in translation from the Institut Supérieur de Traduction et Interprétation, Brussels. Her MA thesis focused on anthropology and the caste system.

Izabella Majcher, Associate Researcher

Izabella Majcher is a researcher in international human rights and refugee law, with expertise in the European Union's immigration and asylum policy. Her research at the GDP focuses on the international legal framework governing immigration detention and detention regimes in European Union and Latin American countries. Izabella is also a volunteer visitor to immigration detainees in Geneva, with the Ligue suisse des droits de l'Homme. She holds a PhD in international law from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) in Geneva. Her doctoral dissertation assesses the European Union's policies targeting undocumented migrants and their compatibility with international human rights law.

Katie Welsford, Communications Consultant

Katie Welsford has a background in not-for-profit communications and journalism and specialises in conflict and displacement. She previously worked for the AMAR International Charitable Foundation, overseeing all digital communications and campaigns which focused in particular upon the IDP crisis in Northern Iraq. Prior to this, Katie worked as the Co-ordinator for the human rights NGO, Reach All Women in War, and as a freelance journalist in the Middle East and Caucasus for publications including the Guardian, Daily Beast and Le Monde Diplomatique. She holds an MSc in Political Science from the University of London's Birkbeck College and a BA in Social Geography from Durham University.

Tom Rollins, Research Consultant

Tom Rollins is an independent researcher focused on Syria, Palestinian refugees from Syria, and displacement/migration around the Middle East and Mediterranean. Tom worked as a journalist in the MENA region for several years, with his reporting appearing in Al Jazeera English, IRIN News and Mada Masr. He investigated immigration detention and irregular migration on Egypt's north coast between 2014-2015 and has documented the post-2011 displacement and vulnerabilities of Palestinian refugees from Syria.

Matthew Flynn, Contributing Researcher

Matthew Flynn is an Assistant Professor of International Studies and Sociology at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia, and a Contributing Researcher to the Global Detention Project. Professor Flynn volunteers his time to assist the GDP in producing its Working Paper Series.



Detention centres in South America

Executive Committee & Board Members

Roberta Cecchetti

President & Board Member

George Kourous (UN Food and Agriculture Organization), *Vice President & Board Member*

Yves Klein (Monfrini Bitton Klein), *Secretary & Board Member*

Pierre Simon (Processus Immobilier), *Treasurer & Board Member*

Meghna Abraham (Amnesty International) *Board Member*

Megan Gray Paterson-Brown (Webster University)

Seta Hadesian (Middle East Council of Churches)

Fernand Melgar (Filmmaker/Climage.ch)

Alejandro Nadal (El Colegio de Mexico)

Robert Norris (Federation of American Scientists)

Michaela Told (Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies)

Academic Advisory Council

Mary Bosworth, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

François Crépeau, Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Jeff Crisp, Refugees International, Washington, D.C., United States of America

Niels Frenzen, USC Gould School of Law, University of Southern California, United States of America

Elsbeth Guild, Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands

Jussi Hanhimäki, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland

Donald Kerwin, Center for Migration Studies, New York, United States of America

Daniel Wilsher, City University, London, United Kingdom

Governance

As a non-profit association under Swiss law, the GDP has two main governance bodies: the **General Assembly** of association members, whose responsibilities include appointing the association's **Executive Committee**, which is responsible for managing the association, approving budgets, and authorising grants, among other activities. Executive Committee members participate on a purely volunteer basis and are only reimbursed for expenses and travel costs directly related to fulfilling their responsibilities on behalf of the association.

In addition, the Executive Committee has appointed a five-person **Board** that is intended to interact more closely with the Executive Director and provide assistance on short notice for a range of activities, including banking and finances, drafting contracts, addressing legal questions, and generally serving as an easily accessible advisory body to the Executive

Director. Board members include the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Executive Committee. The Board is directly involved in financial oversight of the association and has direct access to all of its financial information. Copies of banking and financial records are sent directly by the association's bank to the Treasurer.

Lastly, the association has appointed a non-binding **Academic Advisory Council**, which is made up of prominent academics and scholars working on issues central to the GDP's mandate. The academic council is intended to serve in a consultative capacity to the Executive Director in order to help ensure that the GDP's outputs meet the highest standards. Council members provide advice on research, proof drafts of reports, suggest areas to focus GDP efforts, and collaborate with staff on producing material published by the association.



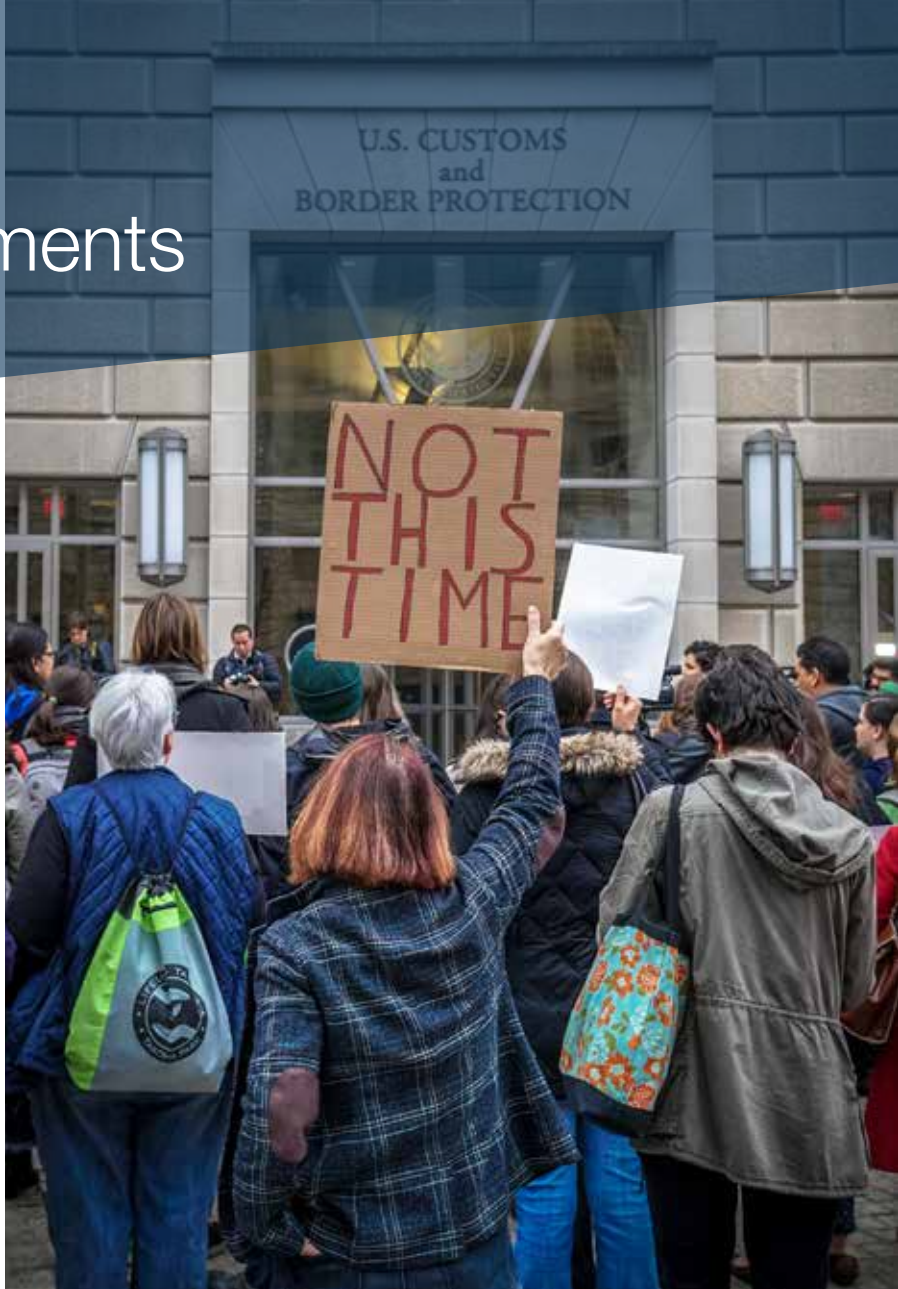
Morton Hall Immigration Removal Centre. (UK Home Office)

7. Acknowledgements

The GDP would like to give special thanks to the following financial partners, without whose support our work would not have been possible during 2017: The Oak Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, and the Human Security Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

The GDP's work has been shaped by the efforts of numerous students, research fellows, and interns who have generously given their time and energy to further the goals of the GDP. During the past year we benefitted from the skills, commitment, and personalities of the following individuals: Romane Auzou, Inga Boecker, Lucie Fabiano, Saskia Holloway, Sofia Kourous Vazquez, Maria Melchor, Costanza Ragazzi, and Federica Sola.

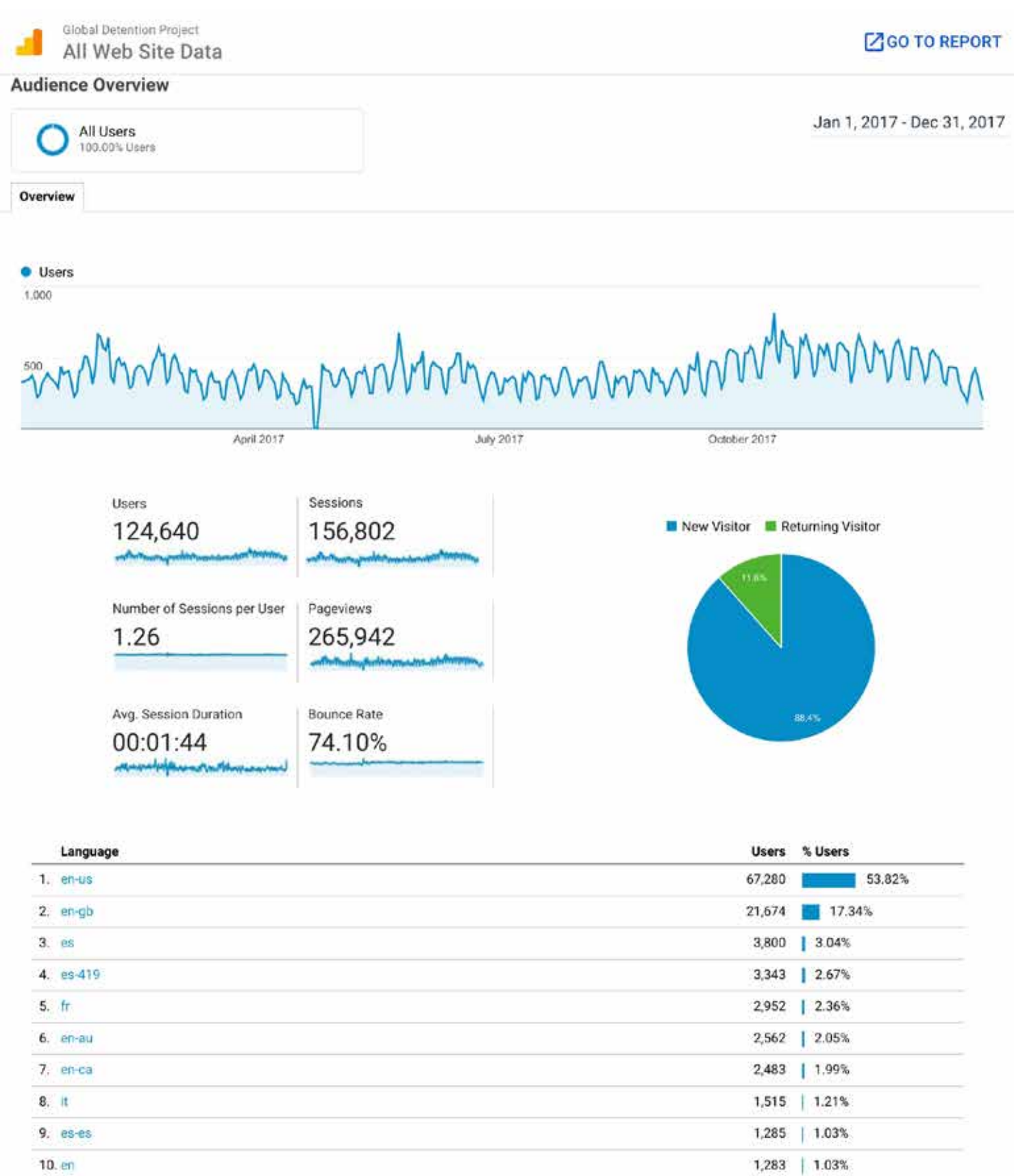
We would also like to thank the countless immigration and human rights experts the world over who made room in their busy schedules to review drafts of reports, track down information, critique methodologies, invite us to give presentations, or correspond with us during our investigations. They are too numerous to mention individually, but we would be remiss if we did not acknowledge that the quality of our work has benefitted enormously thanks to the interactions we have enjoyed with these dedicated individuals.



Protestors challenging the Trump administration's "Muslim Ban" rally outside a Customs and Border Protection office in Washington D.C., United States. 7 March 2017. (Ted Eytan)

Annexes





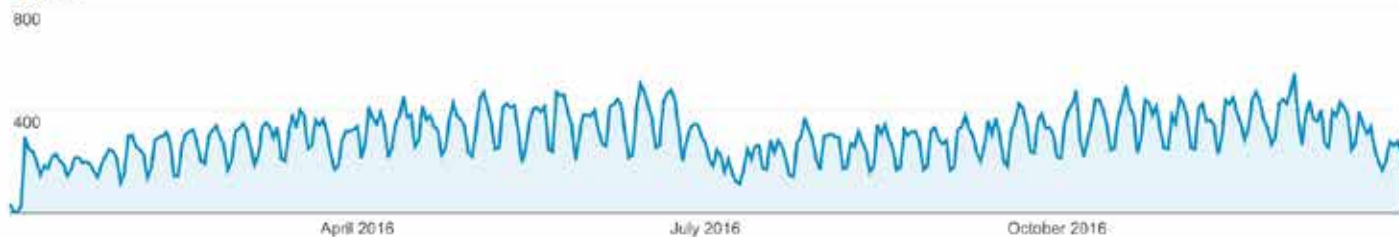
Audience Overview

 All Users
100.00% Users

Jan 1, 2016 - Dec 31, 2016

Overview

● Users



Users

93,543

Sessions

121,794

Number of Sessions per User

1.30

Pageviews

230,717

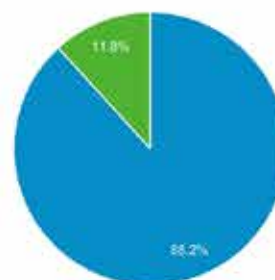
Avg. Session Duration

00:02:09

Bounce Rate

68.96%

■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor



Language	Users	% Users
1. en-us	50,745	54.28%
2. en-gb	14,797	15.83%
3. en-au	2,411	2.58%
4. es	2,403	2.57%
5. fr	2,107	2.25%
6. en-ca	1,735	1.86%
7. es-419	1,397	1.49%
8. en	1,323	1.42%
9. de	1,133	1.21%
10. es-es	1,073	1.15%

Audience Overview



All Users
100.00% Users

Jan 1, 2015 - Dec 31, 2015

Overview

● Users



Users

62,100



Sessions

80,813



Number of Sessions per User

1.30



Pageviews

163,031



Avg. Session Duration

00:01:53

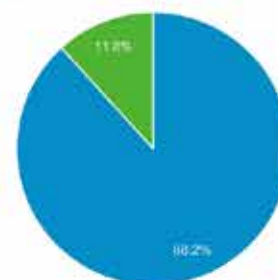


Bounce Rate

72.21%



■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor



Language	Users	% Users
1. en-us	33,240	53.43%
2. en-gb	7,357	11.83%
3. (not set)	3,554	5.71%
4. pl	1,675	2.69%
5. fr	1,348	2.17%
6. en-au	1,298	2.09%
7. de	1,180	1.90%
8. en	1,154	1.85%
9. es	948	1.52%
10. it	641	1.03%

Annex II: Google Analytics: Top Locations of Users, 2017

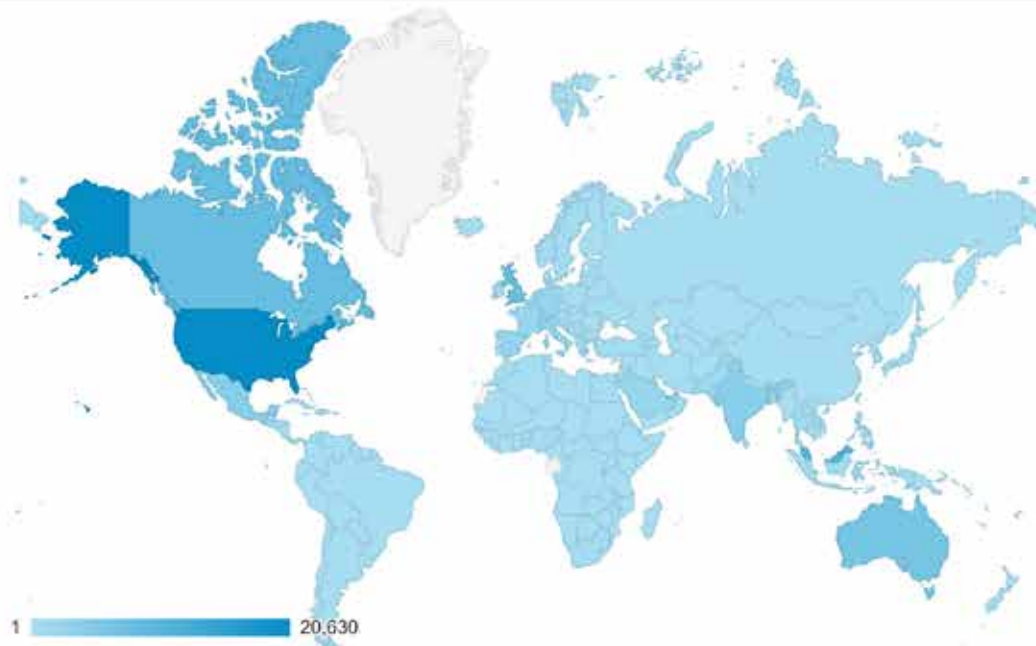
Location

All Users
100.00% Users

Jan 1, 2017 - Dec 31, 2017

Map Overlay

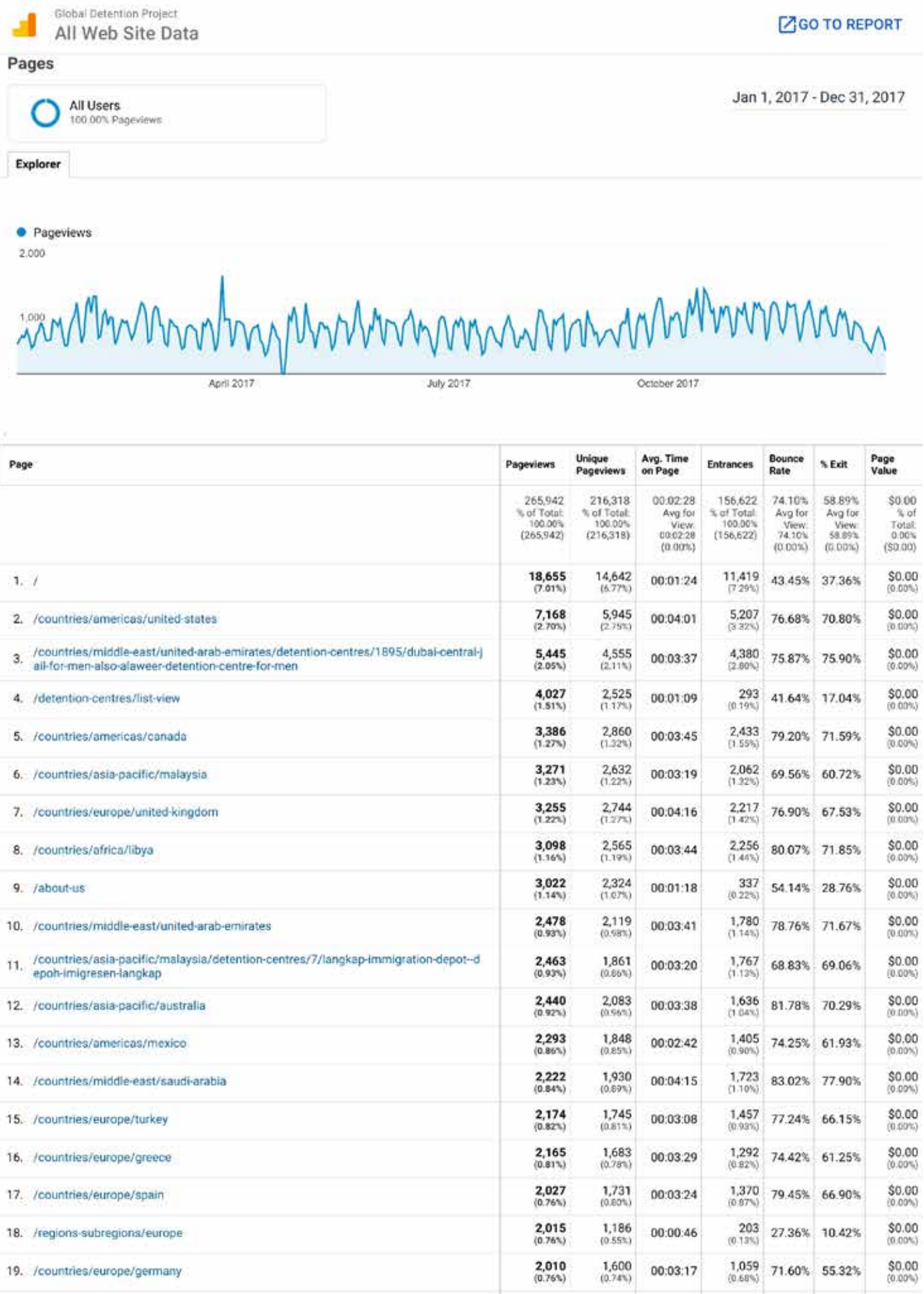
Summary



Country	Acquisition			Behavior			Conversions Goal 1: Views		
	Users	New Users	Sessions	Bounce Rate	Pages / Session	Avg. Session Duration	Views (Goal 1 Conversion Rate)	Views (Goal 1 Completions)	Views (Goal 1 Value)
	124,640 % of Total: 100.00% (124,640)	123,615 % of Total: 100.08% (123,511)	156,802 % of Total: 100.00% (156,802)	74.10% Avg for View: 74.10% (0.00%)	1.70 Avg for View: 1.70 (0.00%)	00:01:44 Avg for View: 00:01:44 (0.00%)	0.00% Avg for View: 0.00% (0.00%)	0 % of Total: 0.00% (0)	\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (\$0.00)
1. United States	20,630 (16.52%)	20,408 (16.51%)	25,193 (16.07%)	74.58%	1.72	00:01:39	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)
2. Malaysia	10,341 (8.28%)	10,249 (8.29%)	12,980 (8.28%)	74.68%	1.49	00:01:24	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)
3. Canada	8,264 (6.62%)	8,176 (6.61%)	9,721 (6.20%)	79.17%	1.50	00:01:12	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)
4. United Kingdom	7,983 (6.39%)	7,879 (6.37%)	10,258 (6.54%)	73.14%	1.67	00:01:38	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)
5. Australia	6,387 (5.11%)	6,402 (5.18%)	7,921 (5.05%)	77.20%	1.57	00:01:25	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)
6. United Arab Emirates	4,874 (3.90%)	4,843 (3.92%)	5,736 (3.66%)	78.24%	1.37	00:01:11	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)
7. Mexico	4,342 (3.48%)	4,324 (3.50%)	5,050 (3.22%)	78.93%	1.43	00:01:12	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)
8. India	3,946 (3.16%)	3,925 (3.18%)	4,713 (3.01%)	75.09%	1.62	00:01:35	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)
9. Italy	2,942 (2.36%)	2,901 (2.35%)	3,763 (2.40%)	73.61%	1.79	00:01:46	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)
10. Spain	2,775 (2.22%)	2,742 (2.22%)	3,573 (2.28%)	73.78%	1.92	00:02:26	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	\$0.00 (0.00%)

Rows 1 - 10 of 219

Annex III: Google Analytics: Most Visited Pages, 2017



Annex IV: Financial Statement

This is an extract of the Global Detention Project's financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2017. To request a copy of the full audit, please email admin@globaldetentionproject.org

Profit and loss

	2017 (CHF)	2016 (CHF)
Income		
Donations in money received	199,490.00	406,055.22
Donations in kind received	10,080.00	63,840.00
Other income	1,925.70	5,958.27
Deductions to committed donation	140,448.85	0.00
Income, total	351,944.55	475,853.49
Expenses		
Office and accommodation costs	10,589.25	10,742.00
Direct costs	29,525.37	65,961.86
Overhead	19,463.97	16,595.41
Staff costs	285,015.10	282,885.67
Development costs	0.00	35,040.33
Amount to spend	5,427.50	61,372.00
Expenses, total	350,021.19	472,597.27
Net result of the year	1,923.36	3,256.22

Balance sheet

Assets

	2017 (CHF)	2016 (CHF)
Current Assets		
Bank account	41,227.02	204,090.16
Other claims	4,110.15	4,130.10
Accruals and deferrals	13,262.50	1,620.19
Current assets, total	58,599.67	209,840.45
Fixed Assets		
Financial assets	2,520.50	2,520.25
Fixed assets, total	2,520.50	2,520.25
Assets, total	61,120.17	212,360.70



An immigration officer stands inside the Immigration Detention House in West Jakarta, Indonesia. 19 December 2017. (Getty Images/Anadolu Agency/Erric Permana)

Liabilities

	2017 (CHF)	2016 (CHF)
Short term outside funds		
Debts resulting from deliveries and performances	4,630.10	7,762.04
Accruals and deferrals	6,842.25	21,852.85
Funds committed to projects (donations committed to spend)	41,129.19	176,150.54
Short term outside funds, total	52,601.54	205,765.43
Equity		
Result shown in balance sheet:		
Retain earnings	6,595.27	3,339.05
Result of the year	1,923.36	3,256.22
Equity, total	8,518.63	6,595.27
Liabilities, total	61,120.17	212,360.70

	2017 (CHF)	2016 (CHF)
Donations in money received	199,490.00	406,055.22
Oak Foundation	126,250.00	129,414.00
Open Society Foundation	0.00	276,641.22
DFAE	73,240.00	0.00
Donations in kind received	10,080.00	63,840.00
Etat de Genève	10,080.00	10,080.00
Tutator Foundation	0.00	53,760.00
Donations in money to spend	41,129.19	176,150.54
Oak Foundation	35,701.69	43,039.90
Open Society Foundation	0.00	133,110.64
DFAE	5,427.50	0.00
Direct Costs	29,525.37	65,961.86
Support to the target population	10,550.18	2,345.01
Website	5,153.56	57,895.73
Travel and representation	9,009.13	5,721.12
Consultants	4,812.50	0.00
Overhead	19,463.97	16,595.41
Insurance	450.10	450.10
Office costs	8,795.66	7,099.62
IT costs	293.96	305.43
Professional fees	9,410.00	8,330.00
Financial costs	514.25	410.26

Endnotes

1. UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, “2017 International Migration Report,” 2017, http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/publications/migrationreport/docs/MigrationReport2017_Highlights.pdf
2. EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, “European Legal and Policy Framework on Immigration Detention of Children,” June 2017, <http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2017/child-migrant-detention>
3. Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Migration to the UN General Assembly, 3 February 2017, <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N17/002/18/PDF/N1700218.pdf?OpenElement>
4. “Implementing the Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty,” side event at the 34th session of the UN Human Rights Council, 8 March 2017, https://childrendeprivedofliberty.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/HRC34_DCReport_-_Global-Study_FINAL.pdf
5. For more on GDP website traffic and statistics, see the section of this report entitled “The Internet as a Tool for Transparency and Awareness.”
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7. UN Human Rights Council, Committee on Migrant Workers, “List of Issues prior to Submission of Initial Report on Libya,” 9 October 2017.
8. UN Human Rights Council, “Report of the Working Group on the on the Universal Periodic Review: Czechia,” UN Human Rights Council, 27 December 2017, <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G17/368/07/PDF/G1736807.pdf?OpenElement>
9. UN Human Rights Council, “Report of the Working Group on the on the Universal Periodic Review: Argentina,” UN Human Rights Council, 22 December 2017, <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G17/367/18/PDF/G1736718.pdf?OpenElement>
10. See: R. Buckland, “Migration and Border Policy Links: Trump-Turnbull Transcript, Trafficking in the Gulf, and More,” The Interpreter, 10 August 2017, <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/migration-and-border-policy-links-trump-turnbull-transcript-trafficking-gulf-and> and M. Omar, “Modern Slavery: Renewed Blood in the Veins of UAE Markets,” Ultra Sawt, 26 August 2017, <http://bit.ly/2FSS3K7>
11. UN Human Rights Council, Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, “Concluding Observations on the Fifth Periodic Report of Australia,” 11 July 2017.
12. Sächsischen Flüchtlingsrats, “Stellungnahme des Sächsischen Flüchtlingsrats e.V. zum Sächsischen Abschiebehaftvollzugsgesetz,” <http://www.saechsischer-fluechtlingsrat.de/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Stellungnahme-SFR-AbschiebehaftVollzG.pdf>
13. For a full list of submissions, see our “Submissions & Recommendations” webpage at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/category/sidebar-publications/publications/submissions-recommendations>

Design and layout

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