



Welcome to the Global Detention Project's roundup of current research, publications, and events. For any questions about our content, please contact [admin \[at\] globaldetentionproject \[dot\] org](mailto:admin[at]globaldetentionproject[dot]org)

OUR LATEST PUBLICATIONS



Immigration Detention in Germany: From Open Arms to Public Backlash

During the height of Europe's migration "crisis," Germany was one of the few EU countries to openly embrace assisting refugees, registering more than a million arrivals in less than two years. However, this stance spurred a public backlash, which led to the adoption of a host of restrictive measures, including policies intended to increase removals, limit family reunifications, and expand the range of facilities that can be used to detain migrants—including prisons. Even during the Covid-19 crisis, authorities stressed that when possible, returns should continue to be carried out, ignoring UN advice warning against deportations during the pandemic.

[Read the report](#)

Submissions to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child: Tunisia and Cyprus

In submissions to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (85th session), the GDP has sought to draw the committee's attention to issues concerning the detention of children in Tunisia and Cyprus. In a joint submission with the Forum Tunisien pour les Droits Économiques et Sociaux (FTDES), we highlighted concerns regarding the confinement of children in Tunisia's Al-Wardia Detention Centre, where children have reportedly been detained, as well as conflicting statements surrounding the establishment of new migration-related detention centres with specific Covid-19-related purposes. In Cyprus, we noted the fact that the country's Aliens and Immigration Law does not expressly forbid the detention of children and urged the committee to request information from Cypriot authorities regarding plans to update this law to prohibit migration-related detention of children. (After the GDP submitted these reports, the CRC announced the postponement of its consideration of country reviews during the 85th session.)

[Read the submissions: Tunisia and Cyprus](#)

NEWS + ACTIVITIES



The use of private military and security services in immigration and border management: UN Working Group on the Use of Mercenaries

In a newly released report, the Working Group examines how private-sector enforcement of migration law has led to widespread human rights abuses—particularly in situations where migrants are deprived of their liberty. Highlighting the power many private companies possess and their ability to push for repressive immigration laws and practices, the Working Group underscores the way in which private companies reinforce security over humanitarian approaches to immigration and border management. As part of the Working Group's activities ahead of the publication of this report was a November 2019 panel discussion at the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva—["The use of private military and security companies in migrant detention centres"](#)—at which the GDP presented lessons learned from our research into detention privatisation. [Read the Working Group's full report.](#)

Monitoring Covid-19's impact on detained refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers Since the start of the pandemic, the GDP has been closely monitoring how authorities across the globe are responding to the pandemic in their treatment of detained refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers as part of our [Covid-19 platform](#). While some countries have taken important steps to protect this vulnerable population—including by securing their release from detention facilities—others have adopted concerning measures restricting the movement of non-nationals, conducting raids against undocumented migrants, blaming the spread of the disease on foreigners, and arbitrarily detaining thousands under the premise of health protection.

[Visit the Covid-19 Immigration Detention Platform](#)

[Stay on top of developments by subscribing to our Covid-19 weekly newsletter](#)

[Complete the GDP's Covid-19 Survey](#) (available in English, French, Spanish, Russian, and Chinese)

Immigration Detention in the European Union: In the Shadow of the “Crisis”

Even as the “refugee crisis” began to recede from the borders of many European countries and as detections of unauthorised border crossings into the EU declined, authorities in many European states have been adopting increasingly restrictive border and detention policies. Authored by the GDP’s Izabella Majcher, Michael Flynn, and Mariette Grange, *Immigration Detention in the European Union: In the Shadow of the “Crisis”* offers a unique comparative assessment of the evolution of immigration detention systems in European Union member states since the onset of the “crisis.” [For more information—or to buy a copy—click here.](#)

GDP ON THE RECORD



["The End of Immigration Detention Doesn't Mean the End of Fortress Europe,"](#) K. Piser, *Foreign Policy*, July 2020.

["He Almost Died Migrating to Europe, Now He Is Warning Other Gambians About It,"](#) A. Salaudeen, *CNN*, August 2020.

["Migrante racconta il viaggio verso l'Europa: "In Libia era come stare all'inferno" \[Migrant tells of the journey to Europe: "In Libya it was like being in hell,"\]](#) C. Galloni, *Blitz Quotidiano*, August 2020.

["Collective Expulsions Documented in the Aegean Sea: March - June 2020,"](#) Legal Centre Lesvos, August 2020.

["What Are We Afraid Of? Exploring Risk and Immigration Detention,"](#) A. Lindley, *Migration Studies*, August 2020.

["Latin America and the Global Compact on Migration: Early Perceptions,"](#) L.L. Jubilut, *Newsletter of the American Political Science Association's Organized Section on Migration and Citizenship*, August 2020.

["Annual Report 2019-2020,"](#) *Border Criminologies*, July 2020.

["Power in 'No-Cell' Detention: Spatial Restriction and Domestication of Space for Foreign Detainees in Romania,"](#) B. Michalon, in *The Prison Cell*, J. Turner and V. Knight (eds.), July 2020.

["The Balkans: Western Balkans Route,"](#) J.I. Garcia and C. Fenu, in *Migratory Flows at the Borders of Our World*, A.A. Mateos et al (eds.), August 2020.

["Migrant Detention Archives: Histories of Pain and Solidarity,"](#) J. Ordaz, *Southern California Quarterly*, August 2020.