



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@globaldetentionproject.org)



GDP FUNDRAISING APPEAL

The Global Detention Project (GDP) is launching its first-ever individual-giving fundraising campaign. For more than a decade, our small but dedicated team has relentlessly investigated the treatment of immigration detainees, documenting when, where, and in what conditions they are held.

Today the GDP is the world's only resource providing statistics and data on immigration detention regimes in nearly all the countries on the globe, while working with partners in dozens of countries to use this data to promote reforms aimed at protecting detained refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants from harm.

In the past year alone, we have successfully mobilised key international human rights actors to directly address urgent situations like the plight of refugees stranded in border regions between Belarus and the EU, the fraught predicament of migrants in Ukrainian detention centres amidst Russia's military onslaught, and the disappearances of Eritrean asylum seekers forcibly deported from Egypt.

We've been able to make an impact because of the support we have received from a small group of dedicated institutional funders. However, the funding environment for our work is undergoing important changes, and so we are compelled to adapt how we finance our work and support collaborations with our partners. We are reaching out directly to our many friends, readers, supporters, and collaborators to ask for assistance at this critical moment.

Please donate to the GDP today ... and help get the word out to like-minded people and institutions who share our vision of ensuring that children, trafficking victims, asylum seekers, and all at-risk people are never detained and that no one is arbitrarily and indefinitely kept in immigration detention.

Donations will support our efforts to:

- End arbitrary and indefinite migration-related detention.
- Ensure that children and other at-risk migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees are never detained.
- Expose harmful detention practices.
- Demand justice for people who have been unjustly detained.
- Promote the respect and dignity of all non-citizens.

[DONATE NOW](#)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS & IMPACTS



[Is There Convergence on Immigration Detention Between the Global Compact for Migration and the Migrant Workers Convention?](#)

As the UN Committee on Migrant Workers prepares to draft General Comment No.6 on the convergence between the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) and UN Migrant Worker Convention (ICMRW), the GDP has provided input identifying critical gaps between the two agreements with respect to protections for people detained for migration or asylum-related reasons, including in a [written submission](#) to the CMW

and in an [oral presentation](#) during a CMW General Day of Discussion held on 27 September. The GDP also invited our partner, Migrant-Rights.org, to join us at the CMW event to share their concerns about the lack of space and opportunity for civil society organisations to review states' implementation of the GCM.

- [Read the GDP's full submission](#)
- [Read the written comments of GDP Director Michael Flynn and Rima Kalush of Migrant-Rights.org](#)

GDP Hosts Third Interactive Webinar: The Role of OPCAT in Preventing Harmful Immigration Detention



On Monday 5 September, the GDP hosted the third in its series of interactive webinars aimed at building stronger connections between local civil society organisations and international human rights instruments. Examining the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT), this webinar explored the role of the OPCAT bodies—the [Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment](#) (SPT) and [National Preventive Mechanisms](#) (NPMs). Focusing on their unique structure and mandate, the event delved into the bodies' pivotal roles in preventing torture and ill-treatment in immigration detention. Moderated by Veronica Filippeschi ([Association for the Prevention of Torture](#)), the event heard from eight speakers who provided first hand experiences of implementing the OPCAT mandate, including: Sir Malcolm Evans, former chair of the SPT; Hindpal Singh Bhui from the UK Inspectorate of Prisons; and representatives of NPMs of several countries in Africa, Asia, and Europe. The webinar is available to watch [here](#).

The GDP and IRRA Highlight Türkiye's Treatment of Immigration Detainees

| Türkiye: Key Immigration Detention Data | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Immigration detention capacity | 15,908 (2021) | Reports of maltreatment? | Yes |
| Number of dedicated immigration detention centres | 25 (2021) | Reports of children in detention? | Yes |
| Types of detention facilities | Removal centres, police stations, airports, ad hoc detention sites | | |

Source: Global Detention Project

The GDP and our Istanbul-based partner the International Refugee Rights Association (IRRA) issued a joint [submission](#) regarding Türkiye's treatment of immigration detainees to the UN Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW). We highlighted, inter alia, the failure of many of Türkiye's immigration detention facilities to meet EU regulation standards; the confinement of at-risk groups including unaccompanied children and pregnant and nursing women; and the use of immigration detention procedures for people who are accused of being foreign terrorists. The IRRA also delivered a [virtual presentation](#) to the CMW on 20 September and responded to questions from Committee members about the treatment of asylum seekers and migrants in Türkiye. .

- [Read the joint submission to the CMW](#)
- [Read IRRA's Oral Presentation to the CMW](#)
- [Read the GDP's Türkiye Immigration Detention Profile](#)

NEWS



Sahar Okhovat Elected as New President of the Global Detention Project

The Global Detention Project's [Executive Committee](#) has unanimously elected Sahar Okhovat as its new President, replacing outgoing President Roberta Cecchetti. Sahar is a Senior Policy Officer at the Refugee Council of Australia and previously served as the Vice Chair of the detention committee for the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network and as a Humanitarian Observer for the Australian Red Cross, monitoring conditions in Australian onshore and offshore immigration detention facilities. The GDP is delighted to welcome such a dedicated and experienced advocate into this role and will benefit enormously from her immense expertise in immigration detention issues within Australia and beyond. [Read more.](#)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

WHO: World Report on the Health of Refugees and Migrants

The World Health Organisation's first ever report on refugee and migrant health, launched in July, brings together key evidence about the multitude of health challenges faced by refugees and migrants. Key to health considerations are the various impacts of immigration detention, with many cases of deaths, suicides, and cases of self-harm attributed to a failure to provide adequate health care and to poor detention conditions. The report's chapter on immigration detention (pp. 66-68), which was drafted by the GDP's Executive Director, explores this deeply concerning trend and highlights the various ways in which detention impacts health outcomes. [Read more.](#)

2021 GDP Annual Report

Reflecting on the GDP's notable achievements in 2021 and our efforts to ensure that global tools have local impact, our Annual Report takes a look at key highlights such as the launching of our interactive webinar series introducing local activists to international human rights tools; working closely with civil society partners from every region of the world to bring attention to human rights violations faced by detained migrants and asylum seekers; and mobilising key actors in both regional and UN human rights systems to directly address urgent situations. [Read the full report.](#)



GDP ON THE RECORD

MEDIA AND PRESS RELEASES

- ["Refugees Detained in Dismal Conditions in Turkey Upon Pushback From Greece."](#) *Stockholm Center for Freedom*, 20 September 2022.
- ["En Turquie, les refoulés de Grèce retenus dans des lieux indignes."](#) M. Courtois, *InfoMigrants*, 22 September 2022.
- ["Global Detention Project 3. Webinar'ına Katılım Gerçekleştirildi."](#) *Human Rights and Equality Institution*, 7 September 2022.
- ["Seven Years Since the Death of Two-Year-Old Alan Kurdi."](#) *Are You Syrious?*, 2 September 2022.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

- ["The Impact of the European Union on Turkey's Policy of Immigration Detention."](#) P. Canga and S. Behrman, *European Journal of Migration and Law*, 2022.
- ["Governing Through Ignorance: Swedish Authorities' Treatment of Detained and Non-deported Migrants during the COVID-19 Pandemic."](#) A. Lindberg et al, *Feminist Legal Studies*, 2022.
- ["Immigration Detention, the Patriarchal State and the Politics of Disgust in the Hands of Street-level Bureaucrats."](#) A. Fernández de la Reguera, *Feminist Encounters: A Journal of Critical Studies in Culture and Politics*, 2022.
- ["Border Securocracy: Global Expansion of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Bureaucratic Apparatus Before, During and Beyond Covid-19."](#) T. M. Garrett, *Administrative Theory & Praxis*, 2022.
- ["From Crimmigration to Reintegration Following the Removal of "Undesirable" People from Australia to New Zealand."](#) V. Hopner et al, in: *Contemporary Immigration: Psychological Perspectives to Address Challenges and Inform Solutions*, American Psychological Association, 2022.