

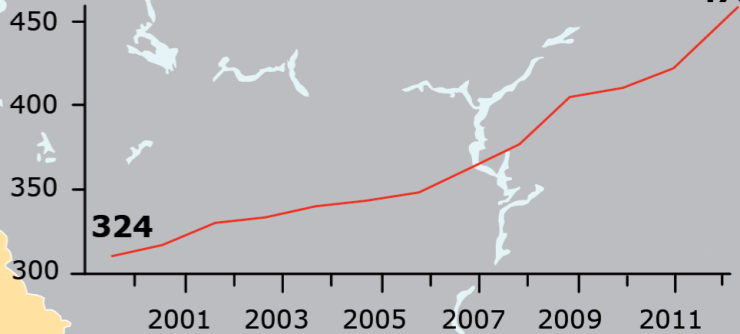
**Austria (18 camps)** : Bludenz (?) / Eisenstadt 1 (?) / Eisenstadt 2 (?) / Graz (?) / Innsbruck (?) / Klagenfurt (?) / Linz (?) / Loeben (?) / Ried/Innkreis (?) / Schwechat (?) / St. Pölten (?) / Steyr (?) / Villach (?) / Wels (?) / Wien, Hernals-Gürtel (?) / Wien, Rossauer Lande (?) / Wien airport (?) / Wiener Neustadt (?). **Belarus (2)** : Minsk (?) / Vitebsk (?). **Belgium (6)** : 127 (60) / 127 bis (120) / Bruges (112) / INAD (30) / Merksplas (146) / Vottem (120). **Bosnia-Herzegovina (1)** : Reception centre for irregular migrants, Lukavica (80). **Bulgaria (4)** : Lyubimets (300) / Sofia-Buzludzha (400) / Sofia-Drouzha (50) / Svilengrad (?). **Cyprus (33)** : Nicosia (14) / Vasilissa (14) / Waioussa (5) / Aradippou police station (16) / Astromeritis police station (1) / Athienou police station (1) / Ayia Napa police station (1) / Ayios Dometios police station (1) / Derynia police station (2) / Evrychou police station (?) / Germasovia police station (2) / Kambos police station (2) / Kelokedara police station (1) / Kofinou police station (2) / Kouklia police station (1) / Lakatamia police station (1) / Larnaca airport (16) / Larnaca, central police station (F) (2) / Larnaca, central police station (H) (7) / Larnaca, Famagousta police station (24) / Limassol police station (47) / Lykavitos police station (4) / Nicosie (Block 10 - H) (67) / Nicosie (Block 9 - F) (17) / Nicosie (prison) (60) / Omorfita police station (1) / Oroklini police station (1) / Palechou police station (1) / Paphos central police station (14) / Pafos police station (4) / Peyeia police station (7) / Polis Chrysochous police station (1) / Strompi police station (1) / Xilofagou police station (1) / Xilotimpou police station (1). **Croatia (1)** : Jezevo detention centre for illegal immigrants (?). **Czech Republic (5)** : Bela-Jezova (?) / Frydek-Mistek (?) / Postoma, Breclav (?) / Velké Přílepy, Prague (?) / Vysní Lhota (?). **Denmark (2)** : Aabenraa prison (8) / Eilbæk, Birkerød (118) / Tønder prison (?). **Egypt (2)** : Assouf (?) / al-Arish (?) / al-Khalifa, Cairo (?) / Assiout (?) / Bir el Abd (?) / el-Qanater, north of Cairo (?) / Hadra, Alexandria (?) / Hurgada (?) / Ismailia (?) / Kom Ombo (?) / Nakhl (?) / Port Said (?) / Romana (?) / Qena (?) / Shellal (?) / Torah, Le Caire (?). **Estonia (2)** : Harku (42) / Tallin, North police station (?). **Finland (1)** : Helsinki, Metsala detention unit for aliens (46). **France (38)** : Ajaccio (6) / Bastia (7) / Bobigny (56) / Bordeaux (4) / Bordeaux (20) / Brest (8) / Cayenne, Rochambeau (38) / Cergy-Pontoise (16) / Chessy (6) / Choisy-le-Roi (12) / Coquehues (79) / Hendaye (30) / Lille Lesquin (96) / Lyon (116) / Marseille, CRA Canet (136) / Marseille, ZA Canet (34) / Mayotte, Mamoudzou (8) / Mayotte, Pamandzi (140) / Mesnil Amélok 2 et 3 (240) / Metz Quatre (98) / Nice (38) / Nîmes (126) / Orly (3) / Paris (40) / Paris dépôt (40) / Paris Vincennes (171) / Plaisir (32) / Rennes (60) / Rivesaltes (48) / Rouen (72) / Saint-Louis (10) / Sète (?) / Sète (30) / Soisson (?) / Strasbourg (36) / Toulouse-Cornebarrieu (126) / Tours (6) / ZAPI 3, Roissy (174). **Georgia (1)** : Tbilissi, Gldani, no.8 prison (?). **Germany (31)** : Aschaffenburg, JVA Aschaffenburg (1) / Berlin, Abschiebungsgewahrsam Grünauer Str. (21) / Braunschweig, Abschiebungszentrum Braunschweig (50) / Bremen, Abschiebungsgewahrsam (?) / Buren, JVA Buren (?) / Butzow, JVA Butzow (530) / Chemnitz, JVA Chemnitz/Reichenhain (?) / Dresden, JVA Dresden (?) / Eisenhüttenstadt, Abschiebehaftanstalt Eisenhüttenstadt (?) / Eisleben, JVA Volksstadt (108) / Flughafen Berlin-Brandenburg, Hafteinrichtung Asylverfahren (30) / Flughafen Frankfurt am Main, Hafteinrichtung Asylverfahren (2) / Flughafen Frankfurt am Main III (?) / Gorlitz, JVA Gorlitz (?) / Halberstadt, Abschiebungszentrum Halberstadt (?) / Hamburg, JVA Billwerder (100) / Hannover, JVA Hannover-Langenhagen (35) / Ingelheim, Gewahrsamseinrichtung für Ausreisepflichtige Ingelheim (173) / Lebach, Landesaufnahmestelle (152) / Leipzig, JVA Leipzig (?) / Lübeck, JVA Lübeck (?) / Mannheim, JVA Mannheim (8) / München, JVA München (women) (102) / München, JVA München (men) (?) / Nurnunster, Abschiebungszentrum Neumunster (69) / Nurnunberg, JVA Nurnunberg (?) / Offenbach, JVA Frankfurt am Main I, Einrichtung für Abschiebungshaft Offenbach (65) / Rendsburg, Abschiebungshafteinrichtung Rendsburg (?) / Suhl, JVA Goldauter (56) / Wiesbaden, JVA Wiesbaden (2) / Zwickau, JVA Zwickau (?). **Greece (52)** : Alexandroupoli, police station (?) / Athens, Acropolis police station (?) / Athens, Ag. Pantaleimonas police station (?) / Athens, Alexander street headquarters (?) / Athens, airport centre (?) / Athens, Elefsinas police station (?) / Athens, transfer centre (?) / Athens, Exarcheia police station (?) / Athens, Kipseli police station (?) / Athens, Moschato police station (?) / Athens, Omnia police station (?) / Athens, Petrou rali holding facility for irregular migrants (?) / Athens, Piraeus holding facility for irregular migrants (?) / Argos, police station (?) / Attica, Arta police station (?) / Aspropyrgos, holding facility for irregular migrants (?) / Chios, Mersindi detention centre (200) / Corfu, police station (?) / Elliniko (old airport), detention centre 1 (63) / Elliniko (new airport), detention centre 2 (123) / Evros, Ferres police and border guard station (38) / Evros, Filakio detention centre (374) / Evros, Soufli police and border guard station (40) / Evros, Tychoero police and border guard station (45) / Igoumenitsa, detention cell (?) / Igoumenitsa, container port police (?) / Igoumenitsa, port police (?) / Igoumenitsa, police station (?) / Kavala, Nea Karavali police station (?) / Komotini, police station (?) / Korinthos, police station (?) / Lania, police transfer holding centre (?) / Orestiada, Isaakio police station (?) / Orestiada, Metaxades border guard station (?) / Orestiada, Neo himonio police and border guard station (?) / Orestiada, Vrysika special holding facility for irregular migrants (?) / Patras (old port), container port police (?) / Patras, detention facilities in the police headquarters (?) / Patras, police station (?) / Patras, port police (?) / Patras, police station (?) / Pirgos, police station (?) / Rodopi, Iasmos police station (?) / Rodopi, Venna detention centre (220) / Thessaloniki, Kordello border guard station (?) / Thessaloniki, Thermi border guard station (?) / Thessaloniki (?) / Thessaloniki, detention centre (?) / Thiva, police station (?) / Samos, Vathy detention centre (?) / Xanthi, police and border guard station (?) / Ypsonas, detention centre (51) / Budapest international airport terminal 1 (8) / Budapest international airport terminal 2A (8) / Budapest international airport terminal 2B (8) / Győr (50) / Kiskunhalas (36) / Nyirbator (278) / Oroshaza (?) / Roszke (?) / Szeged (?) / Szombathely (?) / Zalaegerszeg prison (?). **Ireland (9)** : Arbour Hill, Dublin (?) / Cloverhill prison (?) / Corrib prison (?) / Limerick prison (?) / Saint Patrick's institution (?) / The Midlands prison (?) / The Training Unit, Glengarriff Parade (?) / Wheatfield prison (?). **Israel (9)** : BeerSheba, Dekel prison (?) / BeerSheba, Eshel prison (?) / BeerSheba, Haela prison (?) / Hadera, Matan administrative juvenile detention facility (70) / Neguev Desert, Kertziot-Saharonim detention centre (12 400) / Neguev Desert, Nahal Raviv detention centre (4000) / Neguev Desert, Sadot detention centre (8000) / Ramleh, Givon prison (?) / Tel-Aviv, Ben Gurion airport transit facility (4). **Italy (29)** : Agrigento, Contrada Imbriacola Lampedusa (300) / Ancona, Arcveia (68) / Bari, Aeroporto Bari Palese (744) / Bari, Aeroporto Bari Palese (196) / Bologna, Caserma Chiarini, Via Enrico Mattei (95) / Brindisi, Restinco (211) / Cagliari, Aeroporto Cagliari Elmas (220) / Caltanissetta, Contrada Pian del Lago (96) / Caltanissetta, Contrada Pian del Lago (360) / Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere (200) / Catanzaro, Lamezia Terme (80) / Crotona, Sant'Anna (124) / Foggia, Borgo Mezzanone (856) / Gorizia, Gradisca d'Isonzo (138) / Gorizia, Gradisca d'Isonzo (138) / Lecce, Don Tonino Bello (?) / Milano, Via Corelli (132) / Mineo (1800) / Modena, La Marmorata, Località Sant'Anna (60) / Potenza, Palazzo San Gervasio (100) / Ragusa, Pozzallo (172) / Roma, Castelnuovo di Porto (650) / Roma, Ponte Galeria (360) / Taranto, Manduria (3300) / Torino, Corso Brunelleschi (180) / Trapani, Chinizia (206) / Trapani, Località Milo (204) / Trapani, Pantelleria (?) / Trapani, Salina Grande (260) / Trapani, Serraino Vulpitta (43). **Latvia (1)** : Olaïne (50). **Lebanon (22)** : Aley prison (?) / Amiooun prison (?) / Baabda prison (women) (?) / Baalbeck prison (?) / Batroun prison (?) / Beyrouth, general security detention centre (700) / Beyrouth prison (women) (?) / Halba prison (?) / Jbeil prison (?) / Jeb Jannine prison (?) / Jezzine prison (?) / Maten prison (?) / Nabatieh prison (?) / Rachaya prison (?) / Ras Baalbeck prison (?) / Roumieh prison (2000) / Tebnine prison (?) / Tripoli prison (?) / Tripoli prison (women) (?) / Tyr prison (?) / Zahle prison (women) (?) / Zgharta prison (?) / Ghadami (?) / Kadbiya « Free Libya » (?) / Ganfuda (?) / Sabha (?) / Umim al Ararib (?) / Marziq (?) / Al Qatrin (?) / Waw al Kabi (?) / Al Kufrah (?). **Lithuania (1)** : Pabradė (300). **Luxembourg (2)** : Findel (50) / Schryss (25). **Macedonia (1)** : Skopje (45). **Morocco (2)** : Casablanca (?) / Marrakech (?). **Netherlands (14)** : Alphen aan den Rijn (?) / Amsterdam, Schiphol-Oost (?) / Amsterdam, Schiphol-Oost (?) / Amsterdam, Schiphol-Oost (?) / Amsterdam, Schiphol-Oost (?) / Den Helder (?) / Dordrecht (496) / Ter Apel (?) / Veenhuizen (?) / Zaandam (51) / Zeist, Utrecht (540) / Zestienhoven, Rotterdam Airport (180) / Zestienhoven, Rotterdam Airport (32) / Zwaag (?). **Norway (1)** : Trandum Utendingsinternat (70). **Poland (10)** : Biala-Podlaska (200) / Białystok (151) / Ketrzyn (180) / Klodzko (3) / Krosno Odrzańskie (66) / Lesznowola, Grojec (131) / Luban (9) / Okęcie airport, Warsaw (41) / Przemysl (176) / Szczecin (33) / Unidade (?). **Portugal (6)** : Faro (24) / Funchal (?) / Lisboa (54) / Ponta Delgado (?) / Porto (24) / Porto, Unidade Habitacional de Santo Antonio (36). **Romania (5)** : Bucarest, Gocui (?) / Bucarest, airport Bucarest-Otopeni, transit zone (?) / Horia (60) / Otopeni (164). **Serbia (5)** : Banja Koviljaca (?) / Bogovadja (?) / Padinska Skela (120) / Subotica (?) / Vranje (?). **Slovakia (6)** : Bratislava, international airport (?) / Humenne (520) / Kosice, international airport (?) / Medvedov (152) / Opatovska Nova Ves (180) / Secovce (176). **Slovenia (3)** : Ljubljana Brnik airport holding premises for aliens (12) / Ljubljana home for asylum seekers (20) / Postojna (220). **Spain (10)** : Algeciras, centro de la Pinera (200) / Barcelona, centro de zona franca (226) / Fuerteventura, centro de Matorral (?) / Lanzarote, airport terminal (?) / Las Palmas de Gran Canarias, centro de Branco Seco (168) / Madrid, centro de Carabanchel (240) / Malaga, centro de Capuchinos (44) / Murcia, centro de Sangonera la Verde (?) / Santa Cruz de Tenerife, centro de Hoya Fria (260) / Valencia, centro de Zapadores (156). **Sweden (5)** : Astorp (?) / Flen (?) / Gavle (?) / Marsta (?). **Switzerland (33)** : Aarau-amtshaus bezirkgefängnis (11) / Altstätten empfangs- und verfahrenszentrum (?) / Appenzel kantonalen polizeigefängnis (6) / Basel empfangs- und verfahrenszentrum (?) / Basel-stadt ausschaffungsgefängnis (63) / Basel-stadt untersuchungsgefängnis (6) / Bazenheid ausschaffungsgefängnis (12) / Bennau kantonsgefängnis sicherheitsstützpunkt biberbrugg (8) / Bern regionalgefängnis (136) / Chiasso centro di registrazione (?) / Egozilwil ausschaffungs-gefängnis wauwilerooms (14) / Fribourg central prison (9) / Geneva airport centre d'enregistrement et procédure (33) / Genève établissement concordataire de détention administrative de Frambois (20) / Genève maison d'arrêt de Riati-Parc (?) / Glarus kantonalgefängnis (6) / Graubünden centre de rétention de Crêtloroug (?) / Grisons justizvollzugsanstalt realta prison (16) / Kreuzlingen empfangs- und verfahrenszentrum (?) / Neuchâtel établissements de détention de la promenade (2) / Niedertoufen kantonalgefängnis (12) / Solothurn untersuchungsgefängnis (53) / Stans untersuchungs- und strafegefängnis (6) / Valorbe centre d'enregistrement et de rétention (36) / Zug kantonale strafeanstalt (45) / Zurich dienst flughafenverfahren (?) / Zurich dienst flughafengefängnis (106). **Turkey (15)** : Agri (30) / Ankara (?) / Bitlis (?) / Edirne (?) / Erzurum (?) / Hakkari (?) / Hatay (?) / Istanbul, aderoport int. Ataturk (?) / Istanbul, Kunkapı (470) / Istanbul, Zeytinburnu (?) / Izmir (2) / Izmir, Jandarma Post (2) / Kirsehir (?) / Konya (150) / Van (2) / Van, Jandarma Post (65). **Ukraine (26)** : Astv (?) / Bab'y Lager, Mukachevo (35) / Boryspil airport SP (16) / Chernigov THF (21) / Chernivtsi THF (10) / Chop (?) / Chop THF (70) / Donetsk THF (10) / Izmail THF (?) / Kharkiv (16) / Kotovsk THF (15) / Kyiv (?) / Lviv THF (56) / Lugansk (12) / Luts'k THF (35) / Malniv THF (?) / Mostys'ka THF (16) / Odesa (16) / Odesa THF (10) / Rozsudić (239) / Seredina (16) / Shatsk THF (180) / Sumy THF (16) / Uzhorod (?) / Velyka Pysarivka (6) / Zhuravivka (181). **United Kingdom (13)** : Brook House IRC, London Gatwick airport (426) / Campfield House IRC, Kidlington, Oxfordshire (216) / Colnbrook IRC, London Heathrow (308) / Colnbrook, Heathrow (80) / Dover (314) / Dungavel House IRC, Strathaven, Lanarkshire (219) / Harmondsworth IRC, London Heathrow (623) / Haslar IRC, Gosport nr Portsmouth (160) / Larne House, Northern Ireland (22) / Morton Hall IRC, Lincolnshire (393) / Tinsley House IRC, Gatwick Airport (155) / Pennine House, Manchester airport (32) / Yarl's Wood IRC, Bedfordshire (405).

## The Principal Spaces of Detention

- Camp for foreigners present on the territory of a State and awaiting deportation
- Camp for foreigners that have recently arrived upon the territory of a State (pending examination of their request for entry to remain within the territory)
- Camp for foreigners combining both functions (examination of entry requests and deportation)
- Civil law prison regularly used for the administrative detention of foreigners
- Presence of a detention facility
- Presence of five detention facilities in the same geographic zone
- Member of the European Union and/or signatory of the Schengen agreements
- Candidate country for the European Union
- Limits of the Schengen space

- The graphic takes into account the totality of the camps identified by Migreurop. But only the permanent structures with a capacity greater than or equal to five people have been mapped.
- In Morocco, numerous police or gendarmerie stations are used as sites of retention, during raids against migrants.
- For the countries that are eligible for the EU Neighbourhood Policy, and/or those that have signed a community readmission agreement, we do not have access to more detailed information for Algeria, Tunisia, Jordan, and Syria, nor for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Russia or Belarus. Concerning earlier versions of the map of camps, the absence of points in certain countries does not mean that the camps have disappeared, but that, due to a lack of up-to-date data, we have preferred to leave them out.

Change in the number of foreigner detention camps<sup>1</sup> in Europe and in the Mediterranean countries between 2000 and 2012



Sources by country<sup>3</sup>: **Austria (1-5-8)**, **Belarus (Democratic Belarus)**, **Belgium (Foreigners Office, Ciré)**, **Bosnia Herzegovina (4)**, **Bulgaria (1-4)**, **Cyprus (Kisa, TerrFerme)**, **Croatia (1-3-6)**, **Czech Republic (1-5)**, **Denmark (2-4)**, **Egypt (2-4)**, **Estonia (1-2-5)**, **Finland (1)**, **France (Annual Reports from the Interministerial Comity on Immigration, Cimade)**, **Georgia (4)**, **Germany (Pro Asyl, 5)**, **Greece (Welcome to Europe network, 1-3)**, **Ireland (Irish prison service, 1-2)**, **Israel (Hotline for Migrant Workers, 2)**, **Italy (ARCI Immigrazione, Interno.it)**, **Latvia (1-5)**, **Lebanon (Frontiers)**, **Libya (Fédération internationale des droits de l'homme / FIDH, Justice sans frontières / JSF, 4)**, **Lithuania (1-5)**, **Luxembourg (4)**, **Macedonia (IOM)**, **Malta (JRS)**, **Mauritania (4)**, **Moldova (4)**, **Morocco (4)**, **Netherlands (1-4)**, **Norway (Government, 1-2)**, **Poland (1-4)**, **Portugal (Provedor de justiça, Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras)**, **Romania (TerrFerme)**, **Serbia (4)**, **Slovakia (1-5)**, **Slovenia (1-5)**, **Spain (APDHA, CIE, Derechos vulnerados, 4)**, **Sweden (Swedish migration board)**, **Switzerland (2)**, **Turkey (Helsinki Citizen's Assembly Refugee Advocacy and Support Program)**, **Ukraine (Border Monitoring Project Ukraine, GDISC, 1-3-6)**, **United Kingdom (UK Border Agency, 4)**.

\*Common sources: 1. European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT); 2. Global Detention Project; 3. JRS Detention in Europe; 4. Migreurop; 5. European Parliament; 6. Human Rights Watch (HRW); 7. MSF; 8. Frontex

<sup>1</sup> Sources by country: Austria (1-5-8), Belarus (Democratic Belarus), Belgium (Foreigners Office, Ciré), Bosnia Herzegovina (4), Bulgaria (1-4), Cyprus (Kisa, TerrFerme), Croatia (1-3-6), Czech Republic (1-5), Denmark (2-4), Egypt (2-4), Estonia (1-2-5), Finland (1), France (Annual Reports from the Interministerial Comity on Immigration, Cimade), Georgia (4), Germany (Pro Asyl, 5), Greece (Welcome to Europe network, 1-3), Ireland (Irish prison service, 1-2), Israel (Hotline for Migrant Workers, 2), Italy (ARCI Immigrazione, Interno.it), Latvia (1-5), Lebanon (Frontiers), Libya (Fédération internationale des droits de l'homme / FIDH, Justice sans frontières / JSF, 4), Lithuania (1-5), Luxembourg (4), Macedonia (IOM), Malta (JRS), Mauritania (4), Moldova (4), Morocco (4), Netherlands (1-4), Norway (Government, 1-2), Poland (1-4), Portugal (Provedor de justiça, Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras), Romania (TerrFerme), Serbia (4), Slovakia (1-5), Slovenia (1-5), Spain (APDHA, CIE, Derechos vulnerados, 4), Sweden (Swedish migration board), Switzerland (2), Turkey (Helsinki Citizen's Assembly Refugee Advocacy and Support Program), Ukraine (Border Monitoring Project Ukraine, GDISC, 1-3-6), United Kingdom (UK Border Agency, 4).

\*Common sources: 1. European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT); 2. Global Detention Project; 3. JRS Detention in Europe; 4. Migreurop; 5. European Parliament; 6. Human Rights Watch (HRW); 7. MSF; 8. Frontex

<sup>2</sup> The figures in brackets indicate the holding capacity of the camps. The '?' indicate the absence of recent data.





## INVISIBLE IMMIGRATION DETENTION SITES

Every year, thousands of migrants are detained – some for hours, others for months – in places often outside the law and away from external oversight. Human rights violations are frequent and migrants can be subjected to extreme abuse (dreadful hygienic conditions, torture, murder) with such practices rarely condemned by a court. These sites are established on an *ad-hoc*, punctual basis. Authorities in charge – the police, the gendarmerie or the army – do not necessarily act under the command of a ministry or any hierarchical entity. No approval or detention order is needed for them to deprive migrants of liberty. Migrants can also be isolated with the collaboration of private actors such as seamen or security officers working for transport companies. The state authorities, the inspectorates of prisons (e.g. European Committee Against Torture) and civil society are thus rarely aware of the existence of such facilities. It is extremely rare that migrants detained in these can receive visitors, or have contact with the outside world. They are not systematically taken into consideration in official immigration detention statistics. There may be one or two held in these barely visible sites; there may be dozens. The discovery of these sites is hazardous, and often relies upon personal accounts or painstaking research. It is important to identify these sites as they are part of the repressive migration policy of the EU and

its neighbours. They are part of the vast apparatus deployed to hound migrants. They include administrative buildings which are not meant to be used for immigration detention, police or gendarmerie stations, military compounds, closed centres under no regulation, sometimes stadiums, former parking areas, prisons, etc. Some of these sites are difficult to access: they may be isolated in the desert (south of Algeria, Al Kufrah and Al Wigh camps in Libya, Egypt-Israel border), in the mountains (Van region in Turkey), on islands (the Greek island of Vathy) or in border areas under military control (buffer zone of the demarcation line in Cyprus). Some of these sites are ‘micro-spaces’ like those temporarily used by transport companies: sea and airport facilities, cabins on merchant navy vessels, trucks, buses or aircraft, and even train coaches used by the police or the Frontex agency. While this listing does not aim to be exhaustive, it should be noted that spaces used by smugglers, traffickers or mafia rings are not taken into account here, although the detention of migrants in unknown places for variable periods of time whilst clandestinely moving from one country to another is also a product of EU’s migration policies.

**migreurop** is a network of organisations, activists and researchers both from several European Union member states, Sub-Saharan, Maghreb and Near-East countries. It aims at identifying, denouncing and spreading information concerning European policies that marginalise migrants (detention, expulsions, and externalization of migratory controls) as “unwanted” on European territory, and concerning the consequences of such policies for Southern countries. The novelty of this network consists in its effort at promoting synergies between actors from the North and the South, in order to reach a shared vision and analysis of such processes, in particular as concerns the dimensions of the externalization of migratory flows management policies, migrants’ detention and the increasing militarization of borders. Migreurop raises awareness on these issues through campaigns, cartographic and photographic work and annual international meetings aimed at elaborating joint strategies to decode and fight policies and processes that violate migrants’ rights.



## THE EXCLUSION OF MIGRANTS IS A BREACH OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

Since the early 1990s, all Member States of the European Union (EU) have developed legal, administrative and political strategies involving the use of camps for the reception, selection, control and removal of migrants. Meanwhile, the instruments of the EU’s “remote policing” of migration – such as the European visa policy, the signature of readmission agreements or the operations of Frontex, the EU’s border agency – have become essential tools in the neighbourhood policy that encourages third countries to cooperate with the EU and fight against “illegal” immigration. The EU and/or its Member States have thus funded the construction of camps in Libya, Turkey, Ukraine and Mauritania, turning these countries into frontline actors in the externalisation of border controls.

The number of holding sites is constantly increasing (*see map*). In 2012, the total known capacity – two-thirds of which is located within the EU – is about 37,000. This, however, remains an estimate. Not only is the actual number of detainees often higher than the official capacity, but the authorities also use a host of detention sites which are not listed in the official statistics (*see “Invisible immigration detention sites”*). The growth in detention capacity is partly due to the rationalisation of the expulsion process – yearly targets of the number of migrants to be removed, organisation of “charter flights” – and partly due to increases in the length of detention (from 32 to 45 days in France, if not 6 months for people accused of being terrorists; from 40 to 60 days in Spain; from 2 to 18 months in Italy; from 3 to 18 months in Greece).

Conditions in the camps vary. In many cases they are a source of concern. Some countries impose detention-like practices (detainees kept in cells limits on the amount of time spent outside of cells, restrictions on visits, isolation cells) while others – for example Germany, Cyprus, Switzerland and Lebanon – detain migrants in prison, thereby reinforcing migrants’ criminalisation even though they have not committed any crime except for non-compliance with the law on entry and stay. Beyond the material conditions of detention, some elements intensify detainees’ anxiety such as the opacity

of the procedures, the lack of information on individual rights, limits on or no access to legal aid and medical care, and in some cases, subjection to inhumane and degrading treatment. Excluded, marginalised in sites to which journalists and civil society are often denied access (*see the Open Access campaign*<sup>1</sup>), it seems impossible to guarantee the respect of fundamental rights of minors, of people seeking international protection, or the respect of the right to private and family life. The frequent cases in recent years of self-inflicted violence by detainees (suicide attempts, hunger strikes, self-harm), of arsons, of uprisings are symptomatic of how psychologically fragile, powerless and desperate these persons must feel. However, focusing on closed camps gives a limited overview of a much wider phenomenon, that of an apparatus based on a variety of administrative mechanisms. Examining this phenomenon makes it necessary to go beyond detention and look at all sites aimed at keeping migrants away from the general population. In many countries – e.g. Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia – asylum-seekers are often put in large centres, most of the time away from urban areas, where the reception rhetoric is a narrative that weakly attempts to disguise the logic of management and control. It is also necessary to take into consideration the situation of migrants who are left in limbo, confronted with police harassment almost every day in Calais, Patras or Oujda, or confronted with the absurdity of the EU Dublin II Regulation and sent from one Member State to another as if in a permanent ping-pong game. In such grotesque situations, which governments continually attempt to legitimise, migrants are not welcome anywhere. They are denied a dignified life and access to their rights. Migreurop therefore calls on all governments of EU Member States and its neighbours to stop using detention to control migration, to stop approaching asylum and immigration policies from a security perspective and, instead, to promote the right to move as a fundamental right.

1: [www.openaccessnow.eu](http://www.openaccessnow.eu)