



Watch The Med - Alarmphone

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS ABOUT THE THREE SHIPWRECKS IN THE AEGEAN BETWEEN 22-25 DECEMBER 2021

Update, 05.01,2022

Contacts and important information when looking for people from shipwrecks (AP 914, AP 922, AP 925 and AP 930):

- 1. No one is anymore in a hospital in Paros or Santorini.
- 2. 60 rescued people are since the 27.12.21 in prison in Amygdaleza (for registration and 14 days of quarantine)
- 3. The 17 dead bodies found up to now (today 2 more where found: 1 woman and 1 child in Naxos) are at the cemetery of SXISTO near Athens. They are not burried. Responsible for the dead bodies is the Coroner/iatrodikastiki Piraeus.
- Responsible for the different cases is the Hellenic Coast Guard in Piraeus who will also do the interrogation of the families and relatives who are currently searching for their loved ones.
- 5. Family members of 1. degree (parents and children) who will come to Greece have to go to the central police in Athens GADA -ΓΑΔΑ [ΔΕΕ Διεύθυνση Εγκληματικών Ερευνών] for DNA. The ones who can not travel have top provide their DNA at a local police station and transfer it to the Greek authorities.
- 6. Relatives are advised to make a MISSING Persons Report at the police station so that an official search starts to all involved authorities. In Greek it is called: να κάνει δήλωση εξαφάνισης

Contacts (given by authorities) for funerals, transport etc.

- 7. An Iraqi man that takes care of transport of dead bodies back to their countires/funerals etc.: 0030 694-28.96.997
- 8. For AFGHANS for funerals etc.: 0030 694-82.14.734
- 9. For PALESTINIANS the embassy is responsible: 210-67.26.061

We will keep you updated about new developments.

Alarm Phone - 26.12.2021

Dear al

A short update on what we found out today (26.12.2021) on how difficult it is for relatives to get information about their missing beloved.

There are at least 30 people found dead and still many missing - and there is no clear information still where relatives should call when they search for their beloved. Several phone-numbers people passed to us have not turned out to be helpful to get information and we still don't know who will coordinate the search of relatives for missing, take DNA-tests for identification etc.

It is really a shame: three shipwrecks with so many lost lives and missing and no emergency structure established to inform relatives!

Different coastguards say there are two phone numbers at the Greek Ministry who would give such information: 00302131371714 and 00302131371316.

We called there but they did not really provide information. Maybe if relatives call with concrete questions about missing it makes nevertheless sense, because it will make them finally set up a structure for their requests.

It is also said there might be the possibility that embassies of the countries of origin in Greece might take care for requests of relatives. For all those who have political reasons to flee this is no option at all - and most of those found dead had no passports with them, so their embassies won't be informed by Greek authorities.

About the shipwreck in Santorini (AP914):

Most of the 13 survivors are today (25.12.) still on Santorini. We don't know if the three dead bodies are also still on Santorini. There are at least 17 (maybe even up to 40) people missing.

About the shipwreck on Prasonisi, north of Antikythera (AP925):

Most probably the 90 survivors have been brought to the Greek mainland. Also the 11 dead bodies. We have no more concrete information so far.

About the shipwreck near Paros (AP930):

There is one phone number on Paros, which can give information only if relatives call there who search for a missing person. You need as much details as possible (Name, Birthdate, Nationality, Gender, if possible a photo and/or photo of the passport of the missing person, date of the journey and time and location of last contact) and you need to say in which relation you are to the person you search (mother, father, daughter, son, wife, husband, brother, sister, ...). This is the number: 00302284021240

There are two media articles (in Greek) which give an overview on the situation in Paros.

The rescued people are being brought to Paros - the Mayor is calling for help to accommodate them. You can read more in this article: https://www.fontilisparou.gr/24017-na/agig-me-metanastes...

63 migrants are housed at the school EPAL -so far their needs are being met but the Mayor says the state must take over as Paros cannot handle their needs beyond a few days. The 16 bodies also need to be transferred from the island. This is the article:

https://parianostypos.gr/.../65774-paros-sygkinitiko-kyma...

Alarm Phone Info-message, 25.12.2021

Dear al

With the Alarm Phone we have been called for three different tragedies. All three boats had left from Turkey towards Italy and went into distress in the Greek Search and Rescue Zone. Our thoughts are with the families and friends of those who lost their lives or went missing.

We have summarised in a report what we know about it until now. https://alarmphone.org/.../three-shipwrecks-with-dozens.../

In case we receive updates we will also publish them on our website.

We received many calls from people searching for their beloved. We as Alarm Phone are a distress hotline for people at sea and we cannot coordinate the search for missing. But we want to give you some hints how you can search for your missing friends and relatives.

When you search for a missing person it is important that relatives of this person do the search by themselves. To identify people it can be important to get their DNA and this can only be done by a family member.

For the search you need as many personal data as possible:

Name

Birthdate

Nationality

Gender

Date of the journey

Time and location of last contact

If possible a photo and/or photo of the passport of the missing person

You can try to contact

1. Costguard / port authorities of the nearest islands:

It turned out that port authorities / coastguards of the ports where survivors have been brought to can sometimes give information if relatives ask directly with these data for missing people.

Here you find the contacts:

For the shipwreck near Folegandros on 21 December there are 13 survivors, who had been brought to Santorini. 3 dead bodies have been found so far and at least 17 people remained missing. If you search for one of them you might try to contact:

Santorini - Thira: +30 22860 22239 or +30 22860 24444 or +30 22860 25015

Santorini - Thira: +30 22860 22239 or +30 22860 24444 or +30 22860 25015 Email: thira@hcg.gr

After a boat crashed onto a rocky islet called Prasonisi near Antikythera on 23 December, 90 survivors have been rescued and 11 people confirmed to be dead. We assume their bodies have been found. In media articles it was said the dead bodies have been brought to Piraeus port (near Athens). We don't know if also the survivors have been brought to Piraeus up to now. You might try to contact: Coast Guard Office in Piraeus: 03302104112500

Email: jrccpgr@hcg.gr

For the shipwreck that happened near 8km off the island of Paros on 24 December it was said that 62 survivors have been rescued and brought to Paros. 12 men, 3 women and 1 child were found dead. Up to 10 people remained missing. Here you can contact:

Paros - Naousa: Coast Guard Naousa , Naousa Paros, Harbour, 84401 Kykladen Phone: 00302284051250

Email: paros@hcg.g

If you are on Santorini or Paros you can also try to go to the coastguard and ask there in person.

2. UNHCR:

Please write an Email to UNHCR: great@unhcr.org

The email should include who you are and how to contact you and as many details about the missing person as possible (Name, Birthdate, Nationality, Gender, if possible a photo and/or photo of the passport of the missing person, date of the journey and time and location of last contact).

3. Red Cross / Red Crescent:

The biggest network assisting in locating people and putting them back into contact with their relatives is the international Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and their National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (RC/RC Network). This work includes tracing family members, restoring contact, reuniting families and seeking to clarify the fate of those who remain missing. We know that their process is quite bureaucratic and difficult, but it is needed to go through that.

You can find more information here: http://familylinks.icrc.org/

Direct contact to Red Cross in Greece:

Hellenic Red Cross - Tracing Service

Phone: +30 210 523 0043

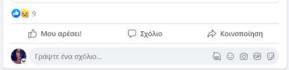
Email address: tracingstaff@redcross.gr

Please contact also the Red Cross / Red Crescent in the country where you as a relative are right now. You can find contacts here:

https://www.icrc.org/en/contact#worldwide-contacts

If your relative is missing it is important to make a search request via Red Cross / Red Crescent, because this is the official way to get information. You can do it in the nearest Red Cross / Red Crescent office next to the city you live in.

We will keep you updated about new developments.





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₩ We are looking for a MHPSS Officer to join our team on Lesvos. Click the link below to learn more about the position and to apply! ↑ https://www.fenixaid.org/job-openings/mental-health-officer







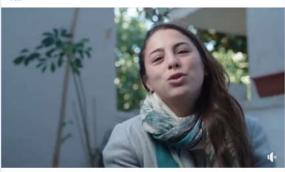


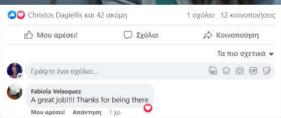
Join us as we reflect on 2021, and prepare to continue our work in the next year.

This holiday season support the continuation of our mission in 2022. Head over to our virtual donation shop, to purchase donation packages as a holiday gift for your loved ones.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

s by Sibylle Aries 1 m







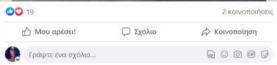
HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Today is Human Rights Day, and we want to take a moment to reflect and think about the refugees and asylum seekers who are living on the margins of Europe.

On Lesvos, asymmetry of information is the rule. Regulations here seem everchanging. Our clients find themselves in a system that treats asylum seekers as beneficiaries, rather than as individuals with agency and decision-making power. This obstructs people arriving in Greece from accessing their right to seek asylum. At Fenix, we operate with the aim of empowering refugee communities and removing the barriers that prevent them from having real and effective access to the right to seek asylum. To uphold the rights of our clients we represent our clients in all stages of the asylum procedure and national courts. We accompany our clients to their interviews and present objections to ensure their rights are respected.

Our vision is a just and equitable European asylum process that treats individuals with dignity and upholds their rights. Until then we continue to fight for the rights of our clients.







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Changing someone's life with just a simple gift might seem like a bold statement. However, for many of our clients the difference between having a lawyer or not can -literally- be life saving; it can make the difference between being granted protection in Greece or being deported back to a country where your life is at risk.

This holiday season, you can help us empower people seeking asylum to navigate the procedure, and remove the barriers that prevent them from having real and effective access to the right to seek asylum.

Head over to our virtual donation shop, to purchase donation packages as a holiday gift for your loved ones this year. All packages come with a donation certificate, so you can gift something tangible.

https://www.fenixaid.org/store#





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FENIX THREE YEAR ANNIVERSARY!

Three years ago today, Fenix was founded.

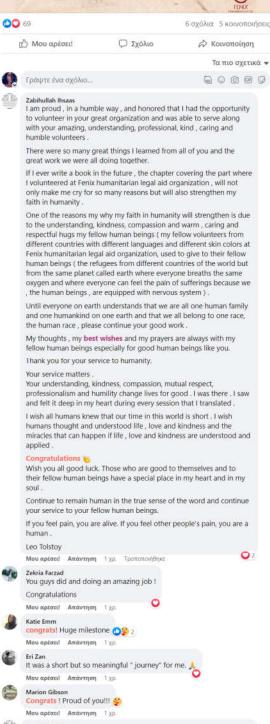
Our mission: providing holistic services to asylum seekers in Greece, while advocating for structural change. This includes legal aid, protection, advocacy and mental health support.

Three years on, Fenix has 35 field staff and volunteers, including 8 Greek lawyers and psychologists, and 27 international experts and translators with refugee experience. We have two offices in Lesvos, as well as a new office in Athens.

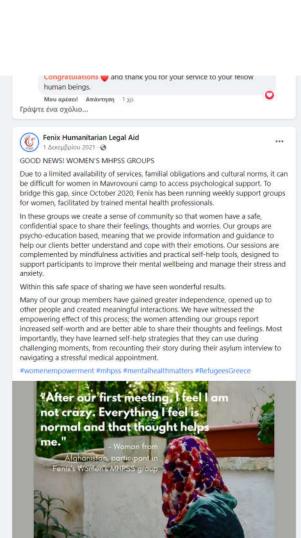
As we continue to grow, we remain committed to empowering our clients and removing the barriers that prevent them from having real access to the right to asylum.

Our work would not be possible without the support of people like you! Head to our website to donate to our mission, becoming a monthly supporter or purchasing a donation package. https://www.fenixaid.org/store

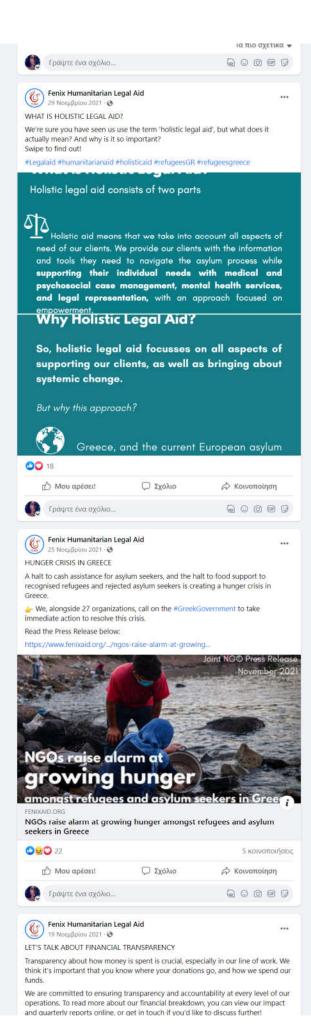


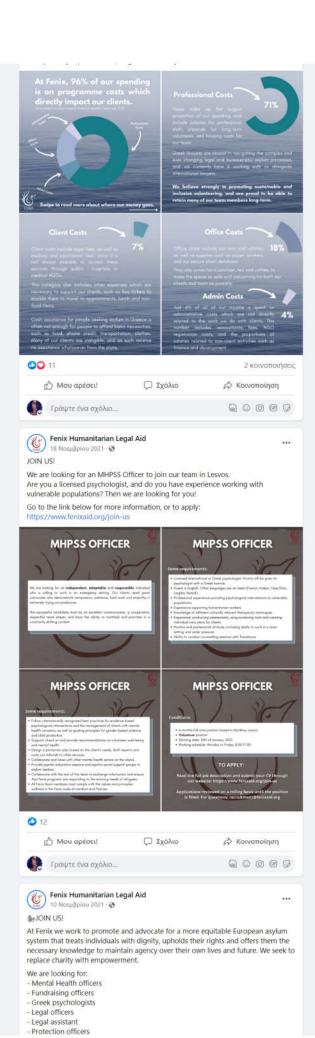


No one can help everyone but everyone can help someone.





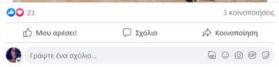






- Greek translator & logistics officer
- Do you want to join us? The applications to volunteer with us from January until June 2022 are still open until November 21st! https://www.fenixaid.org/join-us







Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid

9 Νουμβρίου 2021 • On November 4, 2021 our Executive Director Amanda Muñoz de Toro and our Legal Coordinator Asterios Kanavos attended a roundtable discussion at the European Parliament offices in Athens in the context of the mission of the Committee on Civil

Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) to Greece.
Fenix has published a statement regarding the roundtable discussion with the LIBE Committee.

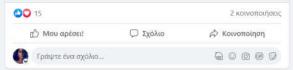
To read more about what was discussed, click the link below:

https://www.fenixaid.org/.../statement-regarding-the...



FENIXAID.ORG

STATEMENT REGARDING THE VISIT OF THE LIBE COMMITTEE TO GREECE





Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid 4 Νοεμβρίου 2021 - 😚

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EU states have a shared responsibility to support and uphold rights for those seeking asylum in Europe. Fenix, along with 26 other organisations, have co-signed a report following meetings with key stakeholders, calling for a continuation of relocation from Greece. Swipe to read more about the history of relocation, and read our full report here:

https://www.fenixaid.org/.../relocation-from-greece...



What is relocation?

telection is the term used to bescribe the movement of asylum leekers, or those with refugee status or another form of international protection, from one EU member state to another.

Since 2015, over 25,000 people have been relocated from Greece to other EU countries across various schemes.

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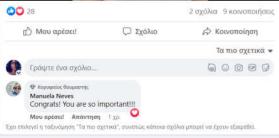
WHAT DOES THE FAMILY REUNIFICATION TEAM DO?

Listen to Emma's message on the importance of the work of Fenix' Family Reunification team.

Like she says, Fenix is often the only hope for our clients to reunite with their families. Support our work by donating to our fundraiser!

https://donorbox.org/family-reunification-fundraiser







Happy news!

Our client A. is reunited with his wife and child in Sweden!

Our Family Reunification Team applied for their reunification, and A. received an acceptance! A decision like this is life changing: A. had never met his child in person before. Now, after being separated for almost 4 years, his family is finally together again!









MEET THE FAMILY REUNIFICATION TEAM!

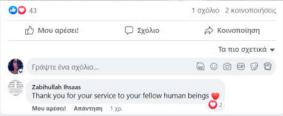
We want to introduce you to our Family Reunification team. This team works on applications to reunite people currently on Lesvos, with their family members all over Europe. They work tirelessly to support our clients. This year 100% of the Family Reunification cases that received a final decision were positive! This is an incredible

Of course, much of the work of the Family Reunification team is in the legal field, but they don't just stop there. The Family Reunification team supports our clients until they are safe and on their way to their families. This means assisting with translators for completion of travel paperwork, ensuring and providing financial support for Covid testing, providing suitcases for their travel and drop off at the airport.

We are very proud of the Family Reunification team! To Abby, Emma, Adélaïde, and Eirini, thank you for your commitments, effort and hard work!

PS. You can support the work of this amazing team! Click the link in our bio to donate to our Family Reunification Fundraiser







In This October, we are raising funds for our Family Reunification team. The Family Reunification team works on applications to reunife people on Lesvos with their family members in Europe under the Dublin III Regulation.

Having a lawyer or not can -literally- be life changing; it can be the difference between being reunited with family members and going through the asylum procedure in another European country or staying behind in Greece.

Please take the time this month to support our mission of our Family Reunification team, and their amazing work. Donate, share and check out our social media platforms to learn more about their work! https://donorbox.org/family-reunification-fundraiser#info



Family Reunification Fundraiser | Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid

OO 25 4 κοινοποιήσεις Μου αρέσει! 💭 Σχόλιο 🖒 Κοινοποίηση Γράψτε ένα σχόλιο... 0000



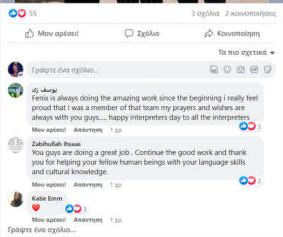
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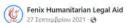


A big thank you to our translators!

Today is International Translation Day. We want to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all our past, present and future translators. Every day, our translators provide in-person interpretation from one-on-one legal consultations and mental health sessions, to protection assessments and group information sessions. They work tirelessly to make sure we can offer our clients the best service possible, not only by translating but also by ensuring cultural sensitivity. Our translators are a crucial part of our team! So, to all our translators: Thank you for your commitment, knowledge and hard work. Without you, we would not be able to do any of the work we are doing.





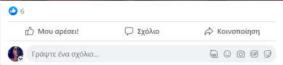


WE ARE RECRUITING!

Are you fluent in Somali, Arabic and English? Then we are looking for you! Join our team on Lesvos, as an Arabic/Somali translator.

Check out our website for more information, and to apply: https://www.fenixaid.org/join-us







Today marks a year passed since the presentation of the New Pact on Migration and Asylum by the European Commission. We urge the EU to create an effective and human rights-based Common European Asylum System.

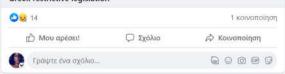
After a year of fruitless negotiations, Fenix urges the EU to create safe and legal pathways and an effective and human rights-based Common European Asylum System.

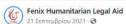
Read our full Statement on the year that has passed via the link below:



FENIXAID.ORG

New Pact on Migration: The story of EU fruitless negotiations and Greek restrictive legislation



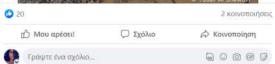


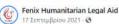
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On this International Day of Peace, we want to focus on those that had to flee violence and conflict in search of peace and safety. As for those that are able to reach the safe shores of Europe, safety is not assured. Instead, undignified conditions, unfair and arbitrary asylum procedures and concrete walls await them.

Therefore, today and everyday we call on Europe to stop closing off to those seeking peace, protection and safety!





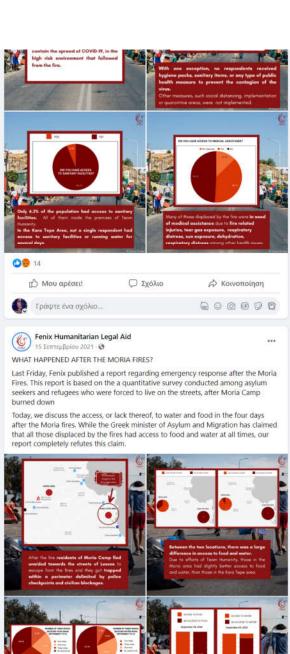


ACCESS TO SANITARY AND MEDICAL FACILITIES AFTER THE MORIA FIRES

Last Friday, Fenix published a report regarding emergency response after the Moria Fires. This report is based on the a quantitative survey conducted among asylum seekers and refugees who were forced to live on the streets, after Moria Camp burned down.

Today, we discuss access to sanitary measures and health facilities. As we round up discussing this report, it is undeniable that the Greek government has claimed the emergency response, while in reality completely neglecting the well-being, and safety of thousands of people, who were forced to live on the streets for days.









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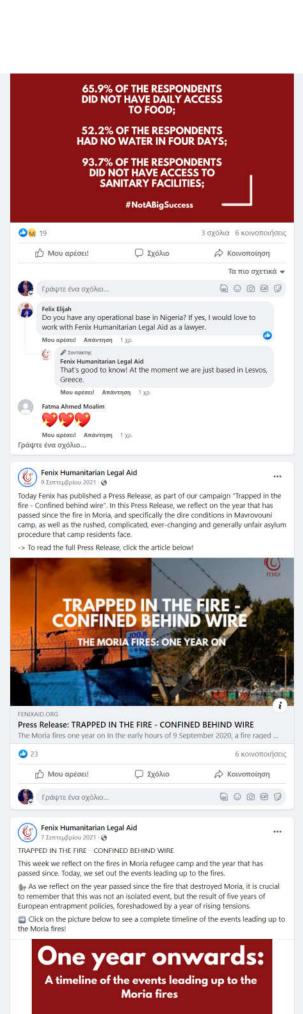
#NotABigSuccess

Last Friday, Fenix published a report regarding emergency response after the Moria Fires.

This week, we will be discussing the report on our social media platforms!

Days after the Moria Fires, @AldFenix conducted a quantitative survey among asylum seekers and refugees who were forced to live on the streets after Moria Camp burned down. Contrary to what the Greek Minister of Migration and Asylum claimed last in March 2021, the emergency response was definitely not a big success. Instead, the survey revealed an inadequate response by the Greek authorities, which resulted in hardship and deprivation of food, water, sanitation facilities and hygiene items, and insufficient medical assistance of the refugee population.



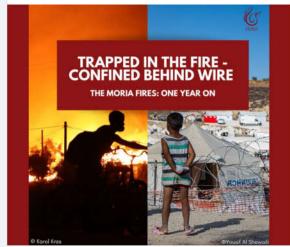


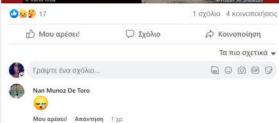
New Asylum Framework



again. This week we reflect on the fire, and the year that has passed, as Fenix launches a campaign called: "Trapped in the fire - confined behind wire".

Keep an eye on our social media platforms this week. We will be looking back at the events leading up to the fire, reporting on policy development since, and reflecting on the conditions that people faced immediately after the fire and during the following year.





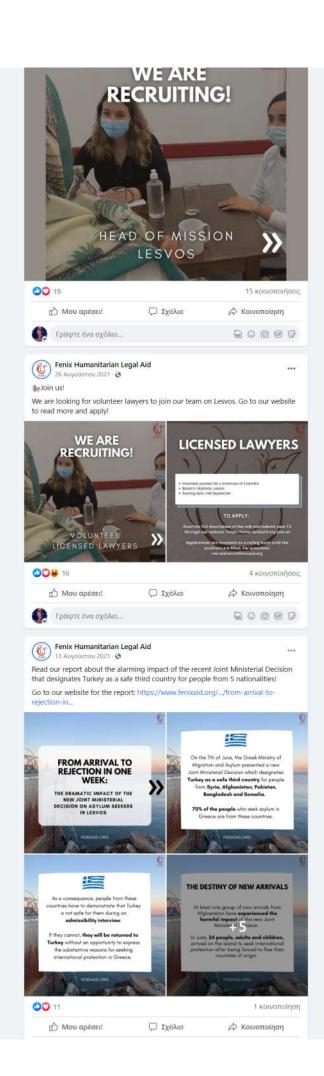


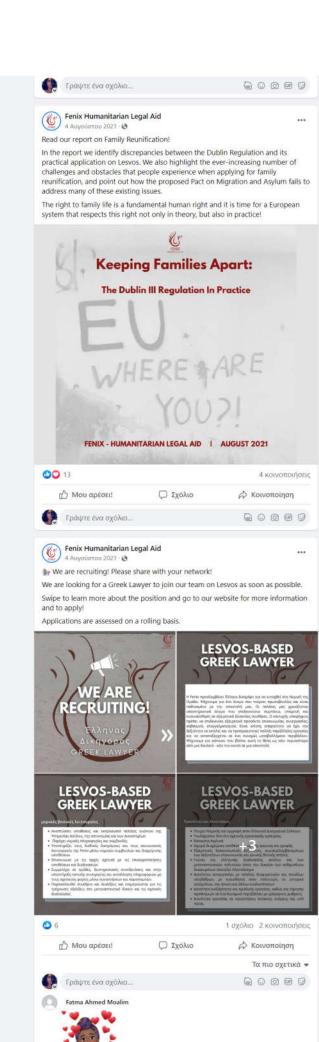
WE ARE RECRUITING! BE OUR NEXT HEAD OF MISSION

We are looking for a responsible, hard-working and committed individual to coordinate our field teams on Lesvos. The successful candidate must be an excellent communicator, a cooperative, respectful team player, present a professional image, and have the ability to multitask and prioritize in a constantly shifting environment. We are looking for someone who sees this position as more than a job – something closer to a calling or mission.

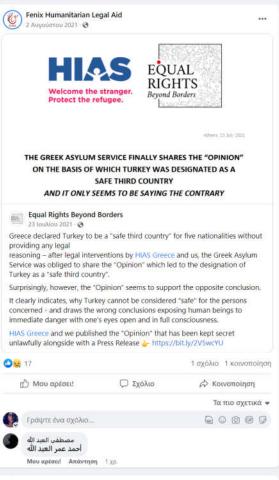
For more information read the full description of the role on our website: https://www.fenixaid.org/join-us

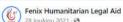












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At a time when more people than ever are fleeing their homes, today marks the 70th anniversary of the Geneva Refugee Convention. In the aftermath of WWII, the Convention was adopted in 1951 as a result of the international community's efforts to address the mass displacement of millions of Europeans affected by conflict, offering them protection from persecution based on their ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity, and religion. In 1967, a Protocol to the Convention was adopted to extend this protection to all persons fleeing persecution, anywhere in the world. These instruments established the rights of refugees and remain the cornerstone of the international asylum system.

Sadly, this 70th anniversary is also a painful reminder that the Europe of today, shaped in many ways by this collective act of solidarity, is not willing to extend its hand to others in return. In truth, the EU has made it abundantly clear that it is not only through benign neglect that it is failing to meet its obligations to the international community, but it is also actively working to suppress the rights of people seeking asylum. What is even more alarming is that this ill-treatment continues to go largely unchallenged.

Repeated push-backs of vulnerable individuals, including children, are well-documented and violate one of the most fundamental principles of the Refugee Convention - that of non-refoulement. Another important principle is that of non-penalization, which protects people from being punished for entering a state irregularly. Those who manage to arrive in Greece must endure deplorable living conditions without proper access to education and housing, and no meaningful improvements in sight. They are forced to live on the margins while navigating complex and bureaucratic procedures that are incompatible with a fair and compassionate asylum system.

Seventy years after the Convention, we don't see much to celebrate. From a narrow definition of 'refugee' to a broad interpretation of how asylum claims can be assessed, States are afforded a great deal of flexibility in how they treat people fleeing persecution, with profound consequences for their present and fut







Last week, we submitted an urgent request for interim measures to the European Court of Human Rights on behalf of 3 clients living in Moria 2.0, to stop the inhumane and degrading treatment to which they were subjected to by the Greek government. The European Court granted those measures and ordered the Greek government to comply with its obligations under the European Convention for Human Rights.

Read more about it in the Greek news:

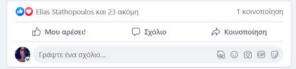
https://www.efsyn.gr/.../303916_zita-amesi-metafora-3... and https://www.efsyn.gr/.../303691_asfalistika-metra-apo...

And our own press release on our website: https://www.fenixaid.org/.../european-court-of-human...



EFSYN.GR

Ασφαλιστικά μέτρα από Ευρωπαϊκό Δικαστήριο για τις συνθήκες στο Καρά Τεπέ





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Shout out to our Operations and Logistics Team!

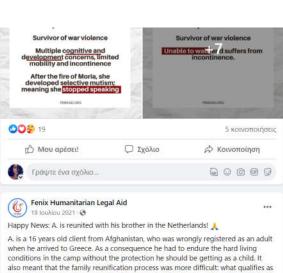
When people think about humanitarian workers, they often picture the people distributing food and water, the doctors and psychologists providing emergency care, or the lawyers advocating against human rights violations. Next time you think of humanitarian workers, we want you to also think of the humanitarian workers that work behind the scenes: the ones in operations and logistics teams.

Our operations and logistics officers work around the clock to ensure our activities run smoothly; they manage our offices and ensure there are always office supplies, organize our teams' and clients' transport, coordinate our translation team, follow up on our teams' mental health and wellbeing, handle our finances and recruitment, and ensure our waiting area is packed with cold and hot drinks, fruit and lunch for our clients. They are the first to arrive to the office and the last to leave. They are always available to find alternative solutions to support our teams in an incredibly complex and ever-changing context.

We are extremely grateful for the Operations and Logistics Teams at Fenix. For Ilaria, Micol, Lucy, Veronica, and Ane; for their commitment, passion and hard work. Without you, there would be no Fenix.







a 'family member' under the Dublin Regulation is narrow and does not include adult siblings.

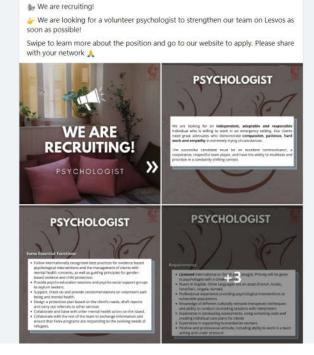
Our team used arguments of shared persecution and dependency to show that there are humanitarian reasons why these two brothers should be together. At the same time, they collected evidence for the fact that A. is still a minor and requested the Netherlands to assess the case as such.

After many months of uncertainty and waiting A. received an acceptance, and finally after a year on Lesvos and three years of being separated from his brother, they are now reunited. Thanks to great cooperation with the caseworker of A's brother, they are sharing a room together and are super happy!

Do you want to learn more about the complications of family reunification in Europe? Stay tuned for our report: Keeping Families Apart: The Dublin III Regulation In Practice



15 Ιουλίου 2021 - 3



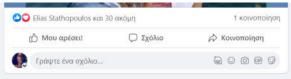


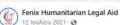
because its mission of empowering clients and treating them with respect very much resonated with me.

For me it is very rewarding to see resilient people, both refugees and volunteers. People are working against all odds (fires, aggressive migration policies, covid, lack of resources, etc). People keep fighting for what they believe is fair. Even in an adverse context, there still is humanity."

- Valentina, Protection and Social Media Officer







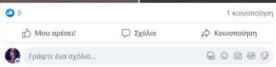
We are recruiting! Please share with your network!

We are looking for a Greek Lawyer to join our team on Lesvos as soon as possible.

Swipe to learn more about the position and go to our website for more information

Applications are assessed on a rolling basis.







Fragether with 29 other organizations, we supported a letter sent by the Greek Forum of Refugees and the Greek Forum of Migrants regarding access to vaccination for refugees, asylum seekers and undocumented people.

by We demand immediate and all-inclusive access to the vaccination process for all social

groups without exception, especially for the most vulnerable ones. Health is a fundamental right for everyone!

Find the link to the letter on our website: https://www.fenixaid.org/.../health-is-a-

ActionAid

Action for Education

ARSIS - Association for the Social Support of Youth Κέντρο Ημέρας Αμάλθεια

Danish Refugee Council Διστίμα - Κέντρο Γυναικείων Μελετών και Ερευνών / CRWI Diotima

ECHO100PLUS

Equal Rights Beyond Borders Europe Must Act

Fenix - Humanitarian Legal Aid Generation 2.0 RED

Θετική Φωνή (Positive Voice) Ελληνικό Συμβούλιο για τους Πρό rc - Greek Council for Refugees

Hellenic League for Human Rights (HLHR)

HIAS Greece

HumanRights360

International Rescue Committee (IRC)

INTERSOS Greece - INTERSOS Ελλάδα

Irida Women's Center

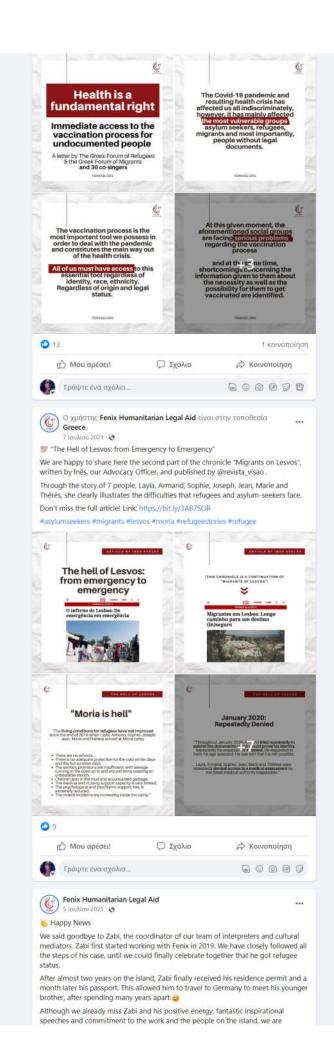
Υπηρεσία των Ιησουιτών για τους πρόσφυγε / Jesuit Refugee Service Greece (JRS Greece)

Lesvos Solidarity - Pikpa

Γιατροί Χωρίς Σύνορα (MSF) Médecins du Monde - Greece/ Mobile Info Team for refugees in Greece - الفريق المتنقل لمعلومات اللاجئين Δίκτυο για τα Δικαιώματα του Παιδίού - Network for Children's Rights ODYSSEA

Refugee Rights Europe (RRE)

Συμβίωση-Σχολή πολιτικών σπουδών στην Ελλάδα, Δίκτυο Συμβουλίου της Ευρώπης Symbiosis-School of Political Studies, Council of Europe Network



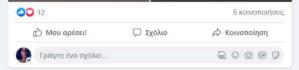
extremely happy for him that he can finally continue chasing his dreams. Christos Dagiellis και 91 ακόμη 8 σχόλια Μου αρέσει! Ο Σχόλιο Κοινοποίηση Τα πιο σχετικά 🕶 00000 Γράψτε ένα σχόλιο.. Dear all at Fenix humanitarian legal aid organization!! Thank you soogoo much for everything that you do in order to help and support your fellow human beings (the refugees on the Island of Lesvos) . Your work on the Island of Lesvos for the refugees and asylum seekers is essential, vital and needed . Please let me say it again , your work , your ethics , your morals, your support and your humanity on the Island of Lesvos is NEEDED for the refugees and asylum seekers Thank you so much for all your understanding, help and support that you provided me during a time period when I was lost and was in need of help and support. Thank you all for doing the great work, the needed work, that you do everyday in order to help and support the people who suffered wars, persecutions, poverty, deprivations and numerous other calamities when they were in their mothers' wombs , during their birth , after their birth , during their time in their countries of origin, during their journey to Europe and now in those refugee camps there . What happens to the refugees there on daily basis is completely against human rights and universal declaration of human rights . Every human being has the right to safety , peace , respect , dignity , life , liberty and pursuit of happiness. Thank you for trying your best to give the refugees there some hope, strength and wings so they can fly, dream, achieve and live just like other millions or billions of other human beings on earth I wish every human being on the earth knew that we are all one human family and one humankind on one earth and that we belong to each other and that we must become one in order to prosper. I wish the world had this moral, understanding and wisdom. I wish the world had a caring and understanding heart . I wish the world had eyes that can see , ears that hear and heart that truly feels and cares . I wish people were truly educated . But still , I am glad that there are humans that choose to serve humanity instead of harming them, hurting them breaking or smashing their wings or messing up their dreams . I wish there was no ignorance, hatred, selfishness, greed and arrogance in the world. I wish all of my fellow human beings were truly educated, truly understanding, truly kind , truly compassionate and truly caring . I wish it was like this but unfortunately it has not been like this . But we all have our free will to either be good or bad , to either be selfish or selfless, to either be kind or cruel, to either choose darkness or light ... My fellow human beings !!! Let's choose understanding, kindness, compassion and mutual respect toward each other. We, as humans and one human family, have to do it . The mountains , trees , seas or oceans are not going to do it for us We must understand and realize that we are all one human family and one humankind on one earth and we must choose to live in peace and respect with each other so we can ALL prosper. WE MUST ALL SAY NO TO IGNORANCE BECAUSE IT IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL AND SUFFERINGS Thank you all at Fenix for the good work you do for your fellow human beings !!! I hope humanity truly understands so you do not have to exist anymore because then we will all be celebrating our differences and there will be peace on earth Long live humanity and peace !!! Long live respect and understanding among humanity !!! Zabihullah Ihsaas Oh my God !!! Againnnnn !!!! Before commenting on this post, I had begged myself not to write an inspirational speech. I think it is all Fabiana Faria 's fault . I asked her to wake me up in case my mind turns toward inspirational speech but she did not !!! Anyways, I am glad it is shorttttt. Μου αρέσει! Απάντηση Have a safe trip Zabi

Μου αρέσει! Απάντηση

welcome dear Zabi! Μου αρέσει! Απάντηση

Zabihullah Ihsaas your inspirational speeches are always







Ο χρήστης Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid είναι στην πόλη Mitylene,

30 louviou 2021 · 3

A new team of professional volunteers has arrived!

We are pleased to share that the new cohort of long-term professional volunteers has reached the last stage of their four-week training process at our Lesvos office.

→ These intense sessions include topics such as Holistic Legal Aid, Lesvos History, Humanitarian Standards, Safeguarding & Code of Conduct, National and European Asylum Law, Procedure & Case Law, International Protection, Trauma Informed Care, Psychological First Aid and MHPSS in Emergencies, Mentoring, and more!

For the next 6 months, these 21 professionals from 13 different countries and diverse professional backgrounds will work together to provide Holistic Legal Aid Services.

Currently, we have 51 field staff from 19 countries, with expertise in public health, gender studies, child protection, social work, women's rights, human rights, European law, International law, criminal law, political science, anthropology, humanitarian action, international studies, languages, psychology and psychoeducation, camp management, emergency response, impact evaluation, and accounting and accountability.

In such a diverse team, we cover 21 languages! 🦡

Professional volunteers are essential to the furthering of our mission in Lesvos. We





Ο χρήστης Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid είναι στην πόλη Mitylene, ...

Lesvos, Greece. 29 louviou 2021 - 3

Meet the Fenix Team, meet Laure!

"I decided to come to Lesbos because the humanitarian crisis that goes on here is extremely serious. Immigration and population movement are some of the heaviest problems of our times and it needs regulation and legislation that are respectful of

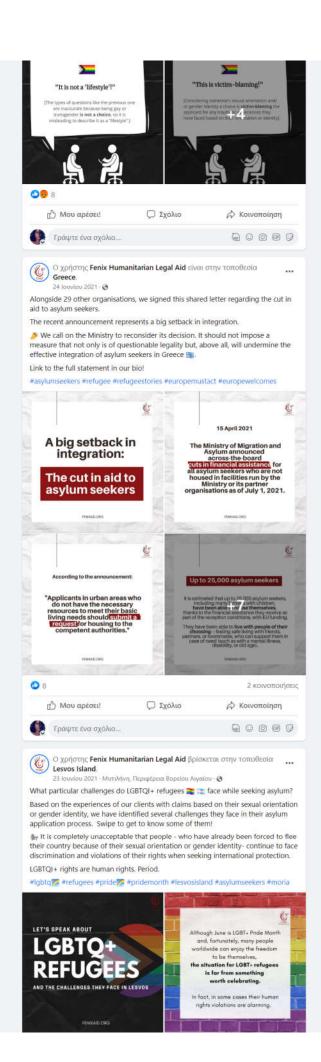
Unfortunately, what is happening in Lesbos - and in many other places in Europe
- shows that this is not the case. The management of this crisis says a lot about our ability to handle global coming changes and how much it can be improved. A mission with Fenix is a great way to learn about this reality and to cultivate human qualities as a lawyer.

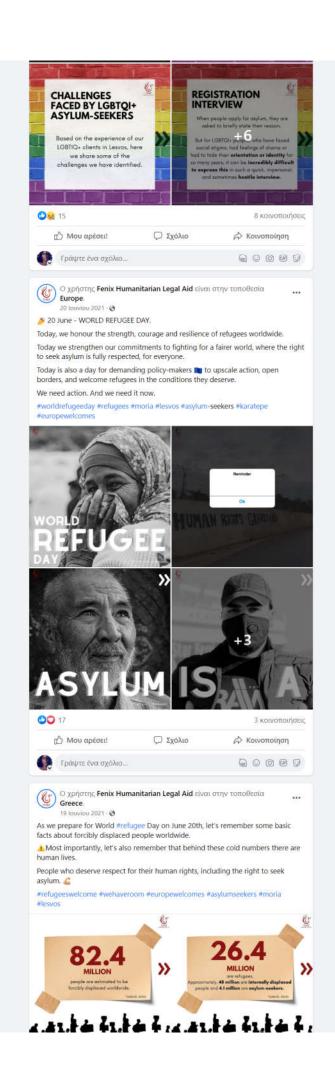
Gaining client's trust is always a little victory, especially with young refugees. Arriving on Lesbos, staying in a camp in such dire conditions and being asked to disclose one's personal life to a stranger can be a lot and it makes me happy when people feel comfortable after a few appointments together."

- Laure, Field Legal Officer

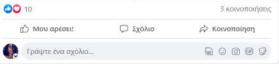


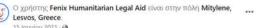












Meet the Fenix Team, meet Vickie!

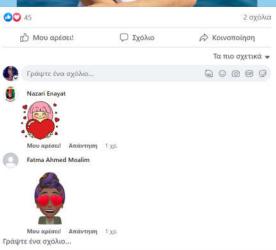
"I have a background in international law. I worked for 4 years as a legal officer in an immigration detention center in the North of France III for an NGO providing legal assistance to migrants and asylum seekers seeking for safety in Europe III. After getting insight into the managment migration system in France, I wanted to learn more about the root issues at the external border of Europe. This is why I decided to come to Lesvos.

When I heard about Fenix and their ambition to provide holistic legal support in the refugee camp on the island, I realised immediately that I wanted to be a part of their work.

One moment that will stick with me forever was the time when it really became clear for me how we get to accompany our clients in some very intimate and difficult parts of their lives. In some cases, the trauma that forced them to leave their country continues in Greece Imp. Some of our very vulnerable clients rely a lot on us because they put all their trust in our work in a context where they don't get support from anyone else. In this specific moment, I was very grateful to be part of such a great and supportive team."

-Vickie, Protection Officer





PRESS RELEASE:

Together with 40 other organizations we signed a press release regarding the new Joint Ministerial Decision (JMD) that was issued on the 7th of June. With this JMD, the Greek State designates Turkey as a "safe third country" for people from Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Somalia seeking international protection in Greece.

However, Turkey can not be considered 'safe', for many reasons and at the same

time, refugees whose applications have been rejected as inadmissible according to the "safe third country" principle, are already enduring a situation of protracted legal uncertainty, social exclusion, destitution, homelessness, and even prolonged detention in Greece.

We once again call on the Greek and European

authorities to honour their responsibility to protect refugees and to avoid further undermining the European asylum acquis and the fundamental principles and values for protecting human rights. To this end, we call on Greece to revoke the JMD issued

Read the full press release in English and Greek:

https://www.fenixaid.org/.../press-release-greece-deems...

Action For Education

ARSIS – Association for the Social Support of Youth

Better Days Centre Diotima

Danish Refugee Council (DRC) ECHO100PLUS

Equal Rights Beyond Borders

Europe Must Act

European Lawyers in Lesvos (ELIL) Fenix - Humanitarian Legal Aid

Greek Council for Refugees (GCR) Greek Forum of Migrants

Greek Forum of Refugees (GFR)

Greek Helsinki Monitor

Hellenic League for Human Rights (HLHR)

HumanRights360

Human Rights Legal Project

Initiative for the Detainees' Rights International Rescue Committee (IRC)

INTERSOS

INTERSOS Hellas

Irida Women's Center

Legal Centre Lesvos Lesvos Solidarity

Lighthouse Relief

Médecins du Monde - Greece

METAdrasi- Action for Migration and Development

Mobile Info Team (MIT) Network for Children's Rights

Network for the Social Support of Refugees and Migrants

Odyssea

Refugees International

Refugee Law Clinic Berlin

Refugee Legal Support (RLS) Refugee Rights Europe (RRE)

Refugee Support Aegean (RSA)

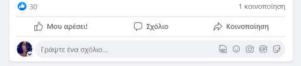
Samos Volunteers SolidarityNow

Still I Rise

Terre des hommes Hellas



PRESS RELEASE: Greece deems Turkey "safe", but refugees are not (scroll down for Greek) The substantive examination of asylum applications is the





Ο χρήστης Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid είναι στην πόλη Mitylene,

Lesvos, Greece. 1 louviou 2021 - 3

Meet the Fenix team, meet Louisal

"What is happening to the protection seekers arriving to the external borders of Europe is a European matter. Since 2015, when the EU announced that a 'hotspot' approach would be implemented in the Greek Aegan, I have wanted to get firsthand experience of what is happening at the external borders of Europe and engage with the situation in the refugee camps heads on. When I first heard about Fenix

and the way they work holistically with providing legal and to clients I was very inspired, and I knew that I wanted to be part of the team.

Honestly, it's been a whirlwind getting to know my clients and seeing how my legal skills and my white privilege can be of use to empower individuals that are in the process of trying to navigate a migration management system that is built to work against protection seekers. Since I arrived, I have worked with preparing new arrivals for their asylum interviews, helping people that have been on the Island for a long time with their subsequent applications, and worked on family reunification cases through the Dublin system. It's been incredible - meeting each individual, getting to know a bit about their story, and providing them with information that they would most likely not get otherwise."

- Louisa, Field Legal Officer







**

🦖 "Migrants on Lesvos: Long way to an (in)secure destiny"

We are sharing here this compelling article that Ines, our Advocacy Officer at Fenix, wrote for @revista_visao . Through the stories of 7 people, Layla, Armand, Sophie, Joseph, Jean, Marie and Thérès, she illustrates the difficulties that migrants face in their journey to Europe and the challenging situation they deal with once they arrive.

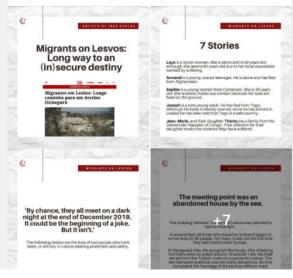
"They all came with the expectation that once they arrived in Europe they would be in a safe place, in dignified spaces. They expected to be able to start rebuilding their lives quickly. However, this hope was dwindling. Everyone was forced to realise that the road, if it existed, would be long.

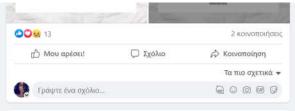
Too long."

Read the article in English here: https://www.fenixaid.org/.../migrants-on-lesvos-

or in Portuguese here: https://visao.sapo.pt/.../2021-04-20-migrantes-em.../...

#asylumseekers #moria #refugeestories #refugees #lesvos







Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid

26 Maiou 2021 - 3

Read our policy brief on screening at EU borders, in which we call for a #EuropeThatProtects!

In September 2020, the European Commission presented its proposal on a new Pact on Migration and Asylum, promising a 'fresh start' to Europe's approach to migration. The Pact introduced a number of legislative proposals that are currently being examined in the European Parliament and the Council, including the Regulation introducing a screening of third country nationals at the external borders.

While a new start is urgently needed to ensure Europe's approach to migration upholds key EU values of human dignity, equality, equity and human rights, the undersigned 23 NGOs working in Greece have serious concerns about elements of the proposed Screening Regulation. We urge EU policy makers to revise the proposal, which risks undermining refugees and migrants' rights and compounding the suffering of people seeking safety and protection in the EU.

As the #MigrationEU Pact is discussed this week, members must push to:

- Protect the vulnerable
- Treat new arrivals with dignity
- · Ensure accountability at borders

International Rescue Committee

Danish Refugee Council

Δίκτυο για τα Δικαιώματα του Παιδιού - Network for Children's Rights

ARSIS - Association for the Social Support of Youth

Terre des hommes

Θετική Φωνή (Positive Voice)

الفريق المنتقل لمعلومات اللاجئين - Mobile Info Team for refugees in Greece Διοτίμα - Κέντρο Γυναικείων Μελετών και Ερευνών / CRWI Diotima

Samos Lgbtqi+ Group

Action for Education

Refugee Rights Europe

HumanRights360

Still I Rise

Greek Forum of Migrants - Ελληνικό Φόρουμ Μεταναστών Defence for Children International Greece

Europe Must Act Together for Better Days

The HOME Project Odvssea

ECHO100PLUS

https://www.fenixaid.org/.../for-a-europe-that-truly.



For A Europe That Truly Protects: Joint NGO Policy Brief on the Screening Regulation Proposal





Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid

20 Malou 2021 - 3

Capacity-building and cross-sector collaboration among actors are crucial to navigating the ever-changing context of Lesvos.

A couple of months ago, we started providing online and on-site training to several partners on the asylum procedure and the biggest hurdles that asylumseekers face on the island.

These are key areas to cover because outside of the reception conditions, there are very visible ways in which asylum seekers' rights are being infringed upon. In this context, Legal aid becomes critical to navigate a broken and prejudicial system.

¿At Fenix, we are convinced that having accurate and effective information to make informed decisions is an important source of empowerment

In these workshops we also covered how collaboration with actors from different





Fatma Ahmed Moalim

Γράψτε ένα σχόλιο...

Μου αρέσει! Απάντηση 1 χρ.

Reflection on Kabul attack by Zabi, our cultural mediator at Fenix, born and raised in Kabul province.

"On May 8, 2021, a car bombing, followed by two improvised explosive device (IED) blasts, took place in front of Sayyid al-Shuhada, a girl's secondary school in the Dasht-e-Barchi neighborhood west of Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan.

As of the writing of this piece, 85 student fatalities have been recorded, along with 147 severe injuries of innocent civilians.

As of this time, no terrorist organization has taken responsibility for the attack.

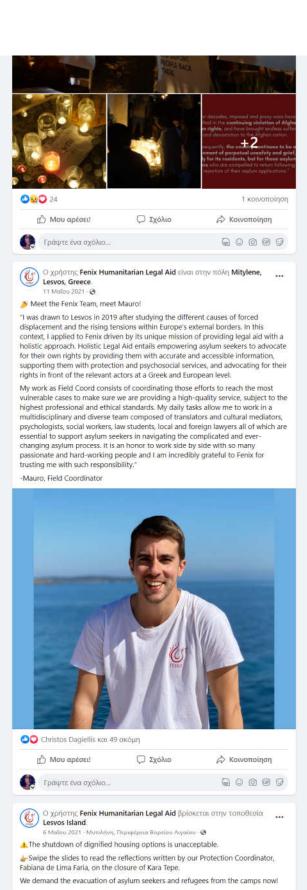
For decades, imposed and proxy wars have resulted in the continuing violation of Afghan human rights, and have brought endless suffering and devastation to the Afghan nation. Consequently, the country continues to be an environment of perpetual unsafety and grief, not only for its residents, but for those asylum seekers who are compelled to return following the rejection of their asylum applications. We ask, if Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan is unsafe, where within the country's borders might safety and security be assured?

Therefore, we demand that the leaders and decision-makers of Greece and other EU member states rethink the security situation of Afghanistan, and enact legislation that protects Afghan asylum seekers from being deported to their country of origin.

To do otherwise is, in the truest sense, a violation of human rights and dignity, and will result in the unnecessary suffering and death of many refugees and asylum seekers."

-Zabi









Ο χρήστης Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid είναι στην τοποθεσία O χρηστης Pena ... Switzerland, Swiss. 3 Μαΐου 2021 · 🚱

This is what a Family Reunification looks like!

We recently received this video from our client Kobra about the exciting moment in which she got to briefly see her family after 3 years! 25 %

After a long and uncertain process, Seif and his family arrived in Switzerland 💆. After the required quarantine, the family will finally be able to hug again 😤.

At Fenix we work hard to help families reunite with their loved ones. We want many more of these beautiful moments to happen! Unfortunately, the situation at the moment has been quite challenging. Check our previous post about Family Reunification and transfers to know more!

#moria #openborders #europemustact #refugees #refugee







Guardian

▲ Families are once again left in uncertainty.

Do you remember we spoke about our clients who are waiting to be reunited with their son in the UK?

We reached out to @guardian to get their story heard!

The couple from Afghanistan, 71 and 64 years old, arrived on Lesvos in January 2019. Our team supported them in getting their family reunification request accepted, and since then, they had been waiting to be reunited. But due to problems with the Greek transfer office and changes in UK policy after Brexit, they are now once again left in uncertainty.

"We've been living like this for a long time and we are feeling really hopeless." -

Once again, we demand the Authorities (@ukhomeoffice) to respect the right to family life; do not reject Dublin cases that (have previously been accepted/ are just waiting to be transferred) and provide an immediate solution to these families.



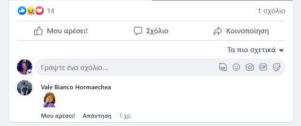
The Home Office has been accused of failing to reunite vulnerable refugees who have the right to join family in the UK under EU law, leaving children and torture surv

UK accused of stranding vulnerable refugees after Brexit

The Guardian

The government faced widespread criticism when it announced that family reunion lay would no longer apply after the UK left the EU, and it promised that cases under way on that date would be allowed to proceed.







Ο χρήστης Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid είναι στην πόλη Mitylene, ...

Lesvos, Greece.

27 Απριλίου 2021 - 🚱

JOIN US!

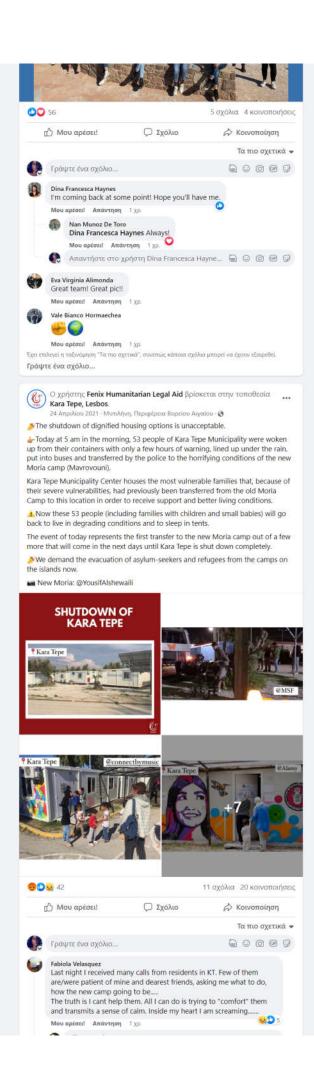
At Fenix we work to promote and advocate for a more equitable European asylum system that treats individuals with dignity, upholds their rights and offers them the necessary knowledge to maintain agency over their own lives and future. We seek to replace charity with empowerment.

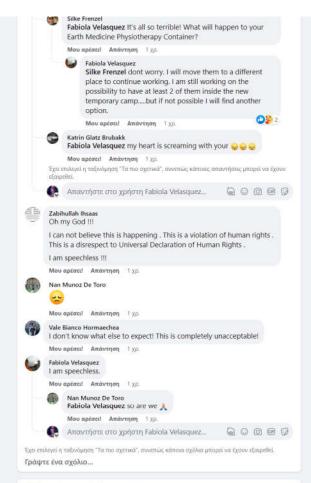
Our current team consists of 38 people from 16 different countries, and brings together international and local experts with experience in international, European and refugee law, psychology, social work, anthropology, gender, cultural mediation, child protection, trafficking, FGM, advocacy and communications, human rights and women's rights and field work in refugee camps worldwide.

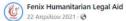
Do you want to join us? The applications to volunteer with us from June until December this year are still open until May 1st! ...

More information on our website.









New Pact on Migration and Asylum: Interpretation of relevant provisions in the case law of the Greek administrative courts.

On 23 September 2020, as part of the New Pact on Migration and Asylum, the European Commission tabled legislative proposals aiming at an in-depth reform of the EU asylum acquis, in conjunction with the package of proposals presented in 2016.

This note provides an overview of recent jurisprudence of the Greek administrative courts on the interpretation of provisions in force governing the border procedure, the suspensive effect of remedies, as well as administrative detention. The note aims to highlight legal issues and risks in the Commission proposals, with a view to contributing to the legislative process.

The topics covered in this note are: 1. the exemption of vulnerable persons from the border procedure, 2. the suspensive effect of asylum appeals, and 3. the suspension of registration of asylum applications.

Go to our website to read the full note in English or Greek. https://www.fenixaid.org/.../new-pact-on-migration-and...

ActionAid Hellas

ARSIS - Association for the Social Support of Youth

Danish Refugee Council

Διοτίμα - Κέντρο Γυναικείων Μελετών και Ερευνών / CRWI Diotima Equal Rights Beyond Borders

Ελληνικό Συμβούλιο για τους Πρόσφυγες - Greek Council for Refugees

HIAS Greece

HumanRights360

Legal Centre Lesvos

Δίκτυο για τα Δικαιώματα του Παιδιού - Network for Children's Rights Refugee Support Aegean - Υποστήριξη Προσφύγων στο Αιγαίο



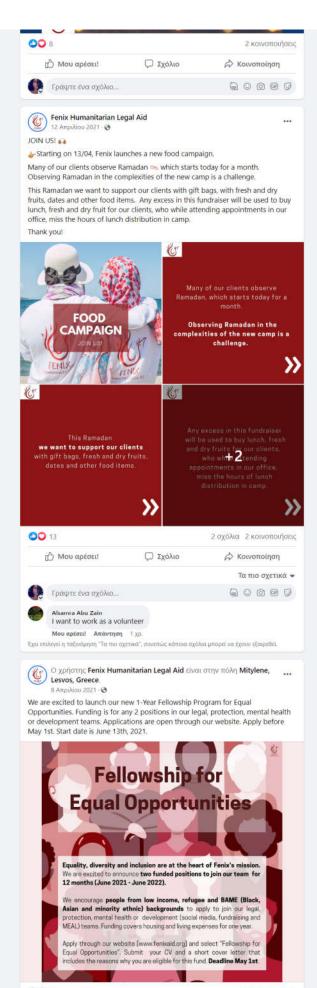
FENIXAID.ORG

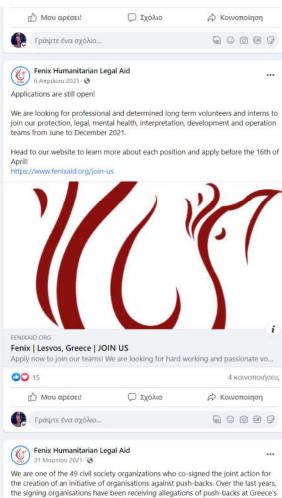
New Pact on Migration and case law of the Greek administrative courts

i









the creation of an initiative of organisations against push-backs. Over the last years, the signing organisations have been receiving allegations of push-backs at Greece's land and sea borders, a practice that seems to have now acquired systematic characteristics and constitutes an official state policy.

This action aims to address the below demands to national, European, and

- The immediate end of illegal push-back practices that endanger the Rule of Law
- and fundamental human rights
 The establishment of an independent mechanism for the systematic recording and substantiation of reported push-back cases

 - The protection of the victims and the facilitation of their access to justice for the
- substantial investigation of their complaints
- The protection of the organisations and citizens that record and publicize incidents of push-backs

Read more: https://www.fenixaid.org/.../joint-action-for-the...





Minister of Migration Notis Mitarakis, assessed Mavrovouni camp where asylum seekers have been forced to live for the past six months in horrifying conditions that she has described as "unfortunate".

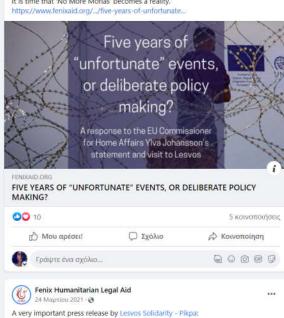
This situation is not unfortunate. On the contrary, it is the result of the systematic implementation of practices that contradict the most basic values and commitments that Europe claims to stand for.

We live on a continent that has sufficient knowledge, tools and resources to handle the reception of asylum seekers with an approach based on solidarity, dignity and empowerment. Yet, European leaders seem to struggle to find the political courage or will to turn their promises into actions. Forced migration demands a practical and moral response that considers the long term consequences of its current undignified and inhumane practices.

A clear change in direction is urgently needed.

It is time that 'No More Morias' becomes a reality.

https://www.fenivaid.org/_/five-years-of-unfortunate.





Last week, and one day after Efi Latsoudi's interview on radio criticizing authorities about the cruel policies being implemented on Lesvos, the mayor of Mytilene, Mr. Kytelis visited the abandoned PIKPA camp and published a standerous announcement against Lesvos Solidarity. In his first visit at PIKPA, four months after the eviction, he found, as he said, the place in a "horrible condition" and gave the public 6 photos as evidence that "reflects the magnitude of the disaster".

Anyone that ever visited the place when the structure was running, knows the truth. However, we were obliged to publish the following Press Release.

Some media, that had published the announcement of the mayor, and presented his comment as a real event, did not publish our response, although they were obliged by the law (the right to respond).

This attack is not a single event, it is not the first and will not be the last. It is part of a well-organized attack on solidarity, that we experience daily. They defame and criminalize NGOs and the civil society, to conceal their responsibilities for the catastrophic policies they apply on Lesvos, trying to convince that NGOs are at fault for these.

The xenophobic and racist rhetoric against refugees, the slanderous practices against NGOs, and the impunity of the violent attacks to refugees and humanitarian workers - this organised 'divide and rule 'strategy - has effectively managed to turn Lesvos, not long ago characterized as the island of solidarity, to a fascism growing laboratory.

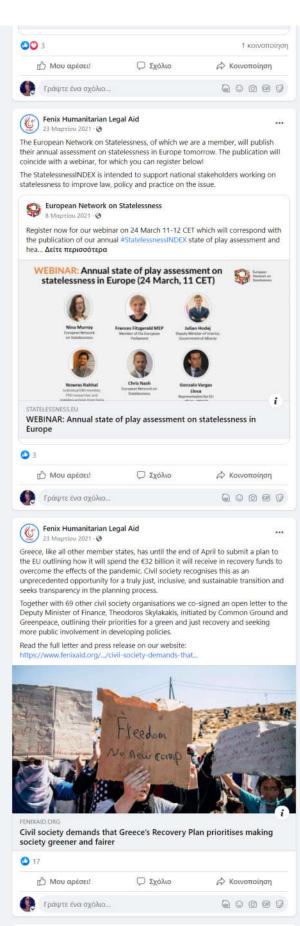
We stand strong defending fundamental human rights and raising our voice, to be heard loud, expose and denounce their immoral and brutal policies.

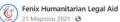
Solidarity always wins.



So listen, Mr. Kytelis, here are some truths about PIKPA

In response to the defamatory announcement issued by the Municipality of ...



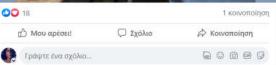


On this International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, we want to share the words of political activist, professor and writer Angela Y. Davis: "I feel that if we don't take seriously the ways in which racism is embedded in structures of institutions, if we assume that there must be an identifiable racist who is the perpetrator, then we won't ever succeed in pradication racism." (in her book

'Freedom Is a Constant Struggle').

On Lesvos, we see the effects of centuries of institutionalized racism and inequality on a daily basis. This inspires us to advocate for and work towards a just and equitable European asylum system, that treats people with respect and dignity.







Apply now to join our teams!

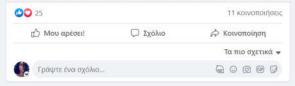
We are looking for professional and determined long term volunteers and interns to join our protection, legal, mental health, interpretation, development and operation teams from June to December 2021.

Visit our website to read more about the positions and apply! https://www.fenixaid.org/join-us



FENIXAID.ORG Fenix | Lesvos, Greece | JOIN US

Apply now to join our teams! We are looking for hard working and passionate vo...





...

Five years of the EU - Turkey Statement - past, present and future by our Advocacy Officer Inês Avelās

The EU-Turkey Statement has been in force for five years now, resulting in inhumane and degrading conditions for asylum seekers while they wait for a decision on their asylum applications. This has led to the confoundment of a humanitarian crisis on European territory that has already been ongoing for 5 years. Instead of protecting those in need of international protection, the European Union and its Member States are confining them to dreadful conditions and procedures that, due to the unacceptably short timeframes, restrict their opportunities to access information and legal assistance.

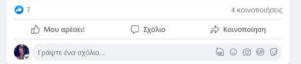
The conditions in the Greek hotspots put the lives of asylum seekers in danger, inflicting further trauma on those who seek Europe's protection against the torture, abuse, persecution and violence they escaped from and experienced both in their countries of origin and during their journeys.

The future should not see Europe embracing and supporting a deal that has failed, but implementing an asylum framework that is based upon the protection of people in need of asylum and on solidarity between Member States.

https://www.fenixaid.org/.../five-years-of-the-eu-turkey...



Five years of the EU - Turkey Statement: Past, present and future





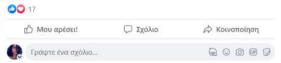
This week marks 10 years since the war in Syria broke out. According to the UN, Syria is "the worst man-made disaster since World War II". Syrians make up almost one-third of all the refugees around the world and 80 percent of Syrians live below the poverty line, with limited access to basic services, education or job opportunities.

On Lesvos, we see the physical, emotional, psychological and social consequences that years of war and displacement has had on our clients. People have lost their homes, their loved ones and instead of being welcomed into Europe with the dignity they deserve, they are forced to live in subhuman conditions and are retraumatized through a hostile asylum procedure.

We hope the day comes when Syrians are able to live safely in their homeland. Until then, we dream of a Europe that treats those fleeing violence and conflict with respect and compassion.

Photo by @yousif_alshewaili









Press Release regarding the case of M.M. - a 27-year-old woman who attempted to self-immolate at the Kara Tepe camp of Lesvos on February 21, 2021

Mytilene, March 9, 2021 - M.M., a 27-year-old refugee from Afghanistan, who set herself on fire on February 21, was released pending further proceedings, on condition that she will not leave the country.

On February 21, M.M., attempted to take her life by setting herself on fire inside the new Kara Tepe Reception and Identification Centre (RIC) of Lesvos. As a result, she sustained injuries on several parts of her body, including her head, both hands, back and legs and inhaled smoke which caused her to lose consciousness for a short period of time. The residents of the neighboring tents rescued her from the burning tent and extinguished the fire using water bottles and towels before the fire-fighter brigade's arrival at the scene. M.M. was then transferred to the hospital due to the injuries suffered from the fire.

Following the incident M.M. was charged with arson with intent, endangering life and the objects of others, as well as with damage of an object of common utility by means of fire.

M.M. and her family have been living in the RICs of Moria and Kara Tepe for a year and four months, in conditions which amount to inhuman and degrading treatment. In particular, the conditions at Kara Tepe, where the pregnant 27year-old had to live, raise children and give birth to a newborn, have been marked with extreme lack of hygiene and sanitary infrastructure, as well as with severe weather conditions to name but a few of the problems. The extreme weather conditions, the effects of which have been compounded by the terrible seaside location of the camp and by the lack of adequate infrastructure, hav led to flooding of the camp, on multiple occasions, including the flooding of

It should be also noted that the article 58, L.3646/2019, includes pregnant women in the list of vulnerable categories of persons who should receive special reception conditions; therefore M.M., as a pregnant woman, should have been transferred to suitable accommodation.

Vassilis Kerasiotis, Country Director, HIAS Greece: "In the last few years we have seen an increasingly misplaced application of provisions of criminal law on the island of Lesvos, in cases involving asylum seekers and refugees. The case of M.M. is a vivid example of this trend. A mother of 3 underage children who is eight months pregnant, was detained for 5 days and was overcharged after she tried to put an end to her life, because she could not suffer anymore the conditions she was subjected to in the new camp of Kara Tepe.

Nevertheless, we retain faith in the greek judicial system and we hope that the criminal law will be applied appropriately in this case of an attempted suicide, which cannot but lead to the dismissal of all the charges".

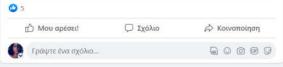
Tereza Volakaki, Legal Centre Lesvos attorney who represented M.M. in her preliminary hearing: "Pressing criminal charges in response to a suicide attempt appears to be part of the Greek state's broader practice of framing migrants as criminals and threats, in order to distract from the state's own liability for the violent, inhuman and degrading treatment of migrants in Lesvos and other 'hotspot' Aegean islands.

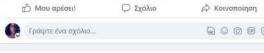
Those in solidarity with migrants must continue to publicly denounce the unjust and tragic consequences of this treatment, and support migrants who are trapped on the Greek islands in inhumane conditions which have been denounced for years as a mental health emergency."

HIAS Greece and Legal Centre Lesvos represent the 27-year-old woman.

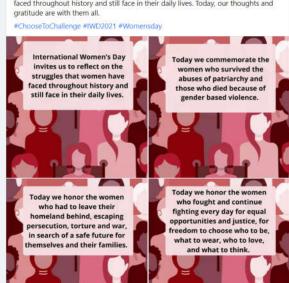
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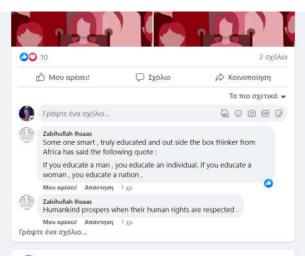
Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid 8 Mapriou 2021 · 3





International Women's Day invites us to reflect on the struggles that women have faced throughout history and still face in their daily lives. Today, our thoughts and



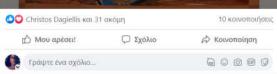


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This painting is made by the talented Kazem, one of our clients. Kazem arrived to the island as a minor but was registered as an adult. He has been on Lesvos for one year and three months. He told us: 'I first started painting almost six years ago and was a student for five months. I was very interested in painting and I was able to learn it quickly'.

His paintings are inspired by pictures or by everyday life in the camp. About this painting he says: 'This is made by me and my friend. It is about the conditions of the camp. This young girl has to spend a few years of childhood, the best period of her life, in this camp'.







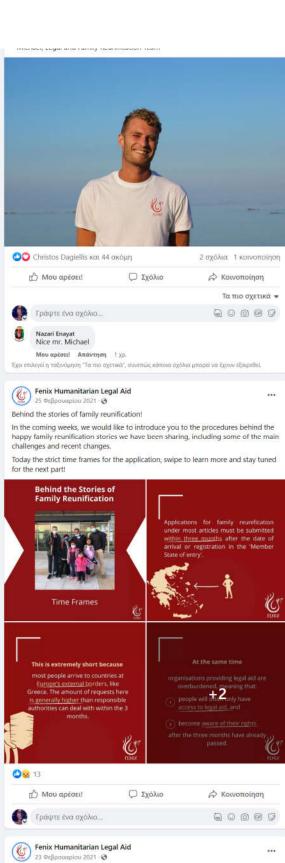
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Meet the Fenix team, meet Michael!

"Having first come to the island in 2018, I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to return in a legal capacity, primarily spending my time helping people to prepare for their asylum interview and filling Family Reunification applications.

I take enormous pride in being part of the team at Fenix, and I love working with so many passionate, talented people. It inspires me that they are here, in difficult conditions, with comparatively little recognition or reward. They do it because they believe that what's happening on these shores is unacceptable, that everybody deserves to be treated in a humane and dignified way, and that every positive outcome for our clients is worth its weight in gold. Fenix represents the values of humanity and openness that have been so sorely lacking in this continent's collective policy for some time now.

I think it's a small comfort for the individuals and families here to see that there are people in Europe who are willing to stand up and fight for them."





bodies and authorities, and engaging with journalists. The aim is to increase awareness about the refugee situation and to promote a positive change in the

European asylum process.

I was drawn to Fenix while looking for a work experience in the field after doing my master thesis on European asylum law. Operating within the context of a humanitarian crisis, a restrictive asylum system, and a constant disregard for current European and Greek law is challenging. Sometimes, it is difficult to stay motivated, especially considering the lack of political will to positively change the Greek and European asylum system. Nevertheless, the people that we work for give me the motivation to continue and be better."





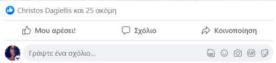
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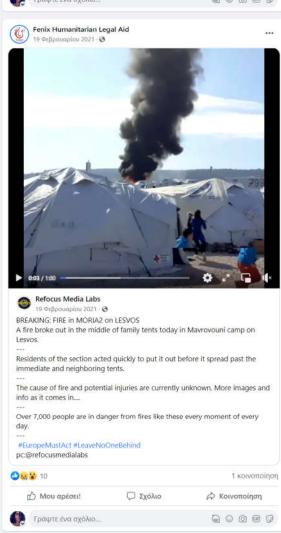
Today is World Day of Social Justice. At Fenix we advocate for and work towards a just European asylum system, in which people's human rights and dignity are respected and protected, and in which everyone has equal opportunities to make decisions about their lives.

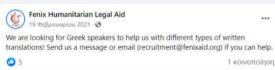
We hope there will be a day when this will be no longer necessary, but until then we stay committed to our struggle for justice and equity for people seeking asylum in Europe.

photo: our team informing German MEPs about the situation on Lesvos.











mank you sometime to supporting as normale very beginning, we are elemany grateful for your trust in our work and vision!



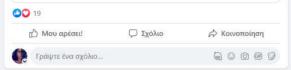
SolidariTee

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At SolidariTee, we know the impact our grants can have, but when asylum processes can take months, or years, it's not always so easy to communicate the tangible change being made on a daily basis. That's why we wanted to share some details from Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid's 2020 activity report, an NGO SolidariTee has supported since 2018, to exemplify what we really mean by 'empowering, long-term change'.

Despite a year which brought endless uphill challenges from COVID-19 outbreaks, two lockdowns, increased violence towards asylum seekers and humanitarian workers and the fire which destroyed Moria camp, Fenix continued to have numerous successes in 2020. To put some detail behind the figures below, Fenix were instrumental in supporting the mental wellbeing of asylum seekers, particularly women, and have taken a holistic approach to legal aid since the very start. In addition to providing 1:1 interview preparation and legal guidance, their weekly support groups for women allowed attendees to express their feelings and experiences, an outlet which sadly has become more necessary than ever, as gender-based violence rose dramatically after months of extended lockdown of camps. Over tea and coffee, international psychologists shared coping mechanisms in Farsi, Arabic and French. In the complex realm of family unification, Fenix's work was highlighted as 'outstanding' by the Greek Asylum Service and the Dublin Unit. Fenix described receiving updates from 'reunited families all around Europe [as] one of the highlights' of their work.

We hope this once again highlights the value and longevity of legal aid, and the magnitude of effects it has on people's lives. To find out more about the NGOs we support click here https://www.soildaritee.org.uk/who-we-support. To learn more about different ways to support our NGOs, be they t-shirts, artwork or tea, click here https://www.soildaritee.org.uk/shop.





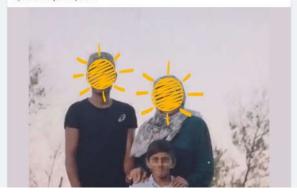
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Happy News!

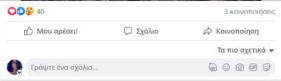
Abdul and Zohra married 11 years ago in Afghanistan and since then have had 2 children together. Abdul was forced to flee the country with one of their sons, and they settled in Germany. But Abdul continued to miss Zohra and his other son a lot and in October 2019, he went on holiday to Iran to be able to be with them again. As he only intended for this to be a short trip, his son stayed with their trusted neighbours in Germany. However, once in Iran, Abdul lost his passport and was unable to get a new one quickly. At the same time, his German residence permit expired and without his passport, he could not return to Germany to renew it.

As a result of this series of unfortunate events, Abdul, Zohra and their youngest son were separated from their 10-year-old son, who remained in Germany alone.

Once they arrived in Lesvos, our family reunification team worked on their case, and despite difficulties due to the complexity of the case, their case was accepted. Now Abdul, Zohra and their two sons will soon be reunited in Germany after having spent three years apart<3









On the 9th of February the European Commission adopted a 'Joint Communication'* about a 'Renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood - A new Agenda for the Mediterranean'. According to the Commission, the initiative will set the framework on how the EU will address challenges and opportunities for its southern

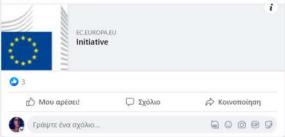
However, the continued cooperation on migration, as discussed in Point 4 - Migration and Mobility, with these so-called neighbourhood countries raises

The European Commission reaffirms the principles and aims of the EU's New Pact on Migration Asylum, as presented in September 2020, specifically concerning the partnerships with the neighbourhood countries. The proposal focuses on "comprehensive, tailor-made, balanced and mutually beneficial partnerships" with countries of origin and countries of transit, through, amongst others, capacity support for effective migration and asylum governance; effective return and $readmission\ cooperation\ and\ triangular\ and\ south-south\ cooperation\ frameworks\ with\ regional\ and\ international\ actors.$

Although the Commission presents such cooperation as "successful experiences", the agreements that are and will be established with neighbourhood countries are concerning and often lead to violations of rights. The trilateral African Union -European Union - UN Task Force in Libva, that the Commission uses as a successful example, causes thousands of people to be trapped in the war torn country. They are at risk of exploitation and violence, while they don't have access to asylum procedures. More agreements will almost certainly lead to more rights violations.

*Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.

https://ec.europa.eu/.../12867-Renewed-Southern.

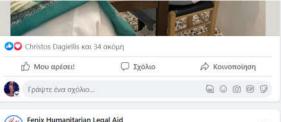


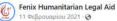


At the moment, notifications for the asylum interview date are sometimes as short as 24 hours, which makes Lesvos an extremely difficult environment to work in. Despite these challenging timelines, our interview preparation team is dedicated to empower our clients to navigate the asylum procedure and to express their case during their interview.

We are very grateful to the Haëlla Stichting, who with their support allow us to have incredibly professional and inspiring people working with us.







Good news: Members of the European Parliament have approved the report by Greens/EFA rapporteur Erik Marquardt on the "Implementation of Article 43 of the Asylum Procedures Directive". The report calls for respect for human rights at the EU's external borders.

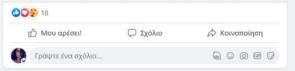
Erik Marquardt comments:

With this report, the European Parliament is taking a stance against restrictions of the human rights of asylum seekers. MEPs are concerned about the increasing number of human rights violations at the EU's external borders which can often amount to refoulement. However, there are troubling trends to be observed besides pushbacks and expulsions, namely the lack of information, legal aid and access for civil society organisations available to assist asylum seekers in border procedure. This report calls for independent monitoring of the external borders." ww.greens-efa.eu/.../asylum-border-procedures/



Asylum border procedures

an Parliament have approved the report by Greens/EFA r..



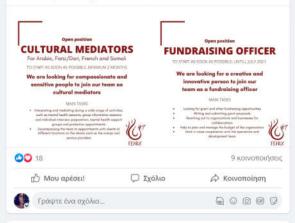


Join us!

We are looking for volunteers to join our cultural mediation team on Lesvos. You will be working with all our teams, interpreting and mediating during different activities: from mental health support groups to interview preparation sessions. Your work is crucial in supporting our clients with holistic legal aid!

Also the fundraising position is still open.

Read more and apply on our website (fenixaid.org), or send an email to recruitment@fenixaid.org for more information!



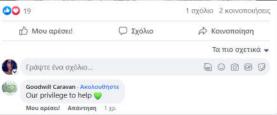


Fenix Humanitarian Legal Aid 8 Φεβρουαρίου 2021 - 🚱

Our Protection Team constantly checks in on our clients safety and well-being, as well as support other people that might have emergencies or need immediate guidance and assistance. Visibility is crucial in a large camp with thousands of people like Mavrovouni. It is essential that residents of the camp can identify our team members and reach out for support.

A big thank you to Goodwill Caravan for supporting us with vests and constantly checking on us during the fire that burnt down Moria Camp.







Behind the stories of family reunification!

In the coming weeks, we would like to introduce you to the procedures behind the happy family reunification stories we have been sharing, including some of the main challenges and recent changes.

Today article 9 of the Dublin III regulation and the problem of national protection, swipe to learn more and stay tuned for the next part!





The European Commission proposal for a Screening Regulation for Third Country Nationals at the External Borders is largely modeled on the "reception and identification procedure" applicable to all irregularly arriving persons in Greece. The majority of its provisions correspond to, if not mirror, provisions in Greek legislation which set out key elements of the process such as restrictions on liberty, identification, registration, medical check, vulnerability assessment, and referral to

asylum or other procedures. To that end, an in-depth understanding of the procedure is essential to identifying pitfalls and concerns attached to the Screening Regulation proposal at an early stage of negotiations within the Council and the European Parliament, with a view to promoting better law-making and sound reform of EU law.

The correlation table presented in this document provides a point-by-point comparison of the main provisions of the Screening Regulation proposal with relevant domestic legislation, namely L 4375/2016 and L 4636/2019 (IPA). It also offers a detailed analysis of the implementation of the reception and identification procedure in practice, drawing on up-to-date information complemented by observations from the following civil society organisations supporting asylum seekers in the country. The information provided in the correlation table has been collected through a collaborative effort of civil society organisations, Refugee Support Aegean (RSA), HIAS Greece, Greek Council for Refugees, Danish Refugee Council, Legal Centre Lesvos, FENIX Humanitarian Legal Aid, ActionAid Hellas and Mobile Info Team, and legal practitioners.

The analysis was sent to the European Commission, different European Parliamentarians, and the Portuguese Presidency of the Council. Read the full document and a summary on our website:

https://www.fenixaid.org/.../the-workings-of-the...





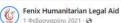
kind donations.

We are looking for a volunteer fundraising officer to join our dynamic and passionate team on Lesvos. You would start as soon as possible and work on fundraising in the broadest sense: writing big grant applications, reaching out to foundations, brainstorming for campaigns and reaching out to businesses for in-

Your work would be crucial in working towards Fenix's vision: a more just European asylum system that treats individuals with dignity, upholds their rights and offers them the knowledge to navigate their own lives.

Go to our website to apply: $https://www.fenixaid.org/join-us\ or\ email\ to\ recruitment@fenixaid.org\ for\ more\ information$





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In January 2021, the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) connected 8 cases of 8 people who seeking asylum and are living in Chios, Kos, Lesvos and Samos; 4 of the 5 Greek hotspots. The Court has asked the Greek Governments questions and will examine the living conditions and access to medical care of these 8 particularly vulnerable people.

The ECtHR will now have a new opportunity to decide whether the conditions in which these eight people are living violate their human rights - specifically the prohibition of inhuman and degrading treatment (Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights).

The 8 cases demonstrate the structural deficiencies of the current European and Greek reception system. The hotspot approach and border procedure have since

their implementation proven to be incompatible with the protection of human rights.





PRESS RELEASE

Chios, Kos & Lesvos - January 20, 2021

EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS EXAMINES LIVING CONDITIONS IN HOTSPOTS MORIA, PYLI & VIAL





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EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS EXAMINES LIVING CONDITIONS IN HOTSPOTS MORIA, PYLI & VIAL

Chios, Kos & Lesvos, January 20, 2021

While the situation on the East Aegean islands received particular attention after the outbreak of the fire in Moria, it has subsided more recently. At the same time, living conditions on the islands continue to be catastrophic. People have little access to medical care, wash facilities, and proper shelter, and are regularly forced to sleep in tents that flood easily in the winter rains. Particularly vulnerable people are not exempt from these conditions. Even in times when the Covid-19 was and is on the verge of an outbreak in the camps, members of at risk groups continue to live exposed to these conditions without protection. The European Court of Human Rights has now asked the Greek government questions regarding the treatment of a total of eight people, all of whom were living in one of the so-called EU hotspots and had pre-existing medical

conditions or were particularly vulnerable. In total, the Court connected 8 cases involving Chios, Kos, Lesvos and Samos, i.e. 4 out of 5 EU hotspots. These cases therefore demonstrate the structural illegality and impossibility to implement the hotspot approach and border procedures in a way that does not violate human rights. This should also be taken into consideration by decision-makers in the EU, as the proposal on the 'New Pact on Migration and Asylum' puts a focus on precisely these border procedures and the externalisation of the responsibility for refugee protection that led to the given situation.

HIAS Greece and Equal Rights Be d Borders represent a total of four of these individuals in their applications to the Court.

"It is now up to the Court to state unequivocally that the living conditions at the hotspots do not meet basic human needs and that the measure of geographical restrictions puts the lives of vulnerable people at serious risk" says Elli Kriona Saranti from HIAS Greece.

Particularly vulnerable Applicants

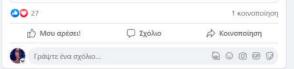
The Court will now have the opportunity to decide whether the respective conditions violated the applicants' human rights. The European Convention on Human Rights prohibits degrading and inhuman treatment and obliges states to protect the right to life. In the underlying cases however, the Greek state not only failed to protect the applicants from inhuman and degrading treatment but actively facilitated it as well.

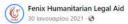
The case of E.F. concerns a widowed woman. In 2016, she was diagnosed with HIV, which she contracted as a result of rape. She had been receiving uninterrupted antiretroviral treatment until October 2019, when she was arbitrarily detained and tortured by her country's authorities. When she entered Greece in December 2019, she was asymptomatic. She did not undergo a medical and vulnerability assessment in Moria even though she requested one and told the authorities that she needed HIV treatment. Instead, she was placed in a tent with an open door. Four months after her arrival, a blood test confirmed that she was in fact HIV positive, and doctors requested that she be transferred to a specialized hospital in Athens, as there was no appropriate treatment in Lesvos. The authorities did not transfer E.F. and in the meantime due to the discontinuation of her antiretroviral treatment, she started suffering from a chronic cough, which caused her to cough up blood, serious skin rashes, fever, diarrhoea, and loss of appetite. She lost approximately 20 kg after arriving in Greece, and at the end of May 2020, more than six months after she arrived in Greece, she was diagnosed with HIV-related blood cancer, as a result of the continued failure of the Greek government to give her access to appropriate healthcare. E.F. was in a very vulnerable situation when she arrived in Greece Her stay in Greece made her situation far worse, denied her human dignity and has put her life in severe danger.

The case of M.A. concerns an old man who had been living in the Vial Hotspot for 7 months by the time an application for interim measures with the European Court of Human Rights was filed on his behalf in April 2020. He lived in a small, cramped camping tent that he shared with several other members of his family. ras sleeping on the bare, cold ground. As an older adult with underlying health conditions, including diabetes and heart disease, he was particularly vulnerable to developing complications from COVID-19. He could not take care of himself and was highly dependent on family members. He had limited access to sanitary facilities, running water and soap, meaning that he could seldomly wash and was barely able to leave his tent.

The case of A.R. concerns an applicant who was held unlawfully for more than four months in the Pre-Removal Detention Centre in Kos. After entering Greece, she was brought handcuffed to the prison and was never given a reason for her detention. She survived gender-based violence in her country of origin, causing

her serious gynaecological problems. On Kos, she repeatedly asked to see a doctor, a psychologist, and a lawyer, but the authorities denied her request. The only thing she received to help her with her medical issues were a few painkillers to help her sleep at night. Her situation was so dire, and she became so desperate, that she ultimately tried to commit suicide. In the detention centre the door that separated the room where the women slept from the men was broken, so was the door to the shower causing her severe stress. The case of M.A. concerns an applicant with a pre-existing illness, particularly vulnerable to complications from COVID-19, living in the EU Hotspot Vial on Chios. He had been trying to see a doctor for months, but had not been able to. As he waited to see a doctor, his condition worsened; he developed a serious cough, could not keep food down, and began vomiting blood. These fates reflect the suffering of thousands This demonstrates that the inhumane living conditions in the EU hotspots in Greece affect everyone. The old, the sick, women, children: human beings "Every day we see human rights violations. Every day the foundation of Europe's values is trampled all over on the Greek islands. There are rules in European asylum law that prohibit what is happening in Europe. They are of interest to no one. Every day we try to enforce with the means of law that human beings are to be treated like human beings - nothing more. It is now up to the European Court of Human Rights to take a stand accordingly", says Niki Georgiou from Equal Rights Beyond Borders.





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Behind the stories of family reunification!

In the coming weeks, we would like to introduce you to the procedures behind the happy family reunification stories we have been sharing, including some of the main challenges and recent changes.

Today, the concept of 'family member', swipe to learn more and stay tuned for the next part!





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Press Release by UNHCR:

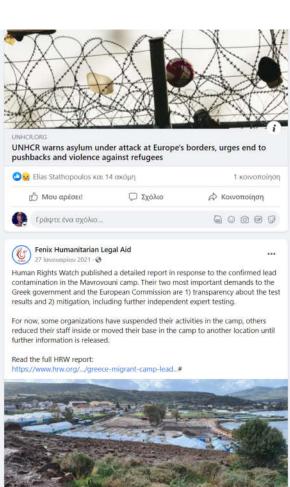
Alarmed at the increasing frequency of expulsions and pushbacks of refugees and asylum-seekers at Europe's land and sea borders, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is calling for states to investigate and halt these practices.

"UNHCR has received a continuous stream of reports of some European states restricting access to asylum, returning people after they have reached territory or territorial waters, and using violence against them at borders," said UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, Gillian Triggs.

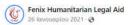
"The pushbacks are carried out in a violent and apparently systematic way. Boats carrying refugees are being towed back. People are being rounded-up after they land and then pushed back to sea. Many have reported violence and abuse by state forces."

https://www.unhcr.org/.../unhcr-warns-asylum-under-attack...









Together with 19 other organizations we call for the immediate evacuation of the Mavrovouni camp, after the Ministry of Migration and Asylum confirmed that the soil is contaminated with lead.

Human Rights Watch and AlJazeera reported about potential lead contamination in the new camp as early as October. In response, an examination of the soil was conducted by order of the Ministry of Migration, of which the results were only made public this week. According to the Ministry, from the twelve samples that were taken, only one had a concentration of lead higher than the international limit for residential use. However, according to the World Health Organization there is no lead exposure that is without harmful effects.

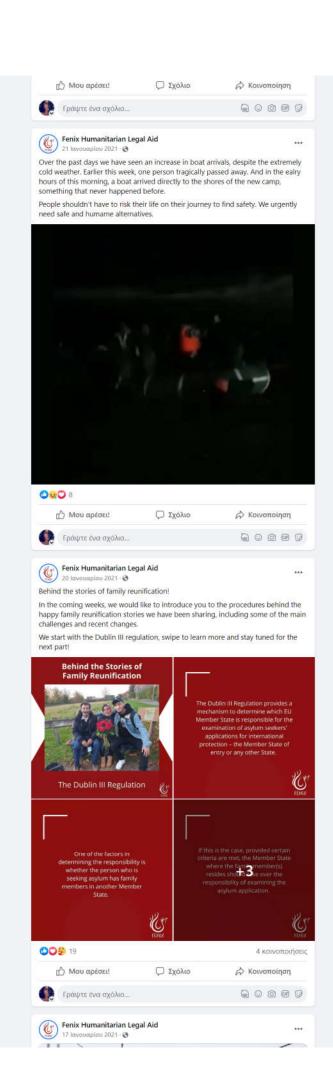
Read the full statement on our website (in Greek)



lead concentration in mavrovouni camp

Σταματήστε να παίζετε με τις ζωές ανθρώπων: επείγει η διασφάλιση της υγεία.









A Press Release with impact:

On the 11th of January, and for the first time in 4 months, the Regional Asylum Office of Lesvos would begin notifying asylum applicants of first instance rejections, and would also start accepting appeals against these decisions. However, the procedure was restarting without the guarantee of state free legal aid. This lack of free legal aid is detrimental to the effectiveness of the asylum procedure, and violates the rights of applicants.

Together with eight other legal organizations, we called on the Regional Asylum Office to suspend the notification of first instance rejections and the corresponding submission of appeals until the Minister of Migration and Asylum guarantees that applicants will have access to free legal aid from the Register of Lawyers of Asylum Service.

This had an impact: the notification of first instance rejections has been suspended, until free legal aid is guaranteed.

Read the full press release on our website:



lack of state free legal aid for asylum applicants in Lesvos: press release



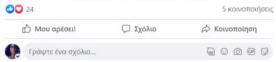


We are proud to share with you our 2020 Activity Report!

Despite the challenges of 2020, our teams have not stopped - even for a day - the provision of services. Instead, we have adapted and expanded our services, increased the size of our team, and deepened our expertise. Read all about our projects, growth and impact in the report:

https://www.fenixaid.org/activtity-reports







The end of a challenging year!

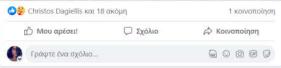
We look back at 2020, an extremely challenging year for the entire world. This year has been particularly difficult for those who ended up on Lesvos in search of refuge, after fleeing war and persecution. They have faced innumerable challenges, such as attacks by local groups, the constant threat of Covid-19, months of lockdown, the burning down of the Moria camp and the construction of the new camp with conditions equally bad or even worse than before. All of this adding onto and exacerbating the already difficult living conditions.

Today marks the end of this year, but not the end of the challenges faced by asylum seekers on Lesvos. Our wish for the new year, and something we will keep fighting for, is to see a European asylum system that treats people with dignity and upholds their rights.

A big, big thank you to all of you for supporting our work this year, and here's to our work having more impact in 2021!

ph. David Pichler







To those celebrating, the Fenix team wishes you a very Merry Christmas, filled with joy, love and peace.





Fenix is now a registered charity in Amazon's charity list. This means that every time you order something on Amazon, you can do so by logging in through Amazon Smile, selecting Fenix LTD as your chosen charity and part of the purchase's cost will be donated to Fenix. This holiday season remember that with ZERO COST for you, you can support asylum seekers, living in horrible conditions in Lesvos, access much needed legal, protection and psychological aid

Support Fenix Ltd.

When you shop at **smile.amazon.com**, Amazon donates.

Your current charity

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Fenix Ltd

Location: South Bend, IN

Mission: We fight for the basics: legal assistance,

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Refugees in Greece: risk of homelessness and destitution for thousands during

Winter has officially started and thousands of refugees and asylum seekers face homelessness and destitution in Greece. This winter will be more challenging than ever, due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the decrease in support. Together with 72 other organizations, we call on the Greek authorities to prevent homelessness this winter and to present a long-term sustainable strategy for integrati... $\Delta \epsilon i \tau \epsilon$



