# Interest Group on Migration and Refugee Law



## NEWSLETTER No. 7 (October 2015)

### CONTENT:

- Elections for new Coordinating Committee
- Even more new members
- Publication: on human rights violations & Frontex, and on refugee protection in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Call for papers: "Blurred Boundaries' and "Crimmigration"
- News from around the world: #RaysOfHope

#### REMINDER / WEBSITE

For the members who haven't done so already, please write a short profile (max. 100 words) for the website of the IG.

The website of the IG is migreflaw [dot] wordpress [dot] com. If you have interesting content (a call for papers, a blog or publication, an event), or any questions regarding this newsietter, please send an email to e.t.w.vanroemburg [at] uva.nl.

#### NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

The Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights has launched the social media project #RaysOfHope in which he intends to promote positive initiatives in favour of refugees. Read it here.

For more news, click <u>here</u>.

#### BLOG? PUBLICATION?

Any member who wants to publish a blog or bring a publication to the attention of a wider audience, please let us know! We will post it on the website (which has had more than 15,000 clicks) and in our newsletter.

### **ELECTIONS FOR A NEW COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

The current Coordinating Committee has governed the ESIL Interest Group for Migration and Refugee Law for the past two years. According to the By-Law on the Governance of ESIL Interest Groups, elections are to take place every two years. Elections for a new Coordinating Committee will therefore be organized. Members interested in taking up a position on the Coordinating Committee are invited to nominate themselves. The deadline for nomination is 30 October 2015. Once the nominations are in, centralized elections will take place through the ESIL secretariat.

Members who wish to nominate themselves are asked to send an e-mail to Isabelle Swerissen (I.Swerissen@uva.nl).

### MORE MEMBERS JOIN ESIL INTEREST GROUP

In Newsletter No. 6 (July 2015), it was reported that the ESIL Interest Group on Migration and Refugee Law expanded from 37 to 107 members. It is with great pleasure that the Coordinating Committee can report that even more members have joined the Interest Group; there are now 143 members! New members will shortly receive an email from the Interest Group's chairperson to formally welcome them.

An up-to-date list of members can be found on the website of the Interest Group.

### **PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS**

Izabelle Majcher has written an article focusing on the question of accountability of the European Union border control agency Frontex for potential human rights violations that may occur in the course of its operations.

You can read the article here.

Cristiano d'Orsi has written a book that examines the specific characteristics and challenges of the refugee situation in Sub-Saharan Africa, offering a new and critical vision on the situation of asylum-seekers and refugees in the African continent.

You can find more information here.

# CALL FOR PAPERS

The University of Graz is organizing a Workshop entitled 'Blurring Boundaries: Human Security and Migration' on 26 and 27 November 2015. Academics and practitioners are invited to submit abstracts (max. 300 words) on a theme related to the topic of the workshop, together with a short bio. The deadline for submission is 15 October 2015. Please note that travel and accommodation costs will not be reimbursed.

More information can be found here.

For the third CINETS Conference, held 6-7 October 2016 in Maryland, USA, the organizing committee has now published a call for papers. The deadline for submission is <u>1</u> November 2015. The items of the conference are:

- 1. Federalisms and sovereignties
- 2. Technologies and control
- Borders, enforcement and detention
- 4. Trafficking and forced migration

More information can be found here.

The Interest Group on Migration and Refugee Law (MigRefLaw) is one of the interest groups of the European Society of International Law. The IG focuses on the law and policy of states and international organisations with regard to people who seek entry to their communities. The movement of people across borders is a defining reality of our time. This IG aims to provide a forum for discussion on the the legal principles and processes governing the movement of people as well as their reception in host communities. By doing so, the group hopes to build a shared knowledge base among ESIL members interested in migration and refugee law.