The following document presents testimonies of illegal push-backs where displaced people are expelled into the Bosnian territory from the borderlands and interior of Croatia and Slovenia. All testimonies are gathered from oral interviews via a standardised framework used by the grassroots organisations working in Velika Kladuša.

NOTE: All names have been changed with the respect to anonymity of those who have been interviewed.
## REPORT [1]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH-BACK – DENIED ACCESS TO THE ASYLUM PROCEDURES - DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED - ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group was caught by the police in the inner Croatian land, close to Vinica (viz. approximate location below). The violent incident happened by the Croatian border with Bosnia, nearby Sturlic (viz. approximate location below).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Victims          | Number of victims: 18. Interview was conducted with 1 group member in English.  
Names: Ali (interviewed)  
Country of origin: Afghanistan  
Age: Ali is 20 years old.  
Minors in the group: 3 minors involved (16-17 years old)  
Sex: Males |
| Date and time    | The men were caught by the Croatian police 31/08.  
Push-back and violent attack by the Croatian police happened 01/09, around 1-2 am. |
| Details          | Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes  
Documents signed: No. |

Approximate location where the group was caught by the Croatian police.
The whole group of 18 men left Sturlic (BiH) 29th August and walked to Croatia. They paid between 200 and 300 euros each to a smuggler, who supposed to pick them up by a van from the prearranged point in a forest close to Vinica (Croatia) and transport them to Trieste (Italy). The men crossed the Road number 1 and after, the Road 42, and hid in a forest to wait for a smuggler.

The group spent one night in the jungle [forest]. The following day around 3 pm, a man appeared close to them, wearing casual clothes, and signalling them to come out of a forest to enter a van that would transport them to Italy:

“This man said to us: “Come, come, come. We are not police and no police is coming. We will take you to Italia.” Ok, so we went to the car. When we were inside of the car, he said to us: “Wait until the next car is coming.” Ok, we were waiting. But two or three minutes after, we could hear some voices and could see the men who had guns. And this man told us: “Sit down here, we are police”, but they did not have uniforms, they did not have police ID cards. We were sitting for one hour on a road, it was raining heavily, while he called to the police station” (Ali).

Then, 3 police officers arrived at the place. They stripped all the men naked and frisked their bodies. They told all men to give them their money and phones and did not return them back. Ali told me that the policemen stole from him 1000 euros and from other each man between 50 to 300 euros.

“They [police] asked who has money who has phones. All of boys gave him telephone and money. And when we got to the border, we asked to give my mobile phone, but they said no. This is business for the Croatian police” (Ali).

Then, the police took them to a police station, but Ali did not remember its location because they were transported by a car with no windows. At the police station, Ali and other men told the police that they wanted to apply for asylum in Croatia. But the men were only investigated for the purposes of identification a smuggler within their group. They were refused to access the asylum procedures:

“We all asked for asylum in Croatia. They said ok, no problem. When we came to the police station, they asked who could speak English, me and my friend also could speak English. They asked us who was a smuggler, how much money, all of information I gave them. Also, he was searching through my phone my pictures and saying, “this is your smuggler”, but I was saying, “no, no, this is my brother”. When they finished the information, they said to me go” (Ali).

Following the investigation at the police station, the men were transported by a van to the Bosnian border (Sturlic) for their deportation. There was one driver in white clothes in the car and five police “commandos” in black clothes. Ali told me that the journey to the border was difficult because there was almost no oxygen inside of the van and the car was driving very fast, turning from one side to another that the men kept falling from their seats.

When the men arrived at the border, Ali asked the police to return them their phones and money, but the police refused. After that, the black suited police officers told the men to leave the car three by
three. When three men were outside of the car, the officers started verbally threatening them and physically attacking them by kicks and metal batons while pushing them back to Bosnia:

“When we were being deported at the border, I said, “give me my mobile and give me my money back”. He [police] said, “No, go!”. The police said three persons to come out of the car. We came outside and they created a circle and we were in the middle and they were beating us. And after it finished, another three persons. They were beating us outside of the car, three by three. They had very bad behaviour, telling us: “Go! Fuck you!”, like this, “Pichko Matre” (Ali).

After the violent push-back, the men slept one night rough in Sturlic, and after walked back to Velika Kladusa.

Ali told me that he wanted to return back to Serbia now because there was no accommodation for him in Bosnia, which makes the transit difficult especially over the winter. He also told me that he could not try to go to Europe now because he paid his last money to a smuggler whom he lost contact with now:

“I was calling a smuggler, but the phone was off. And I cannot find where that smuggler is, if in Bosnia, Serbia, Bihac, Velika Kladusa, I don’t know. This time we don’t have anymore money. I cannot call my family for more money. They do not have work in Kabul and they are poor” (Ali).

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

Six Croatian male police officers. One wore white clothes (the driver), and other five who were physically attacking the men were in black uniforms. Ali could not see the faces of the men because it was dark.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

3 men got injured their back and legs, and had visible blue marks on their body cause by the attack by kicks and metal batons (viz. medical report by Medecines Sans Frontiers below).
PHOTOS OF INJURIES

Recorded interview by No Name Kitchen, Velika Kladuša (BiH), 01/09/18
**REPORT [2]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH-BACK – DENIED ACCESS TO THE ASYLUM PROCEDURES - DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED - ROBBED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The family went to the asylum accommodation centre in Zagreb, asking for help to apply for asylum. Then, they were transported and held at a police station in Zagreb and after deported to Bosnia, close to Velika Kladusa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 4. Interview was conducted with the father of the family in English. Names: Anonymous Country of origin: Afghanistan Age: 2 – 30 years old. Minors in the group: 2 children involved, one 2 years old and other 4 years old. Sex: Males and females.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>The family was detained in a police station 01/09. They were deported from Croatia to Bosnia 02/09, around 2 am.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: No.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT**

The family of four, including two small children, hired a smuggler, whom they paid 3500 euros in total for the transport from Bosnia to Italy. The family firstly walked from Bihac (BiH), crossed the border to Croatia, from where they were picked up by a car and taken to a forest area nearby Zagreb, where they supposed to wait for other car transport. The family was waiting in this forest for two days. The did not have enough food, water and warm clothes, and it started heavy raining. Once the father of the family got in touch with the smuggler, he was told by him to go to the city centre of Zagreb to apply for asylum. The smuggler said to the father that they were safe to apply for asylum in Zagreb because of their family status that would ensure them their asylum procedure. Smuggler also told them that his other clients – 12 single men – also applied for asylum in Croatia and their procedure was positive, so that the family did not have to worry.

The family went to the asylum centre, whom father called Pinica, and asked the staff whether they could help them to access the asylum procedures and accommodate them. But the staff called the police, who transported the whole family to a police station. The family arrived at the police station around 9 pm. The family stayed in the police station until 2 am. The police took photo of them and took their finger prints. According to Josef, one police man and one police woman were acting aggressively towards him and intimidating him in front of his wife and children. A police officer also
tricked the family, when he said to them that they could access the asylum procedures but instead, the family was deported back to Bosnia:

“I was sitting on the chair, and the police kept kicking into that chair and shouting at me: “What is your name? Where did you come from?”. They kept laughing at me, saying, “oh yeh, everyone is coming from Bosnia now. Fuck you!”. They were using very bad words. I said to them that I wanted to apply for asylum in Croatia. But they said to me, “no asylum for you.” But other police officers said to me: “ok asylum for you, just wait.” But they deported us back” (Josef).

The whole family was transported by a van to the Bosnian border, close to the official border checkpoint in Velika Kladusa, around 2 am. The police told them to get off the car and after stole from them 100 Bosnian Marks (the last money they had) and their mobile phones. Following that, the offers shouted at the whole family to go back to Bosnia.

Josef told me that his small children were tired and called and scared of the police throughout the whole time of the deportation. The family lost all their last money and now do not have any other way how to proceed further to Italy, where they want to apply for asylum. They also lost their place in the formal asylum accommodation centre “Hotel Sedra” because they left the centre for more than three days, so now, they have to temporarily live in the makeshift camp in Velika Kladusa.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

One male and one female Croatian police officers were acting aggressively towards the father at the police station (Zagreb, Croatia).

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

None.

Recorded interview by No Name Kitchen, Velika Kladuša (BiH), 02/09/18
REPORT [3]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group were caught by Croatian police on the Croatian/Slovenian borderland near Rijeka (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred near Poljana on the Croatian border with Bosnia (see Figure 1 &amp; 2). Approximate coordinates: 45°13'50.1&quot;N 15°55'17.8&quot;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>01/09/2018 07:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: YES Documents signed: NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1:** Red pin represents approximate location of initial contact and capture by Croatian police. Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence.
The group of migrants, consisting of 20 Pakistani males, walked on foot into Croatia from the Bosnian border near Sturlic. They travelled for three days through the wooded mountains of Croatia, moving eastwards, crossing the motorway no. 1 near to Slunj, and heading north east towards Rijeka.

On the outskirts of the town (where the highway leads to the immigration crossing to Slovenia) the group were spotted crossing some open woodland by police. From a side road two officers dressed in black commando uniforms approached the group and ordered them to stop. The officers aimed handguns at them and shouted at them to sit down. The entire group complied with this instruction and sat while the officers checked their bags, pockets and removed all their possessions. This included 500 euros, all phones and powerbanks.

Members of the group tried to communicate with the police in english, asking for asylum. The police, however, ignored this request and told them to “shut up”. As they were being searched one victim asked again for the chance to claim asylum. The police officers was in the process of frisking him and took from his pockets his BiH White Paper (15 day preliminary asylum seekers card). The officer told him,

“no asyl(um), you have papers in Bosnia... you go back to Bosnia”.

However, the officer withdrew the victims White Paper and did not return it during, or after the incident.

One van was brought at the request of the officers and all 20 men were loaded into the back, despite the lack of space and adequate breathable air. They were driven for approximately five hours in the van, with no food or water. When the van stopped the 20 men were held in the back with the doors closed for some minutes. Then an officer in a sky blue shirt and navy trousers opened the back doors, summoning the men out in groups of three. The men exited the van and were received by a corridor of police on either side, nine in total (all dressed in the
blue shirt and navy trousers of the Croatian border police. The attachment also had one dog, a large german shepherd tethered to one officer which barked at the victims.

Once out of the van, the officers present beat the victims over the head with police issue batons and kicked at their legs with steel toe capped boots. The three victims interviewed describe how they received blows to the arms, legs, torso and head. Last to leave the van were the two minors (aged 12 and 14). They were not beaten, but as the witnesses describe, the boys were forced to watch and listen to the cries of the eighteen others who were attacked by the police.

When the attack had finished the police told them to leave (threatening them all the way) and the men crossed into Bosnia. They walked in the rain, rejoining the road to Velika Kladusa between the villages of Glinica and Poljana. It took them four hours to return to the camp, at which point they were tired and soaked from the rain. The three victims interviewed assert that this incident was just as bad, if not worse, than some of the previous beatings they had suffered.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The two officers who initially apprehended the group (and began the illegal pushback) were dressed in black commando uniforms and used police issued handguns to threaten the victims. At the border with Bosnia a group of nine Croatian border police officers were present, wearing blue shirts and navy trousers (along with several cars and one dog). All of the perpetrators used physical violence against the men and stole their belongings.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

All the adults (minors were excluded from direct physical violence) had sustained temporary impact injuries and pain from the incident. The victims were also in shock from the intensity of the assault and exhausted from walking in the rain. The group were interviewed at night and stated they would attend the doctor in the morning to receive medical assistance.

PHOTOS OF INJURIES

N/A

Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa, 02/09/2018 at 20:00.
### REPORT [4]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The police caught the group outside Karlovac, Croatian interior, south of the Slovenian border (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred near Poljana on the Croatian border with Bosnia (see Figure 1 &amp; 2) Approximate coordinates: 45°13’50.1&quot;N 15°55’17.8&quot;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 7 (interview with three group members) Names: Anonymous Country of origin: Syria and Algeria Age: Young males between 16 - 24 yrs. Minors in the group: 3 (16, 17 &amp; 17) Sex: MALES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>01/09/2018 02:00am.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: YES Documents signed: NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Figure 1:* Red pin (Karlovac) is approximate location of capture. Grey pin (Poljana) is approximate location of violence and illegal pushback.
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The victims travelled on foot in a group of seven from Velika Kladusa, walking directly north into the Croatian interior. After walking for two days the group were moving through an area of rural/suburban woodland near to Karlovac when they were spotted from a nearby road by a police patrol vehicle (white jeep). Two officers in black jumped out of the car while the driver waited inside the vehicle. The two officers, dressed in black commando uniform, shouted to the group to stop. The seven victims complied with this instruction and waited for the police to arrive to their position.

The police shouted at them to sit down and began to search all of them. They stole all their belongings, including bags, jackets, mobiles, money and powerbanks. They also removed all white papers (Bosnian documents), which they did not return. The victims asked for the opportunity to make an asylum claim, but the police told them "no", and said that they had to go back to Bosnia.

A small van was brought to the roadside and the seven people were loaded into the back. The vehicle took approximately an hour to deliver them to a rural border location, during which the men remained in the dark with inadequate ventilation. Here the back of the van was opened and the group were summoned out. Aside from the initial police, 6/7 more officers were waiting outside, all dressed in black.

The group were told to stand while the police searched them again, in spite of having all their belongings taken at their initial seizure. When it became apparent that one member of the group, a 17 Algerian male, still had a mobile phone in his pocket, the police began to shout at him in Croatian. He pleaded with them politely, asking them not to take it. But the officer closest to him used the reinforced heel of his boot to deliver a harsh blow to the victims upper foot (see images below). The officer also delivered a strong blow to the right eye socket/cheekbone area which left the victim bruised, and his sight temporarily affected.
When all the group had been searched, the police told them to walk down into the small stretch of stream (a gully/tributary leading from the Glina). When all the group were stood in the ditch, the officers told them “heidi” and as they walked began to strike them with batons from the bank. Some officers jumped down lower to kick and strike the victims across the back as they tried to escape across the stream and into Bosnian territory. See images below for baton strike across the kidneys, consistent with these blows delivered from behind.

The victims crossed into Bosnia and knew from previous push backs that they were located around 20km from Velika Kladusa. They did not arrive back to the town till early morning, having no money for the bus.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

Three officers, dressed in black commando uniform, performed the initial capture. They drove a white jeep and participated in the theft of belongings. Six/seven officers were engaged in the violence at the border near Poljana. They were also uniformed in black commando clothing and used police issue batons, foot stamps and kicks to the injure the party of seven.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

All of the seven were victims of violence. The 17 year old picture below received contusions to his right eye socket, severe bruising and temporary impairment to his sight. He also sustained painful bruising to his left foot. The other picture displays a mark left from a baton strike delivered to the back of one victim, the skin was broken by the force of the blow and the area of tissue swollen. The group had not received any medical treatment for their injuries. They arrived back on the weekend when MSF were not present in the camp, and the local hospital could only treat in cases of emergency. Thus the victims had not received any triage or pain relief.

PHOTOS OF INJURIES
Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa, 03/09/2018 at 15:00.
### REPORT [5]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Caught by Croatian police near the Slovenian border (see Figure 1) Border violence and pushback occurred 25km north of Bihac (see Figure 1 &amp; 2). Approximate coordinates: 44°55'21.3&quot;N 15°43'35.2&quot;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 8 (interviewed was conducted with one minor, aged 16) Names: Anonymous Country of origin: Pakistan Age: 16 - 25 Minors in the group: 1 (16 years old) Sex: MALES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>31/08/2018 2:30am.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: No Documents signed: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1:** Red pin represents the approximate location of initial capture. Grey pin represents the approximate locations of the violence and pushback.
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The party of seven young males and one minor, travelled on foot through woodland in the lead up to this incident. The group passed from Bosnia into Croatia via the border near Sturlic. They walked in a westerly direction towards the town of Slunj, and from there followed the highway no. 1 northwards. Approximately 10km from the Slovenian border, the group were observed by a police unit travelling in a car.

Two officers dressed in black approached them and shouted at them to stop. The group complied with the instruction. They were then told to sit down and wait. After around 15 minutes a combi-style police van arrived and all eight men were loaded into the back. They were delivered to a nearby police station where their names were taken and belongings removed.

The group spent an hour there, but signed no documents nor gave any fingerprints. Despite their requests, they were not given any food or water. After an hour at the station, the group were again loaded into the van and driven for around 1:30 hrs. The van was driven erratically and the lack of oxygen in the back made all the members of the group feel sick.

The combi stopped and was reversed into a parking position, still with all eight people inside. As the back door opened, they found a row of police either side of the van (six in total), all dressed in black commando uniforms. The eight individuals held in the back of the combi were summoned out one by one. At this point the corridor of police proceeded to beat them with forceful overhead strikes, using police issue batons.

It was during this attack that the minor recieved severe impact wounds to his right eye and eye socket. The injury was sustained from a baton strike delivered from a diagonal plane downwards onto the victims face, consistent with the overhead assault being applied by the lines of police. The individual described how he was attacked from all sides with almost a 6:1 ration.
At the border the police did not return any of the groups belongings which had been initially confiscated. This included money, mobile phones and powerbanks. The group signed no documents, nor gave any fingerprint despite asking the officers for asylum. To this the police only replied “shut up” or “no”.

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS**

The group were initially apprehended by two officers in black commando uniform who performed the theft of belongings. At the border, 6 more officers were present and participated in the violent assault of the group. They were also dressed in black commando attire.

**INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT**

The minor interviewed received severe bruising to his right eye area and socket. Others in the group were also the victim of impact wounds due to heavy blows delivered from regular police batons. The victims received no treatment for the injuries sustained.

**PHOTOS OF INJURIES**

Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa on 03/09/2018 at 20:00.
# REPORT [6]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Group were caught by police in the Croatian Interior near motorway no. 1 (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred 5km south of Sturlic on Croatian territory (see Figure 1 &amp; 2). Approximate coordinates: 45°01'47.8&quot;N 15°45'31.6&quot;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 35 (Interview was conducted with 1 adult male, Pakistani) Names: Anonymous Country of origin: Pakistan (32), Nepal (3) Age: 16 - 37 Minors in the group: 4 (2x 17, 2x 16) Sex: MALES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>02:00 27/08/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: No Documents signed: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: Red pin represents approximate location of initial capture by police. Grey pin represents approximate location of violence and pushback.
**DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT**

The group concerned walked on foot, travelling into the Croatian interior from the border near Sturlic. After three days of walking the 31 adult males and four minors were following the dense woodland that sits to the side of motorway no 1. It was approximately 02:00 and the road was very dark, so the group were unaware that they had been observed until two police officers approached them shouting. The officers were dressed in blue uniforms and pointed guns and torchlights at the group.

The 35 members of the group were ordered to approach the roadside where they found an unmarked police car. There the police shouted at them to sit down. They then waited approximately an hour, guarded by the two officers, until two combi vans arrived. In the vehicles were ten Croatian police dressed in black commando uniforms. They got out and after discussing with the two initial officers on the scene, the police began to systematically search the men and remove their belongings.

Once this had been carried out, the victims were loaded into the two combis and driven south down motorway no. 1. The journey took approximately two hours. By this time the men and children were sick from lack of ventilation and the cramped conditions in the back of the combi.

The journey ended as they were delivered to an unknown border location. The two vans stopped and the victims were held inside until officers opened the back doors. At the rural site, unfamiliar to the group, the 10 police dressed in black were waiting. The sun was coming up and the victims judged it to be around 05:30.

The police officers beckoned them out one by one and proceeded to beat them heavily with regular batons. At one time, each victim was exposed to baton strikes and kicks from ten officers. The group sustained injuries to their torso and head, as well as across their forearms as they tried to protect themselves.
The man interviewed was also manhandled by the officers and shot at from close range with a pistol loaded with rubber bullets. The victim was shot in the side of the head with causing abrasion and swelling to his right ear and temple. Alongside this, he suffered severe bruising to his left midriff, caused by impact from the police batons which created contusions on his upper torso.

As each man was beaten individually, the attack took up to 30 minutes. After this they were shouted at by the officers to walk back to Bosnia. None of their possessions were returned apart from the broken phones. The group crossed the border and walked for an hour back to Sturlic where locals helped them with a bus fare back to Velika Kladusa.

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS**

The arresting officers were dressed in blue shirts and performed the initial seizure of the group near motorway no.1. After this, ten officers in black commando uniforms arrived on the scene, participated in the theft of belongings and conveyed the victims via combi to the border where they were brutalised individually with batons and shot at with rubber bullets.

**INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT**

The size of the group means it is difficult to account for all the injuries sustained during this attack, however it can be said that most suffered temporary bruising and impact injuries from the assault with police batons.

The man interviewed received medical treatment for his gunshot wound. The rubber bullet fired at the side of his head cause severe bruising, and impaired the victims hearing. He was administered restorative medicative cream for this and the bruising to his intercostal muscles (left ribcage). The doctors recommended he rest for 15 days and lie only on his back. At the time of interview the victim still could not sleep because of the pain, neither could he lie on his side. See medical report pictured below.

**PHOTOS OF INJURIES**
Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa on 03/09/2018 at 21:00.
## REPORT [7]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - DENIED FOOD AND WATER - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group were caught by Slovenian police near Obrov, 10km south of the border with Italy (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred near Poljana (Croatia), on the border with Bosnia (see Figure 1 &amp; 2). Approximate coordinates: 45°13'01.2&quot;N 15°55'50.2&quot;E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Victims          | Number of victims: 10  
Names: Anonymous  
Country of origin: India (5), Nigeria (4), Ivory Coast (1)  
Age: 18 - 38  
Minors in the group: No  
Sex: MALES |
| Date and time    | 03/09/2018 16:00 |
| Details          | Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes  
Documents signed: Yes |

**Figure 1:** Red pin represents the approximate location of initial capture. Grey pin represents the approximate location of pushback and violence.
**DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT**

The group of 10 men had walked for two weeks before they were caught on Sunday evening (2nd Sept). Four officers dressed in blue apprehended the men near the town of Obrov. They wore Slovenian police uniforms and two withdrew pistols from their holsters to threaten the group, telling them to stop.

The men were told to sit down while they were searched and all belongings were taken. Then the group were conveyed, by police van, to a highway border (around half an hours drive from the point of initial capture).

The men were brought out of the van in early evening. They had been transported to a motorway border crossing, on the frontier between Slovenia and Croatia. On the Slovenian side the men were processed in a police station, giving their names and photographs to the officers (as well as nationality, paternal name and age). When they asked about asylum they were told simply “no”.

After this the Slovenian police escorted them in silence across the tarmac customs area, handing them over to a detachment of Croatian border police (identified by their lapels) who wore blue uniforms.

In the custody of the Croatian police, the group were taken immediately to a container by the side of the border crossing. The room was unfurnished, with only one toilet and the men were locked in it overnight without food and water. One member described how he had to pay from his own money (which had already been confiscated) for the Croatian police officers to buy them something from the shop.

In the morning they were woken and taken outside onto the concourse of the border crossing. A Croatian police combi vehicle was waiting for them and they departed at approximately
10:30. All ten men were loaded into the back, despite the lack of space and breathable air. The van drove for around 5 hours, by which point all of the group were feeling physically sick.

“Everyone was vomiting”

They were brought out at a border location to the east of Velika Kladusa. The rural spot was familiar to some of the men from previous pushbacks from Croatia. At the border the police told them to walk back to Bosnia. One of the group asked for his phone to be returned but the officer simply took it and broke it in front of him by removing the battery and scratching the contact point for the sim (irreparable damage seen pictured below). To another victim, the officers took 100 euros that had been seized and tore it in half in front of the men. At this point it was around 16:00 and the group had too walk late into the night, without the money for a bus back to VK.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The arresting officers in Slovenia were four men dressed in blue uniform. The participants in the handover at the border were from both Slovenian and Croatian police. The later conveyed the group to the border with Bosnia and enacted the illegal pushback and damage of property.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

No direct physical injuries were affected by violent means, but the group were kept overnight in a cell with inadequate food and water, transported in the unventilated trunk of a combi and suffered damage to their property (mobiles pictured below).

PHOTOS OF INJURIES

Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa on 05/09/2018 at 12:20.
## REPORT [8]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group were caught by Croatian police near Rijeka (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occured on Croatian frontier near Poljana/Glinica (see Figure 1 &amp; 2). Approximate coordinates: 45°13'00.5&quot;N 15°55'52.0&quot;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 11 (interview with three group members) Names: Anonymous Country of origin: Pakistan Age: 15 - 41 Minors in the group: 3 (15,16, 17) Sex: MALES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>03/09/2018 23:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Figure 1](image.png) **Figure 1**: Red pin represents approximate location of capture. Grey pin represents approximate location of pushback and violence.
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group concerned in this incident were made up of nine men and two minors. They had walked for five days before their capture near the Croatian town of Rejika. They were observed by police in a semi-rural area on the east of the town at around 11:00 on the 2nd September ‘18.

Two officers dressed in blue Croatian police uniforms approached the group from a parking area near some industrial units. The police shouted at them to stop and the group complied. The police officers searched and confiscated the men, taking all their possessions (incl. Mobiles, money, bags and powerbanks).

After an hour two white combis were brought and the group were divided between the two. The nine men were put in one vehicle and the other three minors were put into a separate combi. They were driven to a nearby station.

When they arrived they were taken into a room to be processed. Each man had a photo taken and gave his name, age and nationality (no fingerprints were taken) on a document that he was then ordered to sign. The men asked for asylum in Croatia but the police just told them to “shut up”. The group did not insist further because the police were shouting at them, but some of the older men asked again on behalf of the minors. The police told them again to be quite and ignored the request for the children to request asylum.

When it came to the time for the underaged boys to be processed the police became angry again. The sixteen year old child was asked to give his date of birth and when he signed it as 2002 the officers began to shout at him. They told him he was lying and said directly to him that he must sign his year of birth as 2000. All three youths were registered as adults in this way, despite being 15, 16 and 17.
The processing took around two hours, with the men all held in one room while the minors were coerced into changing their age. After this they were moved into an adjoining cell for some hours. During this time they were given no food or water.

At around 18:00/19:00 the group were led from the station and loaded into one combi (note that at this stage, all the group members were now listed as adults and thus contained in one vehicle). The drive took around 5 hours and upon arriving at the destination the men were unloaded at a rural spot on the Croatian frontier.

The three men interviewed described how four boys had vomited on the journey because of the lack of oxygen and the heat. When asked, they described the experience as:

“Punishment”.

At the border four officers in blue came out of the front cabins of the combis and told the group to walk towards Bosnia. When the men and children asked for their belongings back the police laughed and gave back a plastic bag containing their confiscated mobiles. When the group received them, they realised that the devices had all been put into water and were irreparably damaged.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The arresting officers were dressed in sky blue and were made up of 4 men from Croatian detachment close to Rijeka who participated in the theft of belongings. The processing officer in the station was dressed in the same uniform and participated in the misrecording of the childrens ages. At the border a further four officers delivered the men to the frontier near Poljana and enacted the illegal pushback.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

Four men vomited during the punishment in the combi vehicle where the victims were deprived of adequate space and oxygen for over 5 hours.

PHOTOS OF INJURIES
Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa 05/09/2018 at 13:00.
# REPORT [9]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The family were caught by Croatian police 4km from Luvica (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred near Maljevac border crossing on Croatian frontier with Bosnia (see Figure 1 &amp; 2). Approximate coordinates: 45°12'02.3&quot;N 15°47'57.0&quot;E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Victims          | Number of victims: 3  
(interview was with father of the family, Syrian male, 26)  
Names: Anonymous  
Country of origin: Syria  
Age: 26, 26 & 1  
Minors in the group: Yes (infant girl aged 1 years old)  
Sex: MALE and FEMALES |
| Date and time    | 07/09/2018 at 06:00 |
| Details          | Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes  
Documents signed: No |

**Figure 1:** Red pin represents the approximate location of initial capture. Grey pin represents the approximate location of pushback.
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The family of three had been walking through the Croatian countryside for seven days. The father and mother took it in turns to carry the one year old daughter who was too young to walk.

At dawn on the 07/09/2018, the family were walking near to the town of Lucica. It was twilight, around 03:00, and the three moved on a track that ran round the village. From the shadows a man dressed in civilian clothing (jeans and jacket) stood up from a chair and ordered them to halt. The family stopped and he approached, showing them a Croatian police badge. The man told them to wait while a police car was brought. The family asked for asylum, but the officer ignored them. The father told him he would do what was needed for an application and that the police could take their fingerprints. But the officer only replied “no”.

After fifteen minutes a standard white patrol car arrived with two officer dressed in black driving the vehicle. The men conversed with the plainclothes officer and then the family were loaded into the back and driven for approximately 2 hours. They arrived at the border near to the road crossing of Maljevac which permits traffic into V.Kladusa. They were taken out of the car in an abandoned area near the Glina and told to walk back to town.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The arresting officer was a plainclothes official dressed in jeans and jacket. The two officers that arrived later on the scene were black uniformed commando officers. They enacted the illegal pushback near Maljevac.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

No injuries were sustained directly from the police involved. Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van, V. Kladusa on 07/09/2018 at 10:45.
## REPORT [10]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group were caught in the Croatian interior, 10km south east of Rijeka (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred near Maljevac, on the Croatian frontier with Bosnia. Approximate coordinates: 45°11'54.8&quot;N 15°47'54.1&quot;E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Victims          | Number of victims: 4  
(interview conducted with one member, aged 41)  
Names: Anonymous  
Country of origin: Iraq  
Age: 35 - 46  
Minors in the group: No  
Sex: MALES |
| Date and time    | 06/09/2018 at 00:30 |
| Details          | Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes  
Documents signed: No |

---

**Figure 1:** Red pin represents the approximate location of initial capture. Grey pin represents the approximate location of pushback and destruction of property.
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group, made of four Iraqi men, had walked for several days in the wooded hills of the Croatian forest. They were travelling on foot towards the town of Rijeka, following a B road. It was late on Wednesday evening (5th Sept) and the group were passing through an industrial area with several workshops and factories.

The man interviewed described how they passed a house which sat next to a large factory for the production of aluminium. A sensor light was triggered on the building and shone onto the men. At this point a dog began to bark nearby and alerted by the sound, a man dressed in civilian clothing came from the building. He told them to stop and wait with these words:

“Stop, Croatian Police!”.

The man in civilian clothing told them he was a police officer, but at no point did he show them any identification papers. The four men complied and sat by the roadside. After a short time one patrol car and one combi vehicle arrived on the scene. The patrol car had two officers inside, the combi was driven by one. They all wore the sky blue shirts and navy trousers of the Croatian police.

The four victims were then searched and had all their belongings taken. This included bags, phones, powerbanks, food and money. While the police officers conducted this seizure of items the man interviewed asked several times for asylum.

The victim told them:

“*We respect you, (but) we have war in our country (Syria)*.”

To this the police replied:
“You are illegal”

When the victim asked again the police became angry and told him to be quite. They also asked the members of the group where their smuggler was. The men replied that they were just walking alone but the police did not seem to believe them. After being frisked and having their effects removed, all four men were loaded into the back of the combi and two officers drove them back to the border with Bosnia.

After approximately 4.5 hours in the back of the combi (with no light, or adequate oxygen) the group were unloaded at the Croatian side of the border near the road crossing of Maljevac. At the rural area to the side the police took the mobiles they had confiscated and walked towards the men. The officers looked through the GPS points on the phones and then broke them with a single forceful strike with their batons. Only then did they return the belongings to the men.

It was the middle of the night and the group asked which way to walk back to VK. The Croatian police told them to walk through the woods and sent them in a south easterly direction, meaning it took them double the time to arrive back to the camp.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The civilian who stopped the group in the interior near Rijeka was dressed in casual clothing and came from an adjoining residential building next to an aluminium factory. He did not provide any police identification, though he addressed the group as an officer.

The three officers arriving on the scene were dressed in sky blue Croatian uniforms. All three participated in the denial of asylum rights. Two also conveyed the group to the border.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

The group sustained respiratory issues and sickness from the journey in the combi. Their phones were also damaged irreparably.

PHOTOS OF INJURIES

### REPORT [11]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The individual was caught by Slovenian Police in Ljubljana. He was then transferred to a closed camp in the city, before deportation to Croatia and subsequently to Bosnia (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred near Sturlic, on Croatian territory (see Figure 2) Approximate coordinates: 45°03’54.5”N 15°44’39.3”E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victims</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of victims: 1&lt;br&gt;Names: Anonymous&lt;br&gt;Country of origin: Afghanistan&lt;br&gt;Age: 36&lt;br&gt;Minors in the group: No&lt;br&gt;Sex: MALES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05/09/2018 (no time given)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes&lt;br&gt;Documents signed: Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1:** Red represents the approximate location of initial capture by Slovenian Police. Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence from Croatia (into Bosnia).
Figure 2: Represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence on the Croat-Bosnian border.

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The victim in this case travelled alone and was first arrested in the Slovenian interior on 16/08/2018. Having already been processed and fingerprinted in Slovenia he was brought to a police station and then transferred to an open asylum centre on the edge of the capital, Ljubljana.

At this stage the individual was able to resume his asylum status in Slovenia and having signed some documents, was given a temporary asylum card. The man stayed in the open facility for nine days.

On the following Monday (27th) at around midday, the individual was walking through the centre of Ljubljana. He was spotted near the bus station by Slovenian police. They immediately arrested him, despite the individual explaining his asylum status (and that he was in fact staying in the asylum facility).

The man describes how he was taken to a closed detention centre, where he was kept for ten days. On the 05/09/2018 the man was taken by Slovenian police and driven by car to the border with Croatia. Here, he was handed over on foot by two officers to a combi van parked on the Croat side of a motorway customs area.

The victim then spent around 6 hours in the back of the combi, until arrival at the border crossing near Sturlic, Here the police, four Croatian officers dressed in sky blue shirts, were waiting for the combi. As he exited the van they beat him with police issue black batons. They hit him for several minutes and then told him to make his own way back across the border.
INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The arresting officers were Slovenian Police, operating in the capital Ljubljana. They participated in the denial of asylum rights. Further to this, the Croatian border police participated in the transfer and beating of the victim on Croat territory.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

By the time of interview physical marks sustained from the attack had disappeared. Aside from this the victim had also suffered the containment punishment in the combi.

PHOTOS OF INJURIES

N/A
Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa on 08/09/2018 at 19:00.
## REPORT [12]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>The group was caught by police in the Croatian countryside a short distance west from Velika Kladusa (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred near the smaller road border into VK (see Figure 2). Approximate coordinates: 45°10'22.8&quot;N 15°46'03.6&quot;E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Location         | Number of victims: 5 (interview conducted with three family members)  
Names: Anonymous  
Country of origin: Afghanistan  
Age: 9, 12, 17, 22, 44  
Minors in the group: 3 (9 year old girl, 12 year old boy, 17 year old boy)  
Sex: MALES & FEMALES | |
| Victims          | Date and time  
08/09/2018 at 01:00 |
| Details          | Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes  
Documents signed: No |

**Figure 1:** Red pin represents the approximate location of initial capture. Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence.
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group concerned in this incident was made up of a family of three (father, son and daughter), alongside one unaccompanied minor and a young adult male. All of the victims were from Afghanistan. The group travelled on foot in the rain through Croatian woodland inland from the border crossing near Sturlic.

The weather conditions made it hard to navigate in the dark, especially with the difficult terrain. The group became lost and were forced to retrace their steps. As a result they were forced to sleep a night in the mountainous forests, as they did not know in which direction to proceed.

Later the next day they had reoriented themselves and were walking along a single gravel track some way further into the Croatian interior. From a large road that crossed the track they were observed by a patrolling Croatian police car. They tried to stay in the edge of the woodland, but the police called to them loudly “come out!”.

They were brought to the roadside, searched and had all their belongings removed. The police were made up of two officers dressed in black. They ignored the requests the father of the children made for asylum. Instead they asked the 9 year old girl:

“Where is your mum? Where is your mum?”

They kept repeating this until she replied truthfully that her mother was in France. The father described how the police officers immediately leapt on this and told the family:

“Oh, so you want to go to France?”

The police used this as a way to ignore their right to asylum. Rather, they continued to rob the group and humiliate them. The two officers in black commando uniforms took their mobiles, powerbanks and around 300 euros. Finally another officer in blue Croatian uniform arrived and loaded them into his combi vehicle.
The children described how there was no light, or oxygen inside and five were cramped in the back feeling sick for the whole journey. The vehicle delivered them back to the road border between Croatia and Bosnia on the NW side of Velika Kladusa. They were pushed out onto the tarmac next to the customs office. The officers told them to get moving, but did not give them any of their belongings back.

The father of the two children approached them politely and asked for them to return his sons mobile phone. The officers reacted angrily to the request and drew an electric rod to assault him. They dispatched several blows to the back of his legs, causing immense pain. The man described how it hurt, even though he was wearing three pairs of trousers (against the rain and the cold). The children were forced to watch as their father was beaten on the concourse of the border crossing. Then the family of three, the unaccompanied minor and the young male walked back into Bosnia, with all their possessions stolen.

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS**

The arresting officers were dressed in commando black and participated in theft and denial of asylum rights. The third officer in blue Croatian uniform participated in the tortured confinement of the combi. At the border all three performed the pushback. The officer who assaulted the father of the children was one of the commandos dressed in black.

**INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT**

The injuries left no marks because they were inflicted by electroshocks. However, all the family members testified to feeling physically sick and nauseous after the trip in the combi.

**PHOTOS OF INJURIES**

N/A

Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa on 09/09/2018 at 12:30.
REPORT [13]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The was caught by Croatian police near Rijeka, north west Croatia (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred on the Croat-Bosnian border near Poljana (see Figure 1 &amp; 2). Approximate coordinates: 45°12'55.2&quot;N 15°55'49.4&quot;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 6 (interview one young adult male) Names: Anonymous Country of origin: Pakistan Age: 18 - 32 Minors in the group: No Sex: MALES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>09/09/2018 at approximately 22:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: Red represents the approximate location of initial capture. Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence from Croatia (into Bosnia).
Figure 2: Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence on the Croat-Bosnian border.

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group made of six young Pakistani men had been walking for a week in the woodland of the Croatian interior. On the Sunday evening (9th Sept) the victim described how he and the others were stopped by two officers. The men, dressed in black commando attire, rounded a parked car and walked towards the young men shouting at them to stop.

The group complied and waited as the police officers searched and removed their belongings. A combi vehicle was summoned and used to convey the men approximately 10km to a station in the suburbs of Rijeka. At the station the men were brought into an office and each was ordered to sign a deportation paper (including names, ages, nationalities and a photograph of their faces). In the station the men asked to claim asylum in Croatia. They asked the police to make an application that evening. But the police replied as follows;

“(you can ask for asylum) in Zagreb yes, but we are not in Zagreb”

The men were held in an adjoining cell for around 2 hours before being driven the 5 hour journey back to the Bosnian border. They travelled in the back of a combi with no light, or adequate ventilation. Already tired from walking, the confinement made the group feel very sick.

Eventually they arrived at a rural border area which the men knew to be the area of Croatian frontier opposite from the Bosnian town of Poljana. Four officers waiting in the sky blue shirts of the Croatian police were waiting for them. The police took them from the van and told them to walk towards Bosnia. When they asked about their telephones the officers replied by taking a bag containing the devices and breaking them in front of the men individually using a standard issue black police baton to smash the screens. Then the items were returned and the men returned to Bosnia.
INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS
The two arresting officers were dressed in black commando uniforms and participated in the theft of belongings. The officers at the station in Rijeka participated in the denial of access to asylum procedure and conveying of the victims in a confined space (combi). Meanwhile at the border the four officers dressed in blue from the border police engaged in the illegal pushback and damage of property.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT
No visible wounds were inflicted, only sickness induced by the journey in the combi.

PHOTOS OF INJURIES
Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa on 10/09/2018 at 12:50.
**REPORT [14]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group was caught by the Croatian police in the interior (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred on the Croatian border, 10km from Bihac (see Figure 1 &amp; 2). Approximate coordinate: 44°53’27.1”N 15°45’08.0”E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 9 (interview was conducted with two young males from the group with the aid of an arabic translator) Names: Anonymous Country of origin: Syria Age: 18+ Minors in the group: No Sex: MALES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>10/09/2018 at 21:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Figure 1: Red represents the approximate location of initial capture. Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback from Croatia (into Bosnia).*
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group concerned in this incident was made up of nine Syrians. They had been walking for four days at the point which they were captured. Having reached around 100km into the Croatian interior they were observed walking in some light wooded area at approximately 5pm on Monday (10th Sept).

They were initially detected by two officers dressed in black. They ordered the men to stop and sit down. Within ten minutes many more police arrived on the scene. The victims identified two combis and a patrol car. There were five police dressed in sky blue uniforms and another eight in black commando uniform.

The group were frisked and had all their belongings removed. The men asked for asylum several times, but their requests were totally ignored or responded to with shouting from the officers. From the roadside they were loaded into one of the combis (all nine people in 1 vehicle). It drove them for around 2.5 hours.

When the van stopped, the back doors were opened and the officers told them to go. The group asked about their possessions, but the police took the phones from the car and broke them with batons in front of their owners.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

Two officers were involved in the initial capture, they were dressed in black commando uniforms and participated in the denial of access to the asylum process. A further eight commando officers were laterly present, as well as four sky blue border police. They were further involved in the theft and damage of the victims property. As well as the inhumane treatment by the transfer of the migrants in a combi (inadequate space, air and light).
INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT
The group suffered nausea from the journey in the combi, but no direct physical wounds. Their phones were also broken during the incident.

PHOTOS OF INJURIES
## REPORT [15]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group was caught by the Croatian police 20km into the interior from V.Kladusa (see Figure 1). Pushback occurred near the road border of Maljevac (see Figure 1 &amp; 2) Approximate coordinates: 45°12’00.2”N 15°47’49.3”E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 5 (interview was conducted with two members of the group) Names: Anonymous Country of origin: Syria Age: 16 - 25 Minors in the group: 1 (16) Sex: MALES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>11/09/2018 at 23:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1:** Red represents the approximate location of initial capture. Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence from Croatia (into Bosnia).
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group walked together in the woodland of the Croatian countryside for one full day. At night they were camped with the little possessions they had, approximately 20km into the interior. The men had made a small fire to keep off the cold, but a police officer detected the flames and a patrol arrived at their location.

At a nearby track, two cars pulled up, carrying six officers in black commando uniforms. They shouted to the men:

“sit down and shut up”.

When one of the members of the group asked the police for asylum the reply was as follows:

“No, you go (back to Bosnia)”.

The eight men and one minor had their bags and pockets checked. The six officers worked to remove all their belongings. Then the group were loaded into a combi and driven for fifteen minutes. When they were unloaded from the van they realised they were back at the Maljevac crossing from which they had departed.

The officers told them they must now walk back into Bosnian territory. At this point the police returned their mobiles, but they kept the power banks, headphones and cables they had taken.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The initial capture and denial of asylum rights was conducted by six Croatian police officers dressed in black commando uniforms. They also delivered them in the confinement of the combi and enacted the illegal pushback into Bosnia.
INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

No outward injuries, but motion sickness was induced by the journey.

REPORT [16]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group was caught by Croatian police near to Zagreb (see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred near Glinica (see Figure 1 &amp; 2). Approximate coordinates: 45°12'51.8&quot;N 15°55'50.4&quot;E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Victims                | Number of victims: 10  
Names: Anonymous  
Country of origin: Pakistan  
Age: 19 - 51  
Minors in the group: No  
Sex: MALES |
| Date and time          | 12/09/2018 at 22:50 |
| Details                | Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: No  
Documents signed: No |

**Figure 1:** Red represents the approximate location of initial capture. Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence from Croatia (into Bosnia).
Figure 2: Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence on the Croat-Bosnian border.

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of Pakistanis, including one elderly male, had been travelling on foot for several days in the Croatian interior. In some loose woodland near to the southern suburbs of Zagreb the men were observed by police.

The first thing they knew about it was a flashlight aimed at them through the trees. Moments later a man began to shout at them to stop. This was followed by two loud gunshots. The victims describe how the handgun was aimed and fired just over their heads. The report of the weapon was deafening.

The group sat and waited for the officer to reach their position. He was dressed in a blue uniform and continued to aim the gun at them threateningly. The officer asked the men;

“What are you doing here?”

He said this in a menacing way and some in the group thought that he was about to shoot at them again. The interviewee describes how they “treat us like animals” and that they repeated to the officer present:

“We don’t want to hurt anybody”

The officer ignored them. More police arrived on the scene within around 20 minutes. They came with one combi vehicle and two police vans for transporting officers. The men were searched and had their phones, money and powerbanks seized. From the three new vehicles, there were ten additional police. They were all dressed in blue Croatian uniforms.
The group were not taken to the station, but loaded into the back of the combi. The man interviewed described how it was dark and that the officer holding him shoved him towards the back doors of the combi. The policeman shouted:

“Get in!”

To this the victim replied:

“Sir the back doors are locked, I can’t get in. What are you doing with me?”

In response, the officer pushed the individual against the back doors and kicked him forcefully in the ankle. After this the doors were opened and all ten men were put in the back. The journey took around 2 hours. After about 30 minutes the group were all feeling sick from the lack of space and oxygen. One man knocked on the grill that connects the drivers cabin to the rear of the combi. He wanted to attract their attention and get some air for the other men who were vomiting.

The van stopped after a few minutes, drawing up onto a slope at the side of the road. The men heard the passenger door opening and then heard the back doors opening. But they had not arrived at the border. Instead the police officer aimed a canister of pepper spray into the back of the combi, causing the men to choke and cry. The man nearest to the door received burns to his skin from the intensity of the assault.

The doors were slammed and the combi continued on towards the Bosnian border. When it stopped again the men were unloaded at a rural spot near the Glina river. The ten officers in blue and four in black commando attire made a circle around the back of the van.

When the doors were opened, each victim was summoned out one by one. On the ground in the middle of the circle the police threw a plastic bag full of broken phones. As the individuals dismounted the rear of the combi, the police asked them individually to find their personal mobile amongst the others in the bag.

As soon as each victim bent or stooped to look into the bag, the circle closed in on them and the police beat them over the heads with black batons. The men were kicked as they tried to find their balance. The man interviewed describes how even those who didn’t attempt to bend down to find their phone were beaten just as badly.

When asked if the group had tried to claim asylum the man interviewed described how if you made any questions about asylum:

“He (Croatian Police) start to box with you.... If anyone talks, they start to beat”

After fifteen minutes of beating, the men were told by the officers to go. The police pushed them towards the river and across into Bosnian territory.
INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The initial captor was a single male officer of the Croatian police. He had reinforcement from ten colleagues who arrived on the scene with two vans and a combi. At the border there was a further four black commando police who participated with the others in the brutalisation of the group.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

All the group sustained severe contusions to the head, torso, legs and arms. The journey in the combi also induced vomiting. The most pronounced injuries are photographed below and a diagnosis is included here to detail the treatment given on their return at the NNK Field Clinic:

Patient 1 - Strong blow with major bulging in forehead and nose area. Blows and wounds to the legs and arms. Burns on arms and hands caused by pepper spray. General pain.
Treatment: Oral analgesics, regenerative ointment for burns, local application of anti-inflammatory ointment/analgesics. Recommended applying cold to forehead and nose, along with rest.

Patient 2 - Multiple burns on the face caused by pepper spray. Multiple wounds on the hands and around the eyes. Several splinters stuck in the hands. Visible blows to the back, neck and ribs. Generalised pain.

Patient 3 - Visible bumps with severe swelling in arms and legs. Generalised pain.

Patient 4 - Severe swelling in the external malleolus of the fibula bone with severe inflammation.
Treatment: Local application of anti-inflammatory/analgesics. Bandaging of the area and recommended rest.
PHOTOS OF INJURIES

(Photos courtesy of NNK field nurse)

REPORT [17]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED – ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group was caught by Slovenian police, 10km into the interior (from the Croatian border - see Figure 1). Border violence and pushback occurred near Glinica (see Figure 1 &amp; 2) Approximate coordinates: 45°12’44.3”N 15°55’45.0”E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 14 (interview conducted with single male, Pakistani, 27) Names: Anonymous Country of origin: 5 Pakistanis, 7 Iranians, 1 Indian Age: 17 - 60 Minors in the group: 2 (17, 17) Sex: MALES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>18/09/2018 at 01:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: Red pin represents the approximate location of initial capture in Slovenia. Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence from Croatia on the border near Glinica (into Bosnia).
Figure 2: Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence on the Croat-Bosnian border.

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The respondent in this case described how the group of migrants were captured in the Slovenian interior, around 10km from the Croatian border. The fourteen people, of whom one was an elderly Pakistani man and two were minors, walked on foot through the woodland. After several days travel they were crossing a stretch of gravel parking and were approached by a lone police officer.

It was dark (evening of the 16th Sept) and the group could not see the officer very well. But the men could hear him shouting and he spoke to them aggressively in English, telling them;

“Lie down or I shoot!”

The group complied and waited on the ground as the officer circled them (continuing to aim his pistol at them). The officer then called for further police and after some minutes a van arrived with two more officers. The group were searched (all their belongings removed) and then loaded into the police van which delivered them to a nearby station.

At the station the Slovenian police forced them to sign deportation documents (all in Slovenian). The men had no access to a translator and when they asked for asylum in Slovenia the police officers present simply ignored them. Two minors were present in the group but the police coerced them into signing as adults.

The group gave their fingerprints and details and after around 6/7 hours they were brought from the station and taken by van to the border. The respondent describes how the Slovenian police drove them and led them across the concourse area of a large road crossing (between Slovenia and Croatia). At the other side, Croatian police were there to receive them and took them immediately to some makeshift cells made out of containers.
The men asked for asylum again, but as with the Slovenian police, the Croatian officers simply ignored the request. The officers, dressed in sky blue border uniforms, processed the migrants by taking their names and ages. Again when the two minors stated that they were 17, but the officers forced them to sign that they were older (shouting at them “motherfucker!”).

They were locked in a cell all together for around ten hours. The group passed the night with no food or water. As such the men were forced to pay the police to buy them something to eat. For water they had to drink from the toilet in the cell.

After the confinement the fourteen males were loaded into one combi (Croatian van) and driven for 4 - 5 hours. The journey made them all feel sick because of the heat, the lack of air and the cramped space.

Once the combi stopped, the group were unloaded at a rural border spot by a stretch of river. By now it was past midnight (the capture and pushback spans three days, 16th - 18th September) and the group were frightened, tired and sick. The back of the combi was opened and they saw four officer stood waiting. They wore blue Croatian border uniforms and black masks over their faces. The victim describes how:

“You could just see the eyes”

The officers beckoned them out one by one and began to beat them. Two more police officers joined from the side of the car. During the beating one officer shot his pistol into the air (just above the victims head). Once the victims were out on the ground the six officers circled groups of two or three migrants and beat them heavily with their batons.

One Iranian man was summoned from the van near the start of the violence. The police offered him a plastic bag full of broken phones and as soon as he held out his hands to take it the officers began to strike him heavily and shout at him. The minors were also beaten alongside the adults and one of the seventeen year old boys lost his shoe during the assault.

None of their possessions (aside from the broken phones) were returned. The victim interviewed had his medical certificates, personal paperwork and family contacts stolen. He had a very good level of spoken english, so requested for the items back. When the police heard him they refused to return the belongings, but he described how they stopped hitting him because;

“If they know someone can speak english they don’t beat that person because they (the Croatian police) know they can pass the information (about the border violence)”
INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The arresting officer was a Slovenian official, who threatened to shoot the victims. His colleagues at the station the participated in the denial of access to asylum and doctoring of information (age of minors).
The Croatian border police who received the initial deportation then replicated the above crimes. Further to this they kept the group in inhumane conditions without food or water and then conveyed them by combi (confinement torture).
At the border, Croatian border police, dressed in sky blue with black masks, participated in the pushback, violence and threatening via gun.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

The group all sustained motion sickness from the journey and severe exhaustion from food deprivation in the cell (confinement for over 24hrs).
The pictures below detail the injuries sustained by one of the victims to his ankle. Skin abrasion and bruising are detailed, as a result of kicking and horizontal blows from black police batons (used by Croatian forces on the border near Glinica).

PHOTOS OF INJURIES
### REPORT [18]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Incident</th>
<th>Pushback - Denied access to asylum procedures – Deportation - Verbally threatened – Attacked by police dogs (physical violence) - Torture via confinement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group was caught by Croatian police near Rijeka.. (see Figure 1). Pushback occurred near the Maljevac crossing (see Figure 2) Approximate coordinates: 45°11'47.9&quot;N 15°47'42.4&quot;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 4 Names: Anonymous (interview was conducted with one male, aged 40) Country of origin: Pakistani Age: 16 - 40 Minors in the group: 1 (16) Sex: MALES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and Time</td>
<td>19/09/2018 at 18:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1:** Red represents the approximate location of initial capture. Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback and violence from Croatia (into Bosnia).
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The four victims were apprehended by Croatian police near to Rijeka as they attempted to walk out of the northern suburbs into a village. The incident began when two people dressed in civilian clothing (adult males) approached the migrants and shouted at them to stop. The victims were scared and started to run from the unidentified men. But the two aggressors had some dogs leashed nearby and quickly set the alsatians after the group. The dogs barked and ran at them, snapping and growling (as instructed by the shouts of the two Croatian men). Several times the animals jumped at the men, snapping violently at their heads.

The civilians called the police and a combi was brought, along with two other cars. In total there were eight police, six in black commando uniforms and three in sky blue border wear. The four men were collected in the combi and driven north. They knew this because when they were unloaded twenty minutes later they were at the Slovenian-Croatian border. At the border they were put in a container on the Croatian side and processed. The officers made them sign papers with their names, ages and nationalities, and then took photographs of the men holding the respective sheets.

One victims described how he did not want to sign the deportation paper, and that he requested again and again for asylum. The refugee told them either that;

"Or you shoot me!"

But the officer just laughed and signed the paper for him with his own hand. Aside from this the police also documented the minor at 18+, crossing out the DoB he had written that recorded his actual age as 16. During the ordeal the men asked several times for the opportunity to claim asylum. At one point one of the younger officers was trying to listen to the boy, but his superior, an older man interrupted his colleague and told them that they were all to be deported.
After around an hour at the station the men were again loaded into the combi and driven for around 5 hours. On arrival the group were taken out of the combi and told to walk by the officers waiting there (two in black and three in sky blue). They were on the Croatian side on the frontier near the border crossing of Maljevac. In this incidence, they were returned their belongings and ordered to leave Croatian territory.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The perpetrators initially consisted on two civilian informants who assaulted the group by setting dogs (alsatians) on the migrants. The denial of asylum rights occurred on the Slovenian and Croatian border (enacted by Croatian border police). The torture via confinement was carried out by two officers dressed in black who drove the combi, and at the border a further 5 Croatian police sanctioned the pushback.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

None sustained that left marks. But the group were sick from the journey in the combi.

PHOTOS OF INJURIES

Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa on 20/09/2018 at 16:40.
# REPORT [19]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Incident</th>
<th>PUSH BACK - DENIED ACCESS TO ASYLUM PROCEDURES – DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED - TORTURE VIA CONFINEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group were caught by Croatian police on the Croatian border with Slovenia (see Figure 1). Pushback occurred near Poljana (see Figure 2) Approximate coordinates: 45°13'02.7&quot;N 15°55'36.0&quot;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 7 (interview conducted with one woman and one man, both +18) Names: Anonymous Country of origin: Syria Age: 17 - 26 Minors in the group: 1 (17) Sex: 2 females, 5 males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>25/09/2018 04:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1:** Red represents the approximate location of initial capture on Croatian border with Slovenia. Grey pin represents the approximate location of the pushback from Croatia (into Bosnia).
**DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT**

The group of seven Syrians, including a set of siblings of whom one was a minor, walked for four days in the Croatian woodland. Their interaction with the police began near the Croatian border with Slovenia. The group were walking beside the river that marks the frontier and were observed by Slovenian officials from the far bank.

The border police shone torches and shouted at them to go back. Soon after, a squadron of Croatian police caught them and transported them to a police station. The group asked for asylum but the police officers simply ignored the request. After one Syrian male began to insist one of the officers just shrugged and said:

“I don’t know”

The officers took their names and details and forced them to sign deportation papers (including forcing the minor, a seventeen year old female) to sign as an adult. When the group questioned this the officers started to shout and harass her. They hurried the process by shouting;

“Name, photo and go!”

After this the group were kept in two separate cells, one for men and one for women. The duration of their time in the station was around six hours, most of which was spent in these cells. The victims described them as unventilated boxes with no windows (around 2 metres x 2 metres). There was only one single bed in the rooms, and not enough space for the victims to lie or sit comfortably.

Finally they were taken by combi (for around 5 hours). The journey was sickening because the stuffy air and heat. The group were unloaded at a rural border spot leading down onto a steep section of the Gina river. The officers pushed them out and told them to walk back to
Velika Kladusa. It was just getting light and they walked all morning, only arriving in the early afternoon back to the camp.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The arresting officers were from the Croatian border police (sky blue), but it is likely they were aided in their detection of the group by the Slovenian border guards who shouted at the victims from the river marking the border.

The officers at the station participated in the doctoring of vital information, denial of asylum rights and inhumane detention.

The police at the border near Poljana (sky blue border officers) participated in finalising the illegal pushback and torture via confinement in the combi.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

No marks were left. But all sustained motion sickness and exhaustion from confinement in cell and combi.

PHOTOS OF INJURIES

N/A

Oral interview taken and transcribed by Balkan Info Van in V.Kladusa on 21/09/2018 at 11:35.
**REPORT [20]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH-BACK – DENIED ACCESS TO THE ASYLUM PROCEDURES - DEPORTATION – PHYSICALLY ATTACKED – DESTROYED PHONES - ROBBED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>The men were caught in Croatia, close to the Slovenian border. They were deported to the Bosnian border, 20 km away from Velika Kladuša.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Victims</strong></td>
<td>Number of victims: 4. Interview was conducted with one group member with the help of a translator from Arabic to English. Names: Farhan Country of origin: Iraq, Algeria, Syria Age: Farhan is 37 years old, and others in the group are between 26 and 32 years old. Minors in the group: No Sex: Males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date and time</strong></td>
<td>The group was deported back to Bosnia 23/09, around 2 am.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Details</strong></td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: No.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT**

The group of 13 men, walked from Velika Kladuša (Bosnia), and crossed to Croatia, where they separated. Farhan continued walking with other three men through the Croatian land. When they were close to the Slovenian border, in a forest, they were detected by 3 Croatian police men in blue shirts. Two of Farhan’s friends tried to run away, but the police caught them. Police officers then physically attacked all the men, hitting them by batons to their back and face, broke their phones, and stole their money:

“They [Croatian police] stopped us and started beating us, at the Slovenian border. They broke our phones and stole our money, 200 euros from me. When the police broke my phone, and stole my money, and now I cannot talk with my wife and children. From who my wife can find money for me that I can continue my trip? I had an idea to go to Europe and work and send my family money and after, take them to Europe, but now ... it is not the first time, this is the second time, that the Croatian police beat us and steal our money” (Farhan).

Farhan tried to speak out and ask for asylum in Croatia, but the police did not let him to say anything. When he tried to speak out, he received a hit by a baton from a police officer. All men were put into a van to be deported back to Bosnia, without any opportunity to access the asylum procedures. On the way to the border, the van stopped in several police stations to pick up other people for their deportation back to the Bosnian border. The van stopped 20 km away from Velika Kladuša, but Farhan did not remember the exact location because he did not have his phone to see GPS and it was late night to see the place around.
Around 2 a.m., the van stopped by the Bosnian border, and the police told all people to get out of the vehicle and go back to Bosnia:

“The police told us to quickly go and don’t change the direction, “Quickly, quickly, go!”, they said to us. I was crying for one hour afterwards in a forest. I was not crying about money and phone but because I felt desperate. I do not remember the phone number of my family, so I cannot call them” (Farhan).

Farhan cried in the end of the interview while explaining to me his fear of coming back to Iraq, where the situation is dangerous for him and his family would be disappointed from his journey that was for nothing:

“I want to go back to Iraq, but I have nothing. If I go back to Iraq, my family will ask me what I have been doing for one year when I was out of my country and now coming back with nothing. For the first time when the police caught me and broke my phone, and for one month I have not spoken to my wife and family, and now I cannot support them. My children keep asking about me, but I cannot talk with them ... Now, I come back with nothing, and lost my job. I was a policeman in Iraq. I never ever beat anyone. I am human and person, we are similar, I cannot do anything to anyone” (Farhan).

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

Three Croatian police officers, wearing blue shirts. Farhan did not remember any further details:

“In the night, when the police beat you, you cannot remember. You are scared and afraid” (Farhan).

PHOTO OF FARHAN’S INJURY

Recorded interview by No Name Kitchen, Velika Kladuša (BiH), 23/09/18
REPORT [21]

Type of incident
- PUSH-BACK – DENIED ACCESS TO THE ASYLUM PROCEDURES
- DEPORTATION – PHYSICALLY ATTACKED – DESTROYED PHONES – ROBBED

Location
The group was caught in Slovenia, 10 km far away from Italy. The men were deported to Sturlic, where they were attacked by the police.

Victims
Number of victims: 5. Interview was conducted with one group member in English.
Names: Ali
Country of origin: Pakistan and Afghanistan
Age: Ali is 24 years old, and others are 23, 21, 18 years old.
Minors in the group: Yes, one minor involved (17 years old)
Sex: Males

Date and time
The group was deported back to Bosnia 13/09, in the night.

Details
Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes
Documents signed: No.

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

Ali and other 4 men were walking for ten days from Velika Kladuša, through Croatia and Slovenia. When they were in the inner Slovenian land, 10 km away from the Italian border, they were detected by the Slovenian police officers. The police took the men’s power banks, chargers, money and from few mobile phones. They told Ali that they would return their possessions back to them later, but they did not. After that, the men were transported by a van to a police station in Slovenia, where they were detained for 24 hours. In the police station, Ali asked for asylum in Slovenia, but the he got the response: “In Slovenia, asylum is closed”.

The next day, Ali and his friends were transported by a small car from Slovenia to Croatia. They were handed over to the Croatian police in the Croatian land and then transported by a big van to the Croatian border police:

“The Croatian van was very big. There were no windows, it was criminal car. The car was driving very fast, some people were vomiting. Sometimes, there was oxygen and sometimes it was closed. There were two fans. But this is very pressure” (Ali).

Close to the Bosnian border, the men were once again moved from the van to another van of the Croatian border police, who was in charge of their deportation back to Bosnia. The van stopped close to Sturlic (Bosnia), and five border officers told the men to get off the van. Firstly, the police broke the men’s phones, by a pistol. Then, the police started physically attacking them:

“They [police] made a row. Three [officers] standing on the right site and others on the left site. They said to us two people to come out of the car and once they were out, they closed the car,
and they were beating us while we were walking through that row. And after, another people. With rubber stick beating. They were beating me to my back and front site. They don’t care where, they just beating ... They said to us: Do not come back, not come back!” (Ali).

Ali has been stranded in Bosnia for four months and during this time, he has tried to reach Europe five times. But always got beaten, robbed, and deported back to Bosnia.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

Five Croatian border police officers, wearing black clothes.

PHOTOS OF ALI’S BROKEN PHONE

Recorded interview by No Name Kitchen, Velika Kladuša (BiH), 23/09/18
REPORT [22]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH-BACK – DENIED ACCESS TO THE ASYLUM PROCEDURES - DEPORTATION – PHYSICALLY ATTACKED - ROBBED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group was caught in the Croatian inner land. The men were deported to a forest close to the official border check-point in Velika Kladuša.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 5. Interview was conducted with one group member in English. Names: Mehdi Country of origin: Morocco Age: Mehdi and his other friends were between 16 – 29 years old. Minors in the group: Yes, one minor involved (16 years old) Sex: Males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>The group was deported back to Bosnia 21/09, in the night.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes. Documents signed: No.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

Mehdi and his five friends were walking for three days from Velika Kladuša, through Croatia. Mehdi told me that the walk was difficult as they run out of food and water and he had a headache throughout the journey. When they were inside of Croatia, in a forest, they were caught by the police. The police asked the men whether they were Muslims, and when they said yes, they started acting aggressively towards them and physically attacked them by batons, followed by administering them electric shocks:

“They [police] started beating us, bump, bump, bump. They had electric shock. I said why you do that because this place is Europe and you don’t do that. Understand, I am a man like you, I am not an animal. He [police officer] said to me that I am an animal. He [police officer] used the electricity and also baton” (Mehdi).

Mehdi tried to ask the police whether he could apply for asylum in Croatia, but the police threatened him to not to speak otherwise they would beat him more. After that, the men were locked inside of police car and transported to the Bosnian border. The van was driving fast, so that the men were falling from one side to another.

They reached the Bosnian border, a forest closed to the official border check-point in Velika Kladuša, in the late night. The police who was deporting the men back to Bosnia was a special commando, 9 men, wearing black clothes. According to Mehdi, by the border, the police stole the men’s phones and attacked them once again while pushing them back to Bosnia.
Mehdi had cuts on his hand caused by the electric shocks administrated by the police. He tried to seek a medical support in the local hospital in Velika Kladuša, but got refused without paying 20 Bosnian Marks fee, so he treated his wound by himself, provisionally sewed his open wounds (viz. photo below).

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

Nine Croatian border police officers, wearing black clothes.

PHOTO OF MEHDI’S INJURED ARM

Recorded interview by No Name Kitchen, Velika Kladuša (BiH), 23/09/18
# REPORT [23]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH-BACK – DENIED ACCESS TO THE ASYLUM PROCEDURES - DEPORTATION – DESTROYED PHONES - ROBBED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The group was caught in Slovenia, in Rijeka (viz. map below). They were deported to the Bosnian border, close to the official border check-point in Velika Kladuša.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 5. Interview was conducted with one group member in English. Names: Rahesh Country of origin: Pakistan Age: Rahesh is 26 years old and others, and others between 15 – 18 years old Minors in the group: Yes, two minors involved (15 and 16 years old) Sex: Males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>The group was deported back to Bosnia 24/09, 2.30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rijeka, red mark on the left side of the map, is the place where the men were detected by the police.

**DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT**

Rahesh and other four boys, including two minors, walked for six hours from Bihac to a small town in Croatia, where they were picked up by a car (smuggler) who supposed to transport them to Italy. If they reached their destination, they would each pay 2.000 euros to a smuggler, in total 10.000 euros.
Rahesh explained to me, that he did not believe there was another option for him to reach asylum in Europe than through a cooperation with smuggling networks due to no legal transit to Europe. When they were driving through Rijeka, the car was stopped by the Slovenian police.

The police officers questioned Rahesh and other boys why they came to Slovenia and according to Rahesh, they used abusive language. Then, Rahesh and others were transported to a police station in Rijeka. At the police station, Rahesh asked the police whether he could apply for asylum in Slovenia, but one officer just responded: “For Muslima no asylum”.

Rahesh told me that the driver of a car (smuggler) was only charged by 2,200 euros and then released:

“It is a business, Croatian business. Catching refugee, not a taxi driver. Only 2.200 fine for the driver, and the lawyer, but the driver is free now. No jail, nothing” (Rahesh).

Then, the men were transported by a van to Croatia, and from there to the Bosnian border. Rahesh told me that he had a problem to breathe inside of the van because the police had used an irritant spray inside of the car before the men entered and closed them inside of the van:

“They used spray, oxygen problem, I had eyes problem in the car. They sprayed and closed the door. We were vomiting because of oxygen problem” (Rahesh).

According to Rahesh, the van stopped in several police stations to pick up more people for their deportation back to Bosnia. When they reached the Bosnian border, the police told the men to get off the van. Firstly, the police broke the men’s phones, stole their money, and after physically and verbally attacked them:

“They took expensive mobiles into their pockets, and normal mobile broke. They took 100 euros from me. They beat us, men, hard, saying to us to go to Muslim man country, that they do not have space in Europe. “This is not for you Europe, go to Muslim man country!” they kept repeating to us. No human rights. Where is the European Union? Where is the European people? All is blind. I am Muslim, but I read in the Bible and in the Bible is written, respect the humanity and the human rights. I respect the Bible, but Croatian police do not respect Muslims or Christians” (Rahesh).

Rahesh and other people who were being deported, including 7 women, had to walk in the night in cold back to the camp in Velika Kladuša.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

Six Croatian police officers in blue uniforms.

Recorded interview by No Name Kitchen, Velika Kladuša (BiH), 25/09/18
**REPORT [24]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH-BACK – DENIED ACCESS TO THE ASYLUM PROCEDURES - DEPORTATION – DESTROYED PHONES – PHYSICALLY ATTACKED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>Caught by the police in a small town in the Croatian National Park Plitvicka Jezera (viz. approximate location map below). Physically attacked by the Croatian-Bosnian border, unknown location.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Victims</strong></td>
<td>Number of victims: 4. Interview was conducted with one group member in English. Names: Isak Country of origin: Isak is from Palestine and other 3 men are from Libya. Age: Isak is 28 years old and the others are between 24 and 32 years old. Minors in the group: No Sex: Males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date and time</strong></td>
<td>The group was attacked and deported back to Bosnia 27/09, 1 pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Details</strong></td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approximate location where Isak was detected by the police.
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

Isaak told me that he met a Bosnian man, “agent”, who offered him a transport by a car from Croatia to Italy for 700 euros. The men promised to Isaak to firstly take him by a car close to the Bosnian-Croatian border, from where Isaak would walk for 20 min to an arranged point in the Croatian National Park, where the man would later pick him up and drive to Italy.

Isaak explained to me that he decided to choose illegal option of border crossing because he did not think there was other way of reaching protection. He told me that all his efforts of legal transit in the past failed when he firstly applied for the US visa from Gaza but got rejected with an explanation that he was not qualified enough, although his English was at the level of a native speaker and he was a College graduate. Then, he applied for visa to Turkey for two times, but again, he was rejected:

“My life has been full of rejections, so I said ok, I need to go illegal way because there is no legal way for me” (Isaak).

The agent picked up Isaak in Bosnia, Bihac, and drove him to the Croatian-Bosnian border:

“Before he left me in that point [border], he asked me for money for oil [petrol]. Then, I showed him how much money I had. I had 60 euros in my wallet. He snatched it from my hand and told ok, walk, don’t worry, just 20 min. I will find you in the park, we will go to Italy directly” (Isaak).

Isaak kept walking to the arranged point in a forest, but no car was waiting for him there. Although he kept calling the agent, he could not reach him via phone and his phone run out of battery. Isaak kept walking in a forest, but later decided to sleep and continue in the morning because he got lost and could not see anything in the dark night:

“I cannot describe how freezing it was that night because, I guess it was under zero, my whole body was shivering. I did not have a sleeping bag or anything because according to that man’s offer, he would take me after 20 min. In that time, I did not think I would need a sleeping bag with me. It was freezing, it was entering in my bones. At 5 o’clock, I started to move again” (Isaak).

In the next morning around 11 am, Isaak reached a small town in Croatia, where he wanted to charge his phone and get in contact with the Bosnian agent. But he got detected by a local Croatian old man, who called the police. When Isaak noticed two police officers in blue uniforms arriving in a civil car, he tried to hide behind a van on the street. He could hear one police officer asking a local boy whether he could see a migrant around, that they were searching for him. Isaak thinks that a boy was scared to lie so he pointed behind a van. The police officer walked behind the van where Isaak was hiding, shouted at him: “What are you doing here?”, and gave him several kicks into his legs. Then, the police frisked Isaak’s body and told him to enter their car.

The police drove Isaak to a remote location in a town, to an abandoned building. Isaak told me that the police was driving very fast that he kept falling from one side to another inside of the car. When they reached this abandoned house, Isaak was handed over to other four Croatian police officers, three men and one woman, who wore dark blue uniforms. Inside of this house, there were other three men from Libya. Isaak told me that these four officers were acting aggressively towards him, using abusive language and pushing him that he fell on the ground.

Isaak asked the police whether he could apply for asylum in Croatia and tried to explain them that he needed international protection due to the conflict in Gaza, where he came from:
“I need to seek asylum because I come from Palestine, Gaza, the situation in my country is very bad, there is a conflict and no job for me and my family. I need to have protection in Europe. But the police just said: “You need asylum?” and laughed at me” (Isaak).

Isaak also told me that the officers took the men’s phones and returned them later damaged (viz. photo below). Around 1 pm, after one hour the men spent in this house, the police transported all of them to the Bosnian border, probably around 20 km away from Velika Kladusa. By the border the officers shouted at the men to run, followed by physical attacks by batons:

“When they said to me run, I knew they were going to beat us. Especially one man who was looking very scary. And they did. When I was running they hit me into my back part of head, neck and back [crying] ... “I experienced three wars in Gaza in 2008, 2012, and 2014 when my house and the house of my neighbours was destroyed, but I have never experienced so much inhumanity like in Croatia. Croatian police were acting like beasts” (Isaak).

Isaak then walked through the forest but did not know where he was going, so he stopped in an abandoned house where he stayed over the night. The following day when he was walking, a local Bosnian man stopped a car and took Isaak and the other men to Velika Kladusa.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The men were deported and attacked by the group of 4 Croatian police officers, three males and one female. Isaak told me that the officers were wearing dark blue uniforms. One, who attacked Isaak by a baton was tall, half bold, blond hair, blue eyes, and could be 32 years old.

PHOTOS OF ISAAK’S BROKEN PHONE

Recorded interview by No Name Kitchen, Velika Kladuša (BiH), 28/09/18
## REPORT [25]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>PUSH-BACK – DENIED ACCESS TO THE ASYLUM PROCEDURES - DEPORTATION – ROBBED – PHYSICALLY ATTACKED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>The men were caught in a forest in the inner Croatian land, close to Ogulin (approximate location viz. map bellow) Physically attacked by the Croatian-Bosnian border, around 20 km away from Velika Kladuša (exact location unknown).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims</td>
<td>Number of victims: 8. Interview was conducted with one group member in Arabic with the help of a translator to English. Names: Aziz Country of origin: Aziz and other 6 men from the group are from Morocco and one from Iraq. Age: They are all between 20 and 26 years old. Minors in the group: No Sex: Males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and time</td>
<td>The group was attacked and deported back to Bosnia 29/09, after midnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: No Documents signed: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Approximate location where Aziz and others were caught by the police.](image)
DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

Aziz and his seven friends walked from Velika Kladuša (Bosnia) to Croatia. The third night of walking in the jungle [forest] in Croatia, around midnight, they could hear a flying drone above their heads. Soon after, they could see the police running behind them and shouting at them to stop.

When the police caught them, the officers started pointing the torches into their faces and shouting at them in the Croatian language, so the men did not understand what the police was saying to them. One police officer grabbed Aziz on his shoulder and started hitting him by a baton, firstly into his back and after, into his head and face so hard, that Aziz fell on the ground (viz. photo below of Aziz’s injured face). The officers, four of them, were also attacking by batons other men into their heads and back.

Aziz told me that his friend tried to speak to the police and ask for asylum, but always when anyone tried to say something, the police gave him a hit by baton, so the men did not speak out anymore. The officers then shouted at the men to enter their cars and transported them directly to the Bosnian border, around 20 km away from the official border check-point in Velika Kladuša.

Aziz did not know the exact location where they were deported because the van had dark windows, so they could not follow the journey. Aziz told me that when they arrived at the Bosnian border, the police told them to get out of the car. Then, the officers frisked their bodies, searching for their phones and money. The police stole all the men’s phones (7) and money, 2000 euros in total. In the end, the police started shouting at the men to run back to Bosnia. As they ran, the police shot at them the live bullets in their general direction. The men walked back to Velika Kladuša despite Aziz was injured from the police attack and the wounds on his head and face were bleeding. The next day, No Name Kitchen nurse treated Aziz’s injured face and head.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The men were caught, attacked and deported by the same group of 8 Croatian police officers in black clothes, whom Aziz called “border commando”. Commando had a big van and were using plastic batons for beating the men and gun to threaten them while they were running back to Bosnia.

PHOTOS OF AZIZ’S INJURIES
Recorded interview by No Name Kitchen, Velika Kladuša (BiH), 29/09/18