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## **GUIDELINES FOR JOURNALISTS AND RESEARCHERS**

We welcome journalists and researchers to share information, interview our teams or join us on the field. Below are some guidelines to ensure that both NNK's operations and the safety and dignity of people on the move, activists and locals are safeguarded when collaborating with us.

### **1. Consent and Respect for People on the Move, locals and activists.**

NNK never decides who can or cannot speak to journalists. It's always the decision of the individual to talk, to be photographed, or to appear on camera. Some people may be eager to share their stories, while others may refuse for personal or legal reasons, and we respect those choices without question.

NNK will never pressure anyone to "tell their story." If you wish to interview or photograph someone, please ask for their consent directly. Similarly, we don't overprotect or shield people in a paternalistic way. We empower them to make their own choices.

### **2. Source Attribution & Information about "The Game"**

When discussing border violence or "the game" (the journey undertaken by people on the move), it's crucial to clarify that NNK collects information through testimonies. We are not direct witnesses of these events. We are reporting based on what people tell us and according to our documented reports over the years. **Example:** *"As people explain to us, they walk for many days in the forest, facing challenges such as harsh weather and exhaustion. However, we only know what people tell us."*

### **3. Transparency in NNK's Work**

NNK has nothing to hide. We are open about our work because it's legal and centered on upholding human rights, despite ongoing efforts across Europe to criminalize humanitarian aid. We believe in solidarity, not charity. We are proud of what we do and invite honest conversation about it.

### **4. Legal Issues and Political Controversy**

NNK members have varying levels of knowledge about legal and political contexts, including asylum processes. When unsure, we avoid discussing legality, as incorrect information can have serious consequences. For detailed legal inquiries or political motivations behind government actions, please consult the relevant authorities or organizations.

### **5. Local Community Relations**

Always be respectful when discussing local communities. Remember, the problems at the borders are not isolated but the result of broader European Union policies, including the externalization of borders and criminalization of humanitarian aid. Avoid language that suggests superiority. Be mindful not to scapegoat local people for decisions made in Brussels.



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## **6. Engaging with Other Organizations**

NNK collaborates with many other actors in the field. However, each group has its own communications policies, and speaking about them without permission could harm their operations, particularly in a hostile political environment. Always get approval before referencing other actors.

## **7. Reviewing Content before Publication**

If your content references NNK or involves experiences with our team, we kindly request that you share it with us before publication. This helps to protect our operations and ensures that the information accurately reflects our work. Our goal is to have a positive impact by denouncing border violence and exposing human rights abuses.

## **8. Participation in field actions**

If you would like to join an action, the field assembly will decide whether it's appropriate based on the current situation. If there have been heightened police threats, for example, we may opt not to bring journalists along for safety reasons.

## **9. Filming and Personal Privacy**

If a journalist or filmmaker wants to record our activities, each team member must decide if they want to appear on camera. It's perfectly fine to refuse or request anonymity. Respect the personal decisions of NNK members and the people we work with.

## **10. European Border Strategy and Funding**

When discussing migration policies, it's important to highlight that what's happening at the borders is a deliberate part of the EU's strategy. Funding for police forces, camps co-managed by IOM or UNHCR, and the creation of barriers to keep people out are all part of the externalization of borders. NNK has exposed torture, pushbacks and other illegal practices at EU borders, yet it continues.

Our shared goal is to ensure that this ongoing humanitarian and moral crisis is not forgotten. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out.

**Thank you for respecting these guidelines and for your commitment to responsible and impactful investigation.**