

NEWS LETTER, volume 13 nr 4
13 February 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. BASIC RIGHTS.....	2
2. ADMISSION POLICY.....	Fout! Bladwijzer niet gedefinieerd.
3. ACTIVITIES.....	3

EVENT: GOOD EMPLOYERSHIP FOR MIGRANT DOMESTIC WORKERS

Migrant domestic workers in the Netherlands provide care, feed people, and make houses homely. Their role is essential for millions of households, yet, their employment is often insecure.

This event seeks to contribute to greater awareness about migrant domestic workers' situation and rights, enabling employers to better guarantee these rights – as ***it takes two to tango!***

The event takes place on 28 February, 19-20:30h at ISS, the Hague

<https://www.iss.nl/en/events/it-takes-two-tango-migrant-domestic-workers-rights-and-good-employership-2023-02-28>

1. BASIC RIGHTS

Secretary of State Justice and Security: [no space for stadspas \[City Card\] in Dutch policy](#)

In response to questions posed by members of Parliament the Secretary of State has made it clear that the restrictive policy with respect to people without residence permits will remain in force. According to the Secretary of State this has resulted in a decrease in the number of undocumented migrants in the Netherlands. Therefore, he will not cooperate towards the introduction of a City Card that will also grant rights to undocumented migrants.

2. ADMISSION POLICY

Court of Appeal: [about taking into account the interests of children upon withdrawal permit of Moroccan Migrant with criminal record](#)

This case concerned a Moroccan migrant who was at risk of having his residence permit withdrawn because he has a criminal record. In 1994 he entered into the Netherlands as a baby and he has had a residence permit during most of his life. His parents live in the Netherlands and he has a partner since 2016 and two Dutch children.

The lawyer is of the opinion that the residence permit cannot be withdrawn because of the children's interests. His partner is employed and the father cares for the children when she is at work. The Court are of the opinion that the IND should give more consideration to the question whether withdrawing the right of residence outweigh the children's interests.

Court of Appeal: [consideration stay schizophrenic Indian sister with sister in the Netherlands](#)

This case concerned a schizophrenic sister in India who wants to join her sister in the Netherlands. There is evidence that the sister in the Netherlands is in close contact with her sister in India: they telephone daily, she sends money and she paid her several visits. She even runs the risk of losing her job because of this intensive caring relationship. If the schizophrenic sister comes to the Netherlands, she can stay with her sister who will also act as her guarantor.

The IND had turned down the application for a residence permit in the Netherlands but the Court are of the opinion that the IND should give more weight to the bond of the two sisters when making their decision.

Court of Appeal: [withdrawing family reunification status of refugee partner is justified after divorce](#)

If a member of a family is granted an asylum permit, the family members are allowed to come to the Netherlands to join their relative. Their right of residence depends on the first family member to migrate. From this ruling it becomes evident that the permit of the relative who joined the permit holder will be withdrawn in the case of divorce if there are no independent reasons to grant them asylum.

Court of Appeal: [domestic violence as reason for divorce, possibly humanitarian status](#)

This case concerned a woman who applied for an independent residence permit because of domestic violence. The IND found insufficient evidence for the violence she sustained; the woman is alleged to have given different statements at different institutions. However, the Court was understanding of these

differences which do not contradict one another but benefit the different roles including those of the general practitioner, *Veilig Thuis* and the police. In addition, the woman had not dared to give all the facts at each of the institutions mentioned because she was ashamed. The IND has to reconsider its decision.

3. ACTIVITIES

[Course trauma counselling migrant women](#)

The course Freedom Focus is a course in trauma counselling for Christian migrant women. For them the transition to regular therapy is not self-evident. The Freedom Focus course by *Stichting Geloofsinburgering* [religious civic integration], developed in cooperation with psychologists and migrants addresses this problem. Available in Dutch, English, Ukrainian and Russian.

[Event: Kickoff Refugee Platform, 15 February, 16:00-18:30, den Haag](#)

The aim of this platform is to connect refugee advocates and refugee-led initiatives in the Netherlands to amplify refugee voices in decision making processes and advocate for meaningful participation and representation. Policymakers and governments should recognise the positive potential and impact of collective action by refugees and facilitate opportunities where refugees can make claims and provide solicited and unsolicited advice on their host state. By collective solidarity, refugee advocates united in this platform, will demonstrate the areas of concern in the refugee system where restructuring is most needed, identified by those it intends to serve.

During the kickoff event, we will invite prominent refugee advocates, refugee-led initiatives and stakeholders to support us in building and co-creating this platform together. We will present our vision and mission and a roadmap for 2023 and provide space for networking.

Location: Oxfam Novib, Mauritskade 9, Den Haag