PRESS STATEMENT
Concerning the video that belies the official version about a dinghy that was run over by the "Río Cabaleiro" patrol boat

On the past 13 December 2012, a Guardia Civil patrol boat run over a dinghy, resulting in the death of one migrant, the disappearance of seven others and 17 people rescued from the water who were subsequently detained. Regarding this event, Cadena SER [radio station] released a video from the SIVE Surveillance System that adds confusion, if possible, to the different contradictory versions about these events. The images shown in the video are extremely serious and deserve to be urgently explained by the people responsible for the Río Cabaleiro patrol boat. Having viewed this video, that the interior ministry has held in its possession since the first day, we deem that its contradictory versions can only be understood as a manoeuvre to delay and conceal the facts. Hence, the undersigned organisations:

1) Criticise, again, the expulsion of the people who were rescued after this incident for the only purpose (after seeing the video) of avoiding the presence of witnesses of these events.

2) Demand an urgent appearance by the interior minister before Congress in order to explain these facts.

3) Regardless of what the outcome of the judicial inquiry that is underway will be and of the explanations that must be provided about what happened, the undersigned organisations consider the interior ministry responsible for the death and disappearance of eight people in the waters off the Canary Islands’ coast.

Signatories of this statement: Andalucía Acoge, Asociación Pro-Derechos Humanos de Andalucía (APDHA), Asociación Elin, Boats4People and the Federación estatal de SOS Racismo.

The signatory organisations are members of Migreurop.

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