TO THE SUPREME COURT PROSECUTOR

COMPLAINT ON PUSH-BACK INCIDENTS IN THE REGION OF EVROS DURING THE MONTHS OF APRIL-JUNE 2019

Complaints during the past two years

For the past two years, complaints on push-backs from the region of Evros have continuously been brought to our attention. We are aware that, at least, three such complaints have come to the prosecuting authorities' knowledge:

- A) The first, concerned the communication of a criminal offence by the Greek Asylum Service, which was submitted to the Prosecutor of the Court of Appeals of Thrace (September 2017), following a request the continuation of the examination of the asylum case of TCN who had been victim of push-back while her initial asylum application was pending. The complaint regarded her arrest and subsequent push-back from the region of Alexandroupoli, Evros, in August 2017, which took place while she was in an advanced stage of pregnancy. We have no additional information with respect to the specific complaint, not least due to the person concerned having passed away due to complications during childbirth.
- B) The second complaint was sent by GCR's Legal Unit to the Prosecutor of the Court of Appeals of Thrace, in August 2018. It concerned the push-back incident of 13 third-country nationals (Yemen, Syria, Soudan, Iraq and Somalia) from the region of Didimoticho, Evros, in May 2018. GCR remained in contact (by phone) for a significant amount of time with one of the above concerned persons, while he was in Istanbul, Turkey; something that GCR mentioned to the authorities, when called to testify on the specific incident, after a case-file was prepared by the Public Prosecutor of the First Instance Court of Orestiada.
- **r)** Following the complaints of 5 Iraqi citizens on illegal push-backs perpetrated at their expense between March and September 2018, a complaint-lawsuit against any

party responsible has already been submitted in June 2019 before the First Instance Court of Orestiada.

Furthermore, from a series of press publications, it is known that an additional complaint was submitted before the Supreme Court Prosecutor in June 2017 by the Hellenic League for Human Rights, which regarded push-backs incidents that were perpetrated against Turkish nationals during the period of May-June 2017.

While, following reports issued by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe and by political parties, as well as relevant press publications, on 9-6-2017 the Greek Ombudsman announced it had commenced an ex officio investigation to ascertain the perpetration of illegal push-backs.

https://www.synigoros.gr/resources/20170609-apof-ayt-ereyn-epanaprooth.pdf

The issue has since also been the subject of reports issued by International Organisations, such as:

- the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT), in its report to the Greek Government following its April 10-19, 2018, visit to Greece, which recorded 15 such complaints for the period between January and March 2018:

CPT, Report to the Greek Government on the visit to Greece from 10 to 19 April 2018, CPT/Inf (2019) 4, 19 February 2019 https://rm.coe.int/1680930c9a §§ 138-141

- the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, Dunja Mijatevic, following her June 25-29, 2019, visit to Greece, in which she urged the Greek authorities to put an end to push-backs and to commence investigations on the allegations of mistreatment at the hands of members of the Greek law enforcement forces, in the context of the specific operations:

CommDH(2018)24, 6 November 2018, https://rm.coe.int/-dunja-mijatovic-25-29-2018/16809024f7, § 64

- the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which in its annual "Desperate Journeys" report makes reference to numerous, credible reports on push-backs from the region of Evros:

UNHCR, Desperate Journeys: Refugees and migrants arriving in Europe and at Europe's borders, January-August 2018 https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/65373, pp. 17-18

<u>The issue has similarly been the subject of reports issued by National Organisations working in the field of Human Rights Protection:</u>

National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR), NCHR Statement regarding the complaints on arbitrary push-backs, 29 November 2018, http://www.nchr.gr/images/pdf/nea_epikairothta/Dilosi_EEDA_Evros.pdf

National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR), Announcement in response to the complaints on illegal push-backs in Evros, July 2017, http://www.nchr.gr/images/pdf/nea-epikairothta/Anakoinosi EEDA Epanaprowthis eis.pdf

<u>During the past two years, GCR similarly recorded a series of such incidents,</u> <u>which were subsequently made public:</u>

- Greek Council for Refugees (GCR), Reports on systematic push-backs in Evros by beneficiaries of GCR, February 2018, https://www.gcr.gr/en/ekdoseis-media/reports/item/790-reports-of-systematic-pushbacks-in-the-evros-region
- Arsis, Greek Council for Refugees, HumanRights 360, *The new normality:* Continuous push-backs of third country nationals on the Evros river, December 2018,

https://www.gcr.gr/en/news/press-releases-announcements/item/1028-the-new-normality-continuous-push-backs-of-third-country-nationals-on-the-evros-river

- Greek Council for Refugees and Spanish Commission for Refugees (CEAR), 20 March 2019, where an additional testimony on the push-back of an Iranian asylum seeker is recorded

https://www.gcr.gr/el/news/press-releases-announcements/item/1067-koinovinteo-tou-esp-kai-tou-cear-katagrafei-ti-skliri-pragmatikotita-ton-epanaproothiseon-ton-prosfygon-ston-evro

While there have also been recent reports by other international organisations working in the field of Human Rights Protection

- Human Rights Watch, Greece: *Violent Pushbacks at Turkey Border End Summary Returns, Unchecked Violence*, 18 December 2018, https://www.hrw.org/news/2018/12/18/greece-violent-pushbacks-turkey-border

Incidents against Turkish citizens during the past 2 months

Lately, however, and at least from 27-4-2019 and onwards, GCR has received continuous complaints on push-backs perpetrated against primarily Turkish nationals, cited below by chronological order:

On 27-4-2019 (Holy Saturday), at 14:00, GCR was informed the Turkish journalist, Zubeyir Koculu, that, on the evening hours (at around 21:00) of the previous day (Friday, 26-4-2019), an illegal push-back of 15 Turkish citizens, who had entered the Greek territory, took place. From the 15 persons concerned, 11 re-entered Greece on the morning hours of the following day, reaching the region of Soufli by noon. Amongst these 11 Turkish nationals, all of whom were arrested, there was also a pregnant journalist.

GCR was asked to intervene, so as to initially locate these persons and, indeed, following its communication with the Border Guard Post of Soufli, the

aforementioned group of Turkish citizens had their willingness to apply for asylum registered, and on 30-4-2019 they were released with a police note ordering their departure from the country.

Soon afterwards, the following publications were brought to light (the second, by the aforementioned Turkish journalist and the first through the website of a group of Turkish journalists who are exiles in Sweden:

https://stockholmcf.org/turkish-refugees-attacked-and-pushed-back-from-greek-shore-by-unidentified-masked-men/

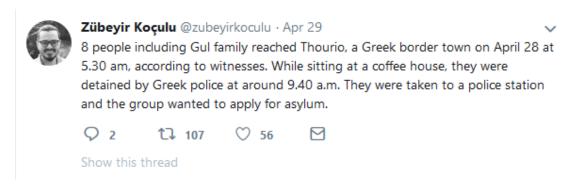
https://ipa.news/2019/04/28/we-were-beaten-and-pushed-back-by-masked-men-at-turkish-greek-border-turkish-journalist-and-asylum-seeker/

According to these publications and notwithstanding the case of the 11 Turkish nationals, who ultimately managed to enter Greece, on 27-4-2019, a family of 4 (couple with 2 minor children), was arrested by the Turkish police, following their push-back from Greece on 26-4-2019. The two parents are currently held in Turkish prisons, while an additional number of 17 persons were arrested by the Turkish border Gendarmerie, before managing to enter Greece (in total, as per the articles, 32 Turkish citizens attempted to cross into Greece on 26-4-2019).

Furthermore, as per the second of these publications, an additional push-back incident is mentioned as having taken place during the month of September 2018, concerning two families of 4 adults and 2 minors. After the push-back, 3 of the group's adults were reportedly arrested, while reference is also made to a picture of one of the family's two minor children, which was taken by one of the group's members prior to their arrest and push-back to Turkey, from the cafeteria of a gas station found in close proximity to Kornofolia, Soufli.

Following this:

- On 29-4-2019, the Turkish journalist, Zubeyir Koculu, posted on twitter information on 8 persons, including the Gul family, which reached Thourios on 28-4-2019 at 5:30am and were arrested by the Greek police at 9:40am.



-Later on the same day (29-4-2019) Zubeyir Koculu, posted on twitter that Halil Gul and Seher Gul were arrested by the Turkish security forces, after they had been pushed-back from a police station (in Greece).



-Regarding the aforementioned incident of 29-4-2019, as per an electronic article issued by the same journalist on 30-4-2019, it is further reported that the adult couple from the aforementioned group of 8 persons was detained in the Adrianoupoli (Edirne) prisons by the Turkish authorities, following the issuance of an arrest warrant.

https://ipa.news/2019/04/29/another-group-of-turkish-asylum-seekers-who-arrived-in-greece-pushed-back-to-turkey/

<u>-On 29-4-2019</u>, Zubeyir Koculu, posted on twitter pictures showcasing the ill-treatment of a group of Turkish asylum seekers that had been pushed-back from the region of Feres, Evros, on 28-4-2019.



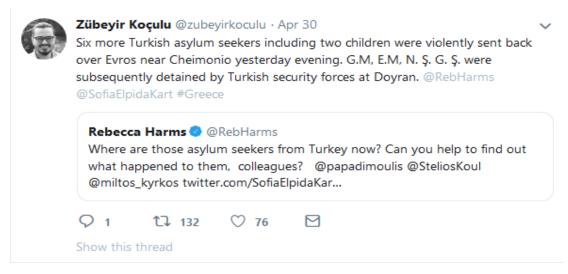
Zübeyir Koçulu @zubeyirkoculu · Apr 29

I have received some terrifying photos from a group of Turkish national asylum seekers who claim they were pushed back to Turkey at Feres in northwestern Greece near Evros after beaten by Greek policemen on April 28.



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<u>-On 30-4-2019</u>, Zubeyir Koculu, posted on twitter that six (6) Turkish asylum seekers, amongst whom two children, were pushed-back from Cheimonio, Evros, on 29-4-2019, and that 4 of them were subsequently detained by the Turkish authorities in Doyran.



<u>-On 1-5-2019</u>, Zubeyir Koculu, posted on twitter that on 30-4-2019, seven (7) Turkish citizens with two children were pushed-back from the region of Soufli, after the Greek police seized their phones, passports and 4,000 euro.



<u>-On 1-5-2019</u>, the same Turkish journalist posted on twitter that on 26-4-2019, four (4) Kurdish political refugees were pushed-back by the Greek authorities, with one of them managing to return to Greece.



<u>-On 2-5-2019</u>, Zubeyir Koculu, posted on twitter that on 2-5-2019, two Turkish citizens, alongside their two minor children, were pushed-back from a Greek

police station north of Soufli and were subsequently detained by the Turkish authorities in Uzunkopru.



Zübeyir Koçulu @zubeyirkoculu · May 2



Breaking: Y.A., M.A and their two children were pushed back to Turkey on May 2 early in the morning, after they voluntarily went to a Greek police station and asked for asylum in the north of Soufli at Evros. They were detained by Turkish soldiers, are being kept in Uzunkopru.

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-On 3-5-2019 GCR met with the above mentioned journalist, as well as with some of the persons from the group of 11 Turkish citizens mentioned in the incident of 26-4-2019, who confirmed the aforementioned allegations. GCR subsequently informed the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Athens.

Regarding the aforementioned push-back incident of 26-4-2019, on 18-6-2019, a couple of Turkish citizens with two minor children submitted a criminal complaint against any party responsible before the First Instance Prosecutor's Office of Orestiada.

On 4-5-2019 (Saturday) GCR received the following electronic message:

From: [...]

Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2019 1:58 PM

To: Greek Council for Refugees < qcr1@qcr.qr>

Subject: A refugee malthreatment (please help my friend)

To all relevant authorities

I am writing for you to help my friend inside your country.

His name is [...], a turkish national. He was a police officer in turkey but fired from his job and prosecuted for being a member of a terrorist organization called FETO. He is by all means prosecuted because being opposed to the current government and the the dictatorship itself. He never crossed any law he was a law abiding citizen. because the current hostile enviroment in turkey right now he had to run. He crossed the border on May 1st. When he was on his way to surrender to the police

and to seek asylum at your country he had some troubles. We, his friends and family, are worried for him.

We hadnt heard of him since May 1st until tonight when he called his family. He told his family he crossed the river on his own and was making his way to a police station, some government officers (may be the police we dont know) found him, beat him, took all his money, took his cellphone and made him swim back to Turkey. when he arrived he waited and swam across the river again. He was found again and locked up in some place (a police station may be?) waiting to be pushed back to turkey.

Last night he was able to call his parents somehow but very briefly telling the unfortuned events mentioned above. He said he and other newly arrived reffuges rounded up somewhere and waiting to be pushed back to turkey.

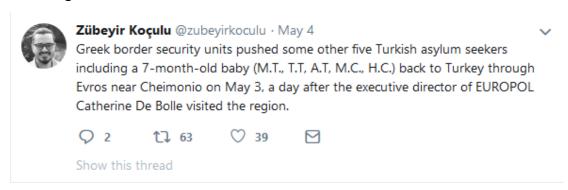
He told he was pushed back at least two times (third time is waiting to be happen). he was at $\Sigma o u \phi \lambda i$ 684 00 (Sofulu, Yunanistan in Turkish) when he called. Please, I am beseeching you to help my friend. His very life is threathened at this point.

Thank you in advance.

With respect to the preceding complaint, GCR took action on 6-5-2019. However, all of the regional police stations replied that they had not arrested anyone with this name.

-As regards the push-back incidents of the period between 25-4 and up to 29-4-2019, it arises that <u>the Representative of the UNHCR in Greece</u>, had sent a <u>letter</u> to the Minister of Citizen Protection, to which the latter replied by denying the allegations. The contents of the Minister's letter were later leaked to the press <u>on 5-5-2019</u>.

https://www.koutipandoras.gr/article/apantisi-gerobasili-gia-tisepanaproothiseis <u>-On 4-5-2019</u>, Zubeyir Koculu, posted on twitter that on 3-5-2019, five (5) Turkish nationals alongside their 7-month-old baby, were pushed-back from the region of New Cheimonio, Evros; a day after the official visit of FRONTEX's Executive Director in the region.



-On 5-5-2019, the newspaper ETHNOS published an article, based on complaints and publications that were posted on the Turkish journalist's, Zubeyir Koculu, twitter on 4-5-2019, referring to the incident of a threatened push-back of three Turkish nationals. Said nationals entered (Greece) during the early hours of 4-5-2019, posting their location prior to their arrest (at Cheimonio - train station), as well as a picture of them outside the KEP (Citizens' Service Center) of Vyssa, Evros, and a video with their pleas to not be pushed-back.

https://www.ethnos.gr/ellada/36765_ebros-ekklisi-prosfygon-na-stamatisoyn-oiparanomes-epanaproothiseis-stin-toyrkia-vid

Later on the same day, the same journalist posted on twitter that the aforementioned Turkish asylum-seekers were arrested by the Turkish border Gendarmerie.



Zübeyir Koçulu @zubeyirkoculu · May 5

Breaking: 3 Turkish nationals, Kamil Y, Ayse E, Talip N have been detained by Turkish soldiers at Meriç Gendarmarie on May 5, after they were pushed back by Greek Police. A family member says their belongings including phones and bags were seized before push-back.

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Regarding the preceding incident of 4-5-2019, on 18-6-2019 the Turkish citizen [...] submitted a criminal complaint against any party responsible before the First Instance Prosecutor's Office of Orestiada, via the First Instance Prosecutor's Office of Athens (ABM).

It is noted that the aforementioned Turkish citizen (a journalist by profession), whom, following her temporary release from the Turkish Prisons, had fled Turkey due to ascribed political beliefs, has already been arrested and detained at the Gebze Prisons in Turkey, where she is to serve a six (6) years sentence that has now been finally judged.

<u>-On 5-5-2019</u>, Zubeyir Koculu, posted on twitter that a total of 63 Turkish citizens, amongst whom 4 Kurdish political refugees, have been pushed-back to Turkey since 23-4-2019, while, out of them, 44 were detained/arrested by the Turkish security forces/tribunals.



<u>-On 7-5-2019</u>, in a new publication on the same website run by Turkish journalists-exiles in Stockholm, it is mentioned that the European Commission expresses its concern with respect to the complaints of violence and push-backs in the region of Evros, that it closely monitors the situation and that it is in contact with the Greek authorities, attributing great importance to the implementation of European Asylum Regulations: https://stockholmcf.org/european-commission-warns-greece-over-mistreatment-of-asylum-seekers-report/

<u>-On 8-5-2019</u>, reference to the issue of push-backs in Evros was made during the Sitting of the Permanent Committee of Public Administration, Public Order and

Justice of the Greek Parliament, during a series of presentations made on the thematic of "Missing Migrants and their families", on the occasion of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.

https://www.hellenicparliament.gr/UserFiles/8158407a-fc31-4ff2-a8d3-433701dbe6d4/8-5-

<u>2019%20%CE%A0%CE%A1%CE%91%CE%9A%CE%A4%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%91%20%</u>
<u>CE%A3%CE%A5%CE%9D%CE%95%CE%94%CE%A1%CE%99%CE%91%CE%A3%CE%97</u>
<u>%CE%A3%20(1).pdf</u>

(p. 27 and p. 34-35 of the Sitting's minutes).

<u>-On 9-5-2019</u>, GCR published a Press Release, referring to the ongoing complaints it has been receiving on push-back incidents:

https://www.gcr.gr/el/news/press-releases-announcements/item/1141-deltio-typou-tou-esp-gia-epanalamvanomenes-kataggelies-epanaproothiseon-ston-evro

<u>-On 9-5-2019</u> the same Turkish journalist reported that, in total, 82 Turkish political refugees have been pushed-back from Greece.



<u>-On the same day (9-5-2019)</u>, GCR was informed that one of the above-mentioned Turkish citizens, had re-entered the country and, following his arrest, was headed towards the Feres Police Station. Following GCR's intervention, said Turkish

citizen, who was persecuted in Turkey, with pending convictions to multiple years of imprisonment, due to attributed political beliefs, had his willingness to apply for asylum registered.

<u>-On 10-5-2019</u>, the LIFO newspaper published an extensive article on the aforementioned push-back incident of 26-4-2019, concerning the 11 Turkish citizens, containing additional, detailed testimonies on the incident:

https://m.lifo.gr/articles/greece articles/236781/apokleistiki-sygklonistiki-martyria-apo-to-teleytaio-push-back-ston-

evro?fbclid=IwAR2PuufQWcjmHNp2tCyzsvfeN-

X4rxJYjezsseBQsRZbq9ITHuknTANG28g

<u>-On 11-5-2019</u>, an article, referring to the push-backs incidents of 26-4-2019, concerning the 11 Turkish citizens, and of 3-5-2019, concerning the 3 Turkish citizens (entailing a named complaint of Ayse Erdogan's brother), was published in the electronic press, while also referring to a push-back incident concerning 5 Turkish citizens of Kurdish origin, who appear in a picture at a gas station in Greece and who seemingly have similarly been pushed-back to Turkey. The same article contains the picture of a vehicle with licensed plate number OPZ 5983, which resembles the vehicles used by the Greek Police and on which the aforementioned 5 Turkish citizens were seemingly boarded.

https://ipa.news/2019/05/11/greece-hardens-stance-on-refugees-pushes-82-turks-back-to-turkey/

<u>-On 13-5-2019</u> Zubeyir Koculu, published an article, as well as the name and picture of Ayse Erdogan's –one of the Turkish citizens of the incident of 4-5-2019–brother.

https://www.euronews.com/2019/05/11/masked-men-beat-us-with-batons-greece-accused-of-violent-asylum-seeker-pushbacks

<u>-On 16-5-2019</u>, Euronews published an article by Michalis Arambatzoglou, were the incident of 26-4-2019, concerning the 11 Turkish citizens, and that of 3-5-2019, concerning Ayse Erdogan, are mentioned.

https://gr.euronews.com/2019/05/15/sto-fos-kataggelies-gia-paranomes-epanaproothiseis-toyrkon-ston-

<u>ebro?utm_term=Autofeed&utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=Iw</u>

AR0rcDC37jXC77sl3Ya8rn18k9F4cdls4PoMVPKYbuOvSx2ymWMpwQUVQvA#Echobox=1557898771

Furthermore, the same publication includes the testimonies of two of the Turkish citizens from the group of 11 (of Turk Mihail and one more person from the group, as well as their lawyer, in Athens, Anthimos Sideris, who has dealt with the incident).

<u>-On 16-5-2019</u>, the MP Theodoros Papatheodorou, submitted a question (before the Parliament), referring to the matter.

https://www.hellenicparliament.gr/Koinovouleftikos-Elenchos/Mesa-Koinovouleutikou-Elegxou?pcm_id=374716bc-01a9-48d4-80acaa4f01197f8c&fbclid=IwAR3Ee_APBu2H58KEp_F4hu4l826i6HS1EBD9-r2Gu7-RppJie4JyJwvANM_

<u>-On 17-5-2019</u> one of the above mentioned persons, whom the email GCR received on 4-5-2019 concerned and for whose registration it had intervened on 9-5-2019, reported that, between 1-5-2019 and 9-5-2019, when his registration became possible, he had in total been pushed-back 5 times from the region of Evros.

Regarding the specific incidents, the aforementioned Turkish citizen has submitted a criminal complaint against any party responsible before the First Instance Prosecutor's Office of Orestiada, via the First Instance Prosecutor's Office of Athens.

<u>-On 18-5-2019</u>, the push-back of Ayse E., as narrated by her brother, Ihsan Erdogan, to a Turkish journalist via Skype, is documented in an English-language electronic publication.

http://www.politurco.com/how-greece-has-adopted-illegal-border-push-back-for-refugees-explained-by-a-witness.html

<u>-On 21-5-2019</u>, Zubeyir Koculu, posted on twitter that two Turkish citizens (one of them, most probably alongside his family) were arrested in Kastanies, Evros, on 21-5-2019 at 15:00.



<u>-On 22-5-2019</u>, after being informed through a message to GCR's detention team contact number, GCR sent an extremely urgent communication to the Police Directorate of Orestiada that concerned the localization of Turkish citizens Mehmet Sait Ardogan and Enes Cebe. The Greek Ombudsman, following communication with the police authorities on 20 and 21-5-2019, informed GCR that no arrests of Turkish citizens had been recorded.

Following this, on various occasions (on 28-5-2019, 5-6-2019 and 7-6-2019), GCR intervened before the Border Guard Outpost of Neo Cheimonio, in Orestiada, for the registration of groups of Turkish citizens.

<u>-On 6-6-2019</u> GCR was informed that three (3) Turkish nationals were being pushed-back, although they had previously arrived at the Border Guard Outpost of Neo Cheimonio, in order to submit an asylum request.

GCR sent an extremely urgent document, while simultaneously informing the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, so as to intervene. However and despite the

phone interventions on the same day, as GCR was informed on the next day, the aforementioned Turkish citizens had been pushed-back to Turkey.

<u>-On 7-6-2019</u>, additionally, two pictures, seemingly depicting the aforementioned Turkish citizens of the incident of 6-6-2019, as well as the vehicle that was seemingly transporting them, were published on the facebook page of writer, Apostolos Doxiadis.

On the same day, the above mentioned pictures were also sent to the mobile phone of one of GCR's lawyers.





Apostolos Doxiadis

7 June at 16:45



ΑΠΟΚΑΛΎΨΗ: ΑΠΑΓΩΓΉ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΤΟΥΡΚΏΝ ΦΥΓΑΔΏΝ ΧΤΕΣ ΒΡΆΔΥ ΑΠΌ ΚΡΑΤΙΚΑ ΟΡΓΑΝΑ

Χτες το πρωί, 6 Ιουνίου 2019, τρεις τούρκοι νεαροί μηχανικοί Ibrahim B., Ibrahim A. Yilmaz G., πέρασαν τον Έβρο, και έφτασαν περπατώντας στο αστυνομικό τμήμα του Ισαακίου Έβρου ζητώντας πολιτικό άσυλο. Αργότερα μεταφέρθηκαν στο αστυνομικό τμήμα Νέου Χειμώνιου Έβρου, με φορτηγό με στρατιωτικό χρωματισμό παραλλαγής χωρίς πινακίδες (φωτογραφία) από όργανα του κράτους αγνώστου αρμοδιότητας. Στο Νέο Χειμώνιο (από όπου η φωτογραφία των τριών, πλάτη, με κρατικό λειτουργό ορατό δίπλα τους) οι τρεις κρατήθηκαν για λίγες ώρες. Οι αστυνομικοί τους πήραν τα χρήματα και όποια χαρτιά είχαν πάνω τους, και με το ίδιο βαν το βράδυ τους μετέφεραν στον Έβρο, όπου τους παρέδωσαν σε φουσκωτό με τούρκους με πολιτικά, που τους πήραν βίαια στην άλλη όχθη. Ήδη τώρα βρίσκονται στα μπουντρούμια του Ερντογάν.

Ο Έλληνας Πρωθυπουργός, η Υπουργός Προστασίας του Πολίτη, ο Υπουργός Μετανάστευσης, και ο Υπουργός Εθνικής Άμυνας να δώσουν αμέσως εξηγήσεις!

ΠΑΡΑΚΑΛΩ ΑΝΑΠΑΡΑΓΕΤΕ, ΝΑ ΠΑΕΙ Η ΕΙΔΗΣΗ ΣΕ ΟΣΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΟΣΟΥΣ ΠΕΡΙΣΣΟΤΕΡΟΥΣ ΓΙΝΕΤΑΙ

Ένωση Δικαστών και Εισαγγελέων Δικηγορικός Σύλλογος Αθηνών

<u>-On 12-6-2019</u>, the European Commission's representative stated that the Commission has taken notice of the publications on the alleged push-backs. She further stated that the Commission "takes into serious consideration" all complaints regarding the ill-treatment of migrants, while also expressing "concerns" over them. She further noted that the Commission is in contact with the Greek authorities and that "respect for the rights of migrants" is above anything else "the responsibility of

the Greek authorities". "We await for the Greek authorities to respond to these allegations and will continue closely monitoring the matter", concluded the Commission's representative.

http://amna.gr/home/article/368365/Epafi-tis-Komision-me-tis-ellinikes-arches-gia-kataggelies-paranomon-epanaproothiseon-ston-Ebro-