



Testimony of Arbitrary Arrest

Reported on 01.07.2020 to Human Rights Observers by a displaced person living in Calais.

Were you in the jungle this morning ?

Yes, I was in the jungle [this morning] and the police arrested me for no reason and I am heartbroken, [...] I feel bad for this situation because we live in the jungle, we live in dirty places but sometimes the police bother us for no reason so I am very hurt by this bad thing.

When they arrested you, did they explain why did they arrest you ?

They didn't tell me why, but they told us "you have no documents". A lot of people in the jungle don't have documents, that's why we were arrested today for no reason. A lot of people are undocumented in the jungle, and a lot of people are homeless, a lot of people are unemployed, but we have to go to the UK, so sometimes that's what happens: the police bother us ... it's a very, very bad thing for us, you know? So I feel bad. We need rights for refugees and [migrants] from Calais.

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Every [two days] we must destroy our houses because the police come and tell us "destroy the house"; that's the main problem for refugees¹.

And when they arrested you, where did they take you away?

Yes, they took us to the CRA. It's a bad thing, you can't have good food inside; they give you some bad [food] and it doesn't taste good.

How long did you stay [at the CRA]?

Today I was there for 6 or 7 hours, they didn't explain the reason, it's very illegal.

And when you left, did they give you a procedure - a verbal one, a piece of paper to explain?

Nothing, they gave me nothing.

¹ In Calais, eviction operations take place in every living place every 48 hours.