

No to EU law enabling home raids, policing of public services and racial profiling

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The EU is currently negotiating a [Deportation \("Return"\) Regulation](#) to expand and normalise immigration raids and surveillance measures across our communities. They want to oblige Member States to "detect" undocumented people – turning everyday spaces, public services, and community interactions into tools of ICE-style immigration enforcement. In the US, this has already led to [a public health crisis](#) where undocumented people avoid accessing basic medical care for fear of being reported or kidnapped.

In practice, detection measures proposed by the Commission could result in (and indeed some of them are already happening in various EU member states):

- **Police raids in private homes**, enabling authorities to enter living spaces to search for undocumented migrants – *without a judicial mandate* – **as well as offices and shelters run by humanitarian organisations**.
- **Police raids in public spaces** – such as [France's](#) deployment of 4 000 police agents in June 2025 to carry out sweeping checks across bus and train stations, with the aim to arrest and detain undocumented people, or [Belgium's](#) introduction of internal border checks on highways, stations and airports.
- **Surveillance and technology** – such as the collection of [people's personal data in bulk](#) and exchanged between police forces across the EU and the use of [biometric identification](#) systems to track people's movements and increase policing of undocumented migrants and racialised people.
- **Mandatory reporting obligations** imposed on public authorities – such as those that have been imposed on the social welfare office in [Germany](#) since the 1990s, or those under discussion in [Sweden](#).
- **Racial profiling** – Checks and controls based on appearance, language or perceived origin, rather than individual conduct, leading to discriminatory targeting of racialised communities, already a [routine](#) practice in Europe.

This threat is real and immediate. The European Commission's proposal explicitly promotes detection measures and, in December last year¹, Member States [endorsed](#) a position calling for even more harsh policies, including police raids on private homes to locate undocumented migrants.² Moreover, most of the political groups in the European Parliament, from the liberals to the far right, have presented [amendments](#) that support the mandatory inclusion of detection measures.

Detection measures create fear, discrimination and persecution, and break social ties and communities. They deter people from [accessing essential healthcare](#) (including pregnancy-related care, chronic disease treatment and vaccinations), as well as education and social services; trap people in situations of violence, exploitation and abuse; erode trust between professionals and those they serve; enable racial profiling and systemic discrimination; and violate fundamental rights to privacy and data protection.

1 Article 6, [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council, establishing a common system for the return of third-country nationals staying illegally in the Union, and repealing Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and the Council, Council Directive 2001/40/EC and Council Decision 2004/191/EC](#).

2 Article 23(a), "Investigative measures" [Council General Approach](#) on the Return Regulation proposal.

These risks have been raised at international level. On 26 January, 16 UN Special Rapporteurs, Independent Experts, and Working Groups, addressed a joint [letter](#) to the European Commission, the European Parliament, and the Council of the EU, warning that the proposed Deportation Regulation may impose reporting duties on professionals, discouraging access to essential services and undermining fundamental rights.

Embedding detection measures in binding EU legislation would fund, legitimise, expand and standardise them across Europe, and legitimise illegal practices like racial profiling. This would consolidate a punitive system, fuelled by far-right rhetoric and based on racialised suspicion, denunciation, detention and deportation. Rather than protecting fundamental rights, the EU is on course to codify an ideology of criminalisation that targets people simply because of their administrative situation.

Europe knows from its own history where systems of surveillance, scapegoating and control can lead.

We call on policymakers, public authorities, public service workers, civil society organisations and communities across Europe to reject detection in all its forms, and to mobilise against policies that criminalise people on the basis of their residence status and erode fundamental rights for all.

The European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union must listen to these concerns and reject the Deportation Regulation.

Total Signatories: 88

European networks/organisations:

1. Access Now
2. Border Violence Monitoring Network
3. Bridge EU
4. Equinox Initiative for Racial Justice
5. Eurochild
6. European Disability Forum
7. European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)
8. European Network on Statelessness (ENS)
9. European Roma Grassroots Organisations (ERGO) Network
10. European Sex Workers' Rights Alliance (ESWA)
11. European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA)
12. ILGA-Europe
13. International Planned Parenthood Federation – European Network (IPPF EN)
14. Jesuit Refugee Service Europe
15. Missing Children Europe
16. Médecins du Monde International Network
17. Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)
18. Quaker Council for European Affairs
19. Statewatch
20. Trans Europe and Central Asia (TGEU)

National organisations:

21. 11.11.11
22. Africa Advocacy Foundation
23. Algeciras Acoge
24. AlgorithmWatch
25. Apoyo Positivo
26. ARCI
27. Asociación Evangélica Nueva Vida
28. Asociación Madrileña de Salud Pública (AMaSaP)
29. Association for Integration and Migration (SIMI)
30. Caritas diocesana di Pesaro
31. Centro Sociale Ex Canapificio
32. Cesida (National Coordinator of HIV and AIDS)
33. CIRÉ
34. Collective Aid
35. Community Rights in Greece
36. Consorzio Italiano di Solidarietà (ICS)
37. Convenzione dei Diritti nel Mediterraneo
38. Coordinamento Fiorentino contro il Riarmo
39. Coordinamento Nazionale Comunità Accoglienti (CNCA)
40. COSPE
41. Defence for Children International Czechia
42. Defence for Children International Italy
43. Défense des Enfants International Belgique
44. Dynamo International
45. Europasilo – Rete Nazionale per il Diritto d'Asilo
46. Federación SOS Racismo
47. Finnish Refugee Advice Centre
48. Fondazione Città Solidale ETS
49. Forum Per Cambiare l'Ordine delle Cose
50. Fucina per la Nonviolenza
51. Fundación Cruz Blanca
52. Fundación Entreculturas
53. Fundación de Solidaridad Amaranta
54. Greek Council for Refugees (GCR)
55. Gruppo Melitea
56. Hermes Center
57. Institute Novact for Nonviolence
58. International Child Development Initiatives
59. Iridia-Center for the defense of human rights
60. Iuventa – Jugend rettet
61. Jesuit Refugee Service Portugal
62. La Cimade

63. Missing Voices (REER)
64. Mission Lifeline International e.V.
65. Mobile Info Team
66. Movimento de Mujeres Migrantes de Extremadura
67. Mujeres Supervivientes
68. M.V. Louise Michel
69. Oxfam Novib
70. Pilotes Volontaires
71. Progetto Accoglienza e Integrazione Un sole per tutti
72. Red Acoge
73. Refugees in Libya
74. Rete Vesuviana Solidale
75. Right to Protection Charitable Foundation
76. RiVolti ai Balcani – Diritti in Movimento
77. Salvamento Marítimo Humanitario (SMH)
78. Sea-Watch e.V
79. Sharazade – Cultura e spettacolo senza frontiere
80. SolidarityNow
81. Stichting LOS
82. Studio legale D'apruzzo
83. The Swedish IMER Association
84. Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights FTDES
85. VERLATA SOC. COOP. SOCIALE A R.L.
86. Watch the Med AlarmPhone
87. WILPF ITALIA
88. WISH (Women in Solidarity House)