

DECEMBER, 2018



ILLEGAL PUSHBACKS AND BORDER VIOLENCE REPORTS

VELIKA KLADUŠA - BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

Notes

Methodology

The methodological process for these reports leverages the close social contact that we have as independent volunteers with refugees and migrants to monitor pushbacks from Croatia. When individuals return with significant injuries or stories of abuse, one of our violence reporting volunteers will sit down with the individuals to collect their testimonies. Although the testimony collection itself is typically with a group no larger than five persons, the pushback groups which they represent can be as large as 65 persons. We have a standardized framework for our interview structure which blends the collection of hard data (dates, geo-locations, officer descriptions, photos of injuries/medical reports, etc.) with open narratives of the abuse.

All names have been changed with respect to the anonymity of those who have been interviewed.

Terminology

The term *pushback* is a key component of the situation that unfolded along the EU borders (Hungary and Croatia) with Serbia in 2016, after the closure of the Balkan route. It now continues along the Croatian border with Bosnia and Herzegovina. Push-back describes the informal expulsion (without due process) of those intending to seek asylum in EU territory, in contrast to a deportation. Push-backs have become an important, if unofficial, part of the migration regimes of EU countries.

Going forward

Going forward, SOS Team Kladuša will no longer be active in border violence monitoring

An update on the situation in Velika Kladuša

Miral Camp

On the 21th of November, representatives of the IOM and the UNHCR came to Trnovi camp to move people on a voluntary basis to Miral camp, which has been managed by the IOM with the support of funds from the [EU](#). The day after, food was no longer provided to people remaining in Trnovi camp. Over the next several weeks water was shut off and the toilets were taken out. Despite this, some people stayed in the makeshift camp, sleeping under tents to avoid conflicts and fights which were happening inside Miral camp. On the 5th of December, the municipality gave the remaining residents of the camp 30 minutes to take their belongings and burned all of the items and structures which remained afterwards.

Miral camp itself is comprised of a former industrial storage building and a large tent with beds installed inside. IOM so far registered approximately 600 inhabitants in the camp which include people who got a registration only to get shower and food in the camp but doesn't sleep there because of many several reasons. Food is provided there three times a day by the [Red Cross](#) in between 10.00 am to 16.00 pm. Additionally, IOM is considering investing in a place for people to be able to cook their own food as the current supply does meet the quantity and quality desired by many. Miral camp residents often report that it is noisy at night, leading to difficulties with sleeping at night. Some have also expressed that within their group, one person must stay awake while the others rest, in order to prevent theft. Initially, showers in the camp were limited by an 80 liter hot water tank, however recently within the last two weeks, the IOM has increase the number and capacity of the showers to 30.

Winter

Winter has arrived to the region, making the living conditions for many even harder. It snowed up to 30 cm in Velika Kladuša and the temperature has dropped down to -6°C. People trying to cross through Croatia and Slovenia now face an increasing level of danger from frostbite and freezing temperatures. This threat is particularly pronounced during pushbacks where individuals report having their shoes confiscated and being pushed into rivers and streams. Despite this, people are still determined to cross. Many talked about their determination to spend New Year's Eve accompanied by their family somewhere further in Europe.

Nonetheless, the risk presented by winter's arrival is important to understand. The month of November ended with the tough information of a young Algerian man who [drowned](#) in Reka River in Slovenia, accompanied by his friends who were later pushed back and beaten by the Croatian police the day after this happened [Report 2.2]. On the 13th of December, a 16-year-old resident of Bira camp died in a hospital in Bihać. A few days after he got pushed back to Bosnia, however rumors spread the word that the death causes could be overdose, this cause can be discarded. Additionally, on December 15th, a video purporting to show the frozen body of an Algerian man who died from exposure near the Slovenian border circulated on several social media pages. Although the authenticity of this video has not been confirmed, a volunteer from Balkan Info Van made contact with a man who claimed to have been in this

man's group in Croatia and described carrying the Algerian man's body to a police station and reported later being brought back to Bosnia and beaten at the border.

Status of solidarity work

The dynamics of assistance for independent groups and volunteers in Velika Kladuša has also shifted in the past month. While the people of Velika Kladuša continue to engage in courageous acts of solidarity with the population of refugees and migrants in the area, the relationship between volunteers and certain local actors has become more complicated. In the last month, volunteers from organizations active in the area describe being followed inside supermarkets by security guards and being refused entry to cafes and bars.

This treatment is particularly pronounced for volunteers-of-color. Two volunteers from No Name Kitchen were stopped while attempting to legally cross the Maljevac border checkpoint and were held up for a period of two hours while the contents of the bags and belongings were checked. When asked why they were being held so long while other groups were able to pass quickly, they were told it was because they were from a "third-world country". The volunteers were from Mexico.

The houses hosting volunteers were inspected several times for white registration cards (legal document to obtain 48 hours after the entry in Bosnian territory, valid for a month). At the beginning of the month, the police requested to see the documents of all volunteers based in Velika Kladuša. Some individuals were demanded to leave the territory.

Trends in border violence

In the last month, the violent return and collective expulsion of asylum seekers has continued as a daily occurrence along the borders surrounding Velika Kladuša. We conducted 23 violence reports with groups of individuals who returned from the border. These groups included Algerians, Moroccans, Pakistanis, Afghans, Syrians, Palestinians, Yemenis, Iraqis, Bangladeshis, and Egyptians. Most were captured in Croatia and subsequently returned to Bosnia. Still, we conducted three reports with groups who were apprehended in Slovenia and subsequently pushed back to Croatia and then Bosnia.

Within the collection of our reports, certain trends can be identified as emerging within the last month. In particular, the use of fires to burn the belongings of people on the move during their pushbacks appears to have become part of the repertoire of violence used by Croatian police officers. When taken back to the border, individuals have reported their sleeping bags and backpacks being thrown into large fires. [Report 1.6, 1.9, 1.12].

Additionally in the past month, we have observed an increase in the number of reports of individuals having their shoes either stolen or taken off by police officers during their pushback. [Report 1.8, 1.13, 1.16, 1.17] Another trend we have observed in the past month is pushbacks occurring further away from the Bosnian border in the interior of Croatia. [Report 1.9, 1.18] A number of groups also reported this month being pushed into frigid or icy water along the border. [Reports 1.7, 1.16, 1.18]

A final point of note of observation is that with the onset of subzero temperatures and heavy snowfall, the overall number of groups crossing into Croatia from Bosnia-Herzegovina has gone down within the last month. While people still cross on a daily basis, groups as a whole are smaller, their frequency is less, and their patterns of movement are shifting as well. It has been observed that less groups are attempting to cross on foot the entire route towards Italy, while more are attempting to link up with human smugglers within the Croatian interior. Still, border violence persists within this dynamic.

Border violence coverage elsewhere

In the past month, a video was released by the group [Border Violence Monitoring](#) which was obtained through hidden cameras along the Bosnian-Croatian border. In it, the video shows the collective expulsion of people on the move from Croatia to Bosnia. This evidence provides another powerful counter to the continued [denial](#) of such actions from the Croatian Ministry of the Interior.

In addition, the New York Times released an [article](#) on December 8th, detailing the conditions which refugees and migrants in northwestern Bosnia-Herzegovina face as the winter arrives. Within this article, the violence reports issued by this project were referred as evidence of the continued abuse of authority by Croatian police. Human Rights Watch also published a [report](#) based off of the collection of testimonies from victims of border violence in northwestern Bosnia-Herzegovina.

REPORTS OF GROUPS APPREHENDED IN CROATIA

19 reports

[Report 1.1]**1 interviewee - Algeria - Group of 11****Unrecorded interview on 03.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DEPORTATION - ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE – DENIED OF ASYLUM
Location	The group was apprehended in Croatia close to the town of Rupa, 5 km away from the Slovenian border and 40 km away from Trieste. Later, they were brought to the Rupa police station
Victims	Number of victims: 11 persons Interview conduct in French Country of origin: Algeria Age: The interviewee was 23 years old while other members of the group ranged from 21 to 40 years of age Minors involved: one 17-year-old from Algeria Sex: Males Number of “games” : 2
Date and time	The group left Bosnia on 17/11/18. They were later apprehended at approximately 10:00 am on 30/11/18 and pushed back on the same day sometime in between 6:30 and 7:00 pm
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Paper signed: Yes

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of eleven persons left from Bihać (BiH) on foot with the intention of moving towards Trieste. They took all their belongings with tents, backpacks, and dried food. On the way, it was snowing and temperatures at night dropped to around –5°C. After seven days of walking, they met a dead bear in the Croatian forest.

At the end of their tenth day of walking, the group slept in an abandoned house. Later in the night, a group of four people from Algeria also entered the same house and slept together with them. The day after they joined groups and all walked together.

On the morning of November 30th, the group left the house where they spent the night together at approximately 5:00 am. At around 9:00 am, a car with hunters inside of it drove down the road and stopped about 20 meters away from the group, looked into their rearview mirror and drove away. The group kept walking. About an hour later, a police van came, fired a gun into the air four times, and stopped the group. Four people from the group ran away and the policemen fired again twice in the air, however they did not manage to catch them. According to the interviewee, they were frisked by the police, but they were angry because of the four persons who ran away just before.

Three policemen were in the van which was described as a large, white vehicle with a blue stripe on both sides and a window in the back. The policemen were wearing blue sky shirts and dark blue trouser. The respondent reported that at this point, they were located approximately five kilometres away from the Slovenian border and 40 km away from Trieste.

At around 2:00 pm, they were brought to a police station. Before getting into the van, the interviewee asked for their phones back, however the officer present instead gave them to the driver of the van. The interviewee remembered seeing a sign for the town of “Rupa” while they were driving to the police station. There, he described that the group was brought into two cells, and one by one were brought to a room with a yellow door and a blue number on it. The person in the group who spoke the best English stayed with the policemen to translate. There, the officers took pictures of the face of each person. On this picture they had to carry a panel with a number on it. The individual interviewed held a panel with the number two on it while the English speaker was held the number one. He expressed his wish to claim asylum in Croatia, to which an officer answered:

“No asylum, camp is full, go back to Bosnia”

The person who translated filled out a paper with each individual’s information – name, surname, date of birth, country of birth, place of birth, name of mother, name of father and if they passed through Serbia or Montenegro, and they all signed it.

They were frisked again, and their belongings were checked. Their money was taken as well as their phones and power banks.

According to the interviewee he asked for food and he was refused. The interviewee then asked them to go buy food with his own money, but they still did not want to.

They stayed approximately three hours at the police station before leaving at 4:00 pm. According to the interviewee, they travelled for approximately two and a half hours before reaching the border, however he explained that it was difficult to know the exact time since he was sitting in the back of the police van without any phone or watch. While they were inside, the driver used the brake often and suddenly, and drove down a bumpy road which made people fall over one another in the back. Moreover, the air conditioning was on. The interviewee reported that the back of the van had a caging on one door.

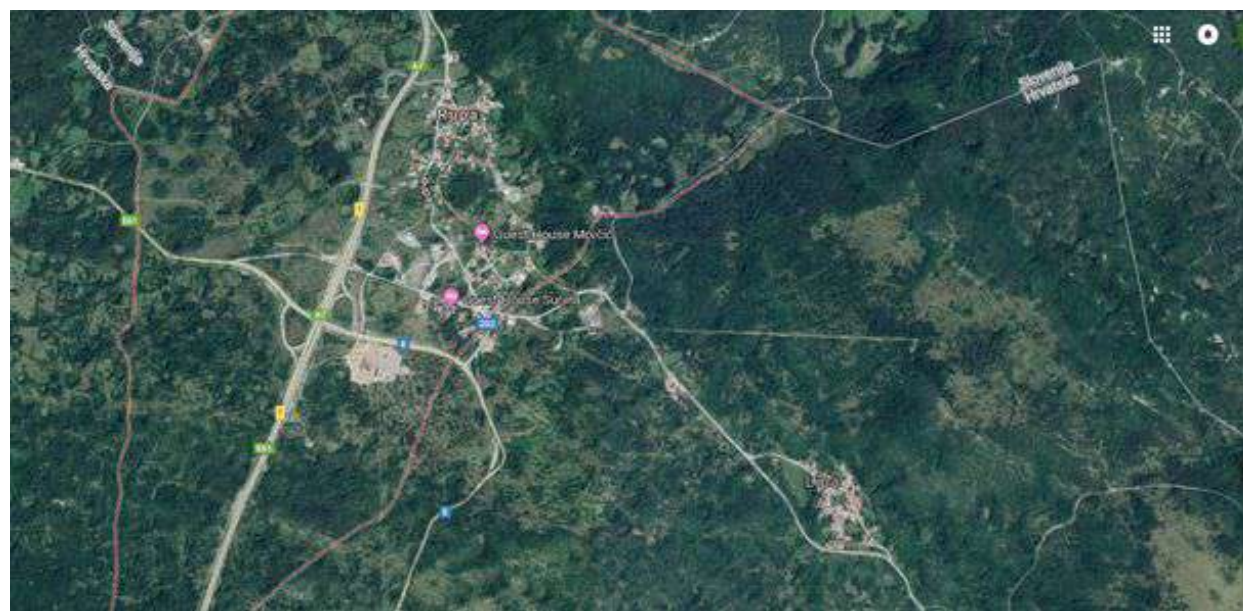
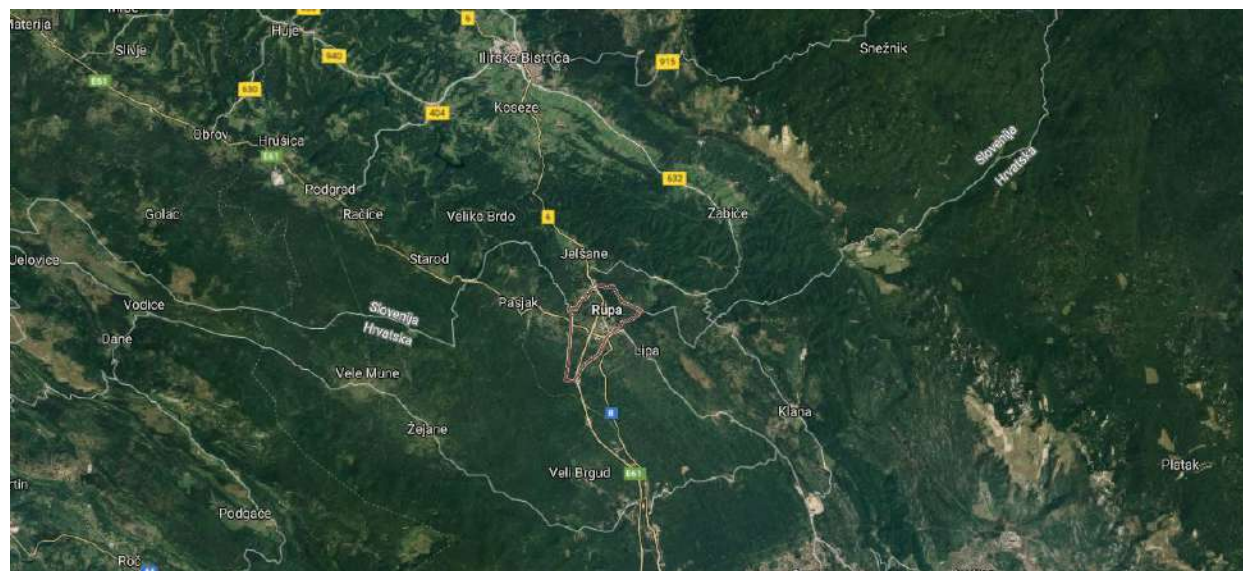
When they arrived to an area near the border, they made a quick stop at a police station. There they were made to sign a paper and leave again. The time spent there was approximately 20 minutes. Everyone signed a paper in a language that no one of the group could understand, probably Croatian. They were made to sign three A4 paper sheets inside the van.

Then they drove the final stretch to the border. When they went out of the van, four policemen were there saying to the group “Go, go, go!”, swinging their batons in the air. They were all dressed in dark blue uniforms. The interviewee asked for his phone while they were giving back their bags, but according to him because he asked for his phone, he got beaten with baton. In total, according to the interviewee the policemen took over 1000€ and nine phones and four power banks.

After reaching the Bosnian side of the border, the group walked back to Bihać (BiH) which took around four hours and was a distance of approximately sixteen kilometres.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

The three policemen who initially apprehended the group arrive in a van which was described as a white vehicle with a blue stripe on both sides and with windows in the back. The policemen were wearing blue sky shirts and dark blue trouser. At the border, the four policemen present were wearing dark blue uniforms.

LOCATIONS

Rupa village - Approximate location of the place where the group was caught station [zoom out & in]

[Report 1.2]**1 interviewee - Algeria - Group of 5****Unrecorded interview on 03.12.2018 Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED - ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE
Location	Left from Bihać (BiH) and the group was apprehended in a parking nearby the border on the Croatian inner land.
Victims	Number of victims: 5 Country of origin: Algeria (Berbers) Age: 26 to 38 years old Minors: None Sex : Male Number of "games" : 14
Date and time	The group crossed the border to Croatia on the evening of the 23 rd of November evening. They went out of the truck at approximately 8:00 on the 24th and came back to Velika Kladuša (BiH) at about 11:00
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: yes Documents signed : No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of five persons left Bosnia by entering the underside of a truck from a village nearby Bihać. They crossed the border to Croatia on the evening of the 23rd of November evening. Shortly after crossing the border, the truck driver parked the vehicle and slept for the night before beginning to drive again the next morning.

The next morning, on the 24th at about 8:00 am, one of the group-members moved around and made some noises in the back of the truck. Perhaps after hearing these noises, the truck driver stopped the vehicle and called the police. The police arrived in a white Iveco brand police van with a blue stripe on the side. The van didn't have any windows at the back.

The interviewee reported going out of the truck voluntarily without any opposition. There were seven policemen wearing dark blue uniforms present. After the group left, they were handcuffed and frisked in the parking lot. All of their belongings were checked, their phones and money were taken at this point as well. The interviewee declared that he expressed his wish to claim asylum in Croatia, but the policeman responded that:

“There is no asylum here, you go back to Bosnia”

Each member of the group had to write down for each person their identity (name, surname, country of origin) onto form which they did not have to sign. One hour after the first police van arrived, a second one came with two individuals inside: one driver and one policeman. The policemen already present gave these two men a bag with the group’s phones inside of it. The five group-members were then told to get into the back of the second police van.

According to the interviewee, the driver was a 40 to 45-year-old man with white skin and brown hair:

“The driver, he only does the transport, he just brings refugees to the border, that’s it”

“One by one we get out of the van, the other stayed in the van. The door is closed after each person getting off, one by one, they get beaten. My friend in the van he doesn’t see what is happening. After they say go away, go away. After a new person – ta ta ta (imitating with his hand someone who beat) – after go away”

“They beat without any pity, they don’t have heart. They are criminals”

According to the interviewee, there were ten policemen who were waiting at the border when the van arrived. They all wore black ski masks and dark blue uniforms. One of them was female. The interviewee described the pushback point as being approximately 28 kilometers away from Velika Kladuša (BiH).

Nine policemen and one police woman were present at the border. They were wearing dark blue uniforms with a Croatian flag on their arms. They were wearing ski masks

When they were brought out of the van, the group-members were beat with a large baton that was described as somewhere between 1.2 to 1.5 meters long. The interviewee reported being beaten by this large baton four times on the head, which left him with an open wound, and also on the arm and the knee. The respondent also described being beat with trees branches. The officers destroyed all of the group’s phones with their batons.

On the way back to Velika Kladuša, at around 11:00 am, after they ran away, they stopped a random van driving on the road and asked the driver to bring them to a hospital. He gave them a lift to Miral camp (Velika Kladuša, BiH). There, the security called an ambulance for two of the people in this group, including the interviewee. At the hospital, the interviewee received two stitches on his head. He asked for a medical paper attesting the wound and the medical care, but according to him the doctor refused to give him.

INJURIES AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

The respondent had an open wound on his head (two stitches) from a baton blow, as well as bruises and scratches on his arm and knee.

PHOTOS OF INJURIES



[Report 1.3]**2 interviewees - Pakistan - Group of 17****Unrecorded interview conducted on 03.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSHBACK - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - GUNSHOTS - DESTRUCTION OF PERSONAL ITEMS - THEFT - TARGETING OF FEET
Location	The group was initially stopped by police in the interior of Croatia at an intersection along the D42 road, close to a large wood market. They were later brought to a secluded area of the Bosnian-Croatian border, approximately ten kilometers away from Miral camp and pushed back.
Victims	Number of victims: 17 Country of origin: Pakistan Minors involved: No Sex: Male
Date and time	The group was captured in the interior of Croatia on 29/11/18 and returned to the Bosnian-Croatian border in the early morning of 30/11/18
Details	Expressed intention to apply for asylum: No Papers signed: No Fingerprints: No Pictures taken: No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of seventeen left on foot from Bihać (BiH) to Croatia on the evening of November 24th. They walked for a total of five days through the Croatian interior. On the evening of their fifth day, at around 9:00 pm, were walking on the D42 road when the respondents inferred that a Croatian man observed the group passing by his house and called the police. Approximately an hours walk ahead on the road, when the group reached an intersection which was a short ways after a large wood market. When they approached the intersection, the group discovered that there was a group of four Croatian police officers who were, as the respondents described it, “waiting for us.” The officers were dressed in black uniforms and had black ski masks covering their faces. One of the police officers was described as having bright blue eyes. The officers commanded the group to “Stop!” at which point four members from the group attempted to run away. In response, one of the officers fired their handgun into the air three times.

The three men running away angered the police officers and they approached the remaining group-members and began to shine bright flashlights into their eyes. According to one of the respondents, an officer said to them:

“Don’t enter Croatia’ and then [they] started to beat [us]”

The respondents described being hit by several of the police officers with kicks and punches. After the group experienced this violence, they had their coats checked for money and their bags checked for mobile phones. According to the respondents, one person had 80€ taken from them, another 100€, someone else 300€, and one other person had 5€ taken from them which amounted to a total of 485€ stolen from the group. In addition, they had eleven mobile phones and eight power banks taken from them.

They waited for some time at their initial point of capture before two small police vans arrived and their were told to enter the back. Eight people from the group entered one van, and the nine others entered the other. Inside the van, there were no windows and there was very bad ventilation which led to a situation which one of the respondents described as “no breathing”. When all of the group members were in the van, the four policemen called for “back-up” and soon nine other police officers arrived at the scene to look for the missing group members.

They were kept in these vans waiting as the group members who ran away were located and brought back one-by-one.

From their point of initial capture by the Croatian police at the intersection the group was driven for four hours back to the Bosnian-Croatian border. When they arrived back to the border, the respondents described that there were many police officers there. The respondents described that at the border:

One police officer beat on the leg, one police officer beat on the head, one police officer beat on the foot, one police officer beat on the head.

In addition to this, the respondents described officers intentionally destroying their personal belongings:

“[There were] eleven sleeping bags cut with a knife by police officers”

The respondents described an officer as taking out an approximate 25 cm knife and cutting their sleeping bags open. The knife was described specifically as a switchblade knife, a knife in which “you press [a] button and [the blade] comes out.”

They arrived back to the border around 12:00 pm. The respondents described the site of their pushback as closeby to a stream and in a rural area where they could only see two houses around them. They described watching police officers check every two minutes as checking in on a walkie-talkie and looking around with night vision binoculars to ensure that there was no one observing their pushback.

When they were taken out of the van, the respondents described being forcefully handled by a group of nine police officers. Rashid, one of the respondents, described in detail how members of his group were taken out of the van and had two police officers grabbed them on each hand and two other police officers hold their legs. With the individual pinned onto the ground, two additional police officers hit them on the hands and legs with batons:

“Two policemen beat on the hand.”

After this, the individuals subject to this process had their shoes taken off by the police officers and were subsequently hit on the soles of their feet with batons as well:

“[The police officers] take off shoes and beat on the foot.”

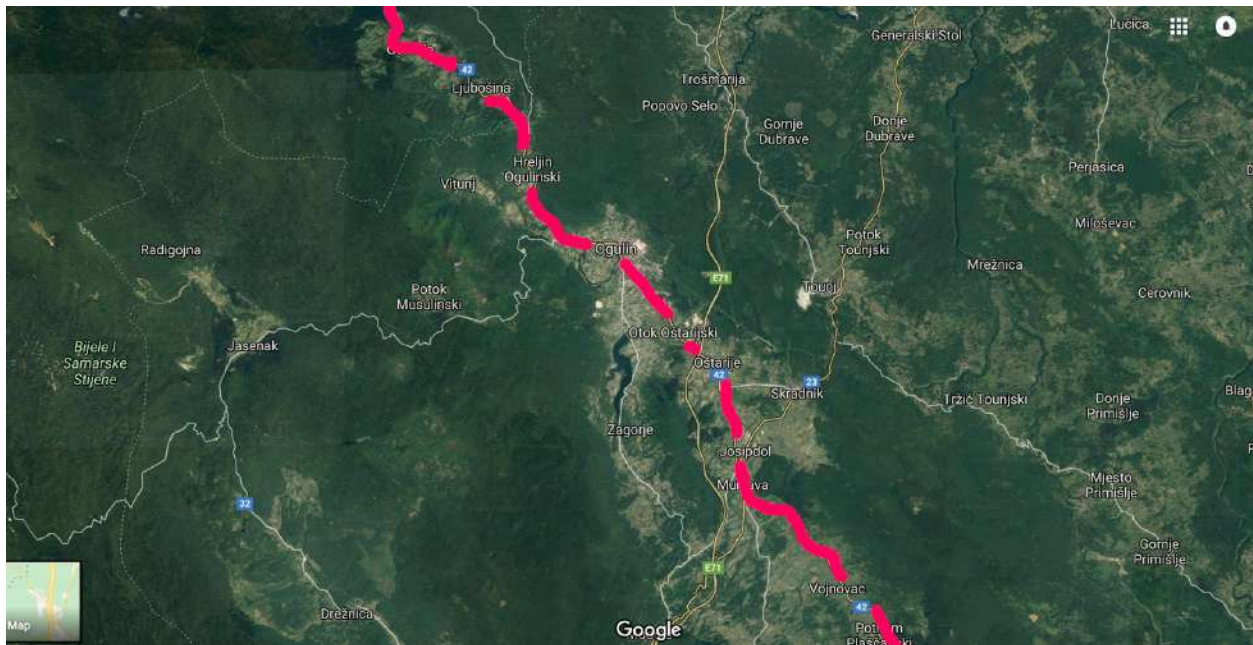
While they were doing this to one individual, one of the police officers told the man:

“Don’t cross Croatia!”

The four men who endured this treatment were the four individuals who initially ran away from the police officers when they approached the group at the road intersection. The respondents inferred that the officers were intending this treatment as punishment for running away. One of the interviewees received this treatment and after returning from the border had his feet bandaged by a medical provider in Velika Kladuša. The thirteen members of the group that did not run away from the police officers initially did not receive the same treatment. Rather, during their pushback they were hit with batons by officers in their face, chest, and legs however they did not receive the same individualized and intentionalized treatment as the four others.

The group then recollected on the Bosnian side of the border before walking approximately ten kilometers back to Miral camp outside of Velika Kladuša. This journey took them about an hour

LOCATIONS



Section of D42 that the group describe being apprehended in by Croatian police

IMAGES OF INJURIES



One of the respondent's bandaged feet after having his feet beat by Croatian police batons

[Report 1.4]**1 interviewee - Iraq - Group of 9****Interview recorded on 04.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED - ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - DAMAGE OF PHONES
Location	The group was initially stopped by Croatian police, along the Croatian-Slovenian border, close to the village of Zdihovo (HR). Later, they were taken back to the Bosnian-Croatian border and pushed back in a secluded rural area in between Bojna (HR) and Gradina (BiH)
Victims	Number of victims: 7 Nation of origin: Iraq and Kurdish Syria Sex: Males Minors involved: None
Date and time	The group left from Velika Kladuša (BiH) on 28/11/18. They were apprehended by Croatian police on the morning 1/12/18 at approximately 8:00 am. Later, they were then driven directly back to the border, which they arrived to at approximately 1:00 pm and were pushed back.
Details	Papers signed: None

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

On the night of November 28th, Mohamed left with a group of six of his friends on foot from Velika Kladuša and crossed in to Croatia with the intention of walking to Slovenia and from there to Italy. In total, the group was seven adult males from Iraq (some Kurdish) and Syria (Kurdish). Although the conditions were quite bad from the start, the group walked for three days:

“We left at night, the first night we are sleeping in an empty building and [then] walking three days, three days raining and snowing. The river was like freezing. Very bad weather. Two from my group [looked like they] were going to die from cold because we were wet.”

To shelter from the cold, the group entered an empty building, which was located within a forest by a road, on the evening of their third day of walking at approximately 3:00 am. Mohamed later inferred that when the group initially entered the empty building, some cars saw them entering and called the police.

Shortly after the group entered, several police officers approached the building and shot three bullets into the air. At this point, the group remained silent:

We are silent when police is coming, when they were shooting...They say "Go! Go! Go!" we didn't do anything,

Apparently, the police did not decide to enter the house, perhaps because it was dark, and ended up leaving. Still, it seems that they were aware, or suspicious, of the presence of individuals in the house. Despite Mohamed's insistence, the group decided to stay in the house for the night. Mohamed described that he told his friends

"We must change this place, the police know where we are".

Ultimately, however, the group stayed in the house because they were so cold and so wet that they saw no other option but to stay.

According to Mohamed, the two police officers returned to the house around 8:00 am:

The police return in the morning, when the light comes, they saw footprints and broke the door down....Two police at first show up, they broke the door. Later they brought a police van which had one officer and two police in the van. They took everything, mobiles, powerbank.

According to Mohamed, the two police officers broke down the door to their house, made contact with the group, and then called for backup which arrived in the form of a van which had three police officers inside of it. These police officers took their phones, money, and powerbanks, which they never received back, and then loaded them into the van. One of the policemen had caught Mohamed two times previously, however he did not recognize Mohamed.

The "head officer" of the group spoke with Mohamed, spoke with the group and asked "Who speaks English?" to which Mohamed replied that he did. The officer announced to him that he was a Croatian police officer and that Mohamed and his group were arrested because they had crossed the border illegally." As a result, he informed them, they had to enter the van to go to the police station where they would be brought to prison. According to Mohamed:

"I told him no problem we just need warmth."

He described him and his group as "freezing." In contrast to what the officer told the group, however:

"They didn't take us to the police station, [we] go to border directly

Instead, all seven members of the group were loaded into a police van and driven directly to a secluded section of the Bosnian-Croatian border, at approximately 1:00 pm. The three policemen who drove the

van to their initial point of apprehension travelled in this van with them to the border. After they arrived, the group began to be taken out of the van in pairs:

"Then just two-by-two they take us out of the van and close the door. Loudly."

The group of seven was taken out of the van two at a time twice, and then for the last pairing, they were taken out in a group of three. The respondent was taken out of the van in the last group which consisted of three persons. When he was taken out of the van, Mohamed described himself as being beaten with police batons and seeing one of his phones being broken by a Croatian police officer. He had one other phone hidden in his dirty sleeping bag which the police did not find, however, and he was able to keep this. One of the group members had 150€ stolen from him, however Muhammad himself was able to keep the money he had since he kept it hidden in his underwear.

Mohamed described that while around eight officers were present during the pushback, only four or five of the border guards committed violence against his group. He reported that all of the officers at the border who hit him had on black ski-masks on which, as he described, were "special for commandos, like when I worked for Americans in Iraq". The three officers who drove them to the border did not actively participate in the violent pushback of the individuals. Instead, he reported that these three individuals:

"Just [stood] by laughing at us"

Mohamed described that:

"When we get out of the van, one stood here with a baton and said "Don't come another time motherfucker" and raised a baton behind his head with two hands and brought it down with full force."

Amplifying the difficulty of escaping to the Bosnian side of the border away from the police batons was the fact that the ground was covered with fresh snow which made the terrain slippery:

"With all of the snowing, you cannot run fast"

The respondent described losing his shoes while running back because of this.

Mohamed's detailed a prolonged and strategic pushback which included police officers hiding behind trees in the forest on the way to the Bosnian border in order to corral the movement of the asylum seekers:

"When you run, someone hides after the trees [and hits you in] the face in the teeth in the knees"

The respondent reported that one of his friends in the group from Iraq, had his nose was broken by a Croatian police officer at this point. In this way, the respondent painted a picture of his pushback where

police officers chased him away from the van towards a forest close to the border. Upon the individual's entry into the forest, they discovered that there were police officers hiding, waiting to hit them again with batons, and drive them closer to Bosnia:

"When you are running, someone hides [and] after three meters and then starts hitting you....When you are down in the earth, someone kicks you."

Muhammad described the final police officer he encountered before crossing the Bosnian side of the border who, unlike the other officers, was unmasked. The respondent described this officer as a "very big policeman" who was muscular like Dwayne "the Rock" Johnson. According to Muhammad, the officer was perhaps 35 years old, had green eyes, white skin, and was clean shaven except for a mustache. Mohamad thought that perhaps he stood at 180 cm tall. Unlike the other officers, this man did not target parts of the torso or legs with his blows:

"He hits you just on the head, just on the face"

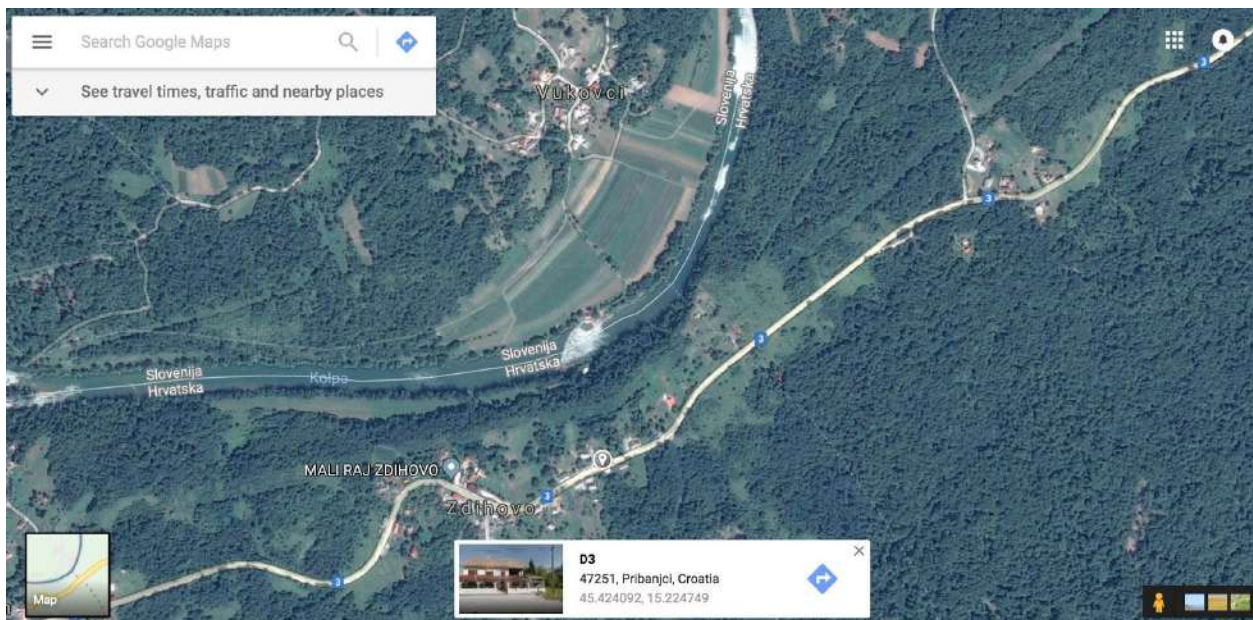
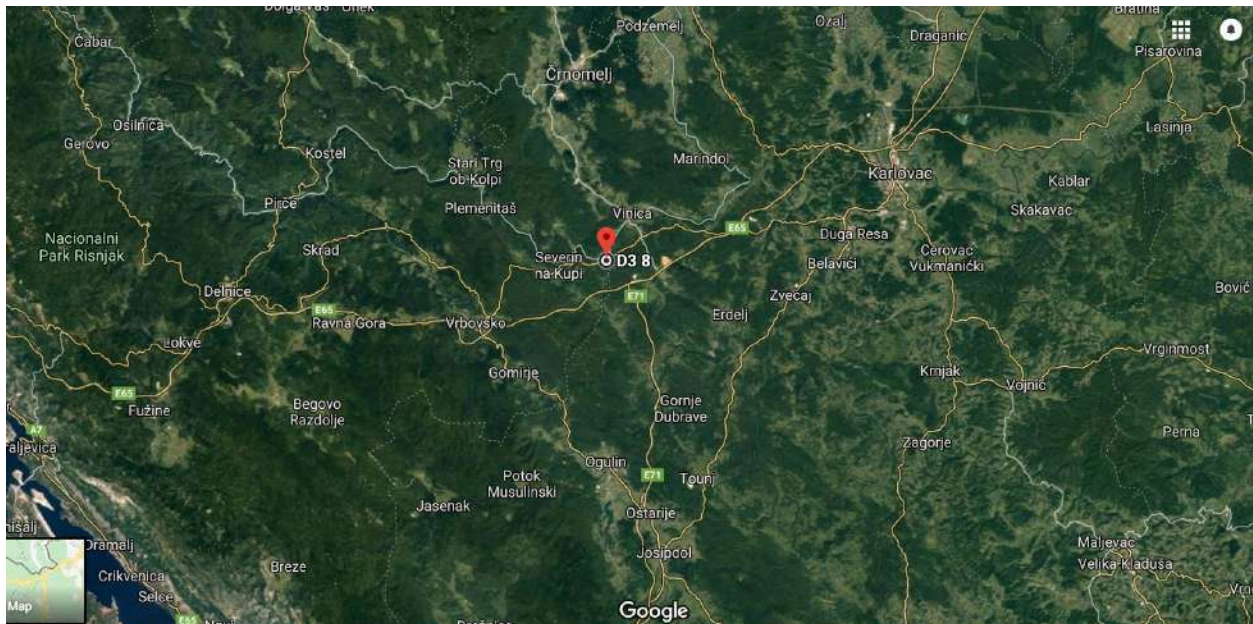
The respondent described having an interaction with this officer centered around his frustration and confusion with his violent treatment:

"I told him, 'Why? We are all human' and he hit me. My friends who were already in the forest watched me as I did this. I told him, 'I am not scared of you, I am just a refugee, I won't kill anything I won't steal anything'. He told me, 'You get out, motherfucker'.... He was scared of me, he was scared of us"

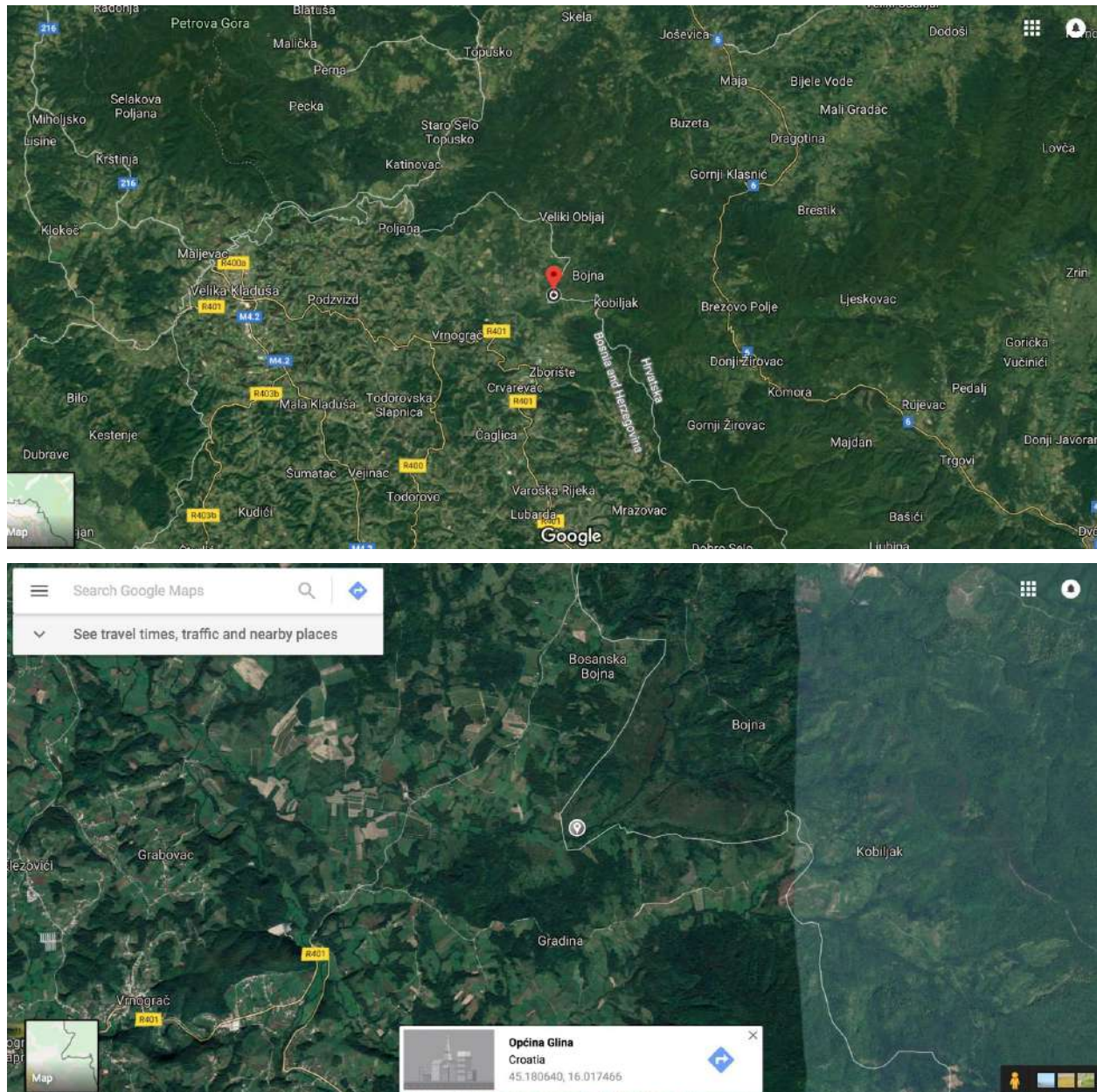
The respondent had attempted to cross several times before but explained that it was his first time experiencing violence of such magnitude at the border:

"It was the first time they hit me like that, but I've seen so many people with broken teeth, broken eyes"

LOCATIONS



Approximate location of the group when caught by the Croatian police [zoom out & in]



Approximate location the interviewee declare being brought back to Bosnia [zoom out & In]

[Report 1.5]**2 interviewees - Syria and Palestine - Group of 4****Unrecorded interview on the 04.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DEPORTATION - THEFT OF PERSONAL ITEMS - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - DAMAGE OF PERSONAL ITEMS
Location	The group was initially stopped by police in the Croatian interior, in an abandoned house between the villages of Ruševica and Donja Žrnica (Hr). They were later taken back to the Bosnian-Croatian border and pushed back at a secluded point in between Buhača, Croatia and Zagrad (BiH).
Victims	Number of Victims: 4 Country of Origin: Syria and Palestine Age: The group-members were aged 19 to 45-years-old Minors present: No Sex: Male
Date and time	The group left from Velika Kladuša on 27/11/18 at approximately 2:00 pm. They were later pushed back to Bosnia on 29/11/18, sometime in between 2:00 and 3:00 am.
Details	Papers signed: No Photos taken: No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

Tamir and his friend Aamer spent two days in Croatia prior to their game in attempt to track the movement and patterns of the Croatian border police before they left with their bigger group. During this time, Tamir described that they “learned everything about them, when they go and watch and when they change people.” After this, they came back to Velika Kladuša, took their friends, and left for their game as a group of four on November 27th. The group arrived to the border, watched the police change shifts around 2:00 pm and crossed the border on foot. The group walked around three hours and hid in the forest in Croatia until the next day. It was quite cold at this point, with a steady rain that turned soon turned into snow.

The group exited the forest on foot and walked after this for around three hours before they came across an abandoned house with water inside. The group went into the house for water and to take a rest. Tamir believed that at this point there were a group of police which were watching them from afar with night vision binoculars. He was pretty sure that he saw the police but the rest of the group did not believe him so they kept talking and making noise. The police were drawn in closer to the house by the

noise and eventually made their presence known, saying “Stop! This is the police!” to which the group responded by stopping and offering no resistance.

At this point, there were only two police officers but after initially apprehending the group, they radioed for back up. A short time later, three police cars arrived (one large van and two smaller police cruisers). In total, ten officers arrived in these vehicles (four in the van, four in one of the cruisers, and three in the other cruiser) The officers present then demanded the phones and electronic devices of the group. The Croatian police officers took two of their phones, one power bank, and over 350€ from the group. They never received these personal possessions back.

Shortly after these devices were taken, the officers began to search through the bags of the group and discovered that in Aamer’s backpack, there was a phone which he had tried to hide from them. Angry at this, one of the police officers took this phone out of his bag and began to hit Aamer in the head with the phone. The officer raised the phone back behind his head and brought down the phone with force to hit Wassim in the forehead with the front side of the phone and began to repeatedly ask Aamer “What is this? What is this?” An officer then punched Aamer in the jaw with a closed fist and kicked him in the chest so hard that he fell backwards from where he was sitting and tumbled down the hill which was behind him. Tamir reflected that

“They treated us like animals or worse. They laughed at us and beat us as they search my things and threw them into the ground. It was snowing and was so cold.”

The officers present at this time all had black ski masks covering their faces except for one officer inside of a car who had glasses on and was hiding his face. He was described as a “normal” officer insofar as the group didn’t see any identifying marks which would signal him as outranking any of the other officers present. Tamir was under the impression that this individual was working on a computer at this point and that this computer was related to the reasons of their capture. Specifically, that they had used it to track their location via the GPS on their mobile phones.

The group was then taken back to the Bosnian-Croatian border at which point they were taken out of their van one-by-one and hit by Croatian police officers with batons and pushed to fall down a hill into a small stream close to the Bosnian side of the border. Tamir reflected that as he was taken out of the car and began to be beat by the officers with batons, that:

“He wanted to hit me on the head. I put my hand on my head [to protect my face] so he hit me on my knee.”

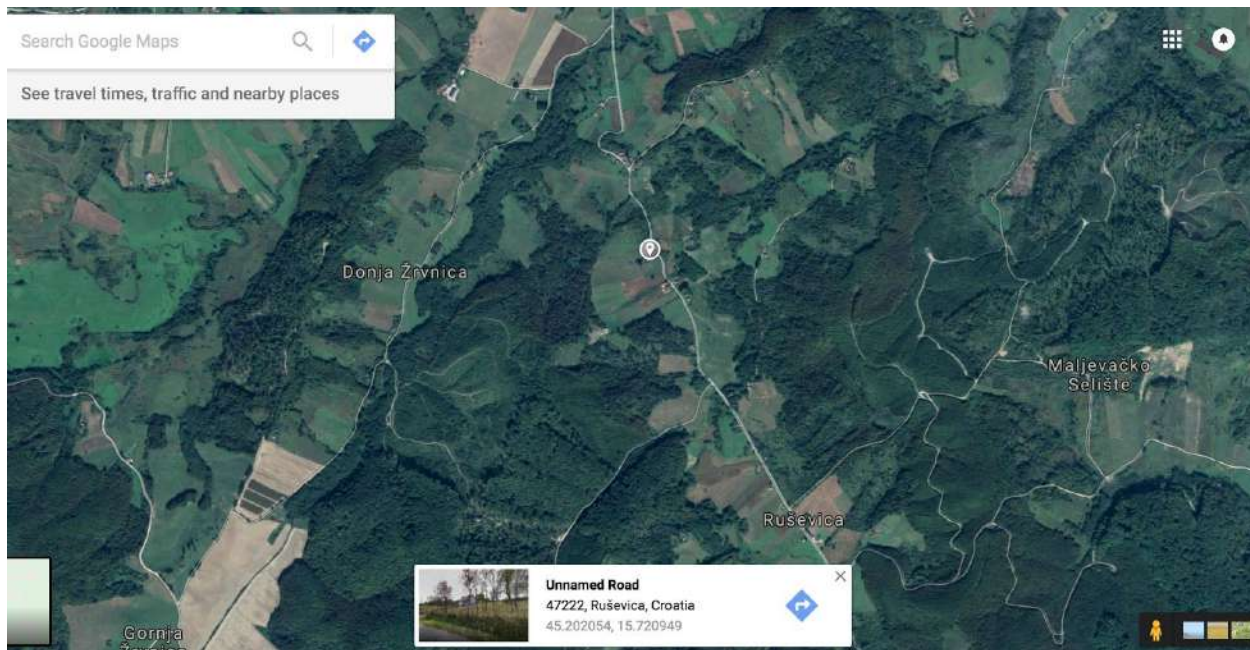
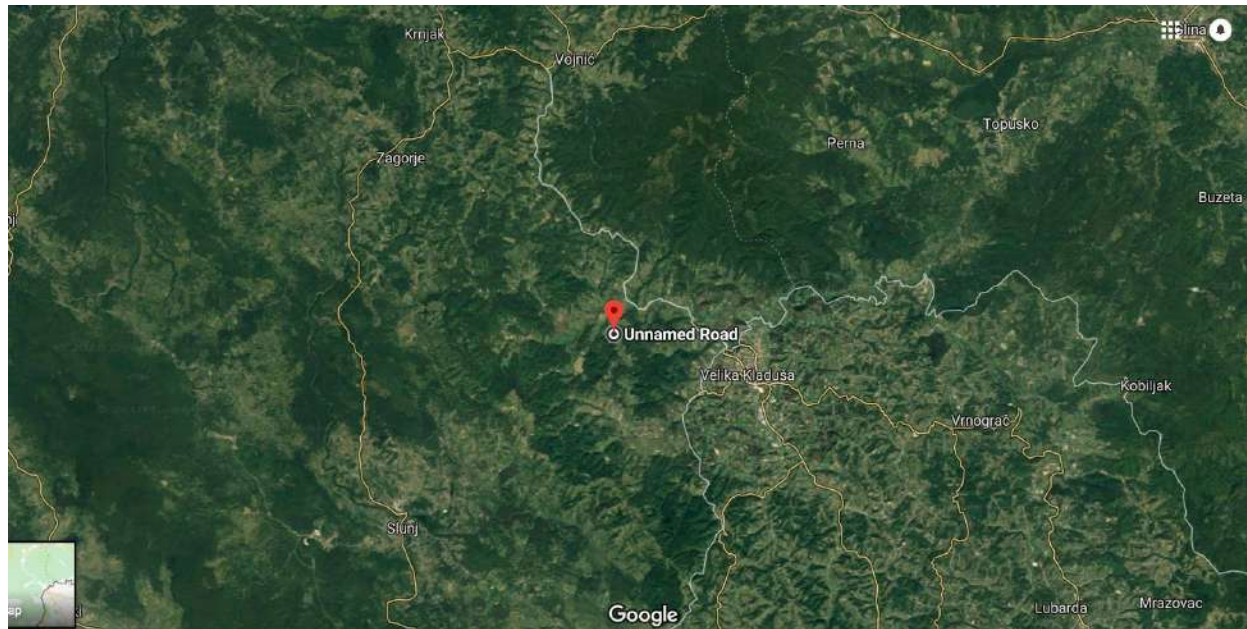
One of the respondents also mentioned that as he fell down while trying to escape back to Bosnia, the Croatian police “dragged us on the dirty road”.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PERPETRATORS

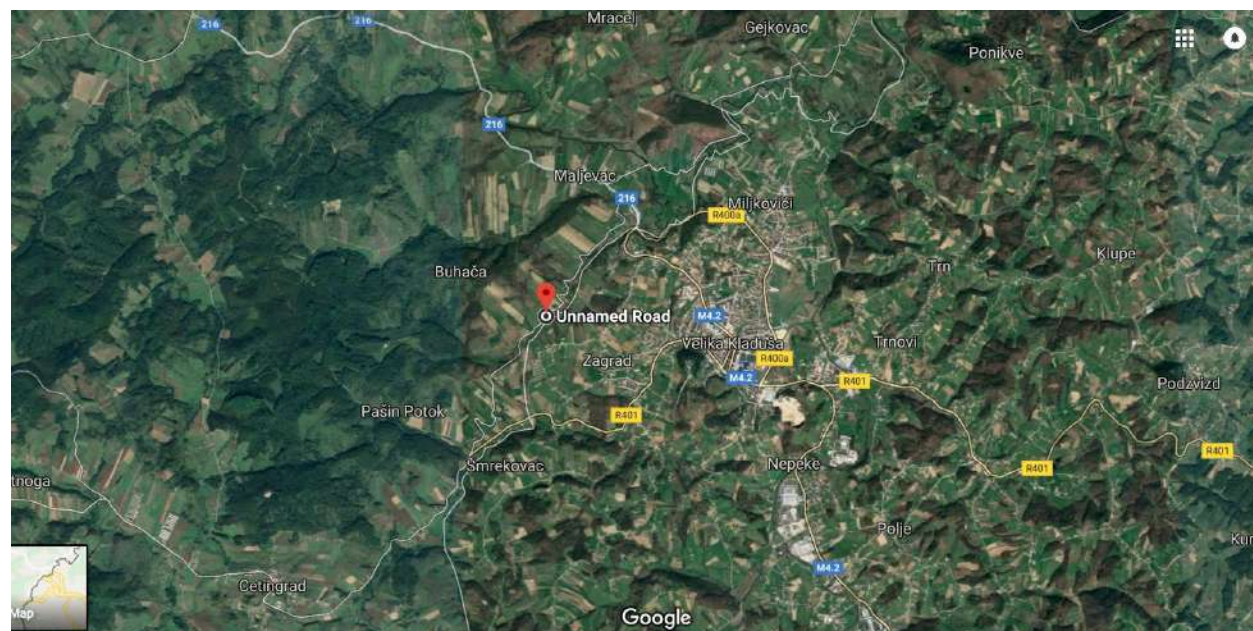
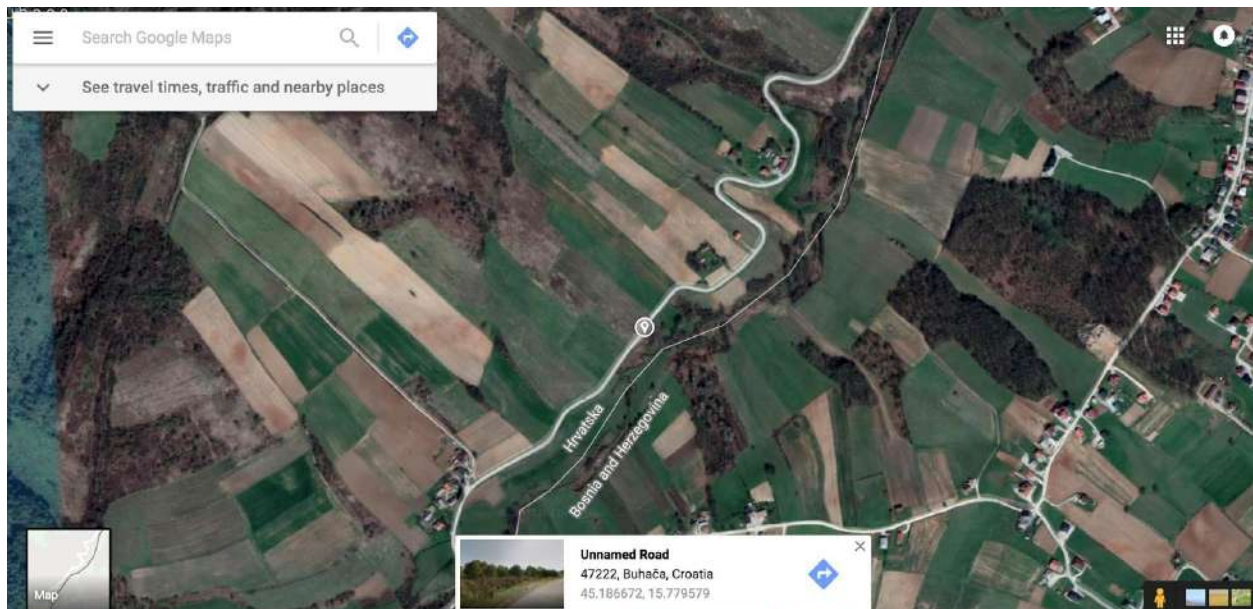
The respondents described that two Croatian police officers initially apprehending the group, however three police cars soon arrived behind them (one large van and two smaller police cruisers). In total, ten officers arrived in these vehicles (four in the van, four in one of the cruisers, and three in the other cruiser) The officers present at this time all had black ski masks covering their faces except for one officer inside of a car who had glasses on and was hiding his face. He was described as a “normal” officer insofar as the group didn’t see any identifying marks which would signal him as outranking any of the other officers present.

DESCRIPTION OF INJURIES

Aamer had several large bruises on his torso and left arm from hits from police batons. He did not seek medical treatment for these injuries

LOCATIONS

Approximate location of where the group was initially caught by Croatian police [zoom in & out]



**Buhača - Approximate location of where the group was pushed back by the Croatian police
[zoom in & out]**

PHOTOS OF INJURIES



[Report 1.6]**3 interviewees - Morocco - Group of 3****Unrecorded interview on the 06.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DEPORTATION - ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE – DENIED OF ASYLUM
Location	The group was apprehended near Sutla There were brought to border police station nearby Sulta The were release about 20 kilometres away from Velika Kladuša at the border.
Victims	Number of victims: 3 persons Interview conduct in French with the 3 persons Country of origin: Morocco Age: 25 and 42 years old No minors involved: 17 years old Sex: Males Number of “game”: 10 games from Bosnia
Date and time	The group of three friends left Bosnia on the 03/12/18 They were apprehended on the 04/12/18 approximately at 6:00am released on the same day and arrived at Velika Kladuša (BiH) at approximately 8:00pm
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Paper signed: Yes

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of three friends left Bosnia on foot on the 3rd of December. They took a bus from Slunj (HR) to Zagreb (HR). At Zagreb they took the 7:43 pm train to get to Sutla (SI) and arrived at 8:45 pm. After the train station they walked around to find a place to cross the border but every place they tried, they could see policemen. Accordingly, they tried to avoid them. They also tried to find a way to cross the river. At one point there was a small bridge with water passing under. At approximately 6:00 am, they could see a white van on the Slovenian side, according to the interviewee, they called the Croatian police. Another white van arrived. When the policemen went out of the van, they fired in the air, they caught the interviewee and beat him with a baton in his head and in his legs. The 17-year-old kid tried to run away, they caught him and beat him strongly with a baton, the policemen was described as an early 40 years old man, who was overweight, had white skin, was bald, and wore a black uniform

“My friend said “Morocco”, he was beaten a lot. I said “Palestinian”, I was beaten a bit”

The three persons were brought to a border station nearby which took them around five minutes to reach by car. They sat on a seat in the back of a van which had windows which they could see out of.

The interviewee described then being beaten at the police station where a policeman hit him in the back of the head with a closed fist. They were frisked one-by-one and their phones were taken and never given back. The interviewee described the room where he held as a cell without bed but with chairs inside. They asked for water and food during their time in the station but were refused.

They were made to sign a paper twice which had their information filled out on it – name, surname, date of birth, nationality, mother's name, father's name, address. After this, the officers took a picture of him with a sign which had his name and surname written on it. When the interviewee asked to claim asylum, they answered him "no asylum" and they laughed. He also said that he didn't speak English and asked for someone who can speak Arabic to understand the situation, but nobody came.

There were many policemen in the station but the interviewee spoke about two policemen in particular. One was nice, one was bad. He described the "bad" policeman as a male standing around 1.90 meters with white skin and a five-day-old beard. He was further described as having blue eyes, salt and pepper hair, being around 29 years old, and wearing a black uniform. The person described is the one who beat the interviewee. The "nice" policeman was described as a bald man with white skin and wearing the same uniform as his colleague.

From the police station, they were brought to a portion of the Bosnian-Croatian border around 20 km away from Velika Kladuša (BiH). The respondent described arriving to this location at approximately 5:30 pm. The van was quite hot since the heater was on. The driver was driving fast, swerving from right to left, making them fall on both sides. Upon their arrival to the border, their phones were broken with a baton. Five policemen were already present and there was a fire in which they threw the group's sleeping bags and phones.

The policemen shouted at them:

"Here is Bosnia [showing Bosnia with his arm], if you go Croatia, I will kill you" "Welcome Croatia [while they were laughing]"

They also shouted at them:

"Idemo, idemo, march, march"

After crossing the border, the group walked back to Velika Kladuša (BiH) and arrived at approximately 8:00 pm.

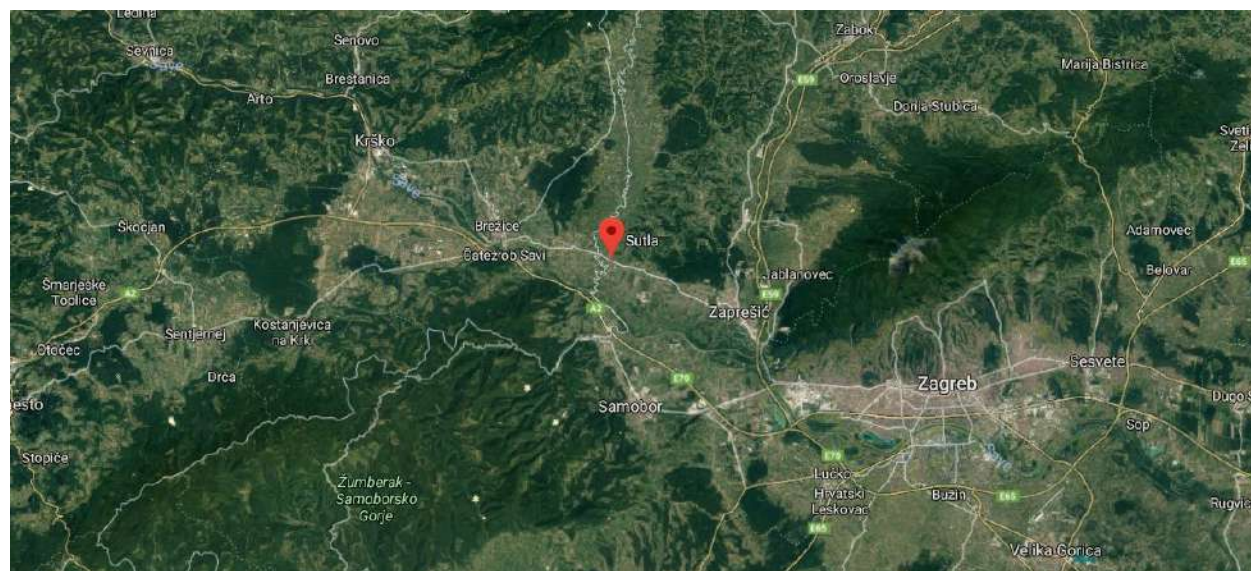
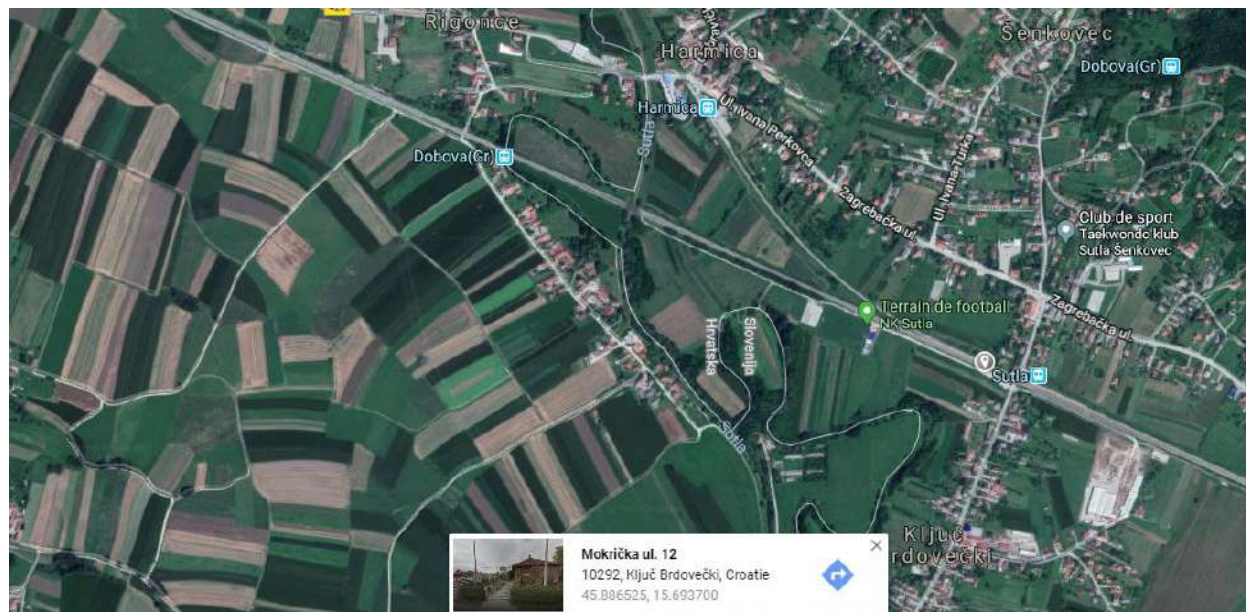
The interviewee had attempted to cross the border ten times previously, including four times where he expressed his intention to claim asylum in Croatia. However, his intention has always been refrained. Nowadays, he is thinking about doing a voluntary return to Morocco.

"My dad earns from his retirement 150€ per months, for a flat, the rent, there is 50€ left to live, what for? It is misery"

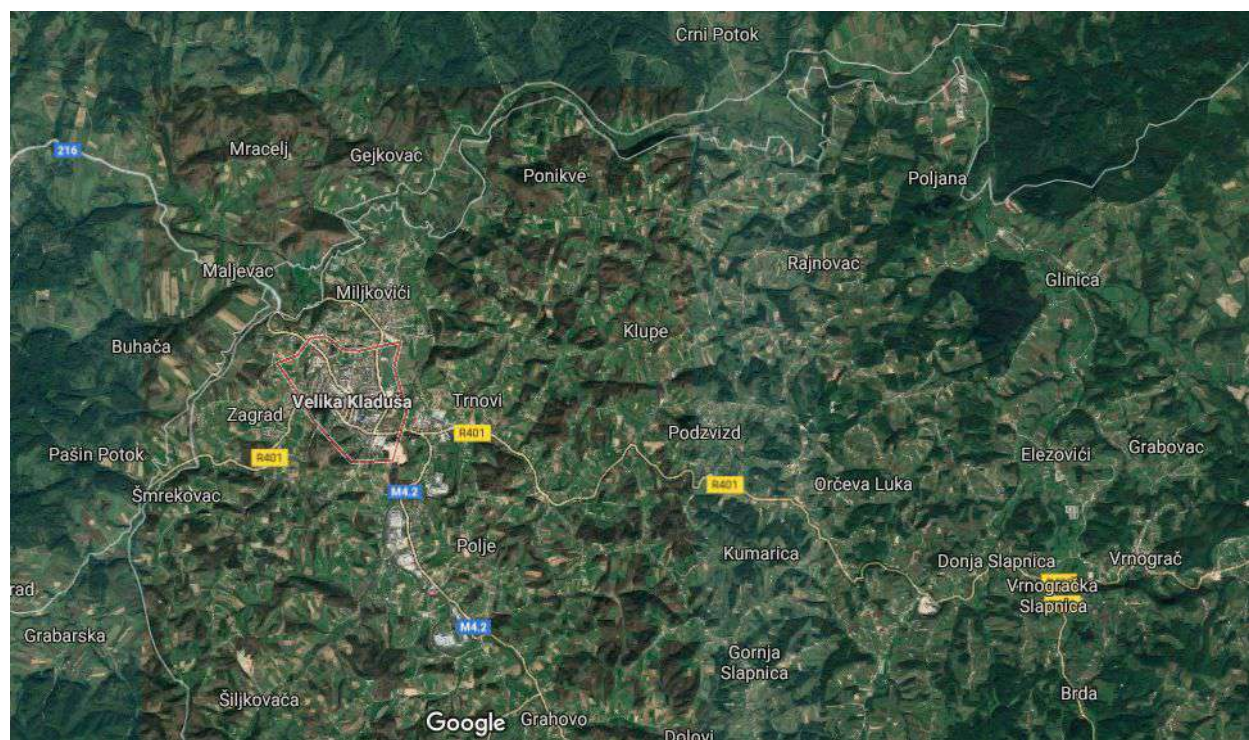
One of the interviewees spoke about the 17-year-old boy in the group:

“Psychically he changed, before he laughed but now, he withdraws on himself”

LOCATIONS



Sutla and its bus station - Approximate place where the group was apprehended [zoom in & out]



About 20 km away from Velika Kladuša (BiH) - Approximate location of pushed-back

IMAGES OF INJURIES



17-year-old interviewee

[Report 1.7]**1 interviewee - Algeria - Group of 8****Unrecorded interview on the 08.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH BACK – PHYSICAL VIOLENCE – BELONGINGS DESTROYED – BELONGINGS ROBBED – OBLIGATION OF KEEP A SPECIFIC BODY POSITION
Location	The group left from a village near Bihać (BiH). It found a house in the forest nearby Matulji where they got apprehended. The police brought them back to a place described as the checkpoint in between Maljevac and Velika Kladuša (BiH).
Victims	Number of victims: 8 Interview conduct in French with the 1 person Country of origin: Algeria Age: 24 Minors involved: 2 – 16 years old and 17 years old Sexe: Males
Date and time	Left on the 25/11/18 Apprehended on the 05/12/2018 approximately at 9:00 pm and arrived at Velika Kladuša (BiH) the day after at approximately 2:45 am
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: no Paper signed: no

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group found a house in the forest near Matulji after having walked for ten days. They wanted to spend the night there, but at approximately 9.30 pm, seven policemen entered the house and asked the group of people: "Where do you come from?", "Where are you going" and then began to hit the group members. After this, they took the group's money:

"Give me phone, money, all, all, everything, whatever what".

The respondent described there being two policemen who were more violent than the others. These individuals were about 45 and 48 years old respectively, one of them was wearing a black ski mask, and the other had pepper and salt hair. They broke the group's phones while the other policemen watched everyone and asked questions. In the group of policemen, there was also one woman who had long, blond hair which carried a bit longer than her shoulder.

One of the policemen was carrying a gun towards the group, asking them not to move. Then this individual asked them to get on their knees and put their hand behind their heads. They were asked how long they stayed in this house, the interviewee answered "six hours".

One-by-one, they told the group-members to stand up. They were then forced to unzip and take off all of their clothes (jumper, vest, coat, etc) and asked them to pull down their trouser and underwear. The policemen then inspected them by lamp torch. They stayed approximately three hours in this position before being able to leave the room, one-by-one. They were then thrown into a white van while being grabbed by the coat. The interviewee thought that the van was a "Mercedes", but was not sure. The van did not have any windows in the back and while they were inside, the officers turned on cold ventilation.

They then were brought to the Bosnian-Croatian border, close to Velika Kladuša (BiH), after driving for three hours. Around the place where they parked the car, it was a forest and sewer. The interviewee located the place as behind the border official check point of Velika Kladuša,

"Near the place where was the protest a few months ago"

There were two vans at this location: one on the edge of the road going to the border official checkpoint and one on the field where the group were transported into.

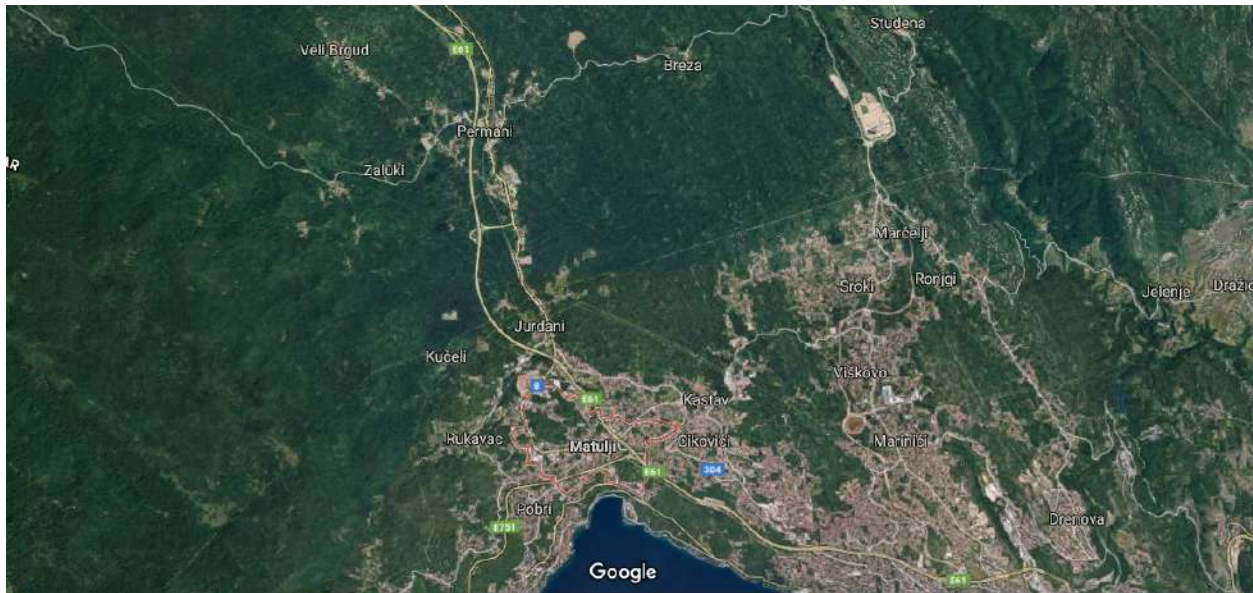
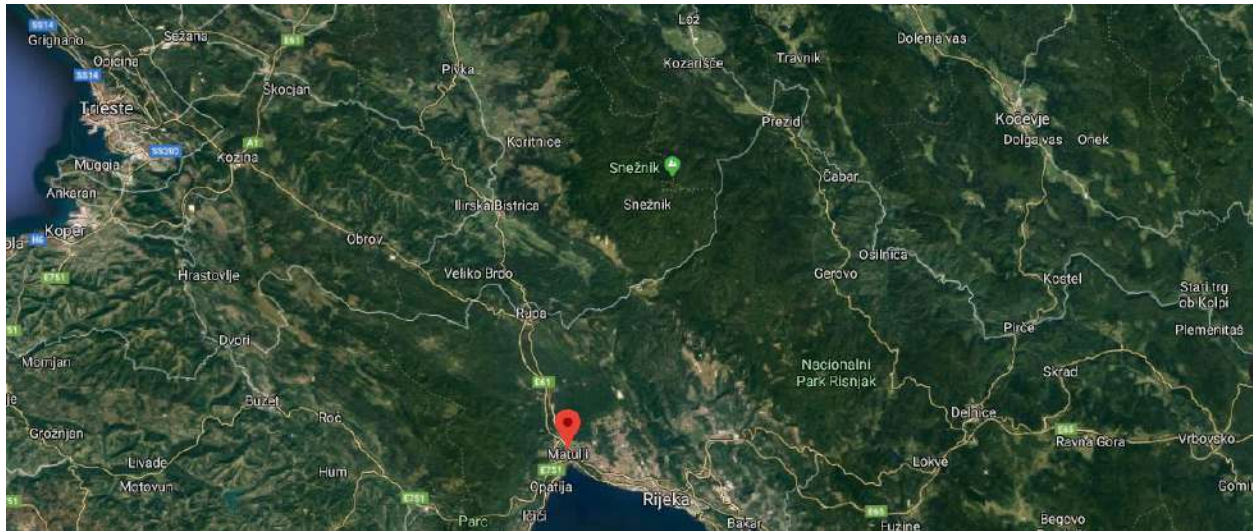
There, fifteen policemen positioned themselves outside of the van. Some wore black ski mask, some did not. When they parked the van, members of the group were thrown out of the van, one by one. Policemen waited for them, kicked them and beat them with batons. Both policemen, with and without ski masks, beat people however the ones with ski masks beat more and stronger according to the interviewee. They insulted them:

"Picko matre", "Fuck you!", "Go, go Bosnia!"

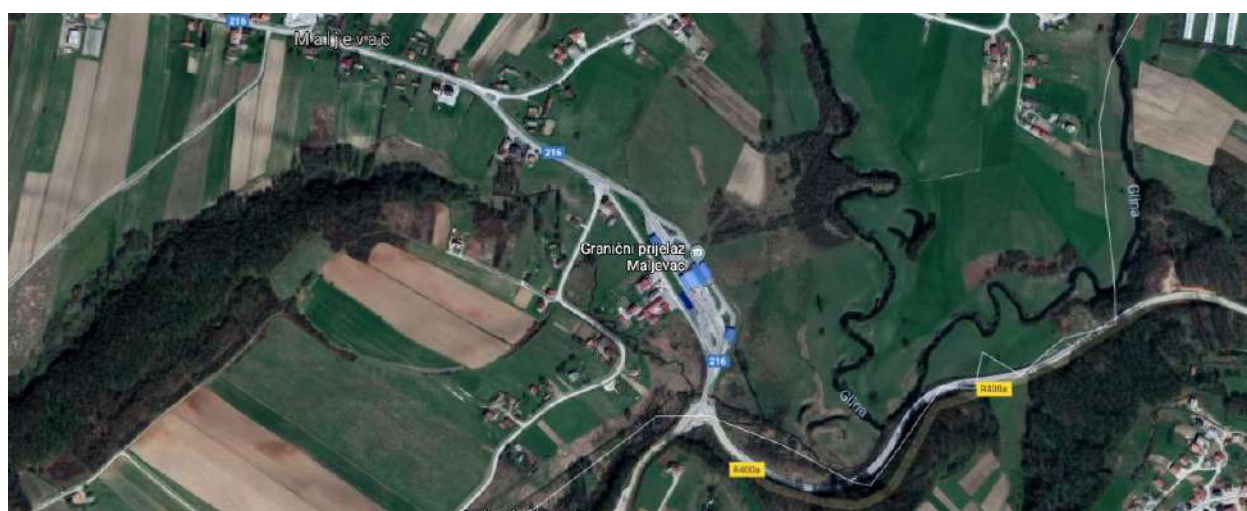
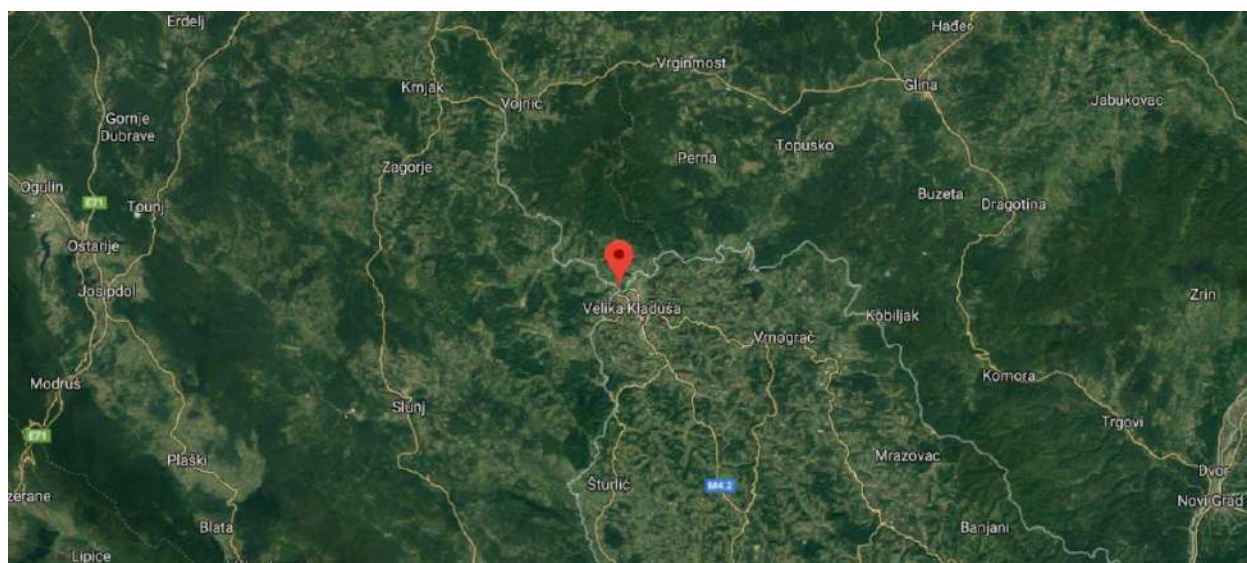
Eventually, they brought the interviewee, carrying him by his shoulder, to the sewer and threw him into it. He describes the scene as if they pushed him with their foot into the sewer. The policemen were laughing, and they made fun of them.

When the interviewee went out of the sewer, he ran away and took out his clothes, and kept running in underwear until Velika Kladuša city center. He arrived there around 3:00 am.

The group members didn't express the wish for claiming asylum. In total, 450€ were stolen and nine phones were either stolen or broken. Concerning the interviewee, they took him 150€ and two phones. He got injured in his two feet and in his knee.

LOCATIONS

In the forest nearby Matulji - Approximate location where the interviewee declared that the group was apprehended [zoom out & in]



Maljevac/Velika Kladuša border checkpoint - Approximate place where the interviewee declared being pushed-back [zoom out & in]

[Report 1.8]**2 interviewees - Algeria - Group of 2****Unrecorded interview on the 10.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DEPORTATION - ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - DESTRUCTION OF PERSONAL ITEMS
Location	The group was initially stopped by Croatian police in the Croatian interior. Later, they were taken back to the Bosnian-Croatian border and pushed back in a secluded rural area in between Buhača, Croatia and Zagrad, BiH
Victims	Number of victims: 2 Nation of origin: Algeria (Berbers) Sex: Males Minors involved: None
Date and time	The group left on foot to Croatia from Bihać (BiH) on 4/12/18. The group was initially apprehended by Croatian police on the evening of 9/12/18 at approximately 5:00 pm and pushed later that evening at around 9:00 pm.
Details	Papers signed: None Expressed intention to declare asylum: No

DESCRIPTION

The group of two men left on December 4th from Bihać (BiH) on foot, crossing over the border to Croatia with the intention of continuing on to Italy. From there, they walked for five days on foot in the Croatian interior. At somewhere between 3:00 and 4:00 pm on the fifth day, the group went out of jungle to the road at somewhere on December 9th. It was snowing at this point. They had absolutely no idea where they were at this point but described having passed through a village shortly before.

They respondents described that they intentionally went out onto the road because they were looking to find the police. One of the respondents was very sick, had earlier injured his knee, and knew he couldn't make it all the way to Slovenia. As a result, they had decided that it would be better to give up and find the police who they believed would bring them back to Bihać:

"When I go out jungle, it is the countryside. I look for police because I'm too cold. Then they come, it's normal. When you go out of the jungle, police arrive."

They reported that at this point, they didn't realize they would be might be subject to police violence, perhaps because they had only tried to cross:

I believed they would bring me to Bihać, but I didn't know they would beat. When I go out of the van [at the border], they beat directly."

Shortly after they came onto the road, a police car came upon them. Three officers were present, stopped them, and asked them several questions: “Where are you from?”, to which they responded “Algeria” and “Do you speak any English” to which they responded “No”. These were the only questions the respondents recalled being asked during their entire interactions with the Croatian police on this night. The group waited approximately 30 minutes on the edge of the road for a van to come and in this time they were frisked and given cigarettes by one of the three police officers that was on the scene initially. The police officers were all male and the rest of the police officers that they would interact with during their experience were also male.

When the van came there were two officers inside of it. The van was described as a smaller van which was painted dark blue and had the words “POLICE” inscribed on it. They were loaded into this van and brought to a nearby police station.

They changed vans at the police station and two new police officers took charge of the new van. The second van was described as a bigger van which was painted white and had the words “POLICE” inscribed on it. They remained in the police van in the police station for three hours and describe it as “very cold”. There was a window in the van from which they could look around and see what was happening but ultimately the respondents could not describe any of the surrounding details of the station since it was night time they were never actually brought in to the police station. Rather, they just changed from one van to another and these were parked directly next to each other. During their time at the station, they signed no documents, had no pictures or fingerprints taken. They did not request asylum at the police station or at any other point during their experience because they had heard from their friends that it was impossible:

“You cannot claim asylum in Croatia.”

They are later brought back to a secluded section of the Bosnian-Croatian border outside of Velika Kladusa, and taken out of the van one by one. It took them around 30 minutes to drive to the border from the police station. There were four police officers at the border who were all described as having on black ski masks which covered their faces. They were armed with batons and used these to hit the two men in their upper thighs, shoulders, and hands. One of the respondents described being hit first by a police officer with his fists. He “couldn’t see anything” but was next beat with batons and then kicked in his back. The four officers were described as standing in a line some meters apart from each other outside of the van. They were positioned close to a stream which runs along the border.

The primary respondent of the interview was the first to be taken out of the van and described having just enough time to pick up his backpack before beginning to be beat by the police officers. At one point they took off his shoes and threw them and when he (the respondent) went to pick them up and bent over he was hit twice in the back with a baton:

“When we arrive there [at the border] I go out of the van first, one by one. When I go out, they beat me, after they said, “take your shoes off” and they beat me [imitating his body bent and a policeman beating him with a stick], then they threw my shoes and then I crossed [the river]. Fortunately, I ran because he hit me with so much violence.”

He then ran away and got wet while crossing a stream which runs along the border. He later searched for his shoes and found them. Nonetheless, he ended up walking back to Velika Kladuša(BiH) with only one shoe on his foot since after he took the shoes back, he lost one in the darkness of the forest. The day was quite rainy and as a result he lost the shoe in the mud.

The other respondent described that after his friend was taken out of the van the officers closed the door and was waiting there for 10 minutes. He didn't have time to take his bag when he was later brought out of the van, and reported that it was left in the van. It had clothes, shoes, and a phone inside of it. They had no money taken from them however one of the respondents had one of his phones broken and then thrown off into the night by a police officer

After being pushed back by the Croatian police officers, the two men had to walk approximately one hour back to Velika Kladuša(BiH) where they encountered a No Name Kitchen volunteer at approximately 10:00 pm walking along the roadside. One of the men had only one shoe on. It was approximately five degrees Celsius on this night, and the ground was wet from all of the rain earlier in the day.

PICTURES OF INJURIES



[Report 1.9]**1 interviewee - Algeria - Group of 30 to 40****Unrecorded interview on the 17.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - VERBALLY THREATENED - ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE
Location	The group of 8 people left Bosnia from Bihać. The 8 persons were apprehended on the 504 road nearby Prijeboj and were released in the mountain at a place located the place 45 kilometres away from Velika Kladuša (BiH) and 50 kilometres away from Bihać in the inner Croatian land.
Victims	Number of victims of push back: 30 to 40 Country of origin: Algeria (Berbers) Age: 26 Minors in the group: 2 children (ages unknown) Sex: Male
Date and time	The group of 8 Algerian Berbers left from Bihać on the 12.12.2018 by walk. The group crossed the border the day after and reached Croatia on the 14.12.2018 at approximately 7.00 am.
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of eight Algerians walked for two days before crossing the 504 road nearby Prijeboj (HR). Along the road, there was a traffic light blinking and a building which looked like a warehouse. After they crossed this road, they kept walking for around fifteen minutes and a green, military van stopped behind them. Two group-members escaped and ran away. Inside the van there were six law-enforcement personnel:

“They are not policemen, they are army forces”

They wore green, military uniforms, and carried rifles with scopes, like snipers, and night vision binoculars, according to the interviewee. One of the military officers talked shortly with the interviewee, and translated on Google Translate

“My work is to find you and then we call police”

This person took pictures of the face of each person apprehended with his phone. After this, they called the police which arrived around 40 minutes later. While some of the officers were looking for the two group-members who escaped, the group members apprehended had to wait kneeling.

Some of the military men were violent. One of the apprehended persons took a punch in his face and one of respondents were kicked with a knee on his left wrist which made him fall. He declared not being able to stand for approximately two minutes because of pain. Eventually, the military officers found one of the two persons who escaped.

Seven men and a woman wearing dark blue uniform arrived in a Mitsubishi white car and in a Volkswagen white van with a blue stripe on it written "Policija". Four of the policemen were wearing ski masks. The latter were the ones who beat people. The woman put her ski mask towards the end of the exchange before leaving. She was blond, with short hair, "boy hair style". She was wearing a hat and was in between 35 and 40 years old. They all wore dark blue uniforms with a gun carried on the belt and a baton. "Policija" was written on their backs.

The interviewee described the interior of the van as having silver walls, with two benches on both sides, and a strongbox under at least one of the benches. There is place for at least six persons on both benches. There were two ventilators on the ceiling and on the floor were eight leg shackles. A camera was placed in one of the corners. When the team of police officers arrived, the group was allowed to stand. When the group was with the police, a neighbour (a young man with his dog) went out to see what was going on. The police asked him to call them if he would see again the person who escaped.

The policemen frisked one-by-one the bags of the group. They took some food, sleeping bags, phones, power banks, tents, but not from everyone. Some of the people had their belongings left more or less untouched. In total, these officers took seven power banks, six phones and 625€. The interviewee described being slapped by one of the policemen, saying that he wasn't a Muslim:

"They talk to us in violent way, they were proud to have caught people who tried to cross the footpath, but for us it is upsetting to see a government acting this way."

They were then brought to a place, approximately five kilometers away which described as

"A garage, like an old barrack. Just beside is an entrance and a police station in front of the building. The building is 25/30 metres large with a blue door. There is a yard in between the police station and the building. The road to access there is a small one. [...] Inside is a sink and a heater. There is any window, but three lights light on on the ceiling."

When the group arrived to this location, they were told to leave their bag backs at the entrance. They stayed there without any sleeping bag and food. The interviewee asked for his bag to get food and socks, but they refused it. There were teams regularly shifting at this place, and many policemen and women came to look after them.

At approximately 10:30 pm, the interviewee went into a van with other people, single man. The interviewee thinks that he will be brought to Zagreb. Inside the van they could not see what was going on but could feel that the van got stuck in the snow and could not go any further. The van then turned around and came back to the original building at approximately 12:30 am.

At some time in between 9:30 and 10:30 am the group left again but with different officers. There was an Iraqi family inside the van with them which was comprised of two parents, their two-year-old child, the brother of the mother. There were also five single men in the van: one from Pakistan, two from Iraq, and two persons from Algeria (the interviewees). It was cold inside the van because the ventilation was turned on. The woman had her period and tried with her husband to stop the van to go to toilets. Her husband slapped the wall for a while to make them stop, but the van stopped and left again.

"They [policemen] dropped in the middle of nowhere, they told us to go to Bosnia"

The interviewee located the place 45 kilometres away from Velika Kladuša and 50 kilometres away from Bihać in the Croatian interior, in the mountain. The "pushback" point was in the interior of Croatia, approximately five kilometers away from the border. They walked back for four hours to head the border.

"When we went out of the van, a fire was on, they threw everything we needed in it, even belongings from the family".

A policeman wanted to take the blanket which was wrapping the baby, but a policeman intervened to not do it. They threw the hats, sleeping bags and tents into the fire.

The interviewee described being transported in a van, accompanied by two other vehicles. Eight to ten persons were transported in each vehicle. He explained that while they were in the van, he felt the van stop for around ten minutes and then feeling the van going up an upwards incline. When they opened the doors, one-by-one, the policemen present asked them if they had belongings left in their bag. They frisked them again and put into fire what was left, for instance, sleeping bag and blankets.

Before they left, every phone which were taken by police before were put in a bag inside the strongbox in the vehicle. These phones were given back unaffected.

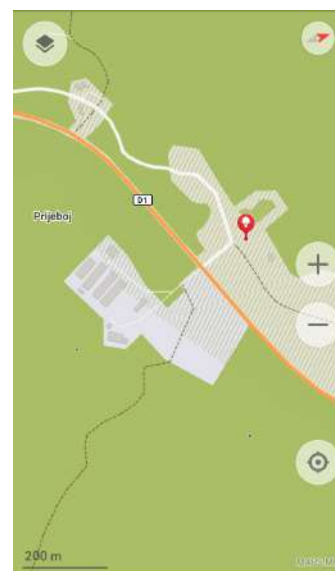
One of the people in the pushback group carried a spoon-knife kit. In response to finding this, a policeman slapped him strongly and kicked him with his knee. A similar exchange happened to a man who had a lighter, he was punched with a closed fist and fell on the floor.

The interviewee declare that he was made to unroll his sleeping back on the floor and throw his belongings onto it. He had a tuna can and bottle of water, a policeman kicked them away:

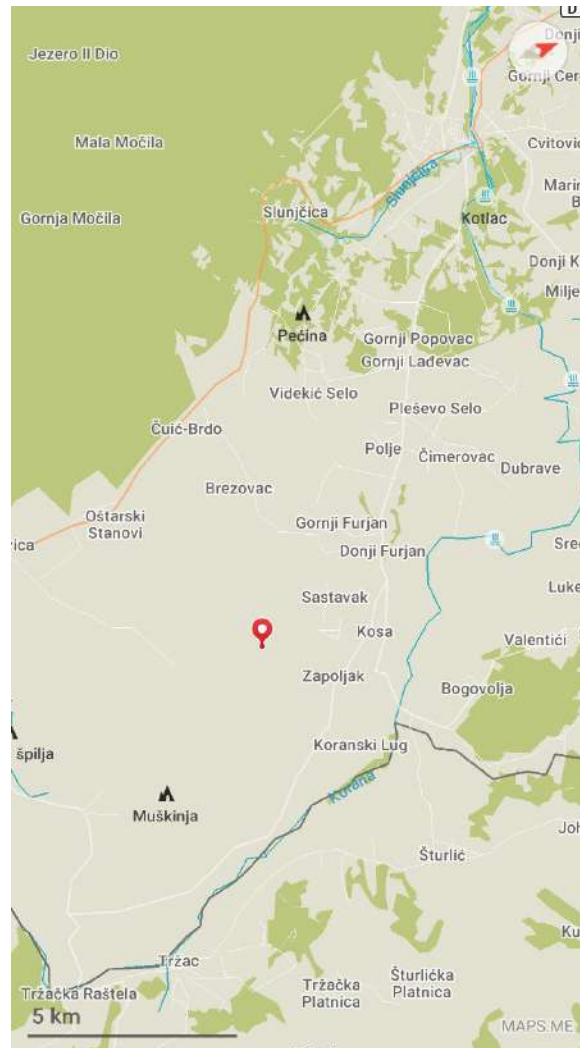
"If I would try to take it back, he would have punched me"

"They do whatever they want."

"The scene who shocked me is about the family, the baby was crying, they took everything"



Prijeboj (Hr) - Approximate location where the interviewee declare being apprehended



Approximate location where the interviewee declare being dropped by Croatian police

[Report 1.10]**2 interviewees - Algeria - Group of 9****Unrecorded interview on the 21.12.2018**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DEPORTATION - ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE
Location	The group left from Bihać (BiH). While walking along the border, in between Korona river and Gradina mountain (BiH), an unaccompanied minor in the group fell down a cliff. The group brought him to a house at Kordunski Ljeskovac (Hr) and kept walking. They were later apprehended at the bus station at Grabovac (Hr). They were released along a section of the Bosnian-Croatian border which was a 4-hours walk outside of Velika Kladuša (BiH) at the border.
Victims	Number of victims de push back: 2 + 7 Country of origin: Algeria and Morocco Age: 23 Minors in the group: 16 Sex: Male
Date and time	Apprehended on the 20/12/18 at 5.00 am
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed: No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group left from Bihać on the 18th of December and walked along the river Korona (HR). While they were walking, at approximately 5:30 am, a 16-year-old Moroccan boy fell down the hill. Considering the fall, the Moroccans in the group believed that their friend did not survive and decided to keep doing their way. The interviewee and his friend decided to find the person who fall. They walked approximately three hours to find him. The interviewee and his friend called the police to tell them that someone fell and may be in need of help. The interviewee found an emergency phone number in his phone and believed that it was the 112 number. Eventually, the two men found their group-member who was poor shape. The interviewee described that the individual had two broken legs as well as a broken back and he said that his face was destroyed. He believed that his nose was probably broken nose as well. They picked him up by shoulders and legs and walked until they reached a house where they dropped the boy off after more than seven hours walking in the snow. They knew people were inside because the chimney was had smoke coming out of it.

The two men then both walked until Grabovac (Hr) where a civilian car came up to them with two persons inside wearing blue police uniform.

“The one who catch us at the bus station had a baby face, he looked nice, but in the end, he was the one who beat the worst”

While they were with the two policemen, a van arrived with three people wearing the same uniform. According to the interviewee, the three policemen beat the him and his friend with batons. He described being beaten in his leg. They tried to speak about the Moroccan kid, but they did not give them any chance to speak.

After this, they were brought into the back of a van. They were driven for around 40 minutes, during which time they could not see where they were. They did not get out of the van once it stopped, however a group from Syria went in; three women, two children and four men. They were then eleven people in the van. They drove again for one hour to the Bosnian border.

“Take us out of the van one by one, beat us one by one, even the kids, they beat kids”

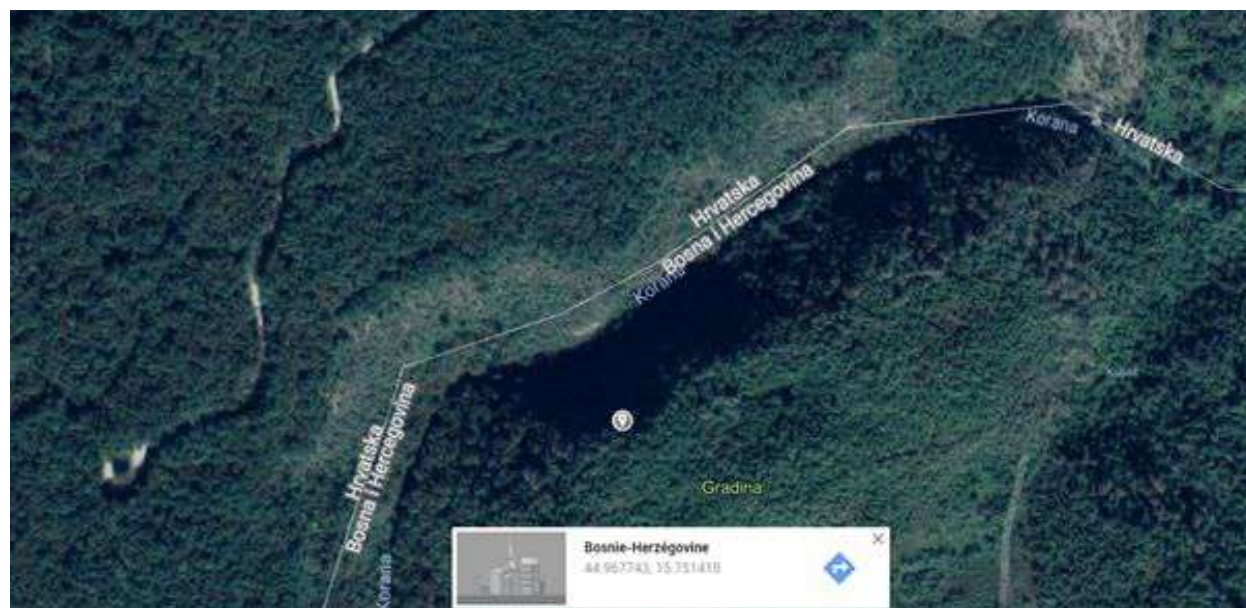
The interviewee described that at approximately 9:00 am, the police officers took him out of the van at the border and beat him again in his leg and his back with batons.

“It’s like a line, one after one, when you run, one [policemen] again”

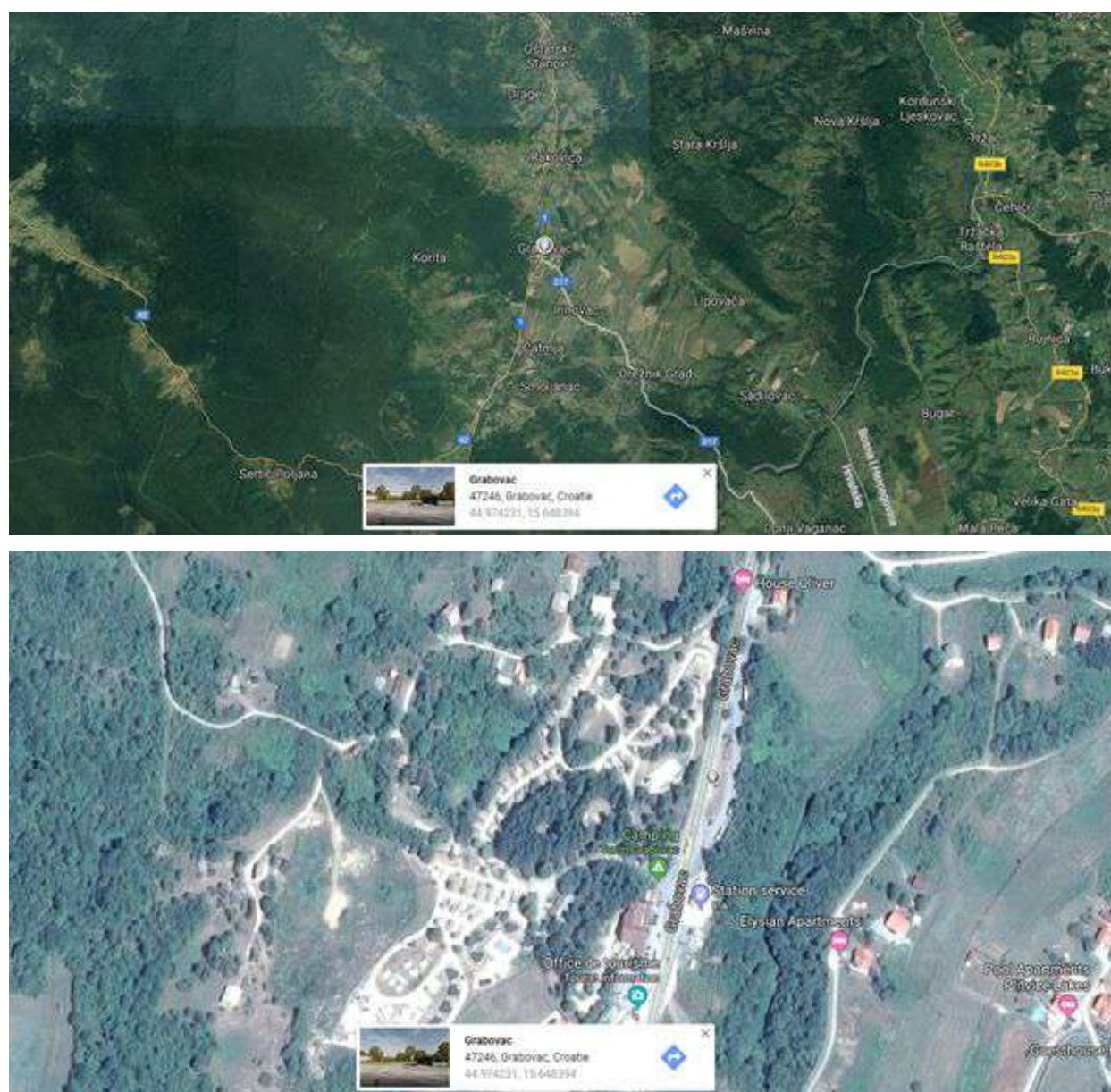
At the border, was two persons wearing plain clothes, two policemen coming from the car and three policemen coming from the van. The latter are the same who caught them at the bus station. The driver of the van was about 45 years old, overweight, with somewhat blond hair, and was wearing a blue uniform. The others were all young according to the interviewee and wore the same blue uniforms and had belts with batons and guns.

After being pushed back, the group walked back to Velika Kladuša (BiH) and ended up there at approximately 1:00 am

LOCATIONS



Approximate location where the 17-year-old kid fall down the hill [zoom in & out]



Grabovac (HR) - Approximate location where the interviewee declares being caught them
[zoom out & in]

PICTURES OF INJURIES



[Report 1.11]**1 interviewee - Bangladesh - Group of 12****Unrecorded interview on 21.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSHBACK - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - GUNSHOTS
Location	The group was initially apprehended by police in the interior of Croatia, close to the village of Snos. They were later brought back to a secluded area of the Bosnian-Croatian border close to Velika Kladuša, in between Pašin Potok (HR) and Smerkovac (BiH), and pushed back.
Victims	Number of victims: 26 Country of origin: Bangladesh, Pakistan, Afghanistan Minors involved: none Age: The respondent is 30-years-old Sex: Male
Date and time	The group left from Bihać on 4/12/18 and were apprehended by Croatian police on 6/12/18 at around 8:00 pm. They were brought back to the Bosnian-Croatian border later that night and pushed back at some time in between 8:30 and 9:30 pm.
Details	Expressed intention to claim asylum: No Papers signed: None Fingerprints: No Pictures taken: No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of 26 people left on foot from Bihać (BiH) to Croatia on the 4th of December. The group had ten men from Bangladesh as well as men from Pakistan and Afghanistan. There were no minors in the group. The group walked for two days and in the evening of the second day, at around 8:00 pm, the group crossed a road after leaving a forest at which point a police car came upon them and stopped the whole group. In this car, there were two male police officers who had on black uniforms and guns in their holsters. The officers exited the car, shouted out “Stop! Stop! Don’t run” and fired two bullets into the air. All 26 people in the group stopped at this point. To the respondent, it appeared as if the police had been waiting for them, because shortly after being stopped initially, a group of three more police cars came to their location.

“At first it was just one police car but then in one minute came three more police cars”

In total, there were twelve or thirteen male police officers who arrived in these three extra police cars. At some point during their initial interaction with this group of police officers, one of the group-members was asked if he had a mobile phone and lied in response, saying no. When the police

officers then found the phone in his bags, they approached the man and hit him in the hands and the legs with batons. His injuries from this beating were quite painful and upon his return to Velika Kladuša (BiH), the individual sought treatment in the local hospital and was x-rayed, although the results ultimately determined that he did not have any broken bones. After ten minutes, a police van arrived which the group was soon loaded into after having their bags checked:

"They check all of our bags and everything and then they put us into the van"

During this entire process, none of the group asked the police for asylum because, as the respondent had described, he had been caught by police in Croatia before and had been told a number of times by the police that they were not allowed to apply for asylum.

The group was then driven for around twenty minutes before arriving to a secluded section of the Bosnian-Croatian border outside of Velika Kladuša (BiH) at some time between 8:30 and 9:30 pm. At this point, the door of the van was opened and individuals were taken out of it one-at-a-time from the van. The respondent was taken out of the van in the middle of his group, perhaps after around 10 other people had been taken out before him.

Immediately after exiting the van, the respondent described being confronted by three police officers with batons who hit him with batons in the legs, the hands, and in the head for a period of one minute:

"Three police beat me for one minute. They didn't say anything to me."

They then ushered him to move towards the border. The respondent described encountering police who were hiding behind trees in the forest that led to the border, who hit him with batons and ushered him to continue towards Bosnia.

Then I moved closer to the border and there were six police officers hidden there

In total, there were approximately twelve or thirteen police officers present at the border. According to the respondent, the officers had black ski masks covering their faces, however many of the officers were the same individuals who had arrived to their initial point of capture in the forest. Some stood off to the side and behind the van during the pushback process. Ultimately, the respondent described that it was difficult to say exactly how many officers were there because:

It was so dark and they beat us so much"

After enduring the pushback process, the group crossed the border back to Bosnia and awaited for the rest of their group to recollect and then walked back to Miral camp outside of Velika Kladuša. It took them approximately one hour to get back to the camp.

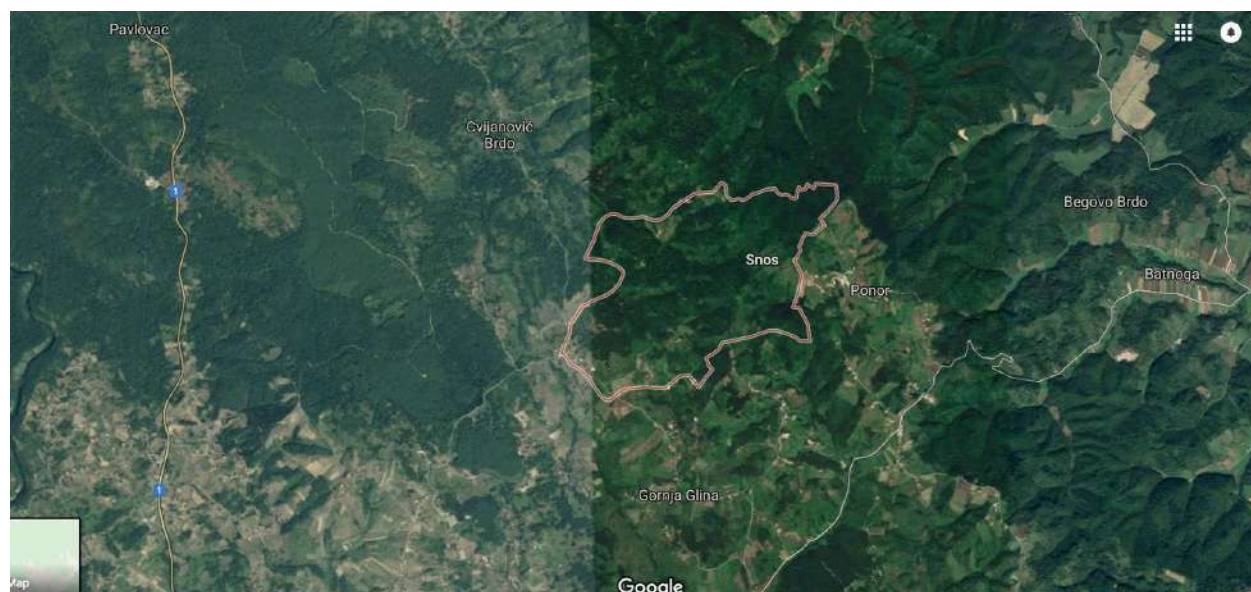
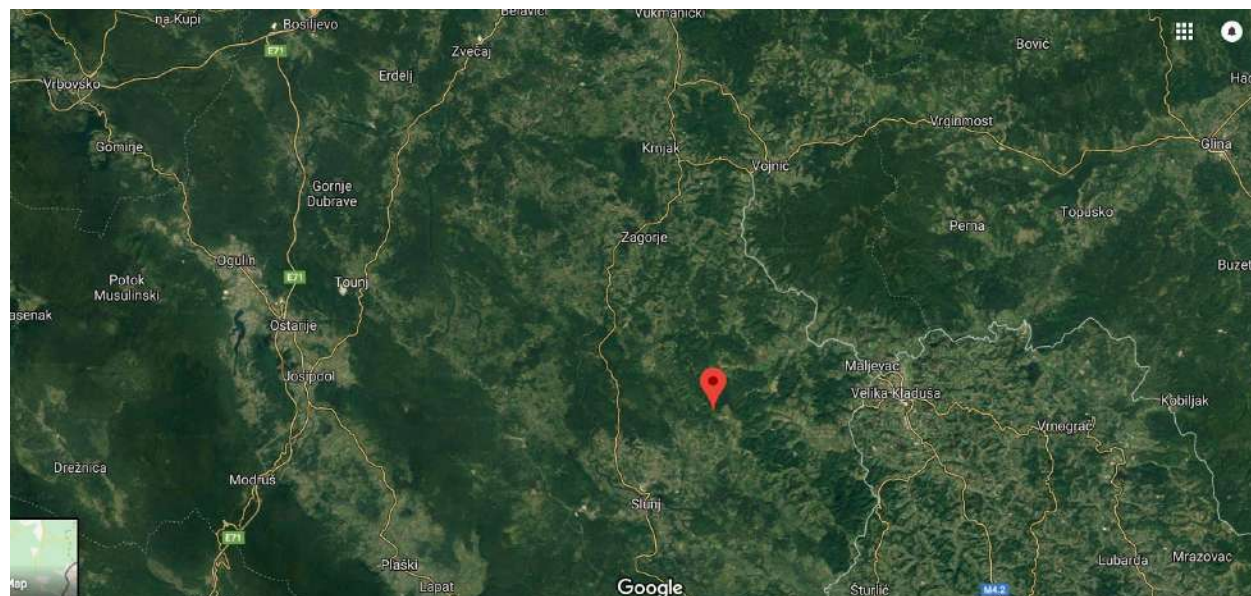
"When he hit me in the head, I put my hand up [to protect myself] and he hit my hand

At one point during his pushback, the respondent began to be hit in the head by a baton from a police officer and put his right hand up to protect his head. Accordingly, his hand was struck by a baton,

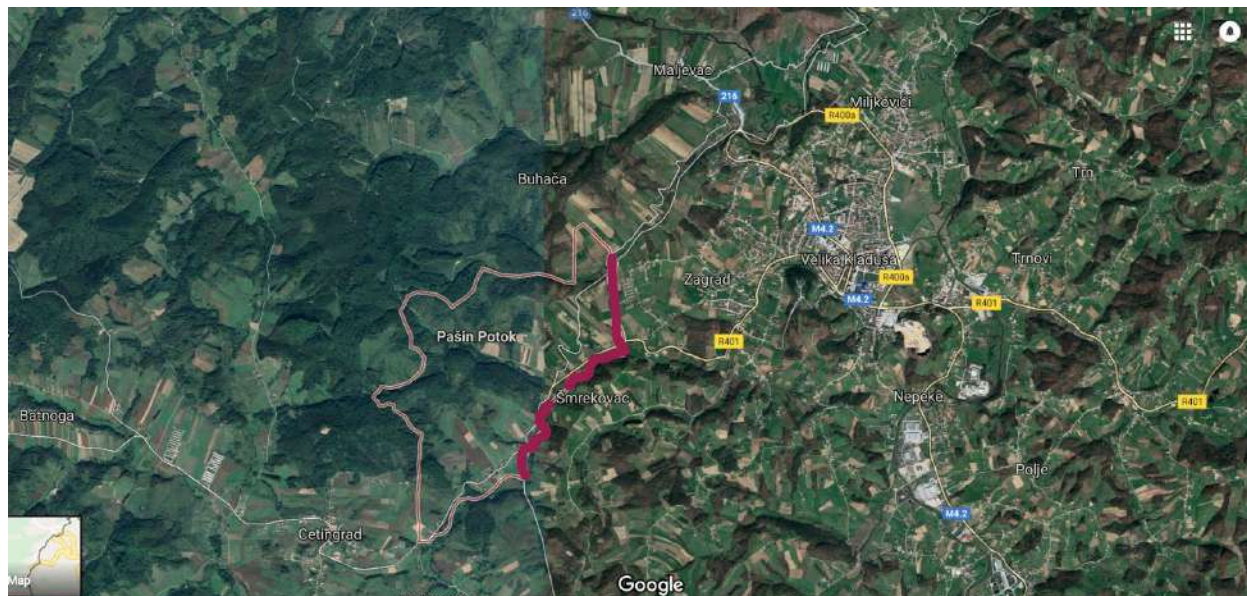
causing the tendons in his finger to separate from the bones and the muscle in his finger to get stuck. The individual later sought treatment for this injury with MSF, which provided a splint for his finger.

The respondent had tried to cross two times before but had not suffered violence from the Croatian police previously. It came as a shock to him that he suffered this abuse:

I did not understand that they would be violent towards us, it was the first time I was beaten up.”

LOCATIONS

Approximate location of the group's point of capture by Croatian police [zoom in & out]



Approximate location of the group's point of pushback by the Croatian police

PICTURES OF INJURIES



[Report 1.12]**1 interviewee - Iran - Group of 7****Unrecorded interview on 24.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSHBACK - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - THEFT OF PERSONAL ITEMS - EXPOSURE TO COLD TEMPERATURES - BURNING OF PERSONAL ITEMS
Location	The group was initially apprehended by Croatian police at the closeby to the Lička Jesenica train station. They were then briefly brought to an unspecified police station, approximately two and a half hours away by driving. Finally, the group was driven to the Bosnian-Croatian border and pushed back along a stretch of the border in between Mracelj (HR) and Miljkovica (BiH).
Victims	Number of victims: 7 Country of origin: Iran Minors involved: Yes, there two children (seven and nine years of age) Sex: Aside from the two children, the group comprised of four men and one woman Age: The father of the family is 42-years-old
Date and time	The group was initially apprehended by Croatian police in afternoon of 17/12/18/ After this, they were taken to an unspecified police station approximately two and a half hours away by driving. The group was brought back to the Bosnian-Croatian border outside of Velika Kladuša later that same day and were pushed back at approximately 10:00 pm.
Details	Expressed intention to claim asylum: No Papers signed: No Fingerprints: No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of seven Iranians left on the 12th of December from Bihać. In the group, there was one family with two children (7 and 9 years-old), a mother and a father, along with three other males. They walked for several days during which it snowed and the group began to run through their food rations. After five days and approximately 60 kilometers, they stopped being able to move efficiently because of the large amount of snow and had also begun to run out of food. Amir, the father in the group, reported that they only had sleeping bags for warmth at night and it was so cold that it was hard for them to be able to sleep. Faced with this adversity, Amir considered calling the police to alert them of the group's location:

"I was searching about the police number, I cannot [find it] because we did not know the number, we had no internet to search [for] the number"

"After one hours, we move from this place and I enter a train station, slowly I go inside but three men are inside. I tell him sir can you give me food, water, and bread and he says no problem, I

bring. But I think there is one man who is his boss. But he tells me no problem, you can go there and sleep. But I go there one night and sleep and next police is come"

They arrived to this train station in the afternoon around 3:00 pm and were told them that they could sleep in a dirty building for the night, which they did. The group stayed in this building the next day as well, but in the afternoon two police officers approached the group in the building. Two police officers who initially apprehended and transported the men were described as being aged differently: one older man and one younger man. The younger man was described as being perhaps 28-years-old. The other, older man, he was described as having a shaved face with light brown and being perhaps 50-years-old. They both wore dark blue uniforms.

Amir inferred that one of the men they had originally talked to had called the police. The group was inside and were told to come out of the house one-by-one they were waiting inside and came out one-by-one had their bags and belonging checked. The respondents reported that many of their belongings were taken from them at this point:

"They checked everything. First they take the mobile. My mobile and my friends mobile. Next they check the baggage, they check everything one by one. Small knife, food, power banks, razors, everything they take. But I tell him sir, you can take everything just please leave me my mobile, he says no, no, after going to the other station, I give it to you."

The two officers took the money, mobile phones, and power banks of the group during this initial exchange. In total, 800€ was taken from them as well as three mobile phones. They were told that they would receive it back once they were in Bosnia, but did not.

"I told him, please give me my mobile, my power bank, but he said "No, no, after behind the border I give to you" but I don't know behind the border what's happened. "

The group was put into a police van which the two officers had arrived in. Before being put in the van, however, Amir reported witnessing the two officers start a fire and throw their sleeping bags into it:

"All sleeping bags they is taking. [They] go around the other side to make the fire. I told him "Please sir this is my sleeping bag" but he says "I don't know who is that language. Is that Bosnian language? I don't know" and while the police is talking they were making the fire."

The officers burnt seven sleeping bags and one small tent.

They group was then driven to a police station. The respondents counted perhaps ten police at this location. They were not kept there long and it was only their group of seven in the police van. It took around two hours to drive to the police station from the train station. When they arrived to the police station, the group did not enter the building, however the door to their was opened and the group was asked question such as "Are you fine? Are you okay?" One of the respondents then replied:

"Sir, your fan is working very cold, please stop the fan

They then stopped the fan. At no point during this time at the police station did the group have their pictures or fingerprints taken. They did not request asylum at any point. At one point, one of the men brought up to one of the police officers that he had a form declaring that he was a Christian, however this did not elicit a response from the officers present.

Soon after arriving, approximately five or ten minutes, the group left again in the van and were followed by two smaller police cars which had around between seven and ten police officers inside of them. From there, the group was driven to a secluded section of the Bosnian-Croatian border. One of the respondents described seeing his friend taken out of the van and viewing two lines of police officers on each side of the van:

"[When they] open the door, I am looking outside [and there were] 5 police on this side and 5 police on this side, making the line."

They reported that the police officers present during the pushback had on black ski masks, black uniforms, and carrying batons. The respondents described there being snow on the ground while they were being pushed back.

Procedurally, the men of the group were taken out of the van one-at-a-time, at which point the door would close, and the individual would be pushed back over the border. One of the male group members was taken out of the van and wrapped his head and torso in a blanket in an attempt to cushion the baton blows he anticipated:

"Everyone going there explained to me if you get arrested by police Croatia you get hit"

Although cushioned from the strikes to his torso, the respondent relayed that he was hit in his upper right thigh by several baton strikes, which left his leg swollen almost a week after the incident.

Amir described being taken out of the van second, after his friend, and having to traverse a distance of around 300 meters before actually reaching the border during which time he was hit in the back by a police baton:

"Also that time when they open the door, there was too much beating and pushing. And this was the time where I also asked if they had my cell phone but he say I put in your plastic bag they gave me. Also, this is when they start the torchlight saying you go this way, this way"

During his pushback, Amir described he was taken alone and confused by what was expected of him.

"Inside the van the police...didn't explain to you what they want you to do. They open the door, slowly you are coming out and police start beating you. [For the entire walk] down to the border, the police is beating you."

Amir was hit once in the back with a police baton however his male friends received more blows from batons during their walk back to the border. He reflected that he while he was being walked to the border by the police that he was afraid for his children:

"In this time, I didn't think about mobile, powerbank, money, only that time you can think about moving your wife and child. At that time, you are afraid, also your child is afraid, woman is afraid, so many police."

Amir described being handed a plastic bag by one of the officers before crossing into Bosnia which he was told had his possessions inside:

After I am coming inside the Bosnia, open my plastic I see that my mobile, my everything is not there. I go back to there but police is coming, they say "What do you want?" I tell him "Sir, please give me my mobile, my powerbank, no problem, you take the money, this is yours" but he says "Go, go, go"

The respondents reported that the woman and children were taken out of the van last:

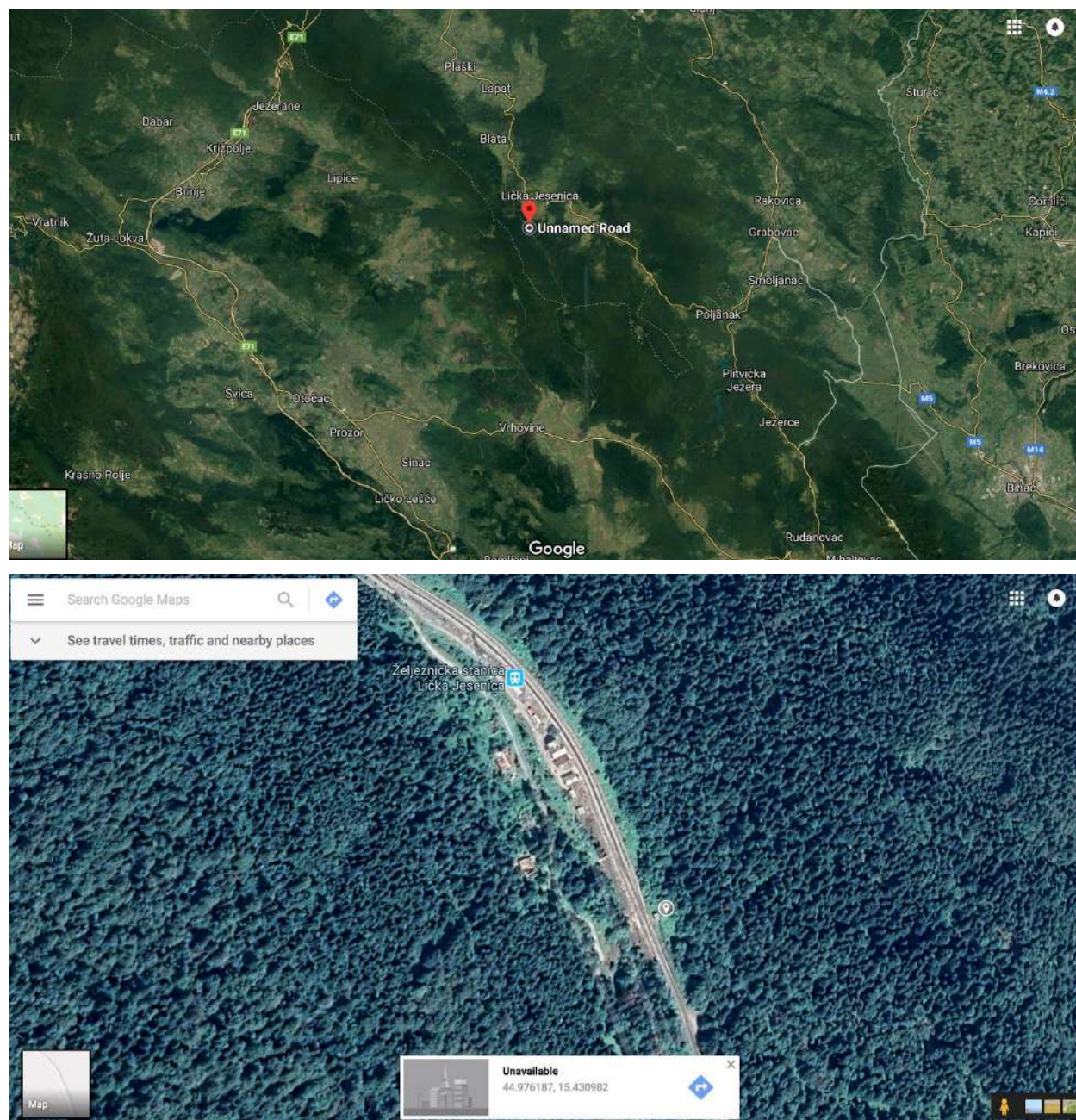
First my friends, after I am going out, after I am back, they take my child, then they take my wife."

The children were crying as they were escorted to the border, however this action was conducted by the police without the use of violence:

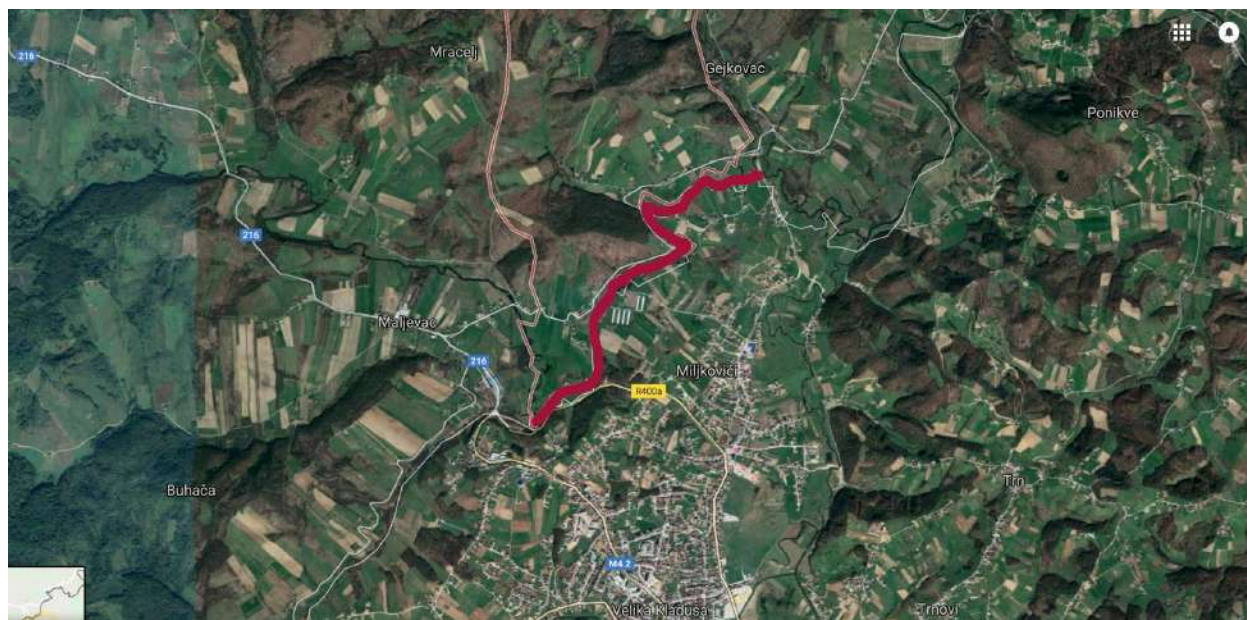
"The woman and children they did not touch"

They then walked one hour from the border to Miral camp in Polje, outside of Velika Kladuša.

LOCATIONS



Approximate location of the group's capture by the Croatian police [zoom out & in]



Approximate section of the border along which the group was pushed-back by the Croatian police

[Report 1.13]**1 interviewee - Algeria - Group of 3****Unrecorded interview on 26.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE – DETENTION - ROBBED
Location	The group left from Bihać (BiH) on foot to the Plitvička Jezera Bus station (HR) where they got apprehended. The police station where they were brought to is unknown but there was a small garden with a round silver structure, carrying tires by metal chains, there was New Year's Eve / Christmas decoration. They were pushed back in between Buhača (Hr) and Pašin Potok (Hr) at Velika Kladuša's Border (BiH).
Victims	Number of victims: 3 persons Country of origin: Algeria (Berbers) Age: 23 years old Minors in the group: no Sex: Male Number of "game" : 22
Date and time	The group left Bosnia on the evening of 23/12/18. They were waiting at the bus station on 24/12/18 when police arrived at approximately 11:00 am and caught them. They were brought to the police station on the same day at about 12h30 and arrived there at 1:00 pm. They left again the police station at approximately 5:00pm (four hours later) and were brought to the border at 5:45pm.
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed : No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of 3 friends left Bosnia from Bihać walking towards Croatia. On the Monday morning, they arrived at the Plitvička Jezera Bus station (HR) at approximately 10:00 am. According to the interviewee, they were waiting for about an hour when men wearing Croatian police uniforms arrived and arrested them. They were then put inside of a white van with a blue stripe indicating a police vehicle.

"They took us to a police station, I don't know where we were because in the van, we cannot see anything"

They were driven for approximately 30 minutes to a police station where the interviewee described being well treated:

"They even gave us cake"

At the police station, the group was told that they would be taken back to Bosnia later that night:

"Tonight, back Bosnia"

The interviewee described having expressed his wish to claim asylum, but then having the officers laugh and make fun at him. He tried again to express it at the border while he was pushed back, but once again they laughed.

The respondent was waiting in a cell in a basement. He described the cell as being a room with a small window from where he could see a small village. He could not locate the village and did not know where he was.

"It was a small garden with a round silver structure, carrying tires by metal chains, there was New Year's Eve / Christmas decoration."

According to the interviewee, they stayed four hours at the police station and left from there at around 5:00 pm. The journey lasted approximately 30 minutes, but once they arrived at the border, they waited around ten minutes with driving before the van's door was opened. The vehicle they were in was similar to the first vehicle they were transported in from the bus station to the police station.

When they went out of the vehicle, there was three policemen positioned outside, they put black ski masks over their faces a short while afterwards the group went out.

"They asked us to lie on the floor and take out our shoes. After I took them out, I tried [to take them back], they beat me two, three times with a baton, I ran to try get my shoes back, they were 2 or 3 beating me."

"I think that it is a military section, this isn't the police who beat us. There is a unity for it, they stay at the border, the other [Croatian Police] are normal [...] But they are all from Croatia, because they have a sign on their arm, with their uniform, they all have a Croatian Police sign"

"They put their ski mask afterward, but they are young, in between 18, 31 and 35 years old. It is a really muscular people, they are athletes. [they were wearing] black uniform, the Croatian police one, all black with black shoes."

He declared not having the time to see details

"I was stressed, I just wanted to run away"

According to the respondent, there were three policemen positioned immediately outside of the van and then two more positioned a bit further. They were all wearing black ski masks and they had on night vision goggles.

"They could see us, but we cannot see anything"

The respondent noticed another vehicle already present there which was similar to a Mitsubishi 4/4 or 4/2. It was white with a blue police stripe. When the respondent exited the van, one of the policemen gave their phones back in a white plastic bag however he later lost the bag while being hit by the police officers:

"But because we are strongly beaten, we lost the plastic bag"

The respondent described the other members of his group being treated with similar force by the police officers:

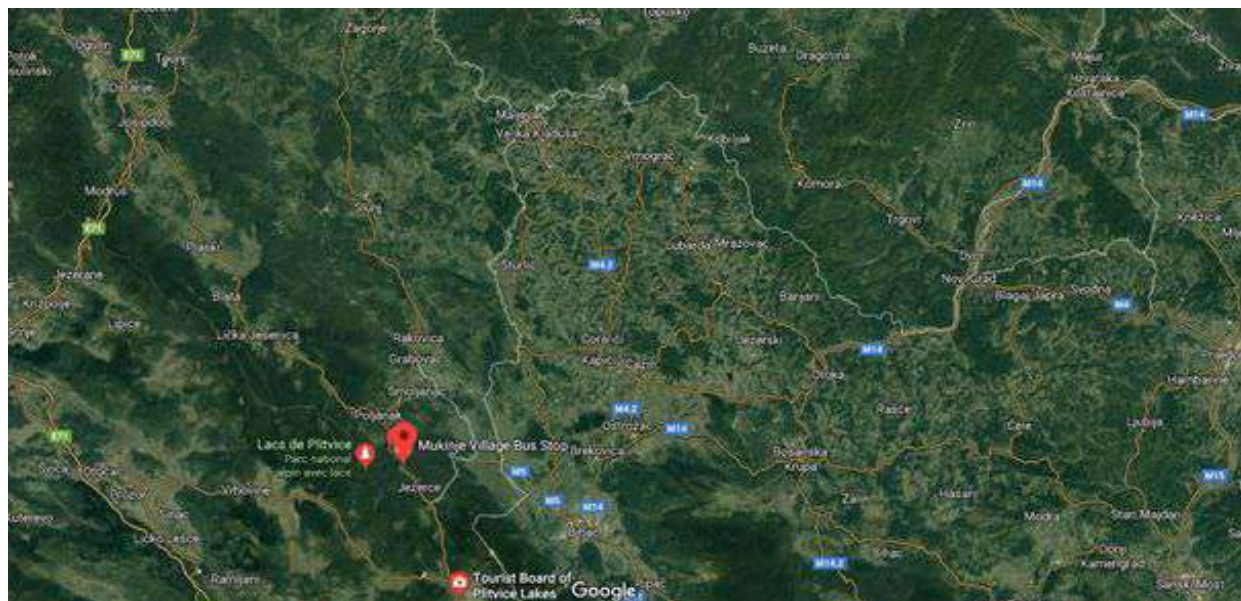
"The first person, they beat him a bit and then he escaped. After the policemen beat me and my friend. My friend, they beat him with his shoe, here (showing his lip), a safety footwear."

Five police in total were present during the pushback: three policemen were positioned immediately outside of the van while two other policemen were waiting a bit further towards the border in between Croatia and Bosnia. They were wearing night vision glasses and ski masks.

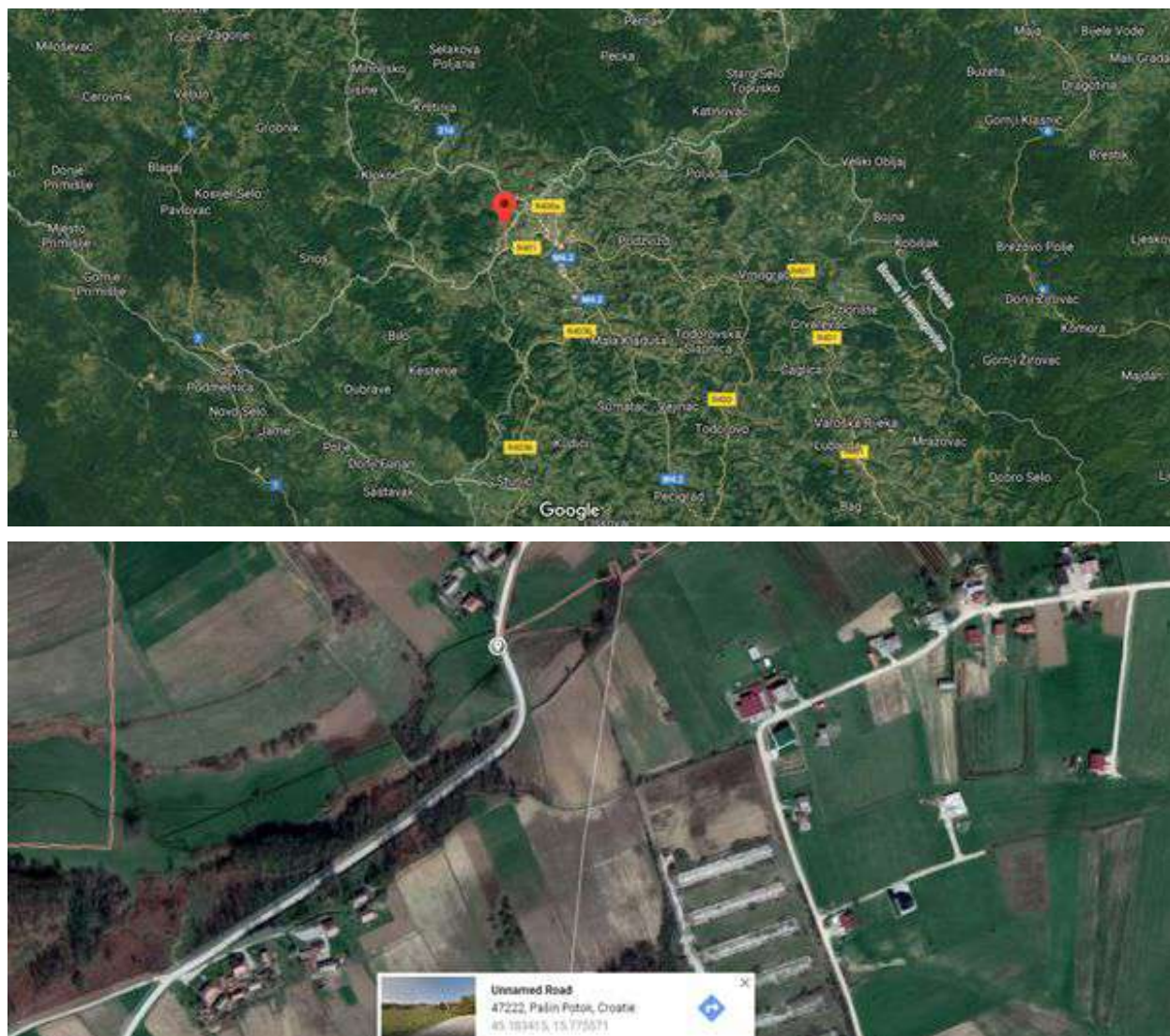
The interviewee described losing his money, his phone and his friend's phone, as well as several items of jewelry - a bracelet and his neck chain.

After being pushed back, the respondent described hiding himself in the forest nearby to where he was attacked by the police officers. He then ran away after the police left. He walked for around four or five hours after this without shoes, but at one point, a Bosnian farmer saw him and gave him emergency shoes.

LOCATIONS



Bus station, Plitvička Jezera, Croatia -Approximate place where the interviewee declared being caught
[Zoom In & Out]



Approximate location where the interviewee declared being pushed back [zoom out & in]

PICTURES OF INJURIES



Swollen arm

[Report 1.14.a]

1 interviewee(same person as the next report) - Algeria - Group of 4
Unrecorded interview on 27.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DENIAL ACCESS OF WATER AND FOOD
Location	The group left Bosnia from Bihać, they got caught at the bus station of Plitvička Jezera and were brought back to the Bosnian border at the south of Bihać.
Victims	Number of victims: 2 persons Country of origin: Algeria (Berbers) Age: 23 years old Minors in the group: 17 years old and children from a family Sex: Male Number of "game" : 6
Date and time	On the 3rd week of December - exact date unspecified
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed : No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The interviewee left Bosnia with three other persons on foot.

"We crossed the border at approximately 5:00 am because they have night vision binoculars, then we crossed and entered in the jungle, we walk aside the way. We walk to cross the border, about 20, 30 minutes."

"We found two women there, because women don't call the police. There is a young girl, we ask her at what time is the bus [...] The bus left already."

The group missed the bus by a couple of minutes and then waited for the next one. When it arrived, they divided their group by two.

"We, we were two, we went into the bus with my friend. Me, I don't have problem with the driver, but my two other friends when they get in, he said "your passport". He asked my passport, but there is no passport. We went out of the bus. We left from this place, my friends stayed there."

After this refusal of access of the bus, the interviewee inferred that the driver called the police.

"The police passed by, with speed, they saw two persons in the bus station. My friends, they ran away, they went into the jungle. We came back to the bus station."

Once again, they divided the group into two and the interviewee kept walking to another bus station with one of his friends in an attempt to get a bus. Five minutes before the bus arrived, they were apprehended by the Croatian Police.

"The bus, it passed by when the police frisked us."

They were arrested by four policemen wearing dark blue, two-piece uniforms in a Dacia Doster. The respondent described that the vehicle was like a 4x4 and dark blue. They were put in a van and brought by another team to a police station. The respondents did not know the location of this police station because their phone were taken while they got frisked and it was no window at the back.

"The police, they caught us, but they did not give us anything. It was some bread. We saw it when we entered, it was some bread, here for maybe two days, three days, I asked bread, they did not want to give me."

There were already people at the police station who had been previously apprehended:

"it was a family, but this time they didn't beat us. This family they caught it in the jungle, in another place."

The interviewee described the place at the police station:

"They put us in a cell, but I don't think it was a cell, it is more like a garage, there is a ski blue door and a floor tile. In the middle there is water evacuation. On the car parc, there is a Ford from the police, a Ford Fiesta and two vans."

"In the police station, when you enter, after on your right you see the garage, it is here."

Before leaving this place, the family was asked where they wanted to go. They answered Bihać. They drove them with the cold ventilation:

"For 20/30 minutes, it didn't last more than 40 minutes, because when we enter on the little way, you can feel, they drive slowly, then they go faster. When they enter in forest way, it is like 2nd speed, but then fast when they are in the jungle way."

The interviewee thought that:

“They hit us a lot, the other times, they always hit us. But this time, it is the only time they did not beat us and I think it is because of the family, because there was a woman and children. This time they didn’t beat us.”

When they came back to Bosnia, the policemen told them to go straight and they would arrive to Bihać. They walked on small way until an intersection indicating to the left Bihać and to the right Sarajevo. They walked towards and got a small bus which drive them to Bihać.

LOCATIONS



Approximate location where the interviewee declare being brought back [zoom out & in]

[Report 1.14.b]

1 interviewee (same person as the previous report) - Algeria - Group of 3
Unrecorded interview on 27.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE -GUNSHOT – ROBBED – DENIAL ACCESS OF WATER AND FOOD
Location	The group left from Bihać, they walk for 9 days before being caught in Croatia interior. They were brought back at the border to Bosnia nearby Čehići.
Victims	Number of victims: 11 persons Country of origin: Algeria (Berbers) Age: 23 years old Minors in the group: 17 years old Sex: Male Number of “games” : 6
Date and time	The group was apprehended on 23/11/2018 at approximately 4:00 pm and where brought back to border on the same day at approximately 11:30 pm. They arrived on the next morning at 9:00 am to Bihać.
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed : Yes

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The interviewee left Bihać with eleven other persons, all of whom were from Algeria. Some were Algerian Berbers and some Algerian Arabs. They walked for nine days in the Croatian interior.

“We arrived nearby the Slovenian border, before to get to the border, it began to freeze, we could not keep walking in the jungle, we will fall, it is cold, there is wind.”

They decided to go on the road but after five kilometres walking the police arrived. He described them as four officers wearing green uniforms.

“ We tried to run away, but we were weak and the police they were four in good condition. They fired and then they caught us.”

“They caught me, they forced me to my knees, then they called the police van. We have walked one kilometre, on foot. Then we arrived at a police van. They caught ten persons before, more or less, in any case, more than five persons. There is some Algerians, some Egyptians.”

There were two or three police officers there, wearing different uniform dark blue uniforms. They were then transported to a police station, with the people already in the van.

"We exited the van to go to another van. To take my name and everything, there was two vans. After the police took us one by one, we went down the van, they ask us what our name is and took a picture. It was on a small parking. After I saw a building, it is the police station. It isn't far, just beside. When you go, on your left side there is a building, it is a bit on an upper part, and the police station is down."

They did not enter the police station and only changed vehicles at this location. They did the administrative process on the parking lot. The officers requested the identity of people but the interviewee specified that they didn't take his fingerprints.

"I signed the paper, but I don't know what it is, he [the police officer] will tell you the date, but this is clear, but you don't know what the language is, I don't know this language."

"By the way, I never give my real name. I'm afraid because I already try to leave Bosnia several times. I'm afraid, they will say "we already beat this guy and he came back". Sometimes I say that I am from Algeria, sometimes Tunisia, sometimes Syria and my name, it is never a real one."

The interviewee expressed his wish to claim asylum in Croatia

"Normally each person should have the right to claim asylum. For example, when I go to Croatia, I have the right to claim asylum. Them, they can give me the kit, normally it should be like this, but they will even not give you the right to claim it. At night they will bring you back. I asked for asylum, but they laugh at me. They told me "who told you that you can get asylum here, there is no asylum." They asked me where I want to go, I answered to Zagreb to claim asylum, they told me "there is no asylum" and they made fun at us."

When the interviewee was in the van, they looked at him, laugh and said

" This is your bus!"

There was two vans. They separated the group by two. They took some people from the first group who got caught in the van with the interviewee and some of the group with the interviewee went to the other van.

They were waiting for hours inside the van, it seemed long enough for the interviewee to believe that they would spend the weekend into the van. They stayed in it until approximately midnight, without any food or water.

"We were 15 persons in the van, we can not even sleep, because the van is a small one"

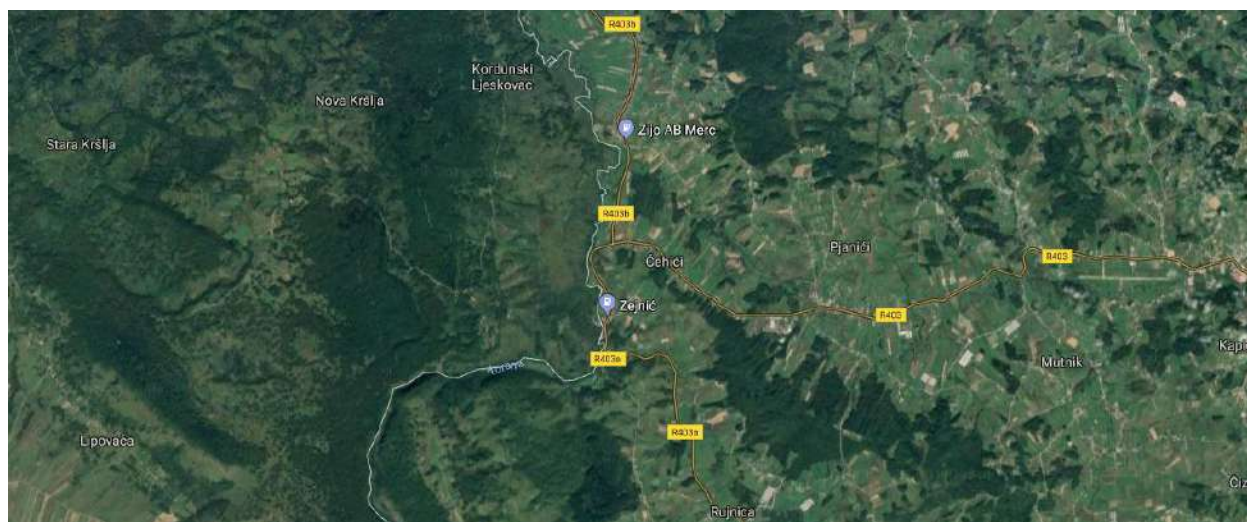
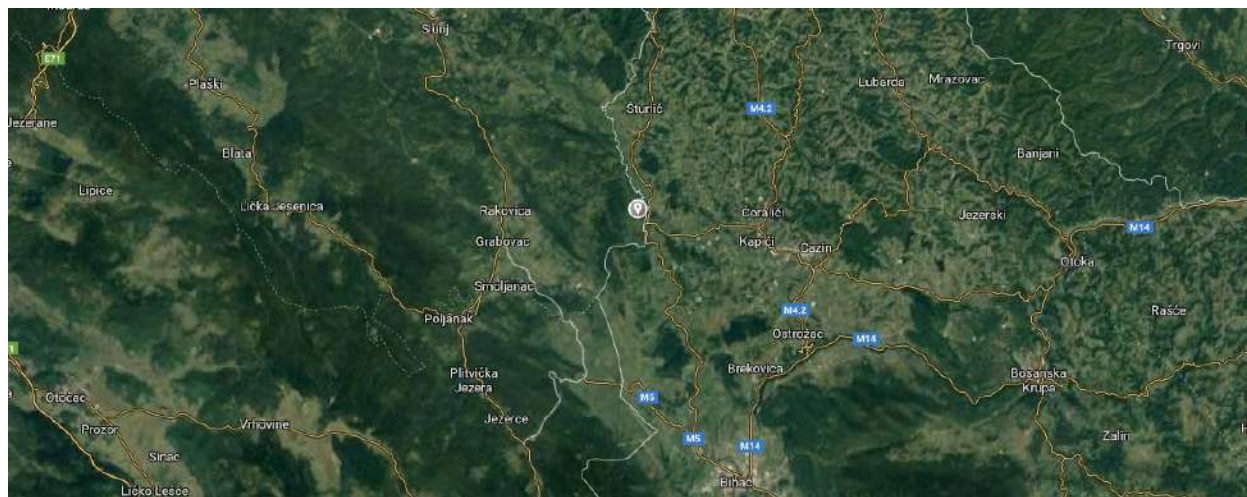
“The van was closed, [I could see] just a bit, there was a small window behind the driver, with a curtain, you can see a bit. After, we hit the van, because we heard people just aside the van, police officers. We hit the van, we will ask them to give us food and drink. But, no answer.”

The interviewee thinks that was a medium size van, Toyota or Nisan.

He was then brought back to the Bosnian border. He remembers that while they were stopped at the border, one policeman carrying papers opened the door, look at them and closed the door. When he went out of the van, approximately six persons were there, wearing dark blue uniforms, and two officers were a bit further. A policewoman was the first officer outside of the van. When the interviewee went out of the van, he declared that he dropped something onto the ground, the policewoman demands him to take it back, but he got afraid to be beaten that he left without. After this, approximately five other policemen were there to beat him with baton.

There were four vehicles at the border. Two vans in which people were held in and two cars. One of these was described as a pick-up truck.

When they arrived in Bosnia, they arrived on a road, where they could see a mosque up a hill on the left side. Then they've seen a sign for Velika Kladusa on the right and Bihać on the left. Walking further he passed a gas station and a checkpoint either for motorway or a border checkpoint.

LOCATIONS

Approximate location where the group was brought back to Bosnia [zoom out & in]

PICTURES OF INJURIES



[Report 1.15]**1 interviewee - Algeria - Group of 3****Unrecorded interview on 28.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE
Location	They left from Velika kladuša (BiH) and were brought back at the border of the same city. They got caught 8 kilometres away from Velika Kladuša
Victims	Number of victims: 3 persons Country of origin: Algeria (Berbers) Age: 23 years old Minors in the group: no Sex: Male Number of "game": 3
Date and time	The group left on 28/12/2018 at approximately 2:00 am, they got apprehended an hour and a half later.
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Documents signed : No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group initially left on the 27th of December at approximately 11:00 pm from Velika Kladuša (BiH) with a group of eleven persons, they walked a few meters into Croatia past the border, but soon met a police patrol who asked them gently to go back to Bosnia.

"Not possible, go back"

A few hours later, a smaller group left again. They walked about an hour and a half for a distance of approximately seven kilometres. The group was walking in the forest at which point they were approached by police:

"They light on their car in a curve on a forest way. We've looked. [the police said] "Stop! Stop! Police! Police!" And fired twice."

"Me I stopped, I try to run a bit, but then I stopped"

According to the interviewee, there were three policemen outside and a fourth in the car. When they began to run, the officer in the car turned on the vehicle and began to drive towards them. Then one of the other policemen fired his gun and they all stopped.

They were frisked in the forest and were asked where they came from. The entire group had only brought one phone with them which had a broken screen from a previous “game” and a powerbank. This phone was not taken. Despite being frisked, the officers did not find their money. A police van arrived about five to ten minutes after they were apprehended. The respondent described the vehicle as a medium sized van.

“I think the driver called him”

They group was then put into a van and brought back through the forest. Three policemen were in the van. According to the interviewee, the driver arrived alone to the place where they were caught, but picked up two of the policemen who apprehended the group to go with him to the border. They were all wearing dark blue uniforms. There were only the three friends inside the van.

“My friend gets out first, he gets off. Then my second friend and me, last. There are 3 policemen. I think that the boss is a bit fat, not muscular. He has no hair, it is him who beat me. The other they beat my friends. When I want to go away fast, fast, I hit a small roc, and the chef he made fun at me. I looked back and he beats my arms. I protect my head with my arms, but I don’t have pain in my arm. When the police see the blood, he stopped to beat me. I stand up and I ran away. Al-ḥamdu lillāh this is not so bad (showing the wound on his head bleeding out of its bandage)”

After being pushed back, the three friends walked back to Velika Kladuša which took around 30 minutes. In the morning the respondent went to see Médecins Sans Frontières and was told that he did not need stitches but needed to be checked again three days after to control any infection. They did not give him a medical report.

PICTURES OF INJURIES



[Report 1.16]**1 interviewee - Yemen - Group of 8****Recorded interview on 30.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - ROBBED - DENIAL TO ASYLUM PROCEDURE - DESTRUCTION OF PERSONAL ITEMS
Location	The group was initially stopped by Croatian police in the Croatian interior in an unspecified location. They were then brought to a police station where they were held for some time. Later, they were taken briefly to a second police station before heading back to the Bosnian-Croatian border and pushed back along a secluded area in between Pašin Potok, Croatia and Šmrekovac, BiH
Victims	Number of victims: 8 Nation of origin: Yemen Sex: Males Minors involved: None
Date and time	The group was stopped by Croatian police on 16/12/18 at night. The group was then taken to a nearby police station which took them 30 minutes to drive to. They were kept in the station for some time before they were put in a van and left to drive 25 minutes to a second police station. From this second police station, it took them another 30 minutes to drive to the Bosnian-Croatian border
Details	Papers signed: Yes Expressed intention to declare asylum: Yes

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of eight crossed on foot from Bosnia to Croatia on the night of December 13th, leaving from a point close to Velika Kladuša. From there, they walked for three days before reaching a point in the Croatian interior where they were picked up by a car and began to be driven towards Slovenia in the morning. Shortly after entering this car, they were stopped by two Croatian police officers who took them out of the car and made them wait until a van came which accordingly drove them to a police station which took around 30 minutes to arrive to.

The police station was described as having a glass door at the entrance at which point a hallway followed. The group was lead down a flight of stairs close to the hallway where they were led to an undecorated room in the basement where they were made to sit on the floor. There was one camera in the corner of the room but otherwise there was nothing else. They were held in this room for the duration of their time in the police station.

At the police station the group was made to sign a paper which no one in the group understood. The respondent reported that it was written in Croatian. At one point during their time in the police station, the respondent asked the “head” officer he was talking for asylum in Croatia. The officer replied:

“Are you a doctor? Are you a doctor? I take you. [If you are] not a doctor, I can’t take you”

This officer was described as a 35-year-old man with a beard and short cut hair. The respondent further described his interaction with the police officer:

“I talked to the police officer and he told me ‘I promise you I won’t beat you’”

There was a translator present for a portion of the group’s time in the police station. He was described as an older man from Sudan, perhaps 65-years-old with white, balding hair and dark black skin. He translated from Arabic to Croatian.

At some point during their time in the police station, the signed a document which was in Croatia. They did not understand what the document said, but signed it. The group stayed in this police station from the morning until the night

“And the take us in the night because they want to beat us”

They left the police station at “exactly 9:00 pm” in a van driven by one police officer. The police van was white with a blue stripe down the side. When they left there were two cars which followed their van as they drove to a second police station. The officers in the other two cars where the officers which eventually pushed back and attacked the group at the border. They drove for approximately 25 minutes to this second station.

From the second police station the group went to Bosnian-Croatian border. It took them approximately 30 minutes to drive from the second police station to the border. They arrived to the border at some point around 10:00 pm.

When they were brought to the border, the respondent described the entire group as being taken out of the van and surrounded by a group of nine Croatian police officers. These officers had on black ski masks which covered their faces and wore black uniforms. After being taken out and surrounded, the group was prodded and hit with batons and compelled to walk approximately 70 meters from the car to the border which is marked by a stream.

At the border, the officers present corralled the entire group inside of the van to come out and then surrounded them.

There were nine police officers present at the border, all of which had black ski masks covering their faces.

“We are eight and the police, nine.”

The group had to travel approximately 70 meters from the van to a stream which runs along the border. As they did this, the encirclement of police officers moved with them and hit them with batons to keep them tightly packed together.

They directed the group with baton strikes towards the stream and as they approached the bank of the stream, began forcing the group to move into the cold water. The respondent described the stream as rising up to his waist when he entered the water.

The police officers took eight mobile phones and ten power banks. One of the group members had 150€ take from him.

The wound on the respondents face came about as a result of him hesitating to enter the water of the stream. He was standing before being struck down to the ground by the strike of a police baton, when he fell onto the ground, he received a kick to his torso which made his head lunge toward the ground and smash into a broken tree branch. The branch tore into his right eyelid, leaving him with an open wound.

"Hit me [into] wood."

After the officers saw that the respondent was screaming about his eye, they continued to hit him and usher him into the stream:

"Go! Go! Don't come back to Croatia"

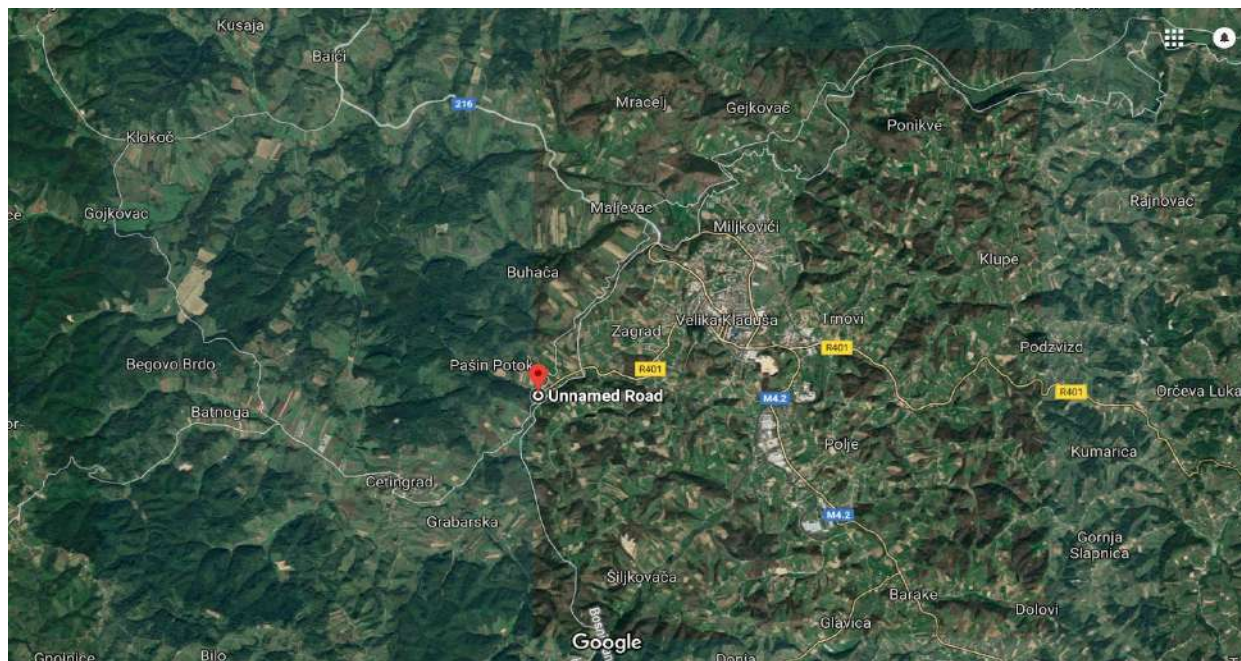
Before, while the group was being ushered from the van to the stream, several of the officer apparently had picked up ice and snow from the ground and as the group began to wade across the river, they threw this ice and snow at the group-members:

"[They] take the ice and throw"

The respondent described that after he received the injury to his eye, he waded into the stream and had this ice thrown at his back.

After the group crossed the border back to Bosnia, they walked approximately five kilometers back to Miral camp with their clothes and shoes soaked through with the water from the stream.

LOCATIONS



Approximate location where the group declared being brought back [zoom out & in]

PICTURES OF INJURIES



[Report 1.17]**1 interviewee - Egypt - Group of 7****Recorded interview on 30.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DENIAL OF ASYLUM - FORCED TO WALK BAREFOOT - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - DENIAL OF FOOD - GUNSHOTS - VERBAL THREATS
Location	The group was initially apprehended by authorities close to the Slovenian border, in municipality of Crni Lazi (HR) in Primorje-Gorski Kotar County. They were later brought to a police station, likely located in Rijeka (HR). The group was then driven to a secluded section of the Bosnian-Croatian border outside of Velika Kladuša.
Victims	Number of victims: 7 Nation of origin: Egypt and Syria Sex: Males Age: The entire group was under 45 years of age except for one man who was 71-years-old. Minors involved: None
Date and time	The group was apprehended by Croatian police during the third week of December. On an unspecified day, they were stopped by Croatian police at approximately 2:00 pm and soon brought to a police station which was a fifteen minute drive away. The group was kept in the police station for six hours before being taken back to the Bosnian-Croatian border at approximately 8:00 pm.
Details	Denied request for asylum: Yes Papers signed: Yes Fingerprints: No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of seven people left from Bihać on foot and walked for seven days during which they covered a large amount of distance, walking for approximately 18 hours every day, until him and his group began to approach the Slovenian border. They had begun to run out of food at this point.

In the afternoon of the seventh day, around 2:00 pm, the group was a distance of approximately two kilometers away from the Slovenian-Croatian border, close to the municipality of Crni Lazi (HR), at which point they were stopped by a group of authority figures which the respondent described as “army soldiers. According to the respondent, there were twelve authority figures dressed in green uniforms which had the “NATO” insignia on it. The respondent believed that they were German and claimed that he heard them speaking in German. Initially, the officers attempted to stop the group and shouted out:

“Stop! We will not do anything to you!”

They carried automatic rifles which they used to fire in the air after the group did not immediately stop. Several members of the group, including the respondent, attempted to flee at this point. According to the respondent, the gunshots scared him so he ran.

As he began to run, the respondent reported that the army officers fired close to him instead of in the air and said in English:

"If you don't stop, I will shoot you"

At this point, he stopped.

The respondent, who initially ran away from the "army" officers was forced to take his shoes off when he was captured as a "punishment". He then had to walk fifteen minutes barefoot in the snow, a distance of approximately one kilometer, back to the point where the group waited for the van to pick them up. He received the shoes back once he arrived to this point. According to the respondent, he was in an immense amount of pain and discomfort from this and told the officers leading him back to the van to

"Just shoot me"

Four of the group was caught initially however three members of the group ran.

One army car was there originally and then later four other cars arrived after they were caught. After they were caught several of the officers were taking selfies with them and making fun of them. The respondent described that they were acting proud and happy that they caught these men.

They walked one kilometer to a point where a vehicle came to pick them up. Inside the vehicle were two officers, one who was older and one who was younger. The older officer was a "respectful man" while the younger officer was described as "too much racist". Specifically, the younger officer was described as being angry at the group, glaring at them for periods of time, and spitting on the ground close to them.

The group was then brought to a police station where one of the group-members told the officers present that they were hungry and wanted to eat. They were not given food and instead kept in the van outside of the police station for six hours:

"They police didn't even allow [us] to take our own food from the bags."

There were fifteen people inside of the van during this time. The additional individuals in the van were an Algerian group which had also been caught during this day and brought to the van at the police station shortly after the respondent's group arrived.

The vans were not turned on during this period making it difficult to breathe. The respondent described banging on the side of the van for a long period of time to ask for more air, but “nobody answered”. They were also not allowed to use the bathroom during this time.

The respondent told the police

“I want to apply for asylum”

And was told by the police that

“There is no asylum here in Croatia”

And pushed him back into the van.

There were “a lot” of police officers at the station. The respondent was fairly sure that it was located in Rijeka, because the drive from their initial point of capture to the station was only fifteen minutes it was the nearest area to where they were caught. No fingerprints were taken.

They had to sign a paper which was written in Croatian. The group did not know what they signed. The respondent didn’t ask because

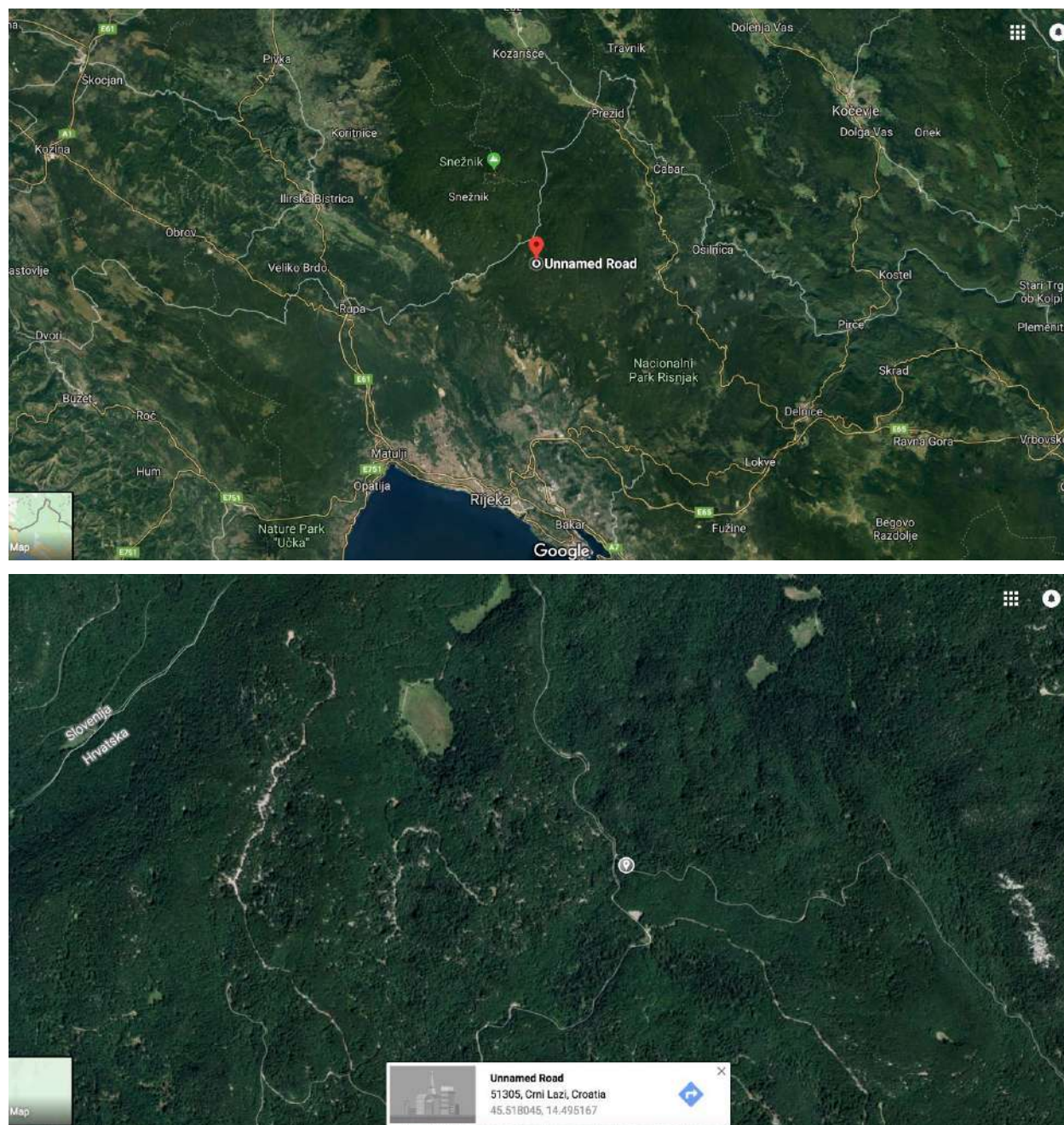
“If [I] asked them a question, they would beat [me]”

At around 8:00 pm the group was moved in the van and driven back to a secluded area of the border, south of Velika Kladuša. When the van was parked, the group was taken out one-at-a-time and pushed back across the border. While they were being ushered across the border, each individual received blows from police batons that the officers were carrying. The respondent described there being around nine police officers present during the pushback. They all wore black ski masks over their faces and had headlamps on their foreheads which shone into the eyes of the individuals being pushed back, preventing them from being able to see or orient themselves.

There were two vans which were “emptied” at the border. The respondent was the first person to be pushed back from the second group. After exiting the van, one of the officers grabbed the respondent from the back of his neck and forced his head down and pushed him to the ground. Once he fell on the ground, he was beat by the police officers present with batons until he stood up again. He described being insulted during this process, specifically he remembered the officers speaking negatively about Islam. There was one older man in this group who was 74-years-old from Egypt. The police officers at the border beat this man with batons just as everyone else in the group.

When across the border, the respondent asked the officers where his mobile phone was, and the police started to run at him with their batons and he ran away.

LOCATIONS



Approximate location of the group's initial capture by Croatian police [zoom in & out]

[Report 1.18]**2 interviewee - Pakistan - Group of 6****Unrecorded interview on 30.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSHBACK - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - PUSHING INTO WATER
Location	The group was caught in the Croatian interior at an unspecified location. From there, the group was brought to three different locations in a van. Finally, they were brought back to a secluded area of the Bosnian-Croatian border close to Grabarska (HR)
Victims	Number of victims: 5 (Interview conducted in English with two group members) Country of origin: Pakistan Minors: None Sex : Male
Date and time	The group left from Bihać (BiH) on 25/12/18 and walked in Croatia for four days before being apprehended by police at around 9:00 pm on 29/12/18. The group was later pushed back in the early morning hours of 30/12/18 at around 1:00 am.
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: No Documents signed: No

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of five Pakistani men left on foot from Bihać to Croatia on the 25th of December and walked in Croatia for four days through the interior before being apprehended by police along a road at around 9:00 pm on the 29th of December. The group was moving along the D42 road, not far outside of The respondents described being stopped in the mountains by a group of five “army” officers who arrived in a green jeep. The officers were said to have been wearing green army clothes and to have been carrying long, military-style rifles. The respondents described that the officers had been waiting for them and only came out to apprehend the group once they had gotten close.

Shortly after being apprehended, five more vehicles arrived to the scene which carried a total of ten officers with one being in command of the rest of the group.

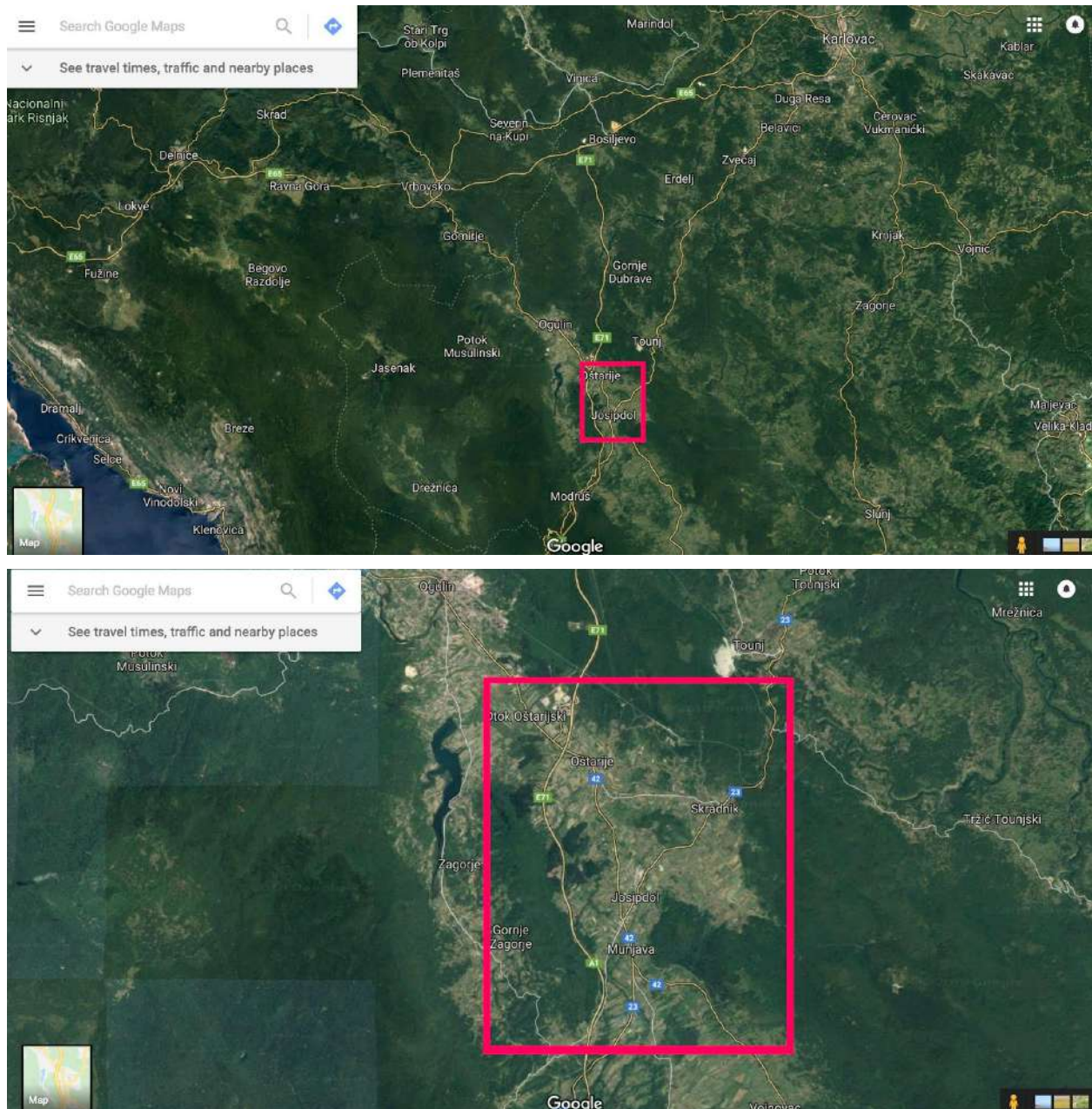
After being caught by this group of officers, the respondents described having their pictures taken on a mobile phone of one of the officers. They also had all of their bags checked at which point their mobile phones and power banks were taken.

The group was then loaded into a van and driven fifty minutes to a location which the group described as a base or a station for the “army” officers who apprehended them.

Next, they were driven twenty minutes to a police station which they stayed at briefly and changed vans before being driven fifteen minutes to a different police station where eleven Arab men were described as being put inside the van with them.

The group was then finally returned after this to a secluded area of the Bosnian-Croatian border close to Grabarska (HR). At this location the group was taken out of the van as an entire group and corralled with baton blows to move towards a stream which runs along this section of the border. It took each the group approximately five minutes to move from the van to the point along the border where the stream flowed. According to the respondents, they were hit with batons to make them run and move fast. The group of officers who were present during their pushback flanked them on both sides and ran with them and hit them with batons as they ran. They described being hit by batons on their legs and back torsos. When they arrived to this location, they had their personal items (sleeping bags, phones, bags, etc.) thrown into the water and then were physically pushed themselves into the water by the police officers present. The respondents described the water as being four feet deep. In total, the group had four mobile phones taken from them as well as six power banks and 80 €.

One of group-members was able to go back after the pushback and retrieve one of the waterlogged power banks. After this, the group walked back, waited for the night to pass in a small abandoned house close to the border. They were wet and very cold and reported that they were not able to sleep during this time.

LOCATIONS

General area in which the group was stopped along D42 in Croatia [zoom in & out]



Approximate location of the group's pushback by Croatian police [zoom in & out]

PICTURES OF INCIDENT



A group member's waterlogged power bank after having it thrown into a stream by a Croatian police officer

[Report 1.19]**1 interviewee - Syria - Group of 4****Unrecorded interview on 11.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSHBACK - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - DENIAL OF FOOD - VERBALLY THREATENED
Location	The group left for Croatia from Bihać (BiH). They were later apprehended in the Croatian interior approximately 17 km away from the border of Slovenia, close to small town of Vrata in Primorje-Gorski Kotar County (HR). They were later taken to a police station in Zagreb (HR) and held there for one night before being returned to an unspecified area of the Bosnian-Croatian border close to Velika Kladuša and pushed back.
Victims	Number of victims: 5 (Interview conducted in English with one group member) Country of origin: Syria Minors: None Sex : Male
Date and time	The group crossed into Croatia on foot from Bihać on 29/11/18. They were later apprehended by Croatian police on 10/12/18 at approximately 7:30 pm. They were then driven for around an hour and a half to a police station in Zagreb where they were kept for one night. At around 1:30 pm on 11/12/18 the group was loaded into a van and driven back to the Bosnian-Croatian border which they arrived at around 5:00. The van was kept locked for around an hour until it got dark, and then group was pushed back at approximately 6:00 pm.
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of five people crossed from Bihać (BiH) on foot into Croatia on the 29th of November with the intention of walking to Italy. While they had previously been living in Velika Kladuša's Miral camp, the group had travelled to Bihać in the days prior since they believed that leaving from here would increase their chances of walking undetected. It snowed for the first two days and the respondent [Hakim] reported as a result they decided to wait in a secluded area for the weather to get better. After these days, the snow turned into rain which continued for another day and a half. The group waited for this rain to pass before continuing their journey. Approximately six days after the weather cleared, the group passed through the small town of Vrata (HR) in Primorje-Gorski Kotar County, Western Croatia. The group continued walking until, towards the end of the second day past Vrata at around 7:30 pm, they were approached by six Croatian police officers who the respondent described as "commandos" in forest green uniforms. One of the "commandos" was described as being referred to as Daniel by one of

his partners. The “general” of this group told the respondent and his friends to “Stop and put your heads down!”, which they did.

The group then waited with the “commandos” until a police van came and drove them approximately 1 ½ hours to a police station in Zagreb (HR). Hakim, the respondent, reported that he was able to tell that they were brought to Zagreb because he looked out of the window of the van and saw a sign that said Zagreb as they were approaching the city. When they entered the police station, the respondent described seeing three female police officers as well as briefly seeing one man whom he believed to be their boss. This man did not speak to them. Shortly after being brought in to the station, another male police officers arrived to search the group members and their belongings. He asked the group whether or not any of them had an forms of identification or papers and then gave each member of the group a paper to sign. Hakim, the respondent, could not understand what he was asked to sign but signed it anyway.

At this point, Hakim and his group were very hungry since their food supplies had been running out and they had been attempting to conserve what they had left. The respondent asked the officer searching through their clothes if they could have any food but were told no:

“We don’t give you any food.”

Hakim was later asked to open the “Maps” application on his phone and was asked by this police officer where he got the maps and the pinned locations on the map from. The respondent replied that he did not know. The group then spent the night in the police station and slept there.

In the morning, a police officer returned to them and Hakim, who was very hungry, asked again if him and his group could have any food and was told:

“No, we don’t have any food”

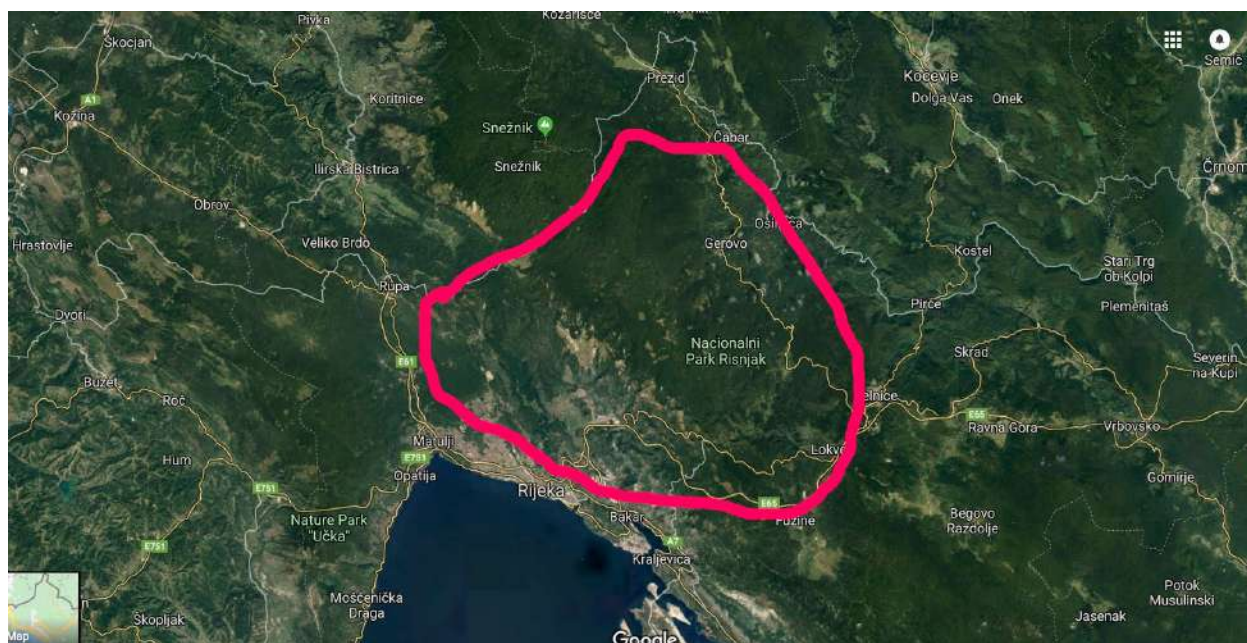
At this point, the respondent was desperate and offered to give the officer money to go out and buy them some food for breakfast. The officer responded by taking out his baton and threatening to hit Hakim. The officer did not strike the respondent, however he communicated that if the respondent asked for food again, he would hit him.

At around 1:30 pm the group was loaded into a police van along with one man from Algeria and one man from Afghanistan. In total, there were seven people in the back of this van which then drove back to the Bosnian-Croatian border. While being loaded into the van, the respondent asked if one of the officers could hand him his bag since there was a little food left inside of it, but was told: “No.” Hakim reported that the group arrived to the border at around 5:00 pm and waited for around an hour in the van until 6:00 pm, until it was dark. The group in the back of the van was then taken out one-at-a-time from the van, at which point the door would close behind them. Hakim was taken out second and reported that the van was parked above a downwards sloping hill. He reported seeing either six or seven police officers there who all had black ski masks covering their faces. They shone bright flashlights into

his face after he came out of the van which made it difficult for him to see any distinguishing characteristics past this. After coming out of the van, Hakim reported that he ran as fast as he could back to the Bosnian side of the border and, although the officers present swung at him with their batons, he only received one blow to the back. Other members of his group, however, were not as fast and received blows from batons to the face and torso.

After reaching the Bosnian side of the border and waiting for the rest of his group to come back as well, Hakim described walking to a nearby house where they asked the resident for food, since they were so hungry, and were given something to eat. From there, they walked back to Miral Camp in Polje (BiH), outside of Velika Kladuša (BiH).

LOCATIONS



Approximate area in which the group was initially stopped by Croatian police in Primorje-Gorski Kotar County (HR)

REPORTS OF GROUPS GROUP APPREHENDED IN SLOVENIA

3 reports

[Report 2.1]**1 interviewee - Iraq - Group of 1****Recorded interview on 10.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DENIAL OF ASYLUM - THEFT OF PERSONAL ITEMS - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - DENIAL OF FOOD - FALSIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS - ELECTRIC SHOCKS
Location	The group was initially turned themselves in to Slovenian police approximately 5 km away from a wooded area of the Slovenian-Croatian border. They were then taken to a nearby police station (unspecified) in Slovenia approximately 30 minutes away from their initial point of contact with the police. Abbas was later taken to a secondary location by the police which he described as a prison, approximately an hour away from the initial police station. Later, he was taken to an official border checkpoint with Croatia (unspecified) and held there. Finally, Abbas was driven between 1 ½ - 2 hours to a secluded portion of the Bosnian-Croatian border, approximately 27 km away from Velika Kladuša, and pushed back.
Victims	Number of victims: 1 The group which Abbas was apprehended with in Slovenia consisted of six people however Abbas was the only one of this group to given back to Croatian police. He was pushed back with a group of six other men from Algeria and Yemen Country of origin: Iraq Minors involved: Yes, the respondent is 17 years old Sex: Male
Date and time	The group turned themselves in to the Slovenian police in the afternoon of December 2nd. Later, Abbas was kept in a Slovenian “prison” for a night before being returned in the early morning hours of December 3rd, between 8:00 pm and 10:00 pm.
Details	Denied request for asylum: Yes Papers signed: No Fingerprints: Yes

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

Abbas, the respondent of this report, left on foot for Croatia from Velika Kladuša (BiH) with a family of five from Iraq, and one other male on approximately November 25th. This family was comprised of a father, a mother, and two minors under the age of 10. The respondent reported that he had an

arrangement with the family where if they police were to catch them, they would all say that Abbas was the brother of the mother in the family.

The group walked for eight days before crossing the Croatian-Slovenian border on the afternoon of December 2nd. The group walked for an additionally two or three hours but was stopped by a group of eight Slovenian police officers, approximately 5 km away from the border. Abbas reported that his group approached the police officers intentionally as the family was very tired and wanted to apply for asylum in Slovenia. The family's intention was to be taken to a camp in Slovenia, so they had wanted to get the attention of the police. When they saw two police cars parked along the road from their position in a forest, Abbas approached the officers and headed towards the cars to alert them of his group's presence.

The police officers present did not speak much to the group since none of the group members spoke English well. A van arrived shortly after which the group was put into and driven for approximately 30 minutes to a police station. At this police station, one of the children present in the group who spoke English told the officers that they were hungry and an officer arrived shortly later with biscuits and water for everyone in the group. Abbas reported that soon after, a translator came and the family was taken in to one room while Abbas was taken along with the other single male in the group to another room.

At some point during the group's time in the police station, the informal arrangement which had been reached between the group members, that they would inform the police that Abbas was part of their family, began to break down. The group members were interviewed individually and while Abbas informed the officers that he was part of their family, the mother in the family reported that she was not related to Abbas. The family reported to the police officers that the other male present in the group was part of their family, but not Abbas. The respondent reported that he had previously had his thumb prints and fingerprints taken by police officers in Slovenian before, and perhaps this is the reason that they wanted to distance themselves from him.

Abbas recalled that when he was taken to speak to the translator, he was taken to a long room which had four computers inside of it. There were four police inside of the room, one of whom Abbas said was an "officer". The respondent reported that he was seated next to a table which had the first computer in the room on it. There was a fingerprint scanner next to the computer and a camera positioned next to Abbas. During his interview with the translator, he had the print of his right index finger taken by the machine. Likewise, he said this camera recorded their interview. Positioned in front of him on either side were the translator and a police officer respectively.

When the respondent began to talk to the translator he recalled being asked by him "Why did you come to Slovenia" to which he responded "I want asylum". The translator then said to him:

"You are a liar! You are [just] saying [you] want asylum here. When we take you to the camp in Ljubljana, you [will just] go to Trieste or Germany"

From this point on during their interaction, the translator began to accuse Abbas of lying about his age and telling him that he was not a minor. According to Abbas, the translator told him:

"I can't register you as a minor because I see your body, I see your face, [and it's too] big"

Abbas reported that the translator told him "You are a liar!" several times because he was not related to the family and that he was not a minor. Aside from this, Abbas was asked general identification questions during there interview, such as what was his country of origin, but was never given any papers to sign:

"They didn't give me any papers. They had my case, just my case with my photo and with my [finger]print"

Abbas reported that he spend nine hours in this police station before he was driven for an hour in a van, in which he was the only passenger, to a second location in Slovenia, which he described as a prison:

"They took just me. Alone"

He arrived at this location at approximately 1:00 am and remembered that his shoes and socks were taken from him at the entrance. After this, he was led into a jail cell barefoot with the number 8 printed outside of it. Inside, the room had a toilet, a sink and one small window. There was a bed which he slept on. He was the only person present in his cell and he remembered that when he arrived he was very hungry and asked the officers if they could bring him any food, which they said they would before closing the door. Despite this, Abbas reported that he was never brought any food. He slept there for one night.

He stayed at this jail for part of the next day before he was put into a van and taken to Slovenia along with six people from Algeria and one person from Yemen, none of which he knew previously. In total, that made the group seven people.

He was then given to the Croatian police at what Abbas described as an official border checkpoint. Abbas and the rest of this group were held in a small "jail" room in the border checkpoint for approximately seven to nine hours. When the Slovenian police gave Abbas and the rest of the group over to the Croatian authorities, they also gave them his phone and his money in a bag, which he never received back. He reported that this small "jail" room was just one of many rooms in the complex. In this building, he had his picture and thumbprint taken by the Croatian police. Abbas described having to write his name down on a piece of paper and hold it while in front of his chest while a picture was taken of him. At this location, Abbas had still not eaten and reiterated to these new police officers that he was hungry. They brought him some water, biscuits, and meat to eat.

Abbas reported that he believed that him and the other individuals were being kept at the border checkpoint to wait for the nighttime. After it became dark, a van came for the group which they were loaded into and they were driven for around 1 ½ to 2 hours to a secluded area of the Bosnian-Croatian

border, approximately 27 kilometers from Velika Kladuša. Abbas reported that it was somewhere in between 8:00 and 10:00 pm at this point.

At the border, the group was taken out of the van one-at-a-time. The officers would open the door, take one of the individuals outside of the van, close the door, and push them back to the Bosnian side of the border. During this period, Abbas could hear individuals crying out as they were hit by police batons. This process then repeated until only Abbas was left in the van. He reported that he was the last person to be taken out because he had been listening to the screams of the other individuals in the van and was scared for his turn to be taken by the police officers.

When Abbas exited the van, he reported encountering approximately twelve or thirteen officers positioned in two lines leading to the border. Each of the officers had black masks covering their faces and had lights attached to their foreheads which blinded his eyes, preventing him from seeing any distinguishing characteristics of the officers. He reported being hit by the first two officers with batons who forced him to move towards the other officers down the line who, in turn, also hit him in the arms, shoulders, chest, and face.

As Abbas progressed down the line, he recalled the sixth officer taking out a square shaped device (taser) which fit into his hand and shoving it into his chest, administering to him an electric shock. The respondent reported that at this point, he “fell asleep”:

“After [the electric shock], I don’t see anything. I was like sleep...like dream”

He then reported that a police officer threw water onto his face from a bottle which woke him up. He recalled that:

“When I wake up, the police hurt me in my hand and in my face”

At one point, Abbas put his hand over his head to protect his face from several baton blows from a Croatian police officer who was trying to hit him on his head. He was hit several times in the forearm as a result. These blows, Abbas would later find out, broke his forearm in two places. He recalled crying out at this point “Ow, my arm!” but found no reaction from the officers present other than an insistence to keep moving and switch to hitting him with batons in the legs. He also recalled receiving at least one direct punch from a closed fist to his face. At some point during the course of the pushback, Abbas reported that he fell down:

“After the police hurt me, I can’t walk. I was crawling on the ground and when the police see me, they came to me and started kicking me in the legs”

Abbas reported that at some point during the pushback, the officers present took his phone from him, along with 250 €, and explained to him that this was the price of entering Croatia illegally.

Finally, he made it to the Bosnian side of the border, but at this point there were none of the other individuals in his van which were pushed back before him, so he was forced to progress alone. He reported that he waited in the forest on the Bosnian side of the border for an hour, just sitting by himself to “relax”. When he got up and began walking, he saw a house which he approached and spoke to the owners of. He told them that he needed help and asked if they would bring him to the hospital but reported that:

“They didn’t listen to me. They are say: Go! Go!”

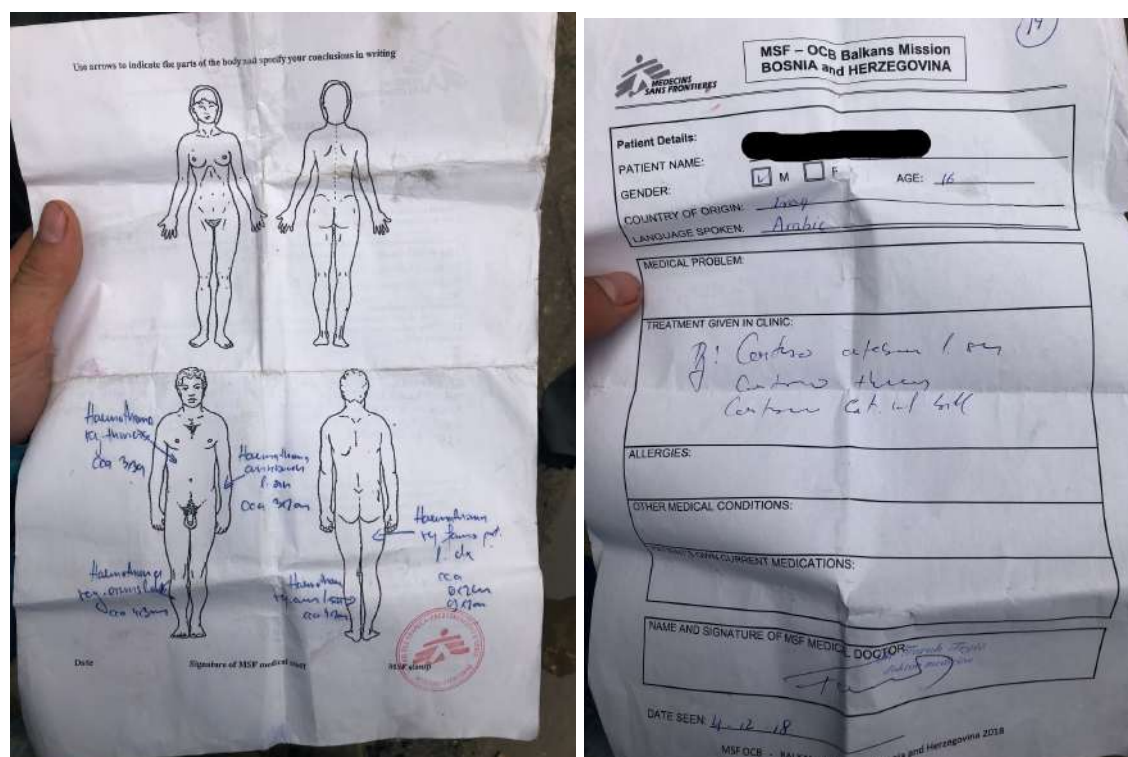
After this, he walked back to Velika Kladuša (BiH) on his own, which took him around 7:00 hours to do. Abbas reported that it was a distance of approximately 27 km.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PERPETRATORS

The translator who was present during this time was described by Abbas as being Palestinian with brunette hair and standing approximately 180 cm tall. This individual was further described as having a shaved face, being approximately 45 years old, and having tan skin. Abbas described that at one point during his interaction with this translator, the individual reported that he had an affiliation to Christianity.

IMAGES OF MEDICAL REPORTS

Initial MSF visit:



MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES

Name of the MSF medical staff: _____

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE – ADULT
Confidential document covered by medical confidentiality

Patient's last name and first name: _____
Age: _____
Sex: M _____ F _____
Date of the medical examination: _____/_____/_____

Clinical examination
I, the undersigned (Name and title of medical staff) _____, certify that I examined the patient.

The clinical examination of this patient revealed the following elements:
 Haematomas reg. antebraçiale dext.
 Haematomas thoracis
 Haematomas reg. cruris dext.
 Haematomas reg. femoris posterior dext.

Material circumstances
☐ The patient abstained from giving details on the circumstances of his condition
☐ The patient asserts that his condition was caused by the following circumstances with the following details:
 Date: _____
 Time: _____
 Place: _____
 Account of Circumstances:
 SLOVENIAN POLICE CAUGHT HIM AND DEPORTED HIM TO THE CROATIAN POLICE. CROATIAN POLICE TOOK HIM TO BOSNIA BORDER AND THEY HIT HIM WITH POLICE BATON. WHEN HE TRIED TO ESCAPE FROM HIM POLICE USED ELECTROSHOCKERS.

The medical condition of the patient requires:
☒ Consultation at the clinic on 05.12.18
☐ Hospitalization and/or work incapacity from _____ to _____
☐ Ambulatory care/ treatment until _____

Optional conclusion:
☐ The examination of the patient revealed physical marks and a psychic reaction that are compatible with his/her assertions.

Certificate drawn up on 05.12.18 in duplicate, one of the original being handed over to the patient for the attention of whom it may concern.

Signature of MSF medical staff *Taruk Aliagic*
 doktor medicine

Done in 2 copies (1 for patient, 1 for MSF)
 Contact: MSF Legal Department: oripka@msf.org

Initial Hospital Visit:

broj referenc 135/18

QBR-457

ZDRAVSTVENA USTANOVA
 ZU Dom zdravlja Velika Kladuša - Služba za RUZD
 DZ Velika Kladuša - RUZD - RTG dijagnostika
 77230 VELIKA KLAĐUŠA Sulejmana
 Topića br. 1 037/770-010, lokal 103
 (adresa telefona)

NALAZ I MIŠLJENJE

Za: Dom zdravlja Velika Kladuša

Šalje: DZ Velika Kladuša - RUZD - RTG dijagnostika

Prezime i ime: [REDACTED] JMB: [REDACTED]

Datum rođenja: 04.08.2001

Adresa: 77230 VELIKA KLAĐUŠA

Zdravstvena legiti: [REDACTED] Spol: Muško

Osiguranik: [REDACTED] Srodstvo: [REDACTED]

Obveznik doprinosa: - -

Ljekar: Trgić dr. Senad Datum pregleda: 04.12.2018

Tehničar: [REDACTED] Hitnost: Rutina

Broj slučaja: 2904233 Broj zahtjeva: 2331666

Pregledi: R053: RTG LJEVE PODLAKTICE
 R083: RTG PRSNOG KOŠA
 R097: RTG LJEVE NATKOLJENICE

Završen je pregled i dostavlja se sljedeći nalaz i mišljenje u pogledu dijagnoze, daljeg liječenja i radne sposobnosti naprijed imenovanog-e:

Na rtg snimku torakalnog zida u AP projekciji prikazani dijelovi skeleta pokazuju znake primjerene koštane strukture i min. sigurnih i jasno prepoznatljivih rtg znakova za prekid koštanog kontinuiteta na izdvojam.

Vidljiva umjerena sinistrokonveksna skolioza torakalne kralježnice.

ZAKLJUČAK: RTG snimak opisanog područja u svom interpretiranom dijelu ne pokazuje sigurne i jasno prepoznatljive rtg znake za prekid koštanog kontinuiteta, znake umjerene sinistrokonveksne torakalne skolioze.

Na rtg snimcima lijeve podlaktice u standardnim projekcijama uočava se u obe projekcije u dijelovima distalnih partija dječije ulne prisustvo poprečne linearne zone naglašene transparentnosti-koštana naprelina bez dislokacije koštanih ulomaka. Ostali vidljivi dijelovi skeleta kostiju podlaktice zadovoljavajućeg rtg statusa.

Distalna zglobna tijela kostiju podlaktice su pravilno oblikovana i kongruentna a zglobne plohe glatko i jasno oortane.

ZAKLJUČAK: Rtg snimci opisanog područja ukazu na frakturu distalnih partija lijeve ulne bez značajnije dislokacije koštanih ulomaka.

Na rtg snimcima lijevog femura (bez distalne okrajno) isti pokazu znake primjerene koštane strukture i opn. a bez sigurnih i jasno prepoznatljivih rtg znakova za prekid koštanog kontinuiteta.

Proksimalna zglobna tijela su pravilno oblikovana i kongruentna a zglobna plohe glatke i jasno oortane.

ZAKLJUČAK: RTG snimci opisanog područja u svom interpretiranom dijelu je praktično zadovoljavajućih rtg karakteristika.

Datum: 05.12.2018 12:29

[Signature]
Trgić dr. Senad

Dokument je sačinjen elektronski. Prikazani podaci predstavljaju kopiju originalnih podataka. Štampani primjerak nije validan ako se izda bez odgovarajućeg pečata i potpisa.

Štampano: 05.12.2018 12:31 Kopirio Mirsad

e-medIT 1/1

Second MSF visit:

22

MSF – OCB Balkans Mission
BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA

Patient Details:

PATIENT NAME: [redacted]

GENDER: ☒ M ☐ F AGE: 12

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: IRAQ

LANGUAGE SPOKEN: Arabic

MEDICAL PROBLEM:

TREATMENT GIVEN IN CLINIC:

Dr. Franklin [redacted]
Dr. [redacted]
[redacted]

ALLERGIES:

OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS:

PATIENT'S OWN CURRENT MEDICATIONS:

NAME AND SIGNATURE OF MSF MEDICAL DOCTOR:

DATE SEEN: 10/12/18

MSF OCB – BALKANS MISSION – Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018

Prescription form:

Zdravstvena ustanova
DOM ZDRAVLJA
VELIKA KLADUŠA

11.12. 2018

Amb. broj: [redacted]

AMBULANTA
POLIKLINIKA

Uputnica specijalisti

za ORTOPEDOLOGIJA bolesti

Osigurano lice: [redacted] rođen a. 10.12.2008

Iz: [redacted] (Adresa stanja)

Zdravstvena legitimacija: [redacted] (Slika - broj)

Osiguranik: [redacted] (Pacijent i ima li osiguranje)

Obveznik doprinosa: [redacted] (Navedi broj, ime i adresu)

Fond zdravstvene zaštite - zdravstvena zaštita radnika - zemljoradnika

upućuje se na specijalistički pregled i mišljenje u pogledu dijagnoze, daljeg liječenja i ocjene sposobnosti.

Dijagnoza (Sifra): Fractura ulnare l. sin

Vid zdravstvene zaštite: OB / NP OZ

Primjedba:

11.12.2018, dana 10.12.2018. godine

Dr. [redacted]
doktor medicine

(Pacijent i potpis liječnika)

IMAGES OF INJURIES



[Report 2.2]**2 interviewees - Algeria - Group of 11****Unrecorded interview on 02.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DEPORTATION - VERBALLY THREATENED - ROBBED - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - DEATH RESULT OF THE "GAME"
Location	The group was apprehended nearby Reka River, at a place between Toploc (SI) and Rečica (SI) and were released
Victims	Number of victims: 11 persons Country of origin: Algeria Age: 26 Minors in the group: No Sex: Male
Date and time	The group was apprehended on 27/11/18 and were pushed back in the early hours of 28/11/18, at approximately 1:40 am.
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: No Documents signed: Yes (twice)

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The group of eleven (all from Algeria) crossed the Bosnian border to Croatia on foot from Bihać on the 22nd of November and over the course of five days walked to Slovenia. On the 27th, a policeman saw them at a place between Toploc (SI) and Rečica (SI) and try to apprehend them but they all ran away. At this point, they were close to the Reka River, and one person swam to cross it in an attempt to evade the police officer. A second person followed the first one into the river, however did not know how to swim, and was taken by the river's current and drowned.

Slovenian authorities arrived soon after and mounted a rescue attempt for the individual who was still in the river. When a Slovenian firefighter took the individual out of the water, it was discovered that he had already passed away.

Three persons escaped during the group's initial flight from the police officer. One person tried to save the person in the water and fell down. Five other persons stayed along the river, including the three persons present in this interview.

"We were walking and then a policeman saw us and then we ran away to leave , and it was a river [...] it was one guy he crossed it, he knows how to swim, and there is a second person, he is gone [in the river] but he doesn't know how to swim [...]"

They took the seven persons in two different vehicles. In one of the vehicles, the police brought the person who try to save his friend and one of the interviewees to a hospital where they stayed about an

hour. Then they were brought to a police station where the other group members were as well. This police station is located about ten minutes from the place where their friend drowned.

One of the interviewees reported that

“The police station looks like a camp, there is bedrooms there. I think there is Red Cross is around. “

They stayed approximately four hours at the police station. The group reported that the police wasn't rude to them, however one of the interviewees described that he asked

“I want to see [the person who drown into the river]”

To which the policeman replied that:

“You have no right to see him”

The group was then brought to an official border checkpoint in between Slovenia and Croatia. There were about fourteen policemen and women. One of the interviewees reported staying in a cell for two hours. He further described that they had to take off their clothes and had their bags checked, one-by-one, in a different room than the cell. They had their phones and money taken at this point. A picture of them was taken, with each individual wearing a panel with his name and surname on it. The picture was taken by a woman with a phone. They gave their fingerprints and signed a paper, written in Arabic, but they were given the paper quickly and the respondents declared that they did not have time to read it and did not know what they signed. One of the respondents described voicing concern over his injured foot at this time to a police officer:

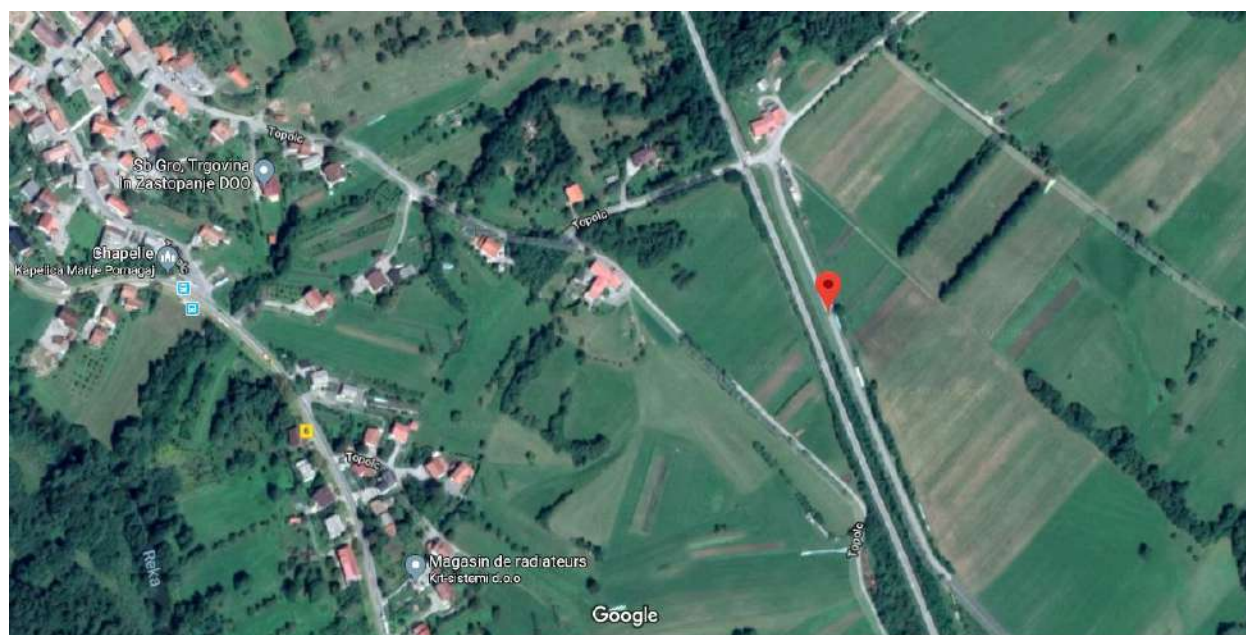
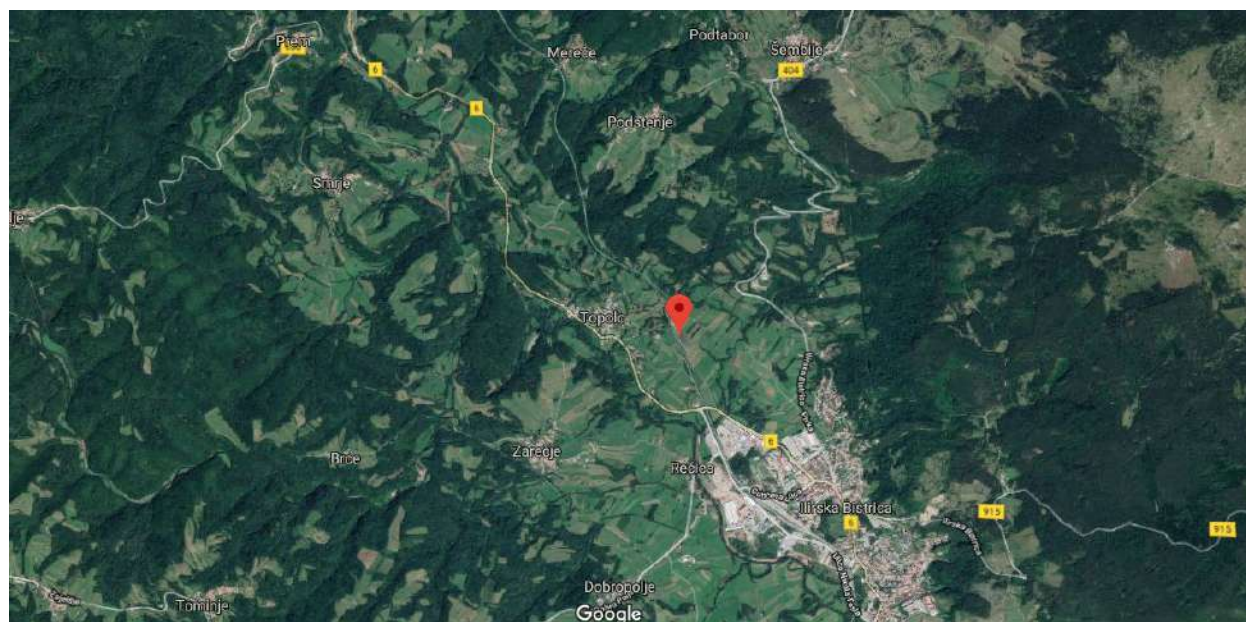
“I showed my foot [to the policewoman and said:] “Look, it's not good”. She answered me “It's normal, you are men.”

They were later brought to a police van and were driven to an unknown place to change the van, before being driven another 20 minutes to a secluded section of the Bosnian-Croatian border in between Maljevac and Buhača (HR), closeby to where the October border protest was held. According to the interviewee, at approximately 1:40 am, the group was brought one-by-one out of the vehicle. There were six policemen waiting by the the exit of the van while two others waited a bit further, waiting for people who tried to run away. They wore black ski masks and black uniforms. One of the respondents described that during the pushback:

“They beat us and were laughing, you go out of the van one by one and when you leave there is again two persons, then you run, you run until Bosnia. They beat everywhere, in the head, in the eyes, everywhere”

They arrived to Velika Kladuša (BiH) by on foot at around 2:00 am into a police station, signed a paper and left again.

LOCATIONS



Approximate location where the group was apprehended [zoom out & in]

[Report 2.3]**1 interviewee - Algeria - Alone****Unrecorded interview on the 07.12.2018 in Velika Kladuša**

Type of incident	PUSH-BACK - DEPORTATION - PHYSICAL VIOLENCE - DENIAL OF ASYLUM
Location	The interviewee left Bosnia on the Velika Kladuša(BiH) and took a taxi in the inner land of Croatia. He crossed the Slovenian border on foot and took another taxi in Slovenia. He went to Brežice police station (SI) and was transferred to Obrežje official checkpoint (SI/HR), before being sent to the Croatian-Bosnian border in between Maljevac (HR) and Buhača(HR)
Victims	Number of victims: 1 person Interview conduct in French Country of origin: Algeria Age: 28 No minors involved: no Sex: Males Number of "game" : 2
Date and time	The interviewee arrived at Brežice police station on the 02/12/2018 at about 7.00 pm and was transferred on the 03/12/18 after 9.00 am to Obrežje official checkpoint on both side of the border on the 03/12/18 were he stayed approximately 10 hours. Then he arrived on the border at about 11.00pm.
Details	Expressed intention to seek asylum in the country: Yes Paper signed: Yes

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

The interviewee left Velika Kladuša (BiH) on foot, sometime after which he took a taxi in from the Croatian interior towards the Slovenian border. He passed through the border on foot and had to avoid barbed wire and cross a river by swimming. The taxi driver drove too fast and the police tried to apprehend them by car. The driver overtook other cars on the road. Policemen in the car forced the taxi driver to park his car on the right shoulder of the road and turned their weapon on them. There were two policemen in the car wearing green military uniforms and two other policemen wearing dark blue uniforms.

When the driver decided to stop, a policeman attached the interviewee hands with black strong handcuffs, only to him, not to the driver. The policemen asked the driver's passport and the interviewee one. The interviewee having not any passport, the policemen asked them what they were doing together. They stayed approximately fifteen minutes on the edge of the road before leave to Brežice (SI) police station in a white van without windows at the back.

"I'm all wet, and I'm very cold but the policeman said, 'I don't care', I'm going to a small cell and after one hour they come to do a frisk. Then I go to a big cell and I go to sleep. There is only one concrete bed with a mattress in the room"

The day after a Palestinian translator arrived to talk to the men. He asked questions about the travel, the taxi, how much money they paid and the way in which they came to Slovenia. According to the interviewee, he asked to claim asylum and the translator answered to him:

"No, no, why asylum?"

He signed several papers and was kept in the station until approximately 9:00 am. From the police station, he was driven to a border police station. From the Slovenian side, he signed papers and he was transferred to the Croatian side.

He stayed ten hours at this border police station. During this time, he asked for food, but they refused to give him, as well as water. He also asked to change his clothes which were wet, but was also refused. Eventually, he was brought to a police van. The driver drove fast and the interviewee recalled falling from left to right. There was no window at the back so it was difficult for him to orient himself. They switched the cold ventilation on inside the van and according to the interviewee it was very cold.

He arrived to the Bosnian-Croatian border at approximately 11:00 pm. There, five policemen, which all wore black ski masks and black uniform, waited outside of the van. Two policemen threw him out off the van, he asked to be handled carefully with sign because he had a previous tear in one of his ligaments and a herniated disc which still remain painful. He showed his knee, but they told him:

"No, fuck off"

"Where is the problem, where is the problem?" said a policeman, then he beat him with baton at the place he showed it was painful.

He couldn't walk for a while with the pain he had in his leg after this, and according to the interviewee, some policemen then pulled him away into mud. When he managed to leave, he lost his shoes in the mud. He walked back to Velika Kladuša with only socks on his feet. It was -1°C outside.

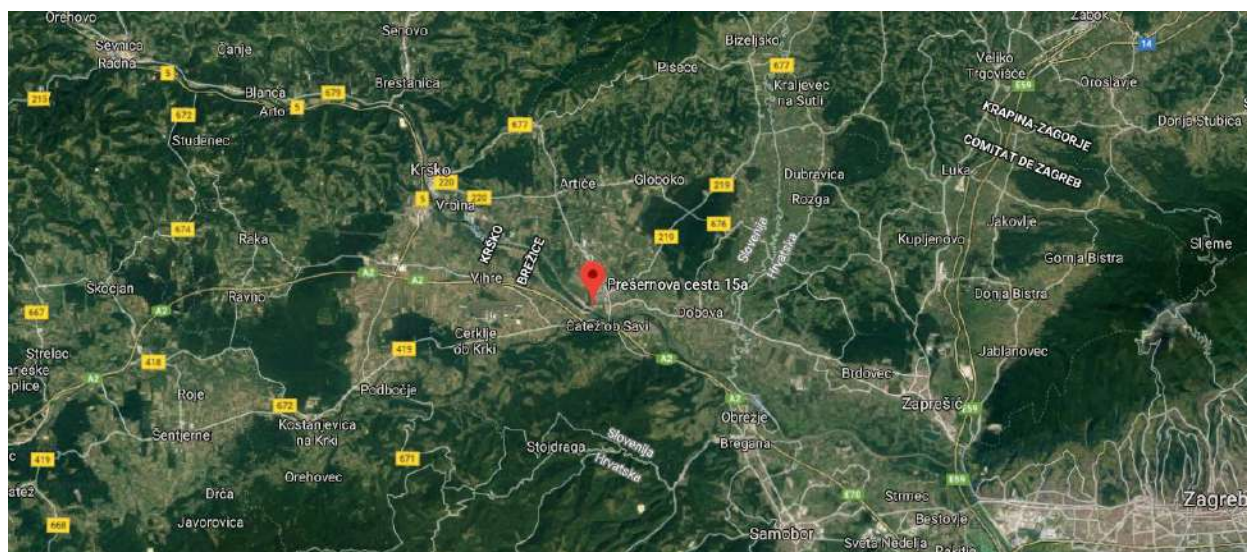
The perpetrators gave him his destroyed phone back at the border but did not give back the 70€ which was taken from him at the police station in Slovenia.

INFORMATIONS ABOUT THE PERPETRATORS

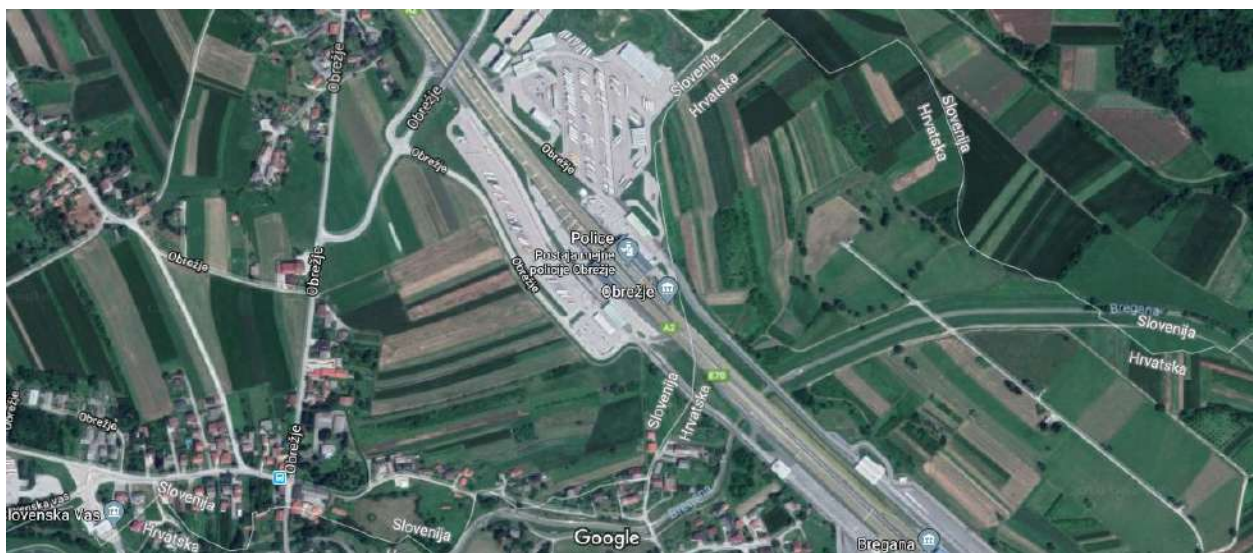
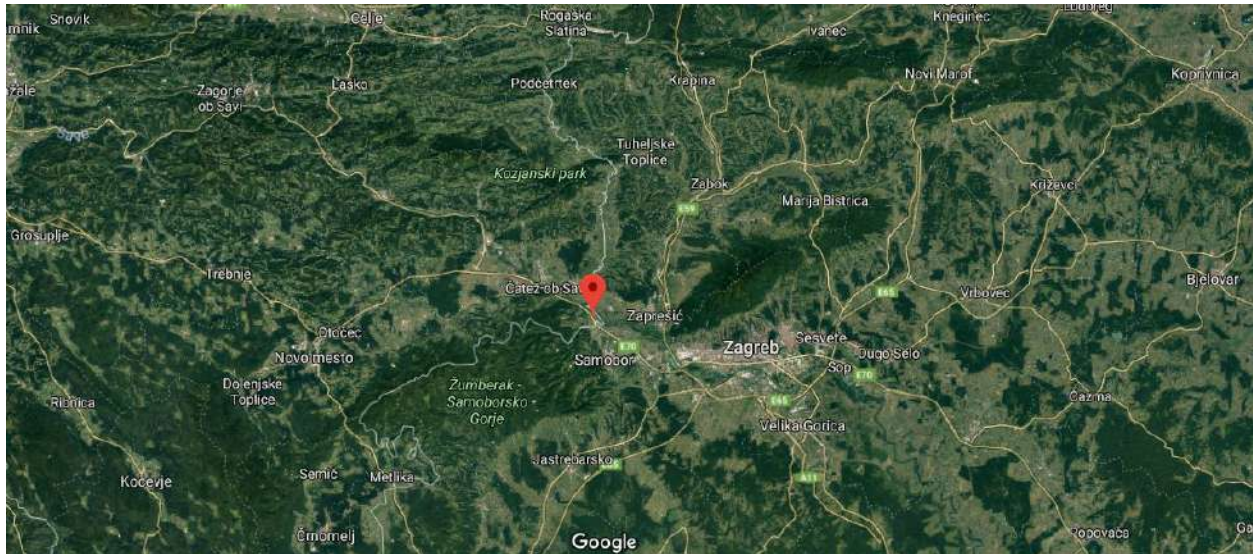
In the police car which apprehended them there were two policemen which wore green military uniforms and two other policemen wearing dark blue uniforms.

There were five policemen at the border, all of whom wore black ski masks over their faces, wore black uniforms, and carried batons.

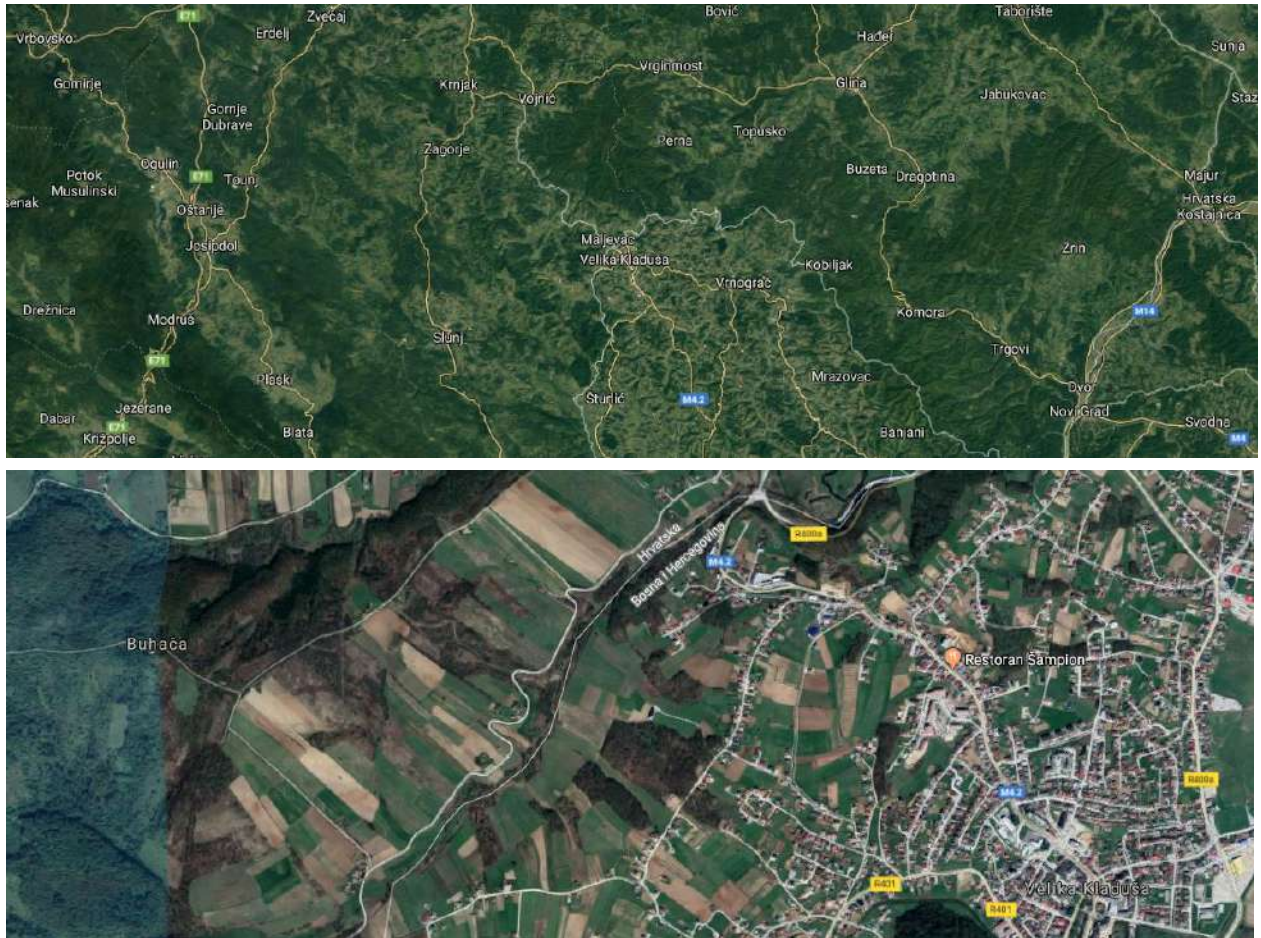
LOCATIONS



Prešernova cesta 15a, Brežice, Sloveńie - Police station where the interviewee was brought to
[zoom out & in]



Obrežje official checkpoint - Approximate location where the interviewee went from Slovenian police hands to Croatian police hands [zoom in & out]



In between Maljevac and Buhača, at Velika Kladuša border - Approximate location where the interviewee declare being brought back [Zoom out & in]

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]