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MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

As before every summer
The weakness of the government's proposals are highlighted:
Harassment
Evacuation
From Dunkirk to Calais,
The government and its zealous prefectural servants
Repeat their ineffective practices from past times!
Never mind the hundreds of thousands of euros lost
A single objective: electoral propaganda to cajole the most extremists.
At a time of "filthy auctions" about the immigration law,
One could have innocently hoped for progress:
Finally, to put humanitarian aid in the preamble to legislative proposals.
Of course not!
There is no point in lessons:
Violence therefore remains the key word
Are we doomed to failure in the field of reception?
Our country would have definitely lost its DNA!

Jean-Claude Lenoir.

EVENTS OF THE MONTH

ONE DEATH IS ALWAYS ONE TOO MANY, BUT THIS MONTH IT WAS TWO YOUNG MEN WHO LOST THEIR LIVES, HIT BY A TRUCK, IN CALAIS:

AHMED, died on 10th May, on the ring road (the A 26). It wasn't even an attempt to break into a truck... He was just trying to cross the road.
Salam was represented the next day at the rally organized in his memory, at 6:30 p.m., in front of Richelieu Park.
He was buried in the northern cemetery of Calais on Friday, 19th May at 2:30 p.m.

ANOTHER YOUNG MAN, ON 31st MAY, was crushed on a roundabout by a truck in which he was trying to board.

"A gentle and discreet man. May the earth be light to him... as they say in Africa," Ferri writes.

How many deaths will it take for us to decide to take into consideration these people who seek only peace...

A COMMEMORATION OF THE DEATH OF LITTLE MAWDA took place on 17th May in Grande-Synthe, at 6 pm, in front of the Espace Jeunes du Moulin, where she was staying with her family... On the ground was unrolled the list of deaths at the French-British border.

That was exactly five years ago.

Mawda, who was under two years old, was killed by a Belgian policeman during a chase. She was with her parents in a smugglers' van on a Belgian motorway.



20180109		40	Eun
20180129	Mohammed	25	Afg
20180317	Ejaz Khan	16	Eri
20180328	Mhretab	2	Iraqi
20180516	Mawda	+20	
20180611	X	20	G
20180619	Amalou Ourez	19	Vi
	X		

Those who were already there cannot forget...

ATTEMPTS TO CROSS INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM are not decreasing.

400 crossings were reported, for example, by the Home Office on the weekend of 6th/ 7th May.

Some spend three days in the dunes waiting for the order of departure from their smugglers.

Sometimes they are not called: we met a whole group on May 22, who were returning to Calais after three days of waiting in Loon-Plage...

Sometimes the start is missed: people testify that their boat was punctured by the police while they were already on the water, something which is prohibited.

And those who left... Sometimes they come back to our side of the water: the engine has failed, or the canoe has taken on water because it has been filled by the waves or because it has deflated...

Then they come out of the sea dripping with water and shivering with cold.

On 15th May, the Salam team saw a whole group of people arrive soaked from ear to ear. She was able to dress them all (just) with her "shipwreck kits": bags with enough to dress someone from head to toe.

There were about forty of them. On the other hand, there was no longer enough to help people who would have needed a change of clothes but who did not get out of the water...

MAY 8: FEAST OF LIBERATION...

An eventful weekend on the coast. Many refugees have tried their luck. Many managed to reach the English coast. And there are all the others. Which have NO CHANCE and which often find themselves soaked and helpless on the coast.

Abounded by a state that is not doing its job.

Often the associations are accused of complicity with smugglers, to attract refugees to Calais and much worse. Rarely are they praised for being there... to do the job of a heartless state.

To understand the words humanity and fraternity.

And to be there in the right place at the right time.

Yet THANK YOU to all of you for being there again and again to make the lives of these hundreds of men, women and children a little more bearable.

This is also Freedom! Listen to your heart. Happy LIBERATION Day. For everyone.

OPEN THE BORDERS.

Ferri Matheeuwsen

(Ferri, a volunteer at Salam in Calais, is Dutch).

The number of attendees is increasing at our two sites, with the hope of passage.

It is always extremely difficult to count the number of refugees in a city: first they move all the time! And then presence is a relative thing: should we include those who have left the city but are not yet on the water? Those who have not yet arrived on the other side? those who have come from elsewhere to cross (from Paris, often, according to what they say) but who will return very quickly in case of failure?

Evaluating the number of meals given is the most objective thing we can do.

In Dunkirk, since the middle of the month, in May, 400 meals have been distributed a day. In Calais we exceeded more and more often the 500 breakfasts, up to 678 on 30th May. Since 13th May, it has been necessary to add a thermos of ten litres of tea to the quantity already increased at the end of April... and the whole supply of milk is exhausted.

POLICE EVACUATIONS continue to be the rule...

In Calais,

the HRO resumed its observations at the end of April and the publication of the observations on 9th May, so we again have visibility on the pace and conditions of the dismantling.

As already at the beginning of the year, the pressure is less strong, that is to say that there was no dismantling on one day of all the camps. A maximum of four camps are involved (on 27th May), usually between one and three. BMX was hit each time from 17th to 31st and only affected on 19th, 21st and 23rd May. It seems that the authorities have decided to prevent any resettlement there, taking advantage of a competition at this place on the weekend of May 13th /14th: it was necessary to clear the way for the arrival of the public...

This does not mean that it is a symbolic path of the Police...



Police deployment is disproportionate: it is made to frighten.

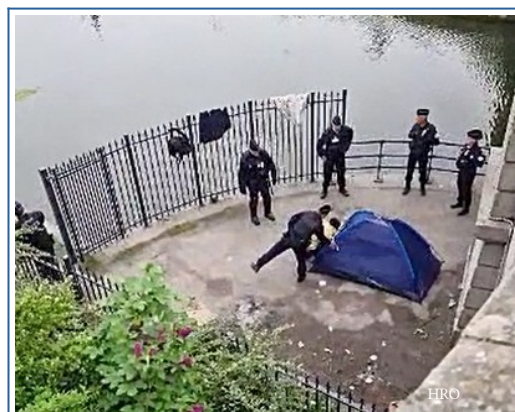
On 29th May, we see again police armed with LBD: pictured behind the PASS.

On 9th May, eight CRS vans were moved just to move six people and seize a tent full of equipment on Rue de Judée. On 15th May, seven CRS vans moved under the only George V bridge to arrest, it is true, all the occupants. But these are three poor guys who show no signs of resistance. And two tents full of equipment are taken away. And these are just two examples.

On 27th May, a CRS told an HRO volunteer that "It's always going well"... Indeed, the exiles put up no resistance, no need to hit or gas them.

This gentleman obviously lacks any imagination: would he find that everything is going well if he had to leave his tent in the morning to repack all his belongings and move them a little further to reinstall them later?

It is already a terrible violence...



But is there really nothing brutal about these "quiet" evacuations?

On the 15th as on the 25th, in the city centre, the police shake the tents to wake up the guys. Even if they give them time to go out, is this a normal situation?

On the 21st, at BMX, out of 4 people evicted with their tents, two find themselves deprived of them: the tents were not seized but they were demolished in the move

Equipment continues to be seized as soon as the owner is not present (the photo was also taken with BMX on 17th May)..





These dismantling are often accompanied by palpations of the exiles... It's another form of violence... And it's not uncommon for this to end in arrests. (These photos were taken in the City Center, the first two on 15th May , the third on 17th May).



It is enough to see the state of the ground after the evacuation of 27th May at Fort Nieulay, to no longer believe that these operations are not violent...

The HRO is usually kept away from operations by a "security perimeter" that is supposed to protect them and other citizens. But of what? Moreover, on the 25th, in the City Center, two people are authorized to cross the perimeter. The HRO asks why this difference. They are told: "They do not hinder the police operation in any way"...

Finally things are clear and we are reassured for the safety of Calais residents that we let these lines cross ... And on 31st May, it's an orienteering race that crosses the "crime scene"!

At other times, the associations note, during their visits to the city, other shocking behaviour of the Police Forces: on May 5 at the station, at the arrival of the Paris train at 1:26 p.m., the PAF operates an identity check that only affects people of colour... This discrimination is strictly prohibited by French law...

On the evening of 24th May, volunteers from another association witnessed the gassing of a group that obviously wanted to embark on a small road by the sea. All of them, including women and children, had been gassed in their eyes.

A few exceptions make it possible to maintain confidence in humanity. I will not give the place or the date so as not to put this gentleman in difficulty, but it happened that a CRS guided the HRO to a place still distant, but which gives a better point of view on the operations...

In Dunkirk:

Evacuations are much more spaced than in Calais: thirty in 2022, ten since 1st January (5 months). There were none between 12th April and 4th May and between 4th and 30th May. But they are more radical..

This month, over two days (4th and 5th May), the Mardyck camp was permanently razed. It was the total and definitive evacuation that we had been dreading since we learned that the land had been leased to companies. The prosecutor's request is presented to the HRO



On the morning of 4th May, an associative group sitting on the ground demonstrated peacefully at the entrance of the camp...

A camp surrounded by the Police...



...incredibly many.

In addition, arrive 20 CRS vans, then 15 gendarmerie vans, 15 of the National Police and a dozen fire engines.

The other associations and journalists were then blocked at the red light down on the D 601, even MDM which had to take people to an appointment at the hospital.

A lot of material was collected.



Six buses left.

One exile said they had a choice between getting on the bus or being arrested. As usual, they were not told where they were going.

The prefect spoke of 300 evacuees, including 120 who boarded the buses, according to a journalist.

The PAF made at least fifteen arrests, including two women. They were handcuffed. Some escaped into the fields.

That morning ADRA had not been able to distribute any breakfast. Salam distributed about thirty meals while raiding in search of fugitives.



In the afternoon two back ploughs destroyed everything.



In particular, the land at the access to the former distribution area was turned over to prevent any vehicle passage.

That same evening a hundred people were back under the storm. No sheltering was obtained either from the town hall of Dunkirk or the sub-prefecture.

The next day, 5th May, a second evacuation finished the job with 10 CRS vans.

The remaining equipment has been collected and is not recoverable (no Ressourcerie in Dunkirk).



Those who were still there leave the camp under police escort:



The Roots water tanks were no longer there, but they were the ones who had removed them and, since then, they have been distributing them in marauders.

One police officer said that evacuations would continue as long as people relocated to Total property, and that two or three more similar operations could be expected the following week, but this was not necessary: the camp moved to the Loon-Plage Travellers' area..



It is a much more comfortable place, or rather less uncomfortable: no mud, shady ground...



... At the edge of a body of water that, if you frame the photo well (if you frame it well only) gives an impression of beachside ...

But there is still no water point (apart from a fire hydrant at the entrance)...

... No toilets or dumpsters. Garbage accumulates at the entrance to the access road.



We know from the beginning that the days are numbered, and indeed on 25th May is posted on the ground the request for interim measures useful measures (the Administrative Court has one week to decide whether or not to evacuate an illegally occupied place). Thanks to ROOTS who sent us the photos.

This request, dated 25th May, posted in the afternoon the same day, announces the judgment for 31st May (it is important to note that May 27th /28th and 29th are the Whitsun weekend...)

It states that it is the CUD that is competent for the reception of travellers since 22nd June 2020 and that this area is illegally occupied by migrants.

A bailiff found that this area has no sanitary facilities, water, electricity or garbage collection (to which, suddenly, the occupants set fire ...).

The hearing was carefully prepared in the short time allotted by Salam and the HRO.

On 31st May, before the judge, the representative of the CUD justified the need for this evacuation by booking, for 25th June, a group of one hundred caravans of travellers, but did not bring any supporting documents.

The judge gives him until Friday, 2nd June at 4 p.m. to produce some. The judgement will not be handed down until the following week.

(These documents were produced on time...)

The occupiers' lawyer, Lionel Crusoe, who has already accompanied us on numerous court battles, speaks at length about the complex situation of the inhabitants, the many forced displacements, and the loss of their personal belongings that this entails. He also talks about the work of the associations (material aid and information work) and the need to stabilize the camp to allow this work (he says he provides the judge with a detailed certificate of MDM).

He says there has been no diagnosis made. Listening to the occupants and getting to know the public before evacuation must still be done...

We insist, at the exit, to the lawyer and the journalist of AFP, on the fact that we have nothing against travellers, that we always refuse to oppose precariousness.

We are not asking that the evacuation not take place. We ask that the exiles not simply be sent back on the roads but moved to a more dignified place. We are not asking for a "4-star" campsite, we are just asking for a place with a water point, toilets, and a dumpster regularly collected.

It is always the same: these undignified conditions are the reason why people are hunted without finding a proper place for them: the Mardyck camp (occupied from December 7 to May 4) was much worse than those of the Pont à Roseaux (occupied from 23rd November to 7th December, 2022) itself much worse than that of the Petit Prédembourg de Grande-Synthe from which they had been definitively returned on 23rd November, 2021).

However, showers in gymnasiums resumed on 8th May, the Carrefour des solidarités informed us the next day: "We inform you that the shower operation began yesterday and that it will be deployed over the coming weeks with the valuable assistance of the Red Cross, ROOTS, RWC and the community. "

The certainty that this camp set up on the Travellers' area could not be evacuated before the court judgment gave hope that there would be no new evacuations before the 31st. Fortunately Roots was on call on the morning of the 30th and the relay was quickly taken over by the HRO:

The former Loon-Plage camps (main camps between 23rd November, 2021 and 7th December, 2022) were evacuated that day in a rather brutal and radical way.

The HRO is sent to the Clauser company. "But you don't see anything at all," they complain.

"You've figured it all out," replies the policeman who sends them there.

16 CRS vans were moved.

There were more than twenty-four arrests.

People are being expelled...





... The material is collected systematically: tents, clothes and blankets have been seized and taken to the dump in dumpsters.

At 11:45 a.m., the HRO saw people leaving with their bags but without their tents. At 12:20 p.m., they see the riot police preventing people from resettling or returning to collect their belongings.

At 9:20 am, they counted 48 people boarding the AFEJI buses for a departure in CAES. On the morning, they saw 125 people settle there and a third was to arrive...

In total, the HRO counted (including buses) 285 people deported, including at least fifteen women, children and MNAs. Again, where are they all going to go?...

"Happy ending" of this sad page: there are still moments of peace, in the morning, when finally the exiles are sure that the police will not come to dislodge them...

Claire Millot



SALAM NORD-PAS-DE-CALAIS IS IN MOURNING

Christian Croquelois passed away on the night of 27th / 28th May, after a long illness.

He came to distribute breakfast in Calais every Tuesday for 4 or 5 years and had stopped only a month ago for health reasons.

He had big heart, very committed but very discreet.

No flowers or plaques for his funeral but an urn for Salam's benefit.

We share his son's grief.

THE ANNUAL STATUTORY GA OF 2023.

The 2023 Annual Statutory GA was held on 16th May at 6:30 p.m. at Salle Guérin in Grande-Synthe.

The meeting began with the President's keynote address and a historical background:

The association is just 20 years old.

Jean-Claude Lenoir recalls 1997, the distribution of sardines and boiled eggs in the fields, in the blockhouses between Blériot and Sangatte. He evokes these marauding with a flashlight, with Jean-Pierre Leclercq. It pays tribute to this founding president, who died too soon by illness...

He recalls the period when exiles, especially Iraqi Kurds and Afghans, were blocked by the police between their buses and the walls of houses, then sat on the ground in the water and handcuffed with plastic handcuffs.

It recalls the "Boron Hangar", then the Sangatte Center from 1999 to the end of 2002, whose destruction was shortly followed by the official creation of the Salam association on 31st May, 2003.

Twenty years later Salam is still here...

The full CR can be found on Salam's website in the "News" section as of May 26, 2023.
www.associationsalam.org

CONTACTS THAT ARE MAINTAINED OVER THE LONG TERM WITH YOUNG PEOPLE.

A PRIZE FOR FIVE STUDENTS OF THE LYCEE OF MONTREUIL SUR MER.

On 24th May, we receive this information, by email:

"I am very pleased to announce that we went on stage last week with Enak, Alexandre and Maëlie: we won a prize with the podcast we made together!

We participated in the Médiatiks competition, the academy's school media prize, and we received the originality jury prize!

Direct link now works:

<https://audioblog.arteradio.com/blog/190685/podcast/190686/calais-avec-salam-mai-2022#>

or:

<http://www.iblogyou.fr/cdi/93386-calais-avec-salam.htm>

Who are these young people?

On 19th May 2022, just one year ago, they spent the day in the field, in Calais, with Salam's team of volunteers. They drew a testimony, in podcast, which we put already, in September 2022, on Salam's website in the section "We read, we saw".

www.associationsalam.org

Thank you to them for this rich and lively testimony.

AN INVITATION TO A CONFERENCE ON THEIR STAY WITH US BY THE SCOUTS EEUDF OF VERSAILLES:

On the same day, we received an email from a group of scouts who came last summer to help our Grande-Synthe team and the neighbouring Emmaus community.

Dear associations,

We are the elder branch of the EEUDF scouts (Protestants) of Versailles, la Bapérouse, and have carried out our project last year in Calais and Ventimiglia around the theme of international migration. We are a group of six young people (Aimery Barthélémy, Yvonne Held, Colette Marcorelles, Maëlys Roche, Ella Suel, Enguerrand Warnery) supervised by three managers (Marine de Clermont, Solène Colder, Renaud Held).

If you receive this email, it is because the discovery of your associations, and the things we learned there were the heart of this project. Thanks to your welcome last July, we were able to learn more about both the operation of an association, and the situation of people who find themselves in the North of the France at a stage of their exile. You have thus greatly contributed to making our last summer very formative. Thank you!

At the end of our experience, we had the ambition to report the things learned during these few days / weeks to our relatives, to other scouts, or to young people of our age of in general way to make them want in turn to engage in actions or in associations to open up to the world.

Thus, we have prepared a "testimony", in the form of a conference of just over an hour with images and videos in support: we tell how the idea came to us, how we have raised the funds to implement it, our experience and the things we have learned.

The testimony will take place on Sunday, June 11 (feast day of the parish of Versailles) at 3 p.m. at 77 rue des Chantiers in Versailles.

At the end of this testimony, we invite you to meet around a refreshment that we plan.

We look forward to seeing you again!

The BAperugia team.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE COLLEGE DARIUS MILHAUD DE SARTROUVILLE AND THEIR POEMS.

It has been three years since we established a partnership with the students of this college, and with their teacher Anne-Catherine Mourgue.

In February, a whole third grade class wrote and drew once again to the sound of the harp

In our March issue we published a first third, a second in the April issue and here is the last...

Thank you to these young people and their teacher.

Chère compatriote, mes amis tenes bon, votre destination est bientôt à vous.

Cela est décevant de voir que la France n'accueil pas comme il faut
continuer, combattez, mais vous resterez tous, hommes, femme et enfants
cela aurait été mieux pour vous d'avoir quelque bien pour le déplacement et
le climat.

bonne route, et que la music vous accompagne et vous fasse voler...

Courage Salam.

Joel



Hello my friends,
I sympathize wholeheartedly with your
sorrow. I wish you all the happiness in the
world. I also wish you safe and sound
arrival in England. Goodbye
Kind regards

Gabriel

Mes chers amis, je m'appelle Maëlys, je vais avoir
15 ans, je suis au collège à Sartrouville. On a pu
parler avec Claire qui nous a parlé de l'association
Salam, mais avons aussi pu rencontrer Belinda
qui nous a montré vos conditions de vie déplorables.
Je sais que vous pouvez avoir juste en j'aurant de
la harpe avec Belinda est merveilleux. J'espère que vous
pourrez tous retrouver vos famille, et que vous
vous en sortirez comme la petite fille a la peluche
bleu. J'ai eu énormément de peine en entendant
Belinda parler de vos conditions pour manger et
dormir, vous avez tout mon soutien.



garder espoir, tout est possible
à celui qui y croit.



Maëlys

Chers amis

Chers amis, d'un autre état venant
J'aimerais tant que mon pays vous soit accueillant
Simplement ils laiquident, percent, et poursuivent
Au lieu de simplement vous offrir la vie saine.

Ô chers amis, j'aimerais tant vous accueillir
Chers amis, vous qui pensez à vous causer
Des écoles vous ennuient tout leur soutien.
En portant votre cœur au bien.

Avec vous je voudrais donner mes rêves
De garder le souvenir à vos larmes, attendant votre se lève
Vous voir sous un toit, de quoi vous nourrir
Qui dans vos rêves je voudrais que le soleil se lève

À la manière de votre bouche quand ils arrivent
Vous les voyez comme des rêves qui aident
Au contraire de ceux qui vous voient
A savoir que votre présence les embête.

INGRID

Ingrid

Chères amies,

Je suis en troisième au collège Darius Milhaud dans les
Yvelines. Je m'appelle Lena et je vas écrire cette lettre pour
vous soutenir et vous soutenir des courage par cette grande aventure.

Sachez qu'on est derrière derrière vous dans ce malheur et ce
bonheur !! Moi je ne pouvais pas faire ce que vas faire tas
les jans dans de très conditions... C'est horrible et c'est
pour cela que je vas ~~être~~ écrire par soutien !!

Ça ne devrais pas exister. Je vas soutenir une humaine
continuation et que du bonheur !!

Lena ♥


Lena

bonjour à tous,

je m'appelle Marie je suis en 3^{ème} dans le collège Darius
Milhaud, je suis ici pour vous défendre et aider toutes ces personnes
qui ne peuvent plus rester dans leur pays ou leurs villages.
J'aimerais être là et pouvoir trouver la solution pour tout changer
pour vous, pour enfant, pour parent. Je m'imaginais même pas à
quel point ça pouvait être dur pour vous tous, vous méritez d'arriver
en France, au Royaume Uni (Angleterre) ou un autre pays. Vous
meritez d'être heureux, d'être aidés par tous le monde, par les autres
pays pour vous soutenir dans ces moments si compliqués.

Nous sommes ensemble
Courage !! ♥


♥ I love you !!


Marie ♥

Marie

Aller, vivre et ne pas revenir

Mes chers amis je vous écris ce message en plus des autres
pour vous montrer mon soutien en plus de celui des autres comme
l'association Salam et de leurs donateurs, des personnes qui viennent
nous soutenir dans nos conditions de vie si inhumaine. Vous quitter votre
pays avec des personnes qui vous promettent de vous faire passer
en France contre une énorme somme d'argent. Alors que les moyens
de transport sont fournis et que vous n'êtes pas sûr d'arriver en
France. Pour ceux qui ont réussi à arriver en France vous vous
rendrez compte que la France n'est pas la même que celle
que vous avez imaginé. Vous vous retrouverez tout seuls sans
repère, sansabri. C'est que l'unique moyen les camions Salam
que vous retrouverez peut-être espoir. J'aimerais vous dire que
votre objectif n'est pas impossible un jour vous le réaliserez et
vous oublierez cette mauvaise épreuve que vous avez vécu
en France et dans votre pays de départ. Vous serez venir les
membres de votre famille qui sont peut-être rester là-bas
et vous serez heureux



Medhi

Here are some texts of which we do not have the handwritten version:

Dear friends

Hello my name is Alexandra I am 16 years old and I
am in class of 3rd 1 in Darius Milhaud. The Salam
association told me a lot about you and the ordeal
you lived every day in France and on the sea. I am
sincerely sorry for everything that can happen, I do
not understand why my country does not want you
and kicks you out of your camps. When I have the
means I will do my best to help you and to get you
out of all this misery. You are truly brave people with
a big heart, don't give up! you will get out of it I'm
sure, keep hope because after the rain there is good
weather

Alexandra

For my friends

Yes we see you

Yes we are waiting for you

Crouching in your tents in the rain

And to help you here is my donation

By Hans

My migrant friends

I am writing you this little text, to give you strength, hoping that the Salam association will allow you to survive. Stay strong, determined, courageous. I wish you all the best!
Good luck to all..

Amayès

And a word of anonymous encouragement to conclude:

My dear friends

Even if I don't know you, I love and admire you.

I support you tenderly for better or for worse.

**IN THE FACE OF THE "FOG",
SCIENCE IS UNANIMOUS AND CITIZENS MOBILIZE**

Bénédicte Halba, author of this text, directs a research institute (iriv) which has been working on the theme of migration since 2003 and proposes a club to the Cité des Métiers to promote a migratory journey since 2012.

According to Le Petit Robert (1990 edition), fog is "a natural phenomenon produced by extremely small drops of water that float in the air near the ground and cause intense light scattering". The sailors feared this climatic phenomenon because they no longer knew how to orientate themselves, they depended only on their compass which indicated the direction but not the possible obstacles in their path. In commerce, in the seventeenth century, the term was the book where transactions were noted as they were made, a kind of handrail or "draft" to prepare the accounts at the end of the financial year. In the nineteenth century the Prussian general Carl von Clausewitz, a reference in the art of war, theorized the "fog" as a strategy, a vagueness voluntarily maintained by the belligerents on their forces, their positions or their objectives. For Joseph Henrotin, researcher at the Center for Analysis and Forecasting of International Risks, editor-in-chief of the magazine "Defence & International Security"¹ "Fog is the structural condition of war. It is provoked to ensure the safety of operations." He welcomes the Ukrainian military strategy that has worked wonders in this area since February 2022 in the face of the Russian attack and which is even preparing a counter-offensive in May 2023.

In France, the greatest vagueness, "fog", reigns over the issue of immigration, eminently sensitive, which loses a public opinion cleverly manipulated by extremist theses. The law on asylum and immigration that was to be debated in spring 2023 was finally postponed, sine die, to the autumn by the government. Several texts should come to replace it.

La Cimade², an association that has been "defending the dignity and rights of refugees and migrants" for 80 years, "this announcement was the only one possible: in the social, political and democratic crisis we are experiencing, our society needs solidarity, cohesion and justice more than ever; Certainly not more repression and stigmatization of exiled people, through a bill that carried serious violations of rights. The association recalls the long list of "people who died on the roads of exile" in an almost general indifference, the daily life of many migrants in France characterized by precariousness and abuse, and finally the threats against "elected officials and citizens in favor of welcoming exiled people" expressed by "far-right movements". La Cimade continues, against all odds, to mobilize for "the regularization of all undocumented people", and for a dignified and safe reception at our borders.

At the initiative of the Desinfox-Migration association, a collective of 400 scientists called in February 2023 for "the creation of a citizens' convention on migration"³. They write that it is "urgent to restore reason and democratic debate in the treatment of migration issues". They recall facts attested by all disciplines (sociology, economics, political science, law, history, philosophy): there is no migratory submersion, regularizations or rescues at sea have never created air inflows and the "replacement theory" is a conspiracy mystification. Yet, despite their repeated efforts, scientists find that the results of their research are ignored, or worse diverted into public debates (not frankly contradictory) and political discourses (often biased). According to the UN, while migration is undeniably increasing worldwide, international migrants represent less than 4% of the world's population in 2020. In addition, migration flows to the countries of the "Global South" are quantitatively equivalent to flows to developed countries. The researchers add that France ranks 77th in the world for the proportion of immigrants in its population (with 10% of immigrants, some of whom are of French nationality) far behind the countries of the Arabian Peninsula, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Canada, Australia and the United States. The authors of the op-ed insist on the "excessive politicization" of migration and integration issues that distorts our representations. In particular, the general public overestimates the number of foreigners in France. An encouraging sign is the minority tolerance index⁴, which tells us that prejudice has receded and tolerance for others has increased. The signatories' proposal is to create a space for democratic dialogue where citizens can "form their own opinion" and express "an informed judgment" with the help of scientists. The citizens' convention for the convention would be inspired by the climate convention. The authors recall that initiatives such as the International Group of Experts on Migration or the States General on Migration have laid the foundations for this democratic discussion. They suggest associating the State and the Economic, Social and Environmental Council⁵.

After the Ocean Viking episode in November, it is quite appalling to see the exchange of bittersweet words between the French Minister of the Interior and the Italian government⁶, which pursues a policy openly hostile to asylum and immigration. Our minister does not blame his Italian counterparts for their lack of solidarity and humanity in the face of refugees and migrants, but for the fact that their policy is not effective enough, after having made the same reproaches to his French far-right political opponent. Is this a misplaced and cynical provocation, or a political line that the Minister of the Interior is about to put in place? The "fog" may be effective in Ukraine but certainly not in France and the European Union on asylum and migration policy.

Dr. Bénédicte Halba, President of IRIV (www.iriv.net), May 2023

1 Quoted by Cédric Pietralunga "Ukraine bets on the "fog" to panic Russia", Le Monde, 7 & 8 May 2023

2 Cimade press release- March 2023-

https://www.lacimade.org/presse/suite-aux-declarations-demmanuel-macron-la-cimade-demande-labandon-pur-et-simple-du-projet-de-loi-asile-et-immigration/?gclid=Cj0KCQjwu-KiBhCsARIsAPztUF0fWgoHQaN0QmvqJtVtq_Mqh-DumIKysA7XmkAltaU-tsjHWDq80kYaAow6EALw_wcB

3 TrlBune published in Le Monde, February 28, 2023, with Perin Emelyavuz, president of Desinfox-Migrations, François Héran, director of the Institut Convergences Migrations, Catherine Wihtol de Wenden, research director at the CNRS, Mirna Safi, professor at Sciences Po or François Géménne, researcher at the University of Liège, among other prestigious signatories

4 Established by the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights

5 As permitted by the organic law of 15 January 2021

6 Led by Georgia Meloni and her Fratelli d'Italia party

THANK YOU

LET'S START THIS MONTH WITH TWO EXAMPLES OF BEAUTIFUL CHAINS OF SOLIDARITY, inside and outside Salam.



The boxes of blankets are empty – we receive donations from other associations (Utopia) – we tidy up, without disturbing the English course that was not finished (the teacher is Annie in the photo): "one blanket, two blankets..." - and then we carry boxes of trousers to Utopia who had no more...

Salam and the Sesame House.

Thursday 25th, Adrien, from the Sesame House, comes to see us, in Grande-Synthe: "Would we have bread to give them?" He leaves with a box of bread.

When we arrive at the distribution location, ADRA has left for us what is left after their breakfast: three large bags. This is superfluous for us too (the trip to Calais has already taken place). A large part is put in the freezer and Geneviève takes a complete bag to... the Sesame House. Adrien said she doesn't live very far away, and he can pass by occasionally.

But finally, she wants to discover this place of welcome and respite for families of the camp, exhausted ...



"... This could happen again when they have a little influx of migrants and few resources (like this day when several families with children who spent several days in the dunes waiting to pass arrived). There the mothers, all cooks, ensure well! I also brought them what was left of the vegetarian container and some surplus vegetables from our garden or cellar, sage... Fun and variety for them!" she wrote in her CR of the day.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS, IN ADDITION TO Geneviève, Pierre (whose truck is still struggling) and Annie (able, as we have just seen, to continue her English course in all circumstances).

Thanks to the teams: two small teams were photographed at the distribution sites, In Calais on May 4th, in Loon-Plage on the 18th (with Onjali, our donor who has become indispensable...)



Calais, 4 mai



Loon-Plage, 18 mai



Thank you to those who supply us:
Onjali, precisely, once a month since November, with Caroline's chest full of food.



The team that carries out Saturday's Emmaus collections:



And always with good humour and poetry:
here Fanny.

Those who shop:
Caroline precisely.
And in the shadows, week after week, away from the paparazzi, Yolaine and Denise..





The dockers unloading: Tom and Dominique, in addition, took over responsibility for the supply of bananas, which had been interrupted for a month without anyone understanding why.



The kitchen managers: Sunny in charge for the last time on 8th May: since then, he has been staying at Emmaus. Thank you to the companions and to Lydie who welcome him.



The beginners of 27th May, Pascaline and Claire, real apprentices on their first position without an internship supervisor! Claire did not let go of the phone (cumulation of mandates!)



Little hands

**Those who distribute :
In Calais**





Amélie Fenaux



Anne Mainy

In Dunkirk:

Those who purport to give strength to the team that will leave to distribute:

Below, a plate of garlic pasta cooked by Tita:



Dominique Bouday



Anne Mainy

Those who do the housework (here Bérénice)

Those who repair damaged equipment:

Regularly, Jean-Pierre and Denis.

And then... a roller shutter in the Salle Guérin was damaged and the end had disappeared into the formwork.

Henri and Denise roughed up the work on Wednesday and Dominique and Tom finished the next day. Everything works.



Thierry Leblanc



Yolaine Bernard

The alumni, back: The students of the ILERI school in Paris, Mailys, Alban,

Special mention for Guillaume, who came back to say goodbye before flying to Tajikistan for a year... Have a good trip, great discoveries! And he promised to continue to take care of the LinkedIn account from afar. Thank you, Guillaume!

Visiting volunteers:

A team of young people from the Plaine Saint Denis, supervised by their educators, helped in Calais for a short week at the beginning of the month.

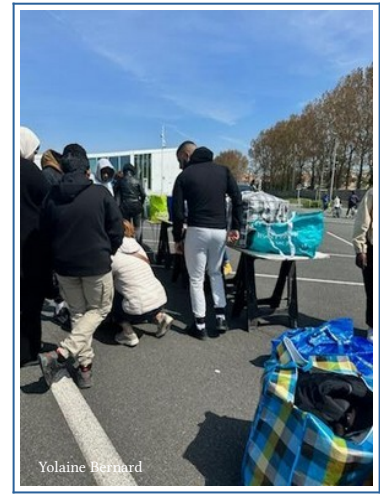
Before coming, they had knitted hats, sold things to earn some money, collected socks, jogging pants. They had the opportunity to distribute everything themselves during the dressing room on Wednesday afternoon.

Trainees,

Carmen at the end of her internship on May 18th,

Imane and her smile that we found with pleasure after several weeks of interruption.

Nayla and Lydia, on 18th May, two journalism students, who after our interview wanted to accompany us to the distribution site.



Clementine, on 22nd May, in a successful trial before an internship,

Joséphine, 25th May,

Louise on the 29th.

And those who keep smiling in all circumstances:

"Cold ice and rain constantly, yet we keep the good mood during the distribution this morning," Ferri commented on 12th May.



THANK YOU TO THOSE, KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, WHO GAVE US GIFTS FOR OUR EXILE FRIENDS.

And sorry to those who escaped this list, because I was not aware of their passage or because my memory is aging...

Daniel who brought a tote bag full of clothes on 1st May.



Elisabeth's friends who entrusted her with the affairs of their deceased father and husband on 1st May:

"This is the picture I took this morning on the bottom table to send to my friend Nelly and her mother Simone saying "the shoes have arrived safely..." There is also a bag filled with neckbands knitted by Nelly and a few pairs of wool socks knitted also by Simone for her husband at the time. Tonight, Nelly responded to the morning text message: "Dad's stuff is in good hands..."

A lady, already at my house with a large pile of blankets, returned on 6th May with a last warm blanket and especially a bag of small toys, sorted with her children (I had explained to her that families who were evicted all the time could only abandon load-bearing toys or large stuffed animals.) The ideal is what a little one can slip into his pocket when his parents hurry to pick up the most important one.

We see this bag in the photo, and two little girls. The little one had her hands full (such small hands that it was still not that much!) and a happy smile. The biggest (but not so big either!) measured this small chance offered and hesitated in choosing a single toy.

Small moment out of time.

"Happy that it can clear up their already terrible little daily life," wrote the donor to whom I had sent the photo.



Hasbia brought a new delivery of duvets (a hundred!), on 17th May.

Rachel dropped off a bag of clothes and sweaters on 26th May.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED US ON BEHALF OF A COMPANY OR AN ASSOCIATION THAT IS A FRIEND OR IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING ONE...

1st May appeal: "There are beautiful remains of a festive meal to be recovered tomorrow morning at the Palais du littoral."

Never mind, the Tuesday team is reactive, and Denise recovers and then puts to the CR:

"We served, in addition, vegetable macedonia and a little potato salad that were given to us this morning at the Palais du Littoral (leftovers from yesterday). There are also large trays of tabbouleh and macedonia in the fridge as well as a container of merguez sausages cooked yesterday on the barbecue. »



Thank you once again to Onjali and his association "O's Refugee Aid Team" which offers us every month since November an important food fund.

And thanks to Caroline who does the shopping for us, on her behalf...



Thanks to Secours Populaire/Copains du monde, Christian Hogard, Caroline and their team.

On 3rd May, Caroline gets us a big pile of chicken aiguillettes for Grande-Synthe's kitchen.





On 12th May we receive this message from Christian with the photos:
 "Huge delivery of fresh bread this Thursday for our Friends of Salam Calais. A van full of pastries and breads of all kinds for our Friends.

The solidarity shop of Loon-Plage and the Secours Populaire are at the origin of this new partnership with the vocational school of Dunkirk... which provides several times a week, large quantities of breads and pastries to the delight of Yolaine and her teams and especially, to feed a little more vulnerable people migrating to Calais.

Fraternal friendships and above all solidarity. Christian Hogard"

Our president, Jean-Claude Lenoir, responded immediately:

"Great this cooperation

Long live the young

The future can be beautiful.

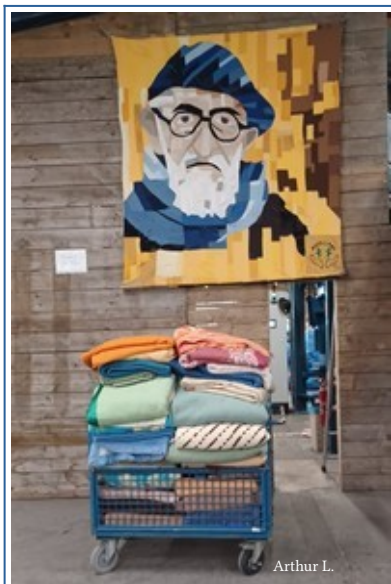
Friendships »

Since that day, the bread and pastries van of the Secours Populaire has returned to Calais twice a week.

Thank you to everyone who joined forces to bring us blankets and clothes for our friends to fight this chilly spring:

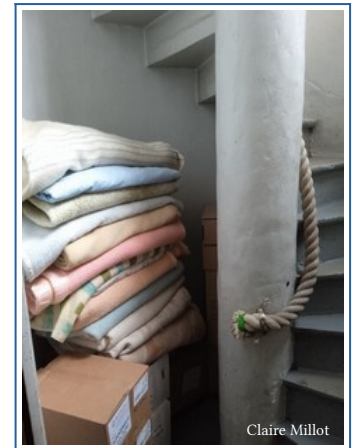
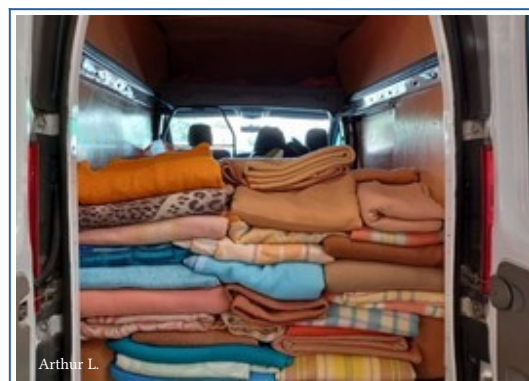
Saint Bertin Saint Joseph de la Colme parish: we were called for the fourth time, on 5th May, to remove a beautiful pile of warm blankets.

The Little Chapel "Notre-Dame des dunes à Dunkerque" continued to collect the blankets and we were called on 9th and 13th May 9 to take away a large prize.



The Audotri association gave us many blankets between 9th and 30th May.

The Utopia association offered us blankets several times during the month.



Martine and Raphaëlle from the Parish of the Good Shepherd of Armentières returned on 6th May to bring us clothes and some blankets.



The young people of the association "Perspectives", under the leadership of Régine, came for the third consecutive year from Lille, Saturday, 13th May. They brought us equipment bought by them: this year socks in quantity. They spent the day with us and distributed themselves, with the meal, the contents of the first boxes..



A team of young people from EPIDE in Doullens came to Dunkirk on 16th May to help us. We intend to maintain the link.

A new package of hats from the Val des Roses arrived twice in the month. We discovered that our favourite granny not only put a whole group of ladies in the game but also that it is the retirement home that offers the wool!

Great cooperation!

And what usefulness, in such a cool month of May, for people who will go to sea, often at night, in the cold and wind.

On 16th May, it is a box of spoons for our distributions that our friends of Flanders Terre Solidaire of Bailleul sent us, as a gift.

AND FINALLY THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO MADE US FINANCIAL DONATIONS, without which we would not be able to maintain the vans, put diesel in the tanks, pay for the water and electricity used in our premises, replace the gas cylinders...

Thank you to all those (close friends and strangers) who slipped us a ticket, sent us a check, made a transfer directly or by Helloasso.

THANK YOU TO BETHLEHEM, TO ABDELKADER AND TO THE ASSOCIATION RENAISSANCE, TO FLANDRES TERRE SOLIDAIRE, TO THE PROTESTANT MUTUAL AID, TO THE AUBERGE DES MIGRANTS which shares with us the ton of bananas offered by CONHEXA once a week, To EMMAUS which gives us surpluses every week, for Calais as for Grande-Synthe, to the Ressourcerie de Montreuil sur mer ("Il était deux fois") and to the Secours Catholique de Berck who provide each month clothes brought to Calais by André de Merlimont, at the JARDINS DE COCAGNE, at the COMORIAN DAMES, at the RESTAURANT DU CAP in Escalles, at the bakeries opposite the Noordover, "La mie du pain" and "Au bon pain d'ancienne" by Coudekerque. Week after week, they are there to help us. Thanks to HRO and Olivier Schitteck who allow us to publish their photos.

THANK YOU to the diocesan association of Lille which, through the parish of Grande-Synthe, has been graciously making available the premises of the Salle Guérin, for about fifteen years.

THANK YOU to Michel who ensures the layout of this newsletter, without fail, for years, **to Chris** who translates it into English, month after month, for our website, **to Antoine** who manages the Facebook Page, also without fail, since 2017, **and Guillaume who introduced us to the LinkedIn network** a year ago.

Claire Millot.

OUR NEEDS FOR VOLUNTEERS

Dunkirk:

We need people on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from the beginning of the peeling chore (8 am) to the end of the dishes (between 2 and 4 pm). In between, we distribute the meal.

Call Claire (06 34 62 68 71). From outside France 00 33 6 34 62 68 71

Calais:

Salam continues the distribution of enhanced breakfasts every morning with tea and coffee.

But we are sorely lacking volunteers, especially volunteers with driver's licenses:

Meeting at 8 am at the local, 13 rue des Fontinettes.

Call Yolaine at 06.83.16.31.61. From outside France 00 33 6 83.16.31.61

CALL FOR DONATIONS

MONEY NEEDS.

Without state subsidies and with a very significant reduction in subsidies from local and regional authorities, we still need money to make the work of the association endure:

Maintenance of premises and vans, fuel, purchase of food that is missing...

Visit the association's website: www.associationsalam.org

Section: "Support us"

Go through HELLOASSO:

<https://www.helloasso.com/associations/salam-nord-pas-de-calais/formulaires/2/widget>

or simply send a cheque to:

Association Salam

PO Box 47

62100 CALAIS FRANCE

You are entitled to a 66% tax reduction on these donations, in cash by one of our volunteers, by check payable to SALAM, or by bank transfer (direct or by Helloasso) (please check your local tax laws)

A big thank you to all our generous donors!

TENTS AND TARPAULINS!

From dismantling to dismantling, the tents are removed at both sites and we are unable to replace them. Many people sleep with nothing on them, in all weathers.

But we hesitate to suggest you buy some: the life expectancy of a tent is a few days...

On the other hand, tarpaulins, pieces of 3m by 3m (or 2.50m by 3m), cost much less and allow an honest man to spend a night in under cover.

Otherwise, the most pressing needs on both sites:

BLANKETS (DUVETS, SLEEPING BAGS).

hygiene products (shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, sunscreen, etc.), especially razors, towels,

men's clothing from XS to XL: underpants, long underpants and thermal leggings and thermal sweaters, socks, jogging pants, jeans, shorts, t-shirts,

SHOES for men: trainers or light hiking shoes (sizes 40 to 46),

sandles, caps.

backpacks,
lamps and batteries,
water packs,
bags (small backpacks, garbage bags, freezer bags, tote bags and plastic bags)

Food for Calais:

Milk
tea and sugar, soluble coffee,
cans of sardines and cans of tuna,
cream cheese,
dried fruits,
Power banks.

To drop off your donations, RDV 13 rue des Fontinettes, and call 06 83 16 31 61.

And for Grande-Synthe:

Especially canned vegetables of all kinds (we have been receiving much less fresh for some time),
bags of pulses,
spices,

Drop off your donations in the Salle Guérin, rue Alphonse Daudet, behind St Jacques Church on
Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

You can always take your membership for 2023.
The membership form is attached to this mailing.

If you are not yet a member, do not hesitate to join us.
Whether you are an active volunteer or not, becoming a member gives the association the strength to
Union! We were more than 250 members in 2022, already more than 200 at the end of April 2023, help us
to exceed the threshold of 300.

CONTACT US

<http://www.associationsalam.org>
salamnordpasdecalais@gmail.com
[Facebook page: SALAM Nord/Pas-de-Calais](#)
And the new LinkedIn page, available at the following link :
www.linkedin.com/in/association-salam-nord-pas-de-calais

Association SALAM
PO Box 47
62100 CALAIS FRANCE

Association SALAM,
Salle Guérin, Quartier St Jacques,
1, rue Alphonse Daudet,
59760 Grande-Synthe

Bulletin d'adhésion 2023



Principaux objectifs de SALAM :

- Apporter une aide humanitaire aux migrants (soins, hygiène, nourriture, vêtements...)
- Accompagner les migrants dans leur demande d'asile
- Informer et sensibiliser l'opinion publique sur la situation des migrants du littoral Côte d'Opale
- Combattre toutes les formes de racisme et de discrimination
- Agir dans les pays en difficulté
- Soutenir juridiquement les membres de l'association

Merci de remplir le bulletin ci-dessous et de le renvoyer à l'adresse suivante :

Association SALAM-Nord/Pas-de-Calais

BP 47

62100 CALAIS

Monsieur/
Madame : _____ Prénom _____

Adresse _____

Code postal _____ Ville _____ Pays _____

Téléphone _____ E mail _____

☐ J'adhère à l'association en versant la somme de 10 €.

(5 € pour les étudiants et demandeurs d'emploi , adhésion valable jusqu'au 31/12/2023)

Date et signature :

☐ Je fais un don* à l'association Salam en versant la somme de : _____

**Par chèque à l'ordre de l'association Salam. Un reçu fiscal vous sera adressé*

☐ Je souhaite recevoir davantage d'informations sur l'association Salam.