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## NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

### A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### THE HORROR!!

Not content with harassing of our FRIENDS: the local government services do not respect anyone. Indeed, the local government services, with surreal arrogance, affirmed in front of the media that they were acting humanely to protect our FRIENDS from the bad weather, being certainly far from the HAUTS DE FRANCE (northernmost region of France) during these last weeks of incessant rain! These same services added that it was also a question of seeing them take reckless risks by trying to reach the United Kingdom!

Certainly, hearing the scolding of citizens tired of being taken for naïve fools, the local government services have tried to rectify the situation somewhat by justifying their harassment with judicial decisions!

No complexity: these are really methods from another century when the rulers had no consideration or respect for the common people!

The French President and his Minister of the Interior have not chosen the best ambassadors to improve their popularity!!!

Why waste so much money on actions that have been recurring for 20 years and are systematically doomed to failure because they have not been intelligently worked on beforehand?

However, the solutions are simple:

RESPECT FOR HUMAN BEINGS

PREPARATION IN advance

PRESENCE OF SOCIAL WORKERS

TIME TO EXCHANGE WITH OUR FRIENDS

And stop:-

DECEIT

TREATING PEOPLE AS FOOLS

DISCOVER A MINIMUM OF HUMANISM

Our FRIENDS do not deserve such contempt.

Our French Republic has always been strong in its FRATERNITY.

**Jean-Claude Lenoir, just after the big evacuation of 30<sup>th</sup> November,**

*See below, the end of the article "Events of the month".*

### A HUNGER STRIKE WITHIN OUR RANKS.

One of our volunteers in Dunkirk went on hunger strike on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. It's a decision he made on his own, which we can only respect... He made this initiative public on the 28<sup>th</sup> November, in the following terms:

**"It's been raining for a month and a half.  
I started a hunger strike on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.  
My complaint about the theft of my truck is blocked  
The fire pumps have been dismantled  
They continue to destroy the camp, despite the rain and cold  
I request:  
Respect for the volunteer associations working in the camp.  
Supplying the camp with water organized by local government  
Compliance with the winter law that came into force in October.  
I will be followed by a doctor.  
After months in the camp, I want to say no."**

Jean-Claude Lenoir, President of Salam Nord/Pas-de-Calais added:

**"In the face of government walls, we are surprised that there are not more relatively radical actions to try to move the lines..."**

On 4<sup>th</sup> December, he moved into the Sesame House in Herzele (a place of reception for families and vulnerable people in exile). Support is organized around him..

### THE DEATHS, STILL TOO NUMEROUS... AND TERRIBLE...

On 11<sup>th</sup> November, a young Sudanese man died in hospital three weeks after entering the hospital as a result of violence.

A gathering in his memory was held two days later at 6:30 p.m. in front of Richelieu Park, as happens after every death of an exiled person.

On 13<sup>th</sup> November, another young Sudanese man was stabbed to death in a brawl on the Moselle embankment. The next evening, the traditional rally took place, so that this violence and these deaths would not be trivialized.

An open letter has been distributed by Secours Catholique ( *Catholic Relief* ) to those who come to their day care centre. We remember this passage: "We know that life in Calais is very difficult and that the border is violent (...) How many parents are we going to call and tell them their child died due to not having a mobile phone?"

On 17<sup>th</sup> November, we woke up to the news: "A van ploughs into about fifteen migrants on the A26, near Calais, two dead and four injured." We are devastated: the wording suggests that the gesture was intentional, especially since there was a hit-and-run... and we sink into horror... But hit-and-run does not prove premeditation... We still don't know what happened, except that there were two more deaths...

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November almost two years to the day, after the one on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021 which left 27 bodies and four missing, a new shipwreck between Hardelot and Equihen-Plage caused two deaths (a man and a woman).

The commemoration of this tragedy has been allied with that of the shipwreck in 2021.

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, a message from the "death related" group arrived:

"We no longer have words to express our anger and sadness in the face of these tragedies that no longer stop, but yesterday, a person lost his life while trying to cross the Channel, his body was found on the beach of Dannes...

A rally will be held tonight at 6:30pm in front of Richelieu Park in their memory and in memory of all the exiles who have lost their lives at the border.

Thank you for disseminating the information to your associations, your solidarity networks and your associates.

Our thoughts are with them and their loved ones.

Borders kill. Our governments are murdering."

### "NEITHER FORGETTING NOR FORGIVING"

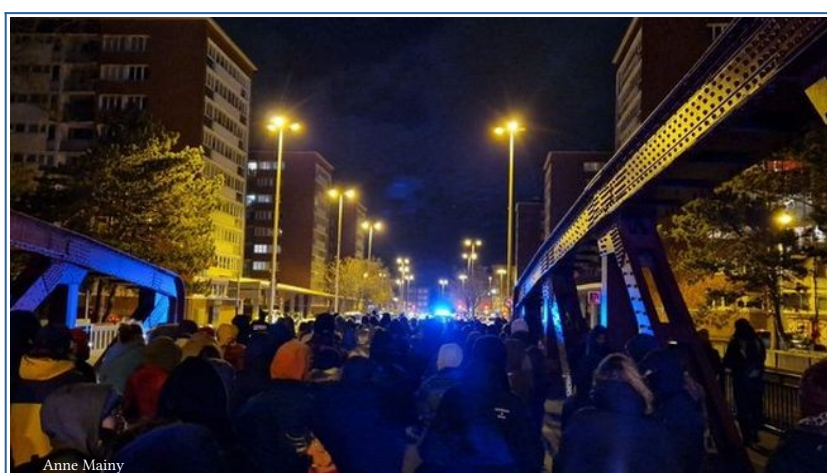
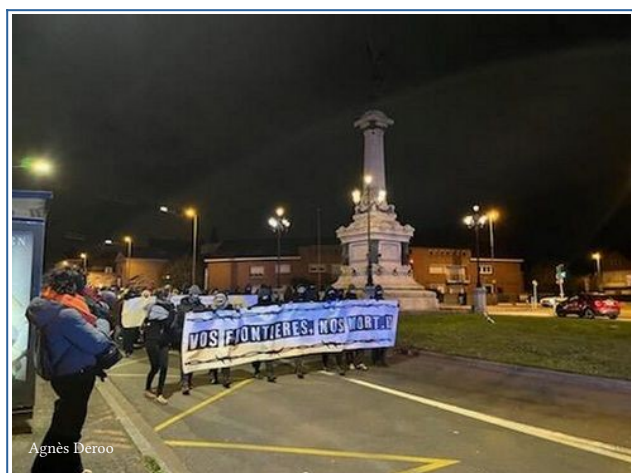
This is the title of the demonstration in memory of the shipwreck of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021 that left 27 dead and four missing.

There were 150 of us, according to the press, local associations of course, but "All migrants" from Briançon and "Per a pace" from Corsica were also represented.

After a regrouping on the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville in Dunkirk,



We crossed the city, to the kiosk on the Place Turenne in Malo, "cold but motivated" wrote Agnès, one of our two photographers on the day.





Agnès Deroo



Anne Mainy

One banner bore the names of the 27 dead in 2021 and another, unfurled on the ground, the list of all those missing from the Franco-British border.

We broke up after listening to Jacques Yvart's latest song.

Below is the link to allow you to listen to the words in French and music.

<https://youtu.be/qnGNH7bUNdQ?si>

## Don't forget

(Lyrics and music ; Jacques Yvart)

They were, hearts beating, lurking in the hollows of the dunes  
 Willing to risk their lives to reach England  
 Stunned and hopeful, companions in misfortune  
 Searching for an oasis after so much desert  
 Greedy, faithless and unscrupulous smugglers  
 They sold them a skiff of misery at a high price  
 They knew the danger, these scoundrels, these scoundrels  
 Leading them to their deaths was none of their business  
 Finally, they embarked with fear in their stomachs  
 The sea frightened them, as they were right  
 They left their bivouacs without regret and their tents  
 With the dream of finally having a home  
 When the raft sank, it didn't matter what the cause was  
 And they found themselves destitute at sea  
 Clinging to the spars when the cold stiffens  
 Calling for help who didn't care  
 Cry and cry and pray  
 Of all those castaways forgotten along the way  
 Of these poor humans, all our sisters,  
 All our brothers  
 Preparing to die holding hands

Incompetent lookouts, assassins on duty  
 I hope you 're having trouble falling asleep  
 Think that these children could be your sons  
 Were you not ashamed to let them perish?  
 Think of the plight of women in this country  
 Knowing the horrible death that shattered their love  
 Neither forgetting nor forgiving, but understanding at all costs  
 Why they perished without any help  
 Ahmad, Sirvan, Hadiya, Mohammed,  
 Shawali, Twana, Niyat, Tahana,  
 Bilind, Hasti, Shakar: We don't forget I  
 Kazha, Bryar, Maryam, Fikru,  
 Chabad, Deniz, Mohammed, Zanyar,  
 Bilind, Hasti, Shakar: We don't forget!  
 Tayar, Meron, Muslim, Mayar, Harem,  
 Pshtiwan, Sikh, Mohammed, and Rezwan:  
 Don't forget! We don't forget I

LET'S NOT FORGET

- Collective shipwreck -

Jacques Yvart and Anonymous

**THE CROSSINGS TO ENGLAND** are becoming more and more difficult, more and more dangerous. The two deaths in the shipwreck on 22<sup>nd</sup> November are proof of this: the more difficult the crossings are made, under the guise of saving people's lives, the riskier they are. The boat that turned over between Hardelot and Equihen had a much longer, and therefore much riskier, route to cover in the cold, waves and currents than if it had left Calais...

The weather was particularly hostile.

If we add the obstacles put by the police all along the coast, the difficulties become almost insurmountable. In November 2022, the Home Office had recorded 4,082 arrivals on its shores. In 2023 from 1<sup>st</sup> November to 30<sup>th</sup>, they counted 1,661.

When a "weather window" is announced, favourable to passages, people rush to the coast. You can see them to the west, along the road, at bus stops, sometimes by the hundreds...

We tremble, when we hear the news, to learn of one more drowned man, or even 27...

And then we see them come back, by the hundreds too, often still with the life jacket on their backs, like the group of several dozen people at the Salam distribution on the morning of 26<sup>th</sup> November. They are dry if they haven't even been able to get on board, but soaked if the dinghy has toppled over once it's gone. Either way, they are demoralized and yet determined to try again at the first opportunity.

On 24<sup>th</sup> November, in an icy wind, two volunteers from Salam, on a walk towards the Dunkirk lighthouse, just before the lock, saw on the other side of the water a lot of police and firefighters and at least twenty in survival blankets: a group of 47 people had failed in an attempt to cross.



Arnaud Leclercq

On 11<sup>th</sup> November, the weather was fine, it was the first time in a long time that we had read and heard that a weather window would allow passage to the United Kingdom by sea.

That evening, the network of associations was buzzing with the movements of hundreds of men (and women and children) who were moving towards beaches less supervised than those of Dunkirk or Calais... 615 successful crossings on 12 boats according to the Home Office.

But the failures were even more numerous:

On 13<sup>th</sup> November, Christian Hogard, president of the Secours Populaire de Dunkerque, shared the news he had just received: 800 people had just returned to the Loon-Plage camp. These people (isolated people and families) had nothing, no tents or blankets, and there was no more room in the reception centres...

Everyone mobilized, Secours Populaire and Salam, with the help of No Borders Medics, to gather and distribute tents, rolls of tarpaulins, blankets...

(Salam is not visible, we was behind the camera...)

In pictures, below, the bags of duvets and rolls of tarpaulin brought back from the Secours Populaire on 13<sup>th</sup> November, and the thirty tents of Salam distributed to homeless exiles the next day



Families with children were sheltered that evening: the mayor of Gravelines, Bertrand Ringot, contributed to the solidarity by giving the financial means to rent hotel rooms.

The scouts of France of the Hauts de France have mobility of significant means for equipment.

The pattern is always the same: they are prevented from leaving but they are not allowed to stay. We know that the reception on the other side is becoming more and more difficult, but we can't believe that. This is worse than the undignified conditions in which all these people survive in these overcrowded camps... Indeed, who would choose to stay in a camp without toilets, without water, where they waded in the mud? We see them in flip-flops. "But we gave away running shoes yesterday... But the running shoes, we give them away on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m., and the next day, Wednesday, at the same time, they ask for more: the day before, on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m., they were already ruined, these trainers, in the mud in which they waded. So they're better off in flip-flops? Yes... We can say yes... Their feet are dirty and frozen, but so are their trainers, and at least they keep decent shoes for when they leave this misery camp.

Under these conditions, is it any wonder that tension rises and fights break out between communities? At the end of the month, obstacles to aid and at the same time to the survival of people in the camps are multiplying.

In Loon-Plage, access to the water has been cut off.

On the evening of 26<sup>th</sup> November, Salam issued a press release:

"Two fire hydrants remained accessible, near the distribution point allocated to the associations, in Loon-Plage for migrants. They were closed last night or this morning.

What will happen if a fire breaks out in the camp or in nearby businesses?

After the closure of the car parks on the A16 motorway a few years ago, it seems that the authorities' concern is more to complicate the lives of the exiles, rather than to ensure the safety of citizens...

The nearest water tank was empty at noon. The message "People are desperate seeking for water" circulated yesterday at 5:07 p.m. between the associations.

The Sub-Prefect will have to organize the distribution of bottles of mineral water, as he told us he did at the height of the heat wave last summer. You can't leave hundreds of people without drinking water! »



Before



After



In Calais on 27<sup>th</sup> November, rue de Judée (i.e. the most populated site, the one where Salam distributes 700 or 800 breakfasts every day), a roadblock was set up, to completely prevent access by the voluntary support groups: a trench was dug, doubled by an earthen embankment, (as had been done in Marck in November 2021) and a row of rocks.



It is impossible to distribute on the road, which is very narrow, without endangering those who would queue there and, consequently, without being fined (in this case deserved!) for "dangerous parking and endangering the lives of others."

Less serious but significant: in Loon-Plage we see the appearance of a form of hindrance, which has been used a lot in Calais for years, but not yet on the Dunkirk side: the PVs. The place of distribution granted by the Sub-Prefect suited us very well for the distribution of meals. Things got a little more complicated with the bad weather: the terrain is less clear, puddles and mud are there,



The Salam team on 9<sup>th</sup> November confirms this in its distribution report: "When we arrived at the distribution site around 12:30 p.m., we had a little difficulty finding a location that did not obstruct the entrance and was not in the muddy puddles."

When the cars of the volunteers get in the way, some leave them outside.

Mistake: no parking! We have been given a place to distribute, we must not overflow with it...

## HARSH WEATHER CONDITIONS:

**Of course, it all started with Storm Ciaran on 2<sup>nd</sup> November.**

Although there were no serious accidents, we didn't get very far: trees fell very close to the tents in Calais.

At both of our sites, shelters were organized by the local authorities during Storm Ciaran.

Salam, along with the others, had insisted on 1st December to obtain this shelter... 150 places for men and 80 for women-families in Dunkirk on the evening of 1<sup>st</sup> November (plus 80 the following evening), opening of the Plan GREAT COLD in Calais on both evenings.



It is ok. Associations helping exiles are certainly not going to blame the authorities for this.

But when we know that very quickly on 1<sup>st</sup> November, at the Loon-Plage camp, a 151st person showed up behind the 150th and was refused, followed by many others...

when we know that the published figures (687 in Calais, a figure that necessarily includes departures to CAES) do not even correspond to a third of the number of exiles that we estimate on the ground...

when it is known that shelter in Calais was ensured until 9.30 a.m. on 3<sup>rd</sup> November and that (as part of the dismantling of the day) the first tent was seized at 8.46 a.m. on the site near exit 44 of the A16 motorway,

There is still a bitter taste in the mouth.

Salam had offered to bring the Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov meals to the gymnasiums. Our proposal was declined, and it was better this way: we appeared with our bowls and found about 500 people at three points in the Loon-Plage camp sector who were happy to see us come.

The shelters offered by the state, in general, are inadequate. On 6<sup>th</sup> November in Calais, rue des Huttes (the departure point for the shuttles to the Reception Centres), nine Eritrean women staying with a citizen host did not have a place on the bus. It can happen, but it has been the case for them every morning since 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Less extreme cases are common.

On 8<sup>th</sup> November, at the same starting point, many of the men were left behind.



## **After the storm came the floods.**

If our camps were not flooded in the same way as many villages in the Pas-de-Calais, we also came close...

In Calais:





In Loon-Plage: the camps and the access roads to the distribution site.

The tents and their inhabitants were directly affected by the rising water levels and the torrential rains, which could not be absorbed by the ground.



Salam did his best: with the means at hand, such as the pallets left on the road that connects the distribution site to the main camp, and with emergency purchases (many tents and rain ponchos that have not yet been distributed.)

To meet these needs, we are also in contact with other associations in the field (Secours Populaire, Help 4 Dunkerque, No Borders Medics) and with those who have been able to provide us with free equipment (pallets, clothes, blankets) such as Audotri...

### **Feeding this entire population is not easy either:**

All those people stranded on our side of the Channel are hungry...

We distributed up to 1,487 breakfasts in Calais on 5<sup>th</sup> November, the maximum figure in May was 678) and in Loon-Plage we gave 800 hot meals on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> November and never less than 500 this month (the maximum last May was 400 meals). We are buying more and reducing the quantity of certain foodstuffs distributed.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> November, the decision was taken in Calais not to buy milk or biscuits for the time being.

On the other hand, in Dunkirk, we had to buy things that usually come to us by donation, for example twice a pallet of pasta.



### **THE DISMANTLING OF THE CAMPS ADDS TO THE PRECARIOUSNESS OF THE CAMPS.**

#### **Work of the HRO ( Human Rights Observers - an independent watchdog )**

In Loon-Plage, the last major evacuation took place on 31<sup>st</sup> October. On Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November, only the stall sector was affected. The police told the community members present that they would not move anyone or take tents or belongings. However, they did it for those who run the stands and also have their living space there...

## In Calais,

The photo below, taken with a BMX bike on 15<sup>th</sup> November, gives an idea of the situation: in the background, the CRS vans in number, in the middle the tents waiting on the grass, in the foreground the security perimeter.

The legal basis for any evacuation is "flagrante delicto". As with a squatted house, a police intervention is required before 48 hours of installation, and it is pretended that the people who have a tent there did not set it up more than 48 hours before. This becomes true to the extent that they are all made to remove their equipment every two days and everything left is seized.



3 novembre, rue de Judée

So, officially, it's a new installation, even if it's an installation of the same people in the same place, under the eyes of the CRS...

But then... Although there was an evacuation roughly every two days, always in the morning, there was still a longer period of time between 31<sup>st</sup> October and 3<sup>rd</sup> November, between 9<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> November and between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November.



We salute the fact that there was nothing on 2<sup>nd</sup> November when people were able to take shelter from the storm in the premises of the Plan GREAT COLD. The next day, the local authorities did not have the same delicacy. The fact remains that if the law says "evacuation before the 48-hour period", the law has not been respected, three times...

Still, for years, we have heard the police tell the HRO that they cannot attend a dismantling because they are on private land... And that's what justifies the establishment of a security perimeter...

But when you're on public land, like on 7<sup>th</sup> November in Marck? Well, the HRO understands with the policewoman's assent: "When it's public land, we say it's a police intervention." There you go...

On 17<sup>th</sup> November, at the Place de Norvège, the HRO's removal was justified by the following sentence: "You are occupying the public road, move along!"

In the end, private land or public road, it's the same, the HRO is, everywhere, asked to look elsewhere.

The worst was the detention on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, for 23:30 hours at the Coquelles police station, of two British members of the HRO. They were only allowed to show an identity document on the ground, but not their passports. These papers were brought to the police station in Coquelle at 2pm by their colleagues. They still spent the night at the police station!

Only one person from the HRO remained for observation. She couldn't go on alone...

The insults and petty bullying are countless.

On November 5, in the rue de Judée, a riot police officer told the HRO: "If you go off the road, I'll take your bones off!"

On 20 November, in the rue des Huttes, the Salam team was interrupted by the riot police, who were very aggressively demanding an authorisation to distribute, which did not exist...

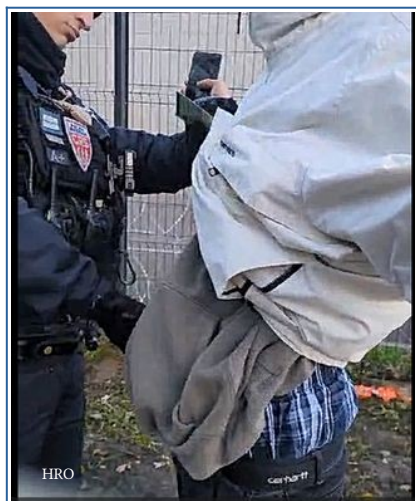
It happens that a team is active on a site during an evacuation and cannot leave before the end of the operation: this happened on November 17 to the Salam team and on 21 rue de Judée to the Woodyard (which distributes firewood) and to the Secours Catholique.

## But of course the worst bullying is against our exiled friends.

Already, the lack of consideration of weather conditions is striking: operations are never prevented or mitigated by rain and wind, which must be fought against so that the tents do not fly away.

On 9<sup>th</sup> November, a member of the HRO ( Human Rights Observers ) testified in an audio message from the site behind the PASS: "They pushed them, pushed them until they were halfway in the ditch. They couldn't stop yelling (sic). They brought out the gases... I can't write, there's too much rain on my phone... »

"They had taken out the gas canister and were shouting 'little, little, little' like a shepherd to his cattle," he adds when he can write again.



In the same place, on the 21st, 50 people were displaced with 23 tents. The National Police forces them to gather in huge puddles with mud. A video shows the feet sinking but it's too small and too fast to be extracted.

On 17<sup>th</sup> November, in Norway Square, the HRO saw an exile being patted down and asked to empty his pockets.

On the same day at BMX, the contempt is obvious: a CRS mimics a conductor in front of displaced people and says: "Come on, let's sing: There was a little shipuuuh"...

On 15<sup>th</sup> November, the riot police hurled insults and threats against the exiles. They push them, some are called "dirty idiots", another threatens an exile, behind the PASS: he is going to "tear off his hair from this big idiot."

Tear gas, batons and heavy weapons (LBD rifles) are often out..

The rule is that the exiles present at the time of the evacuation can take all their belongings, including tents and tarpaulins. In practice, it is the most total arbitrariness:

Some examples:

On November 15<sup>th</sup> at BMX, those returning from the shower are not allowed to enter the camp, but on the same day in Marck, three people, including a minor, are allowed to enter to collect their belongings. Under the Mollien bridge, the tent of a miner who was sleeping in it was seized.

On the 17<sup>th</sup>, at the BMX, six people came running to collect their belongings but were not allowed to pass through the security perimeter.



They destroyed the tents and took some of them while everyone is at the Active Living distribution, BMX on November 5<sup>th</sup> and Judea Street on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

On the 21st in Marck, a person is allowed to retrieve a tent, but on 19<sup>th</sup> Judea Street a person cannot retrieve his personal belongings.

Small moments of grace to conclude:

Sometimes the police are humane. As always in such cases, we give neither the date nor the place, so as not to bring trouble into trouble for a man of good will.

There are very small gestures, such as the day when the HRO was allowed to go on a small path to see a little better, and others that were rarer: the day when a CRS came to see our team and said: "This gentleman has no clothes, can you dress him?"

A video from the HRO shows an incredible scene: a police officer can be heard explaining: "... Meals in progress. We don't touch the tents, we just ask them to gather there, to do a count. We're not going to bother (sic) taking the tents, we're not going to piss them off (sic)... »

And, for a moment, for a moment only, we regain confidence in humanity...

**LAST MINUTE: A VERY BIG EVACUATION ON 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER  
AT THE SAME TIME ON THE CALAIS AND ON THE DUNKIRK.**

A major evacuation took place on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November, both in Dunkirk and in Calais, with mandatory departures, the likes of which had not been seen since 2020.

It all started in total darkness: the HRO (Human Rights Observers) observed the police presence, near the camps, as early as 5 a.m. in Calais and as early as 6:45 a.m. near Dunkirk. It's very cold. When the sun rises, the landscape appears completely frosty. The picture was taken in Loon-Plage, but it's like that everywhere.



The police presence is very important.

The camps were immediately isolated:

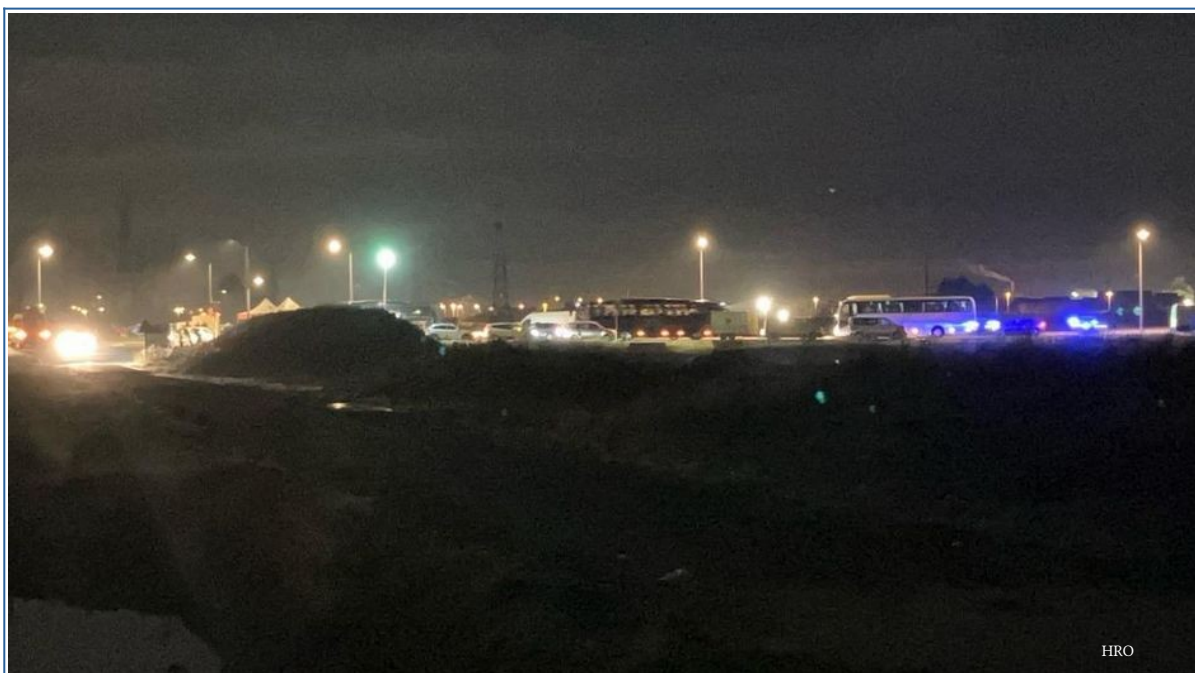
In Calais by blocking streets (first rue de Judée and rue du Beaumarais). Just before 7 a.m., a cordon on Judea Street prevented the guys from fleeing.

On the Dunkirk side, the accesses are cordoned off all around a large sector: Mardyck, the former motocross, the distribution site and in front of the SDMT company.

Train traffic is cut off.

A large number of buses are mobilized for the "sheltering" which, despite its name, is done under duress. The reason given is the cold (intense, it's true), but it hadn't moved the authorities that our friends had been with their feet and tents in the mud since the beginning of the month...

The first ones leave at 7 a.m., it's still dark black.



In Calais: At 9:20 a.m., an HRO video shows four men sitting on the ground with six police officers standing in front of them.

A police officer told HRO that they were sitting on the ground "to prevent them from running away". We have to take them to the bus.

On the Dunkirk side: From 10 a.m., the police gather everyone in a perimeter and run after them. People don't have a choice: "Hotel or CRA."



On a video from the HRO, we see some of them fleeing from the group, in Loon-Plage,

and another (in Calais at the BMX) that a policeman prevents from moving away:



Someone announces on the phone that he is on a bus going to Perpignan...

Very quickly the grounds began to be "cleaned", i.e. cleared of tents and shelters; four backhoe loaders in action on the Dunkirk side.

It's winter, it's freezing cold and those who have managed to escape the roundup are wandering around without knowing where to land. In Loon-Plage, after the distribution of Salam, where they arrived in very small groups, they burn the rubbish, to warm up with us...

*Claire Millot*

## A VOLUNTEER'S TESTIMONY.

I started volunteering with exiled people in 2015. (I was already an activist long before, since 2012? To defend the exiles.) The time when there were a multitude of camps in all the Hauts de France (the northernmost region of France) with between 40 and 100 people. Each side had its nationality or an agreement between several nationalities chosen by them, by their smugglers; Each camp had its own parking lot, its own waypoint, a "private domain". There was sometimes a settling of scores between them, and then an organization would take over. In Calais and Dunkirk, there were always more people, but always several camps, and each camp had its own smugglers.

I had joined the team of volunteers in Tatinghem, a camp of about forty Afghans. We didn't cook food but brought them food several times a week, with MDM and sometimes without, we had built wooden huts, raised, a bit like politician Damien Carême had, but only for forty people. MDM had installed a tank that we filled several times a week with for cooking and heating. Emmaus offered us crockery and chairs to improve a things little. The team of volunteers, about ten people, brought the boys to the showers at Emmaus four times a week (the little chalet in the courtyard was our house), i.e. between 8 and 16 people each time. They could also walk to the Red Cross if they wanted and could see a doctor there. At Emmaus, it was more than a shower, we sat down, we drank tea, we talked, we learned a few words in Pashto and they in French, we ate ferni prepared by Anna and I, as Baritjat had taught us, we did everyone's laundry, sometimes at home too, they would leave refreshed to face the rest and we would leave enriched. We also drove to the hospital according to individual needs and visited the inpatients. (They themselves sometimes told us that they received more visitors than other patients in the hospital). When families were present, we organized a round of showers for them, sometimes at our place, with pleasure. MDM also came to the camp with his truck. My golden doctor (I think I've already talked about it here) was a volunteer at MDM, we discovered our common activism by bumping into each other on a Wednesday at the camp.

The exiles had first names, so did we, sometimes nicknames. Bonds created, real bonds because friendships still endure to this day.

Everything was on a human scale, even if this life that is that of exiles is violent, as we know, we brought a little gentleness, humanity. We in our comforts, in their cabin, we were in fraternity and solidarity. We brought each other a mutual richness.

Those days are long gone.

Already in Calais, the exiles were subjected to state violence. The small camps were sometimes a retreat to rest, a shelter, one might say?

Since 2016 state violence has increased, they are mistreated, worse than animals.

Since 2020, I have been volunteering at Salam. We prepare meals and distribute, purely humanitarian, more social ties.

If the Saturday team, the Salam Saturday team, wasn't also friends, I wouldn't be able to hold on anymore. To see the conditions of survival is unbearable, to know the risks taken to cross the Channel is unbearable, to know that exiles are subjected to this violence is unbearable.

In recent weeks, in Dunkirk, the number has exploded and survival has become even more violent. We distribute 700 meals, small portions to try to share, and some have nothing. We dropped the little extra things, tea, water, milk shake, so that we could focus on the hot dish only and not waste time when we take out the tables, we only take out two and the barriers, essential at the moment. Because when we arrive, we have to start quickly, they are hungry, very hungry and already 200, 300, 400 people are waiting for the truck. We serve the channel, barely enough time to say Salam and welcome their thanks, their smiles. At least four people have to "manage the queue" because overtaking adds tension to the tensions already present.

Never, never will I be able to get used to what Europe is doing to them, to what France is doing to them. Seeing is believing, they survive worse than animals, how can you sometimes not become an animal?

Yesterday\* I was very frightened, for two of my friends, the apple of my eye.

To recover from my emotions, I won't be going to camp for several weeks, but I'll still go and prepare meals.

**Nathalie D.** (November 5, 2023)

*\*Yesterday: was Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> November.*

*To put a little context into what happened and to avoid panic: there were some rather unfortunate exchanges between two of our volunteers of Afghan origin and a Kurd in the camp... Following this event, a group of Kurds tried to attack them at the end of the distribution.*

*All the volunteers mobilized to protect our two guys who finally managed to get into the truck, which left immediately.*

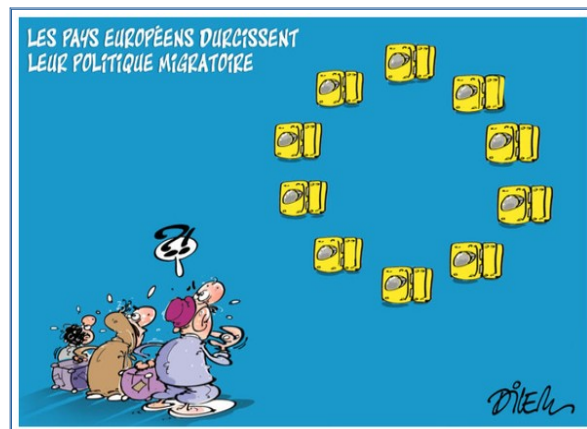
*We haven't had any such problems so far, but with the tension that prevails at the moment, things can quickly escalate between different nationalities.*

**Pascaline D.**

### **EUROPE WITH A SQUEAKY SENSE OF HUMOUR.**



Mural Union Européenne Blu, Melilla, 2012 © Blu



Drawing published in "Le Monde", dated November 14, signed by the Algerian designer Dilem

### **AT THE SAME TIME AND ELSEWHERE**

**In Greece, barbed wire from Evros.**



Arrivals of exiles are regular in Europe, especially by sea. In response, the countries of the European Union are increasingly barricading their borders with walls, constant patrols, and the construction of closed camps.

Journalist Elisa Perrigueur tells the story in paintings.

*(Mediapart, November 22, 2023)*



Indonesia. A rickety boat carrying a group of about 250 Rohingyas refugees was expelled, yesterday in west of Indonesia by angry people who sent back the refugees to their marine wandering . Their shabby and overloaded boat arrived on Tuesday. Some of this Birman minority persecuted refugees then jumped in the water, collapsing on the beach and pleading that the exhausted passengers were authorised to land . In vain.

*Published in the "Voix du Nord" on November 18, 2023*

## **THE DANGEROUS GAME OF EMOTIONS**

### **CLICHÉS, MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND MANIPULATION ON IMMIGRATION:**

In the "Declaration of the Bishops of France on the draft law on immigration" published on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023 by the Bishops' Conference, the French clergy recalled that *"It is important, especially in the current context, to resist the temptation to reduce migration issues to security, terrorism or delinquency. Let us not regard those who seek to reach our soil as a threat to us, nor those who remain there, even in irregular conditions, as delinquents. Let us consider the dignity of migrants, their talents and their sufferings. »*<sup>1</sup>

The mayor of Dijon, François Rebsamen, who is also president of the Progressive Federation (PS) and who was Minister of Labour (2014-2015) recalled, on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023, that in twenty-five years (1996-2021), the law on foreigners has been reformed eighteen times, generating endless debates that increasingly stigmatize "foreigners".<sup>2</sup> Tags: It also calls for humanity and solidarity and proposes to consider the acquisition of French identity for people living in hiding as an opportunity for the economy.

The Medef, representing French employers, has long indirectly defended economic immigration. He is in favour of recruiting foreigners to meet the need for labour in France, which is an economic necessity far from ideological issues. Its former president Geoffroy Roux de Bézieux recalled in June 2023 that *"the company is a vector of integration because the foreign workforce pays its social security contributions, learns French, etc."* Tags: He is not naïve and added that he would like *"clear texts that complement the Valls circular in order to be able to hire more foreign workers without being instrumentalized by those who reproach us with an immigrationist vision or those who treat us as slaves"*.<sup>3</sup>

The new Medef team is more discreet, knowing the sensitive issue in troubled times at the national level with the attack on French teacher Dominique Bernard<sup>4</sup> and an explosive geopolitical context with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict which has resumed since the Hamas terrorist attack on 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. The impact in France has been an explosion in the number of anti-Semitic acts and a political takeover by extremist movements.

Sociologist and professor emeritus at the University of Strasbourg, Smaïn Laacher, director of the Observatory of Migration and Asylum at the Jean Jaurès Foundation<sup>5</sup>, recalled that "we are not in a logic of holy war, but in a long-term political struggle". He insisted on three unfounded assertions. The first is the link between the murder of the French teacher and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict – Samuel Paty was murdered in the same circumstances in 2020 outside this geopolitical framework. The second element is the causal link between migration flows, the murderer and terrorism. The link is rather to be made with the internationalization of jihadism. The third false assertion is denial – Islamist terrorism is not French or European, but universal and planetary, with a desire to "conquer the world". The attack on the Twin Towers in New York in 2001 is the best proof of this.

The public broadcasting service has proposed a debate on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2023<sup>6</sup>, on this sensitive issue of immigration, which is so conducive to slippage. The aim was to enlighten French viewers and citizens about the debate that began on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November on the new law submitted to parliamentarians. The most extremist parties that have turned immigration into a red rag for their "captive" voters and to rally other voters have not failed to list all the most fallacious clichés and stereotypes<sup>7</sup>. The first is that the people affected by an OQTF would all be potential offenders. The carefully chosen news items, widely reported and commented on abundantly by certain media, are very exceptional<sup>8</sup>. The second cliché is that anti-Semitic acts (which have exploded since 7<sup>th</sup> October in France) are mainly the work of Muslim nationals (French or foreign), insinuating that anti-Semitism is linked to Islam. Anti-Semitic persecution has been perpetrated by Christianity for centuries, as recognized by the Catholic Church at the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). Young people (or adults) are manipulated on social networks by malicious algorithms or interference, particularly Russian ones, to stigmatize the Muslim community in France.

The strategy of extremism (political and religious) is the same - playing on negative emotions, repressed or highly identified, based on external events to make an audience react in an epidermal way that does not realize that it is being manipulated and often sincerely believes that it is right to be indignant and to take up the cause of a party or a movement that often escapes them completely. It is not easy to appease and bring back to reason public opinion troubled by a tormented national and international situation that brings its share of anxieties and existential uncertainties every day.

The role of the public service, especially the audiovisual service, the media, and moral or intellectual authorities is to enlighten us, provided that we agree to listen to them and to hear them. Blindness and deafness are also symptoms of the manipulation of public opinion stunned by fake news on social networks...

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

*Bénédicte Halba has been the director of a research institute (iriv) that has been working on the theme of migration since 2003 and has been offering a club at the Cité des Métiers to promote a migratory journey since 2012.*

1 Déclaration des évêques de France, 8 novembre 2023--

<https://eglise.catholique.fr/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/11/Declaration-des-eveques-de-France-a-propos-du-projet-de-loi-sur-limmigration.pdf>

2 François Rebsamen « Il faut régulariser les sans-papiers qui vivent dans notre pays depuis cinq ans et plus », Le Monde, jeudi 5 octobre 2023

3 Econostrum, 15 juin 2023- <https://econostrum.info/france-medef-travailleurs-etranagers/>

4 perpétré par un islamiste d'origine ingouche le 13 octobre 2023 au sein du groupe scolaire Gambetta-Carnot à Arras, chef-lieu du département du Pas-de-Calais, au sein de la région Hauts-de-France

5 SmaïnLaacher « Avaliser un lien en immigration et terrorisme est dangereux », le Monde jeudi 19 octobre 2023

6 sur la chaîne France 2, « L'évènement » animé par Caroline Roux

7 par la voix de leurs représentantes Marion Maréchal et Laure Lavallette, respectivement représentante du parti Reconquête (dirigé par Eric Zemmour) et du Rassemblement national (dirigé par Jordan Bardella, sous l'autorité de Marine Le Pen)

8 Une femme algérienne, dont l'état mental était critique avait tué une adolescente, Lola, en septembre 2022 à Paris ; un homme tunisien, fanatisé, avait tué deux adolescentes, Laura et Maurane, à la gare Saint Charles à Marseille en octobre 2017  
9 étoiles de David taguées sur les murs de Paris fin octobre 2023 par des ressortissants moldaves

## ***NO ONE LEAVES THEIR HOME***

"No one leaves their home unless their home has become the mouth of a shark."

Magali Gaudubois has set excerpts from this beautiful poem by Warsan Shire, an English-speaking Somali poet who fled her country in the middle of a civil war.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_GUoMacxsW0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_GUoMacxsW0)

We published it in its entirety in the January 2016 issue of this newsletter.

Part of it was also covered by I Muvrini in the song "Ses enfants sur l'eau" that we published in the "special issue of committed songs" of April 2020.

## ***THANK YOU***

### **THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS.**

#### **First of all, thank you to the young people,**

Honour to the newcomers: on Mondays, Thomas who gives his Thursdays during a period of inactivity of two months,

to the old young people who come back whenever they can: Elise and Clara,

To young people passing through:

Yann, brother of Thomas (see above), on November 2nd,

"Some young forces from the EPIDE of Doullens: Nhoa, Tom, Tiphaine and their guide, who came to get to know the migrants and our actions, helped us in various activities (cleaning the fridges and preparation)," Geneviève wrote in the report of 16 November.

We had already had, with the same happiness, a group from this establishment on May 16th.

Lilia, a blogger from 93, on 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

Juciara, sent by AFEJI, for regular participation once a week.

To the not-so-young people passing through: Sunny and Anne, present on 11th November to support Jacky's return to the kitchen, after an operation:



Arthur.L



Patrick Freyss

Our old friends from FTS who have completed the Tuesday shift several times.

- César and Elsa from "Bonjour désordre", specialists in the manufacture of fries, who announce a new great chip day on 30th December

- Sandra and her accomplice, who had once again come from the Moselle to lend a hand, had a four-day weekend from 18th - 21st November: three days in Calais and one in Grande-Synthe.

To the newcomers, who have arrived to last: this month, Marie-Christine on Monday.

Thank you to the regular volunteers and their constant effort:

To prepare :

To distribute  
\*in Loon-Plage



By all the weathers  
(here under the arbour of  
Help4Dunkerque, thanks  
to them for this royal loan



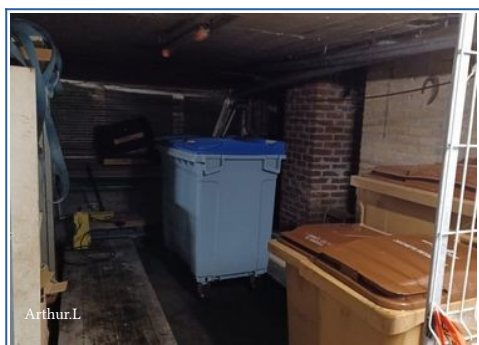
\*in Calais with Salam



- to go shopping,  
many people of good will, one by one,  
and above all, by whole pallets: Yolaine in Calais, and Denise in Dunkirk.  
Pictured is a pallet of pasta brought back from Auchan.



**to store:** Peter's works,  
the garbage cans, the banana  
corner, the shoe corner...  
le coin poubelles, le coin  
bananes, le coin chaussures...  
"A corner of tidy, colourful  
shoes, which put colour in the  
basement and in our eyes...  
It's a little ant's job,"  
Geneviève tells us in her  
November 16 report.



**to clean,**

The Thursday team is automatically designated to clean the garbage collected that morning!

**To supplement food needs:**

\*those who have, in some cases, bought bread with their pocket money to allow for sufficient distribution,

\*Josette and Elisabeth who often enrich the Monday menu with homemade cakes...

**To those who do more than their usual hours when it's useful,**

Geneviève who regularly comes to wait in line when the need arises,

Dominique, always ready to do extra transport.

**Thank you to the volunteers of the associations with whom the cooperation worked well**  
on a daily basis: in particular No Borders Medics (as good "next-door neighbours" they took out the garbage, put poison for the rats) and Help4Dunkerque (in particular they facilitated many distributions by queuing with us)...

**THANK YOU TO THOSE, KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, WHO HAVE GIVEN US GIFTS FOR OUR EXILED FRIENDS,** in food and non-food items,  
often by discreetly placing a box or a shopping bag.

**Food gifts:**

Vegetables brought back on 2<sup>nd</sup> November by our favourite Elise.

four boxes of apples from the Coop (at Abdelkader's), on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

tomatoes at Paul Barbu's, the same day, thanks to Geneviève who went to get them.

bottles of Badoit, a carton of sunflower oil and bottles of milk, a donation for Salam from the Dunkirk branch of the Red Cross on 16th November. Thank you to the lady who gave these bottles to Thierry and Marie-Agnès at the end of her yoga class.



Thierry Leblanc



Claire Millot



Claire Millot

100 kg of potatoes from Steenvoorde farmers brought by Anne-Marie, on the occasion of the MSP forum on 25th November. We barely saw them go from the trunk of his car to mine, so quickly and (yes... if...) enthusiastically!

The "Maison Jouve" in Rosendael regularly donates food: oil, flour... and on the picture it's Laurence and broth for the sauce...

The "Maison Jouve" is a grocery store that sells products (organic and/or short-circuit) in bulk in containers that customers bring back...

### Clothing:

A donation of three boxes of men's clothing by Eric in memory of Frédéric, on 4<sup>th</sup> November.

The last parcels of Jean-Guillaume de Reims, arrived by Mondial Relay, in number and in two times.

Pierre, who does the evening distribution, the emergency room, cast a doubtful look: like: "What's that again?"

And then he saw the shoes... His eyes lit up. He immediately asked me if I could put them in his shoe box (a large wooden cage). So he looked at the jackets and sweaters with a more favourable eye and said that yes, really, it was good.....



Jacky Bricout



Denise Cassignal



Claire Millot

Two ladies passed by on 22nd November with clothes.

Régine and her two friends knit woollen hats in the Lille area.

### **Kitchen equipment:**

A few months ago, Brigitte, a Thursday volunteer, gave us a nice cheque after her wedding anniversary, precisely for equipment for our kitchen in Grande-Synthe. We have been waiting for a substantial need. We just got it with the increase in the number of refugees this fall: two additional large, insulated containers to take the hot meal to the camp. They arrived on 4<sup>th</sup> November.

The sum was a little higher. Our friends at FTS have completed. There's even a little money left over for a more modest expense.

On 16<sup>th</sup> November, Thierry also picked up a bag full of "claudinettes".



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

**Thank you to Secours  
Populaire/Copains du Monde,  
Christian Hogard, Caroline and  
their team.**



*Message of 8<sup>th</sup> November from Christian Hogard:*

"Delivery this afternoon to our Friends of Salam Calais of a pallet of blankets, a pallet of madeleines, ten boxes of hot pastries taken out of the oven of the CEFRAL bakery school in Dunkirk...

Mission accomplished for 1500 breakfasts in Calais tomorrow morning by the Salam...

Nothing but happiness! Thank you to Bénouche for his welcome.

*Answer from Jean-Claude Lenoir, our president, by WhatsApp return:*

"Solidarity, my friend Christian."

On 10<sup>th</sup> November, milk, ice tea and strawberry biscuits arrived from the Secours Populaire in Roubaix.



On 13<sup>th</sup> November, Caroline came to distribute with the Salam team from Calais. She says: "It allowed us to entertain the gallery, to make them laugh and forget about the hassle for breakfast and also to be able to realize the needs on the ground and to offer what the Secours Populaire generously offered us. Thank you to them. »

*Christian comments on WhatsApp:*

"Solidarity mobilizes arrival at the nerve centre of the Copains du Monde de Loon-Plage of six pallets of goods provided by our friends from the Secours Populaire de Roubaix committee... as well as our friends from Lézennes for the Northern Federation... Thank you very much to the friends of the town of Gravelines for their very precious help... Many thanks to the whole team, and also to the friends of Emmaus for their contribution this morning as well... Fraternal friendships and also solidarity. »



On the afternoon of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, more bread and pastries arrived in Calais. Plus bread and a few dozen boxes of clothes on Monday 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Message of thanks from the 22<sup>nd</sup>:*

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> a delivery of bread and pastries,

Friday 17<sup>th</sup>, a delivery of bread and pastries,

Monday 20<sup>th</sup>, a delivery of bread and a few dozen boxes of clothes,

the wheel turns but luck doesn't abandon us: the postman always rings twice but the Copains du Monde team passes much more than the postman!

Thank you Christian, thank you Caroline, thank you to the whole group of friends and to the Secours Populaire.

A big thank you from Salam and his friends who are hungry and cold and are counting on you!

*Answer from Christian on 23<sup>rd</sup>*

Dear Friends of Salam, more than ever, I am sounding the charge against misery and injustice, activating all the levers of solidarity so that we can be as close as possible to the most vulnerable people in the Loon-Plage and Calais camps, but also to all the other!!

With Caroline and all the teams of the Copains du Monde of Gravelines and Loon-Plage, we are preparing the great Green Santa Claus Day with all the Friends and as usual under the benevolent eye of our Friends of Salam with whom we will set up these actions.

Fraternal friendships and above all solidarity.

**Thank you once again to Onjali and his association "O's Refugee Aid Team" who have been offering us a large food fund every month for a year now.**

This month wasn't just the anniversary of our first meeting with her. It was at the same time (and this is the origin of our friendship) the anniversary of his grandmother's death.

She wanted to celebrate it by offering all the food (absolutely all) needed to make an improved meal at the Loon-Plage camp.



We have, with great pleasure,  
prepared:

Then distributed



Thanks, of course, to Caroline who once again did the shopping!

**Thank you to Moinour and Roukia, the Comorian ladies** who resumed the preparation of Monday rice for the meals of the Loon-Plage camp on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup>, after an interruption due to health problems. Let them take good care of themselves!



**Thank you to our sister association FTS in Bailleul.** On November 28<sup>th</sup>, they were there with a trailer full of blankets and clothes.





**Thanks to Audotri,**  
Largest supplier of blankets,  
as well as clothing, shoes, sleeping bags and even pallets  
(very useful as firewood and for stabilizing muddy  
grounds).  
The icing on the cake in November was the donation of  
these ear caps, which were welcomed at the Loon-Plage  
camp as a survival ration given to a castaway.



**Thank you to the Darius Milhaud College in Sartrouville** who once  
again collected for us.

**Thank you to Emmaus** for  
donating 20 boxes of trays for  
our hot meal distributions.  
And thanks to Sirwan who gave  
Thomas a hand in loading them.



**Thank you to Bethlehem** for his donation of bread in Calais and a special greeting to Philippe, the delivery  
man, for his smile.

**Thank you to the churches that once again called on parishioners for textile collections:**

The small chapel of Notre-Dame des Dunes in Dunkirk where we still recovered blankets.

The church of Bergues that has been collecting for us since Lent:  
This month, a good number of bags and cartons of warm clothes and blankets.  
A special thank you to Brigitte, who is very sensitive to the distress of our friends, who came several  
times to drop off her harvest at my place to save me a trip.  
Thanks also to Christian who reminded us at Mass on 5<sup>th</sup> November: since then, I can no longer keep  
track of the parcels left for our refrigerated friends.

**Thank you to the grannies of the Val des Roses** in Dunkirk who gave another tote bag full of hats that  
they knitted.  
José goes to get one about once a month.

**A small tribute to those who were injured at work in the Guérin room:**

- Arnaud, who cut open his skull on the lintel of the cellar door, on 4<sup>th</sup> November. We all bumped into it several times, but Arnaud won the prize for the clumsiest with 6 stitches in the emergency room.
- Marie-Françoise, who got her feet caught in barriers on 9<sup>th</sup> November: a torn ankle, plates and screws and several weeks of forced rest for her.

**AND FINALLY, THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DONATED MONEY TO US,**

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 everyone (close friends and strangers) who slipped us a note, sent a check, made a transfer directly or by Helloasso.

**THANK YOU TO BETHLEHEM, TO FLANDRES TERRE SOLIDAIRE, TO THE PROTESTANT MUTUAL AID, to the Auberge des Migrants who share with us the ton of bananas offered by CONHEXA once a week, to EMMAUS who give us surpluses every week, for Calais as well as for Grande-Synthe, to the Maison Sésame which shares with us two mornings a week the surplus fruit and vegetables from the ALDI store on rue du Kruysbellaert, to the Ressourcerie de Montreuil-sur-Mer ("Il était deux fois") and to the Secours Catholique de Berck which supply each month clothes brought to Calais by André de Merlimont, to the JARDINS DE COCAGNE, to the COMORIAN LAMES, to the RESTAURANT DU CAP in Escalles, to the bakeries in Calais and to those opposite the Noordover, "La mie du pain" and "Au bon pain d'autrefois " in Coudekerque. Week after week, they are there to help us. Thanks to the HRO and to Olivier Schitteck who allows us to publish their photos.**

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

**THANK YOU to Michel who has been in charge of 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 has also been managing the Facebook Page** since 2017,

**and to Guillaume who introduced us to the LinkedIn network** a year and a half 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 a.m.) to the end of the dishes (between 2 and 4 p.m.). 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 to distribute improved breakfasts every morning with tea and coffee.

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

Meet at 8 a.m. at the premises, 13 rue des Fontinettes.

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

## **MONEY NEEDS**

Without state subsidies and with a very significant reduction in subsidies from local and regional authorities, we still need money to keep the association's work going:  
Maintenance of premises and vans, fuel, purchase of food that is in short supply...

Go to the association's website: [www.associationsalam.org](http://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

BP 47

62100 CALAIS

You are entitled to a 66% tax reduction on these donations, in cash by one of our volunteers, by cheque made out 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 covering them, in all weathers.

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

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

## **Otherwise, the most pressing needs at 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), sandals, caps.

backpacks,

lamps and batteries,

water packs,

Bags (small backpacks, garbage bags, freezer bags, shopping bags and plastic bags)

## **Foodstuffs for Calais:**

JAM,

Milk

tea and sugar, instant coffee,

biscuits (or pastries, or cake bars or pound cakes etc...)

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

**And for Grande-Synthe:**

Mostly canned vegetables of all kinds (we have been getting a lot less fresh produce lately), bags of pulses,

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

**CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

There's nothing stopping you from still taking your membership for 2023.  
The membership form is attached to this mailing.

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

**CONTACT US**

<http://www.associationsalam.org>

[salamnordpasdecalsais@gmail.com](mailto:salamnordpasdecalsais@gmail.com)

Facebook page: [SALAM Nord/Pas-de-Calais](#)

And the new LinkedIn page, which can be consulted on the following link :

[www.linkedin.com/in/association-salam-nord-pas-de-calais](http://www.linkedin.com/in/association-salam-nord-pas-de-calais)

Association SALAM  
BP 47  
62100 CALAIS

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.