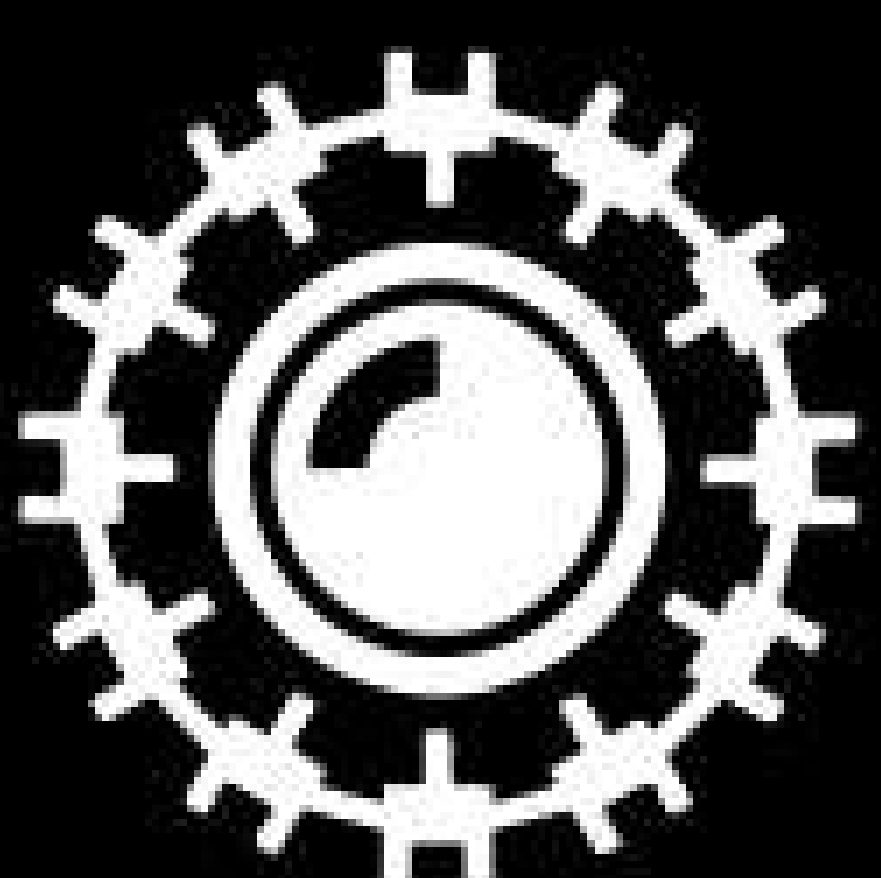


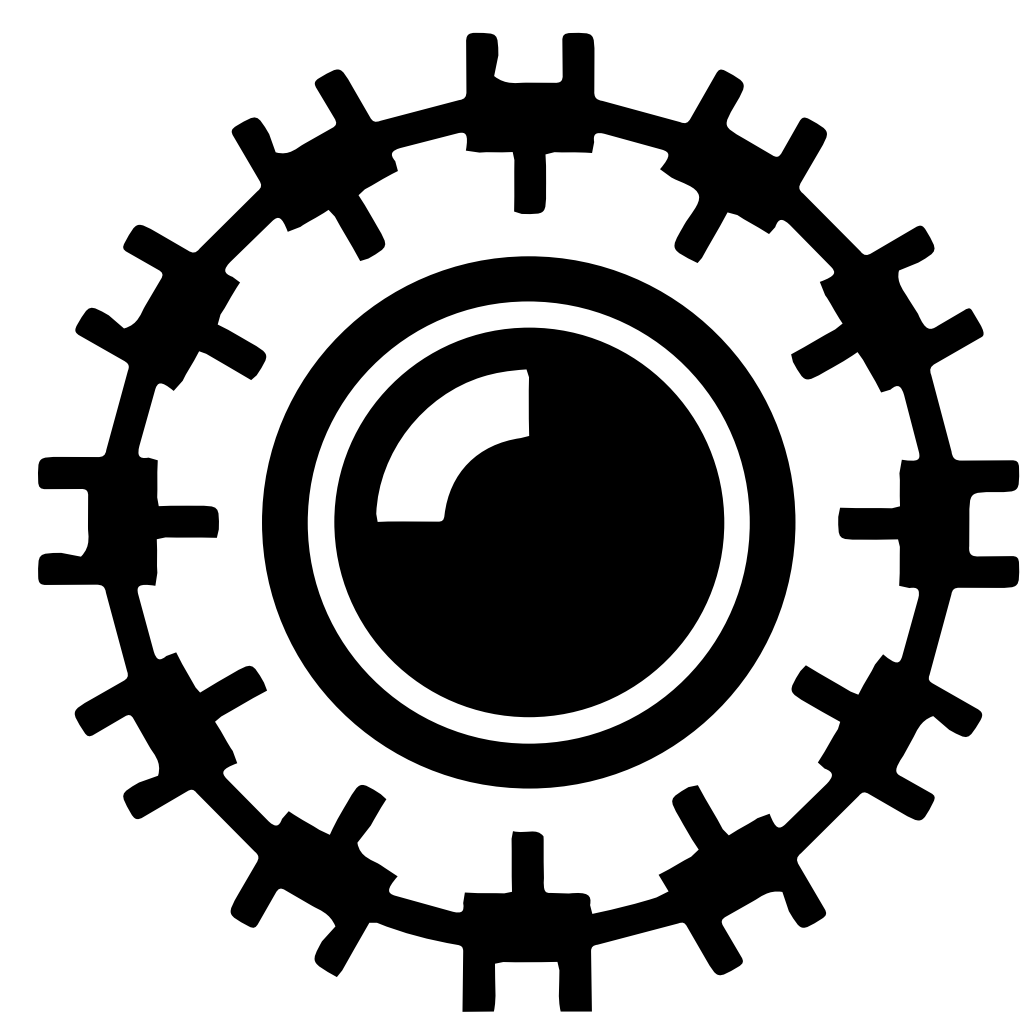


Violence Within State Borders: Greece



**Border Violence
Monitoring Network**

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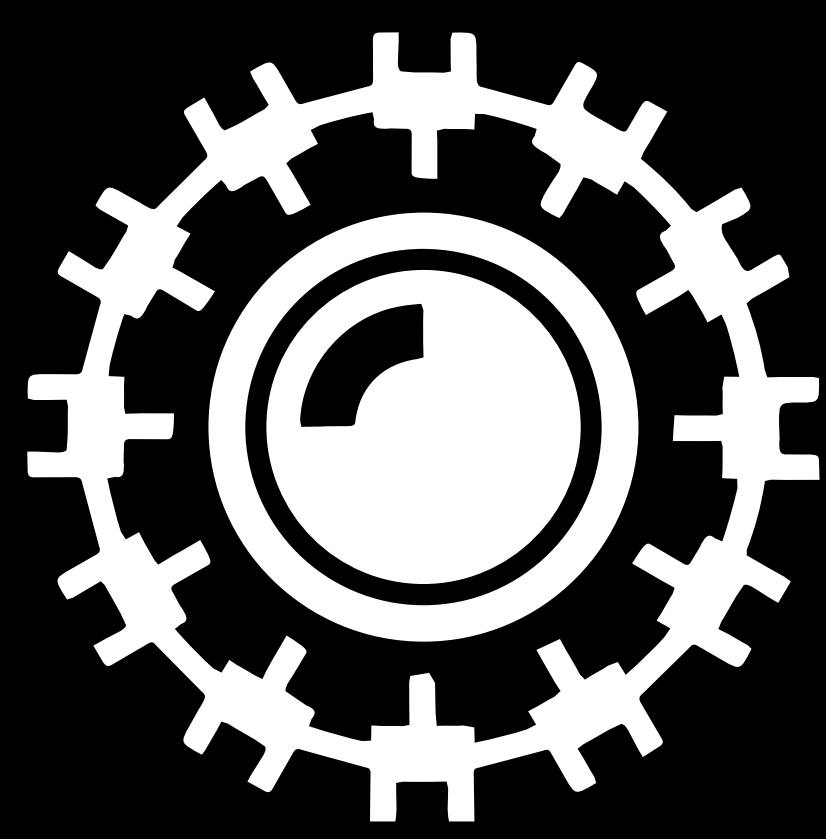
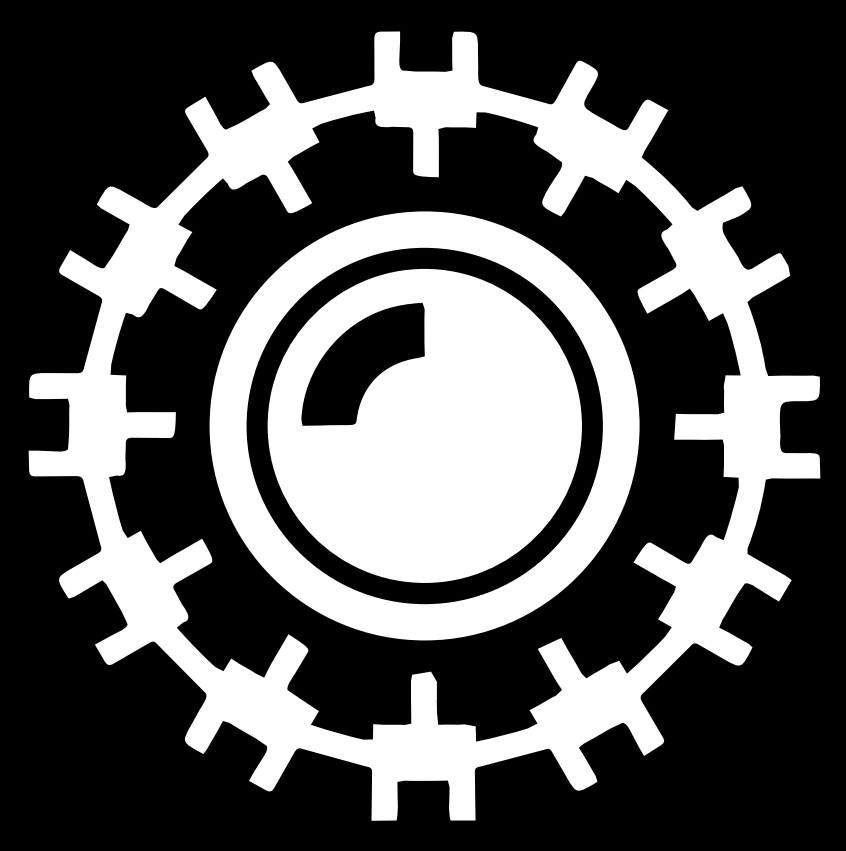


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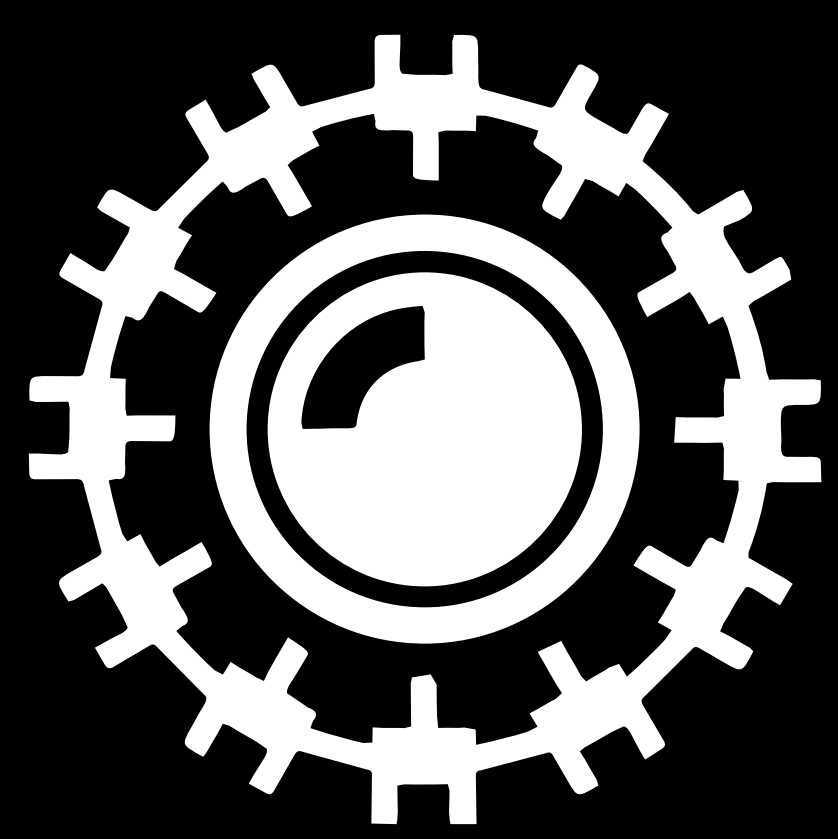
1. Introduction

This report is the product of the Border Violence Monitoring Network (BVMN) who documents violence against people on the move in Greece. In addition to recording testimonies of pushbacks across international borders, BVMN collects evidence of physical, material, and structural violence against people on the move within state borders. The Internal Violence Report draws from testimonies collected in the last months pertaining to conditions in detention, violence in detention, police brutality, racist violence, interrupted pushbacks and hate crimes. Focused on Greece, this report analyses deliberate acts of physical violence in addition to the indirect, structural violence inherent in the widespread practice of denying access to decent living conditions, adequate food and water, healthcare and psychological support within Greek detention facilities. In this way, the report seeks to document both the active and insidious forms of violence people on the move face within diverse spaces of containment in Greece.

2023 was eventful in Greek politics. A deadly train crash in Tempei in February reignited concerns about political impunity in Greece, prompting mass calls for accountability from Greek society and victims' families. This recurring issue of impunity, marked by government negligence and the normalisation of political violence, especially during elections, remained a pressing concern. Despite falling slightly short of an absolute majority in the first round of elections in late May, the Nea Demokratia Government called for a second round, aiming to secure a clear majority. However, just ten days before the second vote, Greece was rocked by its largest-ever shipwreck, leading to preventable deaths of at least 600 people on the move, prompting dubious government explanations and multiple versions of the events leading up to the sinking of the boat, deepening societal distrust. Nonetheless, the Nea Demokratia party ultimately achieved a majority in the June elections.

Against this backdrop, and according to UNHCR statistics, the number of people arriving to Greece in 2023 far exceeded the number of arrivals recorded in 2022, reaching the highest number of arrivals since 2019. Moreover, these figures may only represent a fraction of the people who have attempted to reach Greek territory, when considering the systematic practices of pushbacks at land and sea borders. In parallel to the ongoing efforts to fortify the Greek-Turkish border with technology and personnel, the Greek government has prioritised controlling people on the move by expanding the use of detention in tandem with the intensification of policing within urban spaces. For irregularly arriving or staying third country nationals who wish to register an asylum claim, a mandatory period of *de facto* detention up to 25 days is now implemented across the islands and the mainland, with people experiencing longer periods of detention on the islands in times of high arrivals. In addition, despite EU law clearly dictating that detention should only be used as a measure of last resort, in 2021 the Greek government implemented a law that overturned this principle, leading to the systematic detention of third country nationals subject to removal. Finally, the excessive use of detention measures for asylum applicants on public order grounds has contributed to the 697% rise in asylum detention orders between 2021 and 2022. Consequently, while people on the move may be deprived of their liberty on diverse legal grounds and within different facilities [see below], this report analyses practices of violence across various detention sites in Greece, showing how these collectively form a broader policy of containment and control across Greece.

In 2020, the Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) released a report following an ad hoc visit to several Greek detention centres, including police and border guard stations, Reception and Identification Centres (RICs), camps and Pre-removal Detention Centres (PRDCs). The Committee concluded that despite consi-



stent concerns raised since 1997, significant structural issues have not been addressed in immigration detention centres in Greece, resulting in prison-like structures with dysfunctional facilities, a critical lack of healthcare services and appalling hygiene conditions. Three years on, this report seeks to provide an overview of the collective experiences of people on the move in detention during 2023, highlighting that despite the recommendations made by the CPT, these conditions persist. The testimonies drawn on in this report document the continued presence of minors in detention facilities within Greece, as well as other highly concerning and illegal practices.

The collection of data on internal violence for this report was conducted through a consortium of field reporters who are part of the BVMN. To ensure accuracy and consistency, interview templates, training and guidelines are provided to reporters. Interviews are semi-structured through standardised, open-ended questions that allow respondents to share their experiences freely, as well as to capture details that generate verifiable data. Reports are collected in person with interpreters, in centres which provide services for people on the move. BVMN also collects testimonies over the phone with respondents who are not able to attend centres where our reporters are present. This aims to capture a wider demographic and include respondents who are located across Greece. 31 testimonies were collected between March–June 2023 from individuals detained in closed camps, police stations, criminal prisons and PRDCs. All respondents are kept anonymous and BVMN does not retain any identifying information from respondents. Informed consent is obtained prior to interviews, on the prior understanding that providing a testimony will not aid the individual's case.

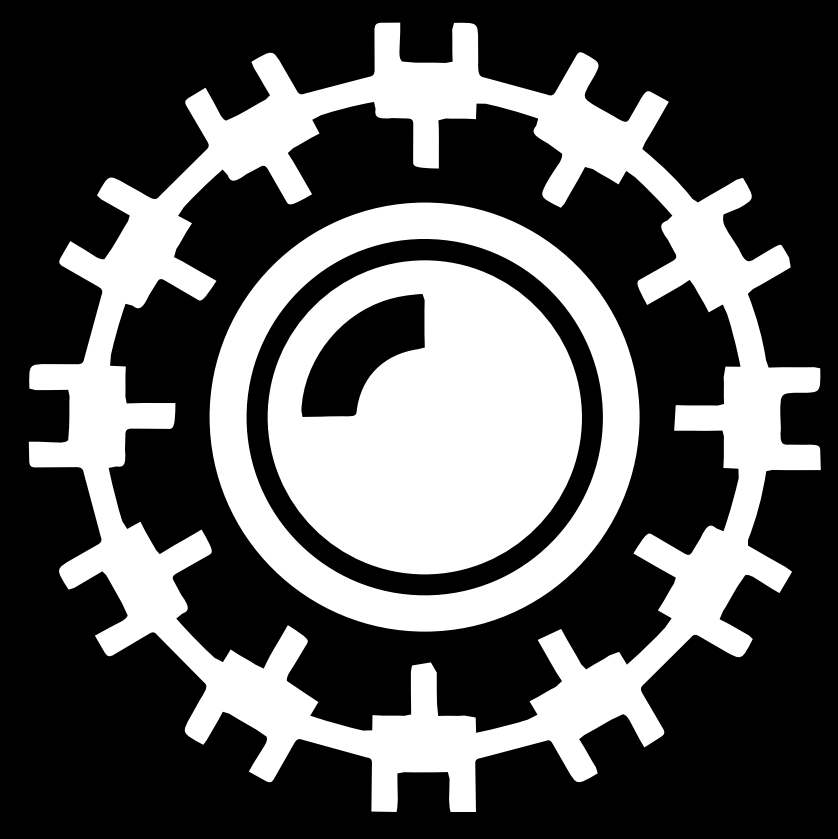
This report covers violence reported in the following detention facilities in Greece:

Police stations – People on the move are frequently detained for arbitrary lengths of time in police stations across the Greek mainland, frequently prior to their transfer to a Pre-Removal Detention Centre (PRDC) for a further period of detention. Police stations are designed for short periods of detention only and detained persons face overcrowded, cramped and unhygienic conditions.

Closed Control Access Centre (CCAC) – CCACs are designated to identify, process and accommodate recently arrived asylum seekers in Greece. Upon arrival, people are detained for up to 25 days for registration. CCACs have a prison-like structure and asylum seekers held there are subjected to heightened surveillance and restrictions on their movement. All five current CCACs are located on the five hotspot islands of Greece (Lesvos, Samos, Chios, Leros and Kos).

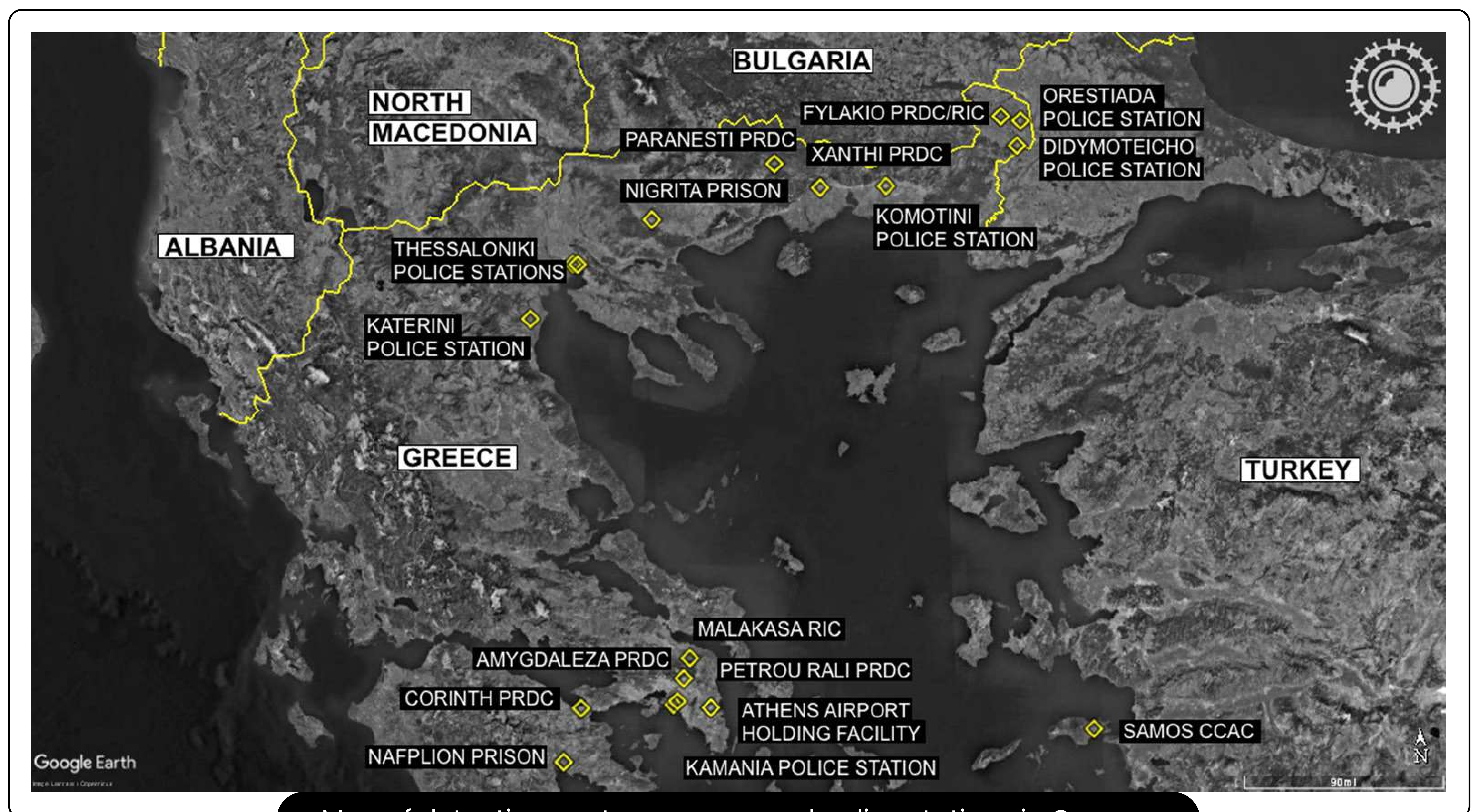
Reception and Identification Centre (RIC) – The RICs located in Malakasa (Athens), Diavata (Thessaloniki) and Fylakio (Orestiada) are designated to identify and register asylum seekers on the Greek mainland. People applying for asylum for the first time must enter the RIC and stay there for up to 25 days, during which time their movement is restricted to the camp.

Pre-Removal Detention Centre (PRDC) – People on the move including asylum seekers may be administratively detained within one of six PRDCs on the Greek mainland (Fylakio, Xanthi, Paranesti, Corinth, Amygdaleza and Petrou Ralli). People who have received a deportation order are detained within PRDCs for extended periods of time despite the extremely low number of actual deportations carried out from Greece, while asylum seekers may be detained on vaguely defined grounds of public order or national security.

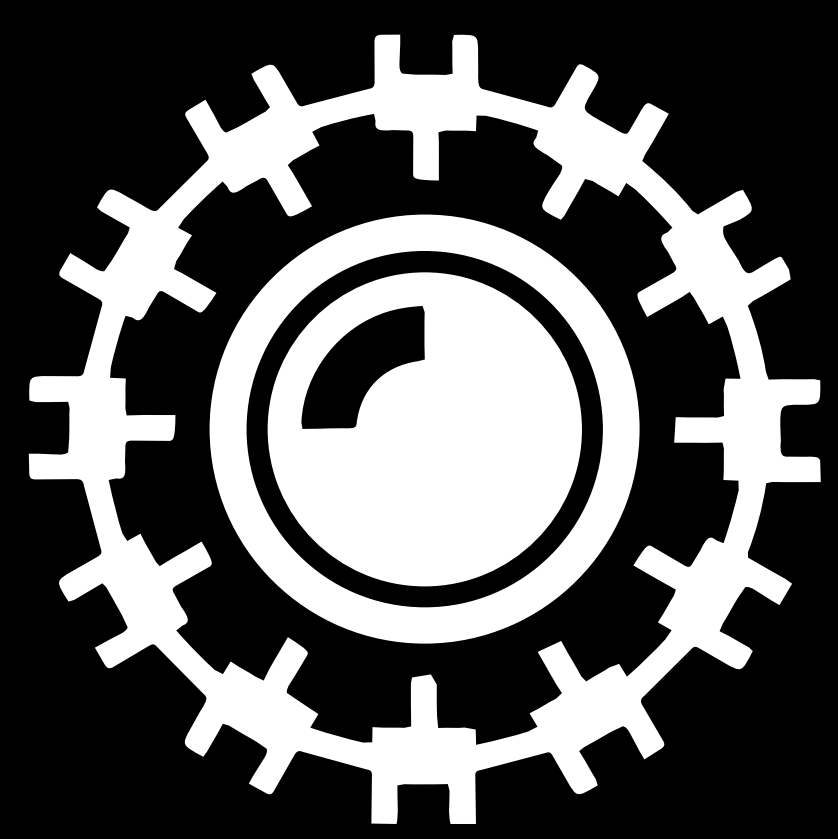


Criminal Prison - People on the move with criminal convictions are detained within criminal prisons on the Greek mainland, including asylum seekers in some cases. Prison populations are mixed, with Greek nationals detained alongside foreign prisoners. People charged for crimes related to smuggling make up Greece's second largest prison population by crime, with 90% of this population being third country nationals.

Athens airport detention facility - Within Athens Airport there are special holding facilities where people on the move may be detained prior to their transfer to another detention facility. detained persons reportedly experience severe overcrowding and poor hygiene conditions.



Map of detention centers, camps and police stations in Greece.



2. Physical Violence

Physical violence is defined as the use of excessive and disproportionate force and takes multiple specific forms in the context of state violence against detained people on the move. While nearly 60% of testimonies across Greece referred to the use of physical violence, BVMN has identified specific trends from the data that will be analysed in this report. In particular: i) the use of isolation to conceal acts of abuse in PRDCs, ii) the use of Electric Discharge Weapons (EDWs) in PRDCs, iii) the use of physical violence against transit groups arriving on Samos and finally, iv) the use of physical violence in quarantine zones in the Samos CCAC.

2.1 Mainland Greece

2.1.1 The Use of Isolation

24% of detained persons held on the mainland across four different PRDCs (Amygdaleza, Paranesti, Corinth and Petrou Ralli) described specific tactics of physical abuse paired with isolation as a form of punishment for perceived 'bad behaviour'. This has been consistently reported by BVMN, where testimonies indicate that any form of speaking out against inhuman treatment is often met with excessive violence to exert further control over detained persons. Respondents specifically referred to the use of isolation in spaces hidden from the view of others, to further enable incidents of abuse. Detained persons describe various spaces for isolation, including quarantine areas, dark rooms and isolated cells. Often, they are left for periods of time without access to a toilet, a bed or natural light.

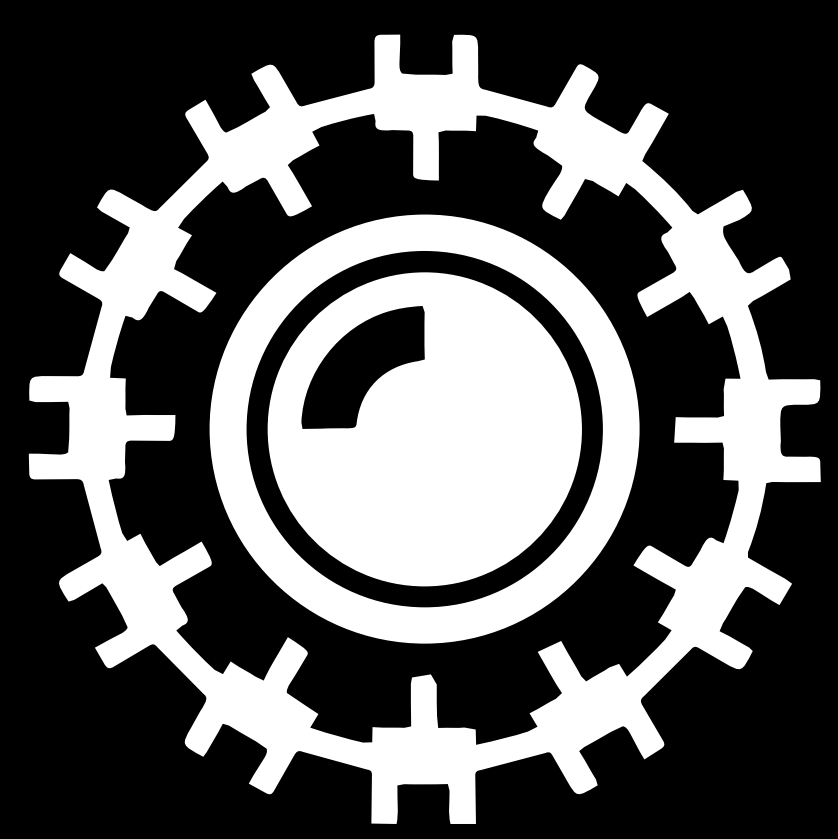
A respondent detained in Amygdaleza explained *"If somebody does something inside, they take him outside. They take his phone, put him in a cell by themselves, and they treat him badly"* (Respondent 2). The same respondent further stated that if conflict arises between detained persons, the individuals accused of initiating it are taken and separated into two cells. They are deprived of food, have their phones confiscated and are held like this for up to two months. The respondent also noted that the time in solitary confinement is not counted by the PRDC authorities as part of the total maximum detention period. Similarly, a detained person from Paranesti recalled: *"If you fight, if the police see you on the cameras, they come, they take you away, they beat you and detain you for 1-2 days, then they put you back in your cell"* (Respondent 13).



Corinth PRDC



Corinth PRDC



Another detained person in Corinth PRDC reported that:

“Sometimes fights happen or someone fights with others so police like to be involved. They [the police] are thirsty for this kind of situation. Most of the time they [the police] just took them to another site or another area. Sometimes when it’s very intense or someone is always in a fight with others they would take them to another place or take their phone and let them wait or spend their time in the quarantine area” (Respondent 9).

In a group testimony, respondents emphasised that they believed officers in Paranesti took detained persons to separate buildings within the PRDC to inflict abuse, explaining that there were no cameras there, so there would be no records of the violence. “...where other people cannot see them. That’s where they are beaten up and experience racist attacks” (Respondent 21).

“There are a lot of isolation rooms and mostly they lock us in those rooms so we can’t get food and other things of everyday life. They do this as punishment for raising your voice against the conditions and asking things “like why do you detain us so long? Why are you treating us like this?” (Respondent 15).

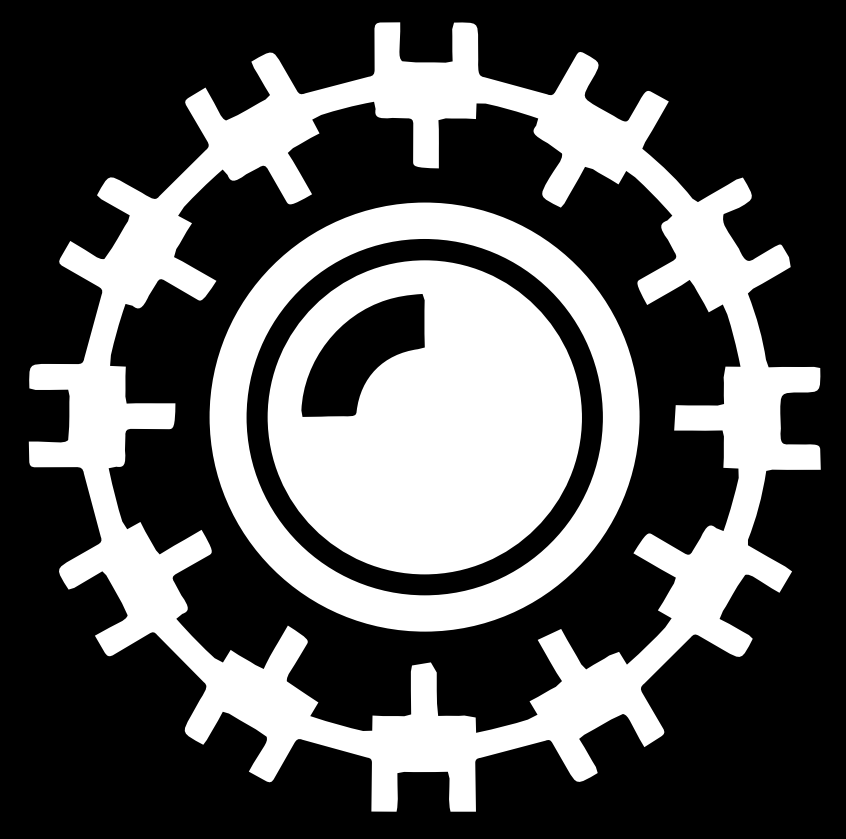
These allegations, in addition to the isolation detained persons report being held in, subject people on the move to inhumane conditions that are in breach of Article 3 ECHR.

2.1.2 Electric Discharge Weapons

BVMN is extremely concerned by the frequency of reports that described the use of EDWs. 25% of respondents detained in Petrou Ralli PRDC and 17% of respondents detained in Corinth PRDC reported the use of EDWs by Greek authorities. In both detention facilities, respondents described the use of EDWs in response to specific behaviours or requests made by detained persons. For example, a respondent who was detained in Petrou Ralli PRDC was reportedly beaten with an “electric rod” by an officer who he identified as working in the facility, in response to a request for medical support. The respondent described how “[the officer] beat me and abused me. He had an electrical rod. He beat me and used abusive language and after that he put me in a dark room” (Respondent 15).

According to the Council of Europe (CoE), EDWs should be used as a measure of last resort in situations where there is a real and immediate threat to life or risk of serious injury. The CoE notes that “EDWs lend themselves to misuse” and concludes that the use of EDWs “should be the result of a thorough debate at the level of the country’s national executive and legislature”.

BVMN has previously documented the use of EDWs by Greek authorities during pushbacks and in detention settings, indicating that this tactic is not isolated, and that they are commonly used to inflict harm on people on the move.



2.2. Samos

2.2.1 Physical Violence upon arrival to Samos:

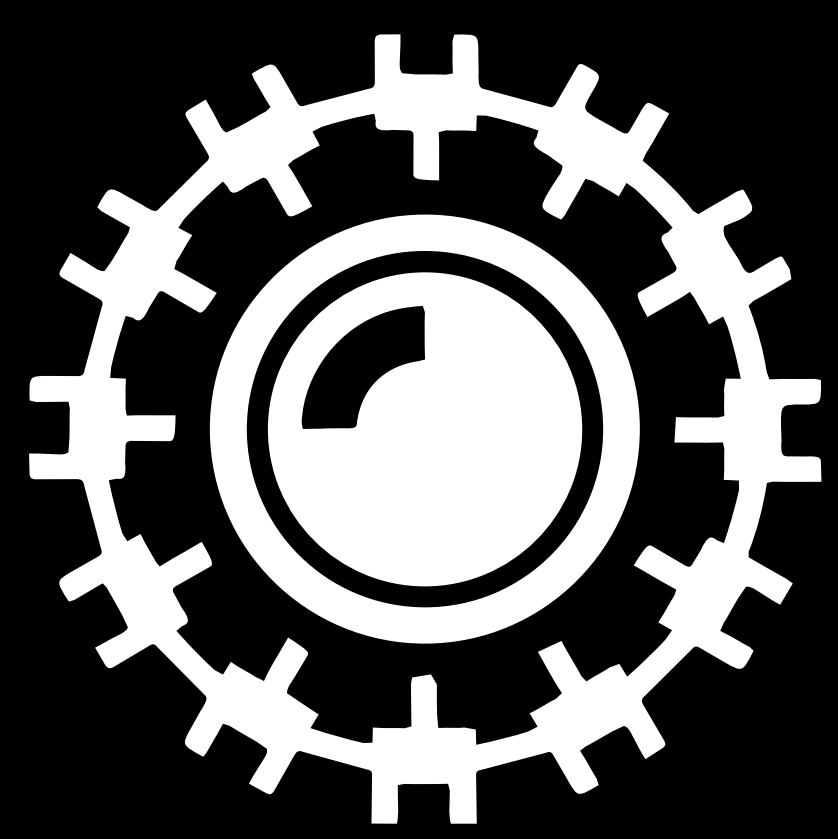
73% of Samos-based respondents reported that upon arrival to Samos, they hid in the forest, likely due to their well-founded fear of being pushed back. Of these respondents, 63% reported seeing or being intercepted by people inflicting violence on the transit group in the forest [hereinafter “the men”]. This 63% of respondents directly experienced or witnessed severe physical violence at “the men’s” hands including “beatings” (Respondent 10 and 24), being “hit” (Respondents 25 and 29), “torture” (Respondent 24), being “punched and slapped” (Respondent 25), being “kick[ed]” (Respondent 10), “gun shots” (Respondent 25), a woman having “a gun to her head” (Respondent 25), beating with “sticks” (Respondent 24) and being strip searched (Respondent 31).

Respondents reported that “the men” had, “guns on the belt” (Respondent 24), “guns, and zip ties with them” (Respondent 25) and “plastic string” which was used to handcuff people (Respondent 31). Several respondents reported that they bore injuries from the abuse, including cuts, scratches in their faces and swollen body parts. Some reported that they continued to feel pain from the violence at the time their testimony was given.

“Reportedly the whole group was body searched, except for the pregnant woman. They also searched the children, including their private parts. The women were also searched by men [...] The eight men reportedly told the group to stop talking and keep quiet. Reportedly, when one of the women of the group started talking, one of the eight men put a gun to her head and said “If you talk, I will kill you”. The respondent reported that the man had loaded the gun in front of the woman before pointing it to her head, showing the group he was serious” (Respondent 25).

Reportedly, the masked man hit the respondent three times: “the first time he hit me on the back, and I fell down, then he hit me twice again, one time on my hand, one time on the ribs.” The respondent reports that the man did not communicate with him while hitting him [...] He reports that the day after the incident the body parts that had been hit were swollen and hurt, and that up till today the areas that had been hit still hurt sometimes. Reportedly, after hitting the respondent, the masked man left the respondent laying on the ground and continued running after other people (Respondent 29).

One respondent reported that “the men” pretended to be NGO workers in an attempt to trick people from coming out of hiding in the forest:



“After walking for approximately three to four hours, they reportedly encountered men in civil clothes that the respondent believed to be part of a non-governmental organisation, “when you see them you think they are from an NGO or something and they’re gonna help. They were also shouting “come here, we are doctors we are gonna help you!”. The respondent stated that a man from the transit group approached these men with one of the children in an attempt to get help but as he reached them the civil clothed men began to kick him and he fell to the floor. “One guy who was helping this family went first with the kid trying to get to them so they help them, help the family and kids. Because they just trusted them” (Respondent 10).

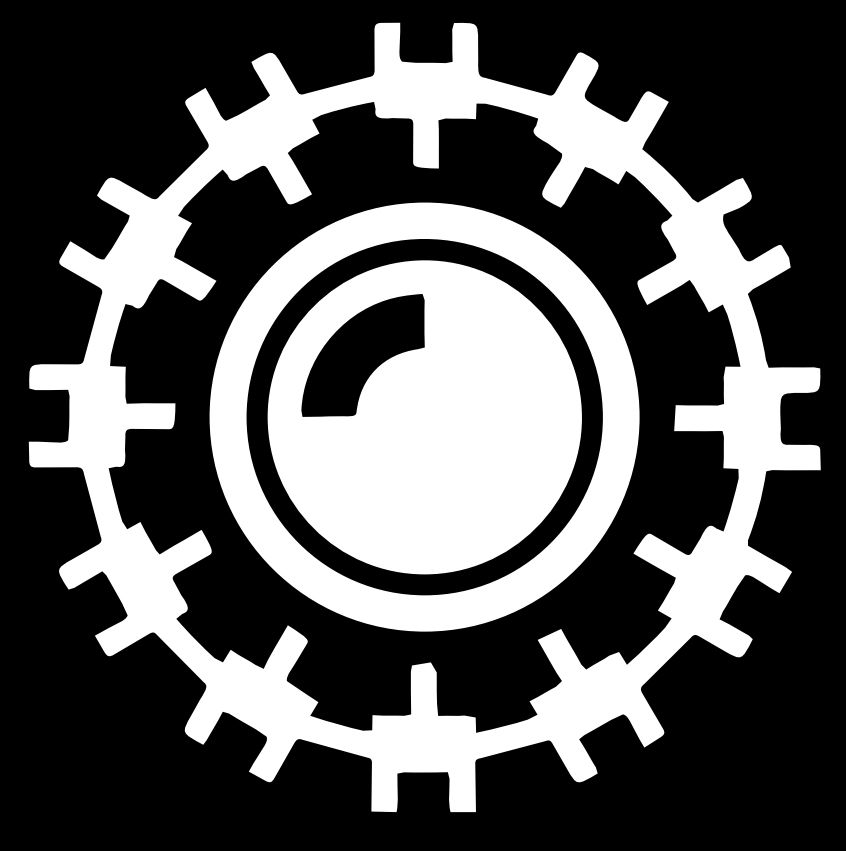
Due to the significant number of pushbacks reported from Samos that begin with apprehension of transit groups in the forest area, it could be assumed that such encounters likely constitute failed pushbacks. Indeed, 25% of the respondents that reported hiding in the forest in Samos detailed hearing that members of their transit group were pushed back after being apprehended (see Respondents 24 and 29).

2.2.2 Physical Violence in Quarantine Zones



Samos CCAC ©: Samos Advocacy Collective

45% of respondents who were detained in the Samos CCAC reported the use of physical violence. Until November 2022, all asylum seekers arriving in the Samos CCAC were subject to a mandatory quarantine which lasted for a period varying from five to fifteen days. The quarantine containers were located in a separate area of the CCAC away from the general CCAC population.



Respondents reported that the men inflicting violence on people detained within the quarantine zones were wearing “black masks” covering their faces (Respondent 22 and 24). Reportedly, they put on gloves before starting to beat people, with one respondent further explaining: *“I didn’t have bruises, just pain because they wore gloves on their hands, that’s why I don’t have bruises”* (Respondent 22).

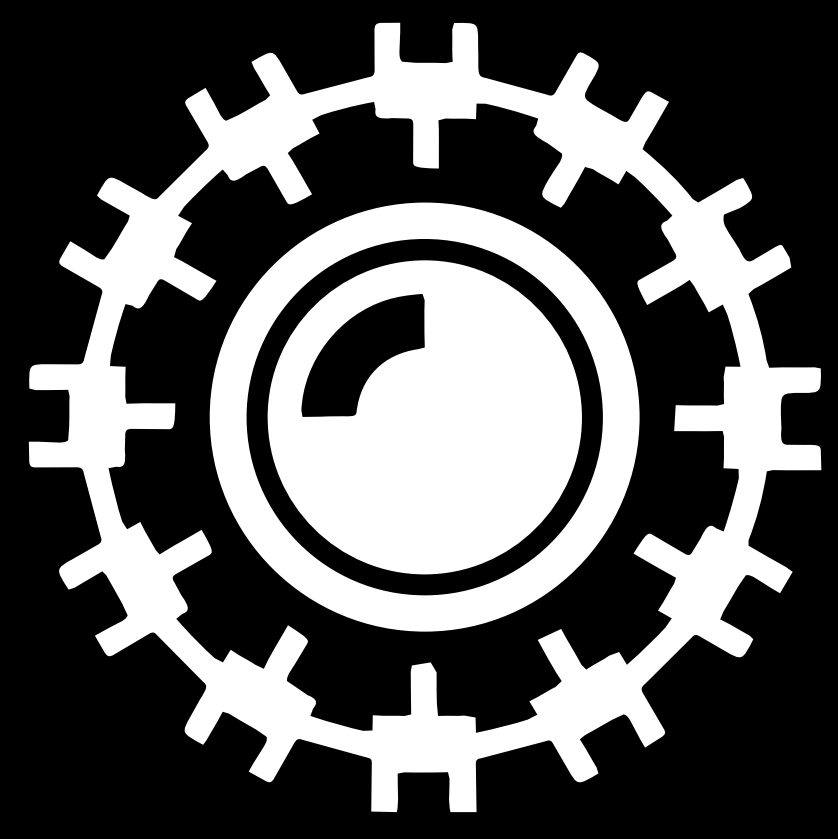
All respondents with experience of violence in the quarantine zone described a similar practice: they were called outside their rooms to be counted several times a day (including at night), where they were told to stand in line, after which they would be called back inside the container, one by one, to be beaten by a group of three men.

“One was standing outside the room on the aisle, and two were inside the room. I was the second one who entered the room. I was pushed inside. The one outside the room kicked me inside. He pushed me and held me here [the respondent shows his neck/lower part of the back of his head] to push me inside. He pushed me by the neck and kicked me inside. When they called me inside, they started punching me [...] beat me, slap me and told me to sit down in the room until they finished with the others. It lasted for some minutes, I don’t know exactly how long. They hit me on the sides, the head” (Respondent 22).

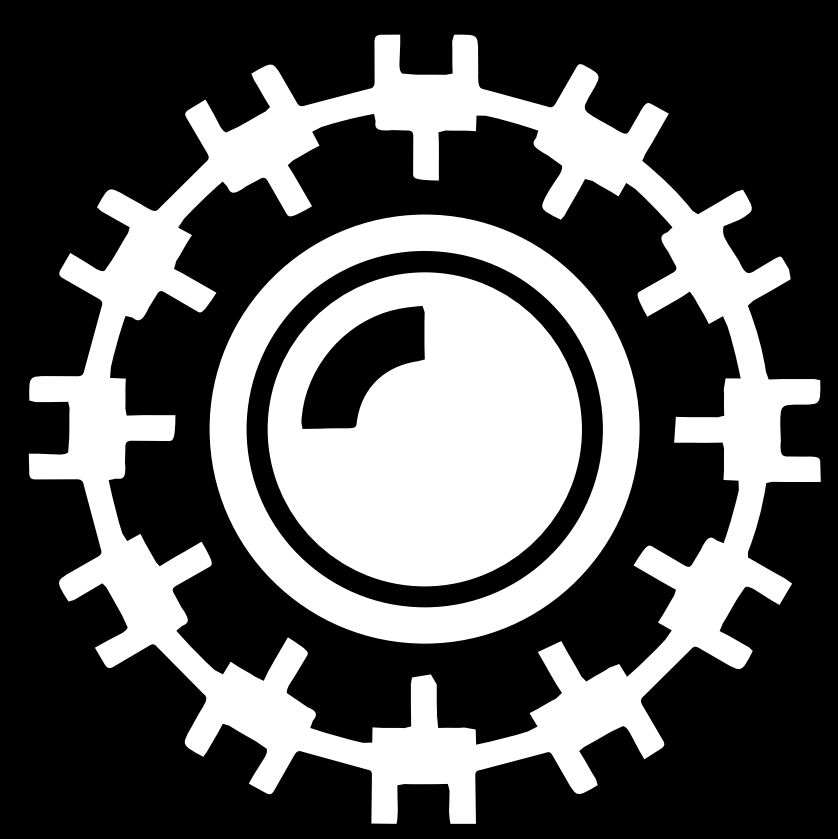
Similar to reports from PRDCs on the mainland, one respondent expressed the belief that they were beaten inside the rooms because of the absence of security cameras. *“They only beat us inside the container. They never beat us outside. There are no cameras inside”* (Respondent 23). It was reported that women were kept waiting outside the container while the abuse took place and were only called inside after the incident.

In addition to the violence described above, and in accordance with practices on the mainland, respondents reported physical violence as an alleged punishment. One respondent recalled that he and the people in his container were beaten after a riot (Respondent 22). Another reported that the reasons used to justify beatings included talking while waiting in line to be counted, coughing, making eye contact, and not cleaning one’s room (Respondent 23).

“I was standing in the queue, with my phone in my pocket. My sister called me on messenger, I was trying to switch it off but they heard my phone, they saw it was me and came and asked me why. He called me with a sign, I followed him, he took me to the room, and he started to beat me, gave me one or two slaps, kicked me, and pushed me outside. My foot was painful at that time. They told me to go in the queue again” (Respondent 23).



The above data, spanning across multiple locations and facilities, evidences that the use of physical violence against people on the move in Greece is routine, and practiced with intent to control and intimidate, a tactic which may amount to torture and/or inhuman and degrading treatment in violation of Article 3 ECHR.



3. Verbal Abuse and Humiliation

Treatment which causes intense mental suffering and is extremely humiliating or undignified constitutes a form of violence. In this section, BVMN identifies trends recorded in testimonies that indicate such treatment on a wide scale, including through i) practices of strip searching and full body searches, as well as ii) verbal threats and racist abuse.

3.1 Strip Searches and Full Body Searches

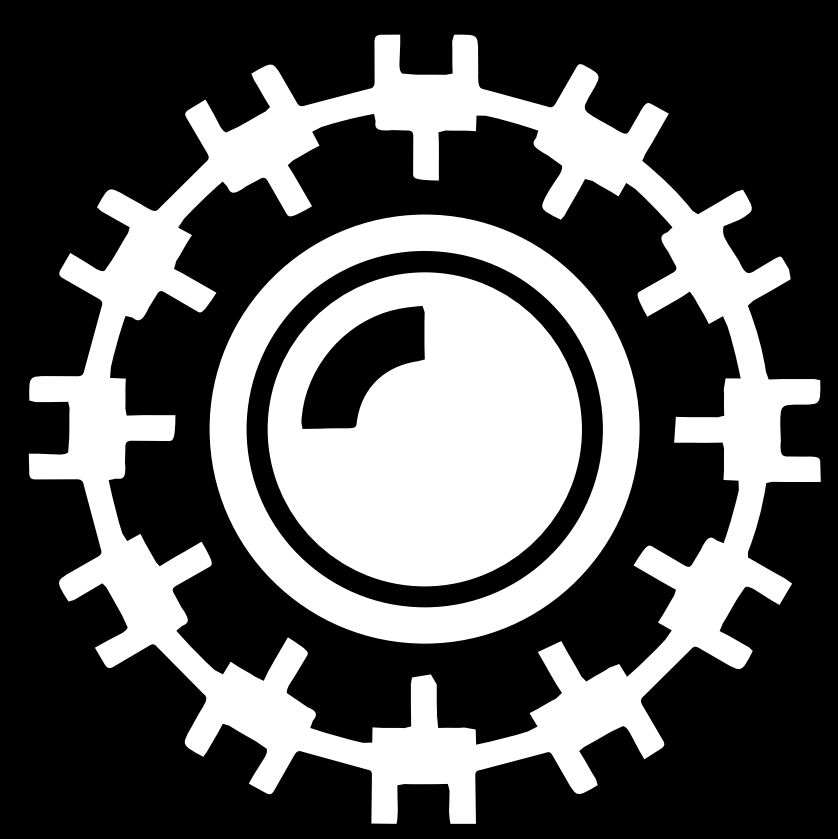
25% of respondents across Greece reported first hand experiences of being strip searched in detention facilities or witnessing such incidents. Strip searches consist of a full body search on an undressed individual, either wearing their underwear or completely naked. Full body searches refer to the inspection by a member of the authorities of the whole body of an individual, including the private parts, either by hand or with a machine, while the person remains dressed.

In two testimonies the respondents specified that they were strip-searched in an outdoor space. In a journal entry written by an interviewee and shared with BVMN reporters, the respondent reported that he was stopped on the street and strip-searched, explaining:

“They searched me for the purpose of insulting and nothing else, [...] they forced me to take off my clothes in the street [...] I was told to take my clothes off like I was [just] born. When I was completely naked they were laughing at me and they were like “come on, come on, where are your clothes?” And then when I was putting on my clothes they were rushing me and telling me to get outside. [...] When I got out of the room I was half naked. I didn't manage to wear all of my clothes because they were rushing me” (Respondent 10).

In a second testimony reporting a strip search in an outdoor space, the respondent was apprehended in a forest on Samos. They were reportedly ordered to undress and then searched while completely naked (Respondent 31).

Two respondents reported incidents of minors being strip searched in the Samos CCAC (Respondent 22 and Respondent 27). In one of these testimonies the respondent described how people were reportedly forced to squat or kneel on the floor after undressing (Respondent 31), while being searched (Respondent 27). A respondent described the experience as being “searched like criminals” (Respondent 27). One woman who was detained at Samos CCAC reported: “I felt very bad about this but you can't do anything, they touched us, they have to check you thoroughly, we were standing, we stood, we pulled our trousers down” (Respondent 30).



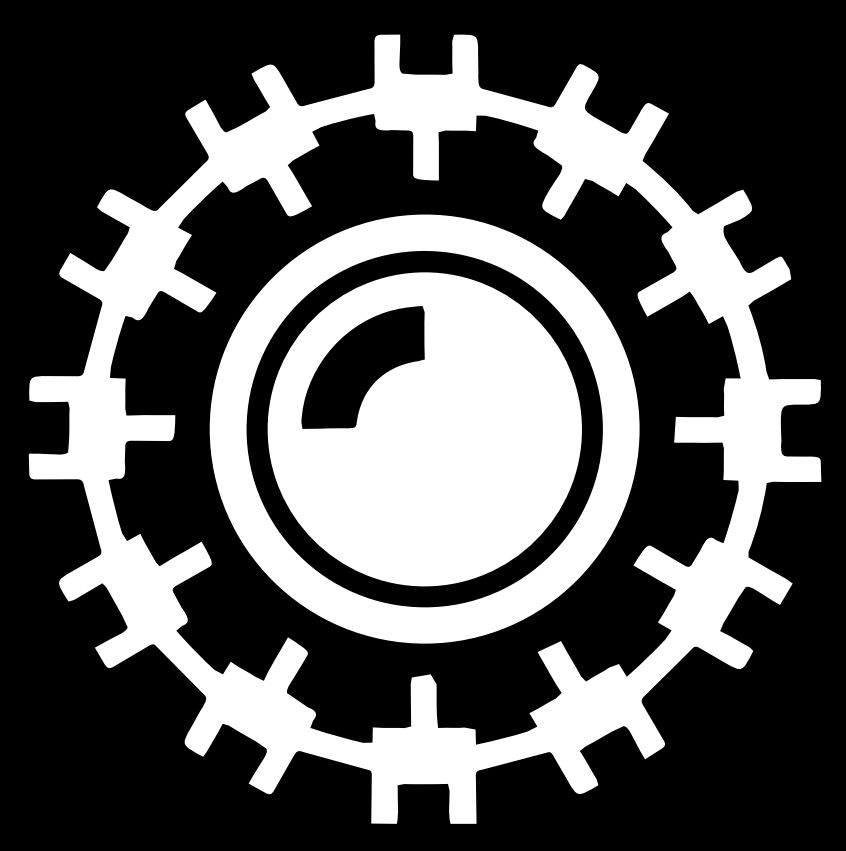
Regarding full body searches, two testimonies reported that they were carried out as part of security checks which all residents of the Samos CCAC have to go through to enter the facility. One respondent reported that security staff at the CCAC *“will frisk [you], touch your pockets and touch you everywhere”* (Respondent 28). A second respondent describing the same security procedure explained that a woman wearing the G4S private security uniform search inside the bras of women entering the CCAC. She further described: *“It was very weird, it was disrespectful, it's not right, you can't touch a woman like that. They don't know my background [...]. It is very embarrassing, they do that to everyone. It makes me feel embarrassed and very very bad, it is shameful”* (Respondent 30).



Body search with handheld detector in Samos CCAC ©: Romy Aimee Photography

The practice of forced undressing of people on the move in Greece has been well-documented. In April 2022, Human Rights Watch (HRW) released a report based on 26 interviews of Afghan nationals who had been pushed back at least once across the land border with Turkey. The interviewees reported experiencing strip searches at the border and in detention spaces, involving in some cases the burning of clothes, beatings in cases where people refused to undress, and the subjection of minors to forced undressings and searches. Moreover, reports published by BVMN, HRW and Amnesty in 2018, 2020, and 2021 document the use of strip searches by Greek authorities during or prior to pushbacks.

The European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) have indicated that strip searches and body searches may amount to inhuman and degrading treatment when *“feelings of humiliation and inferiority”* are provoked intentionally during strip searches (ECtHR, Iwanczuk v. Poland, Application no.25196/94, para. 59) and *“when conducted in a disproportionate, humiliating or discriminatory manner”* (report of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, A/HRC/31/57, 5 January 2016, paragraph 23). In addition, international legal standards on body searches only pertain to contexts in which people are detained on criminal grounds, presenting a loophole whereby administratively detained people are not protected.



3.2 Verbal Abuse

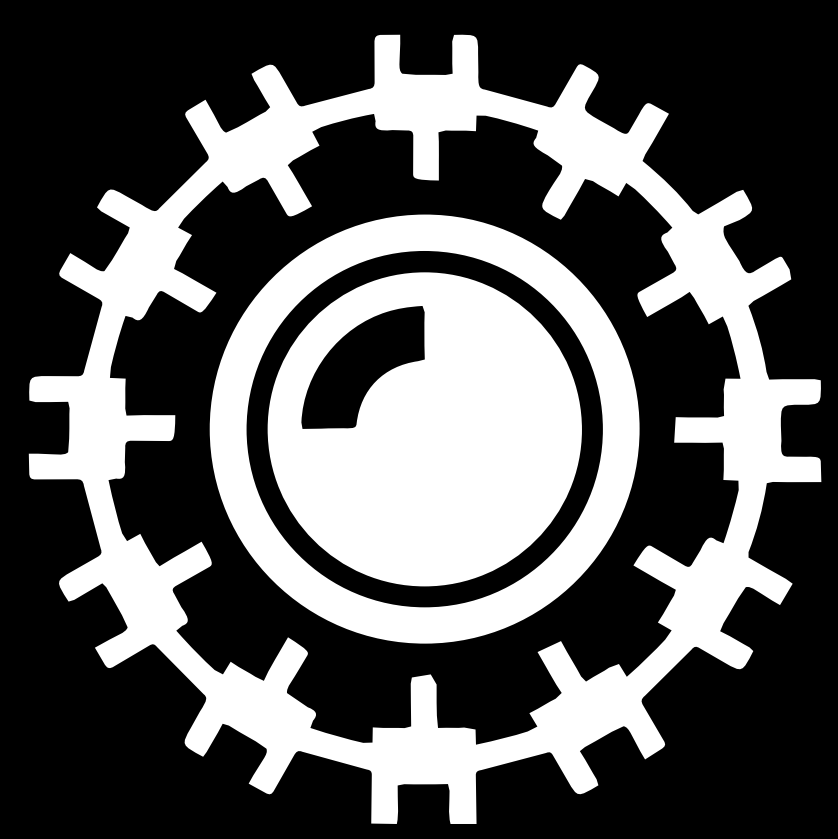
Testimonies across Greece reported threats and verbal abuse by Greek authorities; 51% of testimonies report having faced and/or witnessed verbal abuse at least once throughout their apprehension and detention. 16% of testimonies reported that verbal abuse was a common response to detained persons requesting support from police. One respondent detained at Amygdaleza PRDC reported: *“They [the authorities] never wanted to respond and if you would ask something they just say something in their own language that you can feel [is] not a nice word”* (Respondent 9).

In Corinth PRDC, a respondent described similar practices. *“If we ask anything, they start abusing us. They say something very bad, harsh language”* (Respondent 11). Another man from Morocco specifically mentioned the use of racist slurs against him when he was apprehended in Thessaloniki by four officers wearing civil clothing and black vests with the symbol of the Greek flag (Respondent 21).

“That guy was always saying to respect them. He was saying if we didn’t they would “fuck you in your ass”. He was always saying that “if we don’t like it if we are not comfortable we should go back to Turkey” and “if you don’t respect the police, the police will fuck your ass””
(Respondent 23).

16% of respondents specifically mentioned threats of violence or even death. An individual reported that upon arrival to Samos, a man put a gun to the head of a woman of the group and said: *“If you talk, I will kill you”* (Respondent 25). Another person described the behaviour of a person whom he referred to as a member of the Hellenic Coast Guard when he was apprehended in the sea, near Athens. He reported that this officer said: *“if you raise your head and try to look at [us][...] [we] will give you the ultimate experience of violence”*, and added that when he tried to raise his head once, one officer came to him and threatened: *“if you don’t put your head down I will do the same things [to you]”* (Respondent 16).

Verbal abuse is a common form of violence used by the Greek authorities towards people on the move. Research conducted by BVMN in 2022 found that 25% of people interviewed about their experiences of detention within PRDCs mentioned being victims of threats and verbal aggression. This same report highlights that verbal abuse can amount to degrading treatment and a violation of Article 3 of the ECHR, as the ECtHR detailed in the case of Iwanczuk v. Poland, Application no.25196/94, para 59. According to BVMN’s data, verbal and racist abuse contributed to intimidation tactics and general feelings of fear and inferiority by respondents. This has previously been reported by the CPT following their visit to Greek detention centres in 2020, indicating that these practices are not isolated.

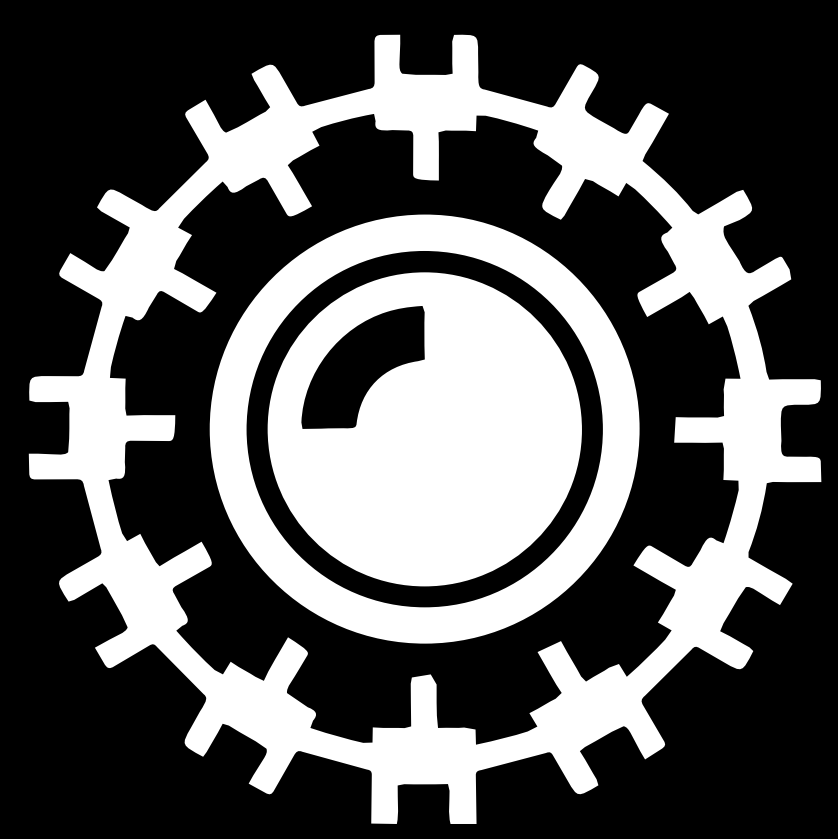


“We had to stand in one line by the wall. We had to turn our head down the floor, we could not look in the eyes [...] and we had to stand with our hands next to our body, straight up, eyes lowered” (Respondent 24)

“They drove us to the camp in a van, but when we sat in the van they didn't allow us to talk, they didn't want to hear anybody eating, when they heard plastic bags they would shout terribly, we thought maybe they would push us back, we were all quiet. You felt like you were not supposed to look at your friend, it was really really scary” (Respondent 30)

“At the moment I am still scared [...] I am trying to take some of the advice of my psychologist. Sometimes I see them, I feel like fighting them because in the big camp [the main living section of the camp] they can't embarrass me. I don't feel happy when I see them. Even when I see them I want to forget about them and what happened” (Respondent 23).

The testimonies above describe significant accounts of abuse that aim to intimidate and humiliate people on the move. The psychological impact of such tactics is evident in testimonies, and often forces people to stay silent out of fear. The use of strip searches, threats of excessive force, racist language and verbal abuse reported in Greece contribute extensively to the day to day landscape of violence that people on the move have to face in Greece.



4. Inadequate Material Conditions

Material conditions including accommodation, hygiene conditions, access to outdoor spaces and basic facilities can have a significant impact on the physical and psychological wellbeing of detained people. The deprivation of adequate living conditions constitutes a form of violence as it can lead to significant physical and psychological harm. The following section of this report evidences that people on the move are systematically deprived of adequate material conditions and basic services across Greek detention facilities, where overcrowding, poor quality food and severely restricted access to medical care is prevalent.

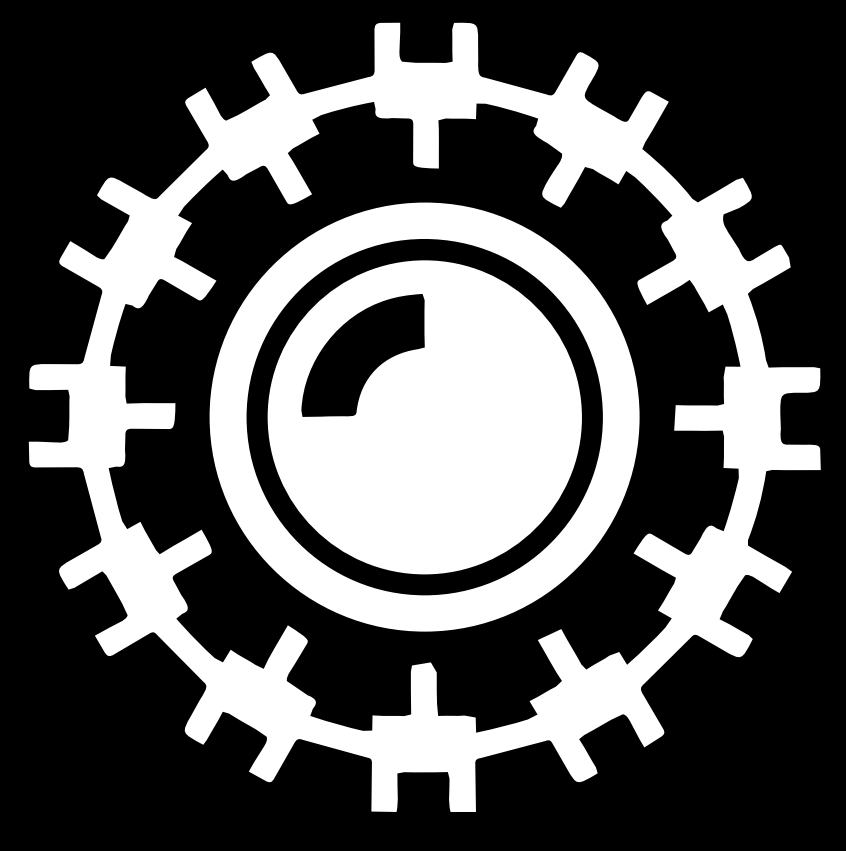
4.1 Living Conditions

4.1.1 Overcrowding and Poor Hygiene in PRDCs on Mainland Greece

Overcrowding is a concern that was raised by 40% of respondents detained in PRDCs on the mainland. Individuals consistently reported sleeping arrangements that fell short of providing adequate space and comfort. In some cases, detained persons were forced to share beds with others, or sleep on the floor. Furthermore, the mattresses in Paranesti and Amygdaleza PRDCs were often described as thin, uncomfortable and dirty. *“The condition of the mattress was extremely... I cannot explain it. They were extremely dirty, a person cannot sleep on it, you know?”* (Respondent 8).



Toilets in Amygdaleza PRDC



The general hygiene standards of detention facilities were similarly described. In Corinth, one respondent stated: *"We could not clean the room because we didn't have brushes and mops. And also the place is really dirty, and we had a lot of cockroaches there... insects in our rooms"* (Respondent 3). Other detained persons in Corinth PRDC shared that:

"There are a lot of cockroaches there. If you wanna sleep or if you wanna get changed or anything, you are surrounded by all the cockroaches. It is worse than jail....The thing I would like to say is that after being in a place like that, it's impossible for you not to have to visit a psychiatrist or get medical support when you are released, because you are shocked" (Respondent 9)

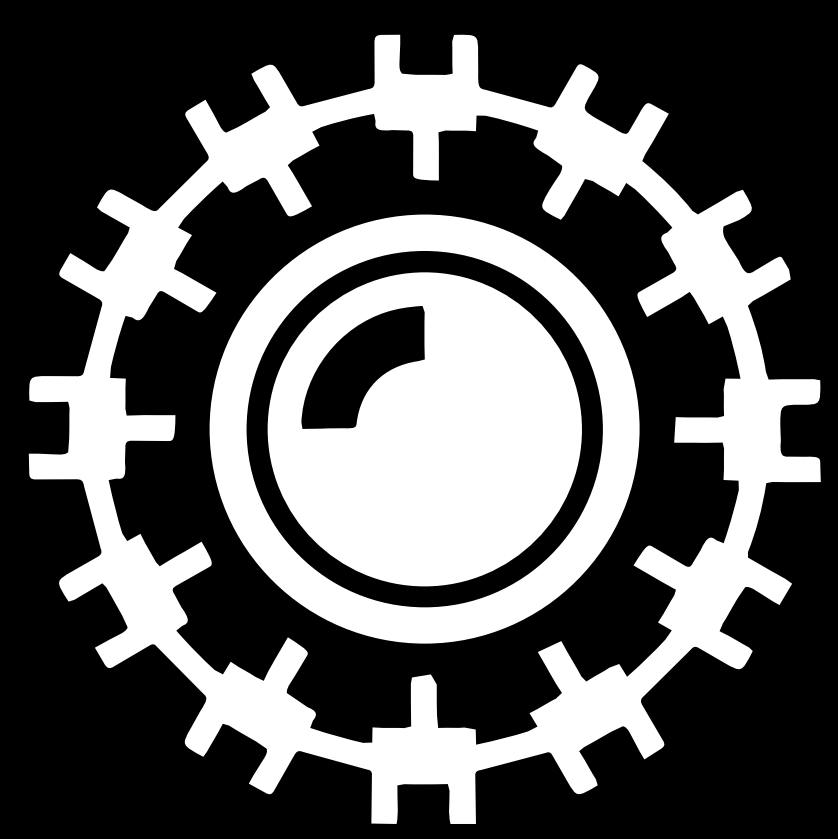
"Nobody came for cleaning, and we didn't have anything to clean [the room] ourselves" (Respondent 6)

Furthermore, sanitation facilities, including toilets, were reported as unclean and often broken, exacerbating the situation. A respondent detained in Paranesti said it was *"the worst situation I've ever been in"* (Respondent 2). A similar sentiment was expressed by a respondent (Respondent 20) in Amagdaleza PRDC who reported that the hygiene situation was *"a human disaster"*. Shower facilities were also reported to be insufficient there: *"...out of 10 [showers] you could find only one good shower. By that I mean it's working, it's hot water. It's not perfect condition, but at least the water was coming out of the pipe. There weren't enough showers per person. So everyone had to be in a line"* (Respondent 9).

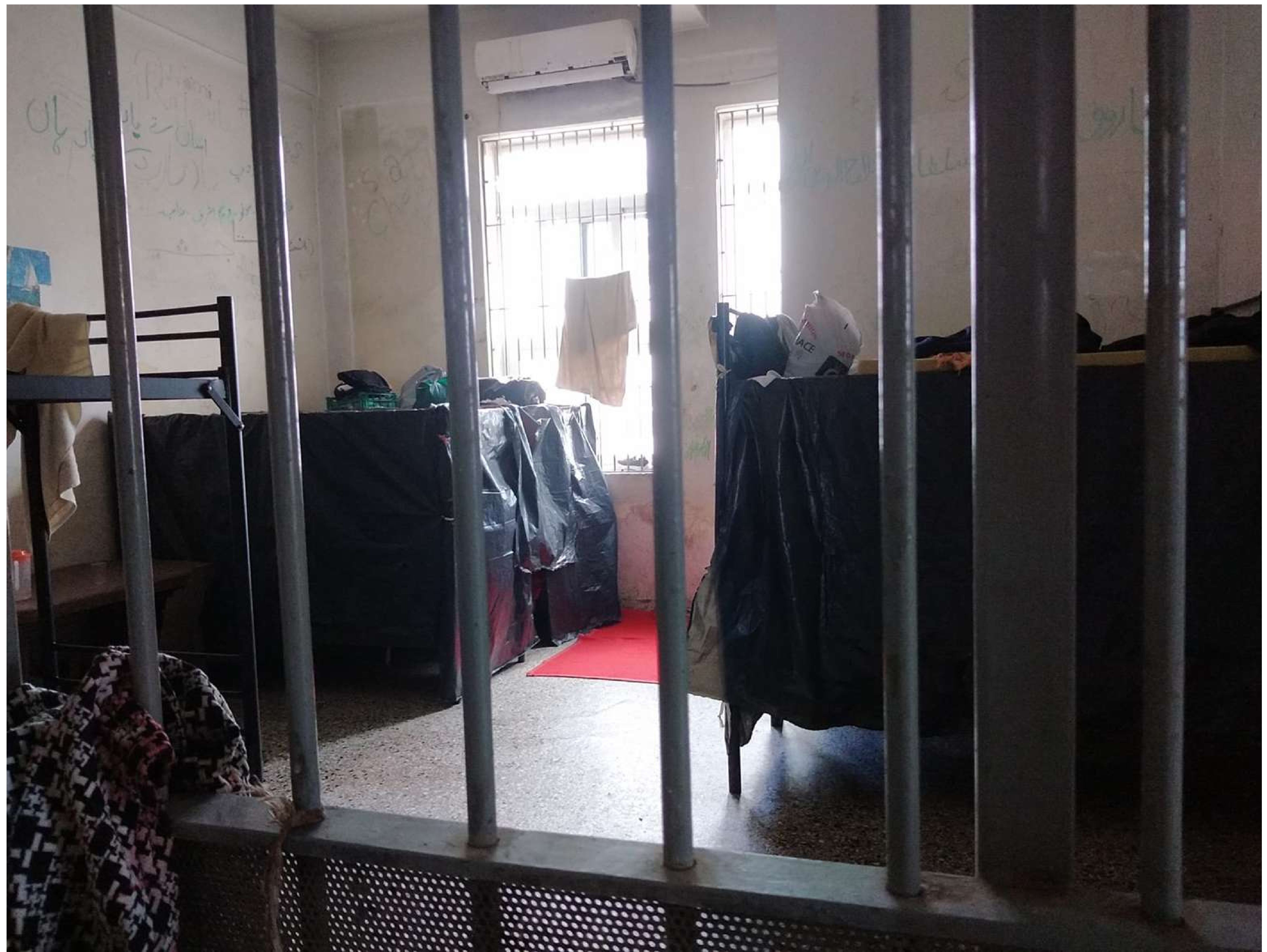
Items such as toilet paper, towels and hygiene products were also not sufficiently provided: *"Those soaps that they gave us, we were not able to use. Their smell was extremely bad. We could not use it because it's not for fragrance, it's useless"* (Respondent 8). Another respondent (Respondent 20) held in Amygdaleza PRDC recalled receiving one soap, one small shampoo and one toothpaste upon arrival at the centre, and later they had to buy it themselves from a truck coming a few times a week, but only people who had money could afford to.

Five respondents specifically expressed frustration over the severe restrictions placed on access to outdoor space and exercise within PRDCs. Three respondents detained in Corinth PRDC reported being allowed out of their confined spaces for as little as four hours a day, severely limiting their access to sunlight and fresh air.

"We don't have freedom or free time to go outside our room even for a walk or nothing. Every other day we had different timing to get fresh air. Sometimes around 1-3 o'clock, sometimes 10-1 o'clock or 10-12 o'clock. We have only this time to get some fresh air outside our room. But if you are asleep you probably lose your time so you don't get the chance to go out" (Respondent 9)



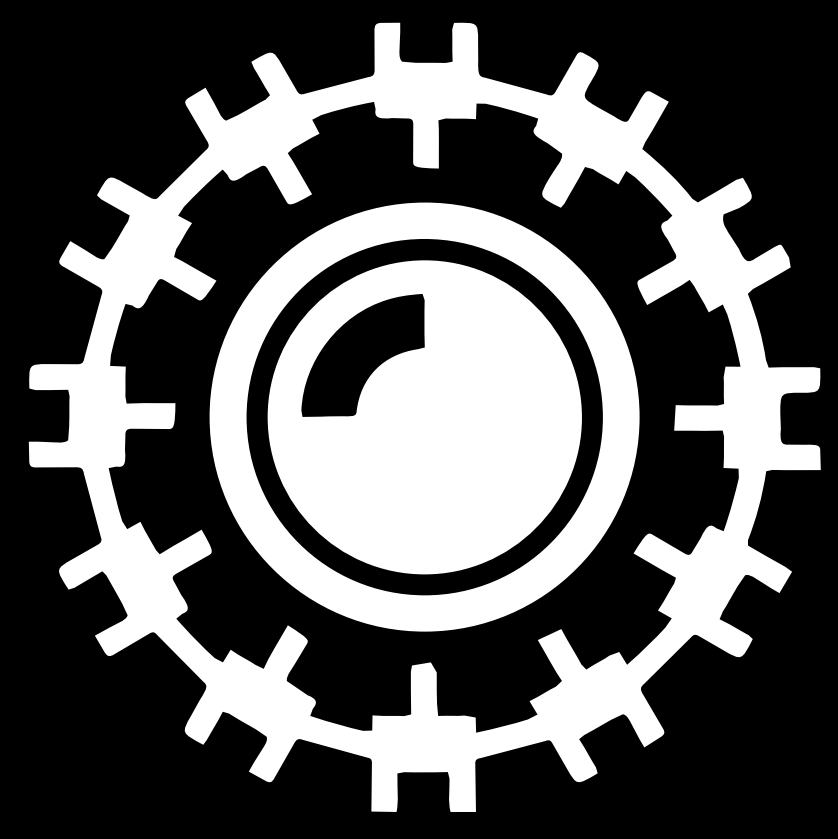
These restrictions can have a detrimental impact on the psychological state of detained persons and further contribute to the carceral environment individuals endure. The Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment imposes a set of legal obligations on states regarding detention conditions, which refer to cleanliness, size of space, access to heating, electricity and water as well as items like bedding. BVMN asserts that the persistent issues pertaining to material conditions in PRDCs breach guidelines on detention and may amount to inhuman and degrading treatment.



Corinth PRDC



Corinth PRDC



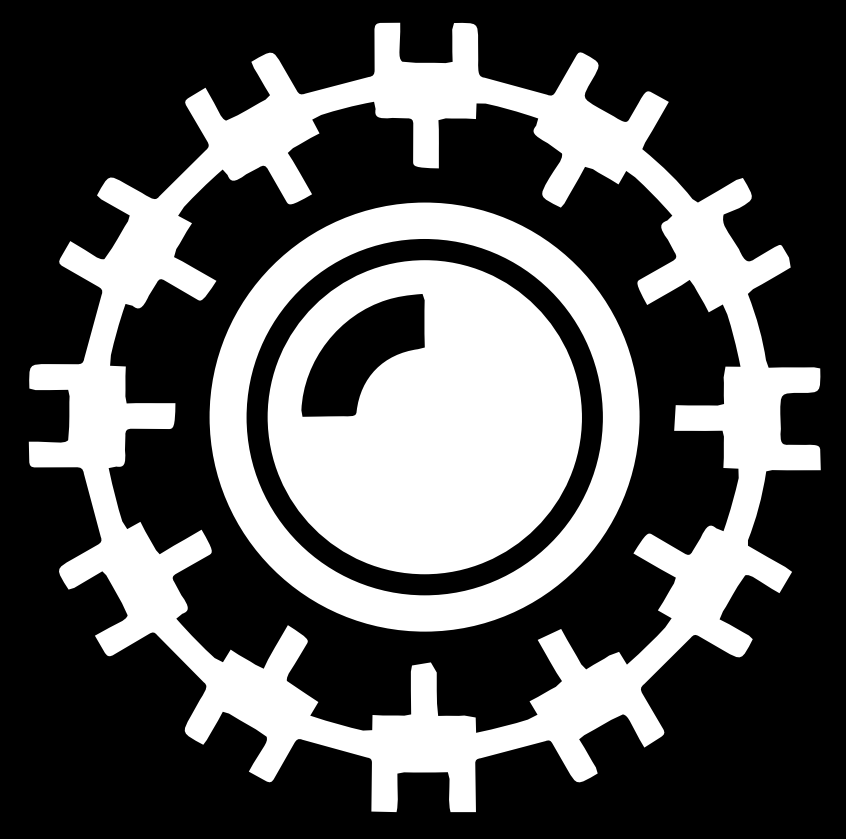
4.1.2 Security Infrastructures, Privacy and Hygiene in the Samos CCAC

In addition to the significant accounts of violence, 64% respondents from Samos reported on the living conditions in the Samos CCAC. 36% of Samos respondents detailed extensive security infrastructure and lack of privacy, and mentioned the word “*prison*” or “*prisoners*” in reference to CCAC. The Samos CCAC has a prison-like architecture with barbed wire fences around the facility, CCTV and watch towers. All who want to leave or enter the CCAC must go through an airport style security control system, detailed by the Greek Ministry of Migration and Asylum as including turnstiles, magnetic gates, X-ray machines and a two-factor access control system. The procedure was described by respondents as very tiring. A young woman (Respondent 30) reported:

“Sometimes you come back and you are tired and you don’t want to remove your shoes, it takes a lot of time. They force you to remove your shoes, you don’t leave that place without having removed your shoes, sometimes they call other colleagues to help you remove your shoes, they use violent language; we don’t understand what they’re saying, but it sounds like violent language”.



Gate at Samos CCAC ©: Romy Aimee Photography



Furthermore, the CCAC is guarded by the Hellenic Police and G4S, a private security company, 24 hours a day. A young man reported that “cameras are everywhere” (Respondent 26), and there is a strong presence of security personnel: “you cannot pass like 5 metres or less without seeing a G4S official standing outside. They are always standing outside even at midnight” (Respondent 26). All non-detained people in the CCAC are additionally subject to a curfew from 8 am-8 pm and must present themselves to a weekly census. This, along with reports of the police frequently entering containers, led to respondents expressing a constant sense of paranoia. The lack of privacy contributed to this issue, which was reported by 27% of respondents held in the CCAC on Samos. Additionally, the CCAC is located in an isolated area close to a military base. One respondent recalled that the several incidents of explosions that were audible in the camp and triggered post traumatic stress disorder responses in him and other residents, as it reminded them of previous events in their lives (Respondent 25).

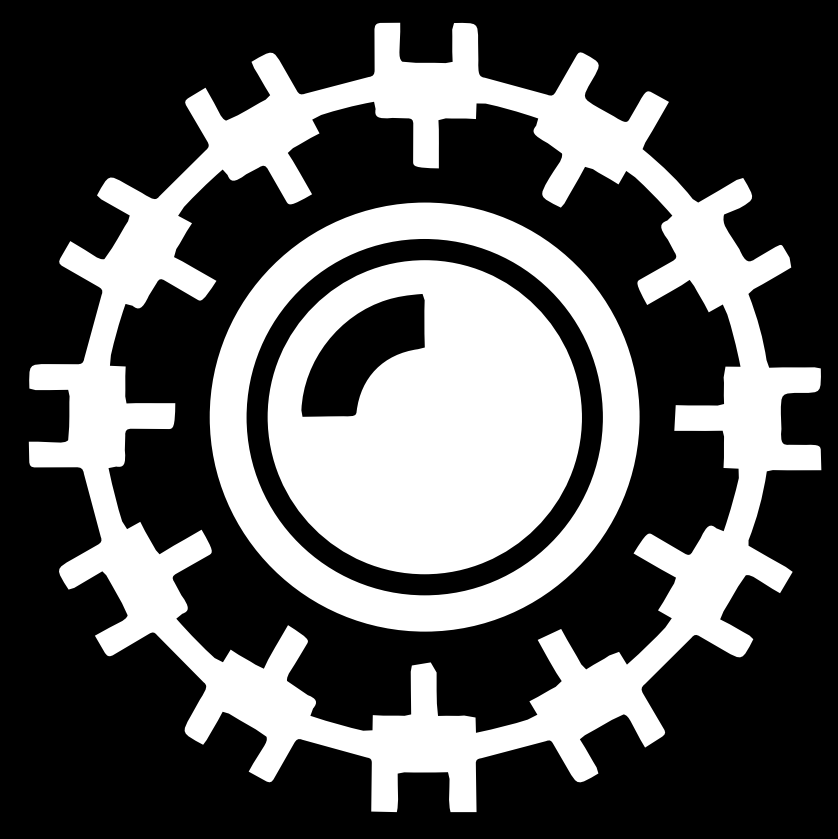
“Our container is not locked, it is not safe. I don’t feel safe in this environment. Sometimes when me and my colleagues are outside the room, and when you come back to your room some things are lost and you have no means to retrieve them. It happens quite often. Sometimes people say you have to remain inside for the safety of your things. I lost some of my clothes, make up, a mat, sometimes in the fridge someone takes your food” (Respondent 30).

“Sometimes people walk in while you are in the shower” (Respondent 31)

Female respondents specifically detailed their discomfort with a lack of privacy and the strong impact on their sense of security. In particular, one woman (Respondent 30) reported:

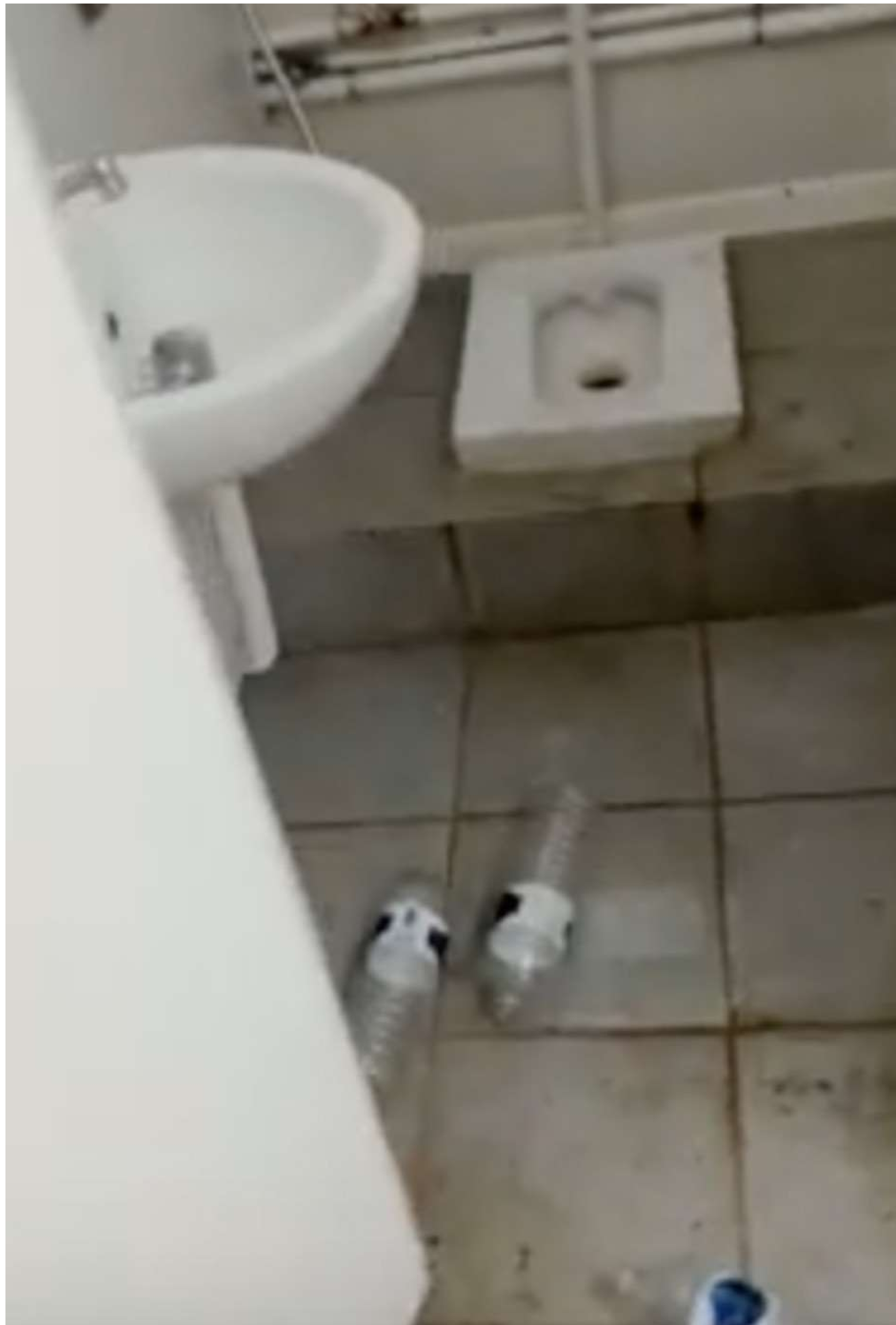
“Of course it’s bad, especially we ladies need privacy, of course it stresses you, but there is nowhere you can go and complain”, and she added regarding the shared bathroom: “It is really embarrassing because when our friends receive visitors they don’t always know they have to knock, so if the person doesn’t knock, they will just open the door and enter and see you naked, there is no keys at all”. Finally, she explained that this lack of privacy prevented her from avoiding insistent relationship offers from men in the CCAC: “I felt unsafe because of that. I went and complained and said ‘I am tired, I don’t want the kind of relationship they are proposing to us’. It is really bad for some of us. It is not possible to be protected from that in the camp”.

The poor hygiene conditions reported by 50% of Samos respondents is consistent with evidence presented by civil society organisations regarding conditions in the Samos CCAC. For example, reports detail the lack of access to cleaning products, sanitary/ hygiene products and the fact that running water is not available throughout the day with water cuts being a daily practice. People also report severe cockroach infestations, crowded and unsanitary living conditions, inedible food and non-provision of essential hygiene products.

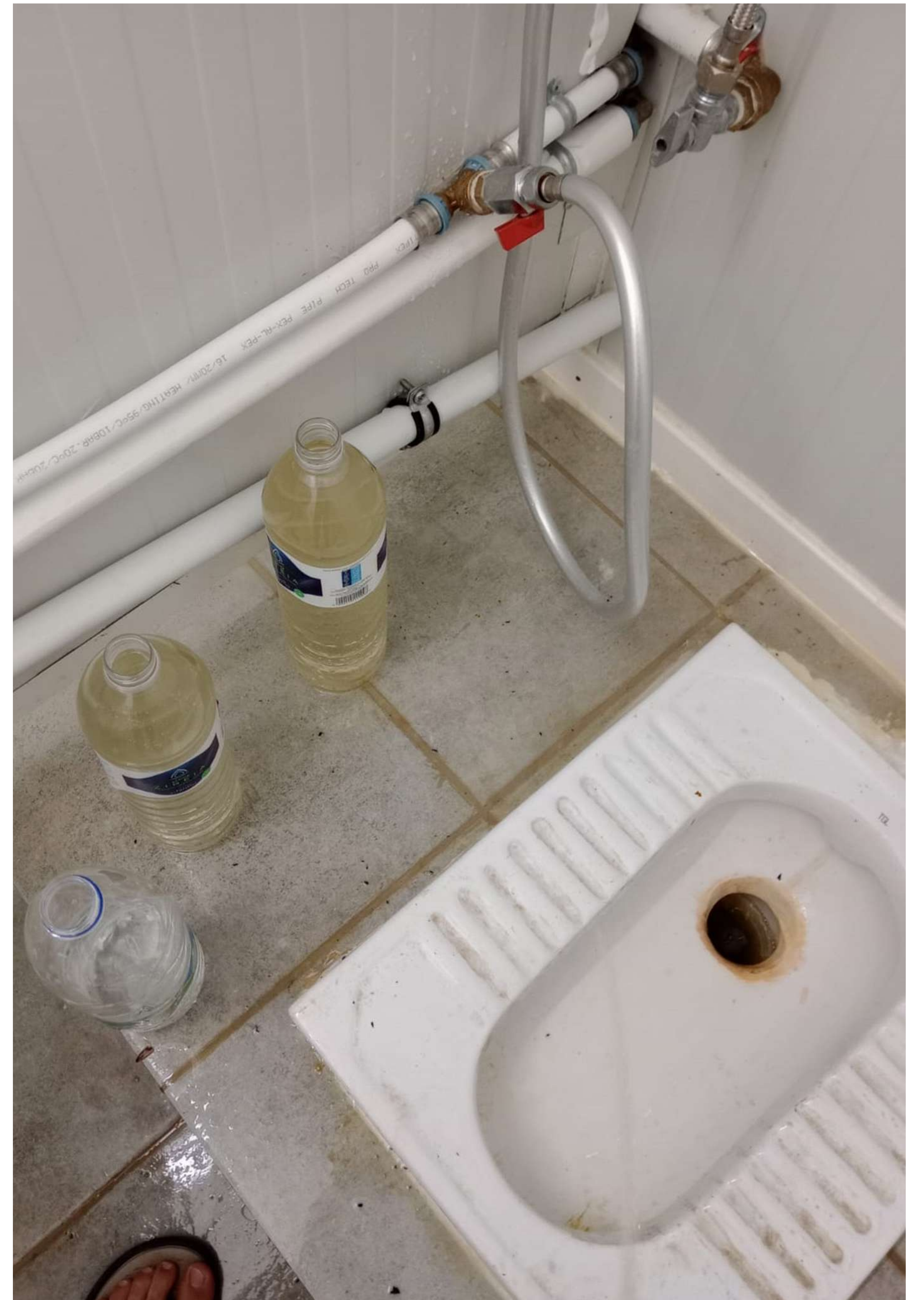


“They weren’t providing us with the cleaning stuff because they were scared somebody would commit suicide with it or something. There wasn’t anything – they weren’t giving us supplies, they were not cleaning the space for us” (Respondent 10)

“There are cockroaches everywhere, in our beds, in our bags, everywhere – we are sleeping with cockroaches” (Respondent 31)



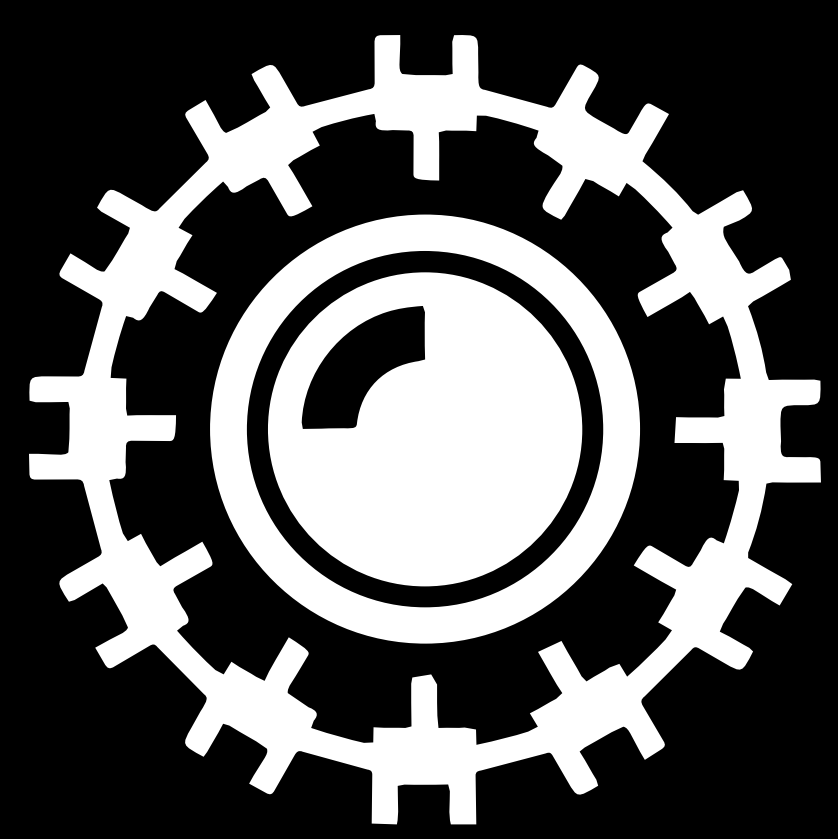
Bathroom in Samos CCAC



Toilet in Samos CCAC



Sink in Samos CCAC



4.1.3 Lack of Access to Adequate Food and Water

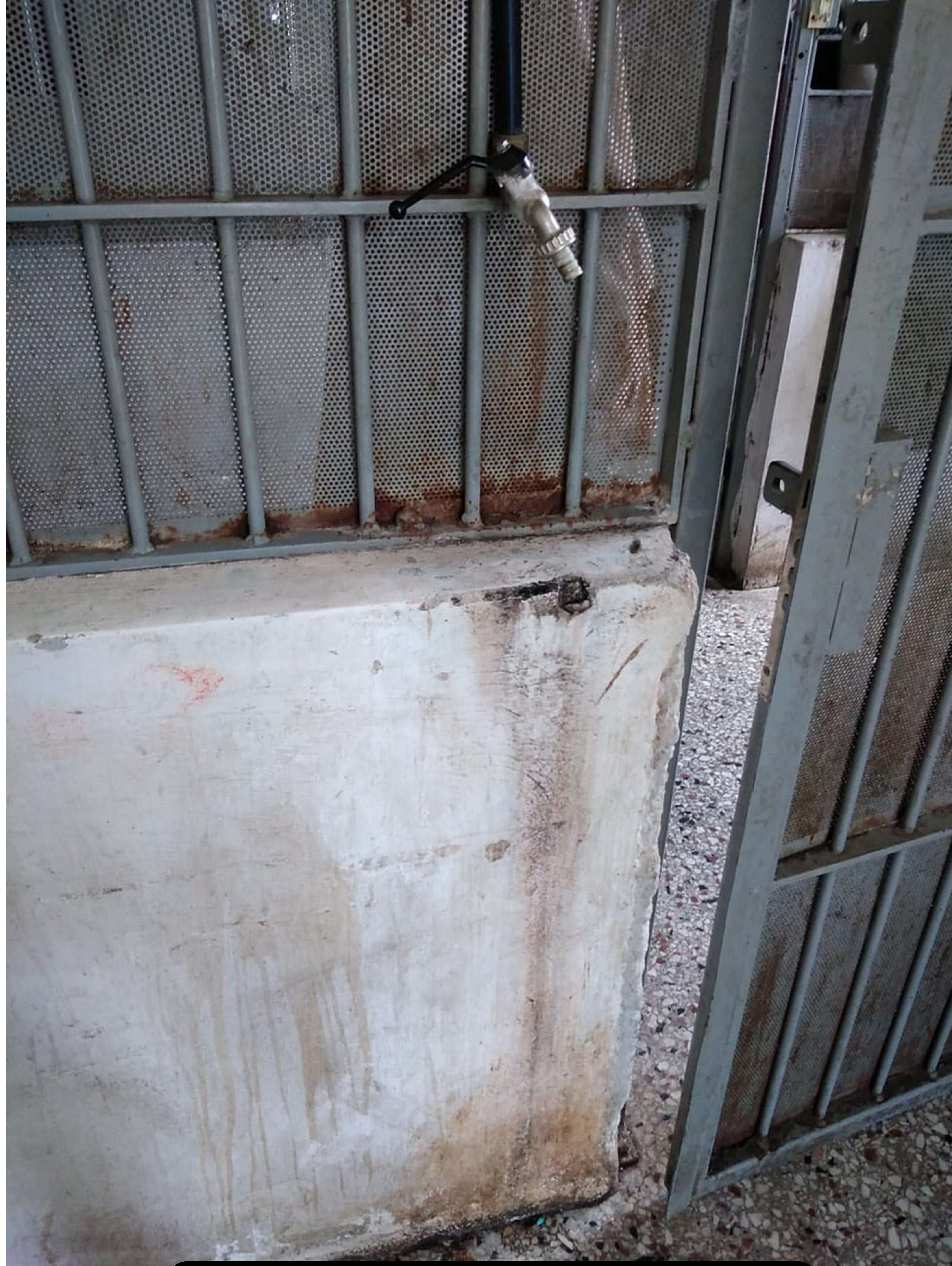
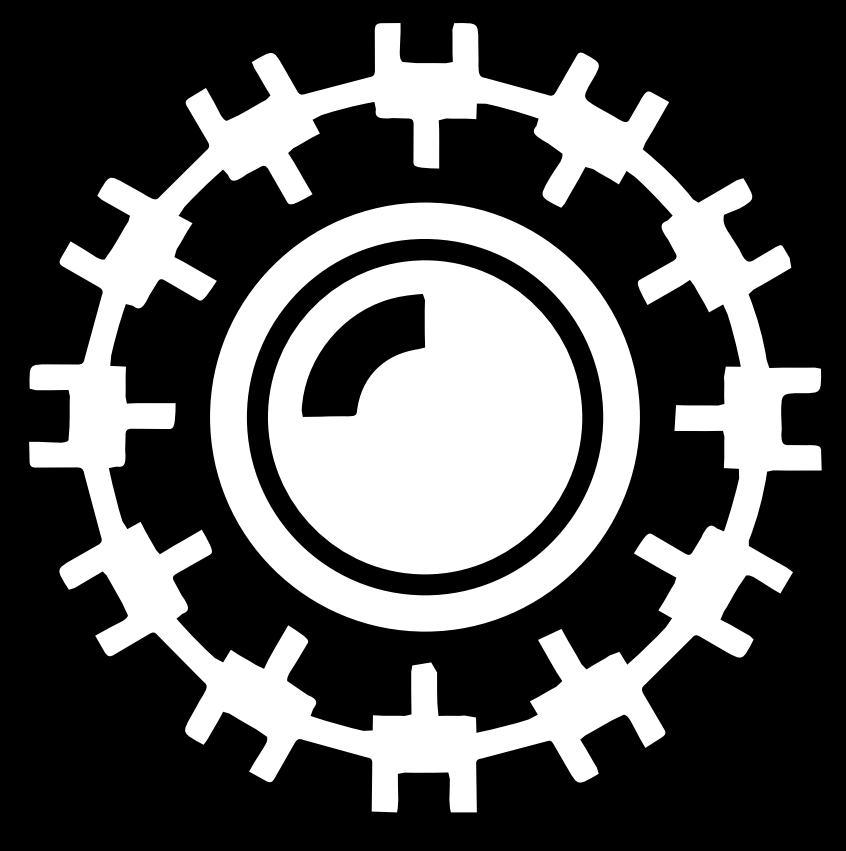
100% of respondents who described their experience in the main sections of the Samos CCAC reported issues with the amount and/or quality of the food that was provided to them. 81% of people reported such issues across detention facilities in Greece. The food provided is qualified by interviewees as “inedible”; “unidentifiable”, “disgusting”, “unfit for animals” or “expired”. Many report not being able to eat the food, or getting sick after consuming it. One respondent (Respondent 25) explained that the food causes digestion issues and discomfort in the stomach. Organisations in Samos have repeatedly expressed concerns regarding the food provided in the CCAC and its lack of compliance with international human rights standards. A Samos-based respondent (Respondent 27) explained that the food makes him feel like in a prison, and that he was served “plain rice and steamed chicken that expired eight months ago”.



Food in Samos CCAC

In three testimonies the food provided to detained persons in Amygdaleza and Corinth PRDCs was described as having notable impacts on detained persons’ physical and mental wellbeing. One respondent explained how people detained at Corinth RPDC believed the food to be contaminated, explaining the belief that it contained sleeping pills due to the severe lethargy experienced by detained persons. A second respondent detained at Corinth reported that detained persons consistently felt tired and aggressive after mealtime:

***“I don’t know what kind of things they were putting in our meal. All of the people felt the same way. All of us slept a lot and got so aggressive after eating the meals. Sometimes it’s a very disgusting feeling”
(Respondent 8)***

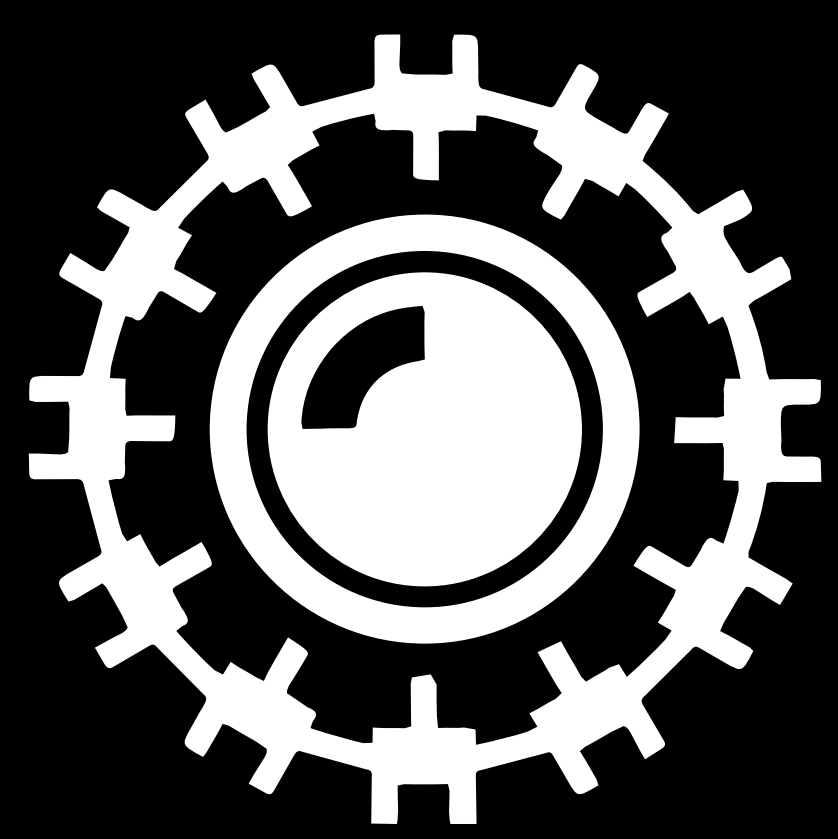


Source of water in Corinth PRDC

A man detained at Amygdaleza PRDC reported that the food provided within the PRDC is *“not safe for us to eat because they put some type of medicine in it”* (Respondent 15). This respondent described a number of issues including aggression, sleepiness, bleeding gums and bad breath, which he attributed to the effects of the food. Testimonies documented by BVMN partner Mobile Info Team in 2022 showed that fewer than 20% of respondents reported no issues with the food provided to detained persons within PRDCs.

45% people mentioned either the quantity or the cleanliness of the water as an important issue, most notably in Corinth PRDC, Amygdaleza PRDC and Samos CCAC. In Corinth, a respondent (Respondent 8) reported that the water supply is unreliable. *“Sometimes we didn’t have much water for two or three days. They keep the switch off the water at the taps”*, while others report that detained persons were not provided with clean water to drink. One respondent reported being physically and verbally abused after asking for better access to water:

“They wanted to scare me, they said that they will increase my time of detention, they pushed me hard, and slapped my face. They did the same, with everybody. They beat me for about 10 minutes. After that they changed my building and my room” (Respondent 11)



In Amygdaleza, a respondent (Respondent 6) shared that the group he was detained with had to resort to drinking from the toilet as they were not provided with water. In the Samos CCAC, residents are provided with drinking water only once a day, in the morning. Respondents described the water they received as “unhealthy”, “expired” or “bad”, and that it “tastes like metal” (Respondent 28).

“The water was recycled or refiltered and it was not healthy. It was very bad water” (Respondent 10)

As mentioned above, Directive 2013/33/EU stipulates that the material reception conditions for applicants of international protection must provide them with an adequate standard of living. This should include housing, food and clothing. However, the testimonies collected by BVMN show that neither the housing conditions, nor the food provided to applicants in Greece are adequate or in line with international and European standards. This environment further deteriorates the physical and psychological health of people on the move.

4.2 Health Care

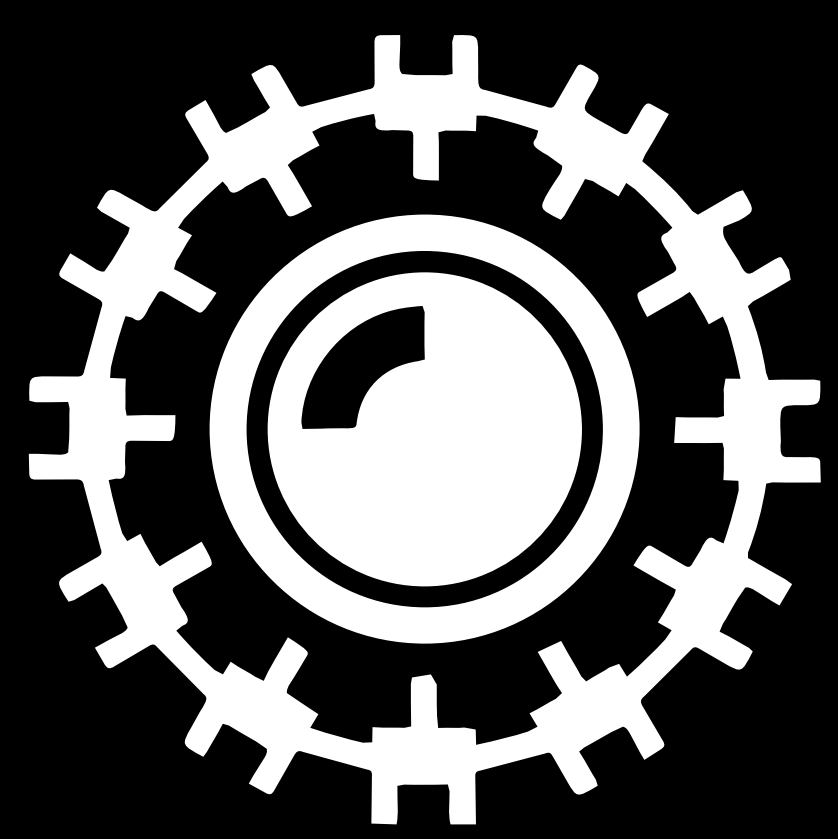
4.2.1 Lack of Access to Sufficient Medical Care

Denial of access to medical care can be taken to include the unavailability or significant delay of appointments with medical actors upon request, lack of provision of required medication, unavailability of relevant translators for health appointments, lack of medical screening upon arrival at detention facilities, medical neglect in cases of injury, delayed response to medical incidents or ongoing non-assistance by police or medical actors in urgent cases – which has reportedly led to the death of a detained person in recent incidents. 58% testimonies across Greece refer to the lack of access to medical care.

4.2.1.1 Mainland Greece

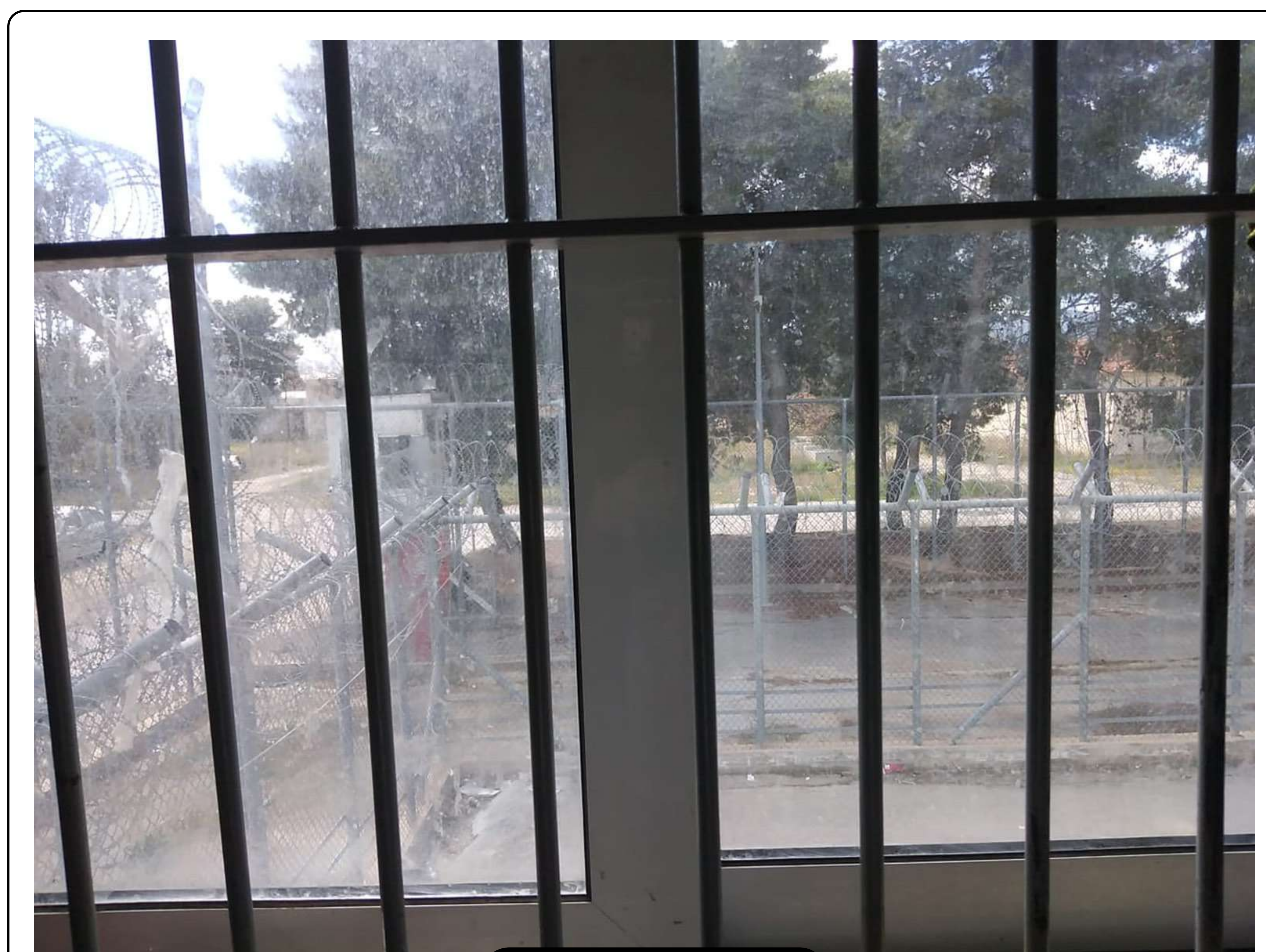
57% of respondents detained in PRDCs across mainland Greece reported a fundamental lack of access to health care throughout their detention. Of this group, 67% were detained in Amygdaleza or Corinth PRDC, the two largest detention facilities that accommodate the most detained persons in Greece (950 and 655 detained persons respectively at the end of April 2023). At the end of April 2023, neither Amygdaleza, Corinth nor Xanthi had a single doctor present in the centres. As well as worsening of symptoms for individuals with long term conditions, including cases with kidney and heart conditions, people have specifically reported on the emergence of new health issues, and concerningly, the denial of medical attention following incidents of abuse by the authorities. This particular trend – which has persisted since BVMN began recording such incidents in 2020 – amplifies the gravity and severity of harm, thus putting the State authorities who facilitate this abuse, in breach of Article 3 of the ECHR.

“I was suffering from extreme pain. I went to a policeman, I told him that I was in a very painful situation and asked could he help me? Could he take me to a hospital or to somewhere with a doctor? He said “you are making a drama, you don’t have anything.” So he beat me and he abused me. He had an electrical rod. He beat me and used abusive language and after that he put me in a dark room” (Respondent 15).

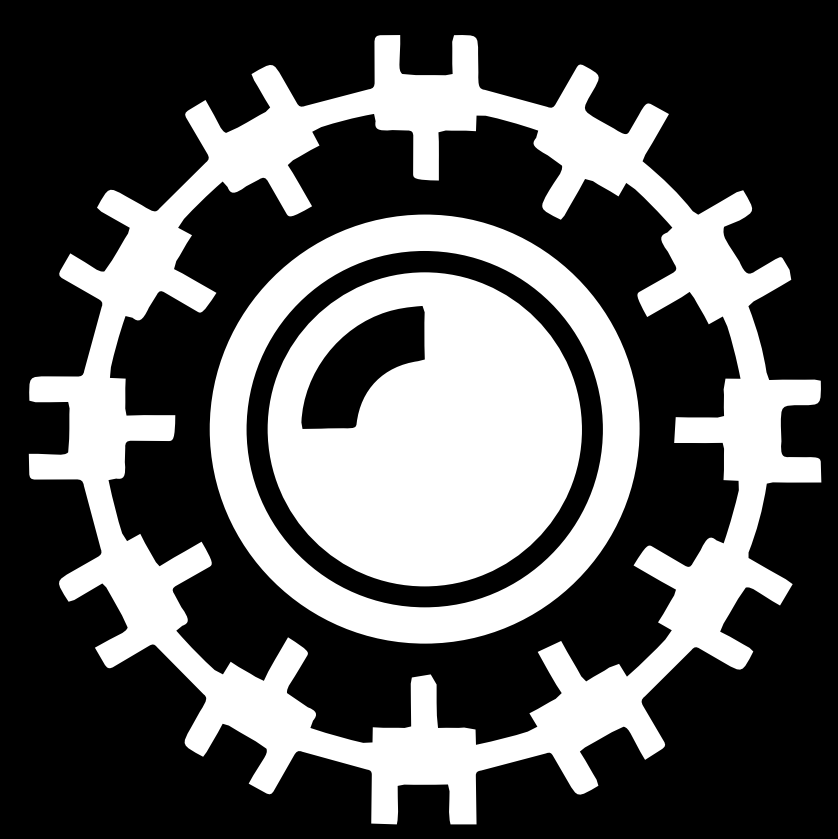


Amygdaleza PRDC

Further issues reported regard the general dismissive behaviour by detention staff, and total disregard for concerns raised by detained persons. One respondent held in Corinth and Amygdaleza PRDCs shared that: *“It’s the same behaviour from Corinth but Menidi [Amygdaleza] camp is worse than Corinth. Nobody is listening to us, we cannot reach the doctor, police people are extremely harsh with us”* (Respondent 8). Another detained person reported: *“One man in front of me had extreme pain in his kidney and he was crying in front of me. He was asking for help but nobody was helping him and he said that he will die and no one will care”* (Respondent 15). In general, testimonies evidence the lack of care exhibited by police toward detained persons expressing medical needs, accusing them of lying (Respondent 4), refusing to recognise health issues (Respondent 2), and at best, prescribing paracetamol (Respondent 9).



Corinth PRDC



With more than half of respondents reporting refusal of medical care, and considering research published by several civil society organisations this year, in addition to the Greek Ombudsman and the Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) long urging Greek authorities to improve the provision of healthcare services in all immigration detention facilities, medical access continues to be a critical issue for detained persons – and people on the move more broadly – across Greece.

4.2.1.2 Samos CCAC

45% of testimonies from people held in the Samos CCAC reported the denial of healthcare or not being given sufficient attention by state medical actors. These testimonies are further evidence of the lack of medical care in the Samos CCAC which has been widely reported by civil society organisations.

“There are a lot of people in the camp who are really sick, and because the system is down nothing is happening. Some people can barely move, and they are getting no medical treatment” (Respondent 27)

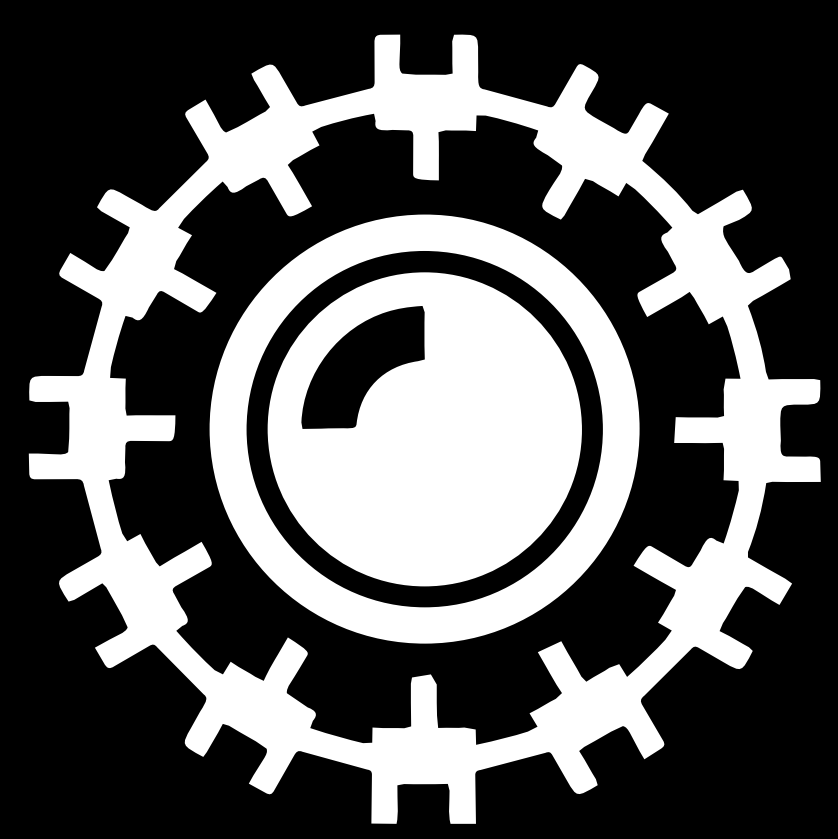
There has been a severe shortage of medical staff inside the Samos CCAC, as there has been no state-appointed doctor since February 2022 and only the presence of an ad hoc volunteer doctor from Samos hospital that attends the CCAC for vulnerability assessments. One respondent shared that he was suffering from haemorrhoids and was in serious pain, but despite visiting medical actors regularly, he had *“the same problem every time [...] the lady that is in the clinic, she always says she is not a doctor, she says she is sorry but she is not a medical doctor”* (Respondent 28).

Several respondents reported a general lack of attention to their health issues by the medical actors of the camp (EODY). One respondent, who was an unaccompanied minor, reported that, after being beaten, which caused a knee injury, he was told by staff *“that I can’t see a doctor and to come back another day”* (Respondent 29). Once he was seen by an EODY staff member, the respondent reported that *“he didn’t allow me to talk about my knee and he did not check it”* (Respondent 29). Another respondent described seeking medical attention from EODY in the Samos CCAC as follows: *“When I go there on Friday, he tells me to come back on Monday”* (Respondent 27). It was also reported that: *“The lack of access to medical treatment is stressful, cause they only give you painkillers, that can’t cure every disease. It is not easy with the camp doctors, you go and explain to them, they just give you painkillers”* (Respondent 30).

Additional issues that were reported included the long waits to be seen and treated at the hospital, with one respondent (Respondent 31) explaining that he required surgery but he needed to wait five months, and was not provided with interim care.

“There is no medical treatment in the camp, if you say you have a stomach ache they say you are constipated, if you have pain in your body they give you paracetamol. A woman fell in the camp and it took three hours before they arrived and took her to the city, she was crying, it was an emergency” (Respondent 31).

“The doctor comes every five or six months and wherever you go to them they give you panadol, they give you paracetamol” (Respondent 10).



Sleeping area Samos CCAC ©: Samos Advocacy

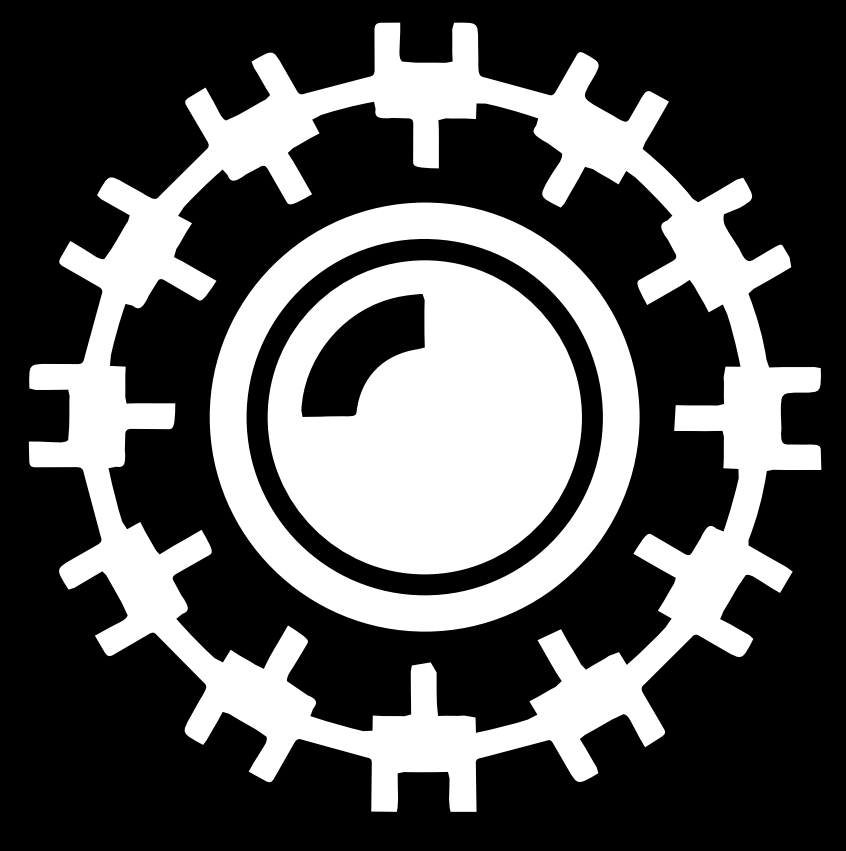
4.2.2 Lack of Access to Psychosocial Support

Asylum seekers who are residing in the PRDCs on mainland Greece and the Samos CCAC have often been subject to different types of traumas and are therefore vulnerable and at risk of re-traumatisation. According to Article 21 and 22 of the EU Reception Conditions Directive, psychosocial support should include the assessment of such vulnerabilities by professionals, as well as access to appropriate psychological care. Additionally, asylum seekers should be protected from environments which can cause additional psychological trauma. Despite this, 35% of testimonies from across Greece referred to the total lack of psychosocial support and the harmful impact of the living conditions on the psychological wellbeing of residents.

4.2.2.1 Mainland Greece

Like general medical provision, the availability of psychological support in detention centres is extremely lacking. A third of respondents detained in PRDCs on the mainland specifically reported psychological distress, with incidents of self harm and suicide attempts. Respondents shared that: *"People do not know why they have been put inside this cell and hurt themselves using knives. Even when they do this, nobody takes them to hospital"* (Respondent 11) and *"I became so aggressive and tried to cut my arms so many times. I don't know why I'm doing this. They put something in our meals and we became a psycho type of person"* (Respondent 4).

When asked how police or detention staff responded to people experiencing psychological distress, respondents described that *"The people who have psychiatric issues are locked in different rooms"* (Respondent 15). BVMN's member organisation MIT's recent research on PRDCs similarly found that 43% of respondents indicated psychological ill health of themselves or their fellow detained persons. In their report, they detail the significant history of suicide across PRDCs in Greece, both due to the inhumane conditions that people are subjected to and as a result of the persistent lack of psychological support. At the end of 2022, there were no psychologists employed by AEMY – the medical actor



provided by the state in detention centres – across detention centres in Greece. Previous reports by civil society organisations have also indicated the utter lack of psychological support, despite the exacerbated circumstances and intense likelihood of suffering mental ill health, in immigration detention facilities.

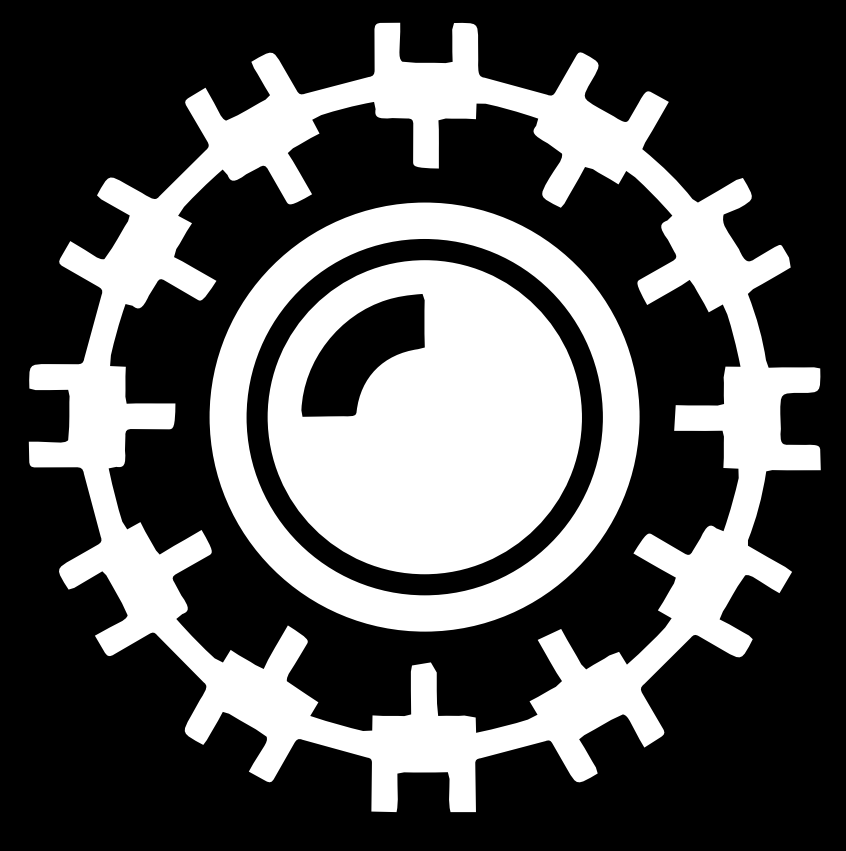
The ECHR has consistently held that Article 3 ECHR imposes an obligation on the state to protect both the mental and physical wellbeing of persons deprived of their liberty. However, the experiences shared above indicate the routine failure by Greek authorities to protect the wellbeing of detained persons, including by screening people upon arrival to assess how detention may impact an individual's mental health. Screening for medical or psychological assessments is not reported to take place across detention centres on mainland Greece.

4.2.2.2 Samos CCAC:

27% of testimonies from the Samos CCAC explicitly mentioned the lack of psychological support in the facility. This is an ongoing and widespread issue, with many residents of the CCAC reporting the impact that the structure has on their mental health and the risk of retraumatization. These issues, coupled with the lack of psychological support available, may amount to a violation of the residents' right to care and assistance according to their vulnerability. One respondent reported that he has panic attacks regularly inside the CCAC, but that there is *"no help available for him"* (Respondent 25). Another respondent similarly expressed that: *"Sometimes when you're stressed or somebody is stressing you, there is nowhere to go and ask for help; when you try to make an appointment, it is full, you have to go to your container and talk to yourself"* (Respondent 30).

A recent report focusing on trafficking survivors in the CCAC has additionally highlighted the lack of psychological care provided to vulnerable asylum seekers, leaving gaps in the identification of vulnerabilities and in the provision of appropriate care. The lack of psychological support in the Samos CCAC has also been reported on widely by civil society organisations, which have brought attention to the devastating effects of the prison-like camp on people's mental health and the evident need for such support.

Access to medical and psychological support – for both asylum seekers held in reception facilities and for third country nationals in detention centres – is at best extremely limited and in PRDCs virtually non-existent. The accounts of behaviour by officers and camp staff, despite the severity of medical conditions reported, contributes to diverse forms of violence that aim to harm people on the move.

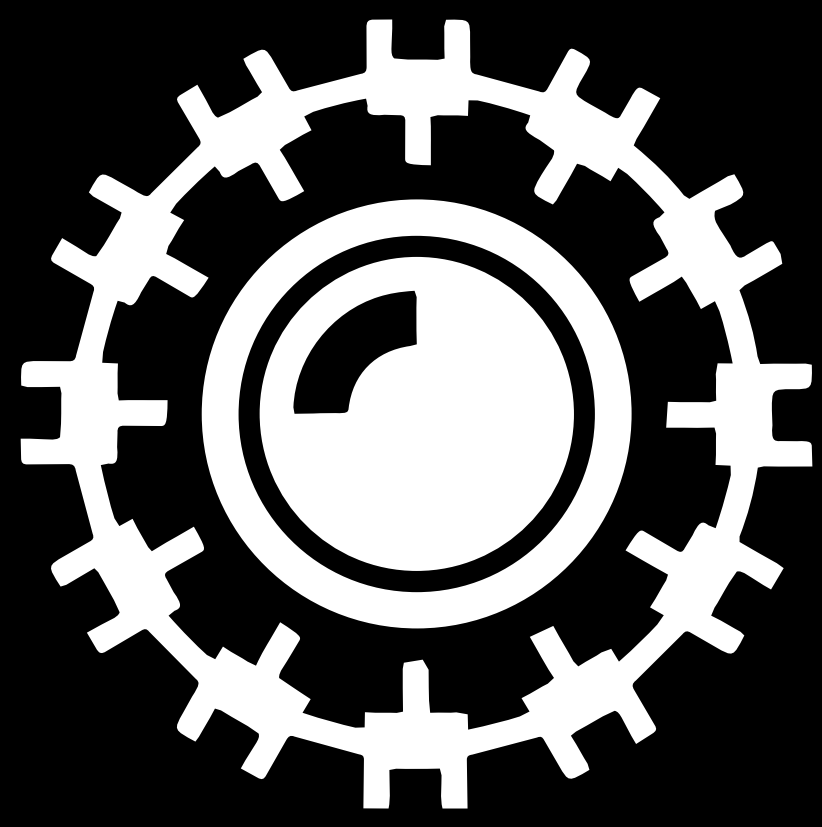


5. Conclusion

The report has shown how violence permeates the experiences of people on the move in Greece. In addition to deliberate acts of physical violence – in cases of violence in forested areas, during transportation and in spaces of detention – the general reception conditions of people on the move on the Greek territory amount to structural violence and have huge consequences on physical and mental health.

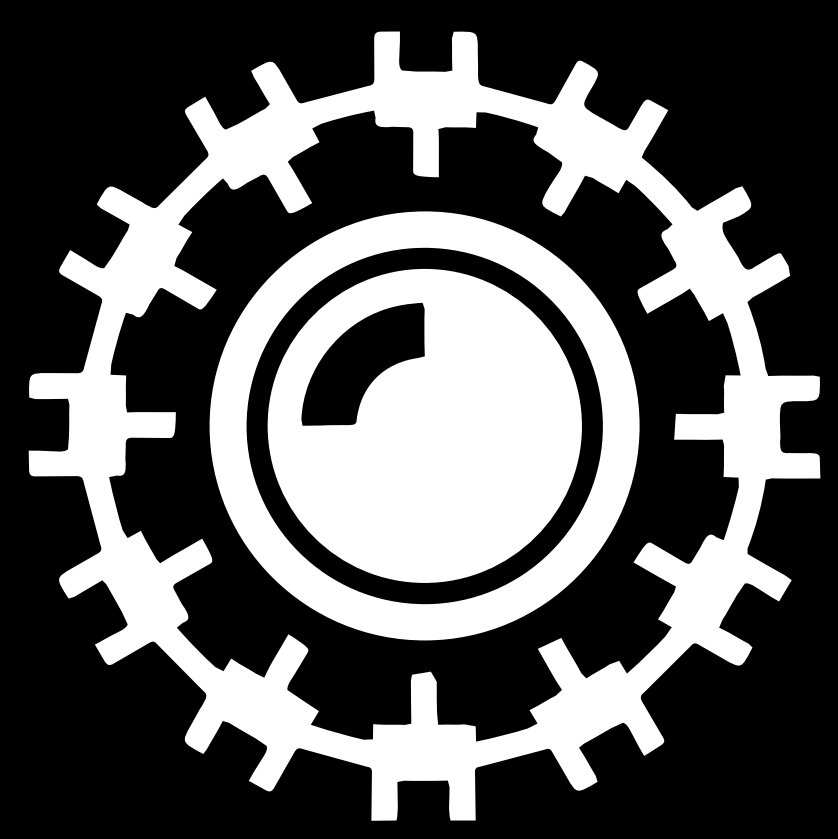
Despite the CPT's call in 2020 for an end to ill-treatment of foreign nationals by the Greek authorities, evidence gathered by BVMN for this report demonstrates that the use of violence has continued, is routine and systematic, as testified by the majority of the respondents in this report.

Additionally, the report highlights the failure of the Greek authorities to provide people subjected to detention with basic services, including medical and psychological care, adequate food and water, and decent standards of hygiene. This failure is a clear demonstration of systematic violations of the rights of people on the move and the non-compliance of Greece with its legal obligations.

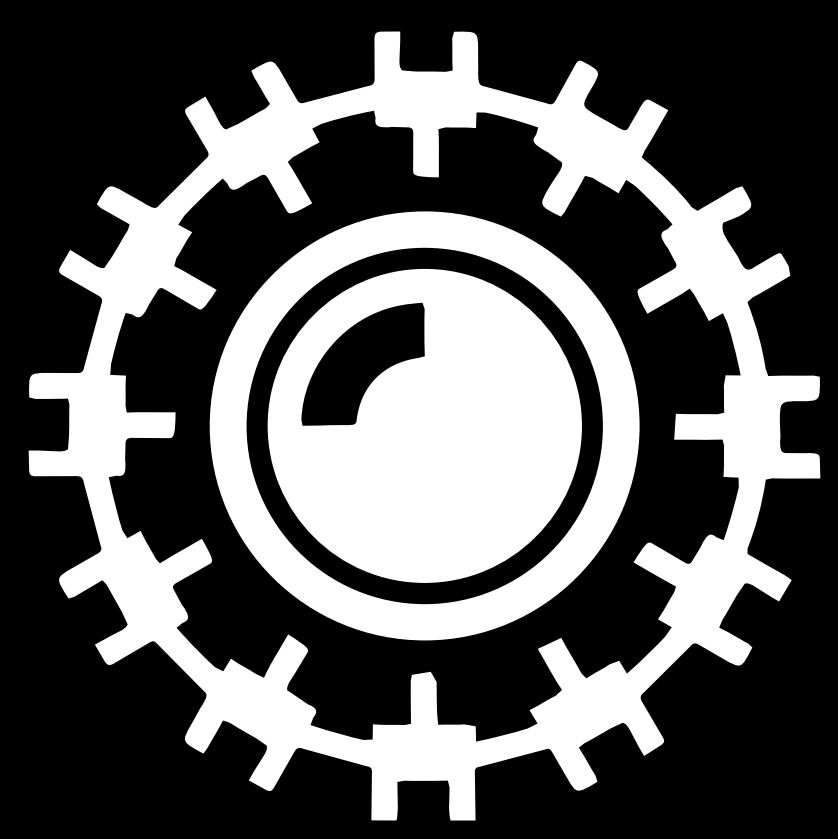


Glossary of Reports

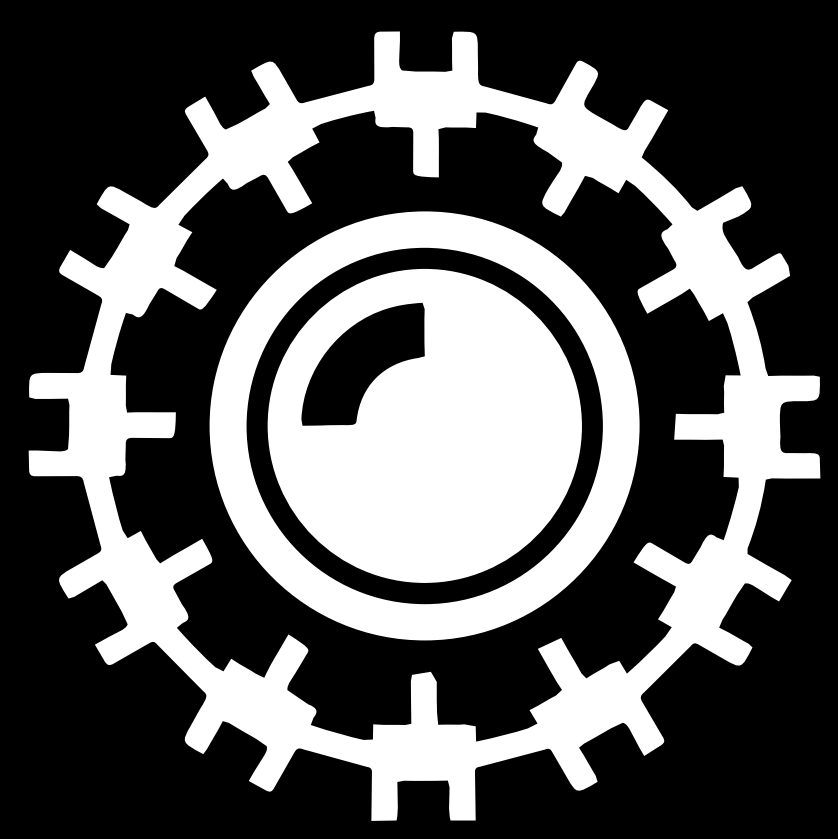
	Date of recording	Location	People impacted	Age	Country of origin	Types of violence
Respondent 1	06.01.23	Paranesti PRDC	32	19–30	Morocco	Personal belongings taken; destruction of personal belongings; deprivation of proper food/water; body search; overcrowded cells; no translation of documents to sign; denial of medical care; beating.
Respondent 2	03.08.23	Amygdaleza PRDC	5	–	Egypt	Solitary confinement; physical abuse; deprivation of proper food/water; denial of medical care; personal belongings taken.
Respondent 3	16.03.23	Corinth PRDC	1	22	Pakistan	Harsh language and insults; personal belongings taken; overcrowded cells; lack of information; no translation of documents to sign; lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation; denial of medical care; deprivation of proper food/water.



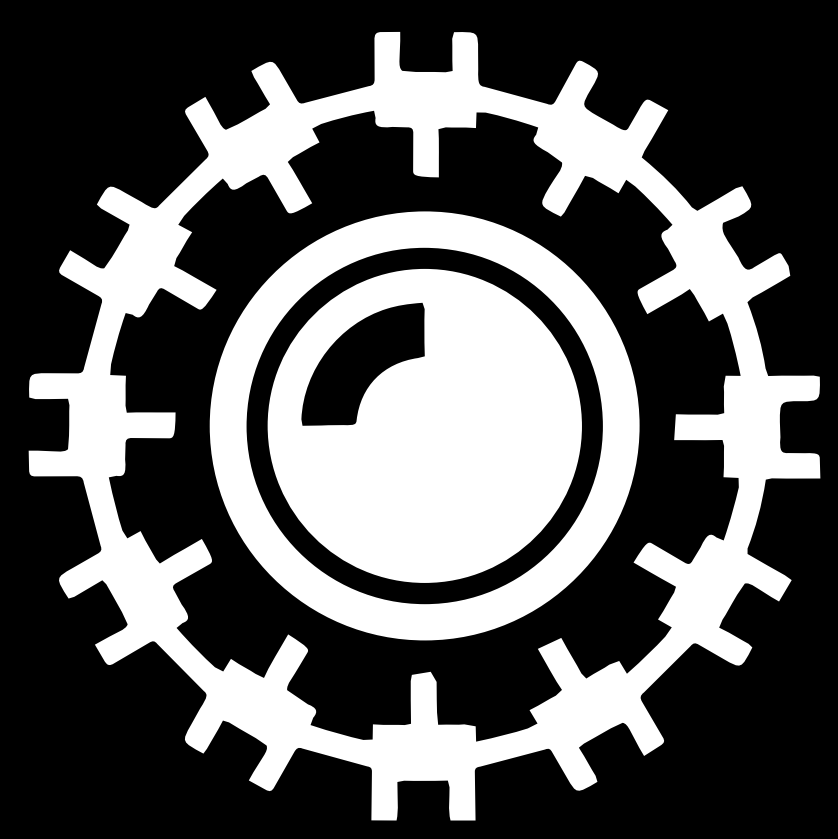
Respondent 4	17.03.23	Corinth PRDC, Petrou Ralli PRDC, Amygdaleza PRDC.	1	28	Pakistan	Beating; personal belongings taken; presence of CCTV cameras; lack of information; lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation; denial of medical care; deprivation of proper food/water.
Respondent 5	17.05.23	A police station outside of Thessaloniki and another detention site around 25 minutes drive away	1	37	Morocco	Lack of information; no translator present; no access to legal counsel; personal belongings taken (phone).
Respondent 6	23.03.23	Police station in Marousi, Amygdaleza PRDC, Corinth PRDC	1	30	Pakistan	Beating; no translation of documents to sign; lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation; no provision of information; deprivation of food/water; denial of medical care.



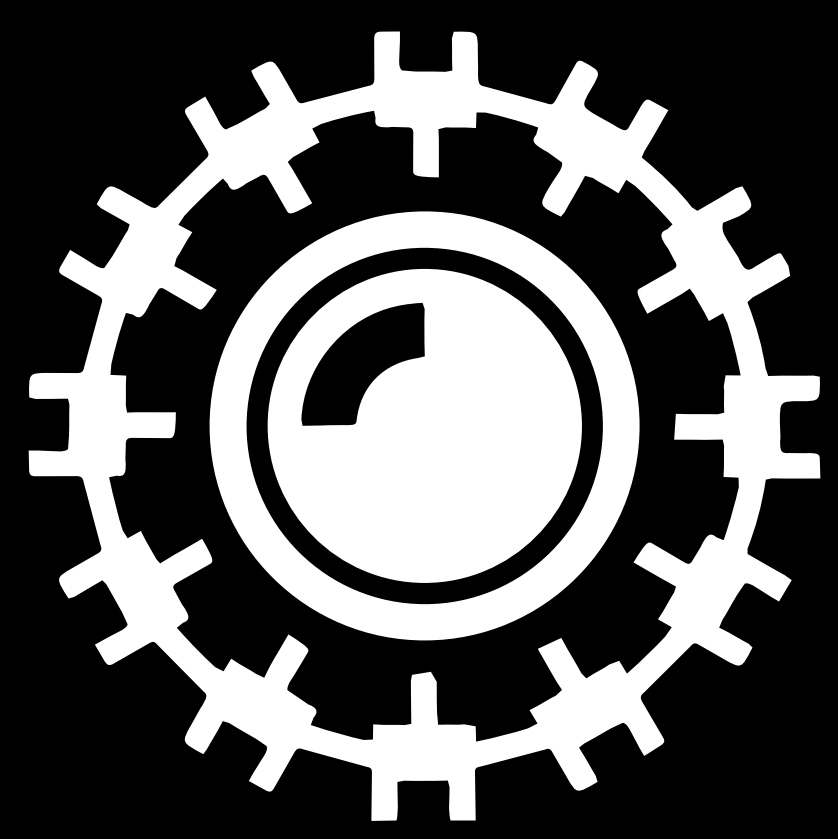
Respondent 7	22.03.23	Kaminia Police Station, Amygdaleza PRDC, Paranesti PRDC	Around 60	15-54	Egypt	No translator present; no translation of documents to sign; presence of CCTV cameras; denial of medical care.
Respondent 8	24.03.23	Corinth PRDC	1	23	Pakistan	Physical and verbal abuse, solitary confinement; no translator present; personal belongings taken; no provision of information; lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation; deprivation of food/water; denial of medical care; beating.
Respondent 9	28.03.23	Corinth PRDC	1	34	Iran	No provision of information; no access to legal counsel; deprivation of proper food/water; denial of medical care; verbal abuse; lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation.



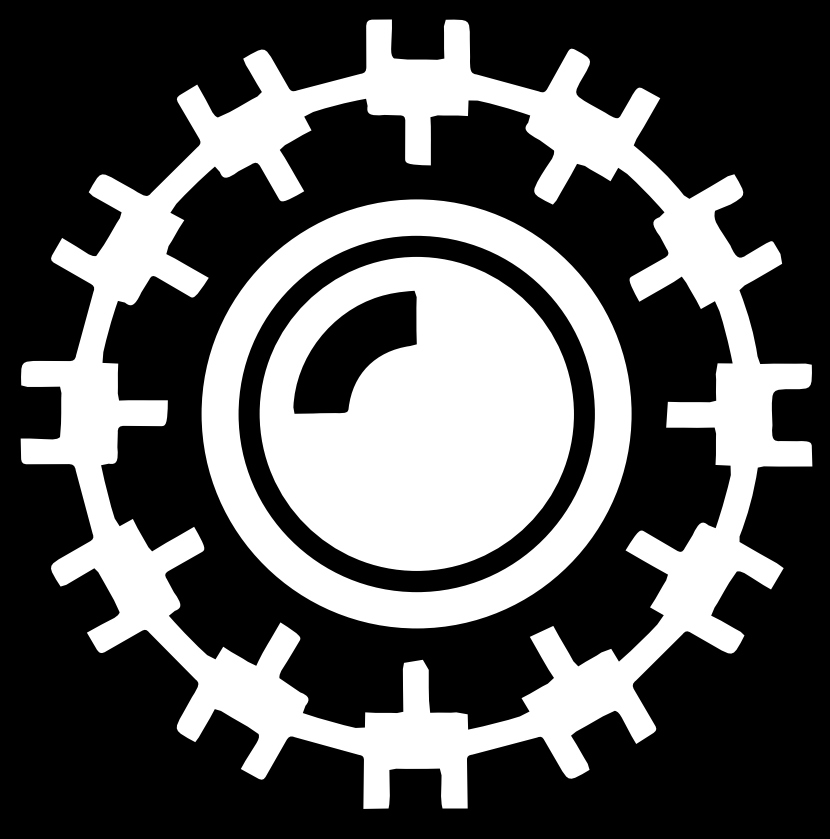
Respondent 10	24.03.23	Samos CCAC	24	0-40	Palestine, Yemen, Another African country	Harsh language and insults; strip searches; personal belongings stolen; physical violence; threats; presence of CCTV cameras.
Respondent 11	29.03.23	Corinth PRDC	1	20	Pakistan	Deprivation of proper food/water; no translation of documents to sign; denial of medical care; beating; verbal abuse.
Respondent 12	31.03.23	Didymotei cho police station, Orestiada police station, Komotini police station, Nafplion prison	1	32	Syria	No translation of documents to sign; beating; arbitrary detention.
Respondent 13	05.04.23	Katerini police station, Paranesti PRDC	3	24- 28	Morocco	Personal belongings taken; verbal abuse; intimidation; strip search;lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation; deprivation of proper food/water; lack of information.



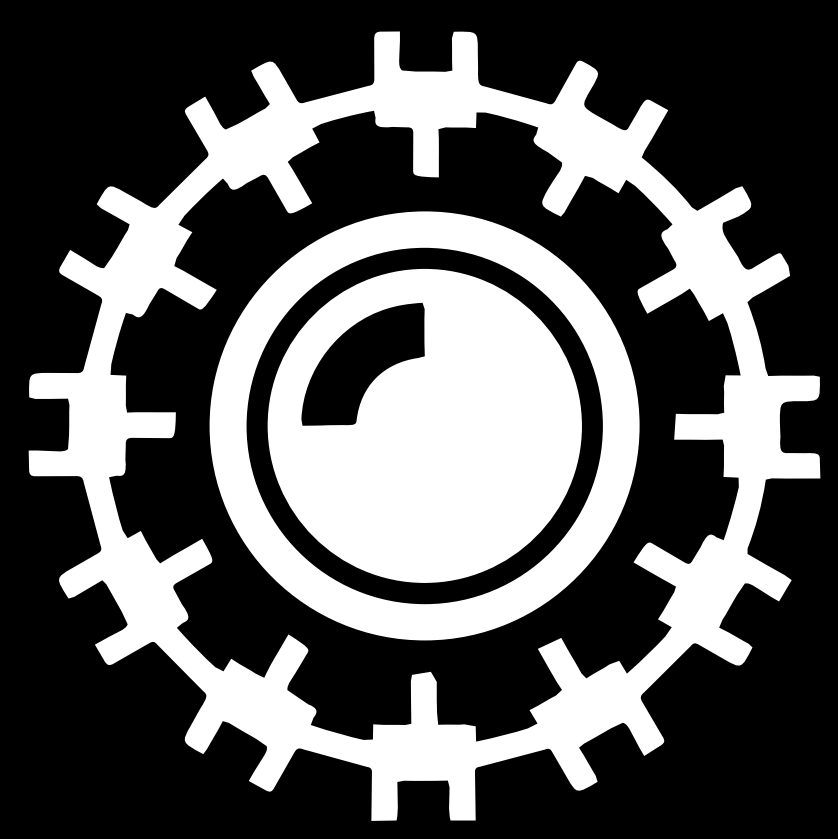
Respondent 14	11.04.23	Three police stations in Thessaloniki and Nigrita prison	1	24	Algeria	Beatings; verbal abuse; deprivation of proper food/water; arbitrary detention; personal belongings taken.
Respondent 15	28.04.23	Corinth PRDC	25-30	25-60 (and one minor aged 15)	Pakistan, Bangladesh, African countries	Personal belongings taken; verbal abuse; beatings; denial of medical care; solitary confinement; deprivation of proper food/water; no translator present; lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation.
Respondent 16	05.05.23	Malakasa RIC	120	5-45	Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Afghanistan	Beating; arbitrary detention; psychological abuse; deprivation of proper food/water.
Respondent 17	-	Athens Airport	1	46	Iran	No reason provided for detention; no translator present; arbitrary detention; personal belongings taken; solitary confinement.



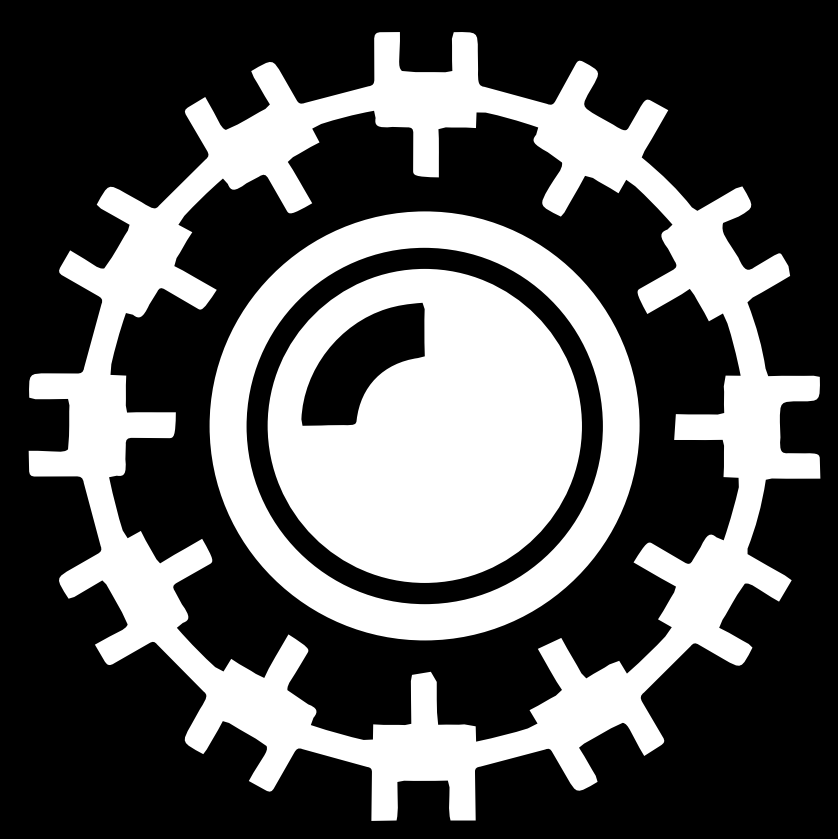
Respondent 18	11.05.23	Petrou Ralli, Amygdaleza PRDC, Xanthi PRDC	3	22-31	Pakistan Afghanistan	Physical and verbal abuse; beatings; no translation of documents to sign; no translator present; arbitrary detention; lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation; deprivation of proper food/water.
Respondent 19	12.05.23	Heraklion airport, Crete police station	5	30-35 (3 minors)	Syria	Threats; personal belongings taken; body search; deprivation of proper food/water.
Respondent 20	16.05.23	Petrou Ralli, Amygdaleza PRDC, Xanthi PRDC	20	- Minors involved	Tunisia Iraq Syria Albania Algeria Georgia Morocco Sudan Somalia	Physical abuse; deprivation of proper food/water; reckless driving; presence of CCTV cameras; no translator present; no translation of documents to sign; denial of medical care.



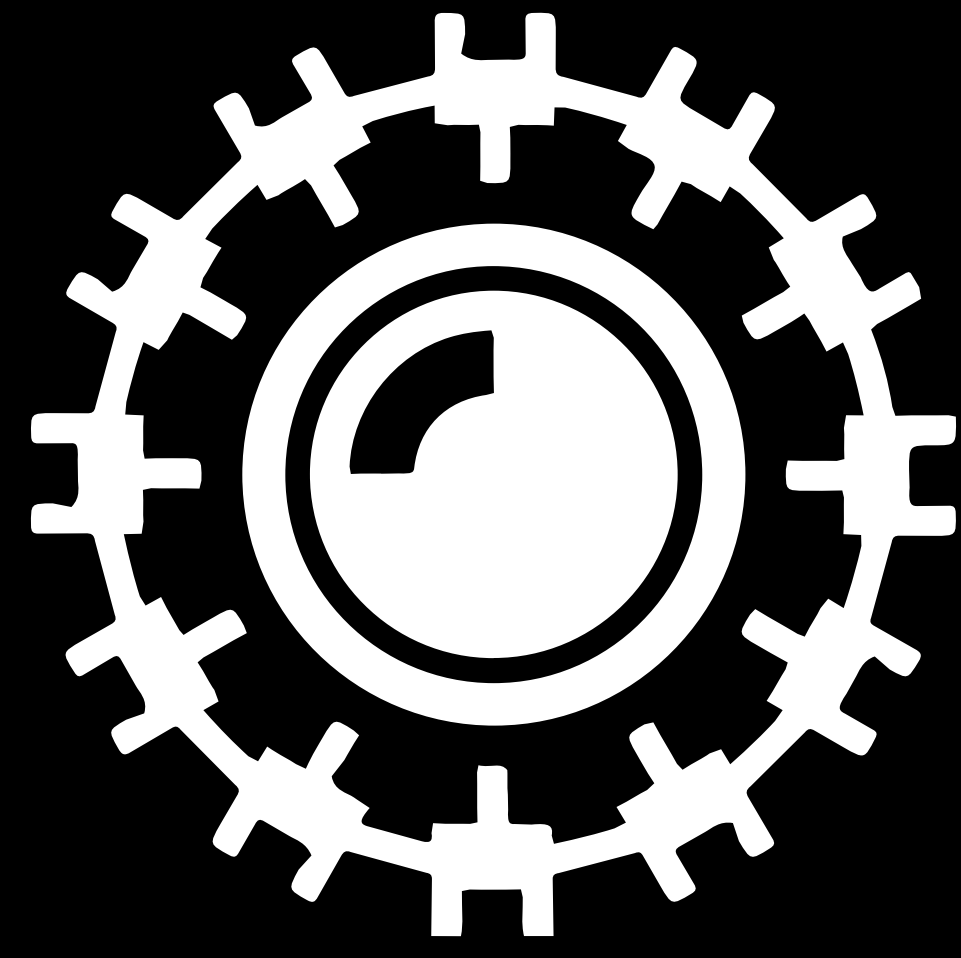
Respondent 21	19.05.23	Police station in Nea Poli, police station in Thessaloniki , Paranesti PRDC	1	25	Morocco	Physical and verbal abuse; no translation of documents to sign; no translator present; lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation; personal belongings taken; deprivation of proper food/water; denial of medical care; solitary confinement.
Respondent 22	16.11.23	Samos CCAC	35- 45	- Minors involved	Sierra Leone, Palestine, Other unknown countries	Beating; physical and verbal abuse; threats.
Respondent 23	05.23	Samos CCAC	47-48	- Minors involved	Sierra Leone, Palestine, Other unknown countries	Beating; verbal abuse; presence of CCTV cameras.
Respondent 24	05.23	Samos CCAC	15	- Minors involved	Palestine Other unknown countries	Beating (including with sticks); verbal abuse; coerced stripping.



Respondent 25	07.05.23	On arrival at Samos and Samos CCAC	13	2-31	-	Personal belongings taken, body search (including intimate parts); beatings; death threats; denial of psychological care; intimidation; verbal abuse; presence of CCTV cameras; impact of security measures; deprivation of proper food/water; lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation.
Respondent 26	17.05.23	Samos CCAC	1	25	Sierra Leone	Lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation; lack of privacy; denial of medical care; restricted access to psychological support; deprivation of proper food/water.
Respondent 27	17.05.23	Samos CCAC	41	- Minors involved	Sierra Leone, Cameroon, Uganda, Congo, Other unknown countries	Personal belongings taken (phones); verbal abuse; strip search; deprivation of proper food/water; denial of medical care.



Respondent 28	17.05.23	Samos CCAC	1	27	Sierra Leone	Denial of medical care; deprivation of proper food/water; body search; Lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation.
Respondent 29	15.05.23	Samos forest and CCAC	43-45	- Minors involved	Gambia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Haiti	Beatings; strip search; denial of medical care; deprivation of proper food/water.
Respondent 30	-	Samos CCAC	1	20	Uganda	Intimidation; personal belongings taken (phones); strip search; full body search; deprivation of proper food/water; lack of privacy; denial of medical care; lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitation.
Respondent 31	-	Samos forest and CCAC	1	25	Guinea	Verbal abuse; strip search; denial of medical care;lack of access to adequate hygiene/sanitatio n; lack of privacy; deprivation of proper food/water.



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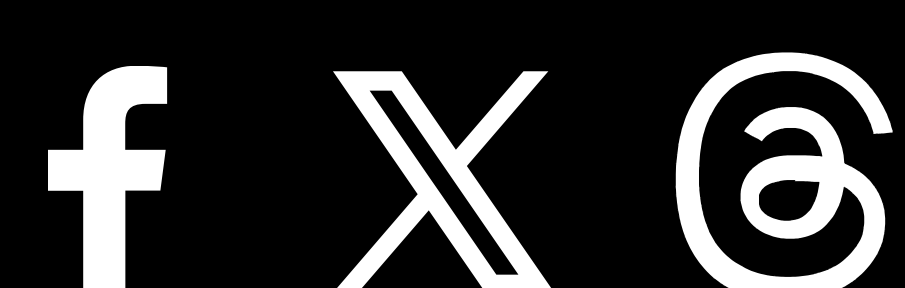
NETWORK STRUCTURE AND CONTACT

BVMN is a volunteer led endeavor, acting as an alliance of organisations in the Western Balkans and Greece. BVMN is based on the efforts of partner organizations working in the field of documentation, media, advocacy and litigation.

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For further information regarding this report or more on how to become involved please email us at mail@borderviolence.eu.

For press and media requests please contact: press@borderviolence.eu



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