

29/08/2017

## **"WHEN FILLING IN THE DOCUMENT, THEY WERE ASKED TO LEAVE THE SPACE FOR AGE BLANK, SO THAT THE MINORS COULD BE REGISTERED AS BEING OVER 18"**

**Date and time:** August 29, 2017 01:00

**Location:** Zagreb, Croatia

**Coordinates:** 45.8150108 , 15.981918899999982

**Push-back from:** Croatia

**Push-back to:** Serbia

**Demographics:** 4 person(s), age: unknown , from: Afghanistan

**Minors involved?** Yes

**Violence used:** beating (with batons/hands/other), theft of personal belongings

**Police involved:** 15 policemen from Croatia, green and violet uniforms

**Taken to a police station?:** yes

**Treatment at police station or other place of detention:** detention, personal information taken, denial of food/water

**Was the intention to ask for asylum expressed?:** Yes

**Reported by:** Rigardu

### **ORIGINAL REPORT**

On August 29th. 2017, a group of four people from Afghanistan, two of them minors, were caught by Croatian police in Zagreb. They took them to the police station, where they were kept for 9-10 hours. The Police officers collected their mobile phones and put handcuffs on them. They asked for food and water, as they were very hungry, but were only given water. One person had severe shoulder pain (which he got while jumping from the train). He asked for a doctor. The doctor checked the shoulder and said everything was okay. The person later had to visit a doctor in Serbia and still cannot move the shoulder and is taking pain-killers. When they asked for asylum, the officer said he couldn't process this because his boss is currently away. When filling in the document, they were asked to leave the space for age blank (so that the minors could be registered as being over 18).

They were brought to the Croatian border, at the railway tracks near Tovarnik, on the Croatian side, in three white vans. There were about 15 Croatian police officers in green and violet uniforms. When leaving the van, the police opened the backdoor of the van, queued up in two lines and told them to run. While the group was running back they hit them with batons. The interviewee was hit twice in the back, twice on the butt. Also the minors were hit.