

20/11/2017

## **"THE POLICE FORCED THE MEN TO STAND UP TOWARDS THE BACK OF THE VAN, HANDS RAISED BEHIND THEIR NECK AND SPRAYED THEM WITH PEPPER SPRAY"**

**Date and time:** November 20, 2017 03:00

**Location:** Near Horgos, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 46.174053 , 19.931763

**Push-back from:** Hungary

**Push-back to:** Serbia

**Demographics:** 6 person(s), age: unknown , from: Afghanistan

**Minors involved?** Yes

**Violence used:** beating (with batons/hands/other), kicking, pepper spray, dog attacks, destruction of personal belongings, theft of personal belongings, reckless driving

**Police involved:** Hungarian male border police officers with blue uniforms

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

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

**Reported by:** Rigardu

### **ORIGINAL REPORT**

On November 19th-20th. 2017 at night, 6 men walked from Horgos, Serbia, across the Serbian-Hungarian border. They were caught by several border police officers with small blue police cars, about 3 km from the border on November 20th. at about at 3 am. The police forced the men to stand up towards the back of the van, hands raised behind their neck and sprayed them with pepper spray for about 5 minutes. Afterwards they surrounded the men, so that several police officers were around each of the men. The police officers kicked them all over their bodies and hit them for about 10 minutes. The police had 3 police dogs on leashes, which they released, ordering them to attack the men.

The interviewee protected himself with a blanket, but his friend got bitten in his arm. Afterwards the police searched their bodies and belongings, they found small scissors in the pocket of the interviewee and used them to cut his phone charger and shoelaces. They also broke two phones from the other men. The men expressed their intention to seek asylum, so the police asked for their personal details and destination, but didn't give them any written documents.

Next the police handcuffed the men, in squat position and transported them in a big police van to the Serbian-Hungarian border near the catchment place. The police drove really fast (about 200 km/h), so that the men in the back of the car were being thrown around. At the border, on the same night at 4am, the police ordered the men to go back to the Serbian side, so the men ran away to Horgos, Serbia.