

30/11/2018

## **"THEN TWO OFFICERS TOOK BATONS OUT OF THEIR CAR AND WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING, THEY STARTED TO BEAT THEM, TELLING THEM NOT TO COME TO CROATIA AGAIN"**

**Date and time:** November 30, 2018 00:06

**Location:** Županja, Croatia, near a petrol station in Županja

**Coordinates:** 45.07822609827917 , 18.697039205310034

**Push-back from:** Croatia

**Push-back to:** Serbia

**Demographics:** 3 person(s), age: 17, 17, 20 , from: Afghanistan

**Minors involved?** Yes

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

**Police involved:** 4 officers wearing blue uniform, speaking mainly Croatian and a little bit of English, aged around 45 years old. One of them, recognized as the boss, was wearing stars on his blue uniform

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

**Was the intention to ask for asylum expressed?:** No

**Reported by:** No Name Kitchen

### **ORIGINAL REPORT**

The group of three left Serbia and soon after crossed the border to Croatia. After four days of walking through the forests the three of them, including two 17-years-old minors, were arrested between November 30 and December 1, 2018 , close to a petrol station in Županja, but at different times. Four officers arrested two of them at 6 am and brought them to a police station close by.

The officers asked them what they were doing in the forest and where their boss was. The officers also checked their GPS data on their phones. While checking the phones, one officer pointed at one individual, declaring that he was the boss. Then two officers took batons out of their car and without saying anything, they started beating them, telling them not to come to Croatia again, and shouting questions. Other officers told the violent ones to stop. The violence occurred for about ten minutes and the one individual being accused of being the boss began to bleed.

Afterwards, the officers told them not to come again to Croatia, and that Afghani and Pakistani people weren't welcome there.

*"No Pakistani, no!"*

The group was asked again about the identity of their boss as well as their destination country. One of them answered he wanted to reach France, to which one officer answered:

*"No, you will not. It is my job to stop you people from coming in Europe."*

At the end of the conversation the officer told them they would bring them to Šid, and then beat them again for 10 minutes.

At 2 pm, the third individual came to the petrol station where the other two had been caught before. The respondent supposes, that the owner might have called the authorities which arrived shortly after him to arrested him. He was pushed-back to Šid between 2 and 4 pm, while the other two were pushed-back earlier at 8 am in a large car. Their money and phones were taken, the latter got smashed. The two of them didn't ask for asylum.