08/03/2019

"no, you will not get asylum here!"

Date and time: March 8, 2019 09:00 **Location:** near Komesarac, Croatia

Coordinates: 45.10001096018364, 15.772490684475088

Demographics: 6 men, 25-30 years old from Irak, Morocco, Eritrea

Minors involved? No

Violence used: stealing personal belongings, insulting

Police involved: 5 police officers

Was the intention to ask for asylum expressed?: Yes

What was the reaction to this intention?: The officer at the police station were laughing and said: "no asylum here!"

Reported by: Border Violence Monitoring

Original Report

On the 8th of March 2019 at 7:00 am, a group of 6 men aged 25-30 started to walk from Velika Kladusa to Sturlic. Then they walked 5-10 km and crossed the border to Croatia. They kept walking for 3 hours through the Croatian forest. After hearing the sound of a drone in the forest, and seeing a camera, the group faced 3 men in military uniforms telling the migrants to stop.

"We were in a kind of military area"

The military brought them to the police station. At this point, their phones and personal items (money, cigarettes, IOM camp card) were taken by the police officers. The whole group applied for asylum but they got a negative answer.

"They were laughing and said 'no, you will not get asylum here!' "

After they took all personals belongings, the migrants also had to write their names, nationalities and parents names before being photographed. Finally they had to sign documents without any translation, not even after asking for it. The whole group was held at the station for 5 hours. After applying for asylum again and being ignored again, they were brought by "two cars" to the border without food, water, camp's card, money, phone.

"At this moment we were far away from the first city and you know, without phone means without map!"

A few days later, one of the stolen phones was obviously used by the Croatian police to get information about other people on social networks.