

## **Human rights violations at international borders: Trends, prevention and accountability**

Contribution from  
PORTUGAL

**Please provide information on any recently adopted domestic legislation amending border entry, asylum, and other international protection procedures for non-nationals since May 2021.**

Since May 2021, there have been no amendments to domestic legislation related to border, entry, asylum and other international protection procedures, with the exception of temporary restrictions at external and internal borders aimed at controlling the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Please provide information on recent or current border management legislation/policies/measures, (including those temporary measures as part of a state of emergency), with the view to control, reduce or prevent migrant arrivals in your country.**

As part of the state of emergency, with a view to fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, temporary measures were applied to external and internal borders. These included the temporary reintroduction of border control at internal land borders (between Spain and Portugal) and some restrictions to sea and air travel, aimed at controlling the pandemic.

**Please provide information on how the “safe third country” concept is applied and if there is any “safe third country” list in your country with the view to expedite border immigration and asylum procedures, as well as on any bilateral and multilateral agreement on collective/automatic re-admission of migrants of specific nationalities.**

Portugal does not have a specific and/or comprehensive list of “safe third countries” with a view to expedite border immigration and asylum procedures. Every individual or family situation is assessed on a case-by-case basis. Similarly, Portugal has some readmission agreements with third countries, but Portugal does not apply any collective or automatic readmission procedures, since every situation is assessed on a case-by-case basis.

**Please provide information on any progress made in developing independent border monitoring mechanism(s) at the national level.**

Regarding independent border monitoring mechanisms, Portugal has an independent entity – IGAI (Inspectorate General of Home Affairs) – which assures this function. They also monitor forced returns. Furthermore, a protocol was established with the Portuguese Bar Association (*Ordem dos Advogados*), making lawyer support available anytime a migrant requests it at national air borders.