

Athens, 20 June 2022

Regarding the consultation on draft General Comment No. 1 on Enforced Disappearances in the context of Migration, we would like to request the consideration of our written contribution submitted in March 2022 in view of the 22nd session, especially Sections II and III summarizing testimonies of victims of pushbacks collected by GCR and partner organizations and GCR's litigation before national Courts and the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)

Furthermore, we would like to inform the Committee that since March 2022 our organization has represented cases of Turkish refugees and Syrian refugees stranded on islets in river Evros before the ECtHR by filing 13 applications for interim measures (Rule 39), requesting to be granted humanitarian assistance and access to the asylum procedure. The Court granted the requested interim measures and ordered the Greek government not to remove the refugees from the country's territory and to provide them with food, water and proper medical care. The ECtHR also requested to be informed by the Greek government, amongst others, on whether the Syrian refugees have submitted an asylum application and whether they have access to the asylum procedure and to legal assistance.

#### **List of cases**

1. Application no. 13624/22, A.A. and others v. Greece, interim measures granted on 16/3/2022.  
30 Syrian refugees including children. One child fell in the river and allegedly drowned during pushback operation. Applicants were rescued after being stranded on an islet in river Evros. Joint representation with the organization Human Rights 360 -a full application has been submitted before the Court.
2. Application no. 18341/22, B.M. and Others v. Greece, interim measures granted on 13/4/2022.  
27 Syrian refugees including 5 children were rescued.
3. Application no. 18940/22, A.D. and Others v. Greece, interim measures granted on 19/4/2022.

- 37 Syrian refugees including 17 children complain that they were pushed back from Greece to Turkey, while the Court's decision was pending. GCR submitted a full application before the Court. Some of the applicants entered Greece again and they are stranded on an islet in Evros since 15/6.
4. Application no. 18941/22, H.A. and Others v. Greece, interim measures granted on 19/4/2022.  
46 Syrian refugees including 10 children were rescued.
  5. Application no. 19419/22, K.M.I. and Others v. Greece, interim measures granted on 21/4/2022.  
39 Syrian refugees including 9 children complain that they were pushed back from Greece to Turkey twice. The second pushback took place after the Court's decision. A woman in need of haemodialysis allegedly died on the islet. Some of them entered Greece again and were rescued. A full application has been submitted by GCR before the Court.
  6. Application no. 21131/22, A.A. and Others v. Greece, interim measures granted on 4/5/2022.  
14 Syrian refugees complain that they were pushed back from Greece to Turkey. Some of the applicants entered Greece again and were rescued. A full application will be submitted by GCR before the Court.
  7. Application no. 21039/22, S.S. and Others v. Greece, interim measures granted on 29/4/2022.  
12 Syrian refugees including 3 children complain that they were pulled back from an islet to Turkey. Some of them entered Greece again. Stranded on islet since 15/6.
  8. Application no. 23128/22, F.R. and Others v. Greece, interim measures granted on 11/5/2022  
39 Syrian refugees including 13 children complain that they were pulled back from an islet to Turkey. Some of them entered Greece again and they are stranded on islet since 15/6.
  9. Application regarding five Turkish refugees, interim measures granted on 27/5/2022.  
Applicants complain that they were pushed-back from Greece to Turkey, while the Court's decision was pending. Joint representation with the organization Refugee Support Aegean.

10. Application regarding seven Turkish refugees, interim measures granted on 27/5/2022  
Applicants complain that they were pushed-back from Greece to Turkey while the Court's decision was pending.
  
11. Application no. 25806/22 - H.M. and Others v. Greece and 15 other applications, interim measures granted on 25/5/2022.  
93 Syrian refugees complain that they were pushed-back from Greece to Turkey after the Court's decision. Joint representation with the organization Human Rights 360.
  
12. Application no. 26558/22, H. M. v. Greece and 6 other applications, interim measures granted on 1/6/2022.  
Some of the applicants in Application no. 25806/22 entered Greece again together with 28 other refugees. Applicants complain that they were pushed-back from Greece to Turkey after the Court's decision. Joint representation with the organization Human Rights 360.
  
13. Application no. 29655/22 - M.A. and Others v. Greece and 13 other cases, interim measures granted on 17/6/2022.  
18 Syrian refugees including 7 children are stranded on an islet in Evros since 15/6 together with applicants of cases A.D., S.S. and F.R. v. Greece.