



JOB OFFER

SUPERVISION AND COORDINATION OF MONITORING WORK IN THE BALKANS

Border Violence Monitoring offers a part-time position in order to support actors on the ground in their monitoring work.

ABOUT BORDER VIOLENCE MONITORING

BVM originated in 2016 when grassroots groups involved in humanitarian assistance in the region first became aware of the more and more systematic practice of violent push-backs at the EU external borders and began to document such cases. As grassroots initiatives usually have a big amount of knowledge about the illegal practices of European border guards but not necessarily the capacities to work on a consistent and profound documentation, BVM was initiated to collect and distribute this knowledge. From the beginning, we worked towards building a strong network committed to an exhaustive documentation of these human rights abuses happening at the doorstep of the European Union. In cooperation with our partners in Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro and Greece we have developed a common framework for the recording of testimonials and supporting evidence which we publish on a website (www.borderviolence.eu). The database contains 506 case reports by now and serves as a basis of facts for advocacy work undertaken by us and others.

BVM understands itself as a network, whereby it originated from a working group of Rigardu e.V. and still uses the infrastructure of this association. Therefore Rigardu e.V., which is based in Germany, will be the official employer for the position offered. We are a young organisation and do not have any permanent employees yet, instead we currently all work on a voluntary basis.

JOB PURPOSE

- supervision of the collection of push-back evidence in the Balkans for political and legal interest representation
- continuous documentation of push-backs and police violence through contact with and support for organisations and individual volunteers who collect testimonies
- training of the volunteers and organizations involved, as well as further improvement of the standards and guidelines for collecting reports in close cooperation with the NGO No Name Kitchen
- evaluation of various sources on both the current situation and the long-term development at the EU external borders to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia
- coordination of the writing of a monthly report with academic quality based on the data collected by BVM volunteers in the field and partner organizations as well as background information, providing new information and evaluating developments
- contact person in the region for journalists as well as for advocacy work



A consistent and reliable documentation is to be ensured and coordinated with all actors collecting testimonies in the region. Coordination of volunteers including detailed introductions and supervisions of new volunteers is a key task as well as being a contact person for all volunteers involved in the documentation. As personal connections are crucial in this field of work, the person would ideally be based in the region and regularly visiting the different actors. Also, you will be responsible for expanding the network of people collecting case reports. This includes establishing new collaborations, i.e. in North Macedonia and Bulgaria. Improving the report system for scientific exploitation through statistics will further contribute to the potential of the database as a source of information for political work. Important findings are to be summarised in a monthly report for politicians, the media and academics.

It is important to maintain a constant exchange of information and cooperation with the rest of the BVM team and the BVM advocacy officer in Brussels.

HARD FACTS

- mobile office, regular presence on the Balkans expected
- starting on September 1st, initially for a period of 6 months (can be extended)
- 1.245 Euro salary per month
- travel expenses will be covered
- 30 working hours per week

PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS

- a person with strong social skills, proactive and eloquent
- experienced in working with NGOs
- ability to cope with a stressful working environment and stories of trauma
- familiarity with the situation in the Balkan region, field experience
- high proficiency in English, at best other languages (Croatian/Bosnian, Arabic, Pashto, Urdu)
- readiness to travel and visit the different places at the EU borders as part of the work
- preconditions for a German working contract (e.g. EU citizen)
- high degree of independence, good communication skills, organisational skills & structured working methods
- experience in the processing and analysis of data sets and according to scientific standards
- good writing skills and experience in academic and political writing

APPLICATION

If interested, please submit your documents (letter of motivation and CV) via e-mail at jobs@borderviolence.eu by **July 24th**. If successful, you will be contacted at the beginning of August for the second selection process through an interview (skype is possible). Final decision will be announced by mid-August.