

Figures on evictions from informal settlements :



There were no evictions of the living sites in June 2023.



At least 7 displaced people arrested during a police operation. At least 10 more people were detained and handcuffed with plastic ties before being released during the same operation.



At least 50 Unaccompanied Minors (UAMs) met by the associations**

Although there have been no evictions this month in Grande-Synthe and Loon-Plage, the political strategy of combating "fixation points" is still very much in evidence.

Following the two major evictions that took place on 4 and 5 May this year, **a new living site** appeared in the commune of Loon-Plage, on an area reserved for travellers. The **Communauté Urbaine de Dunkerque** (CUD) refused to place a rubbish skip and to provide access to water on the site, preferring to file **an urgent application for interim relief with the Tribunal Administratif** de Lille, on the pretext that the site was reserved for the summer. Posting the summary proceedings at the site and announcing the date of the hearing enabled **four people living there to gain access to the court, to lodge applications and to be represented by a lawyer**. HRO followed up with the Salam association to inform the people concerned, and coordinated the collection of evidence with the lawyer.

The hearing took place on 31 May, and **the judge authorised the eviction** in a summary order issued on 12 June. Since then, the people who had booked the travel area have arrived and settled elsewhere. However, the eviction is still pending and is likely to take place in July.



There were no evictions in June, which gave the displaced people some breathing space. However, there were several police interventions, including a judicial police operation that HRO monitored on the morning of 7 June.

The operation began very early, at around 7.30am. **Several people testified that they were violently woken up, handcuffed with very tight plastic ties** (HRO saw the marks on their wrists), put on their knees for around thirty minutes and then released. They said they did not understand what was happening. The operation lasted all morning, with HRO observing a **very large police convoy** comprising at least 11 CRS vans, 7 Border Police vans, 19 unmarked cars and 1 National Police car.

Harassment of observers during evictions:



Several attempts to intimidate associations and obstruct observation work :

During the police operation on 7 June, **the HRO team was perimetered 3 times** by 3 different types of police : two hooded and heavily armed officers from the Brigade de Recherche et d'Intervention (BRI), three CRS officers armed with LBDs and officers from the Police Nationale. It was not possible to observe the actions of the law enforcement officers, only to see the **7 people arrested** being loaded into the Border Police vans.

During the perimeter set up by the BRI, the officers became aggressive and asked HRO to leave after realising that they were being filmed.

Finally, HRO was checked and id-checked by the National Police at another perimeter. The officer was aggressive and **threatened the HRO members with police custody**. The HRO members were filmed without prior notification and escorted several hundred metres to leave the area.

Our data are based on our observations and are therefore not exhaustive.

*** The number of reports made to the authorities is lower than the actual number of unaccompanied children present and at risk in Dunkirk and the surrounding area during the month of June 2023. In this area, unlike Calais, no association mandated by the State has specific activities targeting UAMs or is able to carry out this precise identification work. One fact remains: repeated expulsions are a source of increased fragility, or even disappearance, for these children, both girls and boys, and therefore of increased risks of trafficking and exploitation (Source: Utopia 56).*