

Figures on evictions from informal settlements :



At least 1 eviction of 1 informal living site



At least 65 Unaccompanied Minors (UAMs) met by the associations**



At least 1 construction machine used this month on the evicted site

Last month, **a ruling by the Administrative Court of Lille authorised the eviction of people from the Loon-Plage Travellers' Area.** The main reason given by the Communauté Urbaine de Dunkerque was a summer booking, but it turned out that **the people who had booked never came to settle on this area**, which does not meet the standards required to accommodate large caravans.

Regardless of that, **the eviction took place** on 13 July, i.e. a month after the judge's decision and at least three weeks after the date initially planned for the people who had booked to move in.

Following the eviction, **concrete blocks were installed at the entrance of the road leading to the travellers' site.** These blocks prevent any vehicles from entering the site. The aim of the operation does not seem to have been to allow people who had booked to move in, but rather **to make the displaced people already there leave and to prevent associations from doing distributions along the road.**



The eviction of the living site took place on July 13, but the way it was carried out was quite different from other evictions. HRO was not on site and other associations witnessed the operation.

The operation did not start early, as usual, but at around 11am, when a police car entered the area to ask people to leave. The officers warned that they would be back at 2pm.

In the afternoon, a convoy of national police and border police carried out the eviction. No shelter was offered. Displaced people were escorted out of the camp and resettled on living sites that had been evicted in recent months, as they had no other alternative. Concrete blocks were then installed at the end of the afternoon.

Combating fixing points :

Although evictions have become less frequent over the last three months. The fight against the fixation points continues. The situation is not improving.

Living conditions are as precarious as ever. Access to water is only possible thanks to associations. The State has made no provision, and the local authorities do not provide any sanitary services directly in the settlements.

Nor is there any provision for waste management. A rubbish skip has nevertheless been requested several times by the associations working on the sites.

About evictions :

Most of the displaced people between Grande-Synthe, Loon-plage and Mardyck live on land belonging to the Port Autonome de Dunkerque. The evictions are carried out by means of a court order, which the authorities reuse over several months, without any prior hearing and in an unpredictable manner. In addition to the precarious and unstable situation of the people living there, there is the risk of eviction every morning.

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 July 2023. In this area, unlike Calais, no association mandated by the State has specific activities targeting UFM 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).*