

Summer School on Human Rights – Webinar 8

Rights of Minorities during COVID 19 - Dr Torsten Moritz – CCME

COVID AND REFUGEES, MIGRANTS AND MINORITY ETHNIC PEOPLE (AND ECHR)

- RIGHT TO LIFE Art 2 : How do you stay at home is difficult if you don't have one, how do you keep distance if you are locked up with 6 in a small room? (not to mention hygiene)
- RIGHT TO LIFE Art 2: Refugees, migrants and minority ethnic people overrepresented among infected and deaths (working in frontline jobs, no real opportunity to stay at home, discrimination in access to health) and often first hit by unemployment
- LIBERTY AND SECURITY Art 5: Groups on one hand affected by “lock them up logic” – increased and prolonged detention, with limited and confined space increasing health risks, risk of violence and risks of exploitation. For example in Greece prolonged – tourists welcome for a months, asylum seekers locked up On the other hand, cases of forced testing or out on the street due to closed reception facilities.
- FAMILY LIFE Art.8: seeing or reuniting with your foreign (in particular non-European) family not seen as essential travel....
- EFFECTIVE REMIDY Art 13: review of e.g. detention problematic, no access for NGOs in legal support
- PROHIBITION DISCRIMINATION Art 14: “all in this together” ????
- DEROGATIONS Art. 15: was any of this covered by Art 15 ?
- Some positive impact e.g. regularisation of migrants, release from detention, access to health and other social services irrespective of status. Early opening of possibility to work for asylum seekers
- Assistance of churches and others to these groups very difficult in view of health risks but also as e.g. reception centres in full quarantine

ON THE QUESTION ABOUT DE-CONGESTING CAMP LIKE THE ONES ON GREEK ISLANDS:

<https://ccme.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/2020-03-26-Urgent-appeal-ENG-DE.pdf>