

PRESS RELEASE

The CCBE expresses its concerns over the potential creation of controlled centres and landing platforms for migrants

23/10/2018

The CCBE stresses the need to guarantee legal assistance to all asylum seekers.

In the context of ongoing discussions at EU level concerning the management of migration and following the EU Summit that took place in Brussels last week, [the CCBE has adopted a statement](#) expressing its concerns over the possible creation of controlled centres and landing platforms for migrants.

This idea, launched by EU leaders during the June European Council, aims to set up controlled centres within the European Union, as well as regional landing platforms in third countries, in particular North African countries.

Le CCBE express its concerns on this idea and recalls that the determination of refugee status must be accompanied by certain safeguards, in particular legal assistance for asylum seekers, in accordance with European Asylum Directives.

However, these safeguards are already not being guaranteed in existing hotspots, in particular on the Greek island of Lesbos where legal assistance to migrants has to be provided by voluntary initiatives such as [European lawyers in Lesbos](#) (ELIL) which was launched by the CCBE and the German Bar Association in 2016.

The CCBE stresses that, should new structures be created, they should provide the necessary human and financial resources to ensure that legal assistance provided by qualified legal practitioners is available to all asylum seekers.

About the CCBE:

The Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE) represents the Bars and Law Societies of 45 countries, and through them more than 1 million European lawyers. The defence of the Rule of Law, human rights and access to justice are among the most important missions of the CCBE.

For further information,
please contact Paula Garrido Ramos
Communications and Public Affairs
Tel: +32 (0)2 234 65 10
E-mail: garrido@ccbe.eu