

WE ARE MONITORING

Statistics

21-27.09.2023

The following study contains first-hand data from people participating in the events described. We would like to thank all humanitarian organisations operating in the Polish-Belarusian border area and individuals working with them for providing us with reports of their interventions. Our sources include organisations, informal initiatives as well as individuals, often wishing to remain anonymous, so we do not mention them by name unless they have given us permission to do so. Special thanks are due to all those on the move who have chosen to share their own experiences with us.

Humanitarian workers and those working with them emphasise that the difficult context and ethics of their work often prevent them from obtaining more detailed information about the stories and situations of people on the move. During interventions, many are in such a poor psycho-physiological state that it is not possible to obtain more data without putting them at risk of retraumatization or making them feel that they owe humanitarian organisations any answers to their questions by virtue of receiving material or legal support from them.

The described interventions and support provided to persons on the move took place on the territory of the Podlaskie and Lubelskie Voivodeships. For persons in Belarus, information is provided on the legal situation and access to procedures for applying for international protection in Poland and Belarus.

We hope that this brief outline of the context will help you to better understand the current dynamics of events in the border region with Belarus. For additional questions and recommendations from individuals or organisations who might also be interested in receiving the reports, please contact wearemonitoring@gmail.com.

Quantitative Summary

	groups	individuals	children (inc. UASC ¹)	women (inc. pregnant)
Requests total	20	84	5 (5)	3
Requests from BY / inc. sistema²	5/4	51/35	2(2)/2(2)	1/1
Support provided	13	31	3(3)	2
• In-kind support / inc. in hospitals	10/3	27/4	3(3)/1	2
• legal aid / inc. in hospitals	3/3	4/4	1(1)/1(1)	-
• medical PL / BY³	4/-	8/-	3(3)/-	-
Reported pushbacks	6	19	2(2)	-
Reported missing persons⁴	1	1	-	1
Reported violence PL / BY	4/4	18/19	2(2)/3(3)	-
Border induced injuries	3	3	-	-
Field interventions			15	

¹ Unaccompanied minors. Persons under the age of 18 traveling unaccompanied by legal guardians.

² Sistema is the generally accepted term for the border fortifications on the Belarusian side. Here: it also refers to the area between Poland and Belarus in the strip between the border fortifications of both countries.

³ The migrants were redirected to a branch of 'Doctors Without Borders', an organisation operating in Belarus.

⁴ We consider people to be missing when they have been reported missing by their next of kin in circumstances where they have had no contact with the reported person for at least three days.

Countries of Origin

