

Calais has been a migratory dead-end for more than 15 years, concentrating in informal camps migrants determined to cross the Channel and join the British land.

Recently, this well-known situation has been getting worse with a strong increase of arrivals since mid-2014 : the migrant population jumped from 400, at the beginning of 2014, to more than 5 000 since summer 2015. If traditionally Calais migrants' population was almost only composed of single men, we have been observing more and more single women, families. Moreover, still 10/15 % of the population is unaccompanied minors. Those more vulnerable groups are facing risk of exploitation and human trafficking in camps managed by smugglers and where police intervention is complex and sensitive.

From 2015, NGO's and volunteers received more and more indirect testimonies of sexual abuses. France terre d'asile, supported by French and British governments, decides to launch a project (November 2015) to strengthen local capacities to identify and referral victims and potential victims of human trafficking.

Based on a daily outreach fieldwork, the 6 first months of our action confirmed existence of exploitation situations in Calais but also the huge challenges NGO's and institutions have to face together in order to take appropriate measures to tackle this dramatic reality.

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France terre d'asile has been taking action in Calais since 2009. We offer legal information to migrants about asylum and manage a unaccompanied minors protection centre.

France terre d'asile is running a [campaign calling for the family reunification to the UK of children](#) living in appalling conditions in Calais. Feel free sharing it and follow updates on social media.

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