

# Pushed back at the door: denial of access to asylum in Eastern EU Member States

## *Invitation to the launch event and the press conference*

We would like to cordially invite you to the launch event taking place on the 25 January 2017 in Prague (European House, 1 pm, Jungmannova 24, Prague 1) with the presence of key civil society organisations acting in the field of refugee protection in Central Europe, most of them member agencies of ECRE – the European Council on Refugees and Exiles. They will present their brand new report concerning the unlawful practice of push-backs (*refoulement*) of refugees at the external borders of the EU in Central Europe as well as highlight unlawful or very problematic deterrence measures applied vis-a-vis the people in need of protection such as detention or prolongation of the RSD procedures.

### **Program of the event:**

- 13:00 Presentations of the push-back report by lawyers from Bulgaria, Hungary, Slovenia, the Czech Republic and Poland.
- 13:40 Questions and answers followed by individual interviews with journalists
- 14:00 – 14.15 Break
- 14:15 Presentations of other unlawful or problematic deterrence measures against refugees in Bulgaria, Hungary, Slovenia, the Czech Republic and Poland with inputs from Germany, Austria and Switzerland.
- 15:30 Discussion

The event is organised jointly by ECRE Member Agencies from Central Europe and the Czech Organisation for Aid to Refugees (OPU). Please confirm your participation at the email [marketa.hrusovska@opu.cz](mailto:marketa.hrusovska@opu.cz) A valid ID with picture will be required at the entrance door.

Co-funded by the  
Europe for Citizens Programme  
of the European Union

