

Isolation in Disguise



**AN EXPLANATION FOR THE INCREASING
VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR BY THE BORDER
POLICE AGAINST REFUGEES IN MACEDONIA
AND SERBIA.**

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60.089

(Amnesty International, 2015)

‘Balkan Route’ (Amnesty International, 2015)



Research question



- Can the increasing violent behaviour portrayed by the border police be explained by their respective institutional environment?

Methodology



- Literature study
- NGO reports
- Policy reports
- Academic journals & books

- Focus group, NOT individual -> more easy to alter than individual behaviour (e.g. through change in policy)

Isolation in disguise?



Organizational structure

- Code of Police Ethics:
 - ✓ Macedonia
 - ✓ Serbia

Increasing incentive?

(Lersch K and Mieczkowski T, 2005)

Group dynamics

- External influences
- Internal influences
- Socialization?

Conclusion: Building Bridges



- Lack clear disciplinary sanctions
- Group dynamics (internal & external)
- Isolation in disguise

Limitations research



- Inability of retrieving empirical evidence
- Only English (translated) documents used
- Unable to make own observations on the spot
- Further research necessary:
 - ✓ National studies
 - ✓ Specific empirical evidence
 - ✓ Refugees as an isolated group? (“illegal migrants”)
 - ✓ Micro (individual) level research

Thank you for your attention



ANY QUESTIONS?