



**Knock knock.
Are we there?**

On the eve of UN Human Rights Day, Begijnhofplein, in cooperation with the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Europe organizes an evening on:

"Building safe havens or new walls around Europe?"

December 9th, 2014

7PM - 9PM

**Begijnhofplein 7
Brussels**



www.kerknet.be/parochie/5152/

www.jrseurope.org



Knock knock.

Are we there?

Recent developments in confronting the plight of migrants and refugees crossing the Mediterranean Sea, show a shift from humanitarian action by individual member states to EU border control that will increase the risk of people drowning while crossing these waters under unsafe conditions.

Are we responding with "if we keep saving these lives they will keep crossing" or are we addressing the reality of increasing numbers of people fleeing severely distressed countries and offer them a chance to improve their lives and saving Europe's reputation of a safe haven.

The Begijnhofplein initiative, in cooperation with JRS, is hosting an evening to present the current situation of refugees crossing the Mediterranean and on the basis of experiences in supporting them, seeks to offer a new European direction in providing hospitality to refugees and migrants.



Program

- 19:00 Crossing the Mediterranean, experiences and current rescue efforts**
- 19:15 The situation in Sicily, Oscar Spooner, JRS**
- 19:40 Safe and legal ways to protection in Europe: A Christian organisations' initiative, Stefan Kessler. JRS**
- 20:00 Discussion on JRS initiative and situation in Brussels/Belgium, moderated by Jean Marie Carrière, JRS director
Participants: Claudia Bonami (VLUCHTELINGEN VLAANDEREN),
Caroline Antrand (CIRE) and Hilde Geraets (ORBIT)**
- 20:30 Ceremony in memory of the 'unknown drowned migrant' led by Daniel Alliet, Begijnhofplein**
- 20:45 Refreshments**