



Lagadikia (IHA) 7 December 2021



Mahfodh Zerevan, 34

I am from Kurdistan, Duhok.

I left in 2018. I left because I had lots of problems.

My father was a road builder and because the government didn't pay him, he couldn't pay his workers. Some big families became involved and because I am my father's son I was threatened many times. They came to my house.

In Duhok I worked buying, selling and renting out cars. It was a good job. But because of the threats I had to leave. My life was in danger.

So I went to Turkey, and stayed for two months, while I saved money to continue. I travelled by boat to Rhodes, where they arrested me and kept me in prison for 14 days. Then I was transferred to Leros.

Leros was OK. There were good people there. Other refugees, and organisations with good people. They were nice.

But I was there for ten months, and I received one negative decision while I was there.

Then, I was transferred to the mainland, to Grevena, where I lived in a hotel. I was there for a year, and then they moved me here to Lagadikia, where I live in the camp.

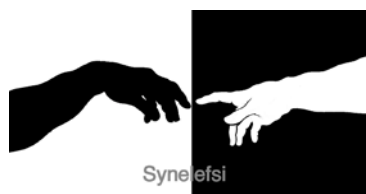
It's not good here. Two years ago, I received a second rejection. But I also had a certificate from the doctor, because I have a medical problem and when I showed this to the Greek government they said I would receive an ID, and they gave me a certificate to show I will receive this ID.

As soon as they did this, however, they cut my cash.

This was in January 2020. It will be two years next month since they cut my cash and I also have not received the ID.

We have only survived by being sent money. Friends, uncles, cousins have helped me to stay alive. But now they have no money. So I tried to go to Athens, where I thought at least I would find some work, but I am not allowed to go.

I have a younger brother in Germany, and he is still helping us a little.





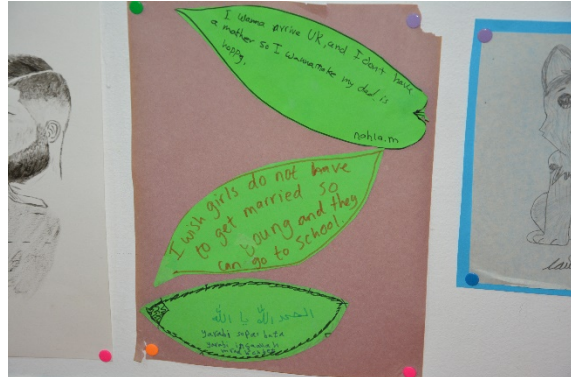
I have a seven year-old daughter and a new baby boy, who is seven months old. But he has still not been registered in Greece. I am not even allowed to register my baby's name. He is called Nivo, but according to Greece he has no name.

I was not even allowed to get him vaccinated, but **IOM** helped me with that last month.

My family needs milk, we need money. We need lots of things, the things a family needs.

No-one will let us go anywhere, but if they let me I will go straight away to get a job. I do work when I can but it's only ever one or two days at a time. Because I have no papers I can't work legally.

I would even want to go back to Iraq, but if I do that they will put me in prison Because Iraqi people do not like Kurds they held a trial when I was not there and sentenced me to a year in jail. I didn't do anything wrong.



I told the camp manager I wanted to be deported and he said I shouldn't go because I would go to prison. I said I wanted to leave my family here, and I will go to prison myself in Iraq. I thought I was bringing my family somewhere safe, but this is much worse. I never expected it to be like this.

I came here just for my daughter. And I don't want to go to prison because of her. She is always scared. She is always scared that people will kill me.

If my family is safe, I will go to prison, but who would take care of my family?

It's very bad when your family has a bad life. You see it and live it but you can't do anything. When I was given the two negative decisions, that was for my son, also, and my daughter. I asked the asylum service again, and they rejected me again. I want a new case.

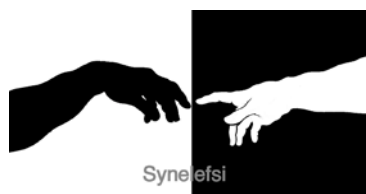
If I receive another rejection they will say I must leave Greece. All my papers and documents are in Athens, now, but I am not allowed to go there. I also paid €280 for an ID I still haven't received. My passport was lost and it has never been returned to me.

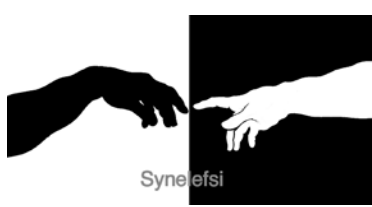
I am waiting for answers but I have no ID.

I can't do anything without ID and I have no idea when it will come. And the government has changed the rules, and have stopped giving out IDs after they told me they would give me one. No-one has told us anything, so I don't know what will happen. I keep checking online, because this is about my family being secure and happy. But they do not care about humans. No-one cares about that.

If I go somewhere else, I will take care. My son is without even a name, and I just want a life for my family.

If I get another rejection I will not be able to stay in the camp. We will go. If the camp manager tells us to leave they will call the police and they will take away a little girl and a baby boy.





I really just want to work. Maybe if I was allowed to go somewhere, I could get a job with my brother at his restaurant in Germany. I could get paid, and I could bring food home for my son and my daughter. That's all I need. I don't need any more than that, just to work, pay my taxes, live a good life. Any job I can find, I will take.

