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Zagreb, Croatia

# Border Deaths along the Balkan Migratory Trail and their Research

Seminar on the Border

Gruszki, 21-24 April 2023



LOKACIA ZA  
KREPNOTAD

[about project](#)[bibliography](#)[e-erim](#)[activities and news](#) ▾[researchers](#)

# ERIM

*The European Irregularized Migration Regime at the Periphery of the EU: from Ethnography to Keywords*



Institut  
za etnologiju  
i folkloristiku



ETNOGRAFSKI  
INSTITUT SANU

Research project *The European Irregularized Migration Regime at the Periphery of the EU: from Ethnography to Keywords* (ERIM) coordinated by [The Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research](#), and financed by [The Croatian Science Foundation](#) (IP 2019-04-6642), strives to document and analyse irregularized migrations in the transnational space formed by migratory movements that in various directions cross borders between Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia etc. Based on the multi-sited ethnographic research (observation, participation, interviews and other methods), research associates from Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia in the framework of ERIM aim to encompass the levels



HRZZ  
Hrvatska zaklada  
za znanost

**CONTACT**



The Passage textile memorial, curated by selma banich, Živi Atelje DK, Zagreb, 24 May 2021. Photo: Nina Đurđević

Deceased, disappeared, detained – documenting migrant trail in the Balkans



**4D is a migrant justice database focused on documenting human losses that occur on the so-called Balkan Route.**



<https://4dtrail.wordpress.com/>



# 4D report form

Deceased, disappeared, detained – documenting migrant trail in the Balkans

mhamersak@gmail.com [Promijeni račun](#)



Naziv i fotografija povezani s vašim Google računom snimit će se kada prenesete datoteke i pošaljete ovaj obrazac.. Vaša e-adresa nije dio vašeg odgovora.

\* Označava obavezno pitanje

Name of the deceased if known:

Vaš odgovor

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Age or date of birth of the deceased:

Vaš odgovor

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### Cemeteries ERIM 2020-

This map is working material based on the ethnographic research conducted within the research project The European Irregularized više

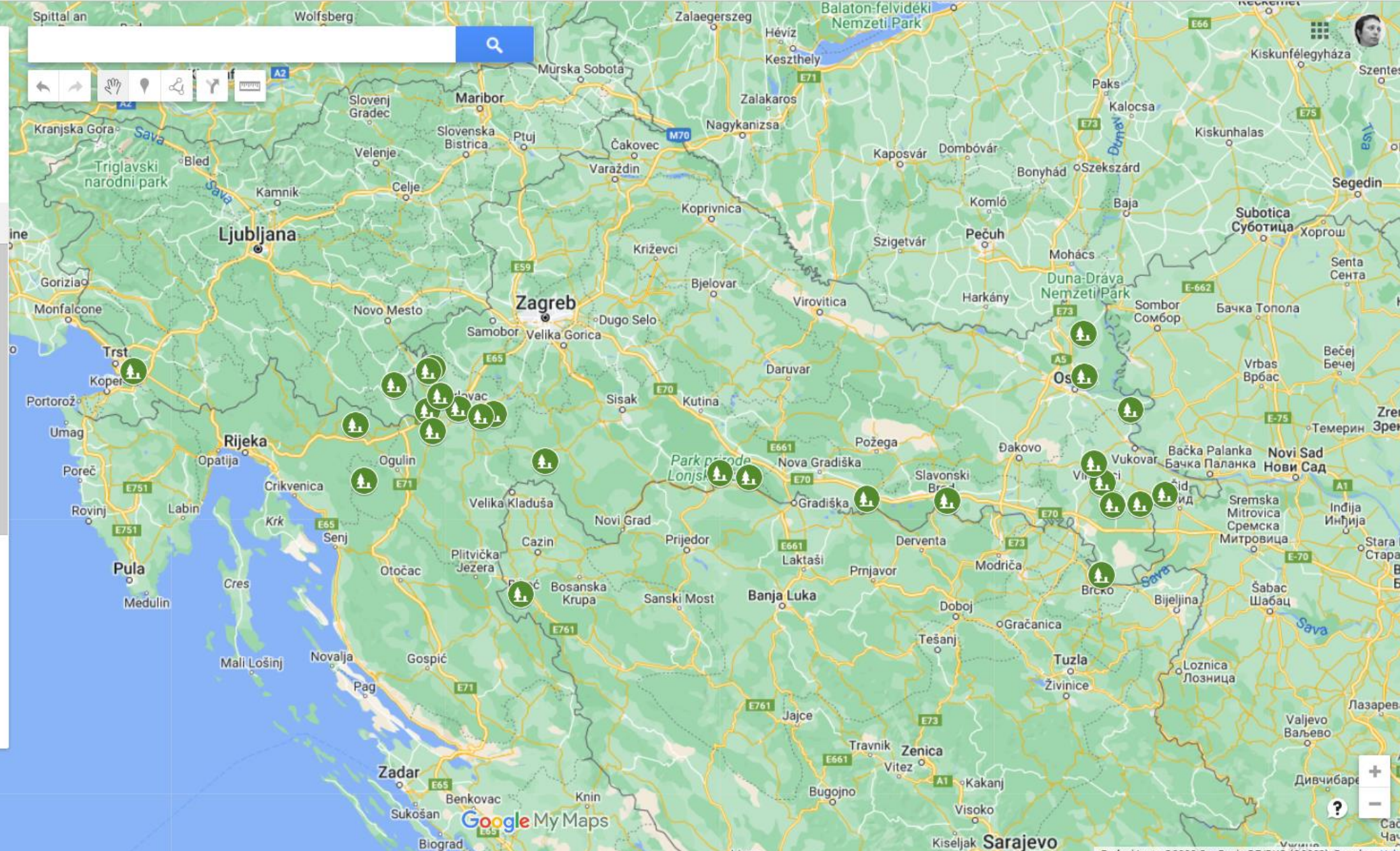
12 prikaza  
Zadnja izmjena je izvršena prije nekoliko sekundi

Dodaj sloj Dijeli Pregled

#### Cemeteries

Individualni stilovi

- Jamadol, cemetery
- Skakavac, cemetery
- Popović Brdo, cemetery
- Kamanje, cemetery
- Prilišće, cemetery
- Lipa, cemetery
- Reštovo, cemetery
- Završje Neretičko
- Mlaka, cemetery
- Vojna Vas, cemetery
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- Moravice, St. Teresa cemetery
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- Otok, cemetery
- Kneževi Vinogradi, cemetery







# ŠOK U RIJEČKOJ LUCI Od trojice slijepih putnika jedan preživio 24-dnevnu plovidbu iz Ekvadora Među nezrelim bananama na brodu Cool Express pronadena dva mrtva Indijanca

Pretpostavlja se da su se trojica Južnoamerikanaca ušuljala na brod u namjeri da se dokopaju neke od sjevernoameričkih luka. Međutim, vjerojatno su pogriješili i zabunom se ukrcali na nizozemski brod koji je krenuo u Europu, putujući tako gotovo mjesec dana umjesto 5-6 dana koliko su planirali

Paša Ilić Turkanović

RIJEKA - Prilikom iskrcavanja banana iz jedne od četiri šive nizozemskoga broda-hladnjače Cool Express, koji je prije dva dana pristigao u riječku luku, jučer ojutro lučki su radnici pronašli mrtva tijela dvojice južnoameričkih slijepih putnika.

Radnici su među paletama banana pronašli i troje, na sreću živog slijepog putnika koji je samim činom, usprkos niskoj temperaturi u hladnjači broda, uspio preživjeti 24-dnevno putovanje od Južne Amerike do Rijeke.

Nakon što su ga radnici iznuli iz skladišta te mu pružili pomoć, preživjeli mladić u

dosta teškom stanju hitno je prevezen u riječku bolnicu u kojoj je smješten na Odjel za intenzivno liječenje. Prema posljednjim informacijama dobivenim od dežurnog liječnika, njegovo je zdravstveno stanje stabilno i on se nalazi izvan životne opasnosti.

Odmah nakon pronalaska dvojice mrtvih slijepih putnika, odnosno njihovog preživjelog prijatelja, lučki su radnici obavijestili policiju. Na mjesto događaja izšli su djelatnici kriminalističke policije PU primorsko-goranske koji su zajedno s istražnom sučinjom Zupanijskoga suda u Rijeci Kseni-



jom Zore i vještakom suške medicine dr. Draženom Curulićem, obavili očevid. Iako se sve okolnosti nesvakidašnjeg otkrića još uvijek utvrđuju, prema prvim prikupljenim saznanjima trojica Južnoamerikanaca, najvjerojatnije državljana Ekvadora, na brod Cool Express ukrcali su se u ekvadorskoj luci Guayaquil.

## Put od 24 dana

Nizozemski brod iz Guayaquila je isplovio 18 ožujka prema Hrvatskoj. Dva dana prije dolaska u Rijeku, 6. travnja, Cool Express zaustavio se u luci Ploče u kojoj je iskrcao dio banana te se potom zaputio prema riječkoj luci u koju je uplovio u subotu.

Cijelo vrijeme putovanja od Ekvadora do Rijeke, koje je trajalo točno 24 dana, trojica slijepih putnika bili su skriveni među paletama banana u specijalnom skladištu na temperaturi od oko 13 stupnjeva.

Tek jučer oko 8 sati, kada su otvoreni poklopci brodskih skladišta i kada se započelo s iskrcavanjem paleta banana, lučki su radnici začuli dozivanje i zapornaganje koje je dolazilo iz tzv. Banana door recessa. Radnici na brodu odmah su shvatili da se među paletama nalaze slijepi putnici.

- Brzo smo locirali dovikavanje i između dviju paleta zamijetili njegove ruke. Uхватili smo ga i izvukli van. Izgledao je onako indijanski, kao sv odzola. Jadnik, bio je sav očajan i izbezumljen. Pomorci s broda uspostavili su kontakt s njim. Tražio je vodu, ali smo mu dali samo šalicu čaja. Nadzornik je pozvao Hitnu pomoć i oni su uhrzo došli i odvezli ga u bolnicu - ispričao je detalje pronalaska preživjelog Ekvadora jedana od radnika. Nažalost, iz razgovora s preživjelim saznavo se da se među paletama nalaze i dvojica njegovih već mrtvih prijatelja koji nisu uspjeli preživjeti gotovo jednomjesečno putovanje.



Brod Cool Express kojim su u riječku luku stigla dva mrtva i jedan živi slijepi putnik

## Najvjerojatnije dehidrirali u hladnjači pri temperaturi od 13 stupnjeva

RIJEKA - Na lučkoj obali jučer smo zatekli i načelnika Sektora kriminalističke policije PU primorsko-goranske, Davora Božičevića, koji je također prisustvovao očevidu na brodu.

- Još uvijek nismo uspjeli utvrditi identitet preživjelog putnika i dvojice preminulih. S obzirom da su banane ukrcane u Ekvadoru, pretposta-

vije se da se radi o ekvadorskim državljanima, ali to ćemo sa sigurnošću utvrditi tek kada obavimo obavješni razgovor. Uzroci smrti još nisu poznati. Uglavnom, isključena je nasilna smrt. Oni su pronađeni među kutijama i moguće je da su se smrznuli, ali je najvjerojatnije da su zapravo dehidrirali - rekao je načelnik Božičević. (A. K.)

## Iz luke Guayaquil krenule rekordne pošiljke kokaina zaplijenjenog u Rijeci

RIJEKA - Ekvadorska luka Guayaquil posljednjih je godina blisko vezana uz Rijeku. Naime, pošiljka nedavno objavljene zapljene 661 kilograma kokaina pristigla je upravo iz te luke u belgijsku luku Antwerpen, a

potom vlakom u Rijeku, gdje je i zaplijenjena. Također prije tri su godine iz iste luke brodovima Croatia linea doplovile i dvije pošiljke kokaina teške 181 i 376 kilograma, koje su bile skrivene u dvostrukom dnu kontejnera. (A. K.)



Mrtvozornici s broda otkrili mrtvog Indijanca iz Ekvadora



## Dead and missing in the Balkans

+ Pozovi

Rasprava

**Istaknuto**

Članovi

Medijski sadržaj

Datoteke

Reels



### Informacije



**Privatna**

Samo članovi mogu vidjeti tko je u grupi i što se objavljuje.

### Cemeteries ERIM 2020-

This map is working material based on the ethnographic research conducted within the research project The European Irregularized više

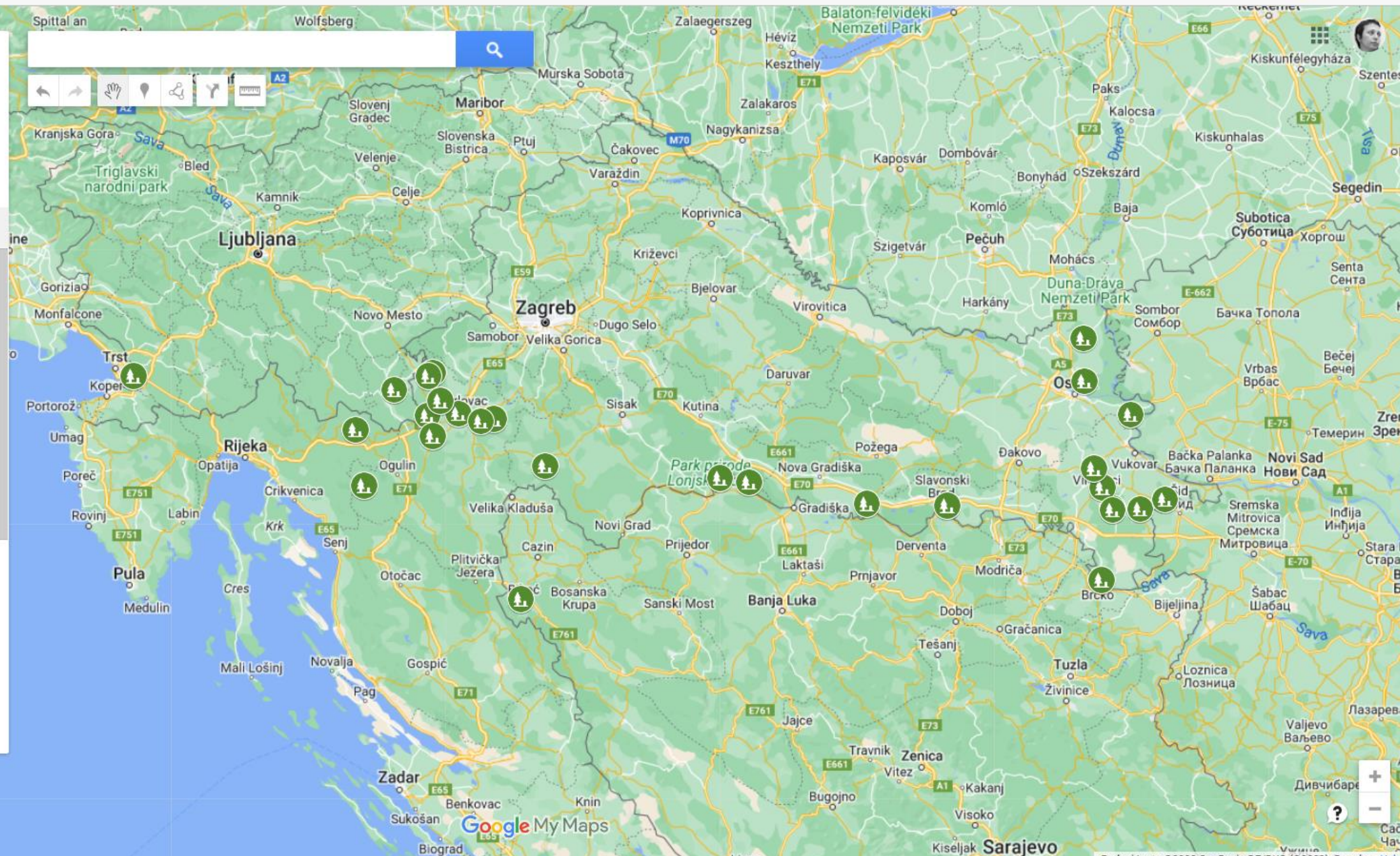
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Unnamed graves of five men. Skakavac, visited 21 July 2020



Graves of four unknown men, Mlaka, near Jasenovac, visited 9 February 2022



Graves of Landu Majala Panzu, Majala Miguel and three identified men, Moravice, visited 31 May 2022



Grave of Salah Benyahia Djelloul, Donje Prlišće,  
visited 28 July 2020



Topusko Cemetery , visited 19 October 2022



Grave of unidentified man who died by drowning in December 2017, Bilje, visited 17 May 2022

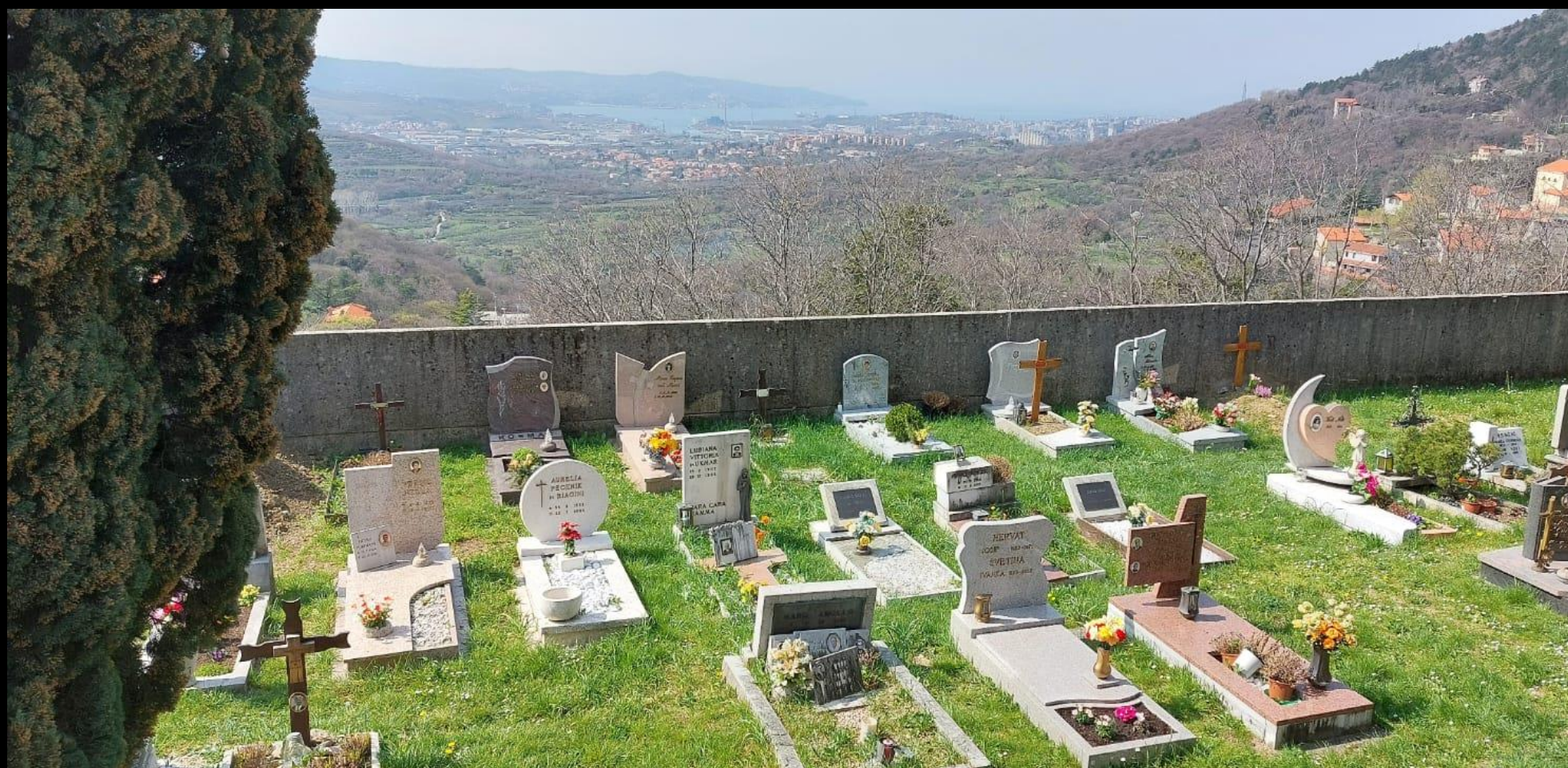


Grave of Ahmad Ibrahim Khalil, Lipa, visited 21 April 2021





Graves of Somila Diby Mibaye, Bakari Traore, Seydou Dembele and Mamadou Niakhate who died in transit in 1973. Boršt / Sant'Antonio in Bosco cemetery, visited 24 March 2023



Boršt/ Sant'Antonio in Bosco cemetery, visited 24 March 2023

[Redacted]

DNEVNI IZVJEŠTAJ RADOVA

Br. Radnog naloga: 1

Datum: 28.6.2022

Dan u tjednu: UTORAK

Mjesto izvođenja radova: [Redacted]

Korisnik: [Redacted]

Adresa: [Redacted]

Vrijeme rada: od 7<sup>00</sup> do 19<sup>00</sup> sati: 6<sup>00</sup> Ukupno sati rada: 12<sup>00</sup> pređeno km \_\_\_\_\_

Radove izveli: [Redacted]

Sredstva rada (strojevi i alat): \_\_\_\_\_

Opis radova: RAKA N.N. MIGRANT

Utrošani materijal: \_\_\_\_\_

Za izvođača: [Redacted]

Za naručitelja: \_\_\_\_\_



“Moving beyond the logic of counting means refusing to look at border deaths from the standpoint of this governmental gaze – migration agencies or states – and taking into account what border deaths are for the friends and the relatives of the missing migrants. [...] Rather than producing a more exact border deaths population database, it is a question of bringing into visibility the reality of what the visa regime and the European mechanisms of border control generate: the ‘disappearance’ of women and men who die without being detected but who are counted as ‘missing’ in the countries of origin or of transit by those who know them.” (Tazzioli 2015: 5)

# Thank you!

This work has been fully supported by Croatian Science Foundation under the project *The European Irregularized Migration Regime at the Periphery of the EU: from Ethnography to Keywords* (IP-2019-04-6642)





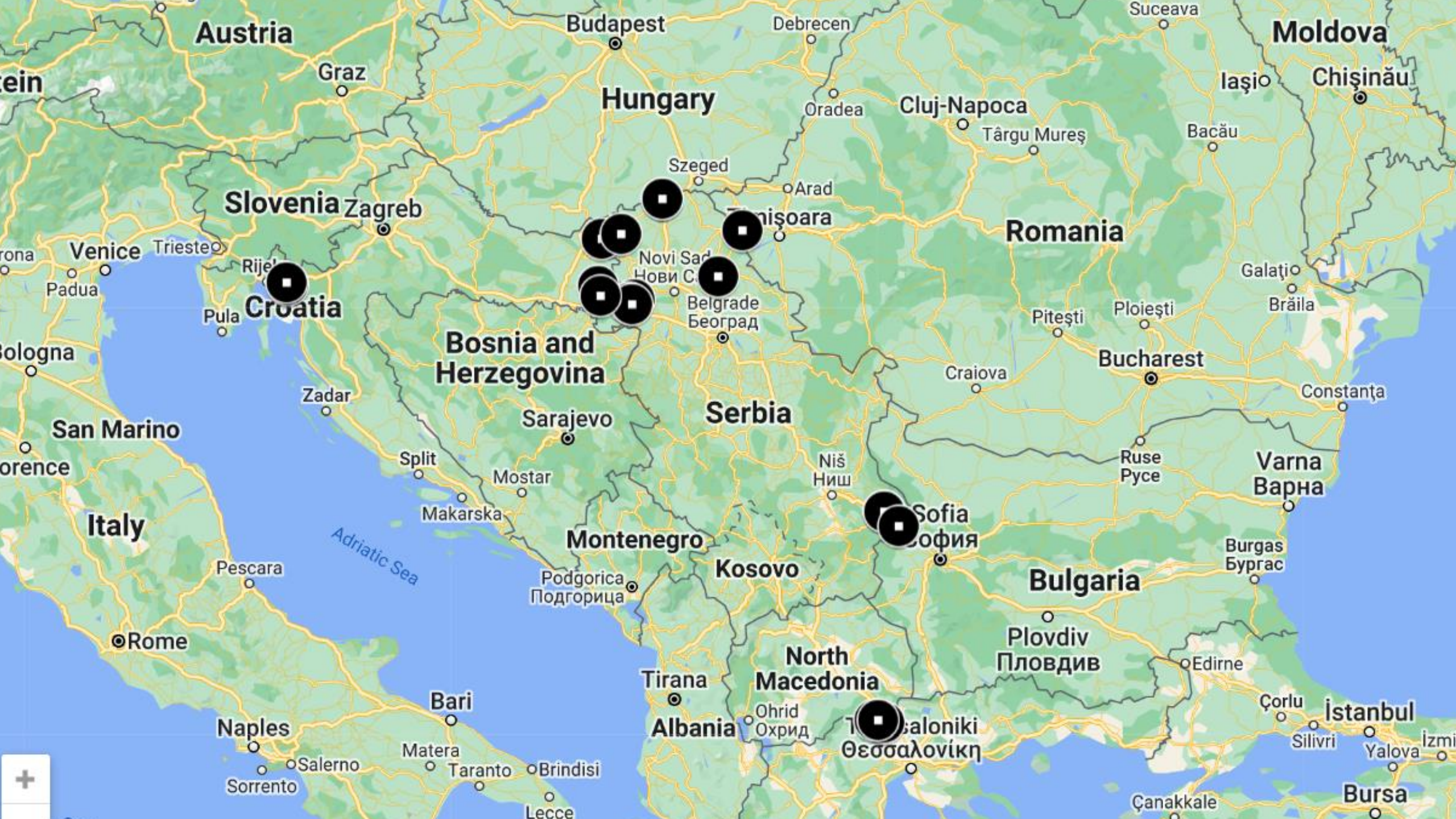
## VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SCHENGEN AREA

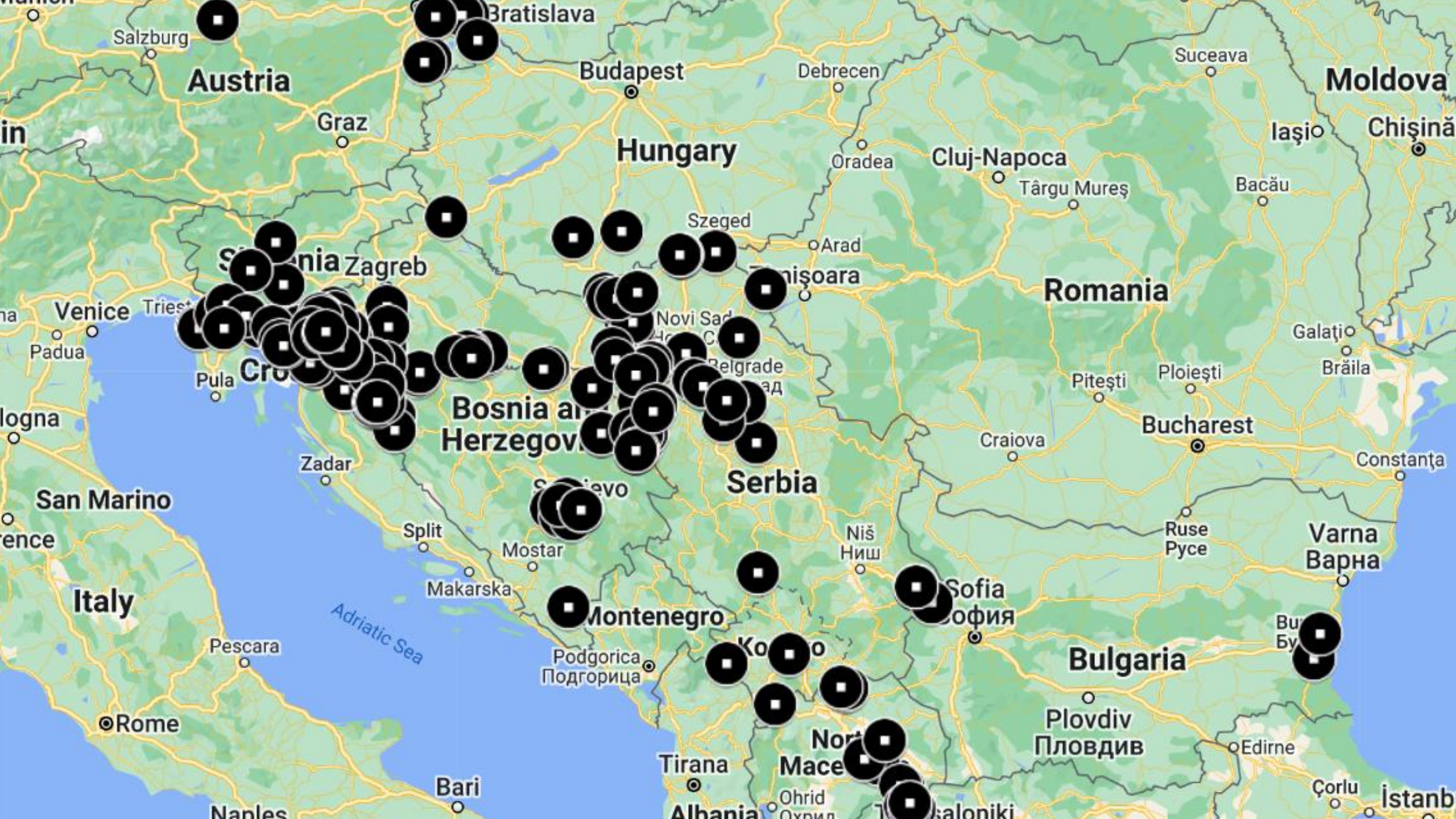
Some non-EU nationals need a short-stay Schengen visa to visit the Schengen area





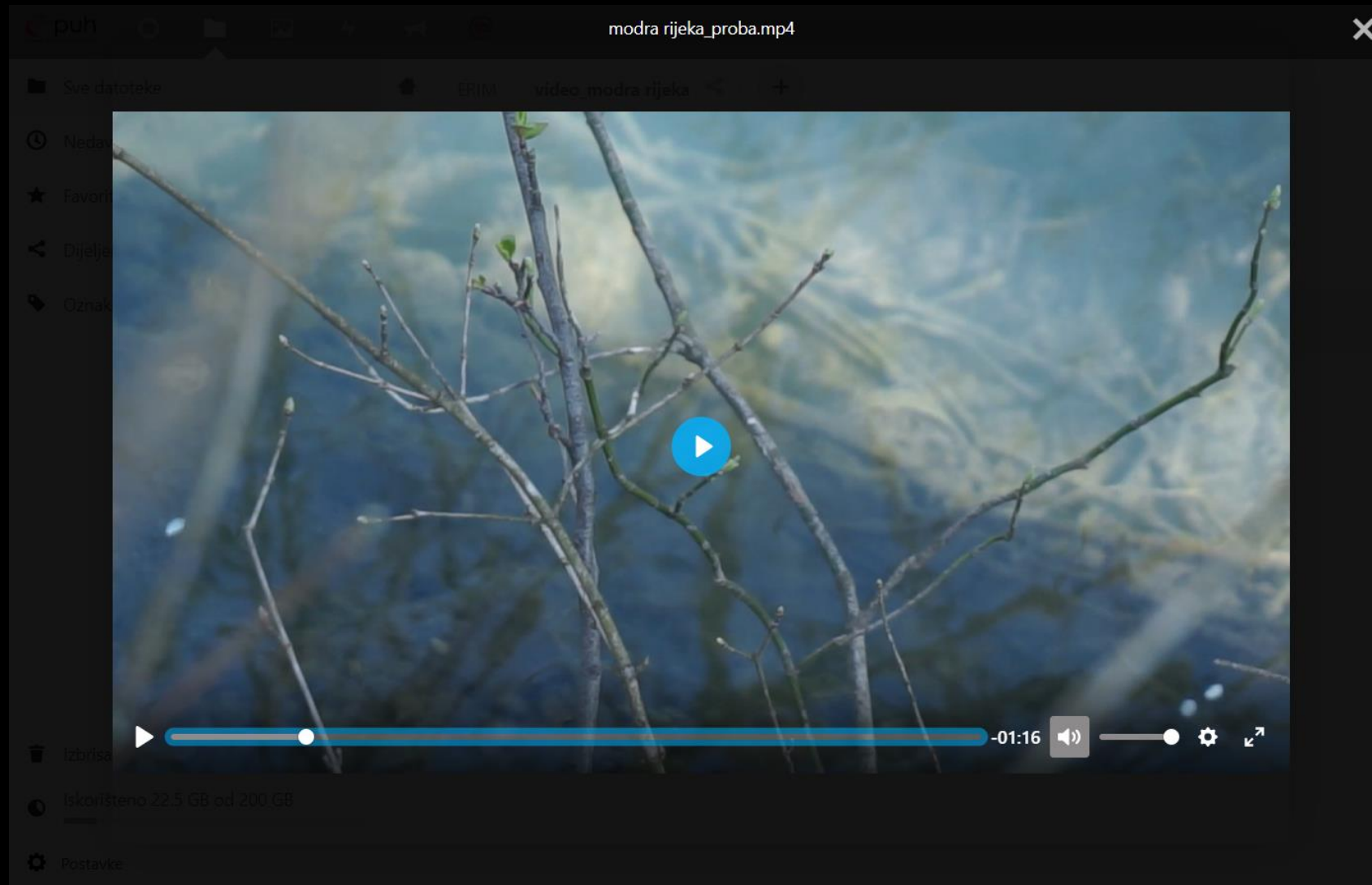






# Jasminka Dedić & Bojan Mucko

## *Modra rijeka* by Mak Dizdar





Protest action for renaming the Republic of Croatia Square into Madina Hussiny Square, Zagreb, 21 November 2019. Photo: Ivana Perić



Grave of unidentified man buried on 30 October 2019. Cemetery in Popović Brdo, visited 21 July 2020



Grave of unidentified man who died by drowning in December 2017, Bilje, visited 17 May 2022

- apparent anonymity of the deceased



Vojna vas cemetery, Slovenia 25 March 2021



Skakavac cemetery, Croatia 21 June 2020



## Border deaths

“premature deaths of persons whose movement or presence has been unauthorized and irregularized as they navigate or interact with state-made boundaries” (Tamara Last 2020: 21)

## List of 36 570 documented deaths of refugees and migrants due to the restrictive policies of "Fortress Europe"

Documentation by UNITED as of 1 April 2019

### Death by Policy - Time for Change!

Campaign information: Facebook - UNITED Against Refugee Deaths, UnitedAgainstRefugeeDeaths.eu, listofdeaths@unitedagainstracism.org, Twitter: @UNITED\_Network #AgainstRefugeeDeaths

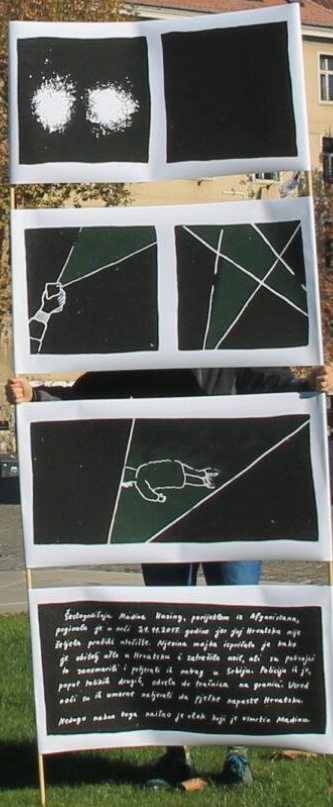
UNITED for Intercultural Action, European network against nationalism, racism, fascism and in support of migrants and refugees

Amsterdam secretariat: Postbus 413, NL-1000 AK Amsterdam, Netherlands, tel +31-6-48808808, listofdeaths@unitedagainstracism.org, www.unitedagainstracism.org

The UNITED List of Deaths can be freely re-used, translated and re-distributed, provided UNITED is informed in advance and source (UnitedAgainstRefugeeDeaths.eu) is mentioned. Researchers can obtain this list with more data in xls format from UNITED.



found dead	number	name, gender, age	region of origin	cause of death	source
28/03/19	2	N.N. (men)	unknown	drowned, bodies recovered off coast of Chios (GR), 36 rescued	HelCoastG/IOM
27/03/19	1	Ali (boy, 18)	Afghanistan	suicide in shelter for unaccompanied minor asylum seekers in Geneva (CH), bad housing conditions	Vivre/RTS/Le Courier/TribuneGeneve
26/03/19	1	N.N.	Sub-Saharan Africa	drowned, found in advanced state of decomposition on beach near Tetouan, south of the Strait of Gibraltar (MA)	El Pueblo de Ceuta/IOM
26/03/19	1	N.N.	Sub-Saharan Africa	drowned, found dead on beach in Azia (MA), presumably while trying to reach Spain	FaroCeuta
26/03/19	1	N.N.	Sub-Saharan Africa	drowned, found floating in advanced state of decomposition in sea in Tarajal area of Ceuta (ES)	FaroCeuta/Ceutaaldia/El Pueblo de Ceuta/IOM
26/03/19	4	N.N. (baby, 3 women)	Afghanistan, Iran	drowned when migrant ship sank on way from Ayvacik (TR) to Lesbos (GR); 11 rescued	Reuters/DailySabah/HurriyetDN/ArabNews/TurkCoast
23/03/19	1	Hamza Ben Nasr (man, 26)	Tunisia	drowned in shipwreck on way from Mahdia, Tunisia to Italy	TNnum/Kapitalis/IOM
23/03/19	1	Ftima (woman, 26)	Tunisia	drowned in shipwreck on way from Mahdia, Tunisia to Italy	Kapitalis/IOM
23/03/19	1	Hanen Saidi (woman, 26)	Tunisia	drowned in shipwreck on way from Mahdia, Tunisia to Italy	TNnum/Kapitalis/IOM
23/03/19	1	Ons Zaouali (woman, 26)	Tunisia	drowned in shipwreck on way from Mahdia, Tunisia to Italy; 3 other dead, 5 missing including her brother	TNnum/Kapitalis/IOM/Shems
23/03/19	5	N.N. (young men)	Tunisia	missing after migrant boat sank on way from Mahdia (Tunisia) to Italy	TNnum/Kapitalis/IOM/Shems
21/03/19	1	Sylla Noumo (man, 32)	Senegal	died in fire at new government-built migrant tent camp of San Fernando (IT)	InfoMigrants
19/03/19	7	N.N. (1 baby)	unknown	1 drowned, 6 missing when migrant ship capsized very soon upon leaving coast of Sabratha, Libya	Ansamed/Libyan Express
18/03/19	3	N.N.	Sub-Saharan Africa	found dead on boat in distress in Alboran Sea off coast of Nador (MA); 53 people rescued	HuffPostMaghreb/HelenaMaleno/IOM
17/03/19	19	N.N.	Morocco	missing in migrant shipwreck off coast of Sidi Warzeg (MA), while trying to reach Canary Islands	Hams/Zoubeidi/IOM
14/03/19	45	N.N. (girl, 14; 6 w (incl. preg.))	Comoros, Congo, Mali, Mauritania	1 died, 44 missing in shipwreck off coast of Bouyafar (MA) on way to Spain; 22 people rescued	AP/DailyMail/EurPress/EiDiario/WatchTheMed/IOM/H
12/03/19	3	N.N. (1 woman, 2 men)	Sub-Saharan Africa	died in Zintan detention centre (LY) due to lack of food and medical treatment	InfoMigrants
10/03/19	1	N.N. (woman)	unknown	drowned, body found in rocky shore area near Agios Theodoros, Akra Korakas, Lesbos (GR)	HelCoastG/IOMGreece
10/03/19	1	N.N. (girl 4-6)	unknown	drowned, headless body found on Vatera beach, Lesbos (GR)	HelCoastG/IOMGreece
08/03/19	2	N.N.	unknown	drowned, body found on unspecified location off coast of Libya	IOMLibya
08/03/19	1	K. A. (man, 30)	Algeria	stowaway, electrocuted while trying to board a train in Sid, Serbia for Croatia	APCSerbia/IOMSerbia
08/03/19	1	N.N. (man, 20s)	Ethiopia	crushed between pallets in trailer of truck, probably during displacement at port of Calais (FR)	VoixDuNord/IOM/Parisien
06/03/19	3	N.N. (man; 2 boys, 4)	unknown	drowned, two small boys as well as their father died when their boat sank near Samos (GR)	AlarmPhone/AP/IOMGreece



Šestogodišnja Mladina, Hrvatska, porijeklom iz Afganistana,  
prijemljena je u našu državu 20.10.2015. godine kao prvi hrvatski azilant.  
Bijela prava odlična. Najbolje majka, ispunjena je ljubavlju  
je obilježila u Hrvatsku i dobila je, ali se potajice  
da nastaviti i priprema se za život u Hrvatskoj. U to  
pogledu postoji dvojba, odnosa do hrvatske, na granici. Uvred  
sati se i u ovom slučaju da postoji negativna reakcija.  
Hrvatska naša boga, našim je etnički koji je vjerojatno Mladina.

# Field research:

- interviews with representatives of local funeral companies, religious communities, municipality services etc.
- questionnaires sent to Red Cross, Ministries of interior (Police) of Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia, IOM (Slovenia) about data, procedures and practices related to border deaths
- multi-sited field visits to cemeteries in Slovenia and Croatia



Renaming the Republic of Croatia Square into Madina Hussiny Square, Zagreb, 21 November 2018. Photo: Maddalena Avon

# The Passage / Prijelaz selma banich and Women to Women



# Grief activism



Making of The Passage, Živi Atelje DK, Zagreb, 22 November 2020



The Passage Exhibition, Živi Atelje DK, Zagreb, 24 May 2021.  
Photo: Nina Đurđević



Comemorative Action Justice for Madina, Zagreb, 21 November 2020. Photo: Ivana Perić





Jasenak, Cemetery Stara Crkva, visited 18 March 2022