The route of the Strait and the Spanish south border
Introduction

The “Frontera Sur” (the south border of Spain) is located in the African continent. Due to the specific situation of Ceuta and Melilla, the Spanish enclaves in Morocco, the border is closed by an high fence popularly known as “la valla”.

Thousands of migrants are stuck in Morocco for months, or even years, waiting to jump or surrounding the fence and finally stepping into Spanish territory to apply for asylum.

The border between those two Spanish enclaves and Morocco is still marked by the phenomenon of “Porteo” (carry), an informal border trade practiced by women.

Seville is a transit city for migrants usually proceeding to the north of the country or to other European countries.

During the so called refugee crisis, Spain was supposed to receive 17,000 refugees through the relocation system. Less than 2000 arrived in the country and only few families in Seville.

The Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos de Andalucía

APDHA is a no-profit organization established in 1990 that work for the full recognition of human rights as a tool for the society transformation. The aims and the activities of the organization are the following: Support to the people victims of human rights violations, Raising awareness on the need of the full application of human rights, Advocacy, policy making and research in the field of human rights defence. The organization counts 800 members and 9 local committees in Almería, Bahía de Cádiz, Campo de Gibraltar (Algeciras), Córdoba, Granada, Huelva, Málaga, Seville.
PROGRAMME OF THE ACTIVITIES

12TH OF MARCH

Arrival of participants in Seville, Hostal Atenas
21.00: Welcome dinner in El Coco Verde

13TH OF MARCH

9.00 Breakfast in APDHA corner bar
9.30 Welcome session by APDHA
10.00 Welcome session by European Citizenship Focal Point
10.30 Presentation of the participants & organizations/groups
11.15 Break
11.30 Exchange of practices and discussion on common challenges
14.30 Lunch
16.00 Workshop on “Frontera Sur” (The Southern border) by Ana Rosado, Diego Boza and Ana Castaño (APDHA)

Introduction to the Frontera Sur, Facts and figures, Ceuta & Melilla borders cities, The reception policy: CIE, CETI Y CAR, Unaccompanied minors. Women goods carriers
20.00 Aperitif and daily feedback in El Coco Verde
21.00 Presentation of the Soundroutes Project + Masharabiya concerts
www.soundroutes.eu
21.30 Dinner

14TH OF MARCH

8.30 Departure to Algeciras (transfer with van & cars)
11.30 -12.30 Concentration in front of the CIE with local activists
14.00 Ferry to Ceuta and lunch on-board
16:30- 18:00 Meeting with Red Cross – EIRE
https://www.facebook.com/Cruz-Roja-Ceuta-279486578812641/
18:30-20:00 Asociación Digmun
http://digmunceuta.blogspot.com
20.30 Dinner
15TH OF MARCH

7.30-10.30 Border circuit with local volunteers and “Porteo” observation

10.30 – 12.00 Free time

12.00 - Meeting with ACCEM (to be confirmed)
https://www.accem.es/

14.00 Lunch

16:30-18:00 Meeting with Pedagogía Ciudadana.
https://es-es.facebook.com/pedagogiaciudadana.ceuta/

18:30-20:00 Meeting with Association Elin
http://www.asociacionelin.com

20.30 Dinner with local activists.

16TH OF MARCH

10.00-12.30 Visit to the CETI (Temporary reception center)

14.30 Ferry to Algeciras & feedback session onboard

15.30 Departure to Seville

18.00 Arrival in Seville and check-in in Kitsch Hostel

18.30 Free time and free dinner in the city

17TH OF MARCH

9.00 Breakfast in APDHA corner bar

9.30 Workshop on European and Spanish legislation on migration by Carlos Arce (APDHA)

11.00 APDHA’s advocacy work by Ana Rosado (APDHA)

12.00 Debate

14.00 Lunch in the framework of the day against racism organized by Plataforma Somos Migrantes.

16.00 Shaping a common message to address decision makers

18.00 Evaluation of the meeting

20.00 Public event: documentary movie “Samba” directed by Mariano Agudo with Mahmud Traoré in Caotica Café
http://intermediaproducciones.com/portfolio/un-nombre-borrado/
Discussion with Mariano Agudo with Mahmud Traoré

22.30 Good by dinner

18TH OF MARCH

Departure of the participants

HOW TO PREPARE THE DISCUSSION

In preparation of the group’s discussions participants are required to prepare and elaborate the following points in relation to their experiences/organizations/groups/context:

- Sector of intervention
- Main Activities of the organizations
- Skills they can share with other activists
- Skills they would like to learn from other activists
- Social & Political challenges
- Discussion points on EU migration policies.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO KNOW ABOUT CEUTA

The population of Ceuta and the administration, are very sensitive to the public image of the city. It is a bordering city and it is quite small, besides it has got an exceptional and specific political situation, due to its border management and migratory issues.

There is huge presence of soldiers, police officers and civil servants in and around the city, not only at the border or the nearby areas. In 2015, the Law of Citizen Security in Spain was approved, known by those organizations which work for human rights as "Ley Mordaza". Some of the key points to consider:

Police officer could force any citizen to identify themselves without any reason. The authorities have the right to do that and the rejection could lead into an economic fine.

It’s forbidden filming or taking photos to any security force body based on their own security, under economical fine. There are many cases of organizations that despite having the authorization to film, have been fined even at an individual level.

Unauthorized gatherings of more 20 people and the obstruction of public roads-streets are also subject to sanctions or fines.

Some of the international organizations that work in the city which legal status is recognized as autonomous, work based on the principle of "neutrality". Organizations, activists and volunteers who work with migrants are very well known and committed.

APDHA is well known in the autonomous city and works frequently in the field, researching and reporting the migrants situation and issues as well as “porteadoras”. Our relationship with other organizations and activists is very good. However, relations with the Ceutian administration is not exempt from obstacles and sometimes impediments. Filming inside the CETI is not allowed.
GOOD TO KNOW

The meeting implies some traveling. Be prepared: reaching Ceuta from Seville take around half day each way.

The time of meals in Andalusia are delayed compare o other EU countries and the schedule of the programme follows the local costumes.

Some walk is expected, bring confortable shoes.

If you have food restriction or special needs please inform APDHA before the arrival.

ADDRESSES AND USEFUL LINKS

Hostal Atenas - Calle Caballerizas 1
www.hostal-atenas.com

El coco Verde - Plaza Jose Luis Vila 1

APDHA office - Blanco White, 5

Kitsh Hostel – Calle San Gregorio 1
http://sevillakitschhoste.wixsite.com/hostelart

Caotica Café – José Gestoso, 8