



PRESS RELEASE

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MINDS GLOBAL SPOTLIGHT: A MULTI-AGENCY JOURNALISM COLLABORATION ON MIGRATION

TEN NEWS AGENCIES HAVE JOINED IN A SPECIAL NEWS INVESTIGATION INTO MIGRANT SMUGGLING IN THE WAKE OF THE REFUGEE CRISIS SWEEPING EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA, ASIA PACIFIC AND THE AMERICAS.

This is the first Global Spotlight under the auspices of the news agency business intelligence network, MINDS International. It exposes criminal networks preying on vulnerable families dislodged from their homes through war, persecution and poverty.

The comprehensive body of work some six months in development, includes in-depth analysis of migrant smuggling's root causes, travel patterns and the social impact in the world's smuggling hotspots.

It dives deep into the scarred communities in the Middle East war zones; from the Southern Sahara; in Europe and the Mediterranean; from South America to Mexico and the US; and across the treacherous waters throughout South East Asia.

This is inspiring journalism from some of the world's most trusted news organisations.

Each will provide the content from this project for their valued customers. AFP will move its own production in English, French and Spanish on its wires from Tuesday; the rest of the project will be available on AFP Forum in English.

The global journalism initiative was launched on 10th anniversary of MINDS. "This is not about competition, revenue or brand building; this is about news people doing good globally," said MINDS Executive Director Wolfgang Nedomansky.

The participating news agencies:

AAP – Australia, AFP – International, ANSA – Italy, APA – Austria, CTK - Czech Republic, DPA – Germany, EFE – Spain, LUSA – Portugal, SDA – Switzerland, STT – Finland.

www.mindsglobalspotlight.com

About MINDS International:

MINDS International is a global network of leading news agencies from all over the world, collaborating in new media business on a top executive level.

Twenty-two news agencies are members of MINDS - among them leaders such as Agence France-Presse, The Associated Press, DPA Deutsche Presse-Agentur, Agencia EFE, Agenzia ANSA, Press Association and Kyodo News.

MINDS is an organisation in which agencies co-operate on editorial, commercial and technological issues. The aim is to develop services that are relevant for digital customers and new media businesses in order to support their future business.

www.minds-international.com

About AFP:

AFP is a global news agency delivering fast, accurate, in-depth coverage of the events shaping our world from conflicts to politics, sports, entertainment and the latest breakthroughs in health, science and technology. With 2,300 staff spread across almost every country, AFP covers the world 24 hours a day in six languages. AFP delivers the news in video, text, photos, multimedia and graphics to a wide range of customers including newspapers and magazines, radio and TV channels, web sites and portals, mobile operators, corporate clients as well as public institutions.

www.afp.com

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Press contact: Caroline Bulcke - Tel. : +33 (0)1 40 41 81 12 - caroline.bulcke@afp.com