

# Information for asylum seekers about raids at workplaces

**The situation for asylum seekers** and undocumented migrants in Sweden has become harder. The Border police have introduced a specially trained and dedicated undercover patrol, “Möllevångspatrullen”, making civil raids on workplaces in cooperation with Skatteverket (the Tax authorities). Reconnaissance, identity checks on the streets and tips from the public are other techniques that are used to more efficiently expel asylum seekers with no permit of residence.

**This practice** started in southern Sweden and is spreading throughout the country and as a result, forced expulsions from Sweden have increased by 40% in 2011.

**When this removal project started**, newspapers wrote a lot about the widespread moonlighting in Malmö, pointing out industries and workplaces with asylum seekers working for low wages and under extremely poor working conditions. But these writings were not about finding solutions for the undocumented workers to get better wages or better working conditions. Instead, work places mentioned in the articles worked as clues to facilitate the police in their efforts to find people who were in hiding.

**Many asylum seekers and workers without a permit** are being arrested, put in detention centres and deported. Neither the police, the Migration Board or the established trade unions act to change the conditions for these workers. Many are being deported without receiving their wages and may not even take their belongings with them when they are forcibly expelled. The news reports are also being used by the border police and immigration office as a justification for their vile practices. Employers who are abusing the precarious situation of the undocumented go free, while the asylum seekers themselves are being punished most severely, being put in custody and detention centres and sent back to countries they've fled. Even if their only opportunity to work is without a permit.

**Lately, Möllevångspatrullen even** hit cafés and associations together with uniformed police.

**We urge you to pay attention and be watchful** against these new methods from Skatteverket and the Border police. Share this information with other asylum seekers about undercover patrols doing surveillance and arrests of undocumented workers.

**Applying for asylum** is a human right and fighting for your survival should not be a crime. Anyone has a right to stay where they live and work!

We wish you good luck!  
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