

THE SAMOS LEGAL CENTRE NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the 3rd edition of the Samos Legal Centre's newsletter! This month we are delighted to share with you a video showcasing the work of the team in Samos, filmed last August by the talented [Isacco Chiaf](#). This video introduces the team on the ground and highlights the important work being done to support asylum seekers and refugees with their legal procedures on the island.



We moved!



Following the transfer of the camp residents in Samos to the new 'Closed-Controlled Facility' in a remote part of the island, the need for increased cooperation amongst NGOs, especially legal actors and their partners, became even greater. With the incredibly generous support of *Samos Volunteers*, the ASF France team relocated with *Refugee Law Clinic Berlin* and *I Have Rights* to the new Legal Centre.

Located beside the well-known 'Alpha Centre' in Samos and the 'Drop Shop' of *Dråpen i Havet*, this new location offers better visibility and accessibility to asylum seekers and refugees in Samos, as the only Legal Centre on the island providing free, independent support to asylum seekers. .

With a welcoming reception area, 3 counselling rooms and 2 spacious coworking areas for the legal teams, the ASF France team can continue its work providing specialized legal support to asylum seekers and refugees in Samos.

Meet the team!



Naya
Lawyer

"We ensure asylum seekers can exercise their legal rights and fulfill their obligations under the law."

→ [Read the full interview here](#)



Amanda Alden
Caseworker

"By orienting and informing asylum seekers we hope to empower them towards self-advocacy"

→ [Read the full interview here](#)

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The number of the month

In October, 79 consultations were conducted in Legal Centre Samos - ASF France, including 6 sessions that took place to ensure follow-ups of family reunification cases.

After a long process and months of waiting because of the many administrative challenges involved, this month an ASF France client was successfully reunited with her husband in The Netherlands.



An overview of the Interview Preparation



The asylum interview is, from a legal perspective, the most important day for asylum seekers on Samos. What is said during this interview determines whether the person receives international protection or not. Informing applicants of their rights and preparing them to present their stories is an essential part of the team's work.

Two personal and confidential meetings, lasting approximately 2 hours each, are provided, during which the caseworkers and lawyers listen carefully to the claim, explain what questions the applicant can expect and highlight the most relevant points they should include.

As many asylum seekers do not know the criteria they are being assessed on when arriving in Greece, preparation informs and empowers them to present their claim in the best way possible.