# **March 2024**

#### **Updates, News and Observations**



**WE CARRIED OUT** 

**WE WORKED WITH** 

**WE PLAYED FOR** 



7/7/ CHILDREN HOURS

Both France and the UK have signed and ratified the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child,** meaning they have the obligation to **respect, protect and fulfill** the rights within it. Instead, **they pursue hostile border policies** which prevent children on the move from accessing their rights.

#### Impact of Hostility on the Border

Evidence of **violent and fatal "pullback" tactics** being used in the channel came to light this month. This has a very real impact on the communities we work with.

We have observed an unprecedented increase in children discussing police violence they had

experienced, and instances of children re-enacting violence through play.

A.6: Right to Life

A.19: Freedom from violence

Hostile border policies are deadly. This month, Roula, an 8 year old girl, was killed as she and her family tried to reach the UK to claim asylum. We remember Roula. Every life taken in border spaces is a tragedy.



### Wellbeing

1 in 3 children that we met this month were displaying visible signs of poor mental wellbeing.

Children were exhausted, struggling to regulate their emotions, and suffering from episodes of dissociation. We have also observed an increase in physical injuries.

## Living Standards

The state does not provide sanitation facilities for people on the move. This month, we regularly observed children forced to remain in dirty and wet clothes for long periods of time. We also observed children forced to go to the toilet outside, with no privacy.

A27: Adequate







www.project-play.org/take-action

Contact us: <u>advocacy@project-play.org</u>