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Onderwerp: The Fallout From Tajikistan's Dam Project

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Q&A: The Human Fallout From Tajikistan's Dam Project



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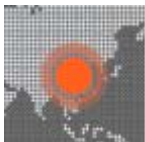
Tajikistan faces an energy crisis every winter. The mountainous country, just north of Afghanistan and west of China, has devised a potential solution – build a hydroelectric dam across its churning Vakhsh River. And not just any dam, but potentially one of the world's tallest, at a slated 335 meters, or slightly taller than the Eiffel Tower.

Tajikistan's government plans to relocate 42,000 people whose homes are on land that will be flooded by the Rogun Dam project. But some of the 1,500 families who have already been resettled are struggling to build new homes, no longer have enough land to farm or regular access to clean water, and face other serious problems.

The government has suspended resettlement while the World Bank conducts feasibility studies on the dam. Francesca Corbacho, a Human Rights Watch fellow releasing a report on the dam, "We Suffered When We Came Here," talks about using this window to convince Tajikistan, and the World Bank, to make changes to the relocation plan.

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[Malaysia Should End Arrests of Transgender Women](#)

No one should go to prison because of the clothing they wear. Malaysia's religious department officials should never have arrested these women, and the judge should never have sentenced them.

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[In Libya, Migrants are Whipped, Beaten, and Hung from Trees](#)

Detainees who spent time in Libya's migrant detention centers have described to us how male guards strip-searched women and girls and brutally attacked men and boys. The political situation in Libya may be tough, but the government has no excuse for torture and other deplorable violence by guards in these detention centers.

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[Surge in Detention of Child Migrants in the US](#)

The US government's policy of detaining large numbers of children who cross the US-Mexico border harms kids and flouts international standards. Congress should be exploring alternatives to detention that other countries facing spikes in border crossings have used successfully.

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Dispatches: Why We Should Outlaw "Illegal"

It makes no more sense to call someone an "illegal migrant" than an "illegal person." Despite that, the term pops up again and again in the mainstream media. The *New York Times* recently reported on the "surge of illegal migrants from Central America across the South Texas border." The BBC and other European media outlets are similarly reporting on "illegal migrants" in the Mediterranean and at the EU's external borders.

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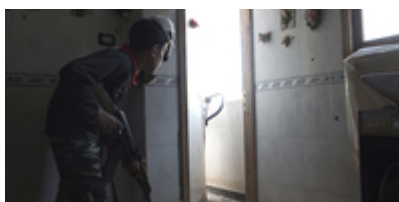
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