

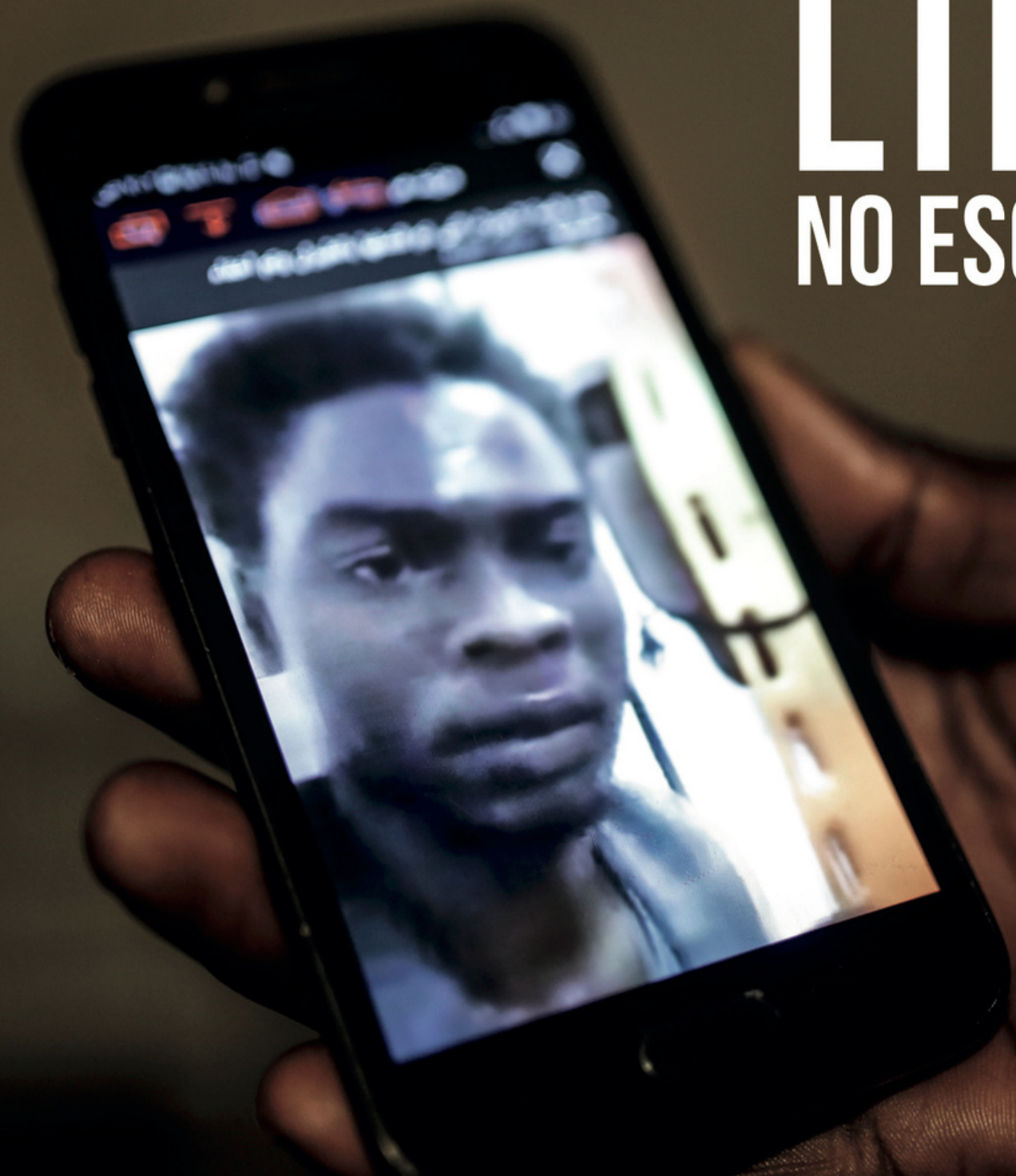
arte

A FILM BY SARA CRETA

magneto

LIBYA

NO ESCAPE FROM HELL



PRODUCERS MARC BERDUGO & BARBARA CONFORTI EDITING MATHIEU GOASGUEN ORIGINAL MUSIC OLIVIER ADELEN VIDEO SARA CRETA WITH MOHAMED FNAN & PEDRO BRITO DA FONSECA AUDIO MIXING BRUNO LAGOARDE

 CNC
centre national
du cinéma et de
l'image animée

 Région
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FILMS

 IMPACT
DAY



This documentary is an eye opener on the migrants' reality in Libya but also on the horrific machine that has been set up and the role of those responsible for the situation that take advantage of European policies.

TRAILER



<https://vimeo.com/569408605>

KEY INFO

TITLE **Libya, no escape from hell**

DIRECTOR **Sara Creta**

LENGTH **60'**

SHOOTING LOCATION **Libya**

LANGUAGE **mainly English and Arabic**

DELIVERY DATE **June 2021**

PRODUCERS **Marc Berdugo, Barbara Conforti**

INTERNATIONAL SALES **JAVA Films**

SYNOPSIS

The detention centres in Libya, where thousands of refugees await in inhuman conditions for someone – the militia, Europe, the UN – to decide what their fate will be, are at the heart of this documentary.

If officially, Libya's detention centres are run by the UN-recognised government, in reality they are in the hands of militias that control the country and see in migrants a ready source of cash.

The film looks at the entire detention system, the traffic beyond it, the role of the militias and the way they exert their control over it. It aims to point out the responsibilities of those involved, first and foremost that of the European Union which provides financing then takes no responsibility. What needs to be changed and what are the solutions?

While the west has lost influence in the long-running Libyan civil war, the conflict has exposed deep divides within the EU, leaving non-Western powers to fill the vacuum. Europe's short-sighted policy continues to pursue a flawed strategy to empower Libyan Coast Guards to intercept migrants and asylum seekers and take them back to Libya. A fragmented country, which has been torn apart by warring political factions, local tribal leaders and militias.





DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Sara Creta has done a great deal of research on the Libyan migrant detention system. She has visited detention centers on several occasions and, using one-off access, has documented the widespread impunity for human rights violations and abuses committed in the hands of government officials, members of armed groups, smugglers, traffickers and members of criminal gangs. She has investigated the well-oiled system that systematically violates human rights and takes advantage of European policies, the laxity of certain countries such as Italy and even goes as far as to implicate the United Nations.

There is a feeling, a widespread perception among refugees living in detention centers in Libya. It's a sense of injustice and oppression that prevails. "We want the world to see us", or "do you know the meaning of justice?"

The film aims to point out the responsibilities of those involved, first and foremost the European Union which provides finance and support to strengthen the capacity of Libyan authorities to control the country's borders, but avoid legal responsibility.

It also includes videos filmed by refugees in Libya, in an attempt to reaffirm their own voice. While refugees are often prevented from getting control over their life and future, their voices are struggling to be heard in Europe. With the same logic of exclusion that prevents them from arriving in Europe.

While people's humanity is denied and the institutions who should protect refugees are depriving them of their right to hope for a better future, those trapped in Libya or daily at risk of human trafficking are resisting these inhuman policies of premeditated killing and exclusion. And they still have the courage to protest and ask for their rights.

This documentary wants to honour and amplify their endless struggle while denouncing this reality and asking for a necessary change.



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

carbebe

IMPACT STRATEGY

It is urgent to become aware of this. Urgent that it stops.

This documentary wants above all to denounce the violations of human rights that persist on the other side of the Mediterranean. Libya has become an even more hostile environment for refugees and migrants seeking a better life. When refugees and migrants risk their lives at sea seeking safety in Europe, they are intercepted, forcibly brought back to Libya and delivered to the same abuses they sought to escape.

Tens of thousands are trapped in a vicious cycle of cruelty with little to no hope of finding safe and legal pathways out. Behind the statistics and the images of boats packed with men and women crossing the Mediterranean, there are human beings, people with broken lives who have gone through the worst tortures in the face of general indifference.

- We would like to use the film as a means to exert political pressure on EU institutions and governments (to end their support for agencies such as the Libyan Coast Guard; to take in people who need to be evacuated from Libya) and to raise public awareness around the issue.

- We would like to organise actions such as petitions and open letter to send to government/EU officials and, with the help of concerned public figures, digital campaigns on social medias which would consist in sharing the film and massively calling out policy makers.
- We would like to create an online archive for past, present and future with information about the history of EU/Libya cooperation, the court cases that have been launched and all the actions of the campaign. NGOs can play an important part, using their influence and network, they can increase the impact of the film.
- We would like to organize mobile projections and screen this film or parts of it outside government buildings e.g. parliament offices in member states, Commission delegations, the UN; involving refugees-led organizations. So that decision makers hear the testimonials of the migrants and so that they can no longer say: “I didn’t know” and walk away.



BIOGRAPHIES

SARA CRETA

DIRECTOR



Sara Creta is an award-winning journalist and documentary filmmaker, with extensive experience investigating human rights abuses. Over the past years, she documented on-the-ground conditions in forced migration situation, human rights violation, crisis management and cultures in transition. Her work has appeared on The New York Times, Al Jazeera English, The Spiegel, RTE, Arte, NRK, ZDF, AJ+, Channel 4, The Guardian, Middle East Eye, Euronews, BBC, The New Humanitarian, O Globo, Equal Times, El Diario, El Pais, La Repubblica.

FILMOGRAPHY

- *Sudan: Women on the Front Line* (26' - ARTE - 2019)
- *Final destination Libya - Europe seals itself off* - (28' - ZDF - 2020) A documentary that looks at the EU cooperation with Libya.
- *Dream of Europe* (NRK - 2015)

BARBARA CONFORTI & MARC BERDUGO

PRODUCERS

Magneto is a French company founded in 2008 that produces high quality documentary films such as:

- *Selfie*, directed by Agostino Ferrente (78' - Arte - 2019) - Davide di Donatello award for best documentary in Italy (2020); selected at the Berlinale Panorama section, Cinéma du Réel, DocumentaMadrid, DocAviv, Sheffield Doc/Fest, IDFA, Etats généraux du documentaire de Lussas, Arte Kino, Short listed at the European Film Awards (EFA)...
- *Un jour ça ira*, directed by Stan & Édouard Zambeaux (90' - 2018 – Eurozoom) - Prison jury price, FIFDH Geneva 2019. Jury award, public award and young public award, Festival de cinéma des 5 continents.
- *Lords of water*, directed by Jérôme Fritel (87' - Arte - 2019) - FIPADOC 2020 (France), FIFDH Geneva 2020 (Switzerland), Copenhagen Architecture Film festival 2020 (Denmark), Ekotopfilm Envirofilm Festival 2020 (Slovakia).
- *Mosul, after the war*, directed by Anne Poiret (60' - Arte - 2019) - Opening the International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights (FIFDH) in Geneva.
- *Everything's better than a hooker*, directed by Ovidie (56' - Arte - 2018) Amnesty international Prize at Thessaloniki film festival.
- *Silent War*, directed by Manon Loizeau (72' - France 2 - 2017) - Grand Prize of the World Organisation against Torture at FIFDH Geneva 2017, Audience Award at DOK Leipzig 2017; Grand Prize "Mediterranean Challenges" at PRIMED 2017; Special Mention for the Edward Snowden Award (15° Internacional Festival Signos de la Noite - Lisboa, Portugal / Documentary category); Jury's Special Prize (FIGRA 2018, France)...

CONTACT

PRODUCTION MAGNETO

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SALES JAVA FILMS

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