‘I want to help refugees’ reported the death of unidentified persons crossing the Latvian-Belarusian border

The association ‘I want to help refugees’ reported that between October 2023 and October 2025, 11 people who died after crossing the Latvian-Belarusian border were buried in Latvia as unidentified persons. The burials were carried out by local municipalities where the bodies were found, though ongoing maintenance of the graves was not planned. ‘I want to help refugees’ reached agreements with municipalities to care for these burial sites. It has so far installed memorial plaques for nine individuals and regularly cleans the sites, with two additional plaques planned for spring 2026. On 20 June 2025, the association raised the issue at the Conversation Festival “Lampa” during a discussion titled “Can we bury responsibility? – burials of unidentified border crossers at the border area.” ‘I want to help refugees’ continues to collect data on border fatalities, support families searching for missing relatives, and advocate for a better national cooperation system to handle such cases.

Source(s)

- I want to help refugees | Gribu palīdzēt bēgļiem (2 November, 2025), Aktuālā informācija par neidentificētu cilvēku nāvi pēc Latvijas–Baltkrievijas robežas šķērsošanas [Current information on the death of unidentified persons after crossing the Latvian-Belarusian border], https://gribupalidzetbegliem.lv/2025/11/02/aktuala-informacija-par-neidentificetu-cilveku-navi-pec-latvijasbaltkrievijas-robezas-skersosanas/

Date of development
02.11.2025
Country
Latvia
Thematic area(s)
General asylum and migration development, Access to procedures and non-refoulement, Access to territory
Development type
Publication

© European Union Agency for Asylum, 2026. Reproduction is authorised, provided the source is acknowledged.