

KOMPASS – ANTIRA – NEWSLETTER No. 67 – MARCH 2018

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Dear friends!

Its finally warmer again, but times are not better. The new GroKo (german government of big coalition) will make worse, what the old government started to aggravate. The particular symbol is „Mr. Obergrenze“ (minister Seehofer, who mainly demanded upper limits to accept refugees), who was chosen to be a new Home Secretary and who will use his concept of „AnkER-camps“ to increase the numbers of deportations. Victor Orban, who was invited with ostentation by Seehofer in January 2018 to the conclave of CSU, just introduced in Hungary the draft for a bill, in which the discrimination and criminalization of supportive structures for refugees and migrants should become the norm. And after the racist government coalition of Kurz and Strache in Austria we face now election victories of right wing populist and extreme right in Italy. Springtime should look different.

Against the aggressive neo-nationalism the neoliberal EU-supra-nationalism appears almost as soft alternative. But they are hostile brothers, who combine exclusion and exploitation with different political attitudes. We never should forget, that the EU-border regime is responsible for thousands of death in the mediterranean sea. Frontex and the national border police units are not in a contradiction, rather they cooperate in „best way to combat illegal migration“ even in Hungary or Bulgaria.



Be it neo-nationalist or neoliberal racism: the struggle for freedom of movement and for equal rights for all can only progress in transnational networks and synchronous local practices: to exchange and to let circulate experiences of daily struggles

beyond all the borders, to block deportations wherever possible and to support by all means necessary the „underground railroad of migration“, from the external borders to the inner cities.

The concept of citizen asylum is picked up in more and more cities in order to take a public position against deportations but also to build up more spaces of protection. Swarming is the title for the concept of mobilization of We'll Come United and first groups started to share and to spread experiences of resistance from and in communities. And in Zagreb recently a networking meeting took place from groups, who are continuously active in the Balkan and on the side of the people moving on these routes. These are only three examples for a still and again vivid and multiple resistance.



With solidarity regards,
the Kompass Team
Contact: kompass-notify@antira.info

In our Kompass for December 2017 we had already mentioned the Charta from Palermo and in our current issue we want to present it again (in the review-section below) as potential „emancipative pole“ and against the background of the election results in Italy. The Charta offers a base for the vision of solidarity places and of protected spaces, carried or tolerated by municipalities, which certainly can be realized only in small steps and in all kinds of greyzones.



„But things are changing everywhere and there is an obstinate and sometimes inscrutable mix of initiatives, with the tenacity of the migratory movements as their engine...“, this is written in a recently published strategy paper under the headline of „contested spaces“. It should be discussed - as the above mentioned practical projects and campaigns - in a conference, which will take place in Goettingen from 10th to 13th of May. A „big coalition of Antiracism“ is inviting to this event, which we strongly want to recommend to all activists and interested people.

DATES AND APPOINTMENTS IN MARCH AND APRIL 2018

Swarming - We`ll Come United on Tour for 2018



In Brandenburg and Rheine-Main it already has started: the swarming into other cities, in camps and communities to intensify the exchange on daily resistance against deportations, against isolation and exclusion. And to invite all interested people to join the network of We`ll Come United.

First materials have been collected, which will be made available by a „swarming office“ very soon. To order it online or in multilingual printed versions. It includes guides for sea rescue, it gives advice and will empower to resist the Dublin-deportations, it

informs against the fear of deportations to Afghanistan and Pakistan. It should help to spread best practices of Solidarity City initiatives and it should inspire, to get organized together and to struggle collectively for equal rights for all.

More information at <http://www.welcome-united.org>

15/3 in Frankfurt, Hamburg, Bremen: International day against police violence

In several cities there will be days of action against police violence on 15/3, in Frankfurt and Hamburg they will be connected to further activities against authoritarian formation on 16/3 as well as the day of political prisoners on 18/3, see here

<http://www.interventionistische-linke.org/beitrag/gemeinsam-und-widerstandig-damit-solidaritat-eine-waffe-wird>

“On 15/3 for the first time in Frankfurt we are taking action for the international day against police violence. On 15/3/1997 this day was instituted by the initiative Collectif oppose à la violence policière (C.O.P.B.) and dedicated to the memory of the victims and those affected by police violence. We, a coalition of anti-racist and left initiatives are organizing actions, interventions, installations and performances at 4 locations in the public space of Frankfurt’s city centre. Racist police violence in the shape of racial profiling affects people in Germany every day. This practice is part of structural and institutional racism which keeps protecting the perpetrators and focuses investigative efforts on the victims themselves as well as their families and friends...” More on this under the following links:

<https://copwatchffm.org>

<https://twitter.com/hashtag/15MRZ?src=hash>

<https://www.facebook.com/2082263065327490/photos/a.2083150685238728.1073741828.2082263065327490/2083150551905408/?type=3&theater>





17/3: International action-day against the EU-Turkey-deal

The best hotel of Europe, the occupied City Plaza in Athens, published another call for decentralized action in reference to the 2nd anniversary of the EU-Turkey-Deal. From the call:

Stop the EU Dirty Migration Deals

City Plaza: International call for the 17th March 2018 - European day against all anti-migration policies between states

[17m18CommonStruggles: Stop EU's Dirty Anti-Migration Deals](#)



People from all over the world flee war, poverty, torture, political, ethnic as well as religious persecution and slavery with the hope to arrive and settle in Europe. But even inside the EU migrants face terrible conditions. Instead of fighting against the causes of migration, the EU is doing everything to stop people from coming. It externalises its borders through deals with other states in an attempt to keep the suffering of refugees out of sight. These arrangements aim to keep people from reaching EU-territory and easily aggravate the situations in transit countries. (...)

On the occasion of the International Day Against Racism and two years after the signing of the EU-Turkey deal we will take again the streets on the 17th of March! Join our fight Let's fight together against the EU-border regime and struggle with us for a world without nations and borders!

Take action wherever you are and be part of this international day of action!

Stand up against the criminal regime of Fortress Europe!

Stop Europe's funding of slavery in Libya!

Stop Wars on Migrants!

For freedom of movement and safe passages!

[#OpenTheIslands](#) !

[Refugee Accommodation and Solidarity Space City Plaza](#)

Mail: solidarity2refugees@gmail.com

Website: <https://18m.commonstruggle.eu>

Twitter: [@17m18ActionDay](#)



19th of March in Szeged: Not guilty! Freedom for Ahmed!

FREE THE
RÖSZKE 11



#Not guilty! Free Ahmed! Come to Hungary and be present at the judgement!

The last part of the show-trial is going to end: On March, 14th the pleas

are expected, on March, 19th the verdict will be announced.

That's the right moment to show solidarity and to support Ahmed at court!

Scene is Szeged Court (Szeged, Széchenyi tér 4.).

You have to register to attend the trial.

More details will follow soon, see www.freetheroszke11.weebly.com

If you want to come, please contact us via: freetheroszke11@riseup.net

#FreeAhmed! Stay tuned!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/11personfreedom

Follow us on Twitter: @freetheroszke11

„Yallah“- Exhibition: After 20.3. in Vienna and with an Extra Newspaper!

The Yallah-exhibition is hosted in Vienna next time, and the organizers are still looking for other places in March, August and middle of November 2018 and in 2019. More information at yallah-balkanroute.eu

Moreover an impressive Newsletter (in German) was printed in the meanwhile, see here:

http://yallah-balkanroute.uni-goettingen.de/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Yallah-Zeitung-Layout_WEB.pdf

Stop deportations to Afghanistan!

On 20/2 the 10th charter deportation to Kabul took place. A detailed report with a collection of information on this charter of shame can be found on the following website (in german):

<https://thruttig.wordpress.com/2018/02/21/air-de-maiziere-flug-nr-10-sammelabschiebung-nach-afghanistan-gestartet/>

Pro Asyl report on 2nd time refugees on Lesbos:

“Afghan refugee seekers who have been deported from Germany are forced to flee again. Now they are stranded in Greece in inhumane conditions. Workers of Refugee Support Aegean (RSA), Pro Asyl’s Greek partner organization, have met four refugees stranded in Greek camps.“

<https://www.proasyl.de/news/erneute-flucht-abgeschobene-afghanische-fluechtlinge-in-griechenland/>

“After the acceptance the report on perspectives on the situation in Afghanistan and expansion of the Bundeswehr mission the Green party and the Left party have demanded an immediate end to deportations to Afghanistan. The federal government has no problem conceding the worsening security situation to justify the extension of the German military mission in Afghanistan, Left member of parliament Ulla Jelpke told the “Kölner Stadtanzeiger”. Instead of taking appropriate measures in dealing with Afghan refugees, the government still excludes them from integration offers, sticks to deportations and intends to push more asylum seekers towards allegedly voluntary departure, Jelpke criticized. This is, according to her, “inhumane and cynical”. “There are no safe regions in

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Afghanistan – this is clear from the government’s report on perspectives”, said Jelpke. Those who still insist on deportating people to Afghanistan are willingly accepting their death and injury. See here in german:

https://www.24matins.de/traf/pol/linke-und-gruene-fordern-sofortigen-abschiebestopp-fuer-afghanistan-81002?utm_source=news-reader&utm_campaign=feed

Alarm Phone: 8 Wochen-Bericht

We have published our latest Alarm Phone report, entitled ‘Entering 2018, Mediterranean migration struggles continue’. It reflects on the radical transformations of the maritime borderzone in 2017, explores current developments in all three regions, and gives an account of the 17 emergency cases the Alarm Phone has worked on in the past 8 weeks.

Given the continuous atrocities in the Mediterranean Sea, it remains crucial also in the new year to mobilise against the forces that construct a deadly obstacle course for those who want to, and need to, escape. In light of the vicious criminalisation campaign against activist networks and humanitarian actors engaged in ‘flight help’ and/or rescue, what is required is a strong solidarity front that speaks back when activists and rescuers are turned into smugglers and criminals. We as the Alarm Phone network promise to do what we can also in 2018 to support disobedient movements through the sea. Between October 2014, when we launched the phone project, and until the end of December 2017, we have worked on a total of 1,925 emergency cases in the Mediterranean Sea.

The report can be found on our website:

https://alarmphone.org/en/2018/02/06/entering-2018-mediterranean-migration-struggles-continue/?post_type_release_type=post

And on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/watchthemed.alarmphone/posts/2057178197889746>

Central Mediterranean: Joint statement of Six Rescue Organizations against the Criminalization of Sea Rescue Operations

The central mediterranean route remains the most dangerous flight route in the world. Jugend Rettet, [borderline europe - Menschenrechte ohne Grenzen e.V.](#), [Watch The Med - Alarmphone](#), [Sea-Watch](#), [LIFELINE](#) [Salvamento Marítimo Humanitario](#) and [RESQSHIP](#) have issued a joint statemnet against the criminalization in sea rescue operations, addressed to the EU: Are we the scapegoats of the failed EU politics?

<https://www.facebook.com/JugendRettet/photos/a.418621685013737.1073741828.409016039307635/797279080481327/?type=3&theater>

Counter-Investigation against the criminalization of Jugend Rettet.

A crucial new Forensic Oceanography counter-investigation has been published by WatchTheMed’s Charles Heller and Lorenzo Pezzani, demonstrating very clearly the severely flawed accusations made against the Jugend Rettet crew of the rescue vessel Iu-venta. It provides important evidence against the attempts to criminalise and de-legitimise non-governmental rescue in the Mediterranean Sea.

<https://blamingtherescuers.org/iuventa>

Newsletter of [bordermonitoring.eu](#) concerning the Balkan

„...This issue contains our resume of the current situation of the European border regime with regard to Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria and Turkey ...“



http://bordermonitoring.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/bordermonitoring.eu-newsletter_1-2018.pdf

Discussion on perspectives: Contested Spaces - Solidarity Cities

„...Looking back to the experiences of the last years we put our focus on some fundamental issues for the antiracist left in order to outline some of the strategic issues and mid-term challenges for the struggles ahead, posing this essential question: In what society do we want to live?!...“

in English:

<https://solidarity-city.eu/app/uploads/2018/02/Contested-Spaces-final-2.pdf>

In German:

<https://solidarity-city.eu/app/uploads/2018/02/Umkämpfte-Räume-final.pdf>

Document/Theses of the Platform of the Transnational Social Strike on Migration

„With this document we aim at opening up a discussion with collectives of migrants and non-migrants, solidarity initiatives, unions around the issue of migrant labor and transnational organization against the current mobility regime...“

<https://www.transnational-strike.info/2018/02/21/nine-good-reasons-for-organizing-transnationally-on-migrants-side/>

REVIEW

Charta of Palermo - Speech of Leoluca Orlando in November in Kassel



Explanations to the speech and a video-record (all in german), see

<https://clausstille.com/2017/12/09/24-friedenspolitischer-ratschlag-in-kassel-teil-4-leoluca-orlando-zur-charta-von-palermo/>

Links to the text of the Charta in italian, english and german:

<https://www.comune.palermo.it/>

<https://www.iom.int/>

<http://www.linksfraktion-hamburg.de/>



OUTLOOK

20.4. on Chios: Start of the Court Case against the Moria 35

The proceedings against the 35 accused of protests in the Hot-Spot Moria on Lesbos/Greece will start on 20.04.2018. In the summer of 2017 one of many protests occurred, following an insurrection due to inhumane living conditions in the so-called Hot-Spots on the Greek islands. Since the EU-Turkey deal of March 2017 the new arrivals are kept imprisoned indefinitely on the islands and threatened with deportation to Turkey. Following the insurrection, the counterinsurgency unit of the Greek police used excessive force, leading to several people being severely wounded and two hours later to the arbitrary arrest of 35 refugees from various West African countries. A marathon trial in April has now been announced. Thirty-five accused are being made an example of with in each case the same charges; they are charged vicariously for all those who put up resistance against the isolationist migration policy. During the court case international solidarity is required. Holding the court case on Chios instead of on Lesbos, means in the first place a restriction of the defense, because important defense witnesses are not allowed to travel. There are 35 accused, but targeted are all those who have to fight every day for freedom of movement. Free the Moria 35!

For more see: [#freethemoria3](#)

10th to 13th of May in Goettingen:

Conference of the big coalition of Antiracism

The network for critical Migration and border regime research, the discussion group migration of Rosa-Lux-foundation, the Solidarity City network and We`ll Come United invite for a conference in Goettingen. The four networks will create their own respective programs, but some podium-debates, several workshops and a final assembly will take place together. The preparations are still in the beginning, but We`ll Come United will start for sure on Thursday, 10th of May, in the afternoon to rediscuss about the already started mobilization for the new parade in September.

Contact for Information: kmii-hanau@antira.info

June 2018: Education not Deportation ... School-strike!

For June 2018 a big school-strike against deportation is in preparation, Initiative by a group of students from Nuremberg... First information on the following two websites:

<https://jabaaktion.wordpress.com>

<https://www.aktionbleiberecht.de/?p=13642>