

KOMPASS – ANTIRA – NEWSLETTER No. 73 – OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2018



+++ The most beautiful day of the year - more than 30.000 ppl in the We`ll Come United Parade - impressive demonstration for the daily uprising of solidarity+++ phenomenal 240.000 ppl in Berlin in the Unteilbar/Indivisible-Demo +++ 20.10. in Frankfurt: Demo against crazy rent-increase +++ 23.10. in Berlin: Press-conference on the case of Oury Jalloh +++ 28.10 in Berlin and at 17.11. in Mainz: Preparation meeting for actions against "100 years against deportation-prisons" +++ 2.-4.11. in Berlin: kritnet meeting - (Un)Doing borders, including a Solidarity City Workshop +++ Action CitizenAsylum - Campaign for spaces of protection against deportation +++ New Video-Documentation against deportations to Afghanistan +++ Mediterranea - Mare Ionio: New rescue boat from Italy in operation in central med +++ 4 years Alarm Phone +++ New transnational website-projekt: Missing at Borders +++ Updated Report from RSA/Pro Asyl about the hot spot system on the greek islands +++ Criminalization of luventa: Italy launches criminal investigation against rescuers+++ Protest against repression in Riace/Italien +++ Harmanli 21/Bulgaria: The trial has started – solidarity is more important than ever! +++ Review: 13.10. in Karlsruhe: statewide demonstration against racism +++ Outlook: 23.- 25.11. in Stockholm: Meeting of the Transnational Social Strike Plattform; 1./2.12. in Hamburg: Next meeting of We`ll Come United +++

Dear friends!

Yes, for us it really was the „most beautiful day of the year“! The call did not promise too much and the announced number of 25.000 participants in a press conference before the demonstration has even been outnumbered. We have been in many medias and demonstrated last not least to ourselves, that we are more than we

believe. More than 30.000 people took part in the We`ll Come United Parade at 29th of September in Hamburg. Never before such a big antiracist demonstration took place in Germany in this mixed composition, with selforganised refugees and migrants as central voices, and with clear demands for freedom of movement,

against all deportations and for equal rights for all.

Hundreds of events and visits in refugee camps, the „swarming out“ of already involved groups to convince new comrades, the conference of the „big coalition of antiracism“ in May in Goettingen, finally the We`ll Come United



summer camp in July in Brandenburg: all these activities have build the base for the great „signal from Hamburg“. And particular thanks and praise to the unbelievable preparation and dynamics of mobilization by the solidarity structures in Hamburg. We are still overwhelmed.

That the parade went so big and strong of course is connected with the general mood of indignation, which spread wider in Germany within last weeks (and currently - with the date of 16.10. - after the elections in Bavaria even the position of the right wing interior minister Seehofer is questioned). The protests of Seebrücken remain manifold and strong, in the demonstrations of „we are more“ and „ausgehetzt“ (stop the racist agitation) from Chemnitz via Rostock to Munich ten thousands of people stand up against right wing agitation and the atmosphere of pogroms. Moreover we see ongoing big demonstrations against new police laws and against the crazy rent increase. And last not least the great success in Hambacher Forest, which would not be possible without the persistence of the disobedient tree-squatters.

All these sentiments culminated now at 13th of October in the phenomenal 240.000 participants in the demonstration of Unteilbar/Indivisible in Berlin. „For an open and free society - solidarity not exclusion“ was the nice title, and it was and is more than regrettable, that the demand „for the right to come and to stay“ was deleted from the draft of the call. But Seebrücken and We`ll Come United have built an own block exactly with these demands in the demonstration of 13.10., and in the coming weeks and months the big challenge is given now to transmit these hopeful big mobilizations into a „daily uprising of solidarity“.

The situation appears paradoxical: the antiracist protest movement is in fact stronger than ever, but the tightening up of last years takes hard effects. The deportation machinery works in an appalling way. As changes on the political level cannot be expected, we can only count on a daily, factual blockade of the roll back.

How to re-appropriate the right to come and to stay, if it will not be granted in the foreseeable future? How to strengthen the sea rescue and how to get reopened the



harbours particularly in Italy and Malta? How to intensify the pressure in many cities in Germany and Europe in a common and simultaneous way, that refugees and rescued people will be directly relocated from southern Europe? How is it possible to develop concepts for a „relocation from below“, in which the needs of the affected people are put into the center? And in the same time to build up in practice the „underground railroad of

migration“ - strengthened structures of flight help into and within Europe? How to intervene against the more and more aggressive and effective (charter)deportations? How to come into a new offensive as solidarity cities and with citizen asylum? In the mobilizations on the streets the call for a „September and October of solidarity“ worked very well. Now it counts to transform and use this swing for concrete local practices of civil disobedience against the border regime.

No border lasts forever!



Your Kompass team

INFORMATION AND APPOINTMENTS FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2018

About the Parade of We`ll Come United on 29.9.18 in Hamburg - An impressive Demonstration for the day-to-day Uprising of Solidarity!



Below some choice links and quotes from newspaper reports and interviews given shortly before and after the magnificent Parade: first the short analytic Statement from the great, ‘special edition’ Parade website, where you can also read again the full program, information about the theme trucks and more: <https://antiracist-parade.org>

“It was possibly the most beautiful day of the year. Maybe it even was the most beautiful parade ever. Thirty thousand people came from everywhere and for

many of them it was like a short release: we are many and we can count on each other. But what is more important: that Saturday was like a promise and an appointment. The society of the many will protect and defend itself. In its centre are those who wait for their families and for their rights, those who are excluded, have their rights taken from them, are exploited and under attack. The Uprising of Solidarity against the racism of the AfD, Nazis, authorities and European governments is a beautiful uprising.”

About the **pre-parade press conference, with 11 representatives of self-organization set-ups:**

“One month after [the events in Chemnitz](#) the network We'll Come United calls for a mega demonstration in [Hamburg](#). For the parade with the motto ‘United Against Racism’ the alliance expects 25,000 participants. “In Chemnitz we showed that we are many more. On Saturday night we will show, what we mean by WE,” announced Newroz Duman, speaker for the network, and continued: “We say: all those who are here are from here.”

According to its own statements, the alliance wishes to prove that society does not allow itself to be split up and that solidarity is indivisible. “Refugees and migrants are not the others; migration is the mother of this society,” Duman emphasizes. For the speaker of the network, the Maaßen affair is an example of ‘the many facets of racism in



Germany’. “Racism is not only the business of Neonazis and the AfD. Racism is a total package,” Duman says. Racism decides about who is going to be rescued in the Mediterranean and who is not. Racism decides about who has a right to family life and a daily life without fear. According to Duman, the current [head of the Federal Agency for Protection of the Constitution, Hans-Georg Maaßen](#) epitomizes ‘in all its broad-mindedness this brotherhood of racism’.

<https://www.welt.de/regionales/hamburg/article181664746/Buendnis-gegen-Rassismus-Was-als-naechstes-Hoecke-als-Integrationsbeauftragter.html>

Interview in the Taz one day before the Parade:

“...On 7.7.18 the Sea Bridge Demos started, that brought tens of thousands of people in the street, then in Chemnitz, the concert after the Nazi march, with 70,000 people. The fervour of these movements is now here and we hope that many people understand what is so special about Welcome United. – What it is? – That refugees and migrants themselves play the major role and together tell their stories and bring their struggles to the attention...”

<http://www.taz.de/!5536262/>



Umbruch Bildarchiv has great pictures of the Parade:

“The Parade not only was a lot of fun, but also gave people courage and motivated them for further struggles in hard times, because everywhere – from the external borders to the inner cities – we have to defend our spaces and are confronted with the challenge, to expand this hopeful joint mobilization into becoming a ‘day-to-day Uprising

of Solidarity’.”

https://www.umbruch-bildarchiv.de/bildarchiv/ereignis/290918we_will_come_united.html

Taz article by Christian Jacob

Anti-racist Demo in Hamburg – **The signal hoped for** – ‘We’ll Come United’: Tens of thousands of people marched against racism. After all we are many more – that is the message. <http://www.taz.de/!5536664/>

The **next germanwide Meeting of We’ll Come United** will take place in the weekend of **1.12 and 2.12.18** in Hamburg. Contact and further information: mail@welcome-united.org

Webseite: <https://www.welcome-united.org>

Indivisible Demonstration with more than 240,000 people in Berlin



“#indivisible did exceed all expectations. Together we demonstrated: The solidary society, it is here, it shows itself – and this in all its variety. All those 242,000 people who were in the streets on 13.10.18, plus many more have understood what is at stake in our society, when the welfare state, flight and migration continue to be played off against each other. We know that the further restriction of basic and freedom rights, the permanent attacks against humanity, against human rights and freedom of religion, are attacks on all of us. 13.10.18 was a great day, because several hundreds of thousands of us went into the streets together, for social justice and against discrimination, against the swing to the right and for a free and solidary society. Things can and may not stay the way they are! Together we will dare an Uprising of Solidarity!...”

<https://www.unteilbar.org>

Video of the final announcement:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QCZQowvykD0>

Taz about Indivisible:

<http://www.taz.de/Ueber-200000-bei-Unteilbar-Demo/!5542697/>

<http://www.taz.de/!5542706/>

20. Oktober in Frankfurt: Resist! Together against division and gentrification - affordable flats for all

Demonstration #Mietenwahnsinn-Hessen, 13 Uhr, Hauptbahnhof Frankfurt:. Call and more in german here: <http://mietenwahnsinn-hessen.de>

23. Oktober in Berlin: Pressconference about the investigations in the case of Oury Jalloh

Press statement of the initiative in remembrance of Oury Jalloh (15.10.2018), who was burnt in a police cell in 2005.

Invitation to the press conference with members of the independent international Research commission to clarify the truth about the death of Oury Jalloh on Tuesday, 23. Oktober 2018 / 10 Uhr, Haus der Demokratie und Menschenrechte, Greifswalder Straße 4 | 10405 Berlin (Prenzlauer Berg)

Official Video-Link for the Press conference(youtube):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8wE5YnlUxw&feature=youtu.be>

<https://initiativeouryjalloh.wordpress.com/2018/10/14/pressekonferenz-am-23-oktober-2018-in-berlin-video-trailer/#more-5061>

Information about the press conference:

https://initiativeouryjalloh.files.wordpress.com/2018/09/2018-09-10-pm_pressekonferenz_-_2018-10-23.pdf

Let us see at 23. Oktober 2018 in Berlin!



28.10 in Frankfurt and 17.11. in Mainz: Preparation meeting for "100 Years against deportation detention (Abschiebehaft)"

A 100 years ago, the first Abschiebeknast opened in Germany – it's the 100th anniversary of Abschiebehaft in Germany and the fight against it.

A nationwide decentral action campaign is planned from 24.05. - 26.05.2019, and also a demonstration on 31.08.2019 in Büren and Paderborn

To plan the action week in Hessen: Preparation meeting on Sunday, 28.10.2018 from 2 pm in Frankfurt am Main in the Klapperfeldstraße 5 at the Initiative Faites Votre Jeu!

The next nationwide networking meeting will take place on 17.11.18 from 1-6pm in Mainz (invitation follows). More Information:

http://100-jahre-abschiebehaft.de/my-calendar?cid=my-calendar&mc_id=1

There is an info newsletter. Subscribe here:

<http://100-jahre-abschiebehaft.de/aktiv-werden/maillingliste>

There are several lectures and workshops: "History of Abschiebehaft", "What is Abschiebehaft?", Consultation in Abschiebehaft, Prevention of

Abschiebehaft and other lectures on demand. If interested, simply contact

contact@100-years-abschiebehaft.de

Further information (soon also in English): <http://100-jahre-abschiebehaft.de/>

1.-4.11. in Berlin: kritnet meeting „(Un-)Doing borders“, including a Solidarity City Workshop

In the frame of the 12th kritnet-meeting with the title „(Un-)Doing borders. Realities of the border regime - utopias of freedom of movement on Sunday, 4th of November, a networking meeting on Solidarity Cities will take place: „Quo Vadis? Updates and exchange about the Future“.

Program, registration and more on the following website:



<https://eveeno.com/kritnet17>

Action Citizens' Asylum – campaign for shelter against deportations



In several cities initiatives which publicly announce their intention to protect refugees from being deported to their countries of origin or other EU states have been founded. In an act of civil disobedience and by providing private living space, active parts of civil society oppose the forced return of humans into misery or detention, persecution or even war. Citizens' asylum therefore will be both practical and symbolic resistance to the prevalent politics of exclusion.

On the new campaign website there is further information, a common call, a first series of

posters and short descriptions and contact information for the local initiatives, see <https://aktionbuergerinnenasyl.de>

New video documentation against deportations to Afghanistan

A new 15 to 20 minute video documentation by Fish in Waters Films/Berlin against deportations to Afghanistan is under production and will be provided from early November for presentation at events. It centers on Afghani refugees in Kabul, Athens and Berlin who have been deported or are threatened by deportation or who are once again fleeing. These interviews are complemented by statements from activists who fight against the „charte of hame“ on different levels.

A first teaser for the video project can be found here:

<https://vimeo.com/291895519>

Contact: info@fishinwaterfilms.com

Mediterranea - Mare Ionio: New Rescue Ship from Italy in operation in the central mediterranean sea

„Mediterranea is a platform of different initiatives of civil society coming to the central Mediterranean after the NGOs have been forced to leave in consequence of being criminalized by political rhetoric, even though no inquiry has ever come to any conviction. (...) The action of Mediterranea is moral disobedience and civil obedience. Disobedience to the nationalist and xenophobic public discourse and to the interdiction of witnessing what is happening in the Mediterranean; but obeying to the constitutional and international law, the law on the seas and general human rights, including the obligation of saving those who are in danger and bringing them to a safe harbor. The associations at the heart of this project, ARCI and Ya Basta Bologna, NGOs like Sea-Watch, the online magazine “I Diavoli”, social enterprises like Moltivolti from Palermo, want to create a new safer





space at the center of the Mediterranean sea: open, showing solidarity and built on the respect of human life.

The work of the promoters is only the first step: many meetings and confrontations on this project are being held with catholic organizations, associations and volunteers, with representatives of social spaces, national and European politicians, and mayors of major cities in Italy and Europe. Mediterranea decided to bring a ship flying the Italian flag to the sea, prepared to monitor, but also ready for rescue, knowing better than ever that saving one life in danger means saving all of us. The main goal is to be where we are needed, to witness and document what is happening, and if necessary, save whoever risks to die in the central Mediterranean, as requested by current regulations. Mediterranea is present also on shore by creating a support network. A real platform of social connections between existing networks and individuals who want to participate in this venture. (...) The network of cities of refuge, or cities of hospitality are a natural interlocutor for this project. Those European and Italian cities, which have developed best practices of hospitality, and which fight against closing their harbors and creating a continuous massacre by this closure, are the most efficient, rational and important answer to the irrational and often illegal politics of Italy and Europe in the matter of asylum rights, human rights, the obligation of saving life and rescuing people who risk their life. Mediterranea cures valuable relationships with the main NGOs that do SAR activity in the Mediterranean sea, collaborating especially with Sea-Watch and Proactiva Open Arms. ...“

Full statement and more info: <https://mediterraneaescue.org/>

4 Years Alarmphone and report on September 2018

4 Years of Alarm Phone, shaped by a myriad of personal stories of struggle and survival.

„On the 11th of October 2018, the Alarm Phone turned four years old. In these four years, we became a network of around 150 activists from many different cities on all sides of the Mediterranean, mainly in Europe and Northern Africa.(...) Over the past four years, we have seen what can happen, when people call activists from the sea and when we work collectively to undo Europe’s violent borders. From October 2014 to September 2018, we have worked on over 2,400 emergency cases in the different regions of the Mediterranean. (...) We have always regarded the attempts to cross the sea as moments in which the freedom of movement is enacted and expressed. Through our activism, we want to support these enactments and expressions and understand ourselves as part of an existing ‘migratory underground railroad’ that creates paths of escape in violent conditions. As we have said many times before – our work is not the solution. The Alarm Phone and Search and Rescue NGOs should not have to exist. People should never have to board these unseaworthy vessels and risk their lives just to cross a border. But as long as this is the case, as long as Europe violently ‘protects’ its borders against those it seeks to exploit elsewhere, but does not want to have in its midst, we will continue with our work. We will continue to listen to those in situations of life-and-death and support their expressions of freedom in whatever way we can.“

The whole statement here:

https://alarmphone.org/en/2018/10/12/the-alarm-phone-is-4-years-old/?post_type_release_type=post

AP-Report about September 2018:

United against Racism: For Safe Havens and Cities of Solidarity

Alarm Phone 4 Week Report, 3. – 30. September 2018



Over 1,700 counted fatalities in the Mediterranean this year +++ We'll Come United Parade in Hamburg +++ Developments in all three Mediterranean regions +++ Summaries of 61 Alarm Phone distress cases

https://alarmphone.org/en/2018/10/05/united-against-racism-for-safe-havens-and-cities-of-solidarity/?post_type_release_type=post

New transnational Website-Project - Missing at the Borders: The website for the project dedicated to the families of migrants deceased, missing or victims of enforced disappearances

“People not numbers”. This is the fundamental principle that guides Missing at the Borders, the project aimed at giving voice to the victims of enforced disappearances and the families of migrants who have become deceased or missing while attempting to reach Europe.

The self-financed initiative is promoted by a network of organizations that works on both sides of the Mediterranean to combine forces with the families of migrants. Ever since the project's beginning, various actors – such as Milano senza frontiere, Como senza frontiere, Palermo senza frontiere, Carovane Migranti, Association des travailleurs Maghrébins de France, Alarm Phone and Watch the Med – have assisted Missing at the Borders to raise awareness for the cause.

The network of organizations has created a website (www.missingattheborders.org) to shed light on the sad phenomenon of the “new desaparecidos”. Although the website has been online for just a few days, it hosts a collection of stories and testimonies of family members of migrants who have been involved in denouncing European politics on migration that, by denying regular entrance into Europe, force people to risk their lives and violate their right to mobility established by Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The website currently provides detailed information about the migrant phenomenon, as well as information on the present situation in countries such as Tunisia and Algeria. The individual video testimonies of the families of migrants are particularly interesting and touching – their voices tell anecdotes, stories about walks of life, and inform about decisions made in order to truly transform the dramatic “numbers” associated with the phenomenon into real facts and events that these people have experienced ... More informations here: <https://missingattheborders.org/en/>

Updated Report from RSA/Pro Asyl about the hot spot system on the greek islands

The “hotspots” experiment: removing human rights from the equation»

Gradually, hotspots on the Greek islands have acquired more characteristics far different to those initially announced in terms of their operation and human rights guarantees.

Everything shows that a new model of violent psychological deterrence has been established in Europe for those crossing borders irregularly and arrive in Greece. This model is based on the practice of geographical limitation and degrading first reception conditions.

The Greek hotspots have been transformed into areas where human rights are being systematically breached. It is extremely problematic that these breaches continue despite the fact that a number of international organizations supervise and contribute to the hotspot operations.

Despite the human misery inflicted by the measure of geographical restriction, the Greek authorities have persisted with its implementation as a means to implement the toxic EU-Turkey deal. The measure does not allow refugees to travel to the mainland and makes any referrals to proper accommodation according to the individuals' needs and vulnerabilities difficult. Meanwhile, transfer to the mainland remain very slow due to the reported lack of available places in camps there.

It is of particular importance that the way hotspots operate since the implementation of the deal has led parts of the local island communities to shift towards extreme conservative positions and on several occasions, racist attacks. However, for the political European elite this model is still considered successful. In one of the recent European summit, it was presented as a good practice to be implemented in the Central European countries according.

Refugee Support Aegean (RSA), as an organization that systematically monitors developments in the hotspots, calls for the halt of creating grey zones where human rights are systematically violated and local communities are pushed to xenophobia and racism in the name of implementing the toxic EU-Turkey deal.

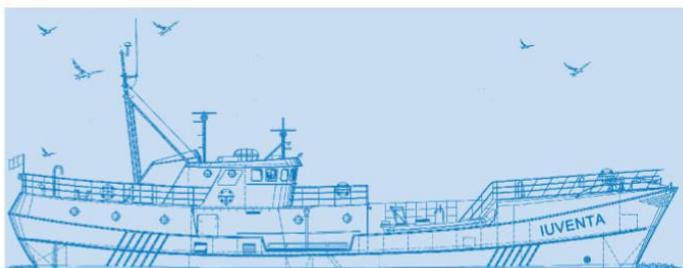
In this note, RSA presents the current hotspot situation on Lesvos, Chios, Samos, Leros, Kos and adds to the information [published in previous notes](#).

<http://rsaegean.org/the-hotspots-experiment/>

Criminalization of Iuventa: Italy launches criminal investigation against rescuers

... Almost one year following the seizure of the rescue ship Iuventa of the organisation Jugend Rettet, the Italian prosecutor in Trapani has officially initiated investigations into 22 individuals for allegedly favouring illegal immigration to Italy while conducting rescue operations in the central Mediterranean Sea off the Libyan coast. Amongst those investigated are ten crew members of the Iuventa. The charge carries a sentence of up to 15 years in prison.

The Iuventa crew rejects the baseless allegations brought against it and condemns the



criminalisation of civil rescue organisations. „If we have to answer in court for having saved these people, Europe has reached political and moral rock bottom. Should it prove a crime to save lives, then I remain on the right side of the dock.“ Kathrin Schmidt, Head of Mission / Iuventa ...

Press Statement and more information here:

<https://solidarity-at-sea.org>

https://solidarity-at-sea.org/en_criminal_investigation_against_rescuers

Solidarity-Protests for the mayor from Riace/Italy

„About 4000 people protested on Saturday afternoon in the south Italian city Riace against the arrest of the mayor Mimmo Lucano... ..“

Articles, Press-report and more in Labournet:

http://www.labournet.de/internationales/italien/soziale_konflikte-italien/solidaritaet-kann-man-nicht-verhaften-demonstrationen-und-proteste-gegen-die-festnahme-eines-buergermeisters-in-sueditalien-wegen-begebenstigung-illegaler-einwanderung/

Harmanli 21/Bulgaria: The trial has started – solidarity is more important than ever!

In August 2018 in Sofia the trial against refugees has started after a revolt in June 2016 against the unlawful and degrading detention system. The accused refugees are still imprisoned.

About the background, the trial and solidarity activities here:

<https://harmanli21.wordpress.com/2018/08/09/the-trial-has-started-solidarity-is-more-important-than-ever/>

<http://bulgaria.bordermonitoring.eu/2018/08/07/the-trial-against-the-harmanli-21-has-started/>

<http://bulgaria.bordermonitoring.eu/2018/09/28/trial-against-the-harmanli-21-again-postponed/>

REVIEW

13/10 in Karlsruhe: statewide demonstration against racism and deportations



Parallel to the Unteilbar demo in Berlin there was a Baden-Württemberg-wide demonstration against racism and deportations and for equal rights.

„On Saturday we determinedly demonstrated together with refugees in Karlsruhe and demanded equal rights for all. We

clearly rejected nationalist and racist hate. We were about 2500 people from different cities in Baden-Württemberg who are active in various groups and organisations. The demonstration was a moment of cooperation, an expression of a common protest. Our powers are joined. The call will determine our agenda in the future. The network has become stronger through this event and through further contacts. At the same time we know that the political challenges are growing and so is the necessity to take to the streets together...“

Press information and further info here: <http://stop-deportation.de>

Contact: info@stop-deportation.de

OUTLOOK

23./24. November in Stockholm: Treffen der Transnational Social Strike Plattform - Against the Logistics of Exploitation.

November 23-24th // 2018 – TSS Meeting Call Out

„All across Europe and in its peripheries, workers, migrants, precarious are confronting neoliberal reforms, intensified exploitation and institutional racism. Experimentations of cross-border organization against global giants such as Amazon, migrants striking the borders of Europe, the women of the global feminist strike and the workers and students on strike in France and elsewhere: these are signals of an insubordination that makes capital reorganize. Yet the lack of a common political initiative on a transnational scale urges us to come together: present and future struggles are in need of coordination efforts.

...“

More here: <https://www.transnational-strike.info/2018/05/24/against-the-logistics-of-exploitation-stockholm-november-23-24th-2018-tss-meeting-call-out-2/>
<https://www.facebook.com/events/342866613135963/>

At 1./2. December in Hamburg: Meeting of We`ll Come United

The next germanwide meeting from We`ll Come United will take place at the weekend of 1st and 2nd of December in Hamburg.

Contact and more information: mail@welcome-united.org

Website: <https://www.welcome-united.org>

