

KOMPASS – ANTIrA – NEWSLETTER No. 74 – DECEMBER/JANUARY 2018

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Dear friends!

Rabat, Barcelona and Hamburg: it was no coincidence that simultaneous meetings and conferences took place in these three cities at the beginning of December. In Hamburg it was about follow-up and further planning at We'll Come United after the great anti-racist parade at the end of September.



I The Welcome to Europe network met in Barcelona to organise the distribution of the newly produced "Welcome to Spain" brochures (see <http://w2eu.info/spain.en.html>) and to prepare a transnational summer camp for summer 2019. Finally, Morocco: an impressive meeting of around 80 WatchTheMed Alarm Phone activists took place in Oujda at the beginning of November. Numerous Sub-Saharan activists took part and a lively exchange succeeded against the background of daily crossing attempts as well as arbitrary raids, arrests and "banishment-transports" to southern Morocco. This makes it all the more remarkable that on 1 December, despite and against these intensified repressions, around 400 participants gathered at a conference of self-organised migrants in Rabat. From the impressive short report: "...partly the whole hall chanted "Boza" (the call for freedom at the fences of Ceuta and Melilla), partly tears flowed, for instance when children and youths from 11 countries (including

Morocco) performed a play about the common togetherness in Morocco...".



Oujda, November 2018

The western Mediterranean, i.e. from Morocco to Spain, and then further towards France and beyond, has developed into the most important escape route to Europe in terms of numbers for the first time in 2018. Almost 60,000 people (as of 5.12.18) have made it across the sea in small boats or climbing over the fences of Ceuta and Melilla. At the same time, solidarity structures in Spain have multiplied, and migration movements have initially created new spaces here.

In the Aegean, about 30,000 people landed on the Greek islands in 2018, slightly more than last year. The overcrowding and undersupply in the hotspots has become a permanent condition, while on the land border with Turkey the practice of illegal pushbacks continues unabated - and in the last few days has apparently claimed the first fatalities of this winter, when three refugees on the Turkish side of the border river apparently froze to death after a pushback by Greek border police.

Finally, the central Mediterranean, where the EU's equipment of Libyan interception militias, the closure of ports in Italy and the blocking and criminalisation of sea rescue for 2018 has simultaneously led to the

lowest numbers of arrivals and the highest death rate. In view of this, the three rescue organisations Sea Watch, Pro Activa Open Arms and Mediterranea published a joint manifesto on 23rd November.



Oujda, November 2018

The manifesto states: "That is why we have formed an alliance for a 'Europa in solidarity', both at sea and on land and in the air. A humanitarian fleet consisting of Mediterranea, Open Arms and Sea-Watch, but open to other organisations, is setting sail together; a fleet closely linked to and supported by a network of humanitarian cities, movements and civil organisations around the world to defend the most basic human rights: Life and dignity. We will prove that active civil society is not only ready to save lives at sea, but is also able to create a new Europe and a just reception system on land. We call on European cities, mayors, citizens, associations, movements, organisations and all those who believe in our mission to act. Join our civil alliance and let us stand up together and courageously demand a future full of respect and equality. We will stand together for the right to come and for the right to stay..."

This can only be underlined and as already quoted in the last Kompass by We'll Come United: From the Sea to the Cities, from the external borders to the inner cities, it's about an "uprising of solidarity", the establishment and



expansion of daily structures for freedom of movement and equal rights for all. The "Relocation from below", the safe onward journey and distribution of arrivals according to their interests and community structures in Europe, marks a pillar of this struggle. In the coming months, the strong mobilisation of the sea bridge and the declarations of readiness of many mayors and municipalities must be continued and the pressure for concrete implementation intensified. Feasible proposals for municipal refugee reception with refinancing by EU funds have long been on the table.

The Kompass-Crew

P.S.: Special greetings of solidarity also go to the other side of the Atlantic, where thousands of Central American migrants demand their right to come and stay in common marches to the north. A central slogan: "We are not criminals, we are international workers".

"Whoever doesn't drown will be deported?" This is a slogan on one of the posters of <https://aktionbuergerinnenasyl.de/>. And brings the connection with it to the point. We need joint campaigns against exclusion and deportation, which will once again become more powerful in everyday life and which will practically stand up to the racist offensive of the border regime - with the same tenacity as the flight and migration movements themselves.

DATES AND INFORMATION FOR DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

From Rabat via Barcelona to Hamburg: for 'Boza' and freedom of movement

« La Parole aux Migrant.e.s »

A short message about the conference in Rabat on 1./2.12. Political speeches, workshops, poetry, theatre, family celebration, music, good food – and much more: with 400 participants a conference of self-organized migrants took place on 1./2.12 in Rabat,



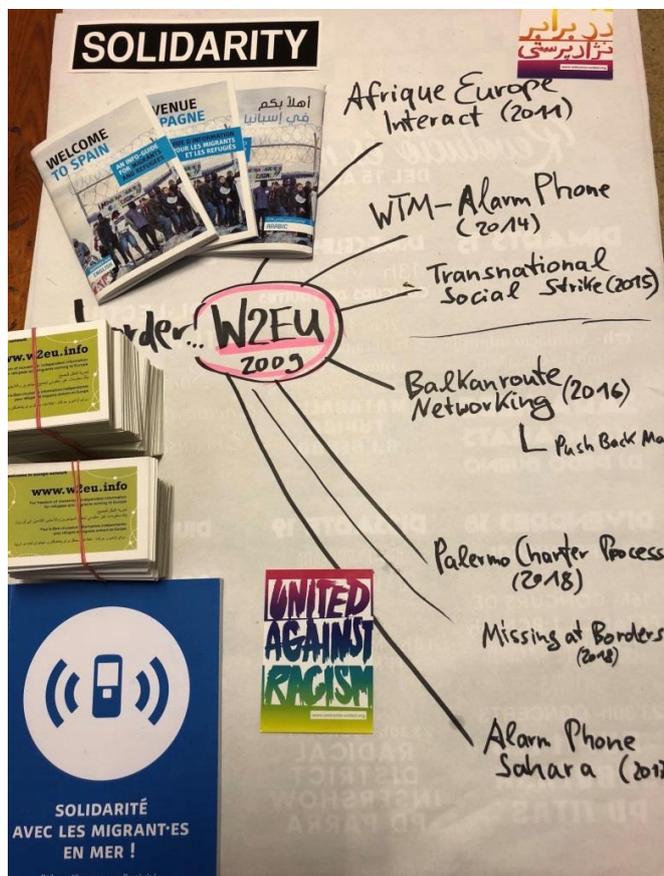
Morocco, which had been prepared by the ARCOM, the organization for migrant self-organization founded in 2005 (in cooperation with Afrique-Europe-Interact and the European Citizens' Forum). Even migrants and/or refugees who have been in Morocco since 2004 said that there has never been such a big conference. It was also undisputed that the atmosphere was incredibly impressive – on the one hand the entire hall chanted 'Boza' (the freedom call at the fences of Ceuta and Melilla), on the other hand tears were shed, for instance when children and/or adolescents from 11 countries (including Morocco)

<http://kompass.antira.info> | Contact: kompass-notify@antira.info
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performed a theatre play, which was about their living together in Morocco. The most often repeated slogan at the conference must have been ‘nous sommes tous ensemble’ : we all do belong together! Accordingly, many of the participants said that also the psychological-therapeutic effect (in a narrower sense) had been enormous. Two mothers mentioned that, for the first time in a long period, their children had eaten and/or danced again at the conference. And something else: the conference was closely connected to the relief centre for women and their children, founded in Rabat in 2015 by the ARCOM and Afrique-Europe-Interact – this was also the reason why the situation of female migrants was one of the main issues at the conference. At the end of the conference, a political claim for a third regularization wave was made towards Moroccan politicians, while furthermore the question was raised as to how a social centre managed by migrants themselves could be founded in Rabat. By contrast the claim towards Europe was more fundamental, it being about the right to freedom of movement, as well as about at last making an end to the exploitation of African countries. More info and images soon at : www.afrique-europe-interact.net



1./2.12. in Barcelona – network meeting of Welcome to Europe



Etwa About 20 activists from different cities in Spain, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia, France, Switzerland and Germany met in early December in order to discuss the further development of the multilingual web guide www.w2eu.info and to exchange ideas concerning current struggles. Apart from the situation in the Balkan and in particular the resistance against the pushbacks on the route from Bosnia to Croatia, Slovenia and Italy, the western Mediterranean route was an important issue. A brand new Welcome-to-Spain Guide has recently been completed in four languages and printed in an edition of 7,500 copies to be spread, see <http://w2eu.info/spain.en.html> Furthermore a transnational summer camp is being planned for July 2019, to which activists from the various antiracist networks in Europe and Africa will be invited in order to exchange ideas and debate strategies. Contact at: contact@w2eu.info



1.12. in Hamburg: We`ll Come United - Bilanz und Perspektiven

About 50 activists from various cities (and in 6 languages) met for a common evaluation. Some impressions:

- in 2017 we were 10.000 people, now we were about 33.000 people, a complete success! The more than 40 trucks were perhaps too many, but there were many very important topics represented and visible and audible, that was great! Mood, expression, spirit and the composition were beautiful, encouraging, touching, constructive, moving, strong! The atmosphere was relaxed, respectful, dignified.
- Of the 33.000 there were about 1/3 Refugees + Migrants (nationwide a lot of people from camps, Italy, France, Niger, Denmark, Switzerland, Netherlands etc.) and 2/3 "Germans" from different cities, groups, networks and social circles. After the racist riots in Chemnitz, because of the sea bridge and the good mobilization in different circles even more people came than hoped.
- The organization was very good, the giant parade went well! There was a little chaos at some places (e.g. at the bus departure, some trucks were too loud and disturbed others), but all in all it worked very well. There were 6000 meals, food for the truck crews, 630 sleeping places, 40 buses and the financing also worked.
- The two press conferences before the parade were helpful, there was a lot of good media coverage!
- The diversity of the movement became visible (but more is possible).

- The cohesion became visible and perceptible (but there is even more possible)...

With regard to the further perspectives in 2019, much is still open and conceivable. The "Swarming" is to be further developed, We'll Come United wants to mobilize in any case to Saxony, where there will be state elections next year and many networks are considering actions. And there should be a lot of space to stabilize and strengthen the internal structures. On 9 and 10 February there will be a weekend meeting in Frankfurt on this topic. Contact for this meeting kmi-hanau@antira.info

Further information will soon be available here: <https://www.welcome-united.org>

9.12.2018 - 15:00 Hermannplatz, Neukölln, Berlin

"Cause of death: flight" - against the deadly indifference

"Over the past 25 years, more than 35,000 people have lost their lives fleeing to and from Europe. 35,000 people, 35,000 stories, 35,000 deaths, which the European Union accepts as the price of its deadly isolationist policy.

On International Human Rights Day 2018, the list of the dead is now being published in book form. Only the documented cases are documented, most of the deaths are recorded anonymously. Survivors of the escape have told the editors some names of their dead, others have been researched. The list was supplemented by portraits and photos of the people.

The book, Cause of Death: Escape. An Incomplete List" is a monument to the dead and a tribute to the living - to the families who lost one of their loved ones and to those who survived. The book is intended to awaken and raise awareness of the fact that behind every number there is a human being. Dying must stop!

For us, the International Human Rights Day is no occasion to celebrate. On 9 December, one day before International Human Rights Day, we would like to commemorate the dead together and send a signal against the inhuman border policy of the European Union.

On 9 December, one day before the International Day of Human Rights, borderline-europe, IPPNW, Gangway e.V., Seebrücke Berlin, Corasol and the editors invite you to an event



on Hermannplatz. There we would like to commemorate the dead and set a political signal against the inhuman border policy of the European Union.

We will read together the names, dates and causes of the deaths of those who fell victim to the border regime in 2018 and will symbolically bury the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The participants in the rally* will be invited to send ready-made cards with the names of victims to the Federal Ministry of the Interior.

Come in large numbers and let us show them: We do not care what happens on Europe's external borders in our name. We do not look away. We will not sit back and watch the list grow day by day.

<https://www.borderline-europe.de/termin/2018124> /"cause of death-flight"---against-the-lethal- indifference

Seebrücke on 10th of December – Not my Europe



More than 2065 people died this year alone at Europe's external borders, most of them drowned in the Mediterranean Sea. From 10 December, Human Rights Day, to 14 December, the Seebrücke commemorates

those who died fleeing to Europe.

These people had desires and dreams. They could live in peace today if the European states had not blocked their rescue. The Italian and Maltese governments are blocking their ports and stop the civilian sea rescue ships. For days on end, other states refuse to accept even a few dozen people, or they completely refuse to do so. At the same time, European governments are criminalising civilian sea rescue organisations and activists. An EU that has turned its southern border into a mass grave is #NotOurEurope and we hope not yours either!

Our Europe is open and united, our Europe is diverse and migrant. We want to live in a Europe where every life counts equally, where human rights are respected and where saving people is not a crime. We do not want less rescue operations, but much, much more.

We want to live in a society based on solidarity; solidarity means becoming active oneself, it means breaking the silence and opposing anti-human politics.

We take attention. We will remember the dignity and rights of those who died and those who fight for their rights day by day.

Whole appeal and further information: <https://seebruecke.org/startseite/nichtmeineuropa/>

All actions of the next weeks: <https://seebruecke.org/events/>

Solidarity with the Briançon 7 - Solidarity knows no borders!

For the final trial on 13.12.2018 in Gap/France

Demonstration in Berlin on 12.12. at 18 o'clock Pariser Platz

On 21.4.18 fascists of the generation Identitaire pulled a fence at the French border to Italy and took there "position" with approx. 100 persons, cars and helicopters. They patrolled the border and chased migrants into the arms of the police. The police and the judiciary let them do it. On 22.4.18 there was an anti-racist demonstration as a reaction to this

provocation. About 400 participants, some of them migratory, walked from the Italian



border pass to France. There were arrests with 3 people imprisoned for more than 3 weeks. Another person was beaten during a police check. Now 7 people are accused by the French judiciary of "gang aiding and abetting the immigration of foreigners with irregular status on French soil". The public prosecutor's office demands sentences between six months on probation and one year in prison. Obviously, the

French judiciary wants to set an example and criminalise practical solidarity with migrants. In times in which racists and their provocations are more and more part of our everyday life, it is up to us to show solidarity on the Mediterranean, in the Alps or in Berlin!

13.12. to 17.12.2018 in Marburg, Hanover, Göttingen, Dresden, Berlin

Film screening & interview: Moria 35

Greece, Lesbos, 2017: For months refugees have been protesting against the inhumane living conditions in the Moria camp. A peaceful sit-down strike comes to a violent end on 18 June. The police storm the refugee camp and brutally arrest 35 men. They are held in prison for nine months before the trial started, although there is no evidence against them. "As I understand it, I was only arrested because I was black," concludes Didier Ndiay from Senegal. The first part of the film follows the various protests and arrests of the 35 men in the Moria camp. The second part accompanies the trial of the refugees and gives an outlook on their different life situations after the sentencing, ranging from a life in freedom to detention and deportation.

The case of the Moria 35 is paradigmatic for an ongoing criminalisation of refugees in the Greek islands since the conclusion of the EU-Turkey Deal. Therefore, at the beginning of the film there will be a brief introduction to the situation of refugees since the EU-Turkey deal of March 2016. The film will be followed by an open discussion with director Fridoon Joinda, who himself lived as a refugee on Lesbos and has made numerous films about the situation on the island, and with producer Valeria Hänsel, who is part of the Bordermonitoring organisation and the network for critical migration and border regime research on Lesbos. At the events in Göttingen and Berlin, the lawyer Lorraine Leete, who has been providing legal advice for refugees at the Legal Center Lesbos for 2 years, will also provide information about the legal background.

We show the film in English in five different cities:

13.12. Marburg (Capitol cinema); 20:00 clock

14.12. Hanover (Echkeller), 19:00 clock

15.12. Göttingen (lecture hall, Platz der Göttinger Sieben, HSG); 19:00 o'clock

16.12. Dresden (Kosmotique e. V.), 19:00 o'clock

17.12. Berlin (Moviemento cinema), 19:00 hrs

More information about film and director here:

<https://joindaproductions.wordpress.com/films>

<https://www.borderline-europe.de/termine>



15.12. in Büren, 19.1.19 in Munich (?): Next preparatory meeting for the campaign "100 years against deportation imprisonment".

100
JAHRE
ABSCHIEBE
HAFT

The next nationwide meeting is unfortunately not yet fixed - currently 19.1. is being considered in Munich.

The decentralized action days will take place from 10.-12.5.2019! (Postponed)

Announcement and invitation: Nationwide lecture tour "100 Years of Deportation Detention", organized by antifa paderborn _ Kritik & Praxis

In 2019 there will be for 100 years the deportation detention in Germany.

As part of the "100 Years of Deportation Detention" campaign, we are organizing a lecture tour throughout Germany. In this lecture we will clarify what deportation

detention means, give information about the campaign and talk about the inhuman history of deportation detention. A more detailed description of the content can be found here:

<http://100-jahre-abschiebehaf.de/>

As part of the nationwide campaign, we would like to visit more than 50 cities in Germany.

If you are interested, please contact us at kontakt@100-jahre-abschiebehaf.de

We hope for a good cooperation - Down with the German, murderous tradition of deportation detention!

31.8. Big demonstration in Büren.

Next Bürendemo planning meeting takes place on 15.12. at 13 o'clock in the Infoladen, Paderborn.

Seebrücke: Safe harbor map

Since the foundation of the Seebrücke in July 2018, many cities, municipalities, communes and some state governments have declared their solidarity with the Seebrücke and have spoken out against Europe's isolationist policy. What this means locally and exactly is very different in each case.

Here you will find a list of the "safe harbours" in Germany and what the local government has committed itself to.

<https://seebruecke.org/startseite/sichere-haefen-in-deutschland/>

Recommendations to read:

Collected information and assessments on the **Migration Pact** :

<http://www.taz.de/Migrationspakt-aus-ExpertInnen-Sicht/!5552609/>

"Everything else over a cup of tea..." - Developing left-wing urban politics from the perspective of migration" - this is a standard sentence in the repertoire of the enlightened left. But what does that mean in concrete terms, which attitudes, alliances, actor groups come into play and how? Questions to city researcher Andrej Holm and designer Sandy Kaltenborn of Kotti & Co.

<https://www.rosalux.de/publikation/id/39629/alles-weitere-bei-einer-tasse-tee/>

Newspaper from Afrique-Europe-Interact :

<https://afrique-europe-interact.net/1768-0-taz-Beilage-12-2018.html> .

Campaigns for CitizenAsylum - in Berlin and germanwide

From the call in Berlin:



As long as people are deported, it is up to us citizens to stand up and hide those who are in danger!

Support the call of Bürger*innen-Asyl Berlin and publicly declare that you would hide a person threatened with deportation at your home!

<https://buerger-innen-asyl-berlin.org/call/>

First of all, we understand citizenAsylum as a political campaign against deportations. That is why we collect signatures that say clearly and unequivocally: We will hide refugees threatened with deportation in our homes. We understand this announcement as civil disobedience. Although supporters of this campaign only declare a theoretical intention, the more signatures we have, the stronger our campaign will be. And the more people publicly declare to hide people, the safer the actual sanctuaries will be.

Let's open our doors and say NO to the inhuman migration policy decisions of the federal government. Let us make Berlin a city of solidarity, where refugees can find security and support. Together, we can promote solidarity and shape Berlin as a place that welcomes fugitives." The complete call and further information on the initiative in Berlin can be found here: <https://buerger-innen-asyl-berlin.org>

Germanwide information and first posters for Aktion BürgerInnenAsyl here:

<https://aktionbuergerinnenasyl.de>

Civil Fleet: Joint deployment in the central Mediterranean Sea

"Together with the Spanish organization Open Arms and the Italian partner project Mediterranea, Sea-Watch 3 returns to the search and rescue zone off Libya. Previously, the ship had been illegally detained in Malta for almost four months, while the death rate in the Mediterranean rose to a record high.

The fleet of three ships from three countries, which is also supported by the Moonbird reconnaissance aircraft, sees itself as a civil society response to the deadly sealing off policy of the European Union and will carry out a joint search and rescue operation in the central Mediterranean and document human rights violations...". The complete Sea Watch press release here: <https://sea-watch.org/sea-watch-startet-nach-fast-viermonatiger-blockade-in-europaeische-rettungsmission/>

The common manifesto quoted in the introduction is here:

https://sea-watch.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/MANIFEST_GER.pdf

WatchTheMed Alarm Phone: Report and Call for donations

From the Report from 19.11.2018 - **Torture or Death - The Options Europe offers to Freedom-Seekers**

„...The rescue vacuum in the Central Mediterranean Sea – due to the criminalisation of non-governmental rescuers and the intentional disengagement of European authorities from rescuing – has directly contributed to the high death count this year, and the return of thousands into conditions of confinement, torture, extortion, and sexual violence in Libya. The only chance for people to escape from Libya is to find a boat that is well-equipped and that carries enough petrol to overcome the death zone that stretches over 300 km – 160

sea miles – to reach Lampedusa by themselves and unnoticed while in the so-called Libyan SAR zone. Europe has handed over the mandate to the Libyan authorities to abduct precarious people at high sea. We fail to find words for the perversity of the situation – with torture or death seemingly being the only options left for people seeking safety in Europe...”

Full Report here: <https://alarmphone.org/en/2018/11/19/torture-or-death-the-options-europe-offers-to-freedom-seekers/>

From the Call for Donations:

“Most emergency calls reach us in the early hours of the day, between 3 and 8am. They come from boats in the Central Mediterranean, the Aegean, and more recently especially from the Strait of Gibraltar. In recent months, we were alerted almost every day by one or several boats in distress in the Mediterranean. Our shift teams do everything they can to ensure that the people at sea are rescued as quickly as possible, by calling and providing crucial information to the coastguards and, if rescue measures are not initiated immediately, by public pressure...” Full Call here:

<https://alarmphone.org/en/campaigns/call-for-donations/>

Harmanli 21/Bordercrossings to Bulgaria

attached you can find new information about current Border crossings to Bulgaria and the Harmanli 21 court case:

Border crossings to Bulgaria are increasing: <http://bulgaria.bordermonitoring.eu/2018/11/11/border-crossings-to-bulgaria-are-increasing/>

Harmanli 21: Four stay in Lyubimets – the others have asked for repatriation:

<http://bulgaria.bordermonitoring.eu/2018/11/29/harmanli-21-4-stay-in-lyubimtes-the-others-have-asked-for-repatriation/>

About the caravan of migrants in Mexico

Interesting reports from medico international:



<https://www.medico.de/karawane-exodus-17242/>

Reports from Labournet:

<http://kompass.antira.info> | Contact: kompass-notify@antira.info
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http://www.labournet.de/internationales/guatemala/soziale_konflikte-guatemala/nachdem-sie-von-der-us-polizei-misshandelt-wurden-werden-rund-100-menschen-von-der-mexikanischen-regierung-abgeschoben/

REVIEW

Alarm Phone Sahara

At the end of November a series of meetings with an activist from Agadez/Niger took place called: **'The Alarm Phone Sahara Project against the background of the EU border regime in Africa'**.

From the invitation text: "The fatal consequences of the EU border regime on the Sahel-Sahara routes, have until now hardly been presented to the European public. The government of the Republic of Niger, one of the main transit countries for fleeing people and people willing to leave from all the countries of Western and Central Africa, is considered the prime example of the cooperation. From the EU, millions are flowing into the armament of the police, the military and the gendarmerie, with the aim to close off



Trans-Sahara travel routes and to fight so-called human smuggling and irregular migration. The consequences: the persecution pressure makes drivers swerve to the remotest and most dangerous routes, where having to 'stay put' in the desert means a sure death for many. In the region of Agadez, known as the turnstile of Sahel-Sahara migration, the resident population has lost its major economic livelihood due to the repressive measures. Besides the supply situation in the areas is becoming more and more acute, because the blockade policy

creates bottlenecks for resources. The check points at the borders of the Republic of Niger have been instructed to turn away people whom they believe to be on their way to migration, even though as citizens of the Economic Community of West African States, CEDEAO/ECOWAS, they are in fact entitled to traveling freedom guaranteed by treaty. The European directives violate the provisions of a treaty in force between African states. With Alarm Phone Sahara Ibrahim Manzo Diallo presents a project which aims to support people who go into migration or have to flee, in surviving the dangerous travel route through the desert. Furthermore Alarm Phone Sahara wishes to document what happens on the Sahel-Sahara routes and what are the humanitarian consequences of the EU's externalization policy."

Further information at:

<https://afrique-europe-interact.net/1616-0-Das-Projekt.html>

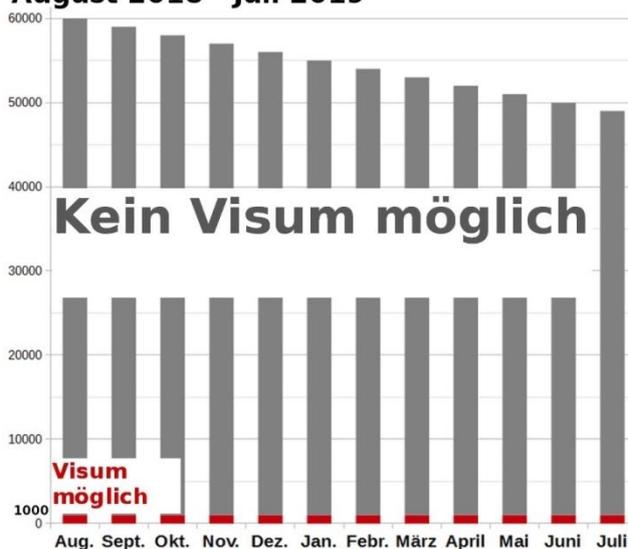
<https://www.medico.de/gefaehrliche-wuestenpassage-17065/>

OUTLOOK

Demonstration for Family-Reunification at 2nd of February 2019

On 1 February 2018, the majority of the members of the German ‚Bundestag‘ decided to

Familiennachzug zu subsidiär geschützten Flüchtlingen August 2018 - Juli 2019



continue to suspend family reunification for the family members of subsidiary protected refugees and to introduce a new law governing family reunification. Most members of the SPD agreed, so that the SPD could form a government coalition together with the CDU / CSU. On June 15, 2018, this government coalition passed the Family Reunification Renewal Act. With this law, the German government finally abolished the right to family reunification for refugees with subsidiary protection status and replaced it with an arbitrary right of grace.

Against this we protested from January to today with many demonstrations and actions. This law is clearly in contrast to Article 6, the fundamental right to marriage and family life.

It makes us angry that the German government disregards fundamental rights of refugees: the right to education, the right to safety and a life without persecution, the right to work and freedom of movement many human rights are limited by the German laws.

With a demonstration on 1 or 2 February, we want to show that we will continue to protest together until basic human rights finally apply to all.

We are still at the very beginning with the planning – there is plenty of room for your ideas!

You want to participate? Wonderful!

Just send us an e-mail: info@familienlebenfueralle.net

<http://familienlebenfueralle.net>

Next meeting of We`ll Come United at 9./10. February 2019 in Frankfurt

(more info for this meeting find above in the report from Hamburg)

