

KOMPASS



Info-Plattform der antirassistischen Bewegung

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DEAR FRIENDS!

„Those who, with each shift, remove a brick from a wall and add it to a bridge...” This simple yet powerful sentence ends the collage of a self-description in the brochure of the WatchTheMed Alarm Phones in reference to their 5th anniversary (see alarmphone.org). Currently, almost every night boats from the Aegean Sea report to the hotline and the emergency calls from the central Mediterranean are particularly challenging. When civilian rescue ships are in the death zone



Oktober 2019: Erstmalige eigenständige Anlandung eines Schlauchbootes von Libyen auf Lampedusa

off the coast of Libya and the Alarm Phone transmits the positions of boats to the rescue centers in Rome or Malta, a dramatic race begins. The EU authorities are doing everything they can to ensure that the boats are intercepted by the Libyan coast-guard at the last minute. If the Libyan militias arrive too late - as recently happened again on 26 October 2019 when Alan Kurdi was in operation - they will try to disrupt the rescue or even prevent it by threatening to use armed force. A week earlier, on 18 October, the Alarm Phone succeeded in documenting a particularly blatant EU-Libyan push back collaboration. The affected boat with 50 people had already reached the Maltese search and rescue zone on its own. Nevertheless, the authorities in Valetta ordered a ship from Libya to pick up the people and send them back to the hell of the torture camps - a frontal violation of all refugee and human rights.



While at the beginning of November the network of the Alarm Phone with 150 activists from many cities in Europe and North Africa in Marseille discussed possibilities for action at the external borders, the (third) tribunal on "Breaking the NSU Complex" took place in

Chemnitz and Zwickau. „We accuse - Defend Solidarity“ was the intention, and more than 400 people from various communities and initiatives came together to commemorate the victims of the NSU, the victims of racist, anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim violence, to name and accuse the perpetrators and structures - and to celebrate the society of the many. And that in Saxony! "The three days were emotionally dense and intense, with many familiar, but above all many new young voices, faces and stories; full of concentration, perceptible empathy, shared grief, anger and extremely moving moments. A clever move, successful in every respect". An important sign in the East, after the elections in Saxony, Brandenburg and Thuringia, and not least to pick up the announcement from the Power Parade block at the demonstration in August in Dresden: MigrAntifa!



We also put the impressive photo of "Migrantifa United" in Chemnitz on the first page of this newsletter because of the background slogan: Solidarity with Rojava! "The invasion of Northern Syria by the Turkish army is not only a sign of Erdoğan's War against Rojava. It is the latest expression of the total failure of European migration and foreign policy: a policy that does nothing to solve the worldwide flight problem,

but systematically intensifies it... Moria, Idlib, Rojava and the Turkish war to enforce an alleged protection zone, into which one million Syrian refugees are to be forcibly resettled: European migration policy has tied the fates of millions of people together and exchanged them for a dead pledge for a European truce". An appeal initiated by medico international sums up to the point the interconnection between war and the externalization of the border regime, between so-called protection zones and hotspot camps.

In this spirit: Sink the EU-Turkey deal - Defend Rojava!

Your compass team



INFORMATION AND DATES FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2019

EVENTS AND APPEAL FOR DONATIONS FOR 5 YEARS ALARM PHONE

On the occasion of the 5th anniversary and the publication of a new brochure on the experiences of this transnational hotline project there are further information events in several cities:

FRANKFURT: ON TUESDAY, 19.11.2019, AT 7 PM IN THE FESTSAAL OF THE CASINO OF THE GOETHE-UNIVERSITY

FRANKFURT - "AGAINST INDIFFERENCE AND SHIFT TO THE RIGHT. SOLIDARITY PRACTICES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN".

BERLIN: 20.11. AT THE AQUARIUM AT SÜDBLCK, SKALITZER STR. 6 - 5 YEARS ALARMPHONE - 5 YEARS OF RESISTANCE IN THE MED!

KASSEL: 21.11. 19:00 H SANDERSHAUS; 27.11. 19:00 H INFOLADEN AN DER HALLITSTRASSE, HOLLÄNDISCHE STR.

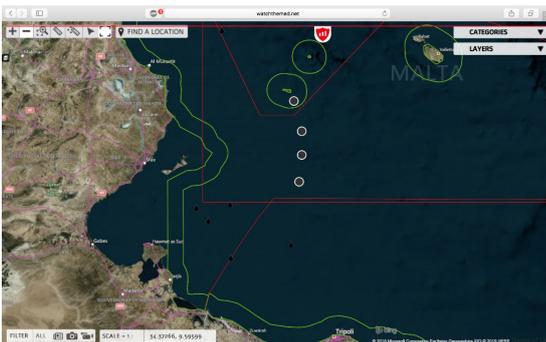
88; 05.12. 19:00 H CAFÉ BUCH-OASE, GERMANIASTRASSE 14,

HANAU: 5.12. AT 19.30 IN THE CULTURAL FORUM OF THE CITY LIBRARY AT FREIHEITSPLATZ - RESCUE AT SEA FROM HANAU - 5 YEARS ALARM PHONE!

MUNICH: 7.12. FROM 14.00 CLOCKS SCHRENKSTRASSE 8, 80339 MUNICH - INFORMATION EXCHANGE, WORKSHOPS, LECTURES EVENING EVENT FOR SEA RESCUE WITH REPRESENTATIVES* AND ACTIVISTS* FROM BERLIN, DRESDEN, LAMPEDUSA, ETC. AFTERWARDS SOLIPARTY

GÖTTINGEN: 20.12. 19:00 AT THE JUZI

THE ALARM PHONE NEEDS MONEY!



Alarm Phone in October 2019: GPS Positions of the boat from Libya to Lampedusa

September 16, 2019: For a whole night our shift teams assist a boat in the central Mediterranean Sea. 90 people had started in Libya and had already fought their way into the Maltese search and rescue zone. Using a satellite telephone, they repeatedly informed us of their latest GPS positions, which we immediately forwarded to the coastguard. Early in the morning we are relieved to receive confirmation:

the people are all safe. **The calls to and from**

the satellite phone are expensive; several times we had topped up their credit to keep the boat in communication. **This one night cost us approximately 250 euro** and we had many such nights in the last few weeks.

October 3, 2019: With a small **delegation** the Alarm Phone travelled **to Malta**. We are looking for local partners to help us put pressure on the Maltese Coast Guard. In one case it took 17(!) hours before a boat was finally rescued. Important new contacts were made during our visit to Malta, as well as new ideas on how we can increase pressure for immediate rescue. The **travel costs amounted to about 1000 euro.**

October 2019: We need updated **leaflets on the "Risks at Sea"** as well as reprints of our **visitor cards** with our number and a short explanation **in many languages**. Estimated printing costs: **approximately 2000 euro.**



November 2019: Our Alarm Phone **activists from Turkey, Tunisia, Morocco and Senegal** will of course be present at the upcoming internal **network meeting** in Marseille. Also friends from our sister project, Alarm Phone Sahara, from Niger are invited for an exchange. **Travel costs of about 6000 euro** will be incurred.

Our project tries to cope with as little expense as possible. We have **about 200 members, but not a single paid job**. For the Alarm Phone we all work on a **voluntary basis**. However, costs like the examples above are regularly incurred, and currently we only have enough money to last to the beginning of 2020. We are therefore, asking for donations. We are happy to accept standing orders for small sums, or one-off donations. **Every contribution helps us:**

- to run our self-organised call centre, to call people's satellite telephones on boats and load them with credit online;
- to spread our emergency number in migrant communities by means of multilingual visitor cards;
- to distribute information flyers on risks at sea;
- to create campaign material against Frontex and the border regime;
- to organise network meetings and to undertake contact and research trips to the various transit regions.

Our project is independent and needs donations.

In 5 years the Alarm Phone project has accompanied and supported nearly 3000 boats. We will continue with our hotline, until the dying at sea comes to an end! With our work we aim for concrete corridors of solidarity. **We fight for the right to freedom of movement and for equal rights for all people on this planet.**

Thank you for your support!

ACCOUNTS FOR DONATIONS

EU ACCOUNT

FORSCHUNGSGESELLSCHAFT FLUCHT & MIGRATION, SPARKASSE DER STADT BERLIN

IBAN: DE68 10050000 0610024264

BIC: BELADEBEXXX

DONATION REFERENCE: WATCHTHEMED ALARM PHONE

FOR DONATION RECEIPTS, PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

WTM-ALARM-PHONE@ANTIRA.INFO

SWISS ACCOUNT

VEREIN WATCH THE MED ALARMPHONE SCHWEIZ

PC: 61-172503-0

IBAN: CH21 0900 0000 6117 2503 0



MEDITERRANEAN MONOLOGUES ON TOUR



After an impressive premiere in mid-October in Berlin, the Stage for Human Rights will also be touring other cities with its new play. Beside further dates in Berlin in the Heimathafen in Neukölln from 8. to 15. December there will be more performances in: Heidelberg: 14. November, 20:00 in the Zwinger 1, Zwingerstraße 3-5; Frankfurt: 28 November at the university of applied sciences; Munich: 6 December, at 19.00 at Schrenkstraße 8, 80339 Munich, Germany

FURTHER INFORMATION: [HTTPS://WWW.BERLIN-BUEHNEN.DE/DE/SPIELPLAN/DIE-MITTELMEERMOULOGE/EVENTS/205711/](https://www.berlin-buehnen.de/de/spielplan/die-mittelmeermoulogue/events/205711/)

TRIBUNAL (3) IN CHEMNITZ AND ZWICKAU FROM 1 TO 3 NOVEMBER 2019



From 1 to 3 November, more than 400 people from various communities, groups, initiatives and federal states met in Chemnitz and Zwickau to commemorate the victims of the NSU, the victims of racist, anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim violence, to name and accuse the perpetrators and structures - and to celebrate the society of the many. And that in Saxony! A clever move, successful in every aspect!

The three days were emotionally dense and intense, with many familiar, but above all many new young voices, faces and stories; the Friday evening and the whole Saturday were full of concentration, perceptible empathy, shared grief, anger and extremely moving moments.



In workshops, walks, cleverly designed podiums and slots, they were entrusted to each other, listened to and encouraged each other. Knowledge and strategies were exchanged, there were comprehensive accusations, extensive demands, and despite bitter analyses above all encouraging prospects!

Perhaps for this reason it was possible to intervene and make clear on Sunday at the inauguration of the memorial site for the 10 victims of the NSU complex

in Zwickau: Not only the East remains migrant!

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NSUTRIBUNAL/VIDEOS/2845987698960860/UZPFSTEWMDAWMJAWODEXMDUOMZOYNDG30TIZNZMXMJGONTQW/](https://www.facebook.com/nsutribunal/videos/2845987698960860/uzpfstewmdawmjawodexmduomzoyndg30tiznzmjgontqw/)



EU-TURKEY-DEAL AND DEFEND ROJAVA: APPEAL FROM MEDICO AND PRESS RELEASE FROM PRO ASYL – END THE KILLING. FOR A EUROPEAN POLICY OF HUMAN RIGHTS



The Turkish army's invasion of northern Syria is not only Erdoğan's war against Rojava, but also the latest expression of the total failure of European migration and foreign policy. Rather than helping to solve the causes of global flight, these policies instead serve to systematically exacerbate them. They do not help to create 'order', as their strategists claim, but instead sow a million times despair, fuel chaos in the refugee camps of Europe and further violence like that currently being witnessed in Syria. The Turkish war to enforce the alleged protection zone, into which one million Syrian refugees are to be forcibly expelled, is beyond any reason, the end of politics. It simply ceases dealing with global problems. Moria, Idlib, Rojava – European migration policy has tied its fate to that of Turkey, to the fate of millions of people, as a pled-

ge of chattels for a European truce.

The abandonment of a responsible politics, capable of framing and steering developments, is nothing new. The end of politics, has been dragging on for some time now. It began four years ago with the EU-Turkey deal, with which the European Union hired Turkey as a border guard and created a bulwark against the desire merely for a better life. At the same time, the Greek islands were transformed into special legal zones in which basic asylum standards no longer apply; they were turned into open-air prisons for those who had, regardless, managed to cross the Aegean Sea and reach European soil. Only a week ago – after another fire broke out in the EU refugee camp Moria on Lesbos, with multiple ensuing fatalities – the German interior minister travelled to Athens and Ankara to persuade Greece and Turkey to implement the deal more effectively.

For years, the end of politics has also been apparent in the undignified yet relentless scramble to create a European distribution mechanism for arrivals – while the thousands of deaths in the Mediterranean and Aegean Seas that have taken place in the meantime are taken in the continent's stride. The overlooked issue of refugees is now returning to the European agenda with full force – specifically to that of an EU that has made itself susceptible to blackmail, with its policy of doing dirty deals. The EU's organised contempt for humanity has long served as a blank cheque for the Erdoğan government to suppress democratic opposition and civil society in their own country. Now, it also serves as a standstill agreement on the invasion of Syria by Turkish troops.

The EU looks on while the basic requirements of international asylum law concerning refoulement are violated: refugees from Greece are being deported to Turkey and, on a massive scale, onwards to warzones like Idlib. The EU looks on as Turkey completely abandons even its already precarious asylum and protection system, with the country forcibly deporting masses of Syrian refugees back to Syria. However the EU is more than just an onlooker, in fact; it is party to an evil game that threatens hundreds of thousands of people with death.



The EU-Turkey deal, the mass disenfranchisement of migrants, the support for Erdoğan's war, the consistent turning of a blind eye to the situation in Syria, the continued ignorance of the precarious fate of millions of people on the edge of Europe: these are some of the biggest scandals in recent European history. They bear witness to political bankruptcy, to foreign policy unscrupulousness and to an EU that criticises the wickedness of the Donald Trump administration at every turn, yet which itself has given up on even the most fundamental of human rights.

The alternative is clear: a human rights-based foreign and migration policy assuming global responsibility. What 'must not be repeated' is not, in fact, the 'summer of migration' of 2015, as German Interior Minister Seehofer likes to repeatedly emphasise. What must never be repeated, rather, is the extradition of millions of people to dictatorial regimes; expulsion and war. Let us not kid ourselves here: anyone who today opposes the admission of migrants to Europe is, simply put, in favour of their death.

We call on the European Council and the EU governments to:

- End the EU-Turkey deal.
- End the partnership with Erdoğan's government, cease arms supplies and make use of all possible avenues to halt at once the war against Rojava in northern Syria.
- Immediately evacuate the migrant camps on the Greek islands, and allow their inhabitants freedom of movement in Europe and their reception by Solidarity Cities.
- Lay new political foundations for migration and asylum in Europe, with policies committed to protecting the human rights of refugees and migrants in Syria, the Mediterranean and in Europe itself.

WWW.MEDICO.DE/KAMPAGNEN/DAS-VERSAGEN-BEENDEN/

PRO ASYL on the current "safe zones" debate

Invasion into Northern Syria and "safe zones": Consequence of the EU-Turkey deal

The European Union is partly to blame for Turkey's invasion of Northern Syria in violation of international law and for the expulsion of hundreds of thousands of people living there. The EU gave Erdoğan with the EU-Turkey-Deal already three years ago the free ticket for the invasion into Kurdish areas in Northern Syria and the establishment of so-called "protection zones".

PRO ASYL reminds: In the EU declaration of 18.03.2016 it says literally under point 9: "The EU and its member states will cooperate with Turkey in all joint efforts to improve humanitarian conditions in Syria, especially in certain zones near the Turkish border, so that the resident population and refugees can live in safer zones". (Emphasis on the Red.)

PRO ASYL had warned in vain on 16 March 2016 against the EU-Turkey deal: "From PRO ASYL's point of view this is highly problematic. Turkey is pursuing the goal of preventing contiguous Kurdish territories with all means at its disposal. There is a danger that refugees will be abused in the game of regional military interests and that the EU will thus provide the argumentative basis for Turkey's military interventions".

Now Erdoğan mercilessly implements his idea as feared: Hundreds of thousands are forcibly expelled from Northern Syria with the aim of forcibly resettlement Syrian refugees in areas conquered in violation of international law.

"The EU-Turkey deal has issued Erdoğan a blank cheque for the invasion," criticises Günter Burkhardt, Managing Director of PRO ASYL. In view of the debate about alleged "safe zones" in Northern Syria, which was launched by the Minister of Defense Kramp-Karrenbauer, PRO ASYL warns the Federal Government and the EU against wanting to militarily secure Erdoğan's expulsion policy as



well. A breach of international law cannot subsequently be legitimised by a military operation that appears to conform to international law. "The EU's policy of isolation is costing human lives, leading in massive numbers to a new refugee movement in Syria and to the ruthless expulsion of Syrian refugees from Turkey," warns Burkhardt.

Erdoğan's Plans for the forced resettlement of Syrian refugees violate international humanitarian law: According to the assessment of the Federal Government's Scientific Service of 17 October 2019, the settlement of Syrian refugees in a militarily conquered territory violates the Geneva Conventions: "Occupation law prohibits any form of resettlement of protected persons in occupied territories (cf. Art. 49 of the 4th Geneva Convention of 1949)".

Article 49 of the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 for the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 literally states: "Individual or mass enforced deportations as well as deportations of protected persons from occupied territory to the territory of the occupying power or any other occupied or unoccupied state are prohibited regardless of their motive".

The International Rescue Committee estimates that up to 400,000 people in Northern Syria are forced to flee by the Turkish attack. There are already around 200,000 people on the run, including 70,000 children.

The situation for Syrian refugees in Turkey itself is worsening noticeably. The Turkish authorities have long since begun deporting hundreds of Syrians from Turkey to Syria. The "temporary protection" that Syrian refugees have instead of actual refugee recognition in Turkey can be withdrawn from one day to the next by a political decision. This would leave those affected defenceless and threaten mass repatriations.

In addition, Turkey's EU-funded border regime has claimed many lives on the border with Syria: As has been documented in the past, Turkey itself is trying to prevent new refugees from fleeing to Turkey by shooting at the border - since 2011 more than 430 people have been killed.

PRO ASYL calls on the EU heads of state and government to return to a human rights-based refugee and migration policy and to end the inhuman cooperation with Turkey Erdoğan in this regard.

www.proasyl.de/news/einmarsch-in-nordsyrien-und-sichere-zonen-folgen-des-deals-zwischen-eu-und-tuerkei/



FREE EL HIBLU 3! - CAMPAIGN IN PREPARATION

In the following link you find a very good article about the El Hiblu case, in which "3 heroes of daily struggles against push backs to Libya" are accused and imprisoned since six months in Malta. „Free El Hiblu 3!“ should become a transnational solidarity campaign within next months, when the three accused are on trial. This article of Zach Campbell offers a first good base and should be spread.

https://magazine.atavist.com/the-rescue-mediterranean-migrants-malta-europe-crisis?fbclid=IwAR3CLnQ1KzGg9nmL9WSJmIAoND507Yfje8sdocaQ_w1vja42EaFSe36DC0



REVIEW

HALLE: THE MEMORIAL DEMONSTRATION FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE RIGHT-WING TERRORIST ATTACK IN HALLE COULD SERVE AS A PRIME EXAMPLE OF LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE NSU COMPLEX

(from the Friday/weekly newspaper)

"The symbiosis of the initiatives with those affected shows that the anti-racist movement in Halle has understood how appropriate and solidarity-based remembrance can function. This was also evident at yesterday's demonstration in Halle: instead of recurring, often routine speeches as we know them from German demonstrations, the focus in Halle was on the victims' perspective and remembrance. In view of the fact that Halle was not a sign of alarm, but rather another cruel sign of German normality in 2019, the reaction to terror in Halle can serve as an example of solidarity and the actual indivisibility of people. This does not stop the shift to the right, but it creates an appropriate space for mourning and sympathy, as well as a place to become aware of one's strength and mutual solidarity. ..."

THE FULL TEXT IN GERMAN HERE: WWW.FREITAG.DE/AUTOREN/SKONTO/ZWISCHEN-ANTIFA-UND-ANDREA-BERG?FBCLID=IWAR0DDGM06S-AWZSCO0KXKL4TYB2GCN--NESDLSPNMWTH2QHAJWDDO2E6PK0

STRATEGY CONFERENCE IN BERLIN



More than 200 activists from various social movements took part in the Bewegungsstiftung's strategy conference in Berlin in mid-October. By using concrete examples of successful concepts and experiences of social movements discussions took place in many small groups and workshops. The initiative „In which society do we want to live?“ brought in cross-movement themes. "We breathe the same air. We must come

together. We can only solve problems together". At the Bewegungsstiftung strategy conference, activist Alassane Dicko from Mali summed up the need for networking. And that's what it was all about: social movements coming together, exchanging ideas and joining forces in the face of a shift to the right, social division, climate crisis and Europe's isolation...".

THE WHOLE REPORT IN GERMAN HERE: WWW.BEWEGUNGSKONFERENZ.DE/DOKUMENTATION/200-AKTIVE-3-TAGE-AUSTAUSCH-NETZWERKEN-UND-PLAENESCHMIEDEN-UNSER-BERICHT-VON-DER-STRATEGIEKONFERENZ.HTML

OUTLOOK

WE'LL COME UNITED IN JANUARY 2020 IN RHEIN-MAIN... GERMANWIDE CONSULTATION MEETING IN FEBRUARY IN GÖTTINGEN

After a follow-up meeting in Erfurt in mid-October, the We'll Come United network will meet again in the Rhine-Main area from 17 to 19 January to plan next activities for 2020.



Furthermore, We'll Come United invites to a germanwide anti-racist consultation meeting in Göttingen in mid-February 2020. "The aim is to bring as many networks and supra-regional initiatives as possible into a joint discussion on plans for large, joint mobilizations and campaigns in 2020/21...".

FURTHER INFORMATION ON BOTH MEETINGS CAN BE RECEIVED VIA KMII-HANAU@ANTIRA.INFO

