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KOMPASS



Info-Plattform der antirassistischen Bewegung

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"Through an absurd coincidence, through a whim of the wind, history has come across a village infected with the 'virus of humanity', a place where it was possible to imagine that we are all human. This has left a deep mark, this is the legacy we are passing on, the dream whose realisation is yet to come." - Mimmo Lucano

DEAR FRIENDS,

while the coming „Ampel-coalition“ (red, yellow, green) in Germany is bargaining for posts and positions - and thus the starting conditions for the social movements do not seem to worsen for the time being compared to the Merkel years - the situation at the EU's external borders continues to worsen. Push-backs, human rights violations, death and suffering in Greece, off Malta and the Canary Islands, in the Balkans and also on the Polish-Belarusian border.

A new escalation also in Italy - with the verdict against a worldwide known "solidarity criminal": over 13 years imprisonment (in first instance) for the former mayor of Riace, Domenico Lucano, for his exemplary welcome village. This is hard to believe, but it is in line with the draconian punishments against boat drivers, most blatantly in Greece.

"More and more alleged boat people are being held in southern European jails. Everyday political as well as social attention is needed here. Then it must be discussed how the paramilitary and secret service criminalisation of supporters on the periphery of the EU is to be countered with refusal and with protests in front of the EU centres." This is what Helmut Dietrich of the Research Association Flight and Migration (FFM) formulates in a recent text. His suggestions could provide inspiration for a new network initiative that recently met in Palermo: Free El Hiblu 3 and solidarity groups for migrants who are criminalised as boat people in Italy and Greece.



CommemorAction in Palermo – 17th September 2021

There was much more at stake when activists from the different escape routes came together in Palermo and Dakar in mid-September. In two simultaneous "Convergences" for the right to freedom of movement, linked via internet screen. Physical meetings with 200 and 40 participants respectively, who were finally able to exchange their practical experiences face to face again. Not only in numerous workshops, but also at the bar or on the beach. Criminalisation of migration and "strategic litigation" was one of six topics, along with Activism at Sea, Solidarity Cities, Border Struggles, CommemorAction and transversal Struggles. The practice-oriented spirit of the transborder summer camp of summer 2019 wafted through the working groups and the joint plenary ended with a corresponding advance announcement: transnational Summer Camp II is to take place in July 2022. Once again in the ZAD near Nantes. Together in one place with as many friends as possible who are active on both sides of the Mediterranean.

With solidarity greetings,
the Kompass team



carry out deportations at all times of the day and night. Refugees have to live with fear as a constant companion, flashbacks and the emergence of new traumas are the result. In many camps, not only mental but also physical health care is inadequate. In the initial reception, there is only emergency health care, access to specialists and therapies is denied here. Often, nutrition that meets the needs of the refugees is not guaranteed, nor is the protection against infections that is necessary due to the pandemic. Instead, those responsible rely on a "contagion policy" in combination with the complete isolation of refugees, for example by banning visitors.

These and other intensive restrictions of fundamental rights are laid down in the house rules. In camps, "migration management" is carried out, the accommodation of refugees in camps is based on a political continuity of right-wing programmes. Among other things, the amendment of Article 16 of the constitutional Law and the Dublin Agreement negate the right to asylum.

Many of those affected have neither the possibility nor the means to seek legal assistance. All this is deliberate on the part of politicians: camps are supposed to serve as a deterrent. But no one flees voluntarily and migration is not a temporary event, but will always be part of our everyday lives. The recognition and accommodation policy for refugees must be changed. The right to housing is a human right and applies to all people, regardless of their residence status.

Camps mean racist violence, refusal of rights, administration, isolation and exclusion. Things must not continue like this! We want housing for all! We call for a germanwide day of action on 9 October 2021. Decentralised but together, to fight and abolish camp structures. Together we want to take our demand to the public: No camps, nowhere! No camp, nowhere!

[HTTPS://LAGER-WATCH.ORG](https://lager-watch.org)

INFORMATION ON AFGHANISTAN

Pro Asyl: "Get us out of here!"

"Afghans who have worked in German development cooperation are in mortal danger. But many of them fall through the cracks of the German authorities. PRO ASYL demands: The future German government must immediately include Afghan employees of German development policy on the list of particularly endangered persons. ..."

Read more: <https://www.proasyl.de/news/holt-uns-hier-raus/>

Adopt a Revolution

The hectic evacuations from Kabul have shown: German migration policy has failed resoundingly.... Together with the Afghan association YAAR we demand: Take in instead of deport, no deportations to war and crisis zones - and certainly not to torture states!

<https://syria-not-safe.org>

Refugee Council of Lower Saxony demands admission and right to stay



<https://www.nds-fluerat.org/51019/aktuelles/fluechtlingsrat-niedersachsen-fordert-aufnahme-und-bleibeperspektiven-fuer-afghaninnen/>

medico international with a basic assessment of the development

<https://www.medico.de/blog/zaesur-erste-worte-18341>

DEPORTATIONS SRI LANKA

"On Monday 27 September - one day after the federal election in Germany - there will be another mass deportation of Tamil and Muslim asylum seekers to Sri Lanka. The first of this unprecedented wave of mass deportations to Sri Lanka took place for the very first time this year on 30 March, the second on 9 June.

Statements by Tamil politicians inside the island pleading with the German government to stop these charter flights, as well as statements by human rights organisations about the increasing dangers faced by the Tamil and Muslim populations, were ignored. For our part, shortly after the first mass deportation, we sent a delegation to visit Sri Lanka and record the human rights situation of Tamils. This delegation has presented its findings to individual politicians in recent months...."

FULL APPEAL AND FURTHER INFORMATION HERE:

[HTTPS://HUMANRIGHTS.DE/DE/4689](https://humanrights.de/de/4689)

ON THE VERDICT AGAINST DOMENICO LUGANO AND THE VILLAGE OF WELCOME



"Through an absurd coincidence, through a whim of the wind, history has come across a village infected with the 'virus of humanity', a place where it was possible to imagine that we are all human. This has left a deep mark, this is the legacy we are passing on, the dream whose realisation is yet to come." - Mimmo Lucano

On 1 July 1998, a ship carrying Kurdish refugees landed on the coast of the small Calabrian village of Riace. This event gives birth to the "Paese dell'Accoglienza", the "Village of Welcome", a village that will become internationally known in the following 20 years. Interested people flock from all over the world to find out what could be learned from the "Riace model". Thus, the sleepy village

becomes a "utopia of normality" that makes a concrete proposal for a crisis that has only just begun.

The initiator and driving force behind the project is Domenico "Mimmo" Lucano, visionary, political activist and humanist. In 2004, he is elected mayor, a post he will hold until 2018. But with the rise of the Italian right and Lega leader Salvini as interior minister, he is criminalised. Lucano now faces a criminal trial that is far from over.



How do we want to live in the future? What is important to us, what do we need in order not to lose our soul as individuals and as a society? In a Europe that relies on coldness and isolation instead of its own values, these questions are more important than ever. "The solution could lie in a 'revolution of normality', the experience of peaceful coexistence, as we put into practice in Riace," writes Mimmo Lucano. Would it really be so revolutionary if he were right?

Available: mid-Oct 2021 | The small village of Riace in Calabria and its mayor Mimmo Lucano (2004-2018) took in over 200 refugees and asylum seekers during the Lampedusa humanitarian crisis in 2009. Not everyone liked that, especially Interior Minister Matteo Salvini, who had Lucano arrested on 2 October 2018. Mimmo Lucano tells his story of resistance in the book.

[HTTPS://RUEFFERUNDRUB.CH/BUECHER/BIOGRAFIE/ITEM/1005-DAS-DORF-DES-WILLKOMMENS](https://ruefferundrub.ch/buecher/biografie/item/1005-das-dorf-des-willkommens)

MORE INFORMATION ON THE TRIAL:

[HTTPS://WWW.HEISE.DE/TP/FEATURES/13-JAHRE-HAFT-FUER-SOLIDARITAET-6205626.HTML](https://www.heise.de/tp/features/13-jahre-haft-fuer-solidaritaet-6205626.html)

[HTTPS://TAZ.DE/WILLKOMMENSKULTUR-IN-ITALIEN/!5805017/](https://taz.de/willkommenskultur-in-italien/!5805017/)

HELMUT DIETRICH (RESEARCH ASSOCIATION FOR FLIGHT AND MIGRATION-FFM) What disturbs? Notes on the development of repression and the EU's Mediterranean "black box "

"In the past three decades, the repression of escape aid has predominantly followed the motto that one was dealing with smuggling motivated by financial profit motives. The defence of aiding flight was to refute this and to claim family or humanitarian motives. For a few years now, the authorities of Southern Europe have been taking a different approach: They use, firstly, a perverted humanitarian logic of criminalising suspected boat drivers who would have put their passengers' lives in danger, or - secondly - a kind of enemy criminal law against flight-solidarity monitoring (as "countersurveillance" against paramilitaries at sea). In Greece, Italy and Spain, individual prison sentences of years, decades or even over a hundred years are imposed.

Specialists of fortress Europe justify this de facto "lawless" criminalisation with the fact that the deportation system does not function as planned. In addition, civil society monitoring draws attention to the mass "invisible shipwrecks", i.e. to the policy of silent mass deaths in the Mediterranean - and not only to those rescued by NGOs and the documented failure to provide assistance at sea.

In the following, it is proposed to proceed appropriately vis-à-vis these two different criminalisations - of the boat people as well as of the monitoring in solidarity: More and more alleged boatpeople are being held in southern European jails. Everyday political and social attention is needed here. Then it must be discussed how the paramilitary and secret service criminalisation of supporters on the periphery of the EU can be countered with refusal and with protests in front of the EU centres...."

FULL TEXT (IN GERMAN) HERE:

[HTTPS://SOZIALGESCHICHTEONLINE.FILES.WORDPRESS.COM/2021/07/](https://sozialgeschichteonline.files.wordpress.com/2021/07/dietrich_repression_sgo_30_vorveroeffentlichung.pdf)

[DIETRICH_REPRESSION_SGO_30_VORVEROEFFENTLICHUNG.PDF](https://sozialgeschichteonline.files.wordpress.com/2021/07/dietrich_repression_sgo_30_vorveroeffentlichung.pdf)



INITIATIVE 19 FEBRUARY HANAU - FROM THE LADEN NEWSLETTER NO. 4

Speech by Said Etris Hashemi and Mirkan Unvar on 4 September in Berlin

Etris: Imagine you meet your friends like every night and your whole life changes from one second to the next. Nothing is the way it was before. I lost my brother, I lost my friends, I almost lost my life too.

Mirkan: I also lost my brother that night. In total, 9 families lost their loved ones. The perpetrator came and shot without warning. Not a word. He came to kill. Because some of us have dark hair and dark eyes.



Etris: He shot at us because we were strangers to him. What do you mean by strangers? We were born here.

We grew up here. We come from here. And even if we weren't. What difference does it make. Where are you actually from?

Mirkan: Kesselstadt. Who decides on a human life. I know racism very well. Long before this crime. Do you know it too? Have you experienced it? As a joke? As an insult? As an attack? As a look? As a gesture? I know him from the supermarket checkout. I know him at the flat hunt. I know it at school. On the bus, when people look for their handbag. I know him

when I'm in my car. And I know him when I get pulled over. How many times have you been stopped by the police? Ten times, 50 times, 100 times. I have stopped counting.

Etris: Racism ends with a gunshot. Hanau. For one and a half years we have been fighting every day for memory, justice, clarification and consequences. We can only keep the memory alive with your solidarity. The perspective of the victims is central to this. People should remember the names of those murdered, what happened and what was not prevented. ..."

THE ENTIRE SPEECH AND MORE (IN GERMAN):

[HTTPS://19FEB-HANAU.ORG/2021/09/18/SAYTHEIRNAMES-NEWSLETTER-04/](https://19FEB-HANAU.ORG/2021/09/18/SAYTHEIRNAMES-NEWSLETTER-04/)

INTERNATIONAL: USA, MEXICO, UK, POLAND/BELARUS

From Labournet and other sources:

New refugee caravan from Honduras to the US: Guatemala's right-wing government declares state of emergency, Mexico's "left-wing" government deploys army; Refugee crisis on Mexico's southern border continues to worsen

<https://www.labournet.de/?p=185133>



Dossier: [The "new" US migration policy] US Vice President Kamala Harris: "Don't come" - Criticism of US migration policy: "The crisis was predictable - and preventable"
<https://www.labournet.de/?p=191050>

Plans in the UK: How London wants to deter refugees
<https://www.labournet.de/?p=191672>

Barbed wire fences, access controls, curfew: Controversial refugee camp opens on Samos
<https://www.labournet.de/?p=80460>

Between Poland and Belarus: Four migrants dead at the border
<https://www.labournet.de/?p=191757>
<https://www.amnesty.de/informieren/aktuell/polen-belarus-afghanische-asylsuchende-rechtswidrige-push-backs>
<https://www.jungewelt.de/artikel/411344.eu-abschottung-todliches-grenzregime.html>

REVIEW

15.-19.09.2021 PALERMO & DAKAR CONVERGENCES



Against all the "Corona" odds and against the visa regime: it was undoubtedly right to insist on organising two physical meetings. In Palermo and in Dakar at the same time, after it became clear that a joint meeting remained impossible. It simply makes a serious difference whether people only see each other in online sessions or take part in workshops in



person and have the opportunity to talk further afterwards in the breaks or in a bar or on the beach.

Practical interim results, new ideas and dates have emerged from many workshops. These will be compiled in the coming weeks. ...

And as mentioned in the introduction: for July 2022 we are planning a 2nd Transborder Summer Camp in ZAD (near Nantes in France). We had met there in July 2019 for a first impressive camp with over 500 participants and decided then to do it again after three years, so in 2022. In November 2021, first preparations will start and all are invited to participate and use the camp as a continuous space for our transnational networking for freedom of movement and equal rights.

[HTTPS://TRANS-BORDER.NET](https://trans-border.net)

