

No. 120
Newsletter
12/2023+01/2024

KOMPASS



Info-Plattform der antirassistischen Bewegung

14.12. in several cities: Day of action against immigration authorities +++ Niger: Anti-migration law repealed +++ El Hiblu 3: Scandalous bill of indictment, comments and protests +++ New newspaper from Afrique-Europe-Interact +++ Echoes No.9 +++ Maldusa: Reports, brochure and fundraising campaign +++ Investigative report: Frontex, Malta and push-backs to Libya +++ Investigative report: Deaths in Bulgaria +++ Rwanda judgement in the UK +++ Reviews: Stop GEAS demonstration in Berlin +++ Outlook: 6. February 2024: 10th anniversary of the Tarajal massacre - Commemorations; 17 and 19 February in Hanau: demonstration and commemorative actions on the fourth anniversary of the attack; End of April in Frankfurt: WCU conference being planned...

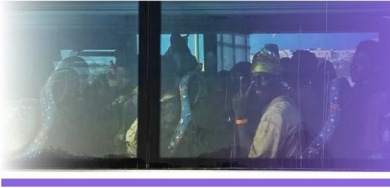
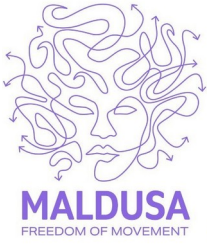
DEAR FRIENDS.



Deportation charters to Iraq, the justification of physical violence at the external borders, support for Meloni's "Albania camp" or considerations for the outsourcing of asylum procedures to Rwanda: the racist outbidding contest in a continuous loop. A disgusting chorus of agitation from almost all parties. This is immediately noticeable in countless "individual cases", when the worst racists in the immigration authorities feel encouraged and use their "discretionary powers"

to the disadvantage of those affected.

While asylum and human rights are being attacked at various levels and from all political directions, the refugee and migration movements themselves are having a lasting assertiveness. The arrival figures in Italy and Germany, for example, are among the highest in recent decades. Almost 160,000 people will have made it to Italy from Tunisia and Libya by the end of 2023. This is - despite and against Meloni's post-fascist government - over 50% more than in the previous year and, after 2016, the highest number of arrivals ever in Italy. In October 2023 alone, there were over 30,000 new asylum applications in Germany, and in November there were even over 35,000. The total number will be well over 300,000 by the end of the year, also one of the record years.



"Acknowledging the strength of refugee movements, we must continue to build and expand infrastructures for freedom of movement as a central element." - "We need a new APO, an extra-parliamentary opposition that must be migrant and trans-Mediterranean." - "We should work on a two-year plan, at least until the next federal elections." - "We need to think

beyond refugee and human rights and connect more strongly with struggles around other social issues." - "We must take a clear stance against the prevailing discourse and yet somehow remain open to the centre." - "With We'll Come United, we are looking for new forms of mobilisation that make our everyday struggles more visible again."

These voices from germanwide Anti-Ra strategy debates in recent weeks are examples of some of the challenges and approaches that will be discussed further in various meetings and spaces in the coming months, not least at a conference that We'll Come United is planning for



the end of April in Frankfurt. We want to take up these discussions and mobilisations as best we can in our Kompass, to accompany them and to contribute to the AntiRa movement returning to more offensive moments in the new year.

Finally, the link to the recording of a moving event by "Transforming Solidarities" at Berlin's HAU theatre - "an evening in

defence of the migration society": https://youtu.be/RwR_zSbmhA . Interesting to see and worthy of multiplying in more cities!

In this spirit for a moving 2024,

the Kompass crew



DATES AND INFORMATION FOR DECEMBER 2023 + JANUARY 2024



14 DEC. IN SEVERAL CITIES GERMANWIDE DAY OF ACTION AGAINST IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES

„Fight racism - abolish immigration authorities!“ Under this motto, a germanwide day of action will take place on 14 December 2023. There will be protests and actions in front of the respective immigration authorities in cities including Bad Doberan, Eberswalde, Magdeburg, Leipzig, Göttingen, Osnabrück, Frankfurt Main, Cologne, Kiel, Eschwege, Kassel, Munich and Salzwedel...

NIGER: ANTI-MIGRATION LAW REPEALED

The summer of migration was not even over when Niger passed the 2015-36 anti-migration law in 2015 under pressure from the EU, which criminalised the previously completely legal services for migrants. The law never achieved its actual goal, because after a brief dip in numbers, by 2022 desert crossings had climbed back to the level they were at when the law came into force in September 2016. But the effects were still catastrophic: for the migrants, who were suddenly confronted with longer, more expensive and deadlier routes through the desert, for the service providers, thousands of whom lost their



livelihoods (and with them mostly families of 10 to 15 people) and for the migrant workers and long-distance traders within the West African region, who suddenly had major problems crossing borders to and from Niger. It is therefore all the greater that the transitional government in Niger, which emerged from a coup, retroactively repealed the law at the end of November (i.e. also rehabilita-

ted those convicted). In doing so, it has given in to the great social and civil society pressure in Niger, to which Alarme Phone Sahara, which emerged from Afrique-Europe-Interact, has also made an important contribution - among other things with a complaint to the Court of Justice of the West African Economic Community ECOWAS in Abuja (Nigeria).

MORE INFORMATION ON THE EFFECTS OF THE LAW CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE OF ALARME PHONE SAHARA ([HTTPS://ALARMEPHONESAHARA.INFO/EN/BLOG/POSTS/REPORT-OF-THE-TRANSNATIONAL-CONFERENCE-ON-THE-CRIMINALISATION-OF-MIGRATION-27-AND-28-FEBRUARY-2023-IN-NIAMEY-NIGER](https://alarmephonesahara.info/en/blog/posts/report-of-the-transnational-conference-on-the-criminalisation-of-migration-27-and-28-february-2023-in-niamey-niger)) AND IN THE NEW NEWSPAPER OF AFRIQUE-EUROPE-INTERACT ([HTTPS://AFRIQUE-EUROPE-INTERACT.NET/2193-0-AEI-ZEITUNG-12-2023.HTML](https://afrique-europe-interact.net/2193-0-AEI-ZEITUNG-12-2023.HTML)). THERE IS ALSO A



SHORT INTERVIEW WITH A MEMBER OF AFRIQUE-EUROPE-INTERACT ON SWISS RADIO, WHICH EXPLAINS WHY THE POPULATION IN NIGER UNANIMOUSLY WELCOMED THE REPEAL OF THE LAW ([HTTPS://WWW.SRF.CH/AUDIO/ECHO-DER-ZEIT/NIGER-SETZT-TRANSPORTVERBOT-FUER-GEFLUECHTETE-AUS?PARTID=12496239](https://www.srf.ch/audio/echo-der-zeit/niger-setzt-transportverbot-fuer-gefluechtete-aus?partid=12496239)).

EL HIBLU 3: SCANDALOUS BILL OF INDICTMENT, COMMENTS AND PROTESTS



„A Grave Injustice: Attorney General Files Bill of Indictment against the El Hiblu 3

Press Release from 30 November 2023

The Attorney General of Malta has issued a Bill of Indictment against Abdalla, Amara, and Kader, also known as the El Hiblu 3. They have been wrongly charged with a long list of serious crimes which could carry life imprisonment. We are aggrieved and angry that the Attorney General has ignored the testimonies heard during the compilation of evidence over the last four and a half years, which demonstrate the indisputable innocence of the El Hiblu 3. Instead, the Attorney General holds the three young men responsi-

ble for the general tension on board during and after rescue by the vessel EL HIBLU 1. The Attorney General retained all the initial, unfounded charges, including the unsubstantiated charge of terrorism.

Let us not forget that Abdalla, Amara, and Kader helped calm a highly charged situation on board the ship. Let us not forget that, thanks to them, lives were saved. Thanks to them, people did not jump overboard. Thanks to them, no one was hurt. Thanks to them, any misunderstandings with the crew were addressed.

We are convinced that the El Hiblu 3 did the right thing: they helped diffuse a tense situation at sea and helped prevent an illegal pushback to Libya. Abdalla, Amara, and Kader are heroes, not criminals!

In charging the three young men, the Maltese authorities have missed an opportunity to rectify a grave injustice that has unfolded over nearly five years. Their actions should be celebrated, instead of being criminalised. With widespread support nationally and internationally, we will continue to stand in solidarity with Abdalla, Amara, and Kader until they are acquitted. Free the El Hiblu 3!

Coalition for the El Hiblu 3 @FreeTheEH3"

"A TRAVESTY OF JUSTICE" - THIS IS HOW ELISA DE PIERI, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S REGIONAL RESEARCHER, COMMENTED ON THE INDICTMENT:

[HTTPS://WWW.AMNESTY.ORG/EN/LATEST/NEWS/2023/11/MALTA-INDICTMENT-OF-EL-HIBLU-3-THE-WORST-POSSIBLE-DECISION/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/11/malta-indictment-of-el-hiblu-3-the-worst-possible-decision/)

"GO AFTER THE REAL 'TERRORISTS'" - HEADLINES TIMES OF MALTA IN ITS EDITORIAL AND MANY MALTESE MEDIA OUTLETS SHARPLY CRITICISE THE FACT THAT EVEN THE ACCUSATION OF TERRORISM WAS UPHELD IN THE INDICTMENTS: [HTTPS://TIMESOFMALTA.COM/ARTICLES/VIEW/GO-REAL-TERRORISTS.1070754](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/go-real-terrorists.1070754)



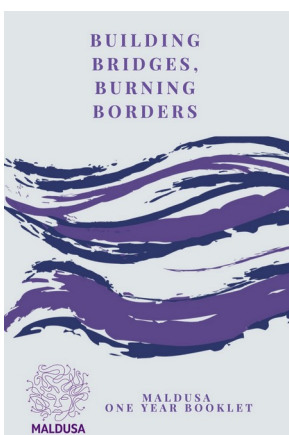
- <https://civilmrcc.eu/between-sovereignty-and-european-interference-the-ambiguity-of-tunisian-authorities-on-the-issue-of-migration-control/>
- Germany: call to stop the criminalisation of sea rescue and solidarity! (By Hagen Kopp) <https://civilmrcc.eu/germany-call-to-stop-the-criminalisation-of-sea-rescue-and-solidarity/>
- IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE! - A Diary of Rescue Coordination by Civil Actors in the Central Mediterranean Sea - September 2023 - <https://civilmrcc.eu/september-2023/>
- October 2023 - <https://civilmrcc.eu/october-2023/>
- ANALYSIS - Subverting the narratives about smuggling (by the Captain support network and the Feminist autonomous center) <https://civilmrcc.eu/subverting-the-narratives-about-smuggling/>
- LEGAL FRAGMENT - The new border asylum procedures in Italy (by Lucia Gennari) <https://civilmrcc.eu/the-new-border-asylum-procedures-in-italy/>
- INTERVIEW - With Romdhane Ben Amor From Forum Tunisien Des Droits Economiques Et sociaux - <https://civilmrcc.eu/interview-with-romdhane-ben-amor/>
- AMPLIFYING VOICES - Alliance with Refugees in Libya - <https://civilmrcc.eu/alliance-with-refugees-in-libya/>
- CRIMINALISATION - Iuventa: Notes from Trapani (by iuventa crew) - <https://civilmrcc.eu/iuventa-notes-from-trapani/>
- MOBILISATION Report from the Maldusa Camp in Lampedusa - <https://civilmrcc.eu/report-from-the-maldusa-camp-in-lampedusa/>
- For Freedom of movement: independent information for refugees and migrants coming to Europe - <https://civilmrcc.eu/relaunch-of-the-webguide-from-the-network-welcome-to-europe-w2eu/>

With rage and solidarity,

The Echoes editing team (CMRCC)

YOU CAN DOWNLOAD THE ISSUE AS A PDF OR READ IT ON THE CIVIL MRCC WEBSITE:

[HTTPS://CIVILMRCC.EU/ECHOES-ISSUE-9-NOVEMBER-2023-ENGLISH/](https://civilmrcc.eu/echoes-issue-9-november-2023-english/)



MALDUSA: REPORTS, BROCHURE AND FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

In In one of its current reports, Maldusa describes the numerous landings on Lampedusa from western Libya, some of them in very large fishing boats:

<https://www.maldusa.org/l/an-impressive-zuwara-fleet/>

Maldusa began monitoring Lampedusa over a year ago and published a brochure entitled "Building Bridges, Burning Borders" to mark the occasion:

<https://www.maldusa.org/l/building-bridges-burning-borders-maldusa-one-year-booklet/>



Finally: Maldusa has opened a crowdfunding page on betterplace to collect donations for the continuation of escape route solidarity on land and at sea in Sicily:

<https://www.betterplace.org/en/projects/129317-maldusa-donations-needed-for-solidarity-on-the-flight-routes-in-sicily>

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT: FRONTEX, MALTA AND PUSH-BACKS TO LIBYA

„Frontex and the pirate ship

The EU's border agency Frontex and the Maltese government are systematically sharing coordinates of refugee boats trying to escape Libya with a vessel operated by a militia linked to Russia, human trafficking, war crimes and smuggling.

Tareq Bin Zeyad (TBZ) is one of the most dangerous militia groups in the world. It is run by Saddam Haftar, the powerful son of East Libyan warlord Khalifa Haftar. The group has been operating a vessel, also called TBZ, in the Central Mediterranean since May, during which it has intercepted more than 1,000 people at sea off the coasts of Libya and Malta and returned them to Libya....."

FULL ARTICLE HERE:

[HTTPS://WWW.LIGHTHOUSEREPORTS.COM/INVESTIGATION/FRONTEX-AND-THE-PIRATE-SHIP/](https://www.lighthousereports.com/investigation/frontex-and-the-pirate-ship/)

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT: DEATHS IN BULGARIA

"At the Turkish-Bulgarian border, attempts by migrants to enter the EU often end in fatal exhaustion. The authorities bury the bodies quickly - without identifying them. This is a further trauma for the relatives. (...)

According to research by ARD's Vienna studio in cooperation with Lighthouse Reports, Der Spiegel, RFE/RL, Solomon and inews, at least 93 people have died on their journey through Bulgaria in the past two years alone..."

[HTTPS://WWW.TAGESSCHAU.DE/AUSLAND/EUROPA/BULGARIEN-MIGRANTEN-TODESFAELLE-100.HTML](https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/europa/bulgarien-migranten-todesfaelle-100.html)

RWANDA JUDGEMENT IN THE UK

Researchers on asylum applications in Rwanda "A violation of many treaties"

Two lawyers explain the problems the UK government faces when it tries to save the refugee deal with Rwanda.

<https://taz.de/Forscherinnen-ueber-Asylantraege-in-Ruanda/!5973427/>

Reports in Tagesschau:

<https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/europa/urteil-britischer-ruanda-plan-100.html>

<https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/europa/grossbritannien-zuwanderungsrecht-ruanda-100.html>



REVIEW

STOP GEAS DEMONSTRATION IN BERLIN ON 26.11.23



"In response to the planned tightening of asylum regulations in Germany and the historically most massive restriction of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS), thousands demonstrated throughout Germany today. Protests took place in 15 cities under the slogan "Stop GEAS - Asylum is a human right" - including Berlin, Bremen, Bielefeld, Dresden, Halle, Hanover, Cologne, Kiel, Mainz, Marburg, Nurem-

berg and Würzburg. Further protests are planned in Hamburg and Düsseldorf, among other places, in December. At the central demonstration in Berlin today alone, over 1,500 people took to the streets to demand a solidarity-based migration policy in the EU.

The "Stop GEAS" campaign is calling on the EU Parliament to stop these historic cuts and to stand up for the human rights of all. The individual right to asylum must remain the foundation of our protection system.

The "Stop GEAS" campaign is also calling on the German government to comply with its election pledge to support a human rights-based migration policy and to vote against the reform.

At the beginning of December, a decision is to be made on a whole bundle of regulations as part of the EU dialogues. As a result, human rights violations would be legalised, the fundamental right to asylum in Europe would be de facto abolished and the crisis in European migration policy would be further exacerbated..."

FULL REPORT HERE: [HTTPS://WWW.SEEBRUECKE.ORG/AKTUELLES/TAUSENDE-DEMONSTRIEREN-GEGEN-DIE-VERSCHAERFUNG-DES-ASYLSYSTEMS](https://www.seebruecke.org/aktuelles/tausende-demonstrieren-gegen-die-verschaerfung-des-asylsystems)

OUTLOOK

COMMEMORATION
february 6th  **ACTION**

6 FEBRUARY 2024: 10 YEARS OF THE TARAJAL MASSACRE - COMMEMORATIONS!

Around 6 February 2024, jointly coordinated, decentralised commemorative actions will once again



take place in many cities in Europe and in North and West Africa: CommemorActions. It is the tenth anniversary of the Tarajal border crimes:

On 6 February 2014, the Spanish Guardia Civil used rubber bullets and tear gas against migrants attempting to swim from Tarajal in Morocco to the Spanish exclave of Ceuta. They killed 15 people at this day.

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON HERE:: [HTTPS://MISSINGATTHEBORDERS.ORG/EN/NEWS](https://missingattheborders.org/en/news)

17 AND 19 FEBRUARY 2024 IN HANAU: DEMONSTRATION AND COMMEMORATION ON THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTACK

Angehörige, Überlebende, die Initiative 19. Februar Hanau und NSU-Watch Hessen haben über 18 Monate lang jede der insgesamt 30 öffentlichen Sitzungen des Untersuchungsausschusses beobachtet, dokumentiert und kommentiert.

Gemeinsam haben wir die offenen Fragen und Anklagen der Betroffenen sichtbar und unüberhörbar gemacht. Mit der Website kein-abschlussbericht.org wollen wir dazu beitragen, dass die Kette des polizeilichen und behördlichen Versagens auch weiterhin öffentlich kritisiert und skandalisiert wird. Solange keine politische Verantwortung für die Fehler und Versäumnisse übernommen wird, wird es keine Ruhe geben. Wir kämpfen weiter um Erinnerung, Gerechtigkeit, Aufklärung und Konsequenzen.

Kein Abschlussbericht

Keine Gerechtigkeit ohne Konsequenzen!

Website anlässlich des Endes des Untersuchungsausschusses zum rassistischen Terroranschlag in Hanau am 19. Februar 2020

Besuchen, lesen, teilen: kein-abschlussbericht.org

Keine Gerechtigkeit ohne Konsequenzen!

Website anlässlich des Endes des Untersuchungsausschusses zum rassistischen Terroranschlag in Hanau am 19. Februar 2020

kein-abschlussbericht.org

Together with relatives and survivors, the Initiative 19 February Hanau is planning a demonstration on Saturday, 17 February 2024, to mark the fourth anniversary of the racist terrorist attack. The kick-off rally is scheduled to begin at 1 pm on Hanau's Freiheitsplatz. One of the topics will be the committee of enquiry into Hanau, which ended in early December without any consequences. There was a critical report on this in the Hessenschau:

<https://www.hessenschau.de/politik/landtag/attentat-in-hanau-landtag-entschuldigt-sich-bei-hinterbliebenen-v1,schlussdebatte-hanau-anschlag-100.html>

Further information on this can be found here: <https://kein-abschlussbericht.org/>

On Monday, 19 February, there will then be commemorative actions at the two crime scenes in the evening - as on the last anniversaries.

END OF APRIL 2024 IN FRANKFURT: WCU CONFERENCE IN PLANNING...

An anti-racist conference is being planned for the weekend of 26 to 28 April 2024 in Frankfurt am Main, which is being prepared by the We'll Come United (WCU) network. At a WCU coordination meeting in January 2024, the main topics will be discussed and defined.

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