

No. 121
Newsletter
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KOMPASS



Info-Plattform der antirassistischen Bewegung

**Mass protests in Germany against right-wing extremist fantasies of expulsion +++ 6
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Libya: campaign for evacuation launched in Bologna +++ France: protests against
new migration law +++ Review: Transnational Social Strike Meeting and European
assembly of women and migrants +++ Outlook: 26-28 April in Frankfurt: We'll Come
United conference in preparation...**

DEAR FRIENDS.



Großkundgebung am 20.1.24 in Frankfurt/Main, Credit Koalakollektiv

Who could have imagined at the end of last year or the beginning of this year in Germany, that hundreds of thousands would suddenly take to the streets against the AfD and the shift to the right? Obviously, the Correctiv collective's investigation about the Potsdam secret meeting on 10 January 2024 unleashed a dynamic that had been building up for many months. However, the huge protest rallies in so many cities against the racist expulsion fantasies of the extreme right and against AfD-fascist coup plans have impressively demonstrated in recent weeks that hundreds of thousands are not in the mood for Nazis and their racist political ideas.



At the same time - and this has so far only played a minor role in the protests - the coalition government parties are stepping up the real policy of deportation and exclusion and the CDU is even planning - in line with its party friends in the UK - to outsource all asylum procedures to Rwanda and other third countries. This makes it all the more important that anti-racist groups and self-organised initiatives get involved with and in the current mass-protests, intervene and make it clear that resistance must be directed equally against the current brutalisation, e.g. against so-called "repatriation improvements" or against the establishment of (CEAS) detention camps at the EU's external borders.

The germanwide network We'll Come United (WCU) decided at a coordination meeting in Darmstadt in mid-January with delegates from 20 cities to organise an anti-racist conference in Frankfurt at the end of April 2024. Initial priorities for the program have already been set: the fight against deportations and camps, the campaign against immigration authorities, the construction and extension of solidarity structures at the external borders and along the refugee routes. A many-voiced and transnational space is to be created over two days in panels and working groups: for exchange and mutual empowerment in everyday struggles, for strategic discussions and not least for concrete planning of practical mobilisations in the further course of 2024. WCU can and wants to refer to the strong refugee and migration movements, whose sustained assertiveness is reflected in the high arrival figures for 2023.



Last but not least: "Refugees in Libya", the self-organisation of refugees that emerged from the historic 2021 protest cycle in Tripoli, organised an impressive kick-off event for an evacuation campaign for "Human Rights Defenders" in Bologna at the end of January. At the same time, this translocal network, the „Alliance with Refugees in Libya", is setting up a new

hotline to support migrants and refugees in Libya on a daily basis and to document human rights violations. Over the next few months, the project plans to tour various European cities with an exhibition and deserves all the support it can get.

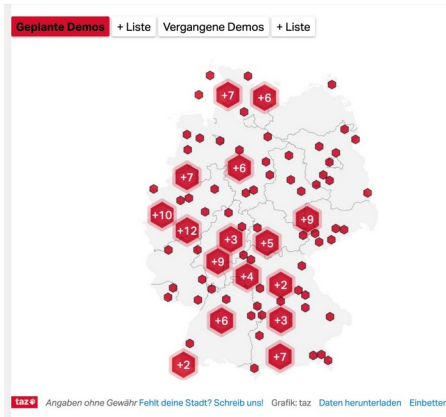
With best regards in solidarity,

The Kompass crew



DATES AND INFORMATION FOR FEBRUARY 2024

MASS PROTESTS AGAINST RIGHT-WING EXTREMIST FANTASIES OF EXPULSION



„It was the meeting that nobody was ever meant to find out about. Back in November, high-ranking politicians from Germany’s far-right Alternative für Deutschland (AfD) party, neo-Nazis, and sympathetic businesspeople gathered in a hotel near Potsdam. Their agenda? Nothing less than the fine tuning of a plan for the forced deportations of millions of people currently living in Germany...”
<https://correctiv.org/en/top-stories/2024/01/15/secret-plan-against-germany/>

Some links to mobilisations and new alliances:

<https://taz.de/Schwerpunkt-Proteste-gegen-rechts/!t5338539/>

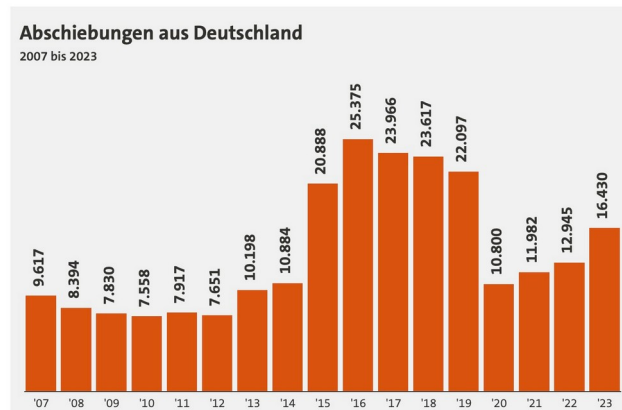
<https://gemeinsam-hand-in-hand.org/>

<https://koalakollektiv.de/demokratie-verteidigen-frankfurt-gegen-afd-und-rechtsruck/>

The draft of the new CDU policy programme:

In the area of refugee policy, nothing less than the complete abolition of the right of asylum in Germany is called for, virtually a 1:1 copy of the Tories' Rwanda model in the UK. The draft programme (page 23) literally states: "... We want to implement the concept of safe third countries.

Everyone who applies for asylum in Europe should be transferred to a safe third country and undergo a procedure there. In the event of a positive outcome, the safe third country will grant the applicant protection on the spot. To this end, a comprehensive contractual agreement will be concluded with the safe third country...."



Pro Asyl: The new repatriation law serves right-wing populism, but does not solve any problems

"The so-called Repatriation Improvement Act, which was passed in January 2024, is intended to ensure that people without the right to stay have to leave Germany more quickly. There will be a few more deportations - but above all significantly more violations of fundamental rights, detentions that are questionable in terms of the rule of law and even more brutal deportation practices..."

FULL TEXT IN GERMAN: [HTTPS://WWW.PROASYL.DE/NEWS/DAS-NEUE-RUECKFUEHRUNGSGESETZ-BEDIENT-RECHTEN-POPULISMUS-LOEST-ABER-KEINE-PROBLEME/](https://www.proasyl.de/news/das-neue-rueckfuehrungsgesetz-bediient-rechten-populismus-loest-aber-keine-probleme/)



"Improving repatriation instead of remigration

Commentary from medico international: "A few days after the revelations about the AfD, the German government is once again tightening its asylum policy. A fatal signal...." Full text in German: <https://www.medico.de/blog/rueckfuehrungsverbesserung-statt-remigration-19351>

6. FEBRUARY 2024 COMMEMORATIONS TO MARK 10 YEARS OF TARAJAL MASSAKER



„On February 6, 2014 more than 200 people left from the Moroccan coast and tried to reach Tarajal beach, in the Spanish enclave of Ceuta, by swimming. The Guardia Civil deployed anti-riot equipment to stop them from arriving on “Spanish land,” and the Moroccan military present did not help the people who were drowning in front of them. Fifteen bodies were found on

the Spanish side, dozens of others disappeared, the survivors were pushed back, and some died on the Moroccan side.

Ten years have passed since the Tarajal massacre. Ten years during which the number of dead and missing has continued to increase, in the Mediterranean and on the Canary Islands route, within the internal borders of the EU, on the English Channel, on the eastern borders, along the Balkan route, in the Sahara Desert and along any other mobility trajectory. The border regime in 2023 has been as cynical and unhinged as ever; for example during the sinking off Cutro, when on the night of February 25, 94 people died and at least 11 others disappeared a few meters from the Italian coast, under the motionless gaze of Frontex and the Italian authorities. And again on June 14 when more than 600 people disappeared forever off the coast of Pylos, Greece or on April 23, 2022, when a boat with 90 people on it sank off the Lebanese coast.

Ten years during which associations, families, and all those who fight for the right to freedom of movement for all have continued to demand truth and justice for these victims. They highlight the direct and indirect responsibilities of the border regime and work tirelessly to support families and loved ones in their painful journey of searching for the missing and identifying the victims....“

SOURCE: [HTTPS://CIVILMRCC.EU/CALL-FOR-A-DECENTRALIZED-COMMEMORATION/](https://civilmrcc.eu/call-for-a-decentralized-commemoration/)

LIST OF CITIES, IN WHICH COMMEMORATIONS ARE PLANNED:

[HTTPS://COMMEMORATION.NET/2024/02/02/COMMEMORATION-FEBRUARY-6TH-2024/](https://commemoration.net/2024/02/02/commemoration-february-6th-2024/)



17. FEBRUARY 2024 HANAU: GERMANWIDE MEMORIAL DEMONSTRATION ON THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTACK #SAYTHEIRNAMES

Vier Jahre nach dem
rassistischen Anschlag in Hanau:

**Zusammen
erinnern,
gemeinsam
kämpfen.**

In Hanau, Halle, Dessau, Köln,
Duisburg, München, Dortmund, Kassel,
Rostock-Lichtenhagen, Berlin,
Wächtersbach, Solingen, Nürnberg,
Eberswalde, Hamburg
und an vielen Orten mehr ...

19feb-hanau.org

It will soon be the fourth anniversary of the racist attack on 19 February 2020. Come to the nationwide memorial demonstration on Saturday, 17 February 2024, at 2 pm, at Kurt-Schuhmacher-Platz in Hanau-Kesselstadt.

„Against forgetting.

Right now it is important that we are many, that we are in solidarity. We say 9 names and mean all the victims of right-wing, racist and antisemitic violence. Their names remind us that the extermination fantasies and subversion plans of extreme right-wing networks end fatally.

We are committed to a complete investigation into right-wing, antisemitic and racist murders and acts of violence. For justice and political consequences. For appropriate remembrance. And above all: for a society in which racism, anti-Muslim racism, antiziganism and antisemitism are not the norm for anyone. In which we don't wait for the next attack, but can live safely and together.

Say their names. Remembering means changing. See you on 17 February in Hanau!

Initiative 19 February Hanau

HERE YOU CAN FIND THE APPEAL, POSTERS AND FLYERS, WHICH YOU CAN DOWNLOAD AND PRINT YOURSELF OR PICK UP AT THE INITIATIVE 19 FEBRUARY HANAU (KRÄMERSTR.24): [HTTPS://19FEB-HANAU.ORG/2024/01/07/JAHRESTAG-2024/](https://19feb-hanau.org/2024/01/07/jahrestag-2024/)

PLEASE ALSO SPREAD THE WORD VIA SOCIAL MEDIA:

[HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/P/C2PVYHHMMZV/?IGSH=MWDNADRHZ2JMNZZYEQ==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C2PVYHHMMZV/?IGSH=MWDNADRHZ2JMNZZYEQ==)

WWW.19FEB-HANAU.ORG

Recommendation to two books by Hanau relatives/survivors that have recently been published and are well worth reading.

Çetin Gültekin is the brother of the murdered Gökhan Gültekin. In his book "Born, raised and murdered in Germany", written together with his friend Mutlu Koçak, he describes the life of his brother Gökhan, born in Hanau in 1982, who had already narrowly escaped death twice before and was shot dead by the perpetrator on 19 February 2020. Çetin Gültekin describes what this meant for his family and why he is campaigning for remembrance, justice, clarification and consequences.

Said Etris Hashemi is a double victim: he was in the Arena Bar in Hanau's Weststadt district with his brother Said Nesar on 19 February. Both were hit by the perpetrator's shots, Said Nesar died at the scene of the attack, Said Etris survived seriously injured. In his book "The day I was supposed to die", he describes how this terrible turning point changed his life. And what social conclusions can be drawn from the crime.



PRO ASYL: PAYMENT CARD AS AN INSTRUMENT OF DISCRIMINATION

"PRO ASYL criticises: Federal states turn payment card into an instrument of discrimination

With the payment card, the federal states have designed an instrument of discrimination that is intended to make life difficult for refugees in Germany. PRO ASYL appeals to the federal states to make positive use of the available room for manoeuvre.

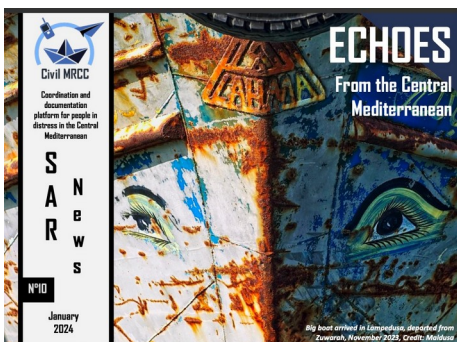
The standardised payment card instead of cash for refugees is coming - that is the current message from the federal states. 14 of the 16 federal states have agreed on "standards" for the payment card and a joint issuing procedure, the Hessian State Chancellery announced on 31 January. With this declaration on the payment card, the federal states are in fact declaring their intention to install a discriminatory instrument for refugees.

How exactly the individual federal states will equip the payment card remains to be seen. In any case, those responsible will not achieve the ostensible goal of reducing asylum numbers. Nevertheless, what is apparently intended to reach the population is the barely concealed signal: we are doing something against refugees. And politicians from democratic parties are being driven by those who generally want to keep people seeking protection away from Germany or drive them out of the country..."

THE ENTIRE TEXT HERE:

[HTTPS://WWW.PROASYL.DE/NEWS/BEZAHLKARTE-OHNE-STANDARDS-LAENDER-VEREINBAREN-DISKRIMINIERUNGSKONZEPT/](https://www.proasyl.de/news/bezahlkarte-ohne-standards-laender-vereinbaren-diskriminierungskonzept/)

BORDERS IN MOTION - ECHOES NO. 10 - FROM THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN



2023, a year marked by a large increase in sea arrivals in comparison to the year before, and not only on the Central Mediterranean route. 2023, a year of intensified attempts by the EU to expand border control in collaboration with its autocratic partners in North Africa. 2023, another year of even tougher racist agitation and deprivation of rights all throughout Europe and beyond.

Borders have been challenged and have shifted on various levels and directions this past year. It is not difficult to predict that this conflict will

continue and possibly escalate in 2024. As Civil MRCC, we promise to stay at the side of refugees and migrants and in solidarity with their daily struggles to practice freedom of movement and find a safer and better life..."

Contents of the publication: Statistics for the year 2023, CEAS reform, France's new migration law; From Libya to Tunisia: how the EU is extending the push-back regime by proxy in the Central Mediterranean; Interview with Sea-Watch Airborne activists; M., cultural mediator: "I am Black, I cannot swim, but my presence on this boat is fundamental"; A grave injustice against the El Hiblu 3...

<https://civilmrcc.eu/echoes-issue-10-january-2024-english/>



REFUGEES IN LIBYA: CAMPAIGN FOR EVACUATION STARTED IN BOLOGNA



„Human Rights Defenders’ Campaign - First steps towards a safe evacuation from Libya - Summary of the Bologna event from January 26th-27th, 2024
The kick-off event in Bologna for the evacuation of the 221 Human Rights Defenders from Libya saw a large participation of many actors from various contexts: the refugees and migrants movement Refugees in Libya (RiL) and Alliance with Refugees in Libya (ARiL), representatives of the Libyan and European civil society, the Mayor of Bologna Matteo Lepore and the Oscar candidate director Matteo Garrone.

Together they evoked the historical struggle in front of the UNHCR offices in Tripoli that lasted over 100 days ended with the violent eviction of the demonstrators and the imprisonment in the Ain Zara

lager. After a long fight within and outside the detention camp for over 18 months, they were released only to find themselves back again in the streets, exposed to the same old threats of the militias without any guarantee of shelter and basic needs.

All the participants sustained the demands for the immediate evacuation of the 221 Human Rights Defender and the establishment of an active translocal network to support their demands.

The testimonies of activists of Refugees in Libya who survived the tortures and the inhumane conditions in Libya animated the two days of press conference, workshops and public assembly which saw a constant presence and interaction of almost 100 people. The presence of the Belaady founder, a Libyan Foundation for Human Rights supporting people on the move, has overturned the stereotypical imagery of a country only represented by the so-called Coast guard, militias or human traffickers. Similarly a documentary film denouncing the conditions of refugees in lagers, shot by a Libyan activist collective, provided another proof of the other face of Libyan society.

The press conference, held in the morning of 26.01.24 at the Bologna City Hall's Palazzo d'Accursio, was an opportunity to publicly announce the birth of the Alliance with Refugees in Libya network whose headquarters will be in Bologna in the social space of Lâbas. The immediate goals of the network are the evacuation of the 221 human rights defenders from Libya, the opening of a hotline providing support to people trapped in Libya, and developing legal strategies to bring to court those responsible for human rights violations. ...“

INVITATION AND PROGRAM:

[HTTPS://WWW.REFUGEEINLIBYA.ORG/POST/EVACUATE-HUMAN-RIGHTS-DEFENDERS-FROM-LIBYA](https://www.refugeesinlibya.org/post/evacuate-human-rights-defenders-from-libya)

THE INCREDIBLE FLIGHT STORY OF MOHAMED:

[HTTPS://WWW.REFUGEEINLIBYA.ORG/POST/THE-JOURNEY-OF-MOHAMMED](https://www.refugeesinlibya.org/post/the-journey-of-mohammed)

WEITERE INFORMATIONEN BEI [HTTPS://WWW.REFUGEEINLIBYA.ORG](https://www.refugeesinlibya.org)



FRANCE: PROTESTS AGAINST THE NEW MIGRATION LAW

„The day after the International Day for the Rights of Migrants, the French executive adopted one of its most racist and violent texts against foreigners. This text, despite the ongoing strong mobilization of civil society, is an unprecedented attack on the rights of foreigners. Adopted thanks to the votes of the extreme right, it is a whole ideology of rejection and stigmatization of racialized people that has emerged victorious. Following a Kafkaesque process of political negotiation, the Senate and Assembly have now formally backed one of the harshest and most repressive texts in 70 years. While part of the law may well be subject to partial censure by the Constitutional Council, the measures call into question a number of principles, such as the right to legal status, introduce national preference into the welfare system, and re-establish the offense of illegal residence...“

FULL TEXT HERE: [HTTPS://CIVILMRCC.EU/FRANCES-MIGRATION-LAW-IN-THE-FACE-OF-THE-UNACCEPTABLE-THE-FIGHT-GOES-ON/](https://civilmrcc.eu/frances-migration-law-in-the-face-of-the-unacceptable-the-fight-goes-on/)

BERICHT IM SPIEGEL:

[HTTPS://WWW.SPIEGEL.DE/AUSLAND/FRANKREICH-MINDESTENS-75-000-DEMONSTRIEREN-GEGEN-MACRONS-EINWANDERUNGSGESETZ-A-AC82615F-DFB6-4A59-A174-F66ACB5D8B2F](https://www.spiegel.de/ausland/frankreich-mindestens-75-000-demonstrieren-gegen-macrons-einwanderungsgesetz-a-ac82615f-dfb6-4a59-a174-f66acb5d8b2f)

REVIEW

TRANSNATIONAL SOCIAL STRIKE -TSS: A PLATFORM FOR ORGANIZING BEYOND DIFFERENCES

From the 27 to the 29 of October, 2023, around two hundred people from over 20 countries, most of them from within Europe, but also from beyond the EU, have joined the 10th TSS meeting, Breaking the Barrier, in Bologna. The meeting followed a path that started after the pandemic with the meeting in Sofia, and passed through the meeting in Frankfurt. The one in Bologna has been the third TSS meeting in less than one year, signaling a growing engagement within the TSS Platform and the recognition of the fundamental challenge of transnational organizing. In each meeting new people approached the TSS, while an increasingly consistent number kept following it meeting after meeting, drawing the contours of a collective process. For three days, we have discussed together about the opportunities and challenges of organizing our struggles transnationally against war politics, patriarchy, institutional racism and labour exploitation. We acknowledged the difficulties of keeping together struggles from so many different contexts, but we have also recognized the opportunities of transnational organization in making this process real and ongoing. This text summarizes the main aims and the next steps for the TSS platform after the Bologna meeting.

We launched the meeting in Bologna saying that we want to “break the barrier” of national politics, the barriers that divide struggles, contexts, conditions, and forms of organizing. The barriers that make it difficult today to even imagine a radical transformation. We are part of the TSS platform as the space where to experiment new forms of communication and initiative on a transnational level to fight against exploitation and oppression. In our local realities we organize and struggle. But we



recognize that our capacity to struggle is diminishing, and our claims rarely correspond to actual victories. We come from different experiences of struggle and different histories, but we are determined to develop the platform as the space where we can look for tools to overcome differences, fragmentation and hierarchies...."

FULL TEXT HERE: [HTTPS://WWW.TRANSNATIONAL-STRIKE.INFO/2024/01/29/TSS-A-PLATFORM-FOR-ORGANIZING-BEYOND-DIFFERENCES/](https://www.transnational-strike.info/2024/01/29/tss-a-platform-for-organizing-beyond-differences/)

Invitation to an informative meeting to build a European assembly of women and migrants



„After meeting in Bologna also together with the Women’s Assembly of the Migrant Coordination, an assembly of Italian and migrant assembly of Italian and migrant women who fight against patriarchal and racist violence, the EAST network (Essential Autonomous Struggles Transnational) and TMC (Transnational Migrant Coordinating have launched a proposal to Territorio Doméstico: to organise an assembly in Madrid with the participation of activists and feminists, LGBTQ, migrant and trade union activists and collectives from Europe and beyond, as a way to strengthen the transnational anti-racist and feminist alliances that the feminist strike set in motion....”

MORE HERE: [HTTPS://WWW.TRANSNATIONAL-STRIKE.INFO/2024/01/19/TOWARDS-A-EUROPEAN-MIGRANT-ASSEMBLY/](https://www.transnational-strike.info/2024/01/19/towards-a-european-migrant-assembly/)

OUTLOOK

26-28 APRIL IN FRANKFURT: WE`LL COME UNITED CONFERENCE IN PREPARATION...



A well-attended and very productive coordination meeting of Welcome United (WCU) took place in Darmstadt in mid-January. It was decided that WCU would take the lead in preparing the content and mobilising for the anti-racist conference in Frankfurt from 26 to 28 April 2024. A number of key topics have already been agreed in Darmstadt and a (first) invitation will be issued soon.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN HELPING WITH THE PREPARATIONS CAN INITIALLY GET IN TOUCH WITH KEIN MENSCH IST ILLEGAL HANAU: KMII-HANAU@ANTIRA.INFO

