



Info-Plattform der antirassistischen Bewegung

We'll Come United conference +++ New materials against deportation and for the right to stay +++ 8 theses in defence of the migration society +++ 23 May - 8 June: demonstrations against right-wing extremism +++ 'Migrantifa' not protected as a trademark +++ MedicalBus - Radical Aid against Borders +++ Balkan route brochure + ++ PICUM: Cases of criminalisation of migration and solidarity in the EU in 2023 +++ Albania deportation camp +++ Reviews: Valetta: Human rights defenders award for El Hiblu 3; Trapani: Iuventa case dropped +++ Outlook: 21.8. to 25.8.: We'll Come United summer camp in Thuringia

DEAR FRIENDS.



Frankfurt: Konferenz von We'll Come United

preparatory group also formulated in a first summary: „... In two plenary sessions, current struggles against the EU border regime were presented and discussed and the background to flight and migration was thematised. The great multiplicity of anti-racist initiatives and everyday projects that came together in Frankfurt was reflected in 28 workshops prepared by various decentralised groups. At the end of the conference, there was broad agreement that these three days had been a productive exchange in a respectful atmosphere...”

Im In spring 2014, a good ten years ago, the last major 'No Border is forever' gathering took place at the Studierendenhaus in Frankfurt/Main. At the end of April 2024, around 350 activists from many cities took part in the We'll Come United conference at the same location. A strong momentum, as the



Valetta: Menschenrechtspreis für El HIBLU 3

In addition to practices of resistance against deportations and the infrastructures for freedom of movement at the external borders, another focus of the programme was the discussion about the mass demonstrations against the extreme right. Is it and will it remain a bourgeois fear movement against the AfD that does not want to know anything about the policies of exclusion that are actually taking place? Or are there approaches and ideas on how this movement could develop in the direction of an anti-racist migration society? Does it make sense to get involved and intervene? In Frankfurt, the relatively young anti-fascist



Trapani: Einstellung des Verfahrens gegen Juventa

We'll Come United (WCU) does not (yet) have the strength to organise its own large mobilisations. In this respect, new large parades, such as those organised by WCU in Berlin in 2017 and Hamburg in 2018, are not conceivable in the foreseeable future. However, the spirit, the potential shared power of everyday struggles, the society of the many who have arrived and continue to arrive, was palpable in many moments in Frankfurt. That visibly did everyone who was there good. And this will - hopefully - continue for some time and spread further, in the spirit of the WCU stickers: Solidarity will win!

Solidarity greetings from the Kompass crew

DATES AND INFORMATION FOR MAY 2024

STRONG PARTICIPATION, GREAT MULTIPLICITY AND PRODUCTIVE EXCHANGE AT THE WE'LL COME UNITED CONFERENCE

Around 350 activists from numerous cities and groups took part in the anti-racist conference hosted by the We'll Come United network in Frankfurt from 26 to 28 April. In two plenary sessions, current struggles against the EU border regime were presented and discussed and the background to flight and migration was addressed. The great diversity of anti-racist initiatives and everyday projects that came together in Frankfurt was reflected in 28 workshops prepared by various decentralised groups. At the end of the conference, there was broad consensus that these three days had been a productive exchange in a respectful atmosphere. The results and agreements from the workshops will be compiled in the coming days and published on the We'll Come United website soon.

**UNITED
GEGEN
RASSISMUS
UND
FASCHISMUS**

**JETZT
ERST
RECHT!**

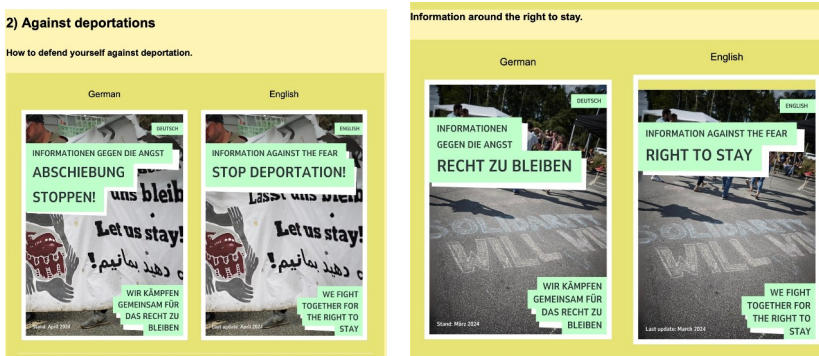
**WE'LL COME UNITED –
KONFERENZ IN FRANKFURT,
26.–28. APRIL 2024**

www.welcome-unity.org

CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR THE VARIOUS TOPICS CAN ALREADY BE FOUND IN THE CONFERENCE READER, SEE [HTTPS://WWW.WELCOME-UNITY.ORG/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2024/04/WELL-COME-UNITY-KONFERENZ-READER-ENGLISH-A4-210X297-4C-FINAL-WEB.PDF](https://www.welcome-unity.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/well-come-unity-konferenz-reader-english-a4-210x297-4c-final-web.pdf)
CONTACT, FURTHER DATES AND MORE: [HTTPS://WWW.WELCOME-UNITY.ORG/EN/](https://www.welcome-unity.org/en/)

NEW MATERIALS AGAINST DEPORTATION AND FOR THE RIGHT TO STAY (IN GERMAN)

At the WCU conference, updated materials on the fight against deportations and for the right to stay were distributed by the Welcome to Europe network. They are also available in German and English on the website of We'll Come United.



ON THE FIGHT AGAINST DEPORTATIONS:

[HTTPS://WWW.WELCOME-UNITY.ORG/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2024/04/ABSCHIEBUNGEN-ENGLISCH-DIGITAL.PDF](https://www.welcome-unity.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/abschiebungen-englisch-digital.pdf)

ON THE FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO STAY:

[HTTPS://WWW.WELCOME-UNITED.ORG/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2024/04/RECHT-ZU-BLEIBEN-ENGLISCH-DIGITAL.PDF](https://www.welcome-united.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/recht-zu-bleiben-englisch-digital.pdf)

8 THESES IN DEFENCE OF THE MIGRATION SOCIETY

1 There is no society without migration



We live in a migration society in which no distinction can be made between a supposedly 'native' and 'foreign' population. Migration has always existed and will continue to exist in the future. Without migration, there would be no society. Migration is therefore not, as former Interior Minister Horst Seehofer claimed, the 'mother of all problems', but if it is, then it is the 'mother of all societies'. Migration does not mean a loss of control, but is our reality.

Part of this reality today, as in the past, is that people are forced to flee against their will. Through forced displacement and expulsion, as a result of wars and conflicts as well as exploitation. Much of this is the result of the imperial lifestyle of the global North - including the climate crisis, which is making more and more places on the planet uninhabitable. Preventing displacement means fighting politically for global justice. At the same time, we must grant people protection and enable migration, as this is the only way a pluralistic society can exist and remain vibrant. Let us work together to create conditions that allow society and all individuals to flourish. Let us constantly reshape the society of the many.

(The headlines of the other theses...)

2. we don't have a migration problem, it's about the social question...
3. declaring migration a problem promotes right-wing ideology...
4. the disenfranchisement of individual groups is only the beginning - there is no human right light...
5. the traffic light government is also paving the way for a shift to the right in society...
6. the right to seek asylum is not a right of mercy...
7. disenfranchisement and division is at the expense of society...
8. overcoming structural racism - human rights and solidarity are indivisible...

CONTACT: KONTAKT-PLATTFORM@POSTEO.DE

FULLL TEXT: [HTTPS://8THESEN.ANTIRA.INFO/](https://8thesen.antira.info/)

23 MAY - 8 JUNE: DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM

**Rechts-
extremismus
stoppen**



**Demokratie
verteidigen**

'For a strong democracy everywhere in Europe:
Stop right-wing extremism - defend democracy

'With demonstrations throughout the country from 23 May to 8 June 2024

We stand up for a democratic, open and diverse society, for peace and freedom, diversity and human rights, the preservation of human dignity, economic security and social justice. The AfD and other right-wing extremists are attacking all of this.

As a self-confident society, we will not stand idly by. We are uniting against this across the entire democratic spectrum. Right before the European elections on 9 June and the local elections in nine federal states, we are taking to the streets against the extreme right....'

COMPLETE CALL WITH THE LIST OF CITIES AND EXACT DATES:

[HTTPS://WWW.RECHTSEXTREMISMUS-STOPPEN.DE/AUFRUF/ENGLISH/](https://www.rechtsextremismus-stoppen.de/aufwurf/english/)

"MIGRANTIFA" NOT PROTECTED AS A TRADEMARK



Credit Protestfotografie Frankfurt

Register left-wing political terms as trade marks and cash in – that's what an entrepreneur from Warburg thought. He applied for Europe-wide trade mark protection for the term 'Migrantifa', which has been used by anti-racist initiatives for years to express solidarity with refugees and anti-racism.

The trade mark was registered with the EU Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) in 2021. In October 2022, represented by a lawyer, he wrote to the association Clandestini e.V. from Darmstadt about an alleged trade mark infringement; this association had sold T-shirts with the inscription 'MIGRANTIFA' to finance the anti-racist alliance 'We'll Come United', among other things. In his lawyer's letter, the trade

mark owner made it very clear what he was after: The payment of licence fees.

The association refused to be intimidated and applied to the EUIPO for the trade mark to be declared invalid. The authority now followed suit and ruled that the registered term lacked any distinctive character. 'Migrantifa' is understood 'as a purely (socio-)political statement'.

'The procedure of turning political terms into money through trade mark law is an attack on our political work. We have resolutely opposed this – with success,' explains Rola Saleh from the "We'll Come United" network. 'Migrantifa stands for a movement with the aim of building a solidary, anti-racist and anti-fascist society together. The decision is an important step against the instrumentalisation of our terms for private gain.'..."

FULL STATEMENT HERE: [HTTPS://WWW.WELCOME-UNITED.ORG/EN/](https://www.welcome-united.org/en/)

MEDICALBUS – RADICAL AID AGAINST BORDERS

„With the MedicalBus - Radical Aid against Borders project, we offer a loanable infrastructure in the form of a repurposed ambulance that emancipatory and self-organized

groups and individuals can use to travel directly to the places where (primary) medical care is needed for people on the move and homeless people. For us, Radical Aid against Borders means providing fast and necessary help without huge obstacles and restrictions. We want to question, circumvent and overcome borders and dismantle them forever.



The MedicalBus can also be used to transport materials for a mobile kitchen and/or a mobile information point to cook hot food and tea/coffee for up to 200 people or to provide several cell phone charging stations and free WiFi. It is also possible to use the MedicalBus at major political,

emancipatory events or demonstrations.

On the following pages, we explain exactly what we offer and how a lending process works. In addition to the infrastructure, we are also happy to share our knowledge, information and experience.

The vehicle was previously part of the directsupport structure (directsupport.blackblogs.org) and was used for the first time in this context. We are not an NGO and finance the project through donations. We use the donations to pay for insurance, taxes, repairs and maintenance work on the MedicalBus. We do this project out of a political position and do not earn any money with it..."

[HTTPS://MEDICALBUS.NET/?PAGE_ID=43&LANG=EN#038;LANG=EN](https://medicalbus.net/?PAGE_ID=43&LANG=EN#038;LANG=EN)

8 YEARS AFTER THE „MARCH OF HOPE“ - STORIES AND PERSPECTIVES ON THE „BALKAN ROUTE“



„With our magazine, we are attempting to trace the events surrounding the so-called ‘Balkan route’ since its politically proclaimed ‘closure’ in spring 2016. Drawing on the example of specific events, we describe the effective mechanisms of the European migration and border regime and highlight solidarity networks and structures in Southeast Europe and beyond using an artistic and activist format. The civil society interventions become visible in the form of interviews, reports, photo series and personal stories. We hope that the brochure provides a nice mix of

information, documentation and motivation for all readers. We look forward to your feedback..."

DOWNLOAD OF THE BROCHURE AND MORE: [HTTPS://BALKANBRUECKE.ORG/MAGAZINE-RELEASE/](https://balkanbruecke.org/magazine-release/)

PICUM: CASES OF CRIMINALIZATION OF MIGRATION AND SOLIDARITY IN THE EU IN 2023

„In 2023, PICUM’s media monitoring confirmed a concerning trend: at least 117 individuals faced criminal or administrative proceedings for acting in solidarity with migrants in

the EU. Additionally, at least 76 migrants were subjected to criminalisation under counter-smuggling legislation. Furthermore, news articles highlighted fifteen instances of non-judicial harassment directed at human rights defenders and civil society organisations within the EU.

Due to the significant gap in statistical and official public data¹ regarding individuals accused, charged, or convicted for smuggling and related offenses, this briefing relies on a media alert system, which may not comprehensively capture all relevant incidents reported across EU countries. Consequently, the figures presented likely underestimate the true extent of such occurrences. In addition, it is likely that many cases, particularly regarding people who are migrants, go unreported by the media.²

Beyond the continuously high number of people who have been criminalised in 2023, this report highlights different trends. Under the current legal system, charges of facilitation and smuggling can be used to criminalise migrants or people without regular residence and those acting in solidarity with them. Despite numerous and protracted judicial proceedings, actual convictions remain low. This report also looks at the several cases of people and organisations across Europe that have been victim of non-judicial harassment.

Moreover, the findings of our media monitoring seek to shed light on the criminalisation of people crossing borders irregularly, which remains a widespread, but relatively hidden phenomenon. A comparison between PICUM's findings and existing research reveals a tendency for the media to underreport the criminalisation of migrants. Yet, the majority of cases analysed by PICUM align with research indicating that migrants, including children, often face unfounded accusations and endure harsh legal processes for the sole fact of migrating."

FULL REPORT BY PICUM: [HTTPS://PICUM.ORG/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2024/04/CASES-OF-CRIMINALISATION-OF-MIGRATION-AND-SOLIDARITY-IN-THE-EU-IN-2023.PDF](https://picum.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/cases-of-criminalisation-of-migration-and-solidarity-in-the-eu-in-2023.pdf)

ALBANIA DEPORTATION CAMP

Current TV report in *Weltspiegel* on detention pending deportation in Italy and the construction of the new camp in Albania:

<https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/europa/italien-migrantenlager-albanien-100.html>

REVIEW

VALETTA: HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AWARD FOR EL HIBLU 3

Thank you, Abdalla, Amara and Kader

On the 13th of April 2024, the Coalition for the El Hiblu 3 presented Abdalla Bari, Amara Kromah, and Abdul Kader with the Human Rights Defenders Award in Valletta, Malta.

The three, known as the El Hiblu 3, received this award for the bravery and solidarity they showed when facing the threat of a pushback to Libya in 2019. Before an audience of a

hundred invited guests at the University of Malta, ten representatives of Maltese and international human rights organisations gave short speeches in which they celebrated the El Hiblu 3 and highlighted why their actions were so important. (...)



At the end of the ceremony, Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, the former President of Malta, handed the awards to Amara and Abdalla and apologised to them: "I should have done more". Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca said: "Thank you, Abdalla, Amara and Kader for being such a huge inspiration. For your resilience, your bravery, your courage. I, we, will stand by you, until justice prevails and you are free. This is what I promise. I will be there."

The ceremony was concluded by Amara: "I am profoundly honored and humbled to accept the Human Rights Defender Award.

First and foremost, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the organizers of this prestigious event for recognizing the importance of championing human rights, especially in a world where such values are often under threat. I also want to express my gratitude to all who have supported me during these difficult moments of my life. This award is not just a recognition of our efforts but also a testament to our collective commitment toward a more just and equitable society." Amara ended his speech by noting: "I accept this award not only on my behalf but also on behalf of all those who continue to fight for human rights around the world courageously. Let us seize this moment as a reminder of the power of collective action and the possibility of a brighter future for generations to come."

MORE INFORMATION HERE:

[HTTPS://CIVILMRCC.EU/MOBILISATION/THE-EL-HIBLU-3-CELEBRATED-AS-HUMAN-RIGHTS-DEFENDERS/](https://civilmrcc.eu/mobilisation/the-el-hiblu-3-celebrated-as-human-rights-defenders/)

INTERVIEW WITH ONE OF THE LAWYERS OF EL HIBLU 3 BY PRO ASYL:

[HTTPS://WWW.PROASYL.DE/NEWS/EL-HIBLU-3-AUSZEICHNUNG-ALS-MENSCHENRECHTSVERTEIDIGER/](https://www.proasyl.de/news/el-hiblu-3-auszeichnung-als-menschenrechtsverteidiger/)

TRAPANI: COURT DROPS CHARGES AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS IN IUVENTA TRIAL

„Today, the court has delivered its landmark decision, clearing all defendants following a seven-year odyssey. This case stands as the longest, most expensive, and most extensive proceedings against SAR NGOs, including two years of preliminary hearing with over 40 hearings. It serves as a poignant testament to the extensive efforts invested by authorities in the criminalization of migration. While welcoming the outcome, the iuventa-crew expresses profound concern over the irreparable damage inflicted by the investigation and trial.

Sascha Girke, iuventa-defendant: "As a result of a flawed investigation driven by political motives, thousands of people have died in the Mediterranean or forcibly returned to war-torn Libya. Meanwhile, our ship has been left to decay, and we have been entangled

in year-long proceedings. Additionally, it squandered immense resources, including state funds amounting to some 3 million euro, in a bid to obstruct and defame civilian sea rescues. Our case serves as a glaring symbol of the strategies European governments are putting in place in order to prevent people from reaching safety, leading to and normalising the death of thousands of people.”



The IUVENTA case marked the onset of a public smear campaign against civil sea rescue, aimed at legitimizing crackdowns on rescue efforts. The political nature of the case was, among other things, evidenced by the Ministry of Interior joining as a civil plaintiff. The charges were brought despite a lack of evidence, which became particularly clear on 28 February

when, after years of vehement prosecution, the public prosecutor’s office surprisingly requested that the case be dropped in its closing statement.

These crackdowns continue to this day, now focusing on administrative obstruction as in the case of the Piantedosi Decree, confirming the persistence of the Italian state in embargoing maritime rescue and its responsibility for the murder of thousands of people.

Moreover, thousands of people on the move continue to be routinely arrested under the same accusations – aiding and abetting unauthorized immigration – simply because they steered the boat or drove a car. Unlike the iuventata-crew, these individuals often lack the same level of support and attention and are frequently subjected to lengthy prison sentences.

To prevent a recurrence of the IUVENTA case and to safeguard the rights of people on the move, the iuventata-crew therefore calls for the abolition of the criminalization of the facilitation of migration. They denounce the European “Facilitators’ Package” and Article 12 of the Italian Immigration Act, which allow and encourage the criminalization of solidarity among and towards people on the move, and endanger fundamental rights. A case on the validity and interpretation of the Facilitators package is currently pending before the EU Court of Justice.

Despite its severe consequences, the IUVENTA case has also become a symbol of transnational support, solidarity, and resilience. The iuventata-crew remains undeterred, affirming their commitment to resume rescue missions as soon as possible.”

[HTTPS://IUVENTA-CREW.ORG/EN/2024/04/19/BREAKING-COURT-DROPS-CHARGES-AGAINST-ALL-DEFENDANTS-IN-IUVENTATA-TRIAL-2/](https://iuventata-crew.org/en/2024/04/19/breaking-court-drops-charges-against-all-defendants-in-iuventata-trial-2/)

ARTICLE IN THE TAZ ON THE OCCASION OF THE IUVENTATA TRIAL: [HTTPS://TAZ.DE/KRIMINALISIERUNG-VON-FLUCHT/!6002122/](https://taz.de/kriminalisierung-von-flucht/!6002122/)

OUTLOOK

21.8. TO 25.8.: WE`LL COME UNITED SUMMER CAMP IN THURINGIA

"For August this year 2024, we are planning a summer camp for 150 people in the municipality of Waltershausen (www.kommune-kowa.de) in Thuringia..."

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT HERE: [HTTPS://WWW.WELCOME-UNITED.ORG/DE/CALENDER/](https://www.welcome-United.org/de/CALENDER/)