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Newsletter
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KOMPASS



Info-Plattform der antirassistischen Bewegung

8 June in many cities: Demonstrations against right-wing extremism +++ 14 June: one year of the Pylos massacre +++ 20 June in Potsdam: Youth without borders at the IMK +++ Pylos 9 in Greece: all proceedings dropped +++ El Hiblu 3 in Malta: no end to injustice +++ Echoes No. 12: Liberation Days +++ Maldusa: testimony to the horror on the harbour pier +++ Alarm Phone on the Western Med & Children on the Move +++ Outlook: 21.8. to 25.8.: We'll Come United Summer Camp in Thuringia

DEAR FRIENDS.

„The European elections are on 9 June and one thing is certain for us: casting a vote is not enough. Rather, we want to raise our voices together against the European normal state of affairs. (...) In this spirit, on 8 June 2024 - as part of the numerous rallies and demonstrations of 'Vote of the Year' against right-wing extremism - we want to create a space on the Römer (in Frankfurt/Main) where different voices can be heard that all too often go unheard: voices from the external borders, voices from refugee camps, voices from deportation detention, voices from church asylums, voices from the everyday struggles for equal rights for all people and many more....“.



Gegen Abschiebung und Ausgrenzung – Für die Gesellschaft der Vielen!

These sentences from an invitation in Frankfurt echo what was discussed at the We'll Come United conference at the end of April: to get involved on the day before the European elections, when in more than a dozen major cities in Germany it is called for new large-scale demonstrations against the far right. The expected shift to the right is unlikely to be halted, especially at European level, but new strong mobilisations could show that the mass demonstrations at the beginning of the year are not just a flash in the pan. And wherever possible, voices should become audible and visible that oppose not only the expulsion plans of the future but also the policies of exclusion and deportation of the present.

14 June marks the first anniversary of the so-called Pylos accident, in which over 600 people lost their lives, presumably caused by the Greek coastguard attempting to pull the boat with

a rope. At the end of May, the proceedings against nine survivors - the Pylos 9 - were dropped, partly on the grounds that the charges had taken place outside Greek jurisdiction.

The El Hiblu 3 in Malta, who recently had to appear in court again, had hoped for a similar dismissal of their case on similar grounds. However, the proceedings, which have now lasted over five years, will continue - according to the decision on 30.5.24 - with the inconceivable accusation of terrorism, among other things. 'We will continue to stand beside them as they weather this cruel injustice. We will stand with the El Hiblu 3 as long as it takes and until they are free,' reacted the supporters' group, which awarded the defendants a human rights prize in Valetta in mid-April.

The 'European normality' mentioned in the introduction is also illustrated by a report from Lampedusa, recently published by Maldusa, which is hard to bear but well worth reading, and which bears witness to the everyday and deliberate horror at the EU's external borders: „...I approached a pile of blankets and saw that there was a body underneath, cold and immobile. I uncovered his face and began to talk to him. His gaze was completely absent. He looked at me but it was as if he neither saw me, nor saw anything. He didn't speak and didn't move. (...) What happened that evening was violence, the result of an institutional will that, with different nuances and dynamics, has been repeating itself every day for years. This lack of preparedness is the final equilibrium of a systemic operation intended to prioritize the construction of confinement spaces rather than implementing tools and infrastructure to provide a worthy and adequate response to the phenomenon of migration.“. Keep reading and spread the word: <https://www.maldusa.org/l/wednesday-april-10th-at-9-p-m-favaloro-pier-lampedusa2/>

With solidarity greetings,

the Kompass crew

DATES AND INFORMATION FOR JUNE 2024

8. JUNI 2024 DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM

'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/aufruf/english/)

From the invitation in Frankfurt: Votes for a society of the many as part of the 'Vote of the Year' rally



The European elections are on June 9 and one thing is certain for us: casting a vote is not enough. Rather, we want to raise our voices together against the European normal state of affairs. Against deportation and exclusion, against an inhumane asylum policy, against double human rights standards. Against the habituation to death and suffering at and within the EU borders. Against racist murders and attacks. This situation is tolerated by broad sections of society and has come to a head in recent years. Demanding and implementing "deportations on a grand scale", abolishing the European right of asylum through the CEAS and advertising on election posters with the

strengthening of "defense" and "security" is no longer just right-wing propaganda by the AfD, but also a central political content of the bourgeois parties.

Let us free ourselves from this thicket. The world's crises cannot be solved with even higher fences, with more violence and weapons, with disenfranchisement and isolation, with the restriction of diverse voices and opinions. Instead, we want to stand up for a society of the many that is characterized by open borders, justice and participation and that recognizes the dignity and right to life of all people. We want to give shape to this vision together and show how solidarity is already being lived on a small scale today.

With this in mind, on June 8, 2024 - as part of the numerous rallies and demonstrations of "Vote of the Year" against right-wing extremism - we want to create a space on the Römer where different voices that all too often go unheard can have their say: voices from the external borders, voices from refugee camps, voices from deportation detenti-

on, voices from church asylums, voices from the everyday struggles for equal rights for all people and many more.

We want to ask ourselves these questions and discuss them: How can the current conditions be described? How can we succeed in changing these conditions? What could the necessary next steps look like? How can we better connect our protests? Where can we find allies? What needs special attention at the moment?

The different voices will talk about their experiences, make demands, play music and put on plays. Together we will stand up for a society of the many. We cordially invite you and look forward to seeing you!

Pro Asyl: European elections: What the parties (in Germany) say about refugee protection:

[HTTPS://WWW.PROASYL.DE/NEWS/EUROPAAWAHL-DAS-SAGEN-DIE-PARTEIEN-ZUM-FLUECHTLINGSSCHUTZ/](https://www.proasyl.de/news/europawahl-das-sagen-die-parteien-zum-fluechtlingschutz/)

14 JUNE 2024 ONE YEAR OF THE PYLOS MASSACRE

Commemorative and protest actions are expected to take place in several European cities on the first anniversary of the Pylos massacre....

'Joint press conference by PRO ASYL and survivors of the Pylos shipwreck

14 June 2024 marks the first anniversary of the disaster off the Greek coastal town of Pylos. When the ship sank a year ago, more than 600 women, children and men seeking protection drowned under the watchful eyes of the Greek coastguard and Frontex aerial surveillance. Survivors of the disaster and PRO ASYL invite you to a press conference in Berlin on 12 June.

On the night of 14 June 2023, the Adriana refugee boat carrying over 750 people sank around 50 kilometres off the Greek coastal town of Pylos. Only 104 refugees survived, including none of the children and women on board. The Greek authorities and Frontex had been informed about the critical situation for over 15 hours beforehand, and the Greek coastguard was on site at the time of the sinking - yet no rescue measures were initiated. The lack of help from European actors led to international outrage and criticism. The survivors demanded justice and sued the Greek coastguard.

Press conference

On the first anniversary of the disaster, a group of survivors and PRO ASYL invite you to a press conference:

Date: Wednesday, 12 June 2024, 11 a.m. Location: to be announced

Topics: What happened then and since? What demands do the survivors have? What is the status of the lawsuit against those responsible?

- Naeef Al Saiasna (survivor and plaintiff against the Greek Coast Guard)
- Hasan Al Jalam (survivor and plaintiff against the Greek Coast Guard)
- Karl Kopp (Managing Director of PRO ASYL)
- Eleni Spathana (lawyer from Refugee Support Aegean (RSA))

Further dates for the Pylos anniversary:

On 13 June 2024, a press conference will take place in Greece with Greek lawyers representing the survivors and families of the bereaved in the trial against the Greek Coast Guard. Focus: the legal dispute in Athens. For more information, please contact RSA: media@rsaegan.org

On 14 June 2024, survivors of the disaster, together with PRO ASYL and the organisation Watch The Med - Alarmphone, who were in contact with the people on the Adriana during the disaster, will hold a memorial event in front of the Reichstag building in Berlin during the day. More information will follow...

[HTTPS://WWW.PROASYL.DE/PRESSEMITTEILUNG/GEMEINSAME-PRESSEKONFERENZ-VON-PRO-ASYL-UND-UEBERLEBENDEN-DES-PYLOS-SCHIFFSUNGLUECKS/](https://www.proasyl.de/pressemitteilung/gemeinsame-pressekonzferenz-von-pro-asyl-und-ueberlebenden-des-pylos-schiffsunluecks/)



20 JUNE 2024 POTSDAM: YOUTH WITHOUT BORDERS AT THE CONFERENCE OF INTERIOR MINISTERS (IMK)

'The Conference of Interior Ministers (IMK) will take place in Potsdam from 19 June to 21 June 2024. We will be there and are organising a parallel conference of young refugees with a protest and cultural programme to make our voices heard! ..

ANTI-RACIST DEMONSTRATION TO THE LOCATION OF THE IMK

20 JUNE 2024, 17:00, ALTER MARKT AM LANDTAG, POTSDAM

GALA EVENING WITH DEPORTATION MINISTER ELECTION

POTSDAM | 21 JUNE 2024, 18:00, POTSDAM MUSEUM

YOUTH WITHOUT BORDERS - CONFERENCE

19 - 22 JUNE 2024 IN POTSDAM

FURTHER INFORMATION AND PROGRAMME:

[HTTPS://WWW.IMK-PROTEST.DE/](https://www.imk-protest.de/)

[HTTP://JOGSPACE.NET/2024/05/08/JUGENDKONFERENZ-UND-](http://jogspace.net/2024/05/08/jugendkonferenz-und-proteste-zur-innenministerinnen-konferenz-in-potsdam/)

[PROTESTE-ZUR-INNENMINISTERINNEN-KONFERENZ-IN-POTSDAM/](http://jogspace.net/2024/05/08/jugendkonferenz-und-proteste-zur-innenministerinnen-konferenz-in-potsdam/)



PYLOS 9 IN GREECE: ALL PROCEEDINGS DISMISSED



Summarised information here:

<https://legalcentresvos.org/litigation-of-the-legal-centre-lesvos/criminalisation/pylos-9/>

And here:

<https://legalcentresvos.org/2024/05/21/the-nine-accused-of-the-pylos-shipwreck-acquitted-based-on-the-lack-of-jurisdiction-of-greek-courts/>

From an interview by medico with lawyer Natasha Dailiani

'... Normally, refugees who are charged with illegally crossing the border in Greece are sentenced to very long prison terms. Thousands are behind bars because of this. How do you explain the surprising acquittal of the Pylos9?

From a legal point of view, it is simply the right decision. As the defence team, we had argued that the Greek court had no jurisdiction because the ship sank in international waters. The court upheld this central objection. Even the captain of the Greek coastguard vessel that was on site when the ship sank confirmed this, as did the civil society hotline project Alarm Phone and even Frontex, which each received requests for help. So it was a legally correct, courageous and also a very humane decision.

Secondly, there is a political dimension here. Because the acquittal saves the court from having to investigate the core of the proceedings: the reasons for the shipwreck, for which the men had also been held responsible. If the trial had gone ahead, the captain of the Greek coastguard would have had to be questioned about the role of his ship, which bears a great deal of responsibility for the sinking. We have many witness statements and documents on this. That would have been a big deal. But for our clients, the acquittal is of course the best result.

A third reason for this was the high level of attention the trial attracted. There were international observers, Egyptian diplomats, opposition politicians, the UNHCR and many other experts in the courtroom. Every sentence that was said also received media attention....'

THE WHOLE INTERVIEW IN GERMAN HERE:

[HTTPS://WWW.MEDICO.DE/BLOG/UEBERRASCHENDER-FREISPRUCH-19532](https://www.medico.de/blog/ueberraschender-freispruch-19532)

EL HIBLU 3 IN MALTA: NO END TO INJUSTICE



From the Press Statement of the Coalition for El Hiblu 3 on 30.05.2024

„In Malta, the farcical trial of the El Hiblu 3 continues

The opportunity to finally end the farcical trial of the El Hiblu 3 was missed today at the court of Malta. After a short court session, it became clear that the case was not dismissed. We are appalled that Amara, Kader and Abdalla will remain in legal limbo after more than five years.

Since they arrived in Malta in 2019, their lives have been put on hold. Their youth has been stolen. For acting as translators and mediators on the merchant vessel El Hiblu 1 and playing an important role

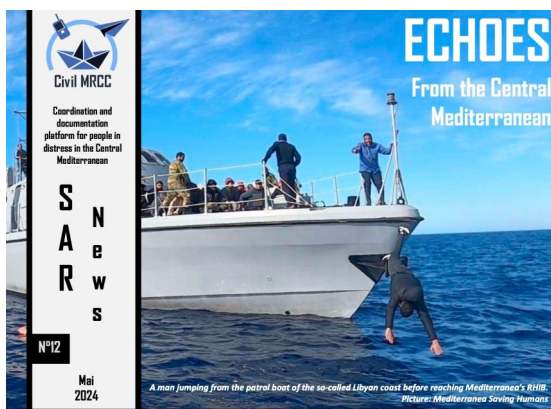
in preventing the forced return of over 100 people to Libya, they continue to pay a very high price.

We have said it for years: clearly, they are neither criminals nor terrorists. They are defenders of human rights. Only weeks ago, in April 2024, the three had received the Human Rights Defenders Award at the University of Malta.(...)

We will continue to stand beside them as they weather this cruel injustice. We will stand with the El Hiblu 3 as long as it takes and until they are free.

The Coalition for the El Hiblu 3”

ECHOES NO. 12: LIBERATION DAYS



P.3 - LATEST POLITICAL DVPTS
Updates from Tunisia and Italy

LIBERATION DAY

„The man on the picture liberated himself when he jumped from a so-called Libyan Coast Guards ship into the sea and escaped an intended pushback to Libya. A few days after, the IUVENTA crew liberated themselves from a seven-year long odyssey of criminalization, after the court finally had to drop all charges. Celebrated as a public holiday in Italy, the 25th of April marks the day in 1945 when a call was launched on nationwide radio broadcast for a popular uprising and general strike against the Nazi occupation and Fascist regime in Italy. At the same time, still and again, rescue ships continue to be detained and blocked by the Italian post-fascist government, while the EU strives to tighten the externalization of its brutal border regime. During the last weeks, billion euro deals with Egypt and with Lebanon have been initiated to control and to deter migration movements... For liberation of all, the struggles continue!...”

FULL ISSUE HERE: [HTTPS://CIVILMRCC.EU/ECHOES/ECHOES-12-LIBERATION-DAY-ENGLISH/](https://civilmrcc.eu/echoes/echoes-12-liberation-day-english/)

MALDUSA: TESTIMONY OF HORROR FROM THE HARBOUR PIER

Wednesday, 10 April 2024, Favalaro Pier



„On that evening, in many parts of the world, Eid, the end of Ramadan, was being celebrated. Even in Lampedusa, among those who are not Muslims, there was a sense of celebration and carefreeness. Meanwhile, the island was starting to wake up from its winter slumber, with the last songs of the Sanremo festival resonating from all the bars and restaurants, spreading to every corner of the island.

Then, a message arrives: at 8:30 p.m., disembarkation at the Pier, there's a shipwreck, there is also the body of a little girl.

Another arrival, another shipwreck.(...)

Among the glaring lights of the patrol boat, I saw people trying to lift the only stretcher with wheels. Lying on it, a man was seized by convulsions, his body was moving uncontrollably with people unable to hold him still while running toward the ambulances.

Beyond some Red Cross workers, an expanse of bodies appeared.

Bodies on the ground, motionless, wrapped in gray fleece blankets and rescue blankets.

There was disorganization, astonished people, authorities immobilized in front of this terrible scene, and people trying to do something. I got closer to a heap of blankets, the faces of these people were barely visible. Many of them laid there, abandoned to themselves. The ground medic told me: "We need to make sure they stay with us, shake the bodies, try to create warmth and make sure they keep their eyes open". Time stood still, the emotional part of my brain stopped functioning, and the practical one kicked in.. (...)

In the face of such a rough scenario that even many professionals are now "accustomed" to the banality of evil at the Lampedusa's pier, the Frontex staff still intended to show their indifference towards the people they were dealing with, demonstrating how border control and surveillance can only turn into monstrous practices – albeit all too human. With a questionnaire in hand, an employee of the European Agency approached the few people who could barely stand.

"Where did you depart from? How many of you? How much did you pay? How much fuel did you have on board? Who was driving the boat?"

The questions cut through the heavy air of the Pier.. ..."

THE ENTIRE SHOCKING REPORT HERE: [HTTPS://WWW.MALDUSA.ORG/L/WEDNESDAY-APRIL-10TH-AT-9-P-M-FAVALORO-PIER-LAMPEDUSA2/](https://www.maldusa.org/L/WEDNESDAY-APRIL-10TH-AT-9-P-M-FAVALORO-PIER-LAMPEDUSA2/)

ALARM PHONE: WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND ATLANTIC REGIONAL ANALYSIS

1 October - 31 March 2024 - Children on the Move



Demonstration in Ceuta on 6 February 2024. Source: A. Janda

„... The topic of children on the move itself is very current and has dominated the Spanish debate on migration in the past months. The increase of arrivals on the Canary Islands has prominently raised the topic of children's rights, since the accommodation facilities are not at all equipped to respond to their needs (see

section 3.1.). Similarly, children entering the Spanish enclaves (on Moroccan territory) have recently received a lot of media coverage, for example when 57 children entered Ceuta swimming within three days in February. Sections 3.2 and 3.3 will detail the situation of children in the north of Morocco, particularly at the land borders of the enclaves.

All sections for the different regions will show the reality of the racism and violence that children on the move experience along the Western Mediterranean and Atlantic route, be it in the countries of departure (sections 3.1-3.5) or in the Spanish state (section 3.6). As usual, this analysis will also provide an overview of sea crossings, statistics and Alarm Phone cases of the past six months (section 2), as well as a list of all those who did not survive (section 4). We are thinking of them, our respect and solidarity are with their families...."

FULL REPORT HERE: [HTTPS://ALARMPHONE.ORG/EN/2024/05/27/CHILDREN-ARE-LEFT-ALONE-THERE-IS-NO-PROTECTION-FOR-THEM/](https://alarmphone.org/en/2024/05/27/children-are-left-alone-there-is-no-protection-for-them/)

OUTLOOK

21.08.-25.08. 2024 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/caender/)