No. 148
Newsletter
10/2026
KOMPASS
Info-Plattform der antirassistischen Bewegung

12 years of Alarm Phone +++ 24 October: Coordinated demonstrations against deportations at airports in Munich, Frankfurt, Cologne/Bonn, Hanover, Leipzig, Berlin… +++ Pro Asyl on 100 days of the GEAS +++ 5 years of Refugees in Libya and the Mitiga campaign with a view to 4 May 2027 in The Hague +++ migration-control.info on Haftar's interception regime in eastern Libya and on racist mobilisation in western Libya +++ Border Forensics: New investigation into the deadly pushback regime at the Polish-Belarusian border +++ medico: articles and information on racist violence in South Africa +++ Review: action in Hamburg against Rheinmetall; 40 years of Pro Asyl: a retrospective +++ Outlook: 26 to 28 November: 'We'll Come United' conference in Leipzig

DEAR FRIENDS.

In the last issue of Kompass, we had already congratulated Refugees in Libya on their fifth anniversary. At a successful and well-attended event last Saturday (3 October 2026) in Berlin, the selforganisation demonstrated once again that it has developed into a key voice for the rights of 'People on the Move'. Furthermore, the 'Mitiga Campaign' – currently in preparation and named after the detention centre in Libya that will be at the centre of the trial against the torturer El Hishri in The Hague, due to begin on 4 May 2027 – has the potential to spark a transnational mobilisation to expose the ongoing EU pushback policy, see https://www.refugeesinlibya.org/mitiga-campaign.

This coming weekend, another transnational project will have its 12th anniversary: the Alarm Phone. To mark the occasion, a four-page newspaper will be published on 10 October 2026 in the German newspaper *Taz* as a supplement. Quote from the introduction: "12 years. 24/7 working in shifts. For 4,380 days and nights, always on standby and constantly in action. We

12 Jahre Alarm Phone

Alarm Phone • Oktober 2026

Editorial

Die aktivistische Hotline an der Seite der Flucht- und Migrationsbewegungen

launched our project on 11 October 2014. We have succeeded in establishing a continuous structure of solidarity along the migration routes. During this time, 11,000 boats in distress from all the seas off the EU's external borders have contacted our hotline. From the Aegean and from the central and western Mediterranean. From the Atlantic as well as from the English Channel. Over the years, our telephone number has spread throughout many migrant communities and across many regions…", see the newspaper (in German) here: https://alarmphone.org/de/campaigns/12-jahre-alarm-phone.

Various groups and networks are calling for simultaneous protests on Saturday 24 October at several deportation airports: in Munich and Frankfurt, in Cologne/Bonn and Hanover, in Leipzig and Berlin. This joint mobilisation offers the chance to build a stronger, germanwide coordinated resistance movement against "the brutalisation of deportation practices, the expansion of pre-deportation detention and the unbelievable plans for mass deportations through the construction of new deportation terminals", see https://www.welcome-united.org/articles/2dmGEzgVa6S15qXyk780oT.

When the We'll Come United network meets for a joint conference in Leipzig at the end of November, the fight against deportations will certainly be a key focus.

In this spirit and with solidarity greetings,

the Kompass Crew

INFORMATION AND DATES FOR OCTOBER 2026

12 YEARS OF ALARM PHONE

Credit: Veronika Dimke

Four-page newspaper published in German
On 11 October 2026, Alarm Phone will have been in existence for exactly 12 years. During this time, around 11,000 boats in distress from all the seas off the EU's external borders have contacted our hotline. We support the people on the boats and empower them. We exert public pressure and compel reluctant coastguards to carry out rescues. Alternatively, we facilitate their arrival in cooperation with the civilian sea rescue fleet. As Alarm Phone, we fight alongside refugees and migrants for an open society and against deadly borders.
To mark our 12th anniversary, we have produced a four-page newspaper showcasing recent experiences from our work. The newspaper can be viewed and downloaded here, or ordered free of charge as a printed copy via the following email address. And we welcome donations…."

HTTPS://ALARMPHONE.ORG/DE/CAMPAIGNS/12-JAHRE-ALARM-PHONE/

CONTAKT: WTM-ALARM-PHONE@ANTIRA.INFO

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026 - GERMANWIDE PROTESTS AGAINST THE DEPORTATION FRENZY - IN MUNICH, FRANKFURT AM MAIN, COLOGNE/BONN, HANOVER, LEIPZIG, BERLIN…

„Together with regional groups and coalitions, we will take to the streets simultaneously: against deportations, against pre-deportation detention, and against any new deportation terminal. We are protesting the brutalization of deportation practices, the expansion of pre-deportation detention, and the outrageous plans for mass deportations through the construction of new deportation terminals.
While the federal government is cutting funding across all social sectors, tens of millions of euros are being invested in measures for so-called "returns." Deals are being negotiated with autocratic and Islamist regimes to increase deportation numbers by any means necessary. Human rights are being systematically violated in order to carry out deportations "on a massive scale." The ruling parties are still running after the far-right extremists and racists of the AfD; they are even planning and building the infrastructure these groups need to implement their "remigration" fantasies.
At the airports in Munich, Frankfurt, and Berlin, deportation terminals are being built or expanded to drive up deportation numbers.
We declare our resistance against this deportation frenzy—loudly and collectively at multiple deportation sites at the same time.
Every day and in many places, we fight back by standing up for the right to stay.
We've made a promise to each other: we won't leave anyone behind.
Against fear! Against all deportations! Solidarity will win!

Please share the date, locations, and times listed below.
October 24, 2026, at Munich Airport, at 4 p.m. in the MAC Forum;
October 24, 2026, at Frankfurt Airport, at 2:00 p.m., Terminal 1, Departures;
October 24, 2026, at Berlin BER Airport, TBA
October 24, 2026, at Cologne/Bonn Airport, Terminal 1, 2:00 p.m.;
October 24, 2026, in Düsseldorf, TBA
October 24, 2026, in Hanover, TBA
October 24, 2026, in Halle/Leipzig, TBA

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!

HTTPS://WWW.WELCOME-UNITED.ORG/ARTICLES/2DMGEZGVA6S15QXYK780OT

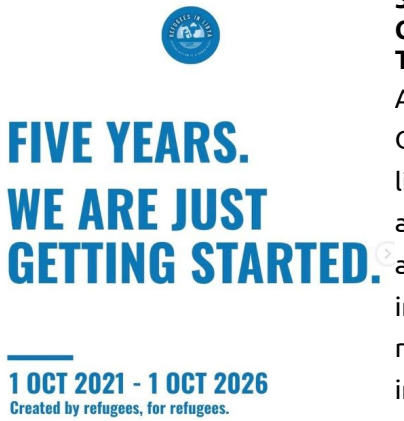
HTTPS://ABSCHIEBETERMINAL-VERHINDERN.DE/2026/08/19/ABSCHIEBEINFRASTRUKTUR-IST-KEIN-GESCHAEFTSMODELL-ABSCHIEBETERMINAL-VERHINDERN/

PRO ASYL ON 100 DAYS OF THE CEAS: DETERRENCE, PRESSURE AND LEGAL VIOLATIONS

"The new provisions of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) have been in force since 12 June 2026. PRO ASYL is taking the first 100 days as an opportunity to take stock. The conclusion is clear: Germany's implementation is characterised by the greatest possible severity. (…) In the policy paper "Deterrence, Pressure and Legal Violations", PRO ASYL analyses the first 100 days of the CEAS and demonstrates that the dramatic consequences for those seeking protection are already evident: the existing leeway is clearly being exploited to the detriment of those seeking protection. Even the needs of particularly vulnerable people are not reliably taken into account in the accelerated procedures at German airports.
Drawing on specific cases and discussions with lawyers and advice centres, PRO ASYL examines, on the one hand, the situation under the new border procedure and, on the other, the tightened Dublin regulations. These are two areas in which the negative effects have become apparent particularly quickly. The policy paper identifies the consequences and sets out specific demands…."

THE FULL REPORT (IN GERMAN) IS AVAILABLE HERE:

HTTPS://WWW.PROASYL.DE/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/PRO-ASYL_100-TAGE-GEAS_POLICY-PAPER_3_26.PDF



5 YEARS OF 'REFUGEES IN LIBYA' AND THE MITIGA CAMPAIGN: LOOKING AHEAD TO 4 MAY 2027 IN THE HAGUE

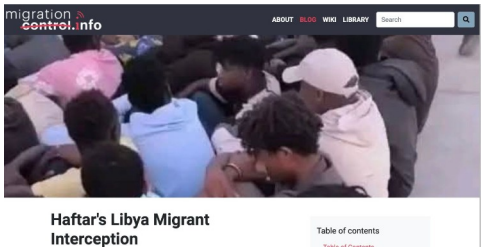
Around 150 attendees came to the event on 3 October in Berlin, where 'Refugees in Libya' activists living in Italy, France, Sweden and Germany spoke about the five-year history of their self-organisation and current developments. The situation in Libya – including racist incitement and violence against Black refugees and migrants – has continued to deteriorate in recent months, whilst EU states have stepped up

their cooperation with governments and militias in both western and eastern Libya. It was emphasised on several occasions how many fellow comrades and human rights defenders have been killed in torture camps and how many remain in detention to this day. This makes it all the more significant that a Libyan torturer is due to stand trial in The Hague from 4 May 2027. “Stand with Survivors for Justice” will be the title of the campaign that Refugees in Libya, together with the ECCHR and other support organisations, is preparing for the coming months; this campaign is not solely about holding those responsible to account for the crimes against humanity committed at the Mitiga detention centre in Tripoli. Rather, the aim is to highlight the entire ‘detention industry’ in Libya and, in particular, the EU’s responsibility for funding these camps, as well as for the push-back collaboration between Frontex and the militias at sea. The Berlin event concluded with a series of smaller parallel working groups, in which concrete next steps for the campaign were discussed, including compiling materials and preparing a variety of decentralised information and mobilisation events, with a view to travelling to The Hague in May 2027 together with survivors and witnesses.

UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE REFUGEES IN LIBYA WEBSITE:

HTTPS://WWW.REFUGEESINLIBYA.ORG/MITIGA-CAMPAIGN

MIGRATION-CONTROL.INFO ON HAFTAR’S INTERCEPTION REGIME IN EASTERN LIBYA AND ON RACIST MOBILISATION IN WESTERN LIBYA



Haftar's Libya Migrant Interception

„This paper provides a comprehensive examination of the role of Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar and his forces in Libya's migrant interception operations, situating these practices within the broader framework of European Union externalization policies. Since the 2011 NATO-supported uprising that toppled Muammar Gaddafi, Libya has become a critical transit and departure point for migrants attempting to cross the Mediterranean Sea to reach Europe. The paper analyzes the legal framework governing maritime interceptions, the human rights violations documented in Libyan detention centers, the European Union's financial and logistical support for Libyan coast guard forces, and the recent expansion of cooperation with Haftar's eastern forces. Drawing on reports from international organizations, human rights monitors, investigative journalists, and legal scholarship, this study argues that the EU-Libya migration partnership has created a system of complex persecution that exposes migrants to systematic abuse while entrenching predatory armed actors and undermining prospects for political stability in Libya….“

FULL REPORT HERE:

HTTPS://MIGRATION-CONTROL.INFO/EN/BLOG/HAFTARS-LIBYA-MIGRANT-INTERCEPTION/

WEAPONISING SOVEREIGNTY: THE RISE OF THE "NO TO RESETTLEMENT" MOVEMENT

„By late August 2026, the main entrance to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) compound in Tripoli's Al-Sarraj district had been blocked with earth berms and welded shut with iron bars. Two weeks later, on 7 September 2026, the escalatory pattern reached a violent peak when activists targeted an International Organisation for Migration (IOM) humanitarian centre in Al-Siyahiya, physically breaching the compound, assaulting staff and asylum seekers, and forcing an immediate, indefinite shutdown of protection operations. Two months prior to these actions, representatives of the movement claiming credit were seated inside the Ministry of Interior, receiving formal institutional validation from Minister Imad Al-Trabelsi.

What began as a network of localised Facebook pages, Telegram channels, and legal petitions has evolved into an effectivepressure campaign across western Libya. The "No to Resettlement" campaign draws on an existing activist network previously known as the "Tripoli Activists Movement," whose activities addressed economic and social grievances and demands for elections. Its subsequent focus on migration brought these networks into a pressure campaign across western Libya. Operating under slogans such as "Libya for Libyans," lawyers, civic activists and neighbourhood organisers have combined online mobilisation, demonstrations and legal challenges with physical blockades of UN premises. The movement shift in focus matters: a network previously mobilising around political and economic grievances now directs its pressure towards non-Libyans and the organisations providing them with assistance…."

FULL REPORT HERE:

HTTPS://MIGRATION-CONTROL.INFO/EN/BLOG/WEAPONISING-SOVEREIGNTYTHE-RISE-OF-THE-NO-TORESETTLEMENT-MOVEMENT/

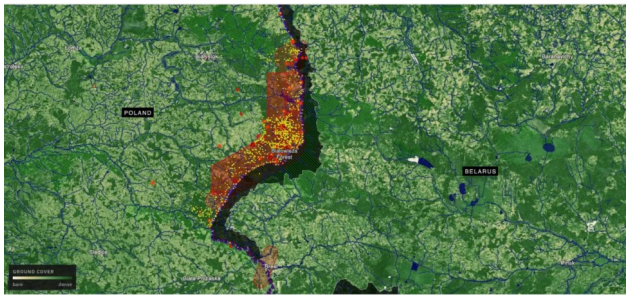
THE DEATH ZONE - THE MAKING OF A LETHAL PUSHBACK REGIME ACROSS THE POLISH-BELARUSIAN BORDERLANDS

An investigation by the Circumference of Violence, Infrastructuring Nature, and Border Forensics

„In the summer of 2021, amid rising geopolitical tensions, the government of Belarus facilitated the crossing of its borders with neighbouring European Union (EU) countries by illegalised migrants from the Global South. Considering the way EU countries have framed migrants as threats and criminalised their mobility, the Belarus government aimed for these crossings to have a destabilising effect on the EU. In response, Poland, Latvia, and Lithuania denounced this practice as a form of “hybrid warfare” enacted through the “instrumentalisation” of migrants. In the aim of preventing migrants from arriving on their territories and seeking protection, the governments of these countries swiftly instituted exceptional legislation, erected exclusionary border infrastructure, and deployed large numbers of law enforcement agents to their borders. Their policies, which received the full backing of the EU, have constituted a pushback regime that has been consolidated over the last five years. As a result, migrants seeking to cross the borders between Belarus and EU countries have been subjected to widespread violations of their rights and recurring acts of violence by law enforcement agents. This investigation focuses on

the vast space of the Polish–Belarusian borderlands which has seen the starkest developments. In particular 102 migrant deaths have been documented since 2021 and many more disappearances reported.

This investigation mobilises a broad range of methods and fact-based analysis to answer the following key questions: How has this lethal pushback regime emerged? How has it been consolidated over the last five years? How have border policies, practices, infrastructure, and the environment converged to structurally generate violence, deaths, and disappearances? Who should be held accountable for the different forms of harm experienced by migrants?



To answer these questions, we have led an investigation over two years. The research has been led by the researchers and fellows of the Circumference of Violence and Infrastructuring Nature research projects and the investigative agency Border Forensics. We have further collaborated with a number of Polish researchers and civil society actors, in particular We Are Monitoring, Podlasie Volunteer Humanitarian Emergency Service, Egala Association, Médecins Sans Frontières, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Border Deaths Monitoring Group and Piotr Czaban — investigative journalist and creator of the Czaban Robi Raban channel.

Our research has combined the analysis of a broad range of data types—that have been generated by civil society actors over the last five years or specifically for this investigation—with an equally wide range of methods—from ethnographic research to discourse analysis, from forensic reconstruction to geostatistical analysis. We offer a unique evidence-based account of the emergence and functioning of this lethal pushback regime, with a focus on the combined and cumulative forms of violence that structurally culminate in migrants' deaths and disappearances. By analysing the specific causal chains and recurring mechanisms leading to these human tragedies, and confronting these findings with geostatistical analysis, we demonstrate that the Polish and Belarusian state policies, infrastructure, and law enforcement practices have knowingly exposed migrants to environmental conditions—forests, rivers, and the cold in particular—that have proven lethal. The report further accounts for the discursive, legal, and political processes, both at the national and European levels, that have allowed this lethal pushback regime to be consolidated over the last five years. This consolidation has occurred despite the 2023 change in government from the right-wing PiS government to the centrist coalition government led by Donald Tusk —who had included in his campaign the aim of ending violations of migrants rights and deaths. In fact, over time the pushback regime has become more entrenched at the national level—as exemplified by the 2025 law suspending asylum—and become a model for the Crisis Regulation included in the EU's new Pact on Migration.

The main outcomes of this investigation are an extensive report in which we account for the emergence, functioning, harmful effects, and consolidation of the lethal pushback

regime across the Polish–Belarusian borderlands over the last five years, as well as an interactive online mapping platform which brings together the multiple sources of data we relied on for our analysis. By drawing on the data and knowledge gathered by Polish civil society actors and researchers over the years, and supplementing them with new data and methods, our aim is for this report and platform to offer a comprehensive account of the dynamics generating border violence across the Polish–Belarusian borderlands and to constitute a robust evidentiary base that may support demands for accountability and advocacy…."

THE FULL REPORT FROM SEPTEMBER 2026 HERE:

HTTPS://WWW.BORDERFORENSICS.ORG/INVESTIGATIONS/POLAND-INVESTIGATION/

MEDICO: ARTICLES AND INFORMATION ON RACIST VIOLENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA

"In South Africa, violence against migrants and minorities is escalating. This brings back memories of times we thought were long gone

For months, right-wing vigilante groups in South Africa have been inciting hatred against migrants. After issuing an ultimatum – that by 30 June 2026, all migrants without valid papers must have left the country – armed mobs rampaged through the poor neighbourhoods of Durban and Johannesburg, looting shops, setting houses alight and killing people. The police mostly stood by idly or patrolled alongside the vigilante groups. Thousands of people fled towards Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique…."

REPORTS ON MEDICO WEBSITE (IN GERMAN):

HTTPS://WWW.MEDICO.DE/BLOG/DIE-AMABUTHO-SIND-ZURUECK-20663

HTTPS://WWW.MEDICO.DE/BLOG/POGROMSTIMMUNG-20595

REVIEW

ANTI-RACIST DEMONSTRATION IN HAMBURG AGAINST RHEINMETALL

On 25 September, as part of anti-militarist days of action, an anti-racist demonstration took place in Hamburg against a Rheinmetall branch.

From the call to action: "…Rheinmetall supplies what governments across Europe are planning: the expansion of Fortress Europe. The rearmament and militarisation we are currently witnessing is also taking place at the EU's external borders.

Rheinmetall Dermalog SensorTec is located in the heart of a posh Hamburg neighbourhood, at Mittelweg 120 near the Außenalster. There, in collaboration with a biometrics company, research is being carried out into surveillance technology. The development of AI-based biometric identification and defence technology makes it easier for European border authorities to carry out their work of implementing racist policies in Europe.

Furthermore, the technology developed by the defence contractor Rheinmetall and its 'sensor network for tactical area and object surveillance' is used to monitor border areas and seal off potential escape routes into the European Union. Refugees face the threat of further persecution, deportation, torture or death as a result of these AI systems. Rheinmetall bears responsibility for this. Furthermore, Rheinmetall profits from these deals with the European border regime and therefore has a vested interest in its continuation.
Whilst in Mittelweg the champagne corks are popping, in various parts of the world we are witnessing war and genocide, with bombs from Rheinmetall often striking these areas and causing people to flee and be displaced.
Those who speak of militarisation must not remain silent on racism; those who speak of racism must not remain silent on militarisation…"

READ THE FULL APPEAL (IN GERMAN) HERE:
HTTPS://RHEINMETALLENTWAFFNEN.ORG/HAMBURG/PROGRAMM/FUER-OFFENE-GRENZENGEGEN-MILITAERISCH-HOCHGERUESTETE-GRENZGEBIETE/

40 YEARS OF PRO ASYL: A LOOK BACK

"Since 1986, PRO ASYL has stood alongside people fleeing their homes. What began with 15 dedicated individuals is now a strong and independent voice for refugee rights in Germany and Europe. Four decades of PRO ASYL tell a story of legal successes and political setbacks, of solidarity in action and a commitment to human dignity…."

A LOOK BACK (IN GERMAN): HTTPS://WWW.PROASYL.DE/NEWS/40-JAHRE-PRO-ASYL-DER-EINZELFALL-ZAEHLT-DAMALS-WIE-HEUTE/

OUTLOOK

26 TO 28 NOVEMBER: 'WE'LL COME UNITED' CONFERENCE IN LEIPZIG

Following the electoral success of the far-right AfD, it is now more important than ever that we don't let this get us down and that we organize together: Against borders and racism, and for equal rights for all. At this years WCU conference we will discuss what we will do next!
Topics for the conference will be:
— Workshops on migration & Asylum law
— Strategy discussions: What is our NoBorder strategy for the next year? What will be our next actions?
— Workshops and discussions on migrant self organizing
— Anti-Deportation Campaign for 2027
— …

— FUN and Party

STAY TUNED AND FOLLOW FOR MORE INFO ON INSTAGRAM: @WCU_LEIPZIG. REGISTRATION WILL FOL-LOW SOON.

WE ARE HERE, AND WE WILL FIGHT, FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT IS EVERYBODY'S RIGHT!