



KOMPASS – ANTIra – NEWSLETTER NR. 31 - SEPTEMBER 2014

+++ From Mare Nostrum to Frontex Plus +++ "Watch The Med Alarm Phone" in preparation +++ from 1.-5.10. in Jena: 20 Years of Voice Refugee Forum +++ 12.-14.9. in Hamburg: Europe Of The Arriving +++ 20./21.9. in Munich: National meeting about EU - labour migration +++ Blockupy-meeting in Frankfurt (14.9.) and in Brussels (26.9.) +++ Review August: w2eu and JoG on Lesbos +++ Advanced notice for October: Baden-Württemberg-AntiRa-conference in Stuttgart +++

Dear friends!

By now over 100.000 Boatpeople have landed in Italy coming over the central Mediterranean Sea, mostly intercepted or saved by "Mare Nostrum". Several times we wrote about this ambivalent sea rescue operation in our newsletter and recently a paper has been published which we strongly recommend again:

http://afrique-europe-interact.net/index.php?article_id=1193&clang=0

"Frontex Plus" is the new magic formula which will replace Mare Nostrum until end of November. The fact that the Border Agency Frontex – accurately related to as "mobile barbed wire" - will take over the control makes clear in which direction the EU-migration policy goes: less rescue and more let-them-die (see below for more information). It makes even more important that public criticism and practical resistance against the deadly border regime do not weaken. Around the 3rd October, the anniversary of the Lampedusa-"tragedy", various activities are being planned, and the attempt of setting up an alternative alarm system for the Mediterranean seems to be specifically ambitious (see below).

At the same time, from 1st to 5th October, an anniversary conference will take place in Jena: 20 years of "The Voice Refugee

Forum". "The Voice" planted the first tracks of refugee resistance in Germany 20 years ago. Since then it spread the experiences of self organisation – for example since 2000 in showing civil disobedience against the residence requirement -, without it the today's diversity of refugee struggles wouldn't even be conceivable (below more information and in particular a donation appeal for the conference).

Furthermore you will find in this newsletter a short review about the impressive "Back-to-the-borders-II"-project on Lesbos as well as advanced notices for several working sessions and festivals. On the further developments of the protests and struggles in Berlin, Hamburg, Hannover, Rhein-Main ... please follow the links in the last newsletters.

<http://kompass.antira.info> has been installed in 2011 as a platform for overview and information regarding the antiracist movement. It should represent the diverse antiracist initiatives and spectra and create a good access to interested people. With the monthly newsletter we hope to do the next step to a continuously networking and widening. We're happy about any hints to or reports about nationwide dates and actions.



All the best, the Kompass-Crew
Contact: kompass-notify@antira.info

THE LATEST NEWS:

From Mare Nostrum to Frontex Plus?

"Decisions, which – according to today's linguistic usage – can be judged as arrangements for 'crimes against humanity' are made in silence. The today's meeting between EU-Commissioner Cecilia Malmström and the Italian Interior Minister Angelino Alfano can turn out as an effective position of points, but which is visible only for insiders. The content of it will be developed and formulated step by step in words by loads of different EU-committees in the coming two month. For the barely 5 minutes long press conference look here <http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/video/shotlist.cfm?ref=I092071>)

This is how an article from the Society For Research on Flight & Migration begins, it evaluates the situation and shows also the obstacles of this new development: "1. The Flight over the Mediterranean is meanwhile backed by determination and experience which can not be dammed anymore.

2. The intended agreements about collective deportation onshore to Egypt, Tunisia and Marocco will meet a big opposition in North Africa"

The whole text here:

<http://ffm-online.org/2014/08/27/mare-nostrum-frontex-weichen-gestellt/>

Other worth reading stuff:

Press release from Pro Asyl:

http://www.proasyl.de/de/presse/detail/news/endet_die_operation_mare_nostrum_italien_und_eu_verhandeln_in_bruessel_ueber_fluechtlingsret/

Publication from Medico International:

<http://www.medico.de/themen/menschenrechte/migration/dokumente/toedlicher-sommer/4699/>

More Information: <http://ffm-online.org/> , <http://watchthemed.net/> , <http://www.borderline-europe.de/>

"Watch The Med Alarm Phone" in Preparation



For several months different networks have been working on installing an alternative alarm system for the Mediterranean and between end of September and 11th October (the first anniversary of the less known Left-to-die-"tragedy" with over 250 dead syrian refugees) there are various transnational action in preparation to bring this project of intervention into public. Below you find a longer quote from the appeal. Of you want to know more or want to support this initiative you can contact them here: kmii-hanau@antira.info.



From the appeal draft:

"(...) We do not possess any rescue-team, nor can we offer direct protection. We are aware of our limited capabilities and of the provisional and precarious character of our initiative. But we want to immediately raise alarm when refugees and migrants get into situations of distress at sea and are not rescued promptly. We want to document in real-time and scandalize immediately when boatpeople become victims of push-back operations or are sent back to countries such as Libya, where migrant rights are repeatedly violated. We want to intervene with political pressure and public mobilisation against the daily injustices at the external borders of the EU.

(...)

Thus we aim to establish – in close cooperation with the monitoring project Watch The Med – an alternative alarm-phone running 24/7 as of the 10th of October 2014. It will be managed by human rights activists from both sides of the Mediterranean and offer a multilingual team. We will advise all persons in distress at sea to first alert the officially responsible rescue teams. But we will also call the coast guards ourselves, and follow up on their responses, making known to them that we are informed and “watching” them. If they fail to respond, we will gather all imaginable political and public pressure to force them to do so. We will alarm captains of commercial boats close by as well as international journalists, requesting the support of politically active religious leaders of all confessions as well as support of famous supporters. We will use the critical net-community for just-in-time- campaigns and call everybody to contribute with the creation of further forms of intervention. (...)

1st until 5th of October in Jena: 20 years of „The Voice Refugee Forum“ – 20 years of Resistance of refugees in Germany

In the beginning of August and September there have already been two preparational meetings, the program is prepared: In the beginning of October The Voice turns 20 years old which expresses a remarkable continuity of this oldest refugee organisation. „Against deportation and social outlawing“ is the motto of the jubilee days with a conference and actions in Jena, see <http://thevoiceforum.org/>

“750 x 20€ for the anniversary of THE VOICE refugee forum: an appeal for financial autonomy – no applications for funds, but a contribution of everyone who is part of the movement or sympathizes with it.“

The appeal for funds to support the funding, material and logistics for the transport of refugees to the jubilee activities.

„Your birthday present for 20 years THE VOICE“ - Please spread the appeal for donations!

<http://www.thevoiceforum.org/node/3701>

Förderverein The VOICE e.V.

Sparkasse Göttingen

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BLZ: 260 500 01

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BIC: NOLADE21GOE

Catchword: 20yrs

VEREINT GEGEN ABSCHIEBUNG UND SOZIALE AUSGRENZUNG

The VOICE
The VOICE
Refugee Forum

**20
JAHRE
SIND
NICHT
GENUG!**



1994 bis 2014

20. JUBILÄUM VON THE VOICE REFUGEE FORUM
20 JAHRE WIDERSTAND VON FLÜCHTLINGEN IN DEUTSCHLAND
MITTWOCH 1. – SONNTAG 5. OKTOBER » JENA

→ www.thevoiceforum.org
thevoiceforum.org | 0176 20312174 | für antirassistische Arbeit und politische Bildung
Spendenkonto: Förderverein The VOICE e.V., Sparkasse Göttingen, BLZ 260 500 01

<http://kompass.antira.info> | Contact kompass-notify@antira.info

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MORE DATES IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

12th until 14th September 2014 in Hamburg: Place of the unequitable solutions II*: Europe of the arriving

Camp at Parc Fiction / St. Pauli

„Of course they are still deadly, the EU external borders – for thousands of thousands of refugees who want or have to come to Europe. But the protests in Berlin, Vienna and Hamburg show that more and more it is also about the right to arrive in the European metropolises. The „Europe of the Arriving“ (V. Tsianos) is our presence. The people stay here – with their own life and ideas of business and own networks though politician and bureaucrats go on focusing on seclusion and make every possible effort to deny this reality. After one and a half years fighting of the group „Lampedusa in Hamburg“, after dozens of demonstrations, manifests and actions, the „right to stay“ still hasn't been established – but some things became different in this city – like in other cities where refugees have organized themselves. While there are fights on the big solutions, refugees and activists work on informal structures and try to invent strategies to cheat the border-, residence- and working permission-regime. Expertises have been formed everywhere which we don't have time to analyze because there is too much to do.

On the weekend from 12th - 14th of September we want to put all these expertises concerning border crossing, arriving, self-organisation, informal life and working and legal aid together and cross it with performances, songs, movies and choreographies.

With Schwabinggrad Ballett, members of Lampedusa in Hamburg, Gintersdorffer/Classen, Vassilis Tsianos and many more."

20. and 21.9.2014 in München: Nationwide meeting for EU Working Migration

From the invitation: „... at the workshop on „Migration from Bulgaria and Rumania“ at the „noborder lasts forever“ conference we agreed to arrange another nationwide meeting concerning the topic „EU Working Migration“ this year. ... The aim is to exchange experiences regarding intervention possibilities against racial agitation on so called „poverty immigration“, against outlawing from social benefits, public and living space, against workers exploitation and casualisation. We also want to form long-term networks and campaigns.

So we suggest the following topics:

- Exchange of experiences of (self-organized) fights about housing, open space, social rights, fair work
- Possibilities of intervening on the so called „debate“ on „poverty immigration“ and their consensus of ideology of achievement orientation
- Possibilities of legal activism (ex. the access to HartzIV, emergency shelters, registrations, „children money“ ...)
- Planning of a translocal campaign

contact and response: inizivi@gmx.de

More information to Initiative Zivilcourage <http://inizivi.antira.info/>



Blockupy – Meeting on the 14th September in Frankfurt and transnational meeting on the 27th September 2014 in Brussels

The opening of the new EZB building in Frankfurt has been shifted to 2015, so did the big mobilization to pull away the red carpet. But nationwide as internationally there is a lot of activity in the blockupy movement. The next nationwide meeting of activists will be held the 14th September where – among other topics – the preparation of a Blockupy Festival in November will be discussed. Moreover a transnational strategy meeting in Brussels the 27th September will be prepared. This is the call:

<http://blockupy.org/3870/blockupy-international-invites-european-movements-networks-organisations-to-an-open-assembly-in-brussels-september-26-27-2/>

About further developments with informations of the planned Blockupy Festival in November in Frankfurt: <http://blockupy.org>

18.10.2014 in Stuttgart: Conference of the anti-racist network in Baden-Württemberg

Groups from Stuttgart, Freiburg, Karlsruhe and Mannheim invite to network

More information: <http://www.aktionbleiberecht.de/?p=6259>

Contact: info@stop-deportation.de

REVIEWS AUGUST:

Lesvos/Greece: No walls and no fence can stop us to be in touch

Second „Back-to-the-border“ Camp from „Welcome to Europe“ and „Youth Without Borders“ („Jugendliche ohne Grenzen“)

Again there have been moments in which it was highly perceptible what it means to say „welcome“: we were about 80 people, mainly young refugees and migrants, walking to the military area in Moria where about 100 imprisoned refugees wait isolated for their so-called screening and there with for the decision to be released or getting pushed to one of the big prisons on the mainland, for 18 months detention prior to deportation.

The ones who brought experience from Patras, where it has been necessary to climb walls withing seconds at the ferry port during departure, started to climb on the walls and that made the beginning of a two-hours party with a lot of dancing inside and outside.

Many, being separated now through the wall, already got to know each other days ago. The exchange with people who just arrived started in a self-organized Welcome-Center Pikpa or in the port of Mitlini. Useful information have been passed with a Welcome-to-Greece-Infoguide. The contacts transferred the hope to make it through the same way.

Many told us as farewell: „If I make it, I also will come back to welcome the new ones. See you.“

Blog with reports from the journey: <http://lesvos.w2eu.net/>

Webguide for refugees and migrants: <http://w2eu.info/>

Welcome to Greece Info-Guide: <http://w2eu.info/greece.en/articles/greece-guide.en.html>

