

### KOMPASS – ANTIRA – NEWSLETTER NR. 33 – NOVEMBER 2014

+++ 4.11.: Solidarity-Actions against Push-Backs in Melilla +++ Boza: Movie about Morocco and March for Freedom +++ 20. - 23.11.: Bloccupy-Festival in Frankfurt +++ Starting the 28.11.: Anti-Isolation-Tour through Baden-Württemberg +++ Campaign against the tightening of the asylum law +++ Information about Oury Jalloh and Choucha +++ Review – Refugee struggles, protests against deportations, Alarm Phone in Hamburg, Berlin, Hannover, Darmstadt, Bremen +++

#### Dear Friends!

2014 is a year of historical fights for the right of freedom of movement. Once again we can notice this by looking at the recent occasions all over the Mediterranean Sea and especially between Morocco and Spain. The fights at the border in Melilla keep on going on undiminished, despite and against the brutal violence of the Spanish border police.

A current link to a short and impressive video:

http://www.20minutos.tv/videoplayerjw/ipG QZ359/a/

And in this context at the same time there will be protest actions in Rabat and Berlin (see below) on November the 4th. In this newsletter a film worth seeing is presented which is called "Boza" made by a Tunesian activist. In the movie a link from the Moroccan forests to the protest

All the best, the Kompass-Crew Contakt: <u>kompass-notify@antira.info</u> march from Strasbourg to Brussels is drawn.

Along with hints to the Bloccupyfestival, to an Anti-Isolation-Tour, news to Oury Jalloh and Choucha and the starting campaign against the planned tightening of the asylum law we also made a small review of protests and self-organized activities in different cities.

http://kompass.antira.info has been installed in 2011 as a platform for an 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.



# 4.11.2014 in Berlin (and Tanger): !NO MORE PUSHBACKS! !STOP VIOLENCE AT THE BORDERS!

English Call-Out for Berlin:

Sit-in in front of the spanish embassy against the violent and illegal borderpractice in Spain/Melilla.

Tuesday, 4th of november 2014, 8 am, meetingplace: S-Bahnhof Tiergarten

On 14th and 15th of october more than 250 people managed to enter the spanish enclave Melilla. The Guardia Civil have beaten them up cruelly. One of them, Danny was beaten up to unconsciousnes. He lost a kidney and is half paralyzed now. The Guardia Civil pushed back the refugees immediately through the fences to Morocco. Many were wounded by the police forces and the barbed wires. 18 heavily injured people needed to be brought to hospital. Only 17 persons managed to enter Melilla and to stay there in the CETI. The polices on both side of the fences use weapons like stones, knives, iron and wooden bars, truncheons, pepper spray, tear gas and rubber bullets.

Even the European Commissioner for Human Rights, Nils Muiznieks, and members of the European parliament "condemn the Spanish Guardia Civil of its violent treatment" of migrants and demand to stop these practices denying peoples fundamental rights.

With the link below you can see a short video of Pro.De.In, showing further illegal push back on 15th of october: <u>http://vimeo.com/109010316</u>

This borderpractice is totally illegal because Europes international obligation is to proof situations individually and to guarantee the rights of international protection and to seek asylum. It is illegal for a state to push back! The Guardia Cicil is already accused because of two similar incidents just one and two month ago, of which exist good prooving material. Migrants in Morocco report about until 10 pushbacks, they aready have experienced.

In february this year, more than 15 persons were killed by the Guardia Civil when they directly shoot rubberbullets on persons who were swimming in the sea. Instead of stopping with that killing reality at the outerborders, Spain is legalizing on national level the pushbacks. That is a clear violation of superior European right and of the declarations of Human Rights.

We demand a welcoming Europe and freedom of movement for everybody! Stop murderers at the borders! No more illegal pushbackactions!

voix des migrants, welcome to europe, nobordersmorocco, watch the med – alarmphone.

More info in german ,french and english also on the webseite:

http://www.afrique-europe-interact.net/

#### Film recommandation: "Boza"

Documentary; Arabic, French, German subtitles; Tunesia, Marocco, Europe; 2014; director: Walid Fellah; 33 Min.



Boza is a word which means victory in the West African language Bambara. Boza is also the word used when migrants from sub-Saharan countries manage to reach the Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla. The film directed by the Tunesian filmmaker Walid Fellah



show the migrant's reality and the brutal consequences of the border regime in Tunesia and Morrocco, enforced and financed by Europe.

Close to their everyday life experiences and their own reflections on their enforced lack of rights Walid Fellah, along with his camera, accompanied them and others on their clandestine journeys.

Once arrived in Europe this lack of rights does not come to an end. The filmmaker Walid also took part in the Tunesian delegation of the March for Freedom from Strasbourg to Brussels with 400 activists in summer 2014 to protest against the racist EU migration and border policies.

Through the documentation of the self-organized refugee march, "Boza" builds a bridge between the situation at the European external borders and the struggles for the right of residence and freedom of movement in Europe. Until the end of 2014 the film shall be complemented by further aspects – especially the situation of female refugees. Walid Fellah considers his film as a work in progress.

The film has already been shown in Cologne and Hamburg (<u>http://www.kmii-koeln.de/node/351?language=en</u> and <u>http://www.3001-kino.de/detail.html?</u> tx\_movietheater\_pi1[film]=1247&cHash=3ac806d1fae4c4e69c65e447ac7e3487) and will be probably shown during the Blockupy Festival in Frankfurt (see below).

Requests for a movie screening of "Boza" can be adressed in English or French to Walid Fellah, <u>walidfellah1984@gmail.com</u>.

#### 17.11. – 23.11.2014 in Frankfurt - Blockupy-Festival



Asambleas | guided city tours | panel discussions | movie screenings | discussion | concert | Party | expositions | lectures | and many more

During the Blockupy-Festival – "#talk #dance #act – Down from the balcony!" – we are going to debate on common subjects, places and steps of our protest with comrades, fellows and friends from

different European networks. This is to resume the meeting in summer and in Brussels. We will perform a imaginative, loud and well visible protest and do a parade to the European Central Bank (ECB). We will mobilize for the D-Day. We will celebrate and tune



the town for the spring. Program and more on: <u>https://blockupy.org/en/festival2014/</u>

#### 28.11. – 12.12.2014 - Anti-Isolation-Tour through Baden-Württemberg

The tour shall take place from the 28. November until the 12. December. The  $10^{\text{th}}$  December a solidarity evening for Refugees is going to be held in the JUZ-Mannheim as well as a NoLager!-Demonstration in Ludwigshafen/Mannheim on  $13^{\text{th}}$  December. We want to visit small and isolated *Unterkünfte* (accomodations) as well as big ones as the *Lager* in Rheinstetten. Whereever we go, we want to collect information about the accomodations, the medical care, aggressions and assaults, social services and benefits, etc. and distribute our questionnaire with self-adressed envelopes to the refugees. Furthermore we want to organize a demonstration for each accommodation, as well as in Rheinland-Pfalz where we want to mobilize – especially in the Pfalz – in the accommodations we already know.

Contact: Uli Tomaschowski, phone.: 01738315758 Email: <u>lehreruli@googlemail.com</u>

#### Call for the Campaign against the tightening of the Right of Asylum

"We all still remember the moment when on September 19th 2014 the law on the redefinition of the Balkan States Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegowina and Makedonia as so-called "safe countries of origin" passed the Bundesrat (Federal Council) and therefore led to a further restriction on the right of asylum. Considerable protests were already realized concerning this law.

But this law is only the beginning: The grand coalition currently pushes further tightening and the introduction of new repressive measures in the area of asylum- and migration policies. If all new laws pass the legislation process, this will lead to the most serious aggravation of the rights and living conditions for asylum seekers and migrants in Germany since 1993. Many achievements of the last years' struggles would be undone at one fell swoop. It is high time for a loud and wide protest! ...!

Proposal of Karawane Münschen, further reading (in german) here: <u>http://migrationsgesetze.info/2014/10/die-verlierer-der-grossen-koalition-sind-immer-die-fluechtlinge-und-migrant\_innen/</u>

#### Oury Jalloh

Below the title "Oury Jalloh – the contradictory truth of a case of death" (german: "Oury Jalloh – die widersprüchlichen Wahrheiten eines Todesfalls") the MDR broadcasted a radio feature made by the journalist Margot Overath. The manuscript (in german) can be downloaded on <u>http://afrique-europe-interact.net/index.php?article\_id=1235&clang=0</u>

Further information and air dates can be found on the website of the Initiative in



remembrance of Oury Jalloh: http://initiativeouryjalloh.wordpress.com/

#### **News from Choucha**

Although several dozens of war refugees from Libya stay in the desert camp of Choucha, it is supposed to be closed definitely. A call signed by numerous organizations and individuals claims to receive the refugees in Europe or respectively another safe third country:

http://afrique-europe-interact.net/index.php?article\_id=1229&clang=0

### REVIEW OF SELFORGANIZED ACTIVITIES AND PROTESTS AGAINST DEPORTATION IN HAMBURG, BERLIN, HANNOVER, DARMSTADT...

# "Lampedusa Emancipation Days" on 10 and 11 October 2014 in Hamburg

The members of the group "Lampedusa in Hamburg", who are waiting since one and a half year for the recognition of their italian papers and work permit, organized on 10 and 11 October together with supporters of the "Emancipation Days". They started with a march for peace from the protest tent at the main station and went through the inner city. In the evening there was the theatre play "The Lampeduzans" which is written and played by african refugees. On saturday there has been a panel discussion with the title "War - Migration - Democracy: Movements between Africa and Europe" (for more details <a href="http://lampedusa-hamburg.info/de/">http://lampedusa-hamburg.info/de/</a>). Afterwards there was a workshop, which was joined by half of the participants. On the one hand they discussed questions about climate problems and about movements against landgrabbing and the destruction of nature in Africa. On the other hand they collected proposals about the further fight of the group "Lampedus in Hamburg". In the evening german and african bands gave a concert, unfortunately - like the other events – with little participation. Possible reasons and strategies for the next month (election campaign will start soon in Hamburg) will be discussed at the next meeting of the group "Lampedusa in Hamburg" and their supporters.

#### Berlin

Movie recommondation: "Nine days on the Roof"

End of June refugees occupied the roof of the formerly Gerhard-Hauptmann-Schule in Ohlauerstrasse/Berlin which was answered by the biggest police operation against refugees ordered by the green district administration. We reported in Kompass 30 (august) and recommend the new video of 30 minutes which documents this decisive time of



struggle by means of interviews with persons affected.



Video: Nine Days on the Roof: <u>https://vimeo.com/110312571</u>

## Berlin: Notes on the Occupation and Eviction of the Trade Union's Building (DGB-Haus)

Members of the group Refugee Struggle for Freedom occupied on 25 September 2014 the Berlin DGB-Haus (German Trade Union Confederation) at Wittenbergplatz to claim support by the people working there. One week later Trade Union's responsable person ordered a eviction by police. As a consequence a strong union-internal protest started. From the declaration "Not in our names": "With horror, shame and anger we, full time employees and volunteers of the trade union, have come to know that the regional directorate of DGB Berlin-Brandenburg made an eviction request with the result of eviction of the refugees from the DGB house in Berlin by the police. We consider this as disastrous from a humanistic point of view and furthermore a wrong signal politicalwise. The incident shows significantly that we need a wide union-internal debate and a clear position in solidarity with the refugees. We will push forward this debate in our trade unions and subdivisions and call on the DGB and other single unions to make a statement to this incident and to create clear statutes of resolution: show practical solidarity with the refugees and build an atmosphere of welcome for them; organize promptly a conference about this subject together with refugees, institutions of trade unions which are working on this topic and have international experiences; enable refugees to be members"

This declaration can be signed and spread. It is also part of a worth reading dossier bei labournet:

http://www.labournet.de/interventionen/asyl/antirassistische-ini/fluchtlinge-besetzen-das-berliner-dgb-haus/

#### Hannover

Sudanese Refugees keep the long-term protest camp

On 28 October 2014 the sudanese refugees invited to a press conference at Weißekreuzplatz in Hannover. They want to report about their current situation, especially



because the police prohibited them to prepare the camp for wintertime.

Reports from the newspaper here: http://t.haz.de/Hannover/Aus-der-Stadt/Uebersicht/Fluechtlinge-wollen-ueber-den-Winterbleiben More infos here: http://fluechtlingscamphannover.wordpress.com/ Demands of the sudanese refugees here: http://www.nds-fluerat.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Deklaration-der-Forderungen-Juni-2014.pdf

#### Darmstadt on 9.10.2014

An alliance of anti rasicst groups and selforganized migrants and refugees from Darmstadt and the Rhein-Main region arranged an action day against the scandalous deportation policies of the (central ZAB alien Darmstad agency) of regional council and in memory of the dead through the EU border regime. Over 250 people includina participated, several of aroups selforganized refugees Rhein-Main. from "Against the background



of our experiences of the past months we award the ZAB the "bloody pen" as a symbol for inhuman applications of imprisonment and brutal deportations in Hessen. We name the 17th of June 2014 as a very outrageous example when three eritrean refugees already being jailed for months were deported to Rom with an airplane especially ordered only for this deportation. Based on brutal violence the persons mentioned have been moved from the prison into the airplane. Mr Ehrhardt and Mrs Götz are two employees of the ZAB who represent a practice which can only be described as a racist alacrity of persecution." It was amazing that one of the three Erithreans, who has come back from Italy and who is now once again proceeding an application for asylum, spoke for himself and accused the administration.

This is a newsreport:

http://www.fr-online.de/darmstadt/demo-in-darmstadt-protest---kein-mensch-ist-illegal-,1472858,28695124.html



#### Bremen

On the occasion of the official start from "Watch the Med Alarm Phone" (see the newsletter from October) there have been actions and press conferences in different european cities. Within this framework Afrique-Europe-Interact has made an action as well in Bremen.

Pictures and more:

http://www.afrique-europeinteract.net/? article\_id=1216&clang=0



