



KOMPASS – ANTIRA – NEWSLETTER NR. 34 - DECEMBER 2014

+++ New Newspaper from Afrique-Europe-Interact +++ December 18th in Calais and Tunis +++ Chronology of manifold protests in November and December +++ View on 2014 +++ Campaign against the intensification of asylum laws +++ Refugee hunger strikes in Greece +++ Alarm Phone: first progress report +++ Outlook on 2015: 7.1. in Dessau, 6.2. in Berlin, 18.3. in Frankfurt, End of March to WSF in Tunis ... +++

Dear Friends!

If our Newsletter had appeared at the beginning of the month, as usual, we would only just have been able to announce the many actions of these last days, but not been able to mobilize them. That is why we decided forthwith and very exceptionally to appear a few days later and to present a broader retrospective of the last weeks and the past months. The end of the year is an obvious occasion for taking stock and for assessment, also in order to sketch the challenges and possible perspectives for 2015. Accordingly our introduction is more elaborate this time, all the more because we wish to add a few lines on our own behalf.

Yet, let us start at the beginning:

* Hardly a day passes without protest and resistance against the prevailing border regime. The last weeks have again been characterized by an awesome chain of antiracist activities that are often followed by headlines in the mass media. The scope reaches from the artist action of the first fall of a European wall in Berlin to the hunger strike of the Non-Citizens in Munich, from the demonstration against the Conference of Ministers of the Interior in Cologne to the persevering protest camp of the Sudanese refugees in Hannover, from the last-minute start of the campaign against the sharpening up of

asylum laws to the successful church asylum of Lampedusa in Hanau. Symbolic protest and everyday resistance attack the prevailing refugee and migration policies at different levels and not only in Germany. We added an international meeting of sans papiers and migrants in Rome, hunger strikes in Greece and an interim report of the transnational project of the alarm phones as examples in the long list of brief messages and links below.

* It was an eventful and moving year. The large number of activities in November and December reflect what has characterized the entire year 2014: the internal and external borders of the EU are more controversial than ever, the social and political struggles of the migration movements have intensified enormously. The balance is nevertheless contradictory, the overall picture is more than complex. On the one hand far more refugees and migrants than in previous years managed to get to Europe, in defiance of all the Frontex-coordinated armament. At least in Germany, the processes of self-organisation of the refugees have continued to develop in many cities and the support has grown, from radical activists to circles of civil supporters. There are noticeable successes: countless Dublin deportations were stopped by court decisions, church

asylums, blockades and protests or at the last minute in the airplane. And maybe the most unambiguous proof: no more than around 30 asylum seekers were kept in deportation detention in all of Germany by mid-November. In previous years there were thousands of them, never before their numbers were so low and the weapon of determent and extortion detention as inadequate as today. The increasingly critical public opinion has contributed to this; since October 2013 the prevailing refugee policy is again and again fundamentally questioned even in the mass media. Most recent examples: even the criminalisation of the support to refugees was criticized in a special Panorama report and „Die Anstalt“ broke, after a brilliant presentation of lethal Frontex screening, at the end of the programme with the cabaret format and allowed a choir of Syrian refugees to sing. On the other hand: The brutal state power at the external borders, particularly in the Aegean and at the fences of Ceuta and Melilla, has in no way been curbed, the number of deceased in the central Mediterranean was never before as high. In Germany the powers that be make mischief by increasing the number of ‘secure countries of origin’ with the Balkan states and by the state discourse of poverty migration, the division between justified ‘good’ and unjustified ‘bad’ refugees. And the recent cabinet decision of the big coalition intends to increase deportation detention and to create a strict ban on re-entrance in order to re-increase determent. The growing mobilisation of the right should be added to this. The election successes of the AfD stand for the spreading Sarrazynismus, and with Hogesa (‘Hooligans against Salafists’) and Pegida (‘Patriotic Europeans against the Islamisation of the Occident’) the mob is taking to the streets again.

For months the polarisation of society can be felt more and more clearly: whereas far

more people seek to change their abstract sympathy into concrete support, we see on the right the formation of a mixture of xenophobia and the hate against what is different. This polarisation appears as a challenge as well as a chance, because the necessary forcing back of the racist Monday demonstrations would remain reactive and defensive, if there would not be a simultaneous cornering and - if not stopping at least mitigating - of the aforementioned planned repressive set of laws in the forthcoming weeks. The critical public opinion can be counted on, the potential strength of the movement as well. Yet the activist spectrum of antiracist groups seems until now unable to achieve concerted coordination or even focussing. Efforts to that extent, be it at ‘Noborder last forever’ in Frankfurt in February, during the march to Brussels in June, or on the occasion of the 20th birthday of The Voice in Jena in October, have not been fruitful (yet). How the diversity is to be translated into more effective enforcement strategies thus remains one of the central challenges for 2015. The second challenge lies in the association with and broadening into further social and societal issues. Here too there are good initiatives. Whether from afrique-europe-interact as to the question of the looting of land, or in current solidarity demonstrations concerning Rojava, or concerning the crisis, precarity jobs and social strike with Blockupy – there are numerous lines of communication that ought to be mutually strengthened, in order to further develop an overall emancipatory perspective in and with the struggles for freedom of movement and equal rights.

* Finally a few lines on our own behalf: soon our Newsletter has been appearing for three years, always at the start of the month, and since the last couple of editions also in English and French. The translations mostly arrive a few days later, but we consider the appearance in three

languages a requirement for refugees and migrants to get more involved with this exchange and overview project. Though the question of a broader involvement has to be put forward more fundamentally. We do receive some approval and many consider the idea of a regular umbrella Newsletter good and important. But until now we, as production team, have remained a small circle and we mostly

have had to check up on the reports and announcements. Instead, we do need active people from all spectrums, who will send us texts and references by themselves, who participate in the translations or the layout. It would be the best present to our third birthday in March, if we could find a few more people who would continually support the Kompass Newsletter Project.

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

DATES AND MORE AFTER DECEMBER 10TH:

12.12-2014: News from Afrique-Europe-Interact (AEI)

As in the past years AEI published a four-page newspaper this year which on 12.12. will be added to the daily newspaper tageszeitung "taz" – an addition to the monthly newspaper "ak - analyse & kritik" and to "Graswurzelrevolution". Crucial points of the current newspaper is the Watch The Med Alarm Phone, the longterm social crisis in Togo, land grabbing in Mali and keynotes to diverse transnational struggles. For distributing or displaying the newspaper can be ordered in higher numbers. A PDF for a download can be found here: http://www.afrique-europe-interact.net/index.php?article_id=1254&clang=0

18.12.2014: General information to the global action day for migration:

<http://globalmigrantsaction.org/>

18.12.14: Demonstration in Calais

Already for months the situation in Calais is getting worse and worse, from the call: "Twelve years after the closure of the Sangatte hangar, is France going to have her Ceuta and Melilla in Calais? The growing number of migrants, present for several months in the Calais, led our leaders to cross a dangerous step for freedom and respect for rights of migrants.

NO TO THE 'WALL OF SHAME' IN CALAIS! ..." The complete call in english:

https://passeursdhospitalites.files.wordpress.com/2014/12/en_appeal-calais_021214-eiefee.pdf

To 18.12. in Tunisia

From the 12.12. on there will be a tour through several Tunisian cities visiting relatives of missing boat people; on 17.12. a day of debate in Tunis dealing with the consequences of 22 years of a visa regime, with freedom of movement and the development in Tunisia, on 18.12. demonstration for the right for migration with missing boat people's families.

BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF STRUGGLES AND ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST WEEKS



3.12. to 11.12. in München, Berlin, Bayreuth, Regensburg, Frankfurt, Cologne...:

Flash mobs, demonstrations and actions against the tightening of the asylum law, check <http://migrationsgesetze.info/>

6.12.2014 in Cologne

About 3000 people demonstrated in Cologne against the German and European asylum policy and the abolition of the prohibition of the PKK. Themed with "Overcome borders! Abolish the PKK prohibition!" there was a call by a wide alliance by anti racist, Kurdish and other left-wing groups who invited to join in the protest against the Conference of Ministers of the Interior which would have taken place the following week.

More: <http://noimk.org/>



6.12. in Freiburg

About 1200 people were part of the demonstration in Freiburg against deportation and the tightening of the asylum law. The specific reason was the upcoming accumulative deportation on 9 december to Serbia and Macedonia.

More information about the demonstration and the action by "Freiburger Forum aktiv gegen Ausgrenzung": <http://www.freiburger-forum.net>

6.12. in Berlin

More than 300 people joined the protest demonstration:

Mall of Shame – Pay the workers! Against exploitation from migrant workers!

The construction of the "Mall of Berlin" is reported to have cost about one billion Euro and could become a symbol of the current method of exploitation from migrant workers coming from the EU-abroad. Subcontractors have let workers from Romania drudge for five until six Euro hourly wage ten hours a day. And in the end they didn't even pay this little salary

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

Kompass – AntiRa – Newsletter Nr. 34 – December 2014

completely to the workers. They have committed the workers within the netting of subcontractors and promises concerning the payment, which in the end they haven't fulfilled.

More information can be found here: <http://berlin.fau.org>

5.12. in Essen



Activists occupied the headquarter of "European Homecare" - The company is closed because of inhuman treatment of refugees.

On Friday the headquarter of the company "European Homecare" in Essen-Stadtwald was occupied and closed. European Homecare has made it into media through an especially humiliating treatment of refugees. Still this

company is in business nationwide and in NRW. They profit from the distress of refugees. To make the closure happen, there have been about fifty anti-racist activists who kept the building occupied since the early morning. They demand dignified living conditions for refugees and the right to stay for everybody.

More to be found here: <https://linksunten.indymedia.org/en/node/128975>

5.12. in Gießen

4-500 persons followed the call-out "Tear Down the Dublin-Wall – For a Life in Dignity" from Refugees for Change in Frankfurt/Rhein-Main and went with a demonstration against Dublin II/III in front of the responsible federal office in Gießen: <https://www.facebook.com/events/481953485280392>

4.12. Progress report Watch The Med Alarm Phone

After almost eight weeks the hotline for Boat People founded in October comes out with a first progress report (in english):

<http://watchthemed.net/media/uploads/report/88/WTM-Interim-Report-AlarmPhone.pdf>

29.11. in Hannover

½ year – Refugee Protestcamp Hannover

We, the refugees from Sudan, started on 24.5.2014 the protestcamp at the Weißekreutzplatz in Hannover. That's exactly half a year now!

½ year struggle and resistance

½ year Unity and Solidarity

½ year challenges and difficulties

½ year hope and joy

½ year encounters – friendships – networks

and we do NOT give up! We keep on fighting at the Weißekreutzplatz for:

Freedom, for hope, for a future in safety, for human rights and for a human asylum policy.

We keep on fighting for: Our right, exactly here, exactly now ...

<https://fluechtlingscamp Hannover.wordpress.com/>

21.11. bis 27.11.2014 in Munich

Non Citizens organisieren einen neuen Hungerstreik, gegen die Räumung folgen Baumbesetzungen. Aus der Erklärung:

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

Kompass – AntiRa – Newsletter Nr. 34 – December 2014



Non Citizens organize a new hunger strike, the eviction are followed by tree occupations.

Extract from the declaration:

“Our rights have been stolen. We, the refugees from different cities in Germany, announce another hunger strike in München at the Sendlinger-Tor-Platz.

Camps are prisons to us. Residenzpflicht is a sign of slavery. Restrictions of work and study follow to keep us separated from society and to force us into inhuman situations.

Deportations within the frame of the Dublin regulation is a sign of an organized policy from EU-countries.

In this context we want to say, we are not poor refugees. Our rights have been stolen.

In this moment we are nowhere – we can not go back to the countries of our origin, but we also can not lead a life with this

restrictions in Germany. (...)

[More information and Chronology: http://refugeestuggle.org/](http://refugeestuggle.org/)

Since 27.11.2014 in Dessau

Oury Jalloh: Two activists of the Initiative in memory of Oury Jalloh are taken to court since the 27 of November 2014 due to pressure from the Dessauer Public Prosecutor, among other points because it is said that they have insulted officials.

This is totally outlandish which shows the fact that the same public prosecutor investigates in this matter due to a death case against unknown:

<http://initiativeouryjalloh.wordpress.com/>

24. und 25.11. in Berlin

The destruction of the means of subsistence for small scale and rural depopulation or rather migration belongs close together. In this context Afrique-Europe-Interact demonstrated again on 24 and 25 of November, this time in front of the Federal Chancellery and Ministry for Economic Co-Operation and Development.

Video, pictures and reports are to be found here: http://www.afrique-europe-interact.net/?article_id=677&clang=0

Since 24.11. in Athens

Beginning of a hunger strike of Syrian refugees protesting through a sit-in on Syntagma square since 19 November

<http://infomobile.w2eu.net/2014/11/26/syrian-refugees-in-syndagma-square-athens-3rd-day-hunger-strike-8th-day-sit-in/>



20. to 23.11.2014 in Frankfurt

Blockupy Festival with more than 500 participants and interesting workshops on transnational networking, social strike and many more. Up to 3000 people took part in a “procession”, more than 100 activists could achieve to overcome the fence surrounding the new ECB-tower as a foretaste of the great mobilization concerning the it's opening on 18 March 2015. FAZ headlined “Capitalism critics rushed

the ECB-Building” and a nice video on the Blockupy-Homepage <https://blockupy.org/>

20.11. - Hunger Strike at a Deportation Prison in Greece

<http://infomobile.w2eu.net/2014/11/20/hunger-strike-until-freedom-fourth-day-of-hunger-strike-in-amygdaleza-detention-centre/>

13. to 16.11.2014 in Rome

International meeting of Sans Papiers, refugees and migrants

Video: <http://vimeo.com/112315780>

Final Statement in English and French here:
<http://ffm-online.org/2014/11/26/undocumented-migrants-refugees-cispm-erkaerung/>

14.11. in Hanau



A short interim report of Lampedusa in Hanau after the 7th successful sanctuary (Kirchenasyl)

<http://lampedusa-in-hanau.antira.info/>

And on the struggle against Dublin II/III in Rhine/Main: “If they deport us today, we will come back together.” (see <http://www.linksnavigator.de/node/5723>)

Concerning the 9 November 2014

The “First European Fall of the Wall” performed by the group of artists from the “Center for political Beauty” attracts broad attention, reports, photos and a worth seeing video can be found here:
<http://www.politicalbeauty.de/mauerfall.html>



6 November 2014 in the TV show “Panorama” on escape agency

<http://daserste.ndr.de/panorama/archiv/2014/Fluchthelfer-Gestern-Helden-heute-Kriminelle.fluechtlinge1080.html>

From beginning of November 2014: Concerning detention pending deportation

“After two revolutionary judgments the deportation prisons have never been so empty: End of 2014 nationwide less than 30 asylum seekers and migrants had to wait for their deportation in prison. ...” (Citation from the information letter of the Jesuite-Refugee-Servie, see http://www.jesuiten-fluechtlingsdienst.de/images/pdf/jrs_infobrief_november_2014_digital.pdf [in german])

OUTLOOK ON 2015

7 January 2015 in Dessau

Ten years after the murder of Oury Jalloh. Ten years of struggles for the clearing up – during ten years the prosecution and courts of justice didn't show any interest in clearing up the murder of Oury Jalloh on 7 January 2005 in Dessau. But at the same time during ten years many people participated in the struggles, showed their solidarity and made sure that Oury Jalloh will never be forgotten. On 7 January 2015 together we want to go to Dessau in order to show to everybody: We are here and the struggle continues.

<http://initiativeouryjalloh.wordpress.com/>

6 February 2015 in Berlin

International demonstration commemorating the first anniversary of the murders in Ceuta (see <http://ffm-online.org/2014/03/03/ceuta-eu-zaun-massaker-06-02-2014-detaillierte-fluechtlingsberichte/>, german only)

18 March 2015 in Frankfurt

Mass rally and blockades on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the European Central Bank (ECB) in Frankfurt

(<http://blockupy.org/en/4344/call-march-18th-2015-transnational-actions-against-the-european-central-banks-opening-gala-lets-take-over-the-party/>, in english)

From 24 March 2015 on in Tunis

World Social Forum in Tunis. Before that caravans of refugees and migrants move from Paris and Bamako to Tunis. nis...

<http://openfsm.net/projects/fsm2015wsf-prepint/project-home>