

KOMPASS – ANTIRA – NEWSLETTER NR. 42 - SEPTEMBER 2015



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Dear friends!

"The border regime broke down on a broad level. Do we face a historical new situation on the fight for freedom of movement? Or is it just a short summer of migration?..." These sentences came from a new initiative supporting the migration through the Balkan (see below), and in deed the situation became critical by the last weeks and days.

The 22 August 2015 marks a new

highlight: in the Central Mediterranean 4400 boat people have been saved – a new record day, while thousands of people land in the Aegean on the Greek islands. Among them are more and more woman, children, old and sick people, see for it the moving report below. On the same day refugees and migrants stop the attempt to lock the Macedonian border militarily: They attack the barb wires so the

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Military draw off. Only two days later another sensation: the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) made public that the Dublin procedure is suspended “effectively as far as possible” for Syrian refugees. It's quasi a capitulation because of the persistence of the persons affected, basically a sign for the growing unenforceability of “Dublin” And another big success of the social movement of migration.

At the same time we know about all the dead and seriously injured persons on this way. Either drowned in the sea or stifled in trucks: the EU border and visa regime forces to use dangerous routes and kills people, again and again. This happens because refugees and migrants can't use ferries or trains (like in Hungary) see <http://www.migszol.com/blog/let-them-board-the-trains>

The responsible persons in ministries and bureaucracy, in Budapest but primarily in Berlin should be brought to justice, some day. But this will only happen if the “short summer of migration” stays not alone and that we stop the discrimination into “good and bad” refugee. We also should try to prevent them to stigmatize the commercial escape aid as the cause of the problem (although it's the consequence of their own policy) and that they start with military strike against the trafficker structures.

For more than 30 years now the EU border regime formed up with more and more money, more control, more

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

FRONTEX. Simultaneously the fortress Europe is in the defensive, the walls are overrun and undercut like never before. At the moment things seems to be possible, also that the fight against the inner and outer borders will get more dynamic.

We can contribute to this especially because there are so much escalation and polarisation. The first is to not give space for Pegida and Nazis. The racist mob, which act in Heidenau, Salzhemmendorf and other places, should fail to dominate the immigration debate. The other thing we can do is to support the self organizing processes of the affected people and to emphasize the right of freedom of movement in the countless support and welcome initiatives.

“Just open the borders” a researcher of migration appeals in the last edition of the magazine “Stern”. In the beginning of August the new campaign starts which supports civil disobedience: “Do escape aid” (in German “Werde Fluchthelfer.in”). In the Central Mediterranean the everlasting slogan is “Ferries not FRONTEX”. Those are three examples which show how to destroy fortress Europe. Detailed description of each below. One sentences of the report to Lesvos summarize it very well: “Every evening we sung and danced with new people, because this border cannot be kept and everything is in movement.”



DATES IN SEPTEMBER 2015:

To 6 September in Tunisia: Freedom Ferry Action

From the appeal:

In the face of migration policies that hamper millions of people in the world to move freely and to seek asylum in Europe without risking to die in the Mediterranean, the Tunisian association formed by the families of the Tunisian missing migrants, La Terre pour Tous, organizes on the 6th September FERRY FOR FREEDOM, a symbolic "illegal" depart in the Tunisian waters to claim and enact freedom of movement against the deadly effects of the Visa regime, demanding legal and free access to Europe, as claimed by the campaign "Ferry not Frontex".

The boat will leave from Hammamet the 6th of September and we ask all the people and associations that struggle for freedom of movement and migrant rights to join and support the event.

For more information: Imed Soltani (association La Terre pour tous):
association_laterrepourtout@yahoo.com

Phone contact : 00216 22157103

you find here the link to the crowdfunding page for donations:<y

<https://www.lepotcommun.fr/pot/0nvqhh88> (RIB: 02004000000306055497)

13 September in Berlin: activists meeting of Blockupy

11:30am to 5pm in Mehringhof, Gneisenaustr. 2A (2nd courtyard), Berlin-Kreuzberg

From the invitation:

"In the last month the incidents overturned – movements stand up while political elite, the neoliberal forces, demonstrated their whole power. We try to stand together where ever it is possible with as much people as possible. We have shown that also in Germany there is another face. At uncountable demonstrations and actions we shouted our OXI! against their policy of extortion and impoverishment, of nationalism and racist deportation.

We have been in Greece and know that the defeat on 13 July is also our defeat, especially of us, the left movements in Germany. Today it's more clear than ever that we if we want "Solidarity beyond borders" in a total new Europe we need an European answer from below. We need to convert the Greek OXI into a European OXI. At all walls, in all streets, in all the discussions: We say no! We stand up, walk new ways towards strong understandable actions with a lot of people – in Germany and Europe..." More info here:

<https://blockupy.org/6171/einladung-zum-aktiven-und-buendnistreffen-in-berlin>

TO THE FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT – LET'S DESTROY FORTRESS EUROPE!!

"Open the borders, the people will come anyway"

Every day thousands of refugees arrive in Europe – often more dead than lively. How can we change this untenable situation? François Gemenne, researcher of migration, demands in an interview with the "Stern": "Just open the borders – all of them!"

<http://www.stern.de/politik/ausland/migrationsforscher-im-stern-interview-machen-wir-die-grenzen-auf--die-menschen-kommen-sowieso-6382346.html>

Back to the Borders III on Lesbos/Greece



Two weeks on Lesbos in summer 2015: more than 15,000 people mainly from Syria, Afghanistan and Iran recently arrived. We brought more than 500 people from the boats straight to the harbour for the registration and distributed thousands of bottles of water. We played with hundreds of children, distributed baby's napkins, dry clothes and crayons. We organized wheelchairs for those who usually had to be left behind and who are today making their way as well. With

pregnant women, seriously ill or injured people we went to hospital. The part of women, children, old and frail persons never was so high than it is now. We had to witness that people had to wait in tremendous conditions before their registration in the detention-center Moria and we observed that vehicles with catering fled because they had only food for hundreds of people whereas the crowd of people were far bigger with about 3,800 people. They could not distribute the food and left the people starving in the direct sunlight. Several times we heard that there were people brought into distress at sea by masked special forces of the coast guard. We became witnesses of a humanitarian catastrophe in which the most of the big aid organization and NGO's where above all very busy with monitoring and where at the same time many people worked hard to show practical solidarity. We could manage to distribute especially information about the further trip, thousands of guides in Arabic and Farsi: Welcome to Europe!

Uncountable times we answered the question about fingerprints in Hungary which they all were afraid of. We said: Keep on going, you will arrive, it is a hard way but never before the people were so fast! We waved to the special ferries, every time up to 2,500 people on their way to the Macedonian border. We did not say goodbye but said "see you again in Germany!". Some arrived already before we were back in Germany. Many of those in our travel group have found relatives and friends again who they have not seen for years.

Every evening we sang and danced with new people because this border will not last and everything moves.

More about the trip: <http://lesvos.w2eu.net/>

Guides „Welcome to Greece“:

english: <http://w2eu.info/greece.en.html>

arabic, farsi und french as PDF:

<http://w2eu.info/greece.en/articles/greece-guide.en.html>

Dublin-Balkan-Route:

<http://lesvos.w2eu.net/info-for-refugees/dublin-iii-greece-balkans/dublin-iii-greece-balkans-eng/>

Become accomplice in an escape (www.fluchthelfer.in)

With tips&tricks for escape agents
Out of the new campaign:

“Escape aid within the EU is nothing new, there are already many people supporting friends and relatives on their way through Europe. To us, escape aid is more than a friendly turn, we consider escape aid as a political statement for freedom of movement, as an action of civil disobedience. To get as less as possible into trouble as less as possible, actions of escape aid have to be prepared very well. At least within the Schengen space there are no official border controls. Escape routes can be used very well by escape agent beginners. But even here there are police controls at random in border regions to prevent from actions of escape aid. In case of escape agents acting repeatedly in favor of refugees this could have farther-reaching consequences on the part of the state as for example criminal procedures in human trafficking or observation of your communication.

That is why we want to give you some information how you could protect yourself and the people you support in actions of escape aid.

Become escape agent now and support people on their way into a better future! You can take people with you on your way back from holidays for example.

- How can escape agents get into contact with refugees
- equipment
- history of escape aid – escape aid remain legitimate
- legal stuff: what could happen to escape agents?

This and more on <http://www.fluchthelfer.in/>



Christine K., 42 Jahre
„Ich bin Fluchthelferin!“
DENN: FLUCHTHILFE RETTET LEBEN

Werde jetzt Fluchthelfer.in und unterstütze
Menschen auf ihrem Weg in eine bessere Zukunft!

JETZT AKTIV WERDEN!

www.fluchthelfer.in

Initiative for the Balkan route by the research association refuge and migration (Forschungsgesellschaft Flucht und Migration (FFM))

“Land of nowhere of refugees” goes a call’s title by FFM whose situation to which it refers changes daily facing all the struggles for freedom of movement. There are efforts to create a new continuous initiative along the so called Balkan route. From the practical part of the call:

“The tasks are diverse:
 in Greece the main subject is housing and fundamental food, for the locals but as well for the migrants, at the borders it is about mobile support depending on the situation either “Casas Migrantes” or support of local escape agents for example the journalist Vasilis Tsartsanis who helps the migrants in Idomeni passionately or the mosque in Kumanovo in the north of Makedonia. It is about medical help how it does MSF in Greece, Bulgaria and in Subotica/Serbia close to the hungarian border.



Auf dem Weg zur mazedonischen Grenze...

Jointly with Pro Asyl medico supports so called Refugee Support Teams in Greece and Turkey consisting of lawyers, translators and researchers,



Im Grenzgebiet Griechenland- Mazedonien

it is about a network of information and documentation so that migrants do not get lost, with which it can be provided a certain protection from assaults by persecuting troupes or criminal groups, it is in Hungary particularly but also in Serbia and

Makedonia about the observation and documentation of the actions that make border authorities and camp directions for possibly prevent from the worst assaults through having public.

We will collect and comment the current information on the ffm-pages. At the same time we call upon the initiatives which are working on the Balkan route already to support as much as possible, to concentrate the energy and to gain allies.

Complete call and more information on <http://ffm-online.org/>

Situation in Hungary

In our last newsletter we already reported, the news come thick and fast regards the daily new development at the border fence in Serbia and in Budapest itself. The constantly updated blog by Bordermonitoring EU is very recommendable:

<http://ungarn.bordermonitoring.eu/>

Attached the beginning of a current text:



"Keleti mainstation on of the two big mainstations in Budapest from where trains leave heading west, in the end of August 2015: In a sticky summer night there are thousands of people lying in the underground accesses, old, ill, disabled and especially children. Most of them do not even have a blanket to lie down on. All of them recently arrived via the Balkan route: Greece, Makedonia, Serbia, Hungary. They did not get a warm welcome but were put into crowded prison cells or in simple transformed warehouses in the border region. Alleged to be

nessecary. For registration which means especially for giving fingerprints. Welcome to Hungary. Everyone has a similar story to tell which can be proved with fotos on their smartphones...!

The whole report you find here:

<http://bordermonitoring.eu/ungarn/2015/08/momentaufnahme-budapest-keleti/>

Noborder Camp Ventimiglia

We Are Not Going Back - No Borders

Since June 11th 2015 in Ventimiglia/Italy close behind the French border (Menton) there is a No Border Refugee Protest Camp.

It started with only a few refugees who had protested against the European Border Policy. Above all



against France which bolts massively the borders by means of police to prevent the continued journey of refugees to Europe which is inofficially condoned and to expulse them. The refugees put the camp

on the rocks in front of the border first, later with the help from french and italian activists the close parking lot was squatted including the tourist information and was build up into a camp. There are now the most necessary sanitary facilities, water, electricity and a kitchen. Through regular asambleas the daily life gets organized by everyone who is there. In the camp are always at least 50 refugees who have the possibility to get support and information regarding the journey to Europe, about asylum law as well as improvisational language courses.

Very regular there is loud and strong protest at the borders. Still the border is observed including the police and they try to inform arriving refugees to avoid the train because of massive controls.

The camp is in urgent need of solidarity! Go to Ventimiglia and/or support the refugees there with a donation (winter comes to Italy, too!) Particularly german courses are needed



because nobody speaks German there.

How to get there: Go to station Menton Garavan in France. Leave the station and go to the left then to right heading the sea. At the sea you turn left and walk towards the border. Cross the order and you see the camp on the right side of the car tunnel to Ventimiglia directly at the sea.

Links to the camp's blog: <http://noborders20miglia.noblogs.org/>

and to its facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Presidio-Permanente-No-Border-Ventimiglia/782827925168723>

Sea Watch News

Very impressive "Weltspiegel" - Report concerning the rescue actions of Sea Watch:

<http://www.daserste.de/information/politik-weltgeschehen/weltspiegel/videos/weltspiegel-extra-chaos-im-mittelmeer-wer-rettet-die-fluechtlinge-100.html>

And from the report from the operation on the 27.8.2015:

"Yes, we had to figure on doing so, everybody was aware of it. Yesterday it was the day. I had a lump in my throat. Because of sadness, of respect, of a deep recognition towards all those who campaign for refugees – it doesn't matter in which position. But also because of anger. There have to be created legal ways to come to Europe to solve the situation on the Mediterranean Sea permanently. The Crew of SeaWatch saved yesterday, the 27th of August, in only one day, more than 500 people on 5 dinghys. On these boats there have been several, partly bad, injured persons. 2 persons, who didn't survive their flight, have been dead before we came ... "

Full report:

<http://sea-watch.org/status-update-28-08-insgesamt-5-boote-ueber-500-gefluechtete-2-tote-ein-wettlauf-gegen-die-zeit/>

Watch The Med-Alarmphone with new multilingual website and as a candidate for TAZ panter price

Extract from the announcement:

„We are happy to present our new Alarm Phone website: alarmphone.org. So far, the website is available in English, French, Arabic, German and Spanish, with more languages following soon. Our Alarm Phone project has been running now for more than 10 months during which we were alerted hundreds of

times to emergency situations in all regions of the Mediterranean Sea. We were able to assist those in distress at sea as well as their relatives and friends who were worried about the travellers. Our many experiences clearly show that creating this alternative alarm network was a needed political intervention in a deadly border-zone.

On the new website we bundle relevant information regarding the Alarm Phone project. At the same time, the website watchthemed.net will remain the main page (only in english) for our reports that are connected to its interactive map. Watch The Med is a monitoring platform that, carried by various networks, researches and protests human rights violations at sea. The Alarm Phone contributes as an autonomous sub-project. Our new website will

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contain information for travellers as well as for journalists and other interested parties in a comprehensive and clearly structured way. You will find multilingual materials, press releases as well as updates on our campaigns against the EU-borderregime and for freedom of movement. We invite you to take a tour and help us make our website known in relevant communities and to interested individuals. Our main working language is English so that the English version of the website will be the one most up-to-date. However, we will also continuously work on updating the website in all the other languages. If you would like to help us with translations, please let us know!“

TAZ - Panterpreis

Every year the german newspaper TAZ awards the so-called Panter Price for “people who stand up with great personal commitment for others and detect grievance ... “ (<http://www.taz.de/!106589/>).

We are happy that our AlarmPhone is one of the six nominees. Our project is presented in a short report (<https://www.taz.de/Watch-The-Med-Alarm-Phone/!160836/>) and a few activists get the chance to speak (<https://www.taz.de/Die-Videoportraits-unserer-Nominierten/!160887/#>).

You can vote here:

<https://www.taz.de/LeserInnenwahl-2015/!142531/>

What should I do if there is a racist police control?!

Suspected independent police controls from people with “deviating”, as foreign/strange constructed exterior is standard at the german police. They are threatening refugees and are also excluding and discriminating people with technically safe residency status.

Racist controls should taken more often to court because judgements tightened the limits of legal ways for the police. But thats not enough to stop this practice. Anti-rascist soldarity in the daily lifes has to make such controls more difficult and avoid them.

The group “Schöner Leben Göttingen” made some proposals according to that on a folding map. That card is a help for solidly witnesses as well as for affected persons of rascist police controls.

Order via post@schoener-leben-goettingen.de

And online to be found here:

http://www.schoener-leben-goettingen.de/Materialien/Publikationen/PDF/Rassistische%20Polizeikontrollen%20Flyer%20mit%20Taschenkarte_web_Layout%20final.pdf

REVIEW:

Concerning the national-wider refugee conference from 21st to 23rd of August in Hannover

Extract from the final declaration:

“This national-wide meeting, organised by the protestcamp of the sudanese refugees from Weißekreuzplatz in Hannover, in cooperation with “Lampedusa in Hamburg”, “Refugee-Movement-Berlin” and the “Refugee-Bustour” (...) Three days have been more than 150

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persons coming from all the federal territory made an exchange about their experiences and possibilities of resistance against daily-life-racism and discriminating asylum laws and decided to get better connected in future.

Participants discussed during the workshops questions of the current asylum law and their tightening, the situation in the countries of origin and their reasons of flight and also their specific concerns, demands and actions of refugee women.

The aim of this meeting was besides the connection and continuation of such refugee conferences the creation of an own media-group (...)

The activists of the protestcamp Weißekreutzeplatz understood themselves from the very beginning as a part of the worldwide refugee movement and are solidly with all refugees.

The participants of the nation-wide refugee conference demand besides the killing refugee policy of the european governments and the division into welcome (so to speak: useful) and non-welcome refugees the respect of basic rights and the freedom of movement for all human beings.

The refugees of the Protestcamp Weißekreutzeplatz want to go on with their fight against the cooperation from the german with the sudanese government and for their right on the protestcamp in Hannover – and we will go on supporting them ... “

More information:

<http://refugeeconference.blogspot.de/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RefugeeConference2015/posts/536956983122189>

Aktionstage „Fluchtursachen bekämpfen – Waffenexporte stoppen!“ in Konstanz

Konstanz: combating the causes for flight – stop weapon exports!

From the 20. until the 22. august 2015 there were action days happening all around Bodensee. These action days were initiated by the association Flüchtlinge für Flüchtlinge (refugees for refugees) and supported and co-organised by numerous regional peace- and refugee initiatives.

There were information about the local based arms industry, about the EU border regime, the impact of germanys domestic- and foreign policies as well as the demand of an equal treatment of refugees.

First reports here:

<http://www.thevoiceforum.org/node/3983>

<https://refugees4refugees.wordpress.com/>

As well an extract from a Tax interview with Rex Osa:

(...)

R.O.: We dont like the direction of the help which is coming more and more into fashion. The causes of flight is not a topic at all. People are doing humanitarian aid often without thinking about it, that they themselves as well are a cause of the problem.

Question: Not everyone, who is working voluntary in refugees camps is working as well for a tanker company.

R.O.: That is not the point. 80 percent of the tax income of Überlingen is coming from Diehl. At the same time there are 200 volunteers. These persons we want to confront with the construct of the weapon export. Most of them are aware of the problem but instead of doing something against it, they rather help a bit some refugees. They explicitly want to be unpolitical. That goes so far that a person working for caritas says sentences like: „Our refugees need quietness.“ No, thats is not what we need. These people should rather



make sure that there are not so many weapons getting exported from their city. Through our action we like to have the opportunity to have conversations about that with many volunteers. (...)”.

The entire interview here:

<http://www.taz.de/!5222868/>

OUTLOOKS:

2. - 4.10. in Poznan: Social transnational strike- conference

The complete call out as well as first further information about the schedule are on the new multilingual web page:

<http://www.transnational-strike.info/>

15. - 17.10. in Brussels: « Oxi! Basta! Enough! - Build another Europe! »

NO to austerity policies, poverty, TTIP, racism and corruption

YES to solidarity beyond borders

Arrival of the European Marches and Days of Action 15th, 16th & 17th October

- 15th October: Arrival in Brussels of the European Marches

Surrounding of the EU Council Summit against TTIP & austerity: a range of non-violent political actions

- 16th October: World Food Day, Day for European Citizen Conferences in Brussel

- 17th October: International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

European demonstration in Brussels « Austerity = Poverty ! » Let's build another Europe !

Information and contact:

European Marches : euromarchas2015@gmail.com

Surrounding of the Summit: info@d19-20.be

General information (Call endorsement) : sebastian@altersummit.eu

16. - 18.10. in Munich: 2nd international trafficker conference (ISS)

The 2. international trafficker conference wants to create a public forum to hold the urgently needed debate on the valuation on this disputed service.

The aim will be, beyond the medial attention which this topic gets a lot at the moment, to allow a new perspective on „trafficking“. Because as soon as you call the same circumstances „escape help“, the term gets a new, positive meaning.

The congress should on the one hand work out the historical and national perspectives as on the other hand the juridical interpretations and the associated criminalisation.

Furthermore this congress wants to give insights of trafficking praxis, wants starting to think about perspectives and as well to introduce initiatives and campaigns and to link them together. The international trafficker conference is as independent conference embedded into the congress weekend of the Münchner Kammerspiele. An event by Bayrischer Flüchtlingsrat in cooperation with the KEV.

<http://www.rosalux.de/event/53844/2-internationale-schlepper-und-schleusertagung-iss.html>