

Kompass – AntiRa – Newsletter Nr. 58 – April 2017

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On March 18th, all over Europe thousends of people were demonstrating against the border regime, like here in Athens (left) or at Frankfurt Airport.



Dear friends,

"This is how we can make it – civil society in a spirit of new beginning" ("So schaffen wir das - eine Zivilgesellschaft im Aufbruch"). This is the title of a recently (in Germany) published book well worth reading which determines: "Between 2015 and 2016 around 15000 projects which found creative replies to the manifold challenges of immigration came into being." It goes on: "In this research project we attempted to take stock of the potentials of the movement on the basis of the analysis of 90 case studies. We asked which specific challenges there exist in 13 different sectors – like housing, health care, judicial advice and education – and how they were addressed. It became clear what great energy for handling social problems

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there is in current civil society. The projects reveal the potential for a new cooperation not just in dealing with immigrants but within civil society. It became especially obvious that these projects are more than the sum of isolated humanitarian initiatives. On the contrary they are a social movement with a unique profile. It is best characterized as a 'movement of citizens'. Its political core is the formation of political society on a local level."

This book supports the thesis that on the local and everyday level a network of selforganization and support initiatives has become permanent. Diverse projects – "from sea rescue to solidarity city" – hold their ground against racist repressive politics and right-wing populist medial domination. "While deportation, closing-off and demoralization are the only answers in politics, the movement of citizens out of their own initiative has demonstrated feasible paths to a more open society."

At the same time the authors name their limitations: "The strengths of this movement are its weaknesses as well: The local and practical nature of the citizens' movement makes it remarkably sustainable and stable. But it also leads to it being hardly visible on a transregional and national level. Locally and in practice criticism of refugee politics is practiced but it not articulated enough is on а transregional and national level."

But this might change in the months to come. "Get together", a young federal

Greetings in solidarity from the Kompass team Kontakt: <u>kompass-notify@antira.info</u>

network of the antiracist movement has recently agreed on a large common mobilization for September 2017. On 2nd September it will start with various decentral actions which will recall the historic breakthrough against the border regime of two years ago in Hungary. The March of Hope and the Refugee Welcome of 2015 became points of reference for making public and transnationally connecting initiatives and struggles for two weeks according to local conditions. Afterwards, on the 16.9. and therefore one week before the federal election in Germany - Berlin will be the focal point of a germanwide mobilization. "We'll come united" is the slogan for the planned mixture of a large demonstration, a parade and a political Community Carnival in the capital city. There will be intense mobilization over the next months, especially on a local level, but there will be transregional opportunities as well: from the church congress in May in Berlin and 20 years of no one is illegal at the documenta in Kassel in June to the G20 summit in Hamburg in July.

It seems bold and ambitious to suggest travelling to Berlin on chartered trains – new "trains of hope" - on the 16.9., but we will need exactly this kind of ideas to create dynamics in this mobilization for the antiracist movement to unfold its potential in everyday struggles for an increased public visibility.



DATES AND INFORMATION FOR APRIL UND MAY 2017

8.4. in Berlin: Take back the future - International Roma Day

Berlin 14h: Paul Löbe Parliament (between the Bundestag and Bundeskanzleramt) u-bhf.bundestag

From the Call: "While some can schedule are as lost their lives and must think about what career they choose where and how they want to live, others can only hope to one day have these freedoms. For precisely this hope they usually fight a bureaucratic feud in an unworthy accommodation. Chain toleration or cold, overcrowded, makeshift tents as places of residence, unfair shortened legal processes, targeted disintegration and un the daily fear of nocturnal pick for deportation are West German reality..."



Complete call and more <u>http://www.alle-bleiben.info/take-back-the-future-8-april-2017/</u>

7./8./9.4. in Hamburg: Preparation conference against G20 With a fresh breeze – we warm up for G20!



"From Hamburg to Munich, from Barcelona to Athens, from Toronto to Sydney activists prepare themselves for the protests against the G20-summit – for a whole week before the summit, Hamburg will be the location for manifold protests. Together we are going to pinpoint the limitations of power of the statesmen and -women in our city. We are going to present our solidary al-

ternatives to their murderous, capitalist politics of disintegration that lead to wars, to the devastation of natural environment and to million fold forced migration and global poverty. Worldwide we can observe reactionist and autocratic regimes and movements accelerating the deterioration of our everyday living conditions"

More to be found here: <u>https://www.g20hamburg.org/de/content/zweite-aktionskonferenz</u> The day before there will be an international preparation, have a look: <u>http://g20-protest.info</u>

14.-17.4.: Actiondays at the french-italian border

"We call international for easter weekend to support migrants and atack the situation of persecution and repression at the french-italian border. Let's share our realities and fights and demonstrate numerously! ... The complete call and a first programm: https://mars-infos.org/mobilisation-internationale-a-la-2044

15.4. in Röszke/Horgos in Hungary: Transnational Demo at the border

"Transnational demonstration against the the EU border regime and its actualization in the prisons and the militarized border of Hungary! The Hungarian state continues to take an especially visible role in the deathly puzzly of Fortress Europe, guarding capitalist means of production in white hands. As the latest piece in the puzzle on March 15th the state passed legal changes which mean that ALL people seeking asylum will be detained in



prison-containers at the Hungarian-Serbian border. ..." Complete call and more: <u>https://www.facebook.com/events/1321782624534459</u> and here: <u>http://freetheroszke11.weebly.com</u>

Concerning showing solidarity with the charged and arrested people of Röszke 11, especially with Ahmedand Yamen there is an international Fundraising:

https://www.generosity.com/fundraising/show-trials-in-hungary-help-the-accused

There is also a short call and an own solidarity banc account for Ahmed H. in Germany:

Freedom is not for free! Donate for Ahmed H. from Röszke 11! In November 2016 Ahmed has been sentenced to 10 years in jail, harsh judgement was spreaded all over the world. It is massive pressure needed when the judgement will be tried again in early summer of this year. The prosecutor demands 17,5 years and appealed. And it needs money: Process costs are about 10.000 Euros now.

Donate: Rote Hilfe e.V. Ortsgruppe Frankfurt Stichwort: Röszke 11 IBAN: DE24 4306 0967 4007 2383 90 BIC: GENODEM1GLS

22.4. in Athens: City Plaza Birthday/Eviction of squatted houses

The from and with refugees squatted Hotel City Plaza is celebrating its first birthday. It is and stay "Europes best Hotel" and needs more donations:

http://best-hotel-in-europe.eu

http://solidarity2refugees.gr

At the same time the greek policy of eviction is sharpening against the from and with refugees squatted houses, have a look "Regarding the rumors on the imminent evacuation of refugee squats and the escalation of the anti-refugee policy"

http://solidarity2refugees.gr/regarding-rumors-imminent-evacuation-refugee-squatsescalation-anti-refugee-policy/

Central Med: Report Alarm Phone, Statements of the civil rescue ships

"Amid Criminalization, Delayed Rescue, and Mass Dying, the Struggle for Freedom of Movement continues" is the newest Alarm Phone report. It covers the past two months, January 16 to March 19, 2017.

https://alarmphone.org/en/2017/03/24/amid-criminalization-delayed-rescue-and-massdying-the-struggle-for-freedom-of-movement-continues/

"People do not migrate because there are smuggling networks. Smuggling networks exist, because people have to flee. Only safe and legal routes to Europe can put an end to the traffickers' business.."

With these sentences civil resuce organisations reject in a mutual declaration the absurd accusations of Frontex. Complete text:

https://sea-watch.org/europas-zivile-rettungsorganisationen-weisen-frontex-vorwuerfezurueck/

And still people become victims of the EU-border regime:

The shipwreck was predictable: the EU is guilty of non-assistance of people in danger https://sea-watch.org/bootsunglueck-war-absehbar-eu-der-unterlassenen-hilfeleistungschuldig/



Struggles against the Dublin Regulation

Throughout Europa struggles against the so-called 'Dublin deportations' are taking place, because authorities try with all their might to push people back to their transit countries. For deportations that are, for instance, taking place from Slovenia to Croatia, see:

http://ffm-online.org/2017/03/23/deportation-of-a-syrian-family-from-slovenia-to-croatia/

In 2016 the number of arrivals in Italy reached record highs, which once again confronted the local reception system with collapse. Many refugees therefore travelled on to north-west Europe and are now faced with threats of deportation back to Italy. With full might they are forced back into homelessness, in a life without medical care and with less and less job opportunities. In reaction to this more and more church asylums are created in Germany, in order to protect people against these deportations up to the date of their transfer. See also the recent statistics on the subject at: http://www.kirchenasyl.de

Finally throughout Europe the Dublin deportations to Greece have been resumed as from 15.3.2017. On this subject the network Welcome to Europe has published elaborate information at: <u>http://w2eu.info/greece.en/articles/greece-dublin2.en.html</u>

5. - 7.5. in Osnabrück: Kritnet Conference, with workshops on the subject of the 'Solidarity City'

The Network for the Critical Research of Migration and the Border Regime, see <u>http://kritnet.org</u>, will meet in early May, among other things to discuss the "return of 'national' nationalism, borders and migration". In Osnabrück the focal point will be on the networking within and development of the initiative of the 'Solidarity City'. Under the title 'Solidarity Cities & Urban Citizenship' theoretical and practical perspectives of this concept will be treated in two blocks

6./7.5. in Bielefeld: Get Together 4 We`ll Come United - Preparatory Meeting for a Nationwide- Transnational Initiative from 2. to 16.9.2017

In der Einleitung dieses Newsletters ist es bereits kurz zusammengefasst, und beim nächsten Treffen, das Anfang Mai aller Voraussicht nach in Bielefeld stattfinden wird, geht es um die konkrete Ausgestaltung dieser Mobilisierung. Ein erster Aufruf und weiteres Material ist bereits in Arbeit... Wer Interesse an Mitarbeit hat: <u>kmii-hanau@antira.info</u>

13.5. in Pforzheim: nationwide (BaWü) Demo against Deportation Custody

"Together we call for a demonstration on 13.5.2017 in Pforzheim: against deportation prisons, deportation detention and the further run-down of refugees' rights...." The complete call-up and more at: <u>http://www.stop-deportation.de</u>

Reading tip: So schaffen wir das. Eine Zivilgesellschaft im Aufbruch

Werner Schiffbauer, Anne Eilert, Marlene Rudloff (publishers): 90 guiding projects with refugees, Bielefeld (transcript) 2017, 340 S., 24.99 €

A summary by W.Schiffbauer, quoted in the introduction to this newsletter, can be found at: <u>https://mediendienst-integration.de/artikel/gastbeitrag-werner-schiffauer-studie-zu-ehrenamtlichen-fluechtlingsprojekten.html</u>

And a commentary by FFM worth reading at: http://ffm-online.org/2017/03/30/eine-neue-buergerbewegung/

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REVIEWS

8.3. Global Womens Strike

The brilliant strike. Women's March 8 and the global uprising against neoliberalism, siehe hier:

http://www.connessioniprecarie.org/2017/03/14/the-brilliant-strike-womens-march-8-and-the-global-uprising-against-neoliberalism/

18.3. Transnational action day against the border regime





On march 18th, more than 2000 people were demonstrating against the EU-deal with Turkey in Mitilini. Most of them are forced to live in the hotspot Moria or in Karatepe for months now, and they are refused to leave the island because of the deal. Fotos: Marily Stroux

A Collage (in english) concerning 18.3. can be found at: <u>http://www.transnational-strike.info/2017/03/29/report-of-the-transnational-day-of-action-</u> against-the-border-regime-18-03-17/

31.3. Protest in front of the Tunisian Embassy in Berlin



Fotos: heba/Umbruch Bildarchiv



A group of Tunisian men and women called for a mobilization at the end of March at the Tunisian Embassy in Berlin, in order to demonstrate against the issue of travel documents to and the planned deportation of 1,500 people. Photos and the speech of 'Women in exile' at: <u>http://umbruch-bildarchiv.de/bildarchiv/ereignis/310317tunesische_botschaft.html</u>



Previews

TRIBUNAL 17. to 21.5.2017 - NSU-Komplex auflösen NSU-KOMPLEX - Tribunal in Cologne

AUFLÖSEN "We want the entire scope of the scheming to be cleared up and disclosed, including the involvement of the state and its institutions". Call-up, program and more: http://nsu-tribunal.de

10. to 14.6.2017 in Dresden: Youth without Borders with a Conference and Demonstration against the Conference of Ministers of the Interior

19. to 25.6.2017 Documenta Kassel - 20 Years of 'no one is illegal'

"...As from November 2016 a casual group of people in Kassel decided to use the coming documenta (10.6. to 17.9.2017) to celebrate the 20th anniversary and simultaneously to criticize the current asylum and migration policies, as well as to make the living conditions of the illegalized people the subject of a public debate. From 19. to 25.6. an action week is organized, which will partly be equipped and presented by existing cooperatives (city tour, freedom of movement, manifest), yet other groups and activists from everywhere are also kindly invited to contribute their own ideas, actions and events (the next preparatory meeting will be in Kassel on 6.5.2017). Those who are interested can simply write to: noii2017@riseup.net

16.9.2017 in Berlin: We'll Come United – Mega Demonstration- Political Carnival Parade...

6. to 8.10.2017 in Leipzig: Conference concerning Migration, Development, Ecological Crisis

In October 2017 a conference will take place in Leipzig, initiated by Afrique-Europe-Interact and climate and Degrowth activists, on the connections between flight and migration, self-determined development and the ecological crisis.

People who are interested can contact: literke@knoe.org or nolagerbremen@yahoo.de or nolagerbremen@yahoo.de