

For 20 years now, Medinetz has been placing undocumented refugees (so-called „illegalized“ people) with medical care providers. In doing this, we have repeatedly dealt with refugees placed in LEA / the primary reception facility of the state of Baden-Württemberg. The headline of today's demonstration is what we see every day: Camps make people sick. Even the renowned German medical journal „Ärzteblatt“ recently headlined "Reception facilities make people sick" when in October 2019 the organisation "Doctors of the World" stopped providing medical care in these facilities as they could no longer take responsibility for working under such conditions.

Lack of privacy, lack of protection against assaults and violent searches, permanent fear of night-time deportations, lack of perspective, isolation, absence of any possibility of political participation are just a few examples of the suppressive violence that these people are facing. What's more, people often report traumatising experiences in the countries of origin or during their escape. Once in the camps, they will certainly find no shelter. Since 2013, a European directive is in place, stating that traumatising is to be recognised and treated on arrival. But these examinations are not carried out. The violations of human rights under mass accommodation, as repeatedly denounced in the media and by refugee associations, do not appeal to political stakeholders. Sometimes, these violations even appear to be deliberate. This has become strikingly clear in the Corona period, when entire facilities were put in quarantine, without taking any appropriate measures to protect its residents from infection - contrary to any and all recommendations from the German Robert Koch institute, which are otherwise followed so closely. Of course, the people affected themselves had no say in this whatsoever.

Medinetz was founded to stand up for the rights of illegalized, undocumented refugees. For these people, there is no access to the healthcare system in Germany. But illegality makes people sick, just as the camps do. Illegality is accompanied by worries, fears and precarious conditions. No secure job, no school for children, permanent fear of discovery and subsequent deportation are accompanied by high stress levels. Things get even worse when a physical or psychological illness is added on top of this. What can I do when my teeth hurt, but I don't have money or insurance? How can I give birth to a child when I have to fear deportation? What can I do if I break my leg, but I don't dare go to hospital? What can I do to relieve my fears and nightmares? Illegalized or undocumented people avoid seeking medical care as long as possible for fear of being discovered. Again and again, people come to see us with complications and secondary diseases from chronic illnesses that should have been treated much earlier.

Camps make people sick, illegality makes people sick!

So here is what we claim:

Close the camps!

Free access to medical care for all people living in Germany!

Permanent residence for all!