

This escalation of violence that happened last week Friday in the LEA is not a single case. The camp systematically creates violence and situations in which residents' basic rights are ignored and police and security can act how they want. We stand in solidarity with the affected person and condemn the use of police dogs in the LEA!

Background

It is obvious that the LEA does not offer shelter to its residents. The fact that LEA residents regularly have to endure room checks accompanied by the police is already a scandal. That they now also run the risk of being attacked by police dogs is a new quality. What is bitterly normal for the residents is incomprehensible for outsiders because of the closed and isolated character of the LEA. Usually, reports of such events do not reach the public. Visits are forbidden, the residents are usually unaware of how to complain, and the house rules prohibit the expression of political opinions and the distribution of flyers as well as the photographing of buildings. Such a design of the camp actively prevents civil society control and systematically promotes violence.

What are the reactions to such confrontations like last Friday? More and more drastic measures are introduced, reinforcing the already repressive situation. But the basic structure of the camp itself must be questioned. It is not the residents who are violent, but the camp that promotes violence and makes assaults possible. Entrance controls, rooms that cannot be locked, the permanent presence of security guards and forced idleness through work bans create a permanent tension in which small things are enough to trigger conflicts.

Camps whose function is not to enable arrival but to facilitate deportations never offer a shelter. Especially not when those who are supposed to guarantee this protection become a threat themselves.

The trend towards completely isolated, privately run camps without any state or civil society control must be stopped. We demand an end to the escalation of violence. The fact that those affected have to expect a counter-report by the police in court, and are themselves constructed as perpetrators through the construction of "assault on law enforcement officers", prevents an effective follow-up of systematic police violence. We demand unrestricted visiting rights in the LEA and an independent complaints and investigation office for police violence. We demand the immediate closure of the LEA!

We stand in solidarity with those affected.