„Respect human rights and fundamental freedom!"

Statement for a different asylum policy
regarding the Conference of Interior Ministers (IMK) in Stuttgart

NO LAGER NOWHERE

*'The recognition of the inherent dignity as well as of the equal
and inalienable rights of all members of the human community
is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.'*
Preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

We are heavily concerned about the development and actions of parliamentary politics / administration in Germany and in the EU. Refugees are increasingly denied their basic and human rights. In a letter to the Conference of Interior Ministers (IMK), which will take place in Stuttgart in December, we demand a reversal of asylum and migration policies in the Federal Republic of Germany and the EU. Below are some of our demands:

#NoLagerNowhere

The political concept of deterrence / encroachment on fundamental rights, which is common in initial reception facilities/anchor centres and which can only be enforced against refugees with private security companies, must no longer exist. Intensive encroachments on the right to self-determination, inviolability of the home, general freedom of action and other rights must no longer be part of the reception of refugees. We demand the closure of collective camps and affordable housing for everyone. The exclusionary Asylum Seeker Benefits Act (Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz) must be abolished.

#WirHabenPlatz

The Federal Ministry of the Interior (BMI) must approve state reception programmes so that municipalities that have declared themselves safe havens are allowed to take in refugees. Legislative changes that have led to restrictions in asylum procedures must be reversed. Counselling by independent bodies and legal representation is indispensable. Furthermore, we demand qualified courses in German language for everyone!

#MauerfallJetzt

We e call for direct assistance to people in the forests of Belarus, a safe escape corridor and access to an asylum procedure to stem a humanitarian catastrophe. Refugees must be granted safe passage to a country of their choice without delay. People and their rights must not be ground between power-political interests.

#AbolishFrontex

We demand compliance with the non-refoulement principle (no refoulement at the borders). Political decisions that result in state violence, repression and the death of people at the EU's external borders and in the Mediterranean must not be used as a basis for administrative action. It is also urgently necessary to immediately end the participation of the federal and state governments in current FRONTEX operations, which serve to seal off and turn back refugees. The border protection agency FRONTEX must be dissolved! Prison-like reception centres, which are being installed in Greece as pilot projects for a future EU asylum policy, must also be dissolved immediately.

#EvacuateRefugeesFromLibya

Cooperation with regimes like in Libya, where refugees are enslaved, tortured and murdered, must end immediately. Humans affected and threatened by (sexualised) violence and torture must be flown out as soon as possible.

#AfghanistanBurning

With the withdrawal of the German Armed Forces (Bundeswehr) and the takeover by the Taliban in Afghanistan, many former government and Bundeswehr employees were left behind. These, people with family members in Germany, women*, children, people in need of protection, ethnic minorities as well as people who stood up for human rights, against the Taliban and for a democratic society are persecuted, their lives are in danger and they are murdered. Family reunions can no longer take place. For this reason, we demand immediate admission programmes of the federal states as well as a federal admission programme, family reunification, a safe stay for Afghan*s living in Germany and thus a stop to deportations without exception!

#DublinAbschiebungenStoppen

We demand an immediate stop of all so-called Dublin deportations (deportation under the Dublin III Regulation). The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) must be informed accordingly. The Dublin Agreement must no longer be a part of European asylum policy! We demand an unconditional right of residence for refugees who entered Germany, who have a status of recognition in Greece, but had to live there under inhumane conditions.

#SyriaNotSafe

We demand a renewal of the deportation ban to Syria for all! A gradation in the danger prognosis for certain groups such as so-called „endangerers" or „criminals" is inadmissible under international law.

#StopDeportation

We demand a general stop to deportations! The status of toleration (Duldung), which allows interference with numerous procedural and refugees' residence rights, must be abolished as an instrument of asylum policy. Refugees (with toleration status) must be able to obtain identity papers without disadvantages, and regardless of the outcome of the asylum procedures, which often take years, there must be unconditional prospects for the right to stay. All deportations must be stopped and deportation prisons must be closed. Readmission agreements must be terminated. We demand regularisation programmes (right-to-stay regulations) for refugees and migrants who live in an unregulated residence status. They must not be at the mercy of absolute lawlessness.

The individual sections of this statement describe an asylum policy that is determined by exclusions and violations of fundamental rights. Decided in parliaments. The current chairman of the IMK, Thomas Strobl, defames all those who demand the acceptance of refugees at the Polish-Belarusian border „as traffickers". In doing so, he is going outside the law. International refugee law and human rights prohibit turning back people seeking protection at the border without an individual examination of their asylum application. The border area between Belarus and Poland is not a human rights-free zone! #LeaveNoOneBehind