



A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK INTO 10 YEARS OF ALARM PHONE

SCRAP BOOK



Watch the Med Alarm Phone

AP Scrapbook 2024

10 years of Alarm Phone

Supported by the Center for Human Rights
& the Arts at Bard College NY, as part of
their Activism in Process program.

chra.bard.edu



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06:00

Lat: 33.58256 Lon: 18.81781
33° 34.954' 18° 49.069'

200 NM

who are we?

What is Alarm Phone?

Alarm Phone is an emergency phone hotline for people in distress trying to cross EU borders through the Mediterranean Sea, the Channel, the river Evros and other routes. It was created in October 2014, one year after a terrible shipwreck close to the Italian island of Lampedusa where at least 366 people died when the Italian coastguard delayed intervention. With European coastguards routinely ignoring calls for help from people on the move, our idea was to offer them a hotline they can call in case of emergency.

After taking the calls, we reach out to the coastguards and try to convince them to act as they should per law. Aside from taking calls on our emergency number, we tweet to raise public pressure when intervention is needed, and we stay in touch with relatives who lost their loved ones. We also publish reports about shipwrecks and new developments affecting people on the move and our work, as well as talk to journalists and provide information for legal investigations against the crimes of the European border regime. Another important part of our work consists of reaching out to communities in places of departure, where we share useful resources about safety at sea in preparation for leaving by boat. This work in particular is done by Alarm Phone members based south of the border, often at great personal risk and under very difficult circumstances.

Alarm Phone is a network of approximately 300 people who believe in a world without borders. As such, we come together in person twice a year with as many people from our network as possible. This is a huge logistical effort, from finding a meeting place, to organizing accommodation and applying for visas for people from the South. When many of our members are prevented from joining our meetings due to visa restrictions, we lose their valuable insights and experiences. Their presence is always missed. The cross-border friendships we have formed within the network over the years maybe not of the kind where we see each other regularly, but nevertheless we are connected in our day-to-day work, and in our common values and vision. The commitment and strength of our comrades informs our own commitment and strength.

Alarm Phone work is also an anti-fascist, anti-racist practice, and as such a process of learning and unlearning. We learn about global systems of oppression, state violence, the current shift to the right. We teach each other

about resistance, subversive actions and mutual care. Some of us joined Alarm Phone to put solidarity into action, but soon learned that this practice is inextricably tied to our own liberation as much as it is tied to many struggles worldwide. Palestine, Sudan, Congo, Syria, Kashmir, Bangladesh, Senegal, Afghanistan... and the list is long of people facing and fleeing war, genocide, settler colonialism, dictatorship, climate change, sexism, anti-queer violence, capitalism, colonial plunder, economic exploitation, political or religious persecution, ethnic cleansing, land dispossession, famine, corporate greed, state brutality, militarization, and cultural erasure.

Alarm Phone is a rewarding undertaking. We cherish the joyous moments when a boat arrives safely in Europe. A bittersweet victory, because we know that though people have avoided death and arrived safely, those in power continue to put a million and one hurdles in the way of racialised people to attain their basic rights within the EU. But, it does get tough. We have lost people at sea who we never met, but with whom we spent days and nights talking over the phone. We repeatedly hear the cries of anger and agony of people stranded on islands, and of those who lost loved ones. We witness the grief, the pain, and the anger - and we witness resistance. Our bodies keep the score.

This book is a reflection on 10 years of Alarm Phone - Why do we still exist? What have we learned along the way? Why do we believe in collective power? And what does it mean to fight against borders in an increasingly securitized world? We tried to cover as much as we could about our activism and our lives. Also, because we don't exist in a vacuum but rather are part of a larger network of communities beyond Alarm Phone, we wanted this book to reflect that by including texts from our larger network. We hope that this book can transport some of our collective wisdom and inspire new forms and networks of collective struggle.

We hope you enjoy it, though at times it might make you angry, or sad, maybe incredulous, also hopeful.

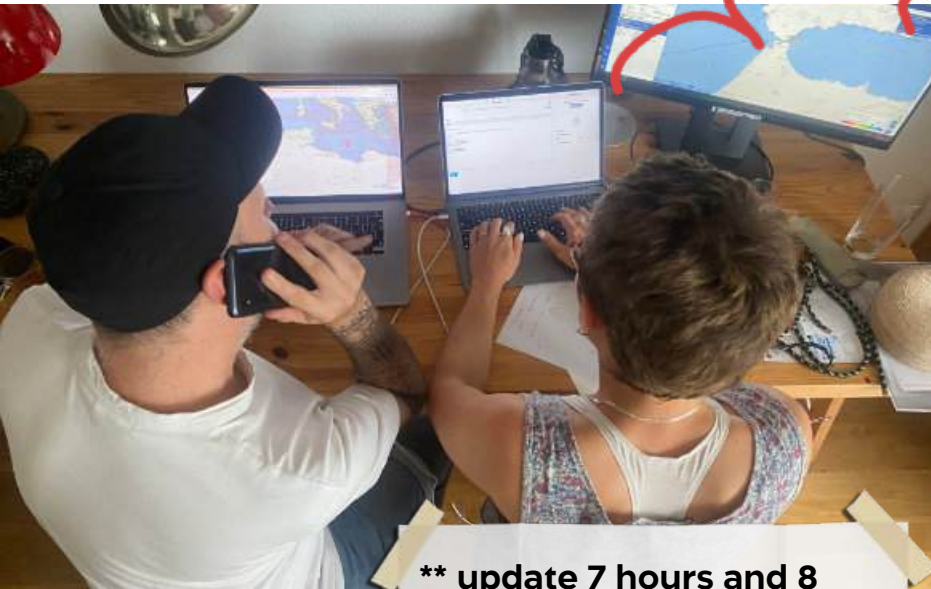
But most of all, we hope it inspires you into action...

They can make new laws, higher walls, develop more advanced technology, in their attempts to stop people from seeking safety. But it is proven daily that this will not stop people's movement. What it does is escalate border violence, and increase death and suffering. People will always find a way, and we will be there to support them. Brick by brick, wall by wall, till the last border falls: Freedom of movement is everybody's right, we are here and we will fight.

Ina Fisher
Watch the Med - Alarm Phone
15 OCT 2024

What is Alarm Phone?

++ AP Bern: the shift before us, AP Palermo, lost contact to the people in distress. Now, by the end of our shift, it is 10 hours without contact with them. The merchant vessel AVAX was close by. We hope they were involved in rescuing the group. We cannot confirm yet, the authorities are still not sharing info with us. We handed over to AP Erlangen. We really hope the people are safe. Leaving the shift with a heavy heart.



**** update 7 hours and 8 minutes later: The people were rescued by the Italian coastguard and disembarked in Lampedusa. We are very relieved that they survived.**



++ AP Glasgow: We had 6 cases. We were in contact with the relatives. We sent 16 emails to the authorities, and we did multiple calls to inform them about the distress situation and provide them with updated GPS locations. At the end of the shift, we handed over to AP Marseille. Two cases were still ongoing. The new shift will take care of them.





Dakar

Mauritania

Mali

Niger

Canary Island

Laayoune

Tiznit

Casablanca

Rabat

Tangier

Tetouan

Fes

Nador

Oujda

Asturias

Bordeaux

Toulouse

Catalunya

St etienne

Marseille

Iseré

Grenoble

Tunis

Palermo

Bretagne

Rennes

Paris

Calais

Dover

London

The Hague

Amsterdam

Nijmegen

Bremen

Hanover

Hamburg

Wendland

Magedeburg

Leipzig

Berlin

Copenhagen

Munich

Dijon

Brussels

Bern

Zurich

Würzburg

Erlangen

Kassel

Hanau

Bielefeld

Cologne

Glasgow

Bristol

A network's self-portrait

This text was originally published in the 5-year anniversary booklet of Alarm Phone in 2019 and is the result of a collaborative effort with members contributing a sentence each.

drum roll: from Morocco to Germany, England to Tunisia, Niger to France, 7 days a week,

24 hours a day for 5 years, dozens of eyes, fingers, skins, heads, tongues, bodies... people... make the Alarm Phone work.

They are:

The one who goes home early when she is on duty the next day and those who jumped into the Baltic Sea at 5.00am in February to get ready for a morning shift,

those who look at the weather with anguish, wish for no wind, or wish for no calls when the weather is bad,

those who forget to eat in front of their computer and those who would rather smoke a cigarette,

those who fill the bellies of those on shift and the others who snack anxiously throughout,

those who bake chocolate cakes,

those who talk on the phone to calm others down,

those who talk on the phone to calm themselves down,

those who call every 30 minutes to make pressure,

those who feel strange because they see an irritation in the eyes of their non-AP friends when they cannot stop talking about the situation in the Mediterranean,

and those who feel strange because some friends see them as weird kinds of heroes...

They are...

the one who just understood that speaking English to the Moroccan coast guard put just about as much pressure on them as on her,

the one who discovered that Facebook is a channel of communication and advocacy and not just a strange sphere of virtual friendships, those who finally adopted a smartphone, just for AP, and the one with a sore back, after a shift in front of her computer.

Those who feel stupid for not speaking the right language and those you can call when translation is needed,

those who ask for support if they don't know what to do

and those who jump in last minute to cover a shift,

those who exchange shift-phones over burning barricades, slaloming in a city in the middle of a social movement,

those who cannot sleep after a heavy shift and are happy when they hear in the morning that people were rescued,

the one who can't sleep the night before her shift and the one who, when she finally falls asleep, dreams of a broken phone...

the one that can't stand a specific ringtone,

the one who answers messages even during the night,

those who are reminded of injustice, suffering and the dead when a phone rings,

those who hold their breath for 8 hours because otherwise they'd scream.

Those who tried to participate but gave up because they could not take the stress.

The one who is always on alert and those who need a break.

The one who doesn't know the names of all the people who died in the xx/xx/xxxx shipwreck and blames herself for it.

The one who doesn't want to leave his city because it would mean leaving the AP Team and those who understand exactly what he means,

those who feel schizophrenic because wherever they are, they always have one eye on the Mediterranean Sea,

those who will never forget what they have experienced together with friends beyond borders,

those who are happy to meet in person after having virtually worked together several times,

those who share something so strong and unconditional without ever having seen each other,

those on whose names, one day, a face and a smile can be put, those who say "us" even if they never had a chance to meet in real life...

The Alarm Phone is made up of

...emoji team and others...

who bring in their own experiences of taking a boat to Europe and transform it into collective knowledge,

who do not fear prison because nobody is free until we are all free,

Who are exposed to harsh repression whilst working for the network,

And also

those who are afraid to make mistakes, but do their best,

those who train new people with so much passion and so much patience,

those who receive all the hard and bad news and make it into a story so that it doesn't fall into oblivion,

those who remain in contact and by doing so, make the injustice of all pushbacks and landings in Libya known to the world,



SOLIDARITY WITH
REFUGEES IN LYBIA



#EVACUATE REFUGEES FROM LYBIA

those who try to give hope in desperate situations, when they themselves have no solution, but still try to show solidarity,

those who are operative on shifts and cry afterwards... Those who take each other's sweaty hands and hold on,

Those who wish they could stay awake and those who wish they could fall asleep,



And there is

the one who smells fear at night,

those who feel bad about having a day off, knowing that others work on heavy cases,

the one who tries to manage the night shift between her body in a comfortable room and her head in the anguish of the sea,

those who feel hypocritical when passing a border control because they have the right passport,

those who take a plane to spend 5 days on the other side of the bordered Mediterranean when they certainly wouldn't have done it for any other reasons than to meet some AP members,

those who sometimes swim in the Mediterranean, who have aperitifs on its beaches, who have left childhood memories in its waves, and look at it and find it beautiful, too

and

those who see the desert as a sea...

Those who are angry against politicians talking about human rights and democracy while they let people die and support deportations and pushbacks,

those who ask in which world we want to live,

those who would simply like to live in a world where everyone believes as deeply in such basic values as the right to live, and to dance,

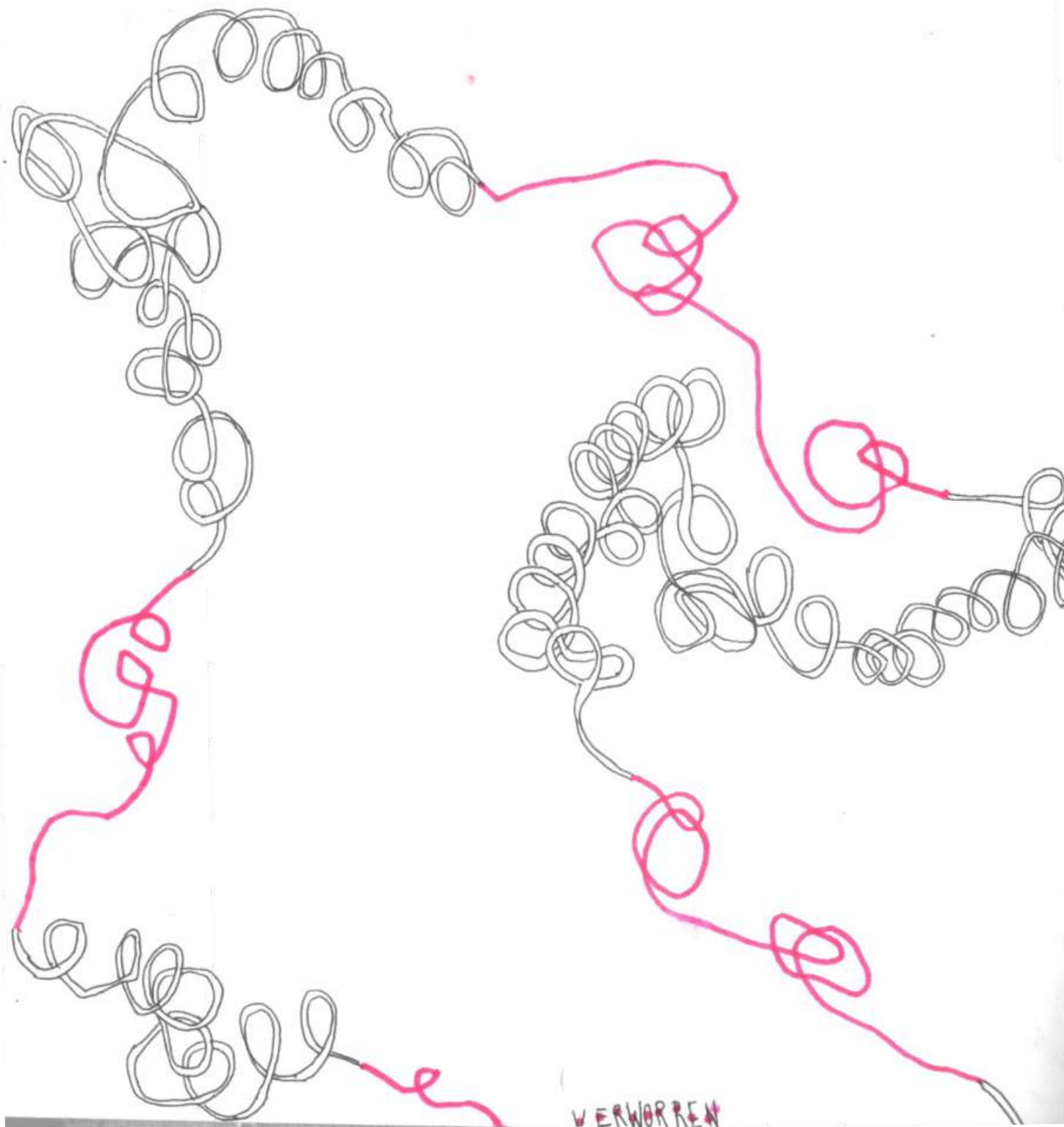
all those who are convinced that every human being should be free to move and have the right to choose where to live,

those who write poems that give goosebumps and find the strength to make struggle shine in such a discouraging context,

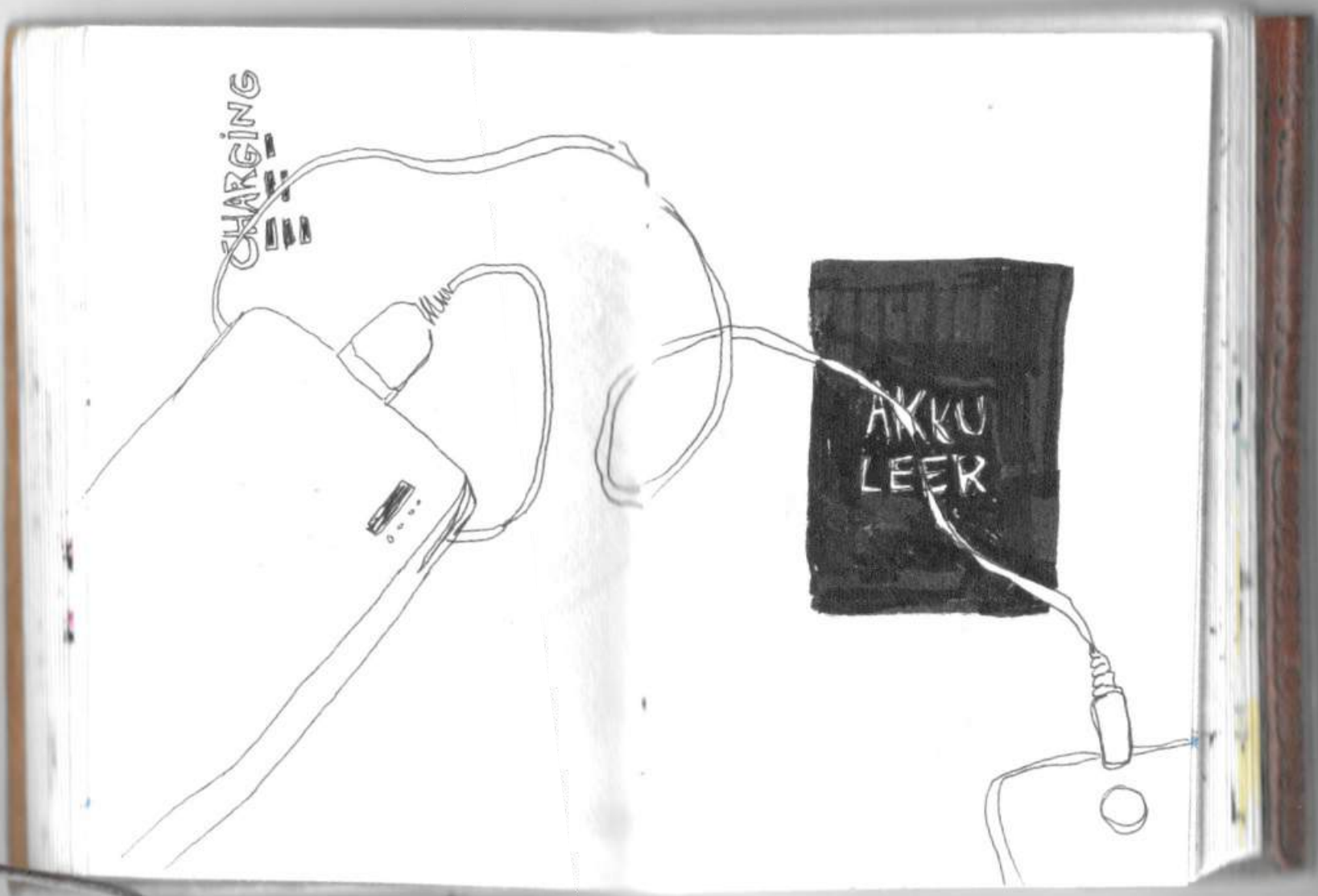
those who dance, sing, drink, laugh...

Those who, with each shift, remove a brick from a wall and add it to a bridge.

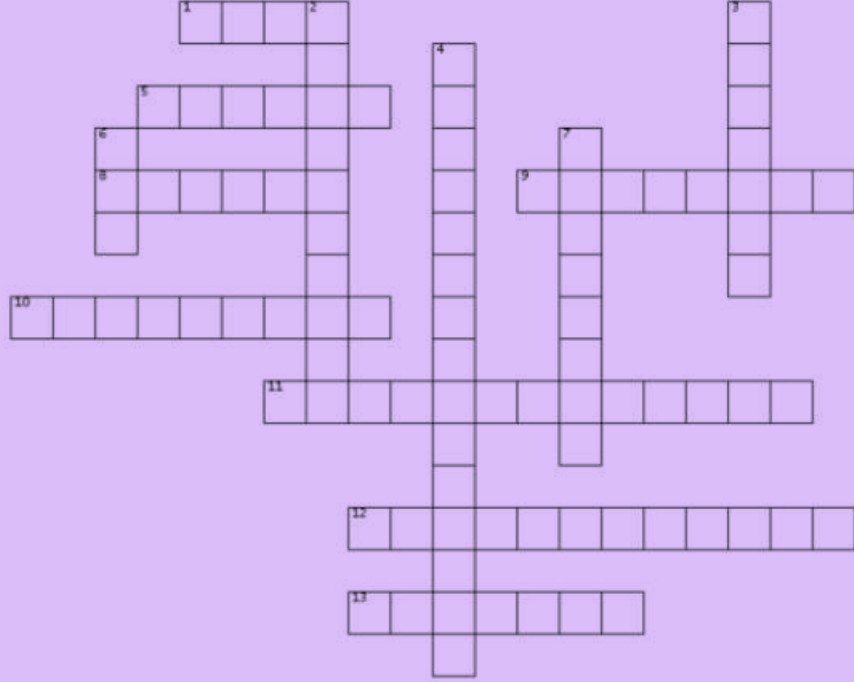




VERWORREN



Do you have a pen?



ACROSS

- (Bambara language) Victory. Celebratory call of West African migrants when they reach Europe.
- Common term for an inflatable rubber boat, term coming from the French brand which manufactures them. Starts with a Z.
- The grant, by a State, of protection on its territory to persons outside their country of nationality or habitual residence, who are fleeing persecution or serious harm or for other reasons.
- Illegal removal of migrants at sea (and land) from the destination state's territory to international waters or the territory of the state of departure or transit by forces of the destination state.
- The practice of holding migrants or asylum seekers in centers while their legal status is determined or prior to deportation.
- The process of reuniting family members who have been involuntarily separated through displacement.
- Stopping of migrants at sea within the territory of the state from which they left.
- The EU border agency with the highest budget. Created to prevent people from entering EU. Directly or indirectly participates in pushbacks and human rights violations.

DOWN

- a hotline for people in distress at sea, operating since 2014, 24/7
- satellite phone that can find and share a device's GPS position outside the normal phone coverage area.
- Policies where a country shifts its border controls or migration management to another country, often outside its own borders (e.g., EU outsourcing migration controls to North African countries).
- An acronym for Search and rescue
- illegal removal of migrants at sea from the destination state's territory

- Boza
- AlarmPhone
- Thuraya
- Externalizatio
- Zodiac
- SAR
- Frontex
- Asylum
- Pushback
- Detention
- Reunification
- Interception
- Frontex

CRISPY

CHILI OIL

A handy, versatile condiment to spice quick meals.

Add to rice, noodles, stir-fry tofu or veggies.

Ingredients:

- 1/2 bottle neutral oil (canola, sunflower, or vegetable oil)
- Lots of dry chili flakes (preferably Sichuan, seedless)
- Handful of chopped, roasted peanuts
- Handful of sesame seeds
- 3-4 star anise
- 1-2 cinnamon sticks
- 1-2 black cardamom pods (or regular cardamom)
- Finely sliced garlic
- 2 large slices ginger, chopped
- 2 large onions, quartered and thinly sliced
- A little soy sauce
- A little vinegar (preferably Chinese vinegar)

Optional:

Gochugaru chili flakes for extra kick and vibrant colour



1. INFUSE OIL

- Pour oil into a heavy-bottomed pot.
- Add cinnamon sticks, star anise, and cardamom (crush slightly to open)
- Heat on low until hot, then add ginger. Fry until ginger is golden and spices are sizzling.
- Remove from heat, let cool, and strain to remove spices and ginger.

2. PREPARE DRY MIX

- Place a metal bowl on a kitchen towel.
- Add chili flakes, sesame seeds, crushed peanuts, and sliced garlic. Mix well.
- Fry sliced onions in the infused oil until golden and crispy. Reserve the onions.

3. COMBINE

- Reheat the oil until almost smoking, then let cool for 5 minutes.
- Add a ladle of oil to the dry mix, stirring carefully (it should foam).
 - If no foam, reheat the oil.
- Continue adding oil one ladle at a time, mixing well each time.

4. FINISH

- Add 2 spoonfuls of Gochugaru, mix well.
- Add a couple of splashes of soy sauce and vinegar, mixing well.
- Stir in the crispy fried onions.
- Let cool, then pack into jars.



Adjust to taste and dietary needs—try cashews instead of peanuts, or omit sesame. Be playful and make it your own!

BRUNCH

FOCACCIA

Mix the flour and pinch of salt in a large bowl, then make a well in the center. In a separate bowl, mix the warm water with the yeast until the yeast has completely dissolved.

Now add the water to the flour, gradually mixing in the flour from the sides until a dough has formed. Dust the work surface with flour and knead the dough for at least 10 minutes until it is nice and smooth and no longer sticky.

- 500gr wheat flour
- pinch of salt
- 21gr fresh yeast
- 375ml warm water
- coarse sea salt
- 1 red bell pepper



Pour a little olive oil into a bowl, add the smooth dough, cover and leave to stand in a warm place for at least 30 minutes. The dough should double in size.

Preheat the oven to 225 degrees. Spread the focaccia dough out on a baking tray lined with baking paper and press out small hollows at regular intervals with your fingertips. If you like, you can cut a red bell pepper into small strips and press them lightly into the surface. Now drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with coarse salt. Place in the oven for 10-15 minutes until the focaccia is golden brown. Leave to cool and voila - great for brunch



SFOUF (TURMERIC CAKE)

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups of flour
 - 2 cups of semolina
 - 2 teaspoons baking powder
 - 1½ cups of sugar
 - bit of salt
 - 2-3 teaspoons turmeric powder
 - 1½ cups milk or oat milk
 - ½ cup of water
 - 1 cup sunflower seed oil
 - ½ teaspoons rose water
 - some tablespoons Tahini
- Optional: nuts for topping

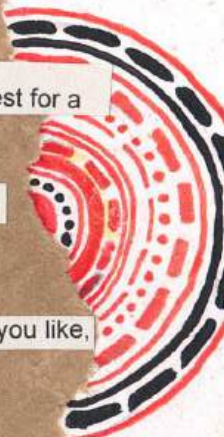
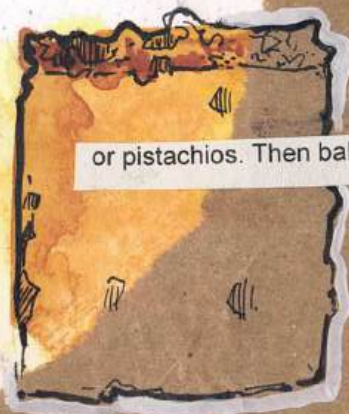
Mix all the dry ingredients together in a bowl,

then slowly add the milk, oil and water. Let it rest for a few minutes and preheat the oven to 180°.

Then take a baking tray and cover with a thin layer of tahini.

Spread the cake mix on top evenly and cover with nuts if you like, such as pine nuts, almonds

or pistachios. Then bake in the oven for about 25-30 minutes until golden.



FOUL MEDAMES

(FAVA BEANS)

traditionally eaten for breakfast, but can be served

any time.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1.8 cups dried fava beans
- 0.2 cup dried chickpeas (or 10% of the fava beans)
→ alternatively, use canned beans
- water (for soaking & cooking)
- 1/2 tsp sodium bicarbonate (optional)
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup lemon juice (about 2 lemons)
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- salt, to taste

- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- Ground cumin, to taste
- Chili flakes or chopped fresh chili, to taste
- 2 tomatoes, diced
- Assorted sour pickles
- Optional additions: radishes, olives, raw onion, fresh mint, cilantro, parsley, spring onions
- Pita bread, for serving



Instructions:

- 1. Soak Beans:**
 - Soak the fava beans and chickpeas in water overnight. Drain and rinse.
- 2. Cook Beans:**
 - In a large pot, cook the beans and chickpeas in fresh water. Add sodium bicarbonate if using. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to low, and simmer for 1.5 to 2 hours until tender. Add more water if needed and skim any foam.
- 3. - Drain the cooked beans and chickpeas, reserving some cooking liquid.**
- 4. Mash Beans:**
 - In a bowl, combine minced garlic, cooked beans, chickpeas, and a bit of the cooking liquid.
 - Mash to desired consistency. Add lemon juice gradually, tasting as you go.
- 5. Season:**
 - Add salt, black pepper, ground cumin, and chilli flakes (if using).
 - You can be playful and unorthodox and add crushed ginger, turmeric, some orange juice, etc.
- 6. Garnish and Serve:**
 - Transfer to a serving bowl. Garnish with parsley, diced tomatoes, and sliced green onions.
 - Drizzle with olive oil. Serve warm with Pita bread and assorted sour pickles.
 - Optional garnishes include radishes, olives, raw onion, fresh mint, cilantro, parsley, and spring onions.

VEGAN RHUBARB CAKE

Ingredients for the dough

- 280g flour
- 2 tea spoons baking powder
- 1/2 tea spoon salt
- 120g vegan butter
- 175g sugar
- 120g vegan yoghurt
- 120ml oat milk
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice

recipe:

1. cut the rhubarb in 0,5-1cm slices and pout 20g sugar on it, mix it in a bowl
2. mix all dry ingredients of the dough.
3. mix the vegan butter and sugar in an extra pot, then put the vegan yoghurt and oatmilk and lemonjuice in it

topping:

- 300g rhubarb
- 20g sugar
- + for later
- 50g vegan butter
- 100g almonds (slices)

4. mix the liquid part in the dry dough bowl. Dont mix too much.
5. put the dough in a cake tin which is whipped with vegan butter and put the rhubarb on top

6. then bake the cake for 30 min
7. put the 50g vegan butter and the sliced almonds in a pan and fry it a bit.
8. put the almond butter mix after 30min of baking on top of the cake and bake it for another 25 min.
9. done! enjoy!





Küfa 7.10
18''

in Schönehausen Eisenbahn
str 180

Spenden an alarmphone

bringt eure Familien &
alle Freund*innen mit

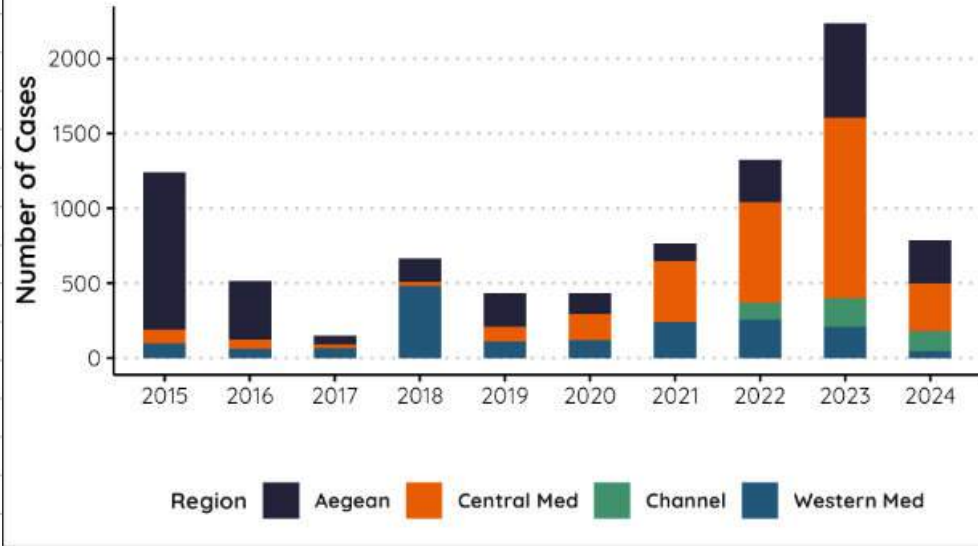


» SOMETIMES I HATE THIS WORLD
I SPIT FIRE ON IT
THEN
SOMETIMES ITS NICE ALSO

Alarm Phone Cases by Region

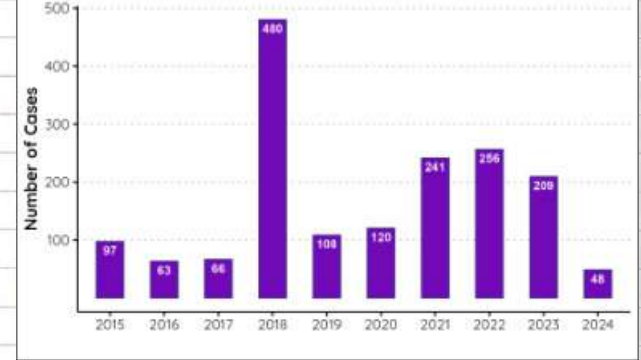
*Recorded Cases until End of June 2024

**Cases in the Balkans and Belarus are not included



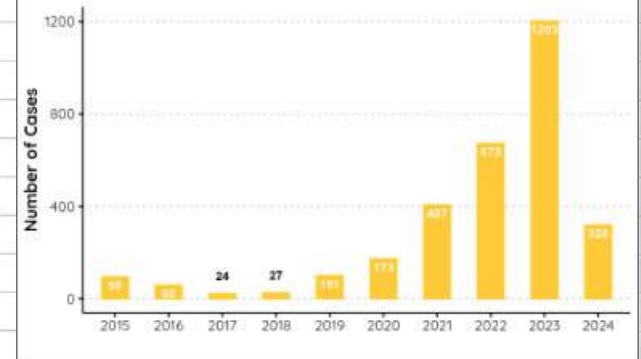
Cases in the Western Mediterranean

*Recorded Cases until End of June 2024



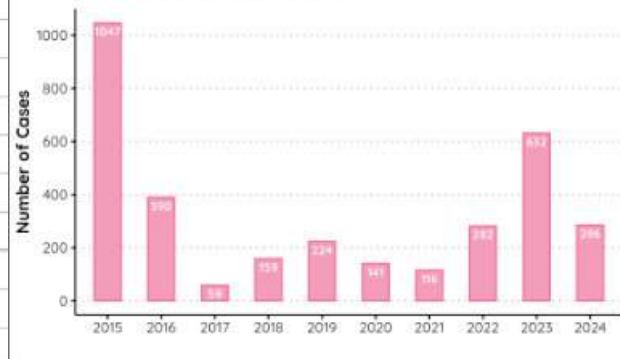
Cases in The Central Mediterranean

*Recorded Cases until End of June 2024



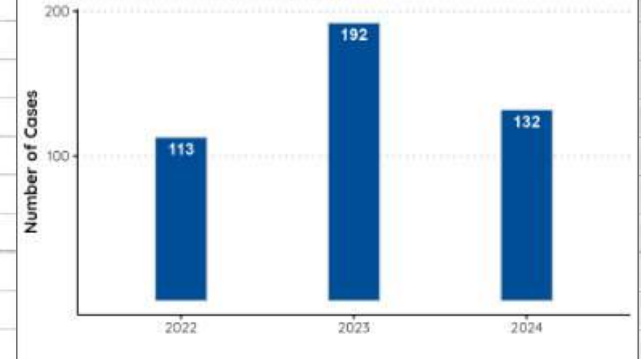
Cases in The Aegean Sea

*Recorded Cases until End of June 2024



Cases in the English Channel

*Recorded Cases until End of June 2024



إحصائيات STATISTICS

Watch the Med - Alarm Phone

+33 4 86 51 71 61

How does it work when people call us?

The Alarm Phone number can be used like a number of any call center. Even though it's always the same number that is being called, it is forwarded to the phone being used by the team on shift at that moment.



For phones within GSM coverage (Global System for Mobile Communications), for example between Turkey and Greece, people in distress can call the Alarm Phone number directly, like a normal international call. But whenever phones are too far from land, like deep at sea, they leave the area of GSM coverage and satellite phones are people's only option.

Satellite phones cost ca. 1000 € or more, and are considered "terrorist technology" in some countries, making them illegal. However, they are essential in making the journey a little safer when there's no other way to communicate a GPS position.

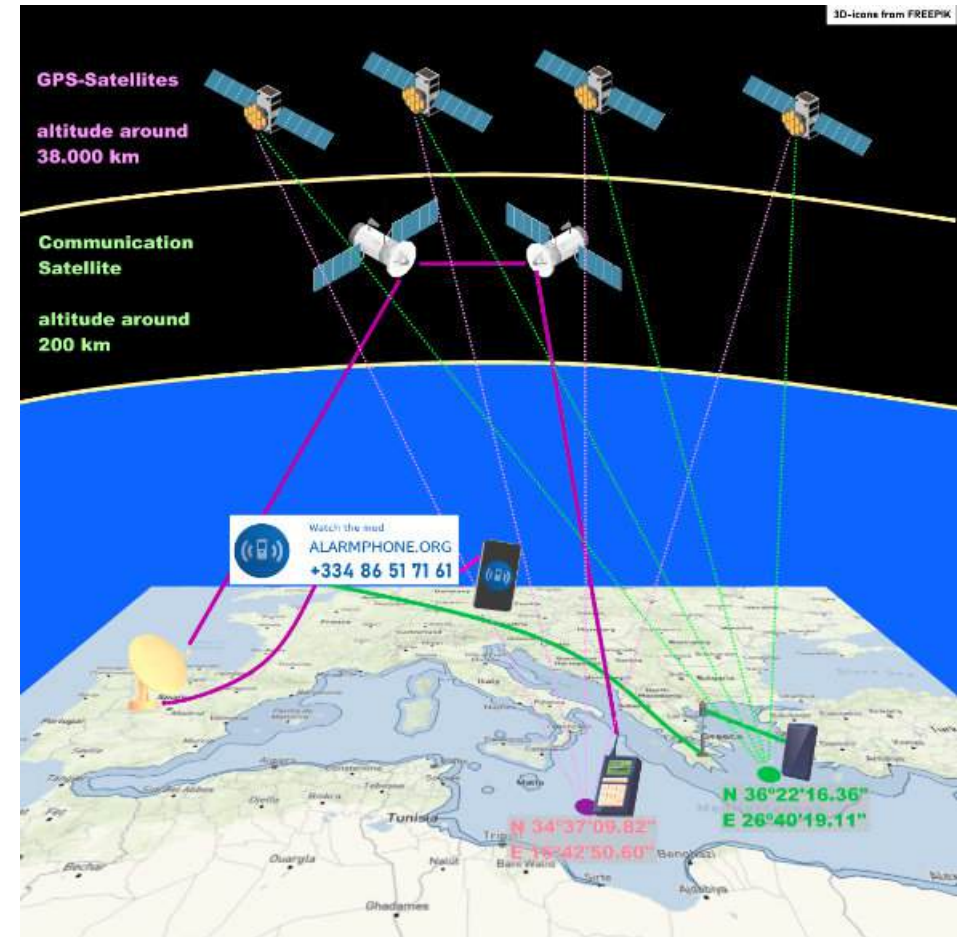
When using a satellite phone, known as Thuraya, it is important to point it towards the nearest satellite (for people calling us it's roughly the same direction as Mecca.) The signal from the satellite phone is transmitted directly to the closest satellite, forwarding the signal to the nearest gateway, or land-based center. Here it is transmitted to the Alarm Phone number and forwarded to the current shift.



Five satellites are used to triangulate a device's exact geolocation. This is how the coordinates are calculated. It's theoretically possible to calculate the location to the precision of a one-centimeter margin, but to protect military information, the timestamps of the satellites are manipulated. So the position is calculated with an error-margin of some meters.

The European coastguards can request access to the data of satellite phone companies, and because they can, we sometimes ask them to locate the position of a phone after we've lost contact with a boat in distress. More often than not, they do not comply.

+33 4 86 51 71 61



Supporting birth



As Alarm Phone we have several times assisted boats where pregnant people have gone into labour. The following is practical advice on how to support childbirth on a boat with nothing but what you have to hand.

When the baby comes

- ✿ When the woman starts spontaneously pushing during contractions, prepare for the baby to come.
- ✿ When the head is born, wait for the next contraction.
- ✿ When shoulders become visible, place two fingers in the baby's armpits and gently pull it out.
- ✿ If shoulders do not become visible, gently pull the head towards the woman's anus while she pushes. If still nothing happens, try a different position, like a half squat.
- ✿ When the baby is out, place it on the mother's chest skin to skin and wrap something warm around them both.

- ✿ If the baby does not scream immediately, rub its back hard with the warm, dry cloth.
- ✿ Keep stimulating the baby until it has screamed and has some tension in arms and legs.

During labour

- ♥ The woman* needs support from people she feels safe with. If there is someone with medical experience onboard, they should stay close to the woman as well.
- ♥ Help her find a position where she is comfortable. Maybe all four or on her knees, leaning over a helper.
- ♥ Guide her to a deep, relaxed breathing, reassure her, encourage her to follow her body.
- ♥ Encourage her to drink water and eat or drink something with sugar.
- ♥ Make sure she is wearing comfortable, dry clothes.
- ♥ Put a piece of clothes (a t-shirt, scarf) under the shirt of a helper to have something warm to wrap the baby in. Ideally, prepare several warm pieces, so they can be changed.

on a boat

Bleeding

- ♦ Always keep the mother warm.
- ♦ After the baby is born, the placenta needs to be born.
- ♦ If you suddenly see an increased amount of blood coming out of the vagina, feel if the placenta is loose by tugging on the umbilical cord. If the placenta is loose, you can pull it out. If not, wait a little longer while monitoring the bleeding.
- ♦ If the bleeding continues but the placenta does not come out, try getting the mother to squat while tugging gently on the cord again.
- ♦ Try to latch on the baby as soon as possible. If the mother does not have experience with this herself, ask a woman who has breastfed before to help. Stimulating the nipples helps decrease bleeding, so the mother can stimulate her other nipple with her hand.
- ♦ If there is a lot of bleeding and the mother is feeling unwell, position her flat on her back, feel for the uterus around her belly button and apply a firm pressure downwards. Keep your hand on the uterus, massaging it hard, until bleeding decreases.
- ♦ Encourage her to drink and pee if she can.

The baby

- ♦ Place the baby skin to skin with the mother with warm, dry clothes or blankets around them both.
- ♦ Leave the placenta attached to the baby.
- ♦ Try to make the baby feed at the breast as soon as possible. A woman who has breastfed before can help.
- ♦ If it is not possible for the woman to keep the baby skin to skin, place it skin to skin with another person.
- ♦ If another woman on the boat is currently breastfeeding, the baby can be offered some of her milk to help it get energy.

When you have been rescued, mother and baby should be transferred to a hospital as soon as possible to do further examinations.

After the baby is born



*In this text we have used the word woman/mother, to make the text short and easy to understand. We recognise that not everyone experiencing pregnancy and childbirth identifies as a woman.

Selon vous, quelle est la particularité du réseau Alarm Phone ?

Ce que je trouve formidable dans le réseau, c'est son organisation, et le partage horizontal des responsabilités

Quel est votre meilleur souvenir d'Alarmphone ?

Le partage, les rencontres et les échanges lors de la rencontre de Phes

Comment prendre soin de soi après une période de travail stressante ?

Pour moi je préconise la tranquillité, se retrouver avec sois même, respirer

Quels sont, selon vous, les sujets difficiles dans le réseau Alarm Phone ?

Je pense que ce sont les questions relatives au genre, de minorités

Racontez-nous un souvenir amusant d'une mission (avec la PdB, la PC ou les garde-côtes, etc.)

Cela concerne les personnes qui font du Shift

Avez-vous des rituels que vous pratiquez avant ou après une garde ?

Je ne pratique pas encore de garde

En quoi le fait d'être dans l'Alarm Phone a-t-il changé votre point de vue sur la politique, les frontières, l'UE et la mer ?

J'ai beaucoup appris sur la politique des frontières, surtout le fait que ces politiques sont cruelles, et que le laissez mourir ne dérangeait pas grand monde pour

Qu'est-ce qui vous permet de continuer à vivre malgré le caractère de plus en plus merdique du régime frontalier ?

L'espoir malgré tout, l'espoir en un monde meilleur, l'espoir en l'humain



A queer perspective on our work in Alarm Phone

10 years of Alarm Phone have sharpened our perception of changing migration routes, the ongoing European externalization efforts and the transformations the border regime undergoes. But 10 years of Alarm Phone also mean changes within our network and our own transformation process; people join and others drop out, we learn collectively from our mistakes and apply new practices. We are not the same network we were ten or even five years ago.

Some of these changes are subtle and others are more obvious. When we come together as Alarm Phone network twice a year in person we now often also have reflections on gender dynamics within our network, something that we didn't use to do some years ago. We started to organize as queer people in the network and exchange our experiences. We now use the gender-neutral "Dear officer on duty" when we address emails to authorities instead of starting them with "Dear Sir / Madam" like we used to do.

"When I make a call to a coast guard, European or non-European, it sometimes happens that the officer answers the phone with "Hello, Sir", automatically assuming I am a man. Once they hear my voice, they switch to "madam", but in doing so, still misgender me."

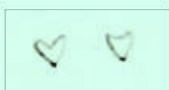
There is shockingly little we know about queer people on the move in relation to Alarm Phone work. We tend to note the gender

composition of the people on a boat, because it is one of the few ways we can match information about arrivals or shipwrecks when authorities meet our requests for information with silence. But how often do we get it wrong because we only speak of "men, women and children"? How many TIN¹ persons are invisibilized and absent from our documentation? Well, pretty much all of them. And on the rare occasions when it happens that we know we are talking to a trans person, we are confronted with the particular violence gender-queer people face in migration:

"It was seven in the morning. We were contacted by two Syrian people who had arrived on a Greek island. One of them told me her name was A. and she was a trans woman. She wanted to apply for asylum, but was afraid of police violence.

In order to avoid the high risk of pushbacks when people arrive on the Greek islands, one of Alarm Phone's strategies is to send an e-mail to the authorities, the UNHCR and local organizations with people's names, birthdays and nationalities as proof of the person's presence and willingness to apply for asylum. But in this case, we weren't sure what to do. Which first name should be included in the e-mail to the authorities? Should it be the person's administrative name, as registered in her documents, or her real name, the one she uses? How can we best reduce the risk of police violence in her case? And how would it affect her future asylum claim as a trans person if we give her official name?

It's weird, because many of these questions I ask myself every day: how to juggle first names, how to deal with the administration and repression as a trans person. I'm part of a strong community that's doing all kinds of fantastic things to



deal with these issues together. But in this situation, I felt we are lacking resources, because these questions are almost never asked in our Alarm Phone work. When you're not used to asking questions, you don't have the answers. And I'm sure that the more we will face these questions, the more we'll have answers and strategies to share."

Queer people who are already affected by discrimination and homophobic or transphobic violence in their home countries, face increased challenges along the often exploitative migration routes, where medical care is difficult and sexualized violence frequent. Also after arriving in Europe, institutional queerphobia, degrading remarks from authorities or disadvantages when failing to conform to stereotypical expectations around gender and queerness regarding asylum claims are common documented experiences². In everyday life, queer people living in isolated camps in the countryside upon arrival in Europe are often confronted with a lack of adequate services, intersectional discrimination and feelings of loneliness. In response to people reaching out to us with these issues, the network Queers Against Borders³ was founded, a group of queer people in Europe who try to connect LGBTQIA+ people on the move in need of support with local contacts.

A testimony from our comrade from the Nadir, a sailing vessel monitoring the Mediterranean and supporting people in distress between Tunisia and Lampedusa, shows the ambiguity of Europe as a queer refuge:

"I remember when we found a boat that was in a very precarious state and could sink any moment. As we helped the people in distress onto our sailing vessel, one of the passengers, Ahmed, saw the queer flag flying on our boat and exclaimed "oh, this is a welcoming boat for queer people; we're a whole group of

homosexuals fleeing discrimination and violence in Tunisia and before that in our home countries. It's wonderful, happy pride everybody!" After a little rest and food, many people were smiling and seemed to feel confident; couples revealed themselves and were kissing. We had a long chat with Ahmed, who told me that he wanted to go to the Netherlands and work as a hairdresser.

After disembarkation, life in the transit centers in Italy was not easy for Ahmed, but he was hanging in there. He alerted us to the violence suffered by friends of his in another accommodation center because of their homosexuality. I contacted people from the exile solidarity network. These people went to the center, made some noise and let it be known that they were aware of the human rights violations in the center, and the violence calmed down. A few weeks later, Ahmed had arrived in the Netherlands. Now I'm waiting to hear from him so I can go and get my hair cut there!"



It is encounters like these that reveal what is often hidden, that show stories and identities that are absent from our statistics, despite all the monitoring and documenting we do. But if nationalism promotes the idea of a masculine and patriarchal state whose mandate is to protect the purity of the (feminized) nation, then queering the border means overcoming it. In this sense, we can think of our trans-border struggle for freedom of movement and a world without borders as a queer practice.

1. *Trans, inter and non-binary*

2. <https://www.refworld.org/reference/themreport/vuu/2011/en/83496>

3. <https://linktr.ee/queersagainstborders>



In memory of Elli.



Hey!
I hope you could sleep this night and have some rest! Could you get some distance to the very busy and heavy shift? 12:57

Hi my dear. Buff, it was a rough night. I couldn't sleep at first, but then I crashed. How are you? Did you manage to sleep? 12:59

yes I slept okay, but still feel heavy. 13:00

but there is good news! 13:00

I just checked the log now for the Central Med case with the 45 people on board the case which left Zuwara already 2 days ago... And they arrived to Lampedusa!!! 13:01

this is such good news!!!! I need this. I was too scared to check the log. Yesterday's shift was really hard.

I cried at night and I was feeling so angry

Thank you!! This really changed my mood! 13:04

yes I am also so relieved that they made it after all of this. I was scared too and now happy that I checked to find out at least this good news in all this shit, especially the Evros cases which last since 2 weeks...uff.

I send you a big hug!! 13:07

Sending you a big hug, and thank you for checking, and letting me know.
And hey, if later you don't feel so good, please contact me. Maybe we can go for a walk, or meet for a quick hug. I am here 13:09

You too!! I am there for you too!
Lets catch up later, I need to go to work now but will call you later, would love to have a walk. yes! 13:12

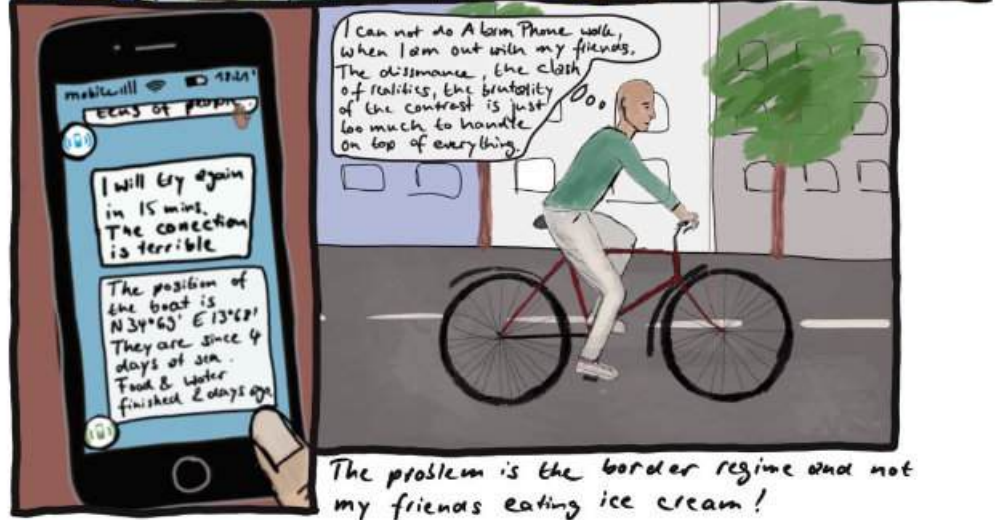
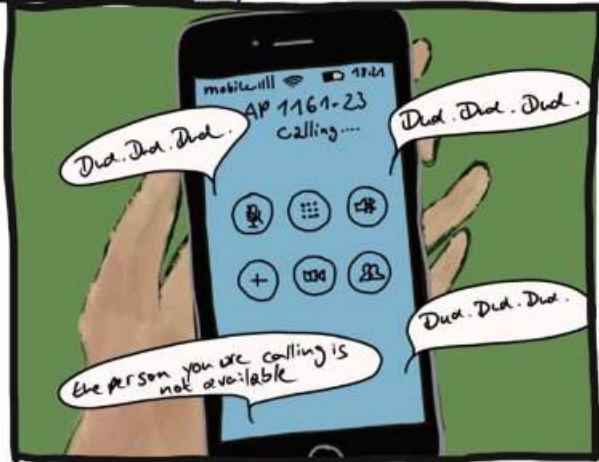
The contrast - too strong too horrible in daily life



It was a lovely & sunny afternoon



I thought it will be a quick phone call -1-



The problem is the border regime and not my friends eating ice cream!

Navigating Contradictions

Already when writing the introduction and why the Alarm Phone was created we stumble over the first dilemma:

the purpose of the emergency hotline was created to bear witness, document, put public pressure and multiply voices so that European coastguards go out to rescue people in distress, as they are supposed to.

I cannot read this sentence without tensing up on the inside. I don't want to speak of "rescue" when it is the only decent thing to do for European authorities after their governments spent hundreds of millions of euros on creating the very conditions that make people risk their lives at sea in the first place, as they keep blocking all other avenues. Speaking of "rescue" makes you sound like the "good guy", a hero even, yet there is nothing heroic in the way European politicians use people on the move to push their racist and imperialist narratives. The subtle or not-so-subtle ways European identity constructs itself as innocent / good / white vis-à-vis a non-white / criminal / illegal Other have a long-standing tradition in European history and have been elegantly described and called out by people such as Frantz Fanon, Grada Kilomba and Gloria Wekker.

Even during the colonial era, when enslaved people had

to endure systematic violence, oppression and humiliation not to mention countless atrocities imposed on them by white settlers, European narratives insisted on portraying diverse colonized communities and civilizations as criminals, aggressive or dangerous, in an act of enormous collective denial. It's difficult to explain this insane twist of reality other than in psychological terms, such as repression, a concept that refers to the process of shutting out an aspect of reality from consciousness in order to protect the self. In light of countless genocides and the transatlantic slave trade, how else could you successfully portray white people as innocent and Black people as aggressive?

In our work we often face situations that make us feel helpless. What shall we do when people call us and the boat has no option to continue, because the engine is broken, for example? When we know that the coast guard, whose official duty it is to bring people to safety, will beat them up, imprison them and put them on a life raft back to where they left from? It feels terrible that often the only options we can outline for the people on board to choose from are so violent that some respond that they would prefer to die at sea. When there is no good option to choose from, it becomes apparent that the system is rigged against us.

It feels weird to insist on the responsibility of European state actors, because people crossed an imaginary line into a different Search And Rescue zone at sea that is now on the European side. Here, the border is supposed to protect them from being forced back to their place of departure. We are against borders, but

at the same time in order to support people in a specific situation, we find ourselves appealing to a framework we don't believe in, because it is one of the few strategies we can leverage against the violence otherwise committed.

The white media loves showing people in vulnerable situations, but they don't show the European crimes that violate people's rights through illegal pushbacks, nor do they talk about the European money that goes into funding paramilitary groups or destabilizing governments abroad, or the consequences of Western companies extracting natural resources - all factors that contribute to people having to leave their place of residence. It's like on this side of the border, they only show the last few scenes of a movie without allowing the audience to understand how a situation came to be. In the "deleted scenes" of this movie we can also find what comes afterwards: people being imprisoned upon arrival, falsely accused of smuggling, humiliated, exploited on the fields, forcefully deported. What is also not shown is how people make friends, take on local responsibilities, make someone else's day brighter, and are important for their loved ones. Instead, we hear questions about why people don't choose legal ways or why they don't just settle in the first country of arrival. These questions are ignorant, entitled and pointless. They stem from a lack of knowledge about the impossibility of visa procedures and they show a lack of reflection about one's own life and choices. I take it for granted that I can freely choose my own life, and frankly, everyone should be able to do that.

Why would you deny the same to others?

What makes you better or more deserving than them?

The arrogance is astounding. It's called white supremacy.



Selon vous, quelle est la particularité du réseau Alarm Phone ?

La particularité déjà d'être dans le réseau à l'enfoncé déjà, c'est l'assistance, l'accompagnement. C'est la particularité de l'accompagnement pour la lutte et pour la liberté de circulation.

L'effet d'être dans l'Alarm Phone déjà, c'est le militantisme. L'accompagnement pour les personnes, et le regroupement aussi des amis qui sont de différentes régions, qui luttent pour les causes des frontières. Et ces amis qui sont des militants, des militants d'hommes bénévoles, qui ont tout un tas d'énergie de toujours lutter, de toujours créer des idées, de toujours créer des solutions.

De trouver des moments de regroupement où nous pouvons discuter. Tout ça, c'est ça qui a ramené vraiment tout ce qu'est l'effet d'être dans l'alarme faute. Déjà, c'est la lutte des frontières à la mer, la Méditerranée.

L'accompagnement des personnes, l'assistance des personnes dans les difficultés, dans les circonstances.

C'est tout ça qui donne vraiment beaucoup d'efforts et beaucoup de motivation, toujours, d'être à l'alarme faute. Merci. Il y a aussi des questions toujours, qu'il faut que je réponde à toutes les questions.

Avez-vous des rituels que vous pratiquez avant ou après une garde ?

C'est que nous avons pratiquement, nous n'avons pas de rituels que nous faisons, mais nous savons que tous les migrants parfois qui traversent la Méditerranée, il y a un être suprême qui a créé cette eau, qui a mis cette eau là. Et on sait que cet être suprême qui est là, parce que nous avons trouvé des choses dans ce monde, qui est quoi ? Comme moi, il y a la terre, il y a le ciel, il y a tout ce qui est embelli sur cette terre. Sur la terre, il y a la mer, il y a l'océan, il y a la nature. Et au ciel, il y a le soleil, il y a la lune, il y a les étoiles. Il y a beaucoup de choses dans ce monde que nous avons trouvées. Raison pour laquelle, quand des personnes traversent parfois dans des circonstances difficiles, on essaie de demander à toutes ces personnes qui ont eu à créer tout cela, parce que ce qui a été créé, que nous avons trouvé, on sait qu'il y a un être suprême. Mais nous la donnerons toujours dans le cœur et en esprit, pour essayer de voir si des solutions, qu'est-ce qu'on peut arriver. Mais déjà, on sait que nous ne faisons

pas de rituels, mais nous savons qu'il y a un être suprême qui est là, qui a créé tout ce truc qu'aujourd'hui beaucoup de personnes trouvent difficile, le risque de vie, pourquoi ? On sait qu'il y a quelqu'un suprême qui a eu à le mettre sur cette terre.

Il y a un esprit suprême, pas quelqu'un, mais un esprit suprême qui a eu à créer ces choses qui sont dans ce monde.

Racontez-nous un souvenir qui vous inspire.

Pour des souvenirs qui m'inspirent, qui m'ont inspiré jusqu'à aujourd'hui déjà, c'est d'abord un, c'est vivre dans la forêt, vivre dans la forêt déjà, dès mon arrivée dans ce pays jusqu'à présent, rester des années dans la forêt, c'est vraiment un très grand souvenir qui ne sera jamais oublié. Et le deuxième souvenir aussi, qui ne sera jamais oublié, c'est des refoulements, des refoulements que j'ai eu à faire, aussi les refoulements que j'ai faits, qui m'ont beaucoup donné une très grande notion de pratiquer toute l'énergie, d'avoir une force morale de marche, ne jamais être découragé quand tu te fais refouler, parce que tu sais déjà que tu auras plus de 4 à 5 jours pour faire le retour pendant la marche, déjà tout ça, c'est ça qui m'a donné vraiment une inspiration, vraiment de rester toujours là jusqu'à présent. Et aussi déjà, encore un autre souvenir, déjà c'est plein de traversées que j'ai faits, déjà au niveau de Médellin, donc j'ai eu beaucoup de rejets, beaucoup de rejets, me voir devant les autorités espagnoles et puis me retrouver encore côté marocain, tout ça, ça m'a donné certains souvenirs, déjà qu'est-ce que tu peux arriver du côté territoire européen, est-ce que tu pourras encore être dehors, bon c'est des souvenirs que nous avons vécus, quand on disait que dès que tu entres déjà, que tu as traversé le goudron de Médellin, tu es obligé d'être assisté par le camp, et raison pour laquelle déjà, il n'y avait pas vraiment cette assistance, déjà que ça m'a donné certains souvenirs, que j'ai été attrapé dans les mains de la guardia, ils m'ont remis au Maroc, mais j'étais au Follement, déjà c'est des souvenirs qui sont restés à moi moralement et mentale, donc c'est des points essentiels déjà, c'est des souvenirs qui me tiennent au corps, et aussi voir des enfants qui naissent dans la forêt, des femmes qui viennent, des femmes qui marchent, des femmes dont beaucoup tout ça, c'est des souvenirs qui m'ont marqué, de voir des personnes qui luttent pour nos souffrances, des femmes qui se font refouler, des enfants qui se font refouler, c'est vraiment des souvenirs qui m'ont beaucoup marqué, qui m'ont beaucoup toujours donné une vision et une très grande énergie, de toujours persévérer à ma lutte.

Quels sont, selon vous, les sujets difficiles dans le réseau Alarm Phone ?

Le premier, c'est le sujet du visa, qui est vraiment très très difficile, et toujours, on cherche toujours des solutions, et qui est vraiment difficile, qu'il n'y a pas la liberté pour tout un chacun, que certains peut-être peuvent avoir la chance, et certains n'ont pas, même si c'est ce qu'ils ont approuvé, tous les documents qu'il faut, ils n'ont pas, c'est vraiment un sujet très difficile, et auquel il faudra vraiment chercher, à trouver vraiment une stratégie, une vraie solution, comment est-ce que faire pour que certaines personnes luttant pour la liberté de circulation puissent avoir certaines libertés, et c'est vraiment un sujet très difficile.

Et le deuxième sujet, aussi vraiment qui est très difficile, c'est comment est-ce que gérer des finances dans différentes régions. Là aussi déjà, gérer ces finances, certaines personnes peut-être ne connaissent pas les critères vraiment, comment est-ce que dépenser l'argent dans le groupe à l'enfant, et quels sont les types de dépenses qu'on pourrait faire avec l'argent gagné dans le réseau à l'enfant. Et c'est un sujet aussi que certaines personnes n'ont pas vraiment cette vision, comment est-ce qu'on peut gérer ça, ou comment est-ce qu'on gère les finances à propos de ça. Et ça ramène parfois des idées, à certaines personnes qui disent qu'il y a des choix, ou qu'il n'y a pas de choix, vu que non, le réseau peut avoir une somme d'argent qui est là déposée, mais c'est assez subjectif, et qu'on demande parfois de prouver, cette compréhension ramène que parfois, au niveau de ce sujet, c'est souvent difficile de pouvoir équilibrer des idées et des connaissances de certaines personnes. Parfois c'est un sujet un peu très difficile à débattre.

Comment prendre soin de soi après une période de travail stressante ?

Alors déjà pour la question numéro 4, déjà au fond de comment prendre soin de moi, après une période de travail stressant, déjà comment je prends soin de moi pendant une période de travail stressant, c'est d'abord de me retirer de la forêt, et voir comment je peux me déplacer dans des villes peut-être proches où je pourrais me retrouver dans une maison où je serais toute seule, et voir comment poser la tête et mieux réfléchir à tout ce qui est là comme des trucs stressants.

Et là parfois c'est le moment, déjà quand je me trouve seul, j'essaie un peu d'équilibrer mon moral et mon esprit pour ce qui me frusque, parce que parfois déjà quand je me vois trop stressé, trop frustrant, il faudrait un peu que je me trouve où je pourrais rester toute seule, avoir un peu de l'esprit, ou parfois ça, si je ne suis pas à la maison, c'est de regarder une colline ou une montagne où je pourrais me mettre là-bas avec ma tente et de libérer ma tête, parce que quand je suis toute seule, j'essaie un peu de libérer tout ce qui est stressant pour pouvoir avoir un moral très haut, et aussi parce qu'il ne faut jamais avoir le moral stressé, de peur que tu peux avoir une veine qui peut lâcher avec les circonstances qui se passent et ce que nous vivons. Ce n'est pas possible d'affaiblir son moral. Surtout moi, quand ce moment déjà peut arriver, j'essaie un peu de me loigner pour réfléchir à tout ce qui est en train de me stresser.

Donc c'est là parce que j'ai trouvé la solution avant de revenir pour essayer de partager l'idée de ce qui est venu en moi quand j'étais toute seule, et par là pour trouver aussi si je pourrais avoir d'autres solutions à ce stress

Quel est votre meilleur souvenir d'Alarmphone ?

Bon, moi déjà, j'ai trois souvenirs d'Alarm Phone qui me tiennent vraiment du cœur. Le premier souvenir d'abord, c'est la date du 6 février qui a été donnée par toutes ces personnes qui étaient là. C'est un de mes premiers grands souvenirs par toutes ces personnes qui étaient là et ont payé un euro, et tous ces groupes qui étaient là vraiment.

Pour cette date du 6 février qui a été vraiment un moment où j'ai perdu des personnes plus chères, des amis trop chers, des amis que nous dormons tous ensemble à la même journée, c'est perdu. Et de voir vraiment cette date qui est vraiment honorée aujourd'hui, c'est vraiment un très grand souvenir pour toutes ces personnes qui ont perdu la vie et qui perdent toujours la vie dans les frontières. C'est l'un de mes meilleurs souvenirs pour moi d'Alain Faune.

Et le deuxième souvenir, c'est la commémoration devant le consulat d'Espagne à Rabat, qui était l'une des grandes commémorations qui s'est passées dans le groupe Alain Faune, qui était vraiment un moment de cri, de motivation, avec plein d'énergie. Ce jour, c'était vraiment un moment qui est resté vraiment historique pour moi. C'est un des moments de grands souvenirs pour moi.

C'est un des jours de grands souvenirs vraiment pour moi. Et le troisième aussi déjà que je vais dire, qui est très

simple et aussi qui est là, c'est le nom de la Main sur le Cœur, qui est là déjà que la plupart des personnes du réseau ont aujourd'hui. Et avec ce slogan de la Main sur le Cœur, déjà aussi c'est l'un des souvenirs pour moi que, dans le groupe vraiment, ça me fait vraiment, que toutes ces personnes qui ont pu vraiment se prendre et qui ont pu se coudre avec moi, je sais que l'on y a une pensée en moi, parce que cette Main sur le Cœur, c'est pas seulement dans le réseau, c'est aussi déjà même dans la forêt, c'était un slogan pour moi qui était vraiment marqué, et vraiment dans le groupe encore vraiment.

Et aujourd'hui, j'ai plus de personnes venant du côté de l'Europe, vraiment toujours, même dans les messages, depuis mon ons, dans tous les messages que je reçois, j'ai vraiment cet amour, et c'est vraiment calé pour moi comme un bon souvenir, la Main sur le Cœur.

Qu'est-ce qui vous permet de continuer à vivre malgré le caractère de plus en plus merdique du régime frontalier ?

Bon, pour la question numéro 5, qu'est-ce qui vous permet de continuer à vivre, malgré le caractère de plus en plus médical du régime frontal ? Bon, ce qui me permet déjà à continuer toujours à vivre cela, vu que le régime, c'est au fur et à mesure, dans des années, des jours, des choses changent, et ce qui m'a motivé toujours à continuer à vivre, vu que dans mon arrivée dans ce pays déjà, j'ai été choisi, j'ai choisi une zone déjà, parce que je cherchais à traverser pour aller pour une liberté de circulation, du côté de l'Europe, et par là aussi déjà, j'ai pas eu la chance, comme on dit, et aussi je dis toujours que la chance parfois n'existe même pas, et ce qui me motive toujours à rester, c'est le temps, le temps déjà que j'ai fait, parce que déjà au fur et à mesure, le temps que j'ai été, ce n'était pas facile déjà, le premier temps que j'ai été, ma première fois dans ce pays, ce n'était pas facile de voir l'immigrant marcher dans les villes, dans les villes, dans les voies et dans les bus, et on faisait toujours la marche à pied, et ça nous a donné une certaine énergie, de se marcher à pied, de nous cultiver à une certaine leçon, de la façon que le pays nous montre, et pour laquelle déjà cette cultivation vient de la marche, et toujours que je la reprends comme une passion, parce qu'avant, la logique était que la marche doit être une passion, parce que déjà si tu ne mets pas la marche comme une passion pour toi, tu ne seras pas quelqu'un qui pourra rester longtemps au Maroc, donc la raison pour laquelle cette notion de la marche est une passion, m'a donné une motivation jusqu'à aujourd'hui, à toujours marcher, c'est ça qui m'a donné plein d'énergie, d'être toujours dans la lutte, dans les différentes luttes, dans les différentes assistances, dans les différentes façons de voir plein de choses, et déjà c'est ça qui m'a donné vraiment, et qui me motive toujours, dans l'ancien régime qui est vraiment difficile, mais on est obligé de

le faire, parce que nous sommes déjà habitués, surtout moi je suis déjà habitué de le faire, raison pour laquelle je ne sais pas que je n'ai pas besoin d'une vie, mais déjà je sais que je suis dans une prison qui est ouverte, mais il faudrait vraiment s'évader. Comment est-ce que s'évader ? C'est ça, cette évasion qui est là, c'est cette barrière frontale, des frontières qui bloquent des conventions, qui bloquent beaucoup de personnes qui viennent pour la liberté des situations, qui cherchent à traverser, pensant qu'il y a une vie plus meilleure, et c'est ça vraiment, toutes ces motivations, que je vois que même des personnes qui sont restées, et qui sont parties, et sont toujours là, même étant en Europe, et toujours pure, et toujours dans la même situation, disant que c'est plus pire, disant que c'est plus pire, c'est ça qui donne la motivation que parfois, des souffrances ont chaque personne à sa façon de souffrir. Il y a des gens qui souffrent mentalement, il y a des gens qui souffrent de maladies, il y a des gens qui souffrent de stress, il y a des gens qui souffrent dans l'immigration, on trouve tout.

Raison pour laquelle dans tout ça, dans toutes ces visions, dans toutes ces actions, dans tous ces moments de vie, avec toutes ces personnes, tout m'encourage à moi, de toujours être présent, de toujours être assisté, c'est ça qui m'a donné cette motivation, et cette énergie, de ne pas regarder l'enregistrement frontalier, qui est là, pour essayer de baisser les bras, parce que déjà en baissant les bras, tu vas entrer dans un moment de stress, et quand tu vis dans un pays en tant qu'immigrant, il n'y a pas de famille, maman n'est pas là, papa n'est pas là, tu saches que tu es obligé de te créer de nouvelles familles, de nouveaux amis, de nouveaux mamans, de nouveaux frères, de nouveaux soeurs, pour pouvoir avoir le soutien moral, dans le moment, des personnes qui sont avec toi, dans des périodes difficiles. Pour la question 5, j'ai beaucoup parlé, mais il y a aussi des choses à souligner, ou là, qu'il y a toujours des questions, dans toutes mes questions que je revois, qui sont toujours disponibles. Merci.

Ce que je voulais partager encore, par rapport à la 10ème question, c'était une félicitation seulement, pour toutes les personnes dans le réseau Alamphone, et pour toutes les personnes qui luttent aussi, pour l'assistance et pour l'accompagnement des personnes migrants, et aussi pour le combat, pour la liberté de circulation. Donc, c'est juste déjà, remercier vraiment toutes les personnes militantes, vraiment très volontaires, tous ces militants dans le groupe Alamphone, qui sont volontaires, et c'est le volontariat qui donne beaucoup d'énergie et beaucoup de motivation, à toutes les personnes qui sont dans le réseau Alamphone, qui sont vraiment motivées et déterminées. Déjà, c'est beaucoup de félicitations, déjà à tout le réseau, et félicitations aussi à toutes les personnes qui essaient de comprendre ce qui se passe dans la lutte migratoire, et dans les frontières, des barrières, des barrières de la calamité, qui sont là.

Et justement déjà, c'est mon partage de cœur, que je suis là, et un big up à tous les membres du groupe Alamphone, et dans le West-Med. Donc, merci vraiment, et bon courage à tout le monde, et félicitations pour notre liberté de circulation, pour la

lutte que nous faisons, et pour l'assistance des migrants, et pour les groupes de femmes qui sont là aussi, pour connaître, et pour les différentes religions, et pour les différents partages de différentes personnes, déjà dans le groupe, et merci aussi pour la contribution de toutes les commémorations que nous avons faites, pour le 14, pour le 6 février, et aussi un très grand courage pour toutes les personnes organisateurs des réunions, de différents pays, de différentes villes, de différentes régions, et c'est ma contribution aussi, et pour toutes les personnes qui tiennent aussi un bon courage de donner des rapports, de construire des rapports, de construire des réunions, d'animer des réunions, de faire des traductions dans les réunions, vraiment c'est ça qui donne tout cet état d'énergie, de motivation, de pouvoir partager toujours avec Alamphone beaucoup de réalisations, et beaucoup d'idées, de pouvoir aller plus en avant.



07.02.2021 - Night shift

N [07.02.2021, 23:55]:
And do you have any scouts' advice on how to survive a very cold night?

Lu [07.02.2021, 23:56]:

We've never done that. Oh, why, is that what you're planning, to spend a very cold night outside?

N [07.02.2021, 23:58]

Oh no, I've got a good heater here, and I'm not going to move away from it, but I'm on night shift and some people are stuck in Lesbos and the police don't want to go out searching for anyone tonight, so they have to spend the night outside.

Lu [02/07/2021, 23:42:07]:

Mm, the important thing is to be sheltered from the wind and if the night is clear and without clouds, it is important to be under something, a tree, a roof, or a tent. It is important to tell them not to start a fire inside a plastic tent!! Hot water bottles, maybe hot water and a glass bottle in a T-shirt? One person always stays awake, and everyone has to move and exercise regularly. Igloos are good when there is snow. Crunched paper insulate well (stuff clothes with them). It is the coldest moment, just before the sun rises. Take care of fingers and toes because of frostbite, imitating kneading and playing the piano helps a little to keep fingers in good blood circulation. Cuddling. That's what comes to my mind. The best thing would probably be to find somewhere before they freeze too badly, a barn, the entrance to a house, a cellar. But maybe that's not possible :/



N [07.02.2021, 23:45]:

They also don't want to be found as they are afraid of a pushback

Lu [02/07/2021, 23:47:24]:

Yes, I understand. Ah, and rescue blankets.



++ AP Berlin. It was a tough shift. The group stuck on an islet in the Evros river are in terrible conditions. Physical attacks, sexual violence, and non-assistance. 52 people – among them several children and elderly people with severe health conditions. This has been going on for 16 days, and the authorities don't seem willing to respond to the emergency, nor to our repeated calls and emails. The people are angry on the phone. They are understandably frustrated with everyone, including with us. Understandably! Frustration. Anger. An overwhelming sense of helplessness by the end of the shift. We handed over to the AP Bremen team.



06:00

—

12:00

UNA HOSPITALIDAD INCONDICIONAL
NADA NI NADIE
ELLEGA SIN
es la única posible.
EXCEDE EL CÍRCULO POLÍTICO JURÍDICO O ECONÓMICO



36°55'28.7"N
27°28'54.6"

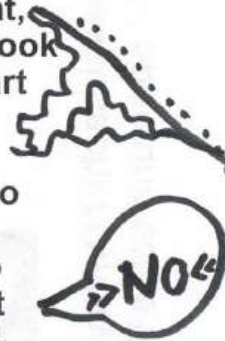


AP Catalunya: Extremely busy morning shift. We didn't manage to even eat. Luckily we had prepared a lot of coffee. The weather was really bad. It was windy with lots of waves. Two boats had water entering. One boat had a pregnant woman and she needed medical attention. It was very hard, but in the end the boat with the pregnant woman made it safely. Ok, now food. We handed over to AP Dijon.

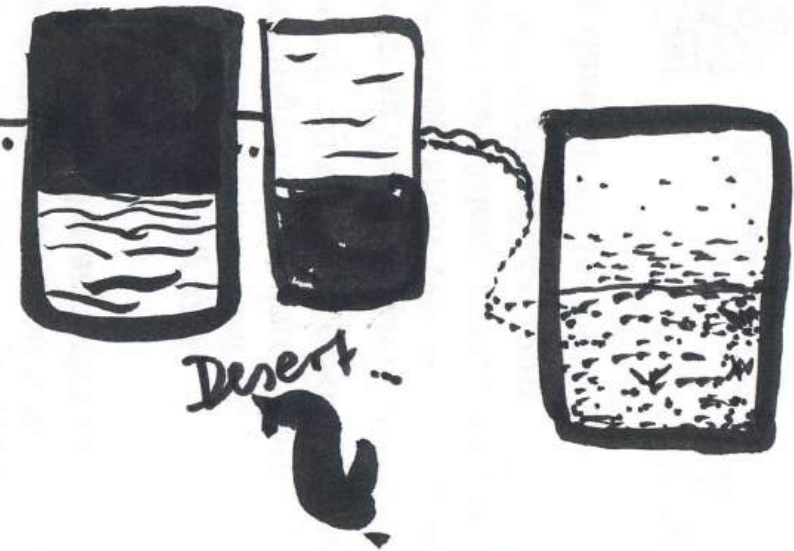


The play "Pferdepopo oder die langweiligste Landschaft der Welt" (Horse's Bum or the Most Boring Landscape in the World), which we're going to read now, is set in a desert. I was only once in a desert in my life. My associations with deserts are picture-book fantasies of heat, sand, oasis, Fata Morgana, cowboys and indigenous communities. A little less than a week ago, on Sunday night, during my Alarm Phone shift, I was on the phone with a person in the desert on the border between Tunisia and Algeria. I usually get calls from the sea. He was patient with my mediocre French. He asked me what he should do, I told him I would call him back when I'd found out more about the situation. For two weeks now, black migrants are being arrested in Tunisia, in Sfax, and driven in groups into the desert. At the border between Tunisia and Libya, or from Tunisia to Algeria. While I was looking for background information about why a person from the desert was calling me, a picture was sent to me. Portrait format, the lower half of the photo is fine sand in picture-book waves, with dry tufts of plants on top, the upper part of the photo is sky, first white then becoming increasingly blue in a gentle transition. I call the person in the desert back. I say I'll write an e-mail to the Red Cross and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Tunisia, I also write to the police in Tunisia and Algeria. No, he says, don't do that, they'll just arrest us again. He tells me that they've been doing that for two weeks. Of course, I say, then I will not. He asks me if I can give him any more advice. I discuss the question with someone who knows more about the situation. She tells me, he should look for shade if possible, stay close to the road, save battery and cooperate with anyone who comes along, otherwise he will almost certainly die of dehydration.

I just tell him about the shade, the road, the battery and the cooperation. Thank you, he says. Good luck, I say. Then I go to sleep.



The next day I try to continue writing the text. Instead, I read a letter that Ursula von der Leyen wrote to her colleagues in the European Commission on June 26. In it, she is pleased about the good cooperation between the EU and Tunisia. She announces that the EU will send boats, radar systems, cameras, vehicles and other equipment to Tunisia, and that they will support the increasingly autocratic Tunisian government with at least 105 million euros in 2023, designated for "border protection" and "migration management." As I am finishing to write the text you are reading now, I keep looking at the photo of the desert. I am thinking how the Tunisian police are, in cars paid by the European Union, abandoning people in the desert with the prospect that they will die of dehydration. The text is called "Horse's bum or the most boring landscape in the world".



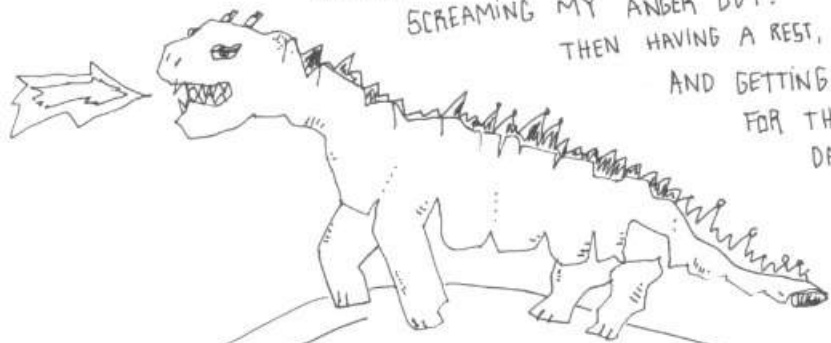
» SOMETIMES I HATE THIS WORLD
I SPIT FIRE ON IT

THEN
SOMETIMES IT'S NICE ALSO

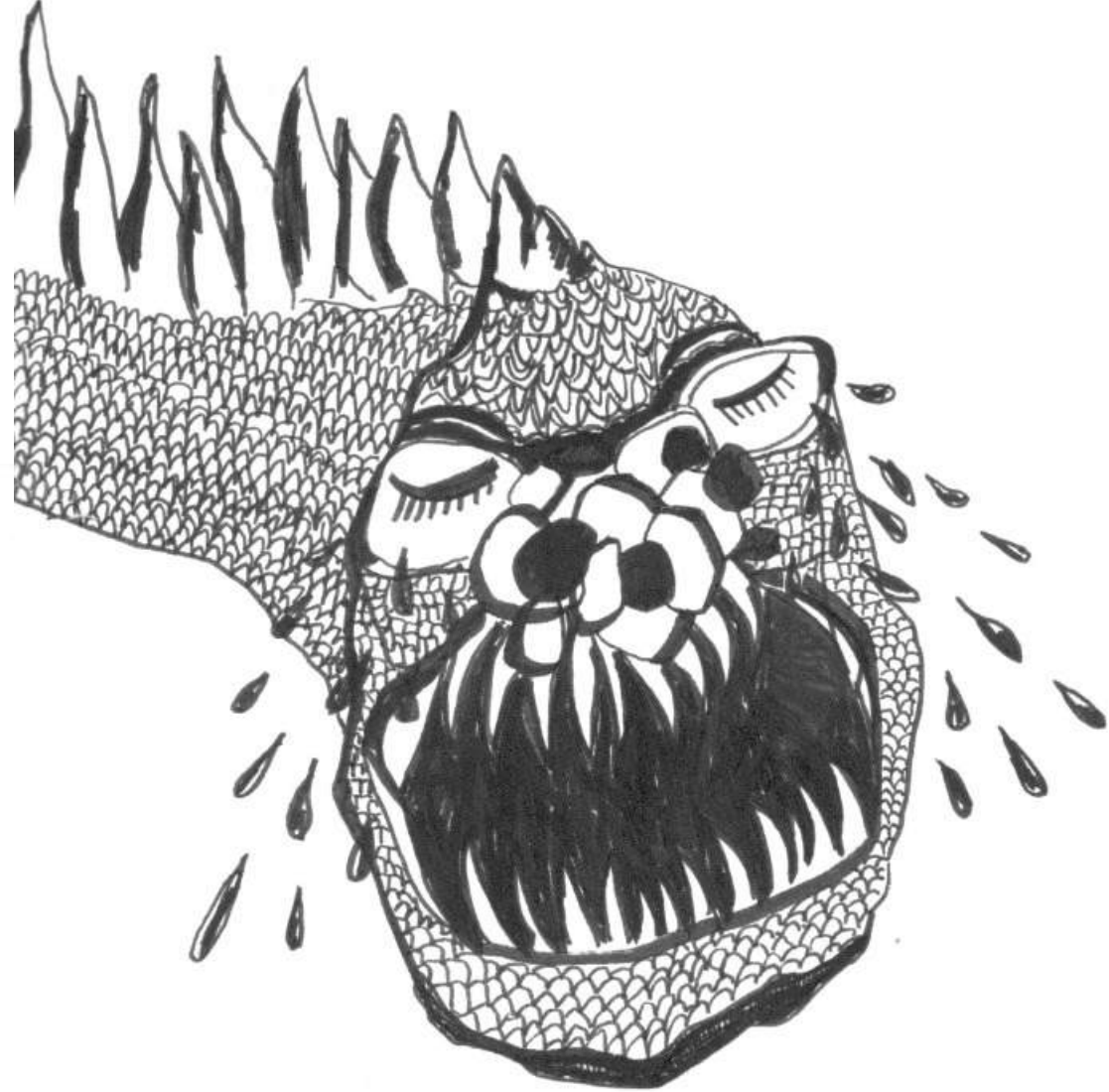
RUNNING IN THE WATER, SCREAMING LOUD OUT -
SCREAMING MY ANGER OUT.

THEN HAVING A REST, SLEEPING -

AND GETTING READY
FOR THE NEXT
DAY. <



World



Europe's Digital Fortress: How Palestine is the laboratory for testing surveillance equipment sold to the EU

At the time of writing, Israel's assault on Gaza will be close to entering its seventh month, with a human cost of 30,000 lives at conservative estimates - not including the 416 killed and 4,658 injured since October in the West Bank - with many thousands more lost beneath the rubble of a nearly flattened region that was once home to over 2 million civilians. The violence shows no signs of stopping and Israel continues to receive diplomatic and military support from the US and Europe, despite widespread recognition that a genocide is occurring.

It is not due to any oversight, misunderstanding, or geopolitical complexity that Western governments continue to arm and defend Israel. Rather, Europe and the US's complacency around Israel's actions confirm that much of Western ideology is rooted in a colonial ordering of the world that allows for violence in the name of safety and security. Indeed, those engaged in struggles against Fortress Europe should be able to see this plainly: the logic of hyper-militarized borders, alliances with despotic governments, and scapegoating of migrants used to justify Europe's border regime is the very same logic used to justify an illegal occupation of Palestinian lands. Israel claims a right to defend itself against dangerous outsiders, echoing the kind of rhetoric found in debates around migration.

Israel is currently ranked as one of the top ten arms suppliers in the world. Per capita, it is at number one. This is the result of decades of investment in state of the art military infrastructure, which have led to the creation of a powerful military and security apparatus. From its early beginnings, Israel refined and developed the tools of occupation and control. The Nakba, which many argue continues to this day, was a period from 1947 to 1949 in which 750,000 Palestinians were forcibly removed from their lands, 531 villages were destroyed and 15,000 people killed. Many became refugees in neighboring states, and those that remained endured regular beatings, rape, and internment. To the outside world, Israel portrayed itself as an outpost of democracy, surrounded by hostile neighbor states that threatened its survival. Such a posture was reinforced by the lack of accountability following the events of the Nakba: Israel mirrored to the West what many other settler-colonial states had already long done, which is to engage in a sustained campaign of genocide and ethnic cleansing of an



indigenous population from their ancestral lands in the name of democracy.

Following the Six-Day War in 1967, Israel's foreign policy took a turn as it began to align closely with American interests in curbing Soviet influence across the globe. Now an occupying force in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, Gaza and Golan Heights, the defense industry expanded by developing new tactics and weapons to maintain control of the Palestinian population. Neither did it shy away from supplying arms, technology and military to some of the most brutal and repressive regimes, including death squads and counterinsurgency forces in Nicaragua, Panama, Honduras, Colombia, Guatemala, and El Salvador; the Argentinian Junta; Haiti under the Duvalier regimes; the apartheid government of South Africa; Serbia during the Bosnian genocide; the Hutus during Rwanda's genocide; Sri Lanka during its civil war; and Myanmar during the genocide against the Rohingya. From the second half of the twentieth century, Israel had supplied arms to no less than 130 countries across the globe.

Israel's selling point has been the ability to market its military know-how and products as "battle-tested." Seventy-five years of occupation has meant seventy-five years of research and development into creating the tools for "asymmetrical warfare," a type of warfare between state militaries and an opposition differing significantly in resources, tactics, or power. Such asymmetry describes the relationship between Israel and the Palestinian population, which has been under some form of military rule from the second half of the twentieth century onwards. During the 2014 Gaza War, for example, also known as Operation Protective Edge, a seven-week campaign that led to the killing of 2,250 Palestinians, 500 of whom were children, and 70 Israelis, largely soldiers, the IDF experimented with the Hermes 900, a drone made by Elbit Systems, the largest Israeli military manufacturer. Just weeks after the 2014 Gaza War, Elbit Systems displayed its Hermes 900 drone at the annual Israel Unmanned Systems conference, showcasing it along other weapons used in Gaza and marketed as "battle-tested." By 2021, Israeli arms sales had reached a record of US\$11.3 billion, with Europe as its biggest customer, even before Russia's invasion into Ukraine. Exports include rockets, aerial defense systems, missiles, cyberweapons, radar, and drones, which alone make up a quarter of its defense exports.

It is these very same drones that are being used by Frontex and the EU to monitor migration along land borders and in the Mediterranean. In the Central Mediterranean specifically, Frontex launched in 2019 a call for tenders for drones that could operate from either Malta, Italy or Greece within a radius of 250 nautical miles with the ability to operate in all weather conditions, and both day and night. Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), whose Heron drones have been deployed throughout the occupied territories starting from the 2008-2009 onwards, and Airbus received a contract worth 50 million euro. Elbit Systems was also awarded 50 million euro for the use of its Hermes 900 drone, which later gained notoriety for crash landing in Crete. There is also close collaboration between Israel and Greece, which has invested significantly in defense equipment and training. IAI, Elbit Systems, and Rafael are three Israeli companies that have been given large defense contracts for equipment ranging from drones to helicopters to rockets. In 2021, in the largest defense transaction between the two nations, Elbit Systems signed a deal worth \$1.65 billion euro to run a training center for the Hellenic Air Force.

Aside from drones, Frontex has also invested hundreds of millions of euros in surveillance technologies with heavy reliance on the private sector for the development of these tools. Cellebrite, an Israeli firm, markets software it says can bypass passwords on devices, allowing authorities to download personal data without the consent of the device's owner. In a pitch to Moroccan officials, a Cellebrite sales representative made the claim that while 77 percent of refugees arrive without documents, 43 percent arrive with a smartphone, which could be analyzed upon arrival for "traces of illicit activity or trafficking of illicit goods" through keyword search, images saved on the device, or suspicious browsing history. Cellebrite technology is already used in West Africa, having been disseminated through training under the Africa-Frontex Intelligence Community, an agreement between Frontex and 31 other African nations designed to facilitate information exchange and sharing of surveillance technologies. Frontex also contracts with Israel-based tech company, Windward, whose tagline is "catch the bad guys at sea." Its software uses AI to aggregate and analyze maritime data for enhanced border security by detecting anomalies at sea.

It is precisely Israel's occupation which has allowed it to develop substantial technical know-how. Take for example the city of Hebron in the West Bank, which was dubbed a "smart city" by Israel's Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories, a unit of the IDF, after a network of CCTV cameras equipped with facial recognition technology were rolled out in 2020. The cameras

form part of a system of surveillance under which the traditional means of occupation - manned checkpoints, night raids, guard posts, and closed military zones - are slowly being replaced by AI-powered biometric and digital surveillance in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. Combined with drone surveillance and the use of sensors that detect anomalies in the environment, Palestinians are subject to monitoring 24/7 with little regard for their rights to privacy.

Indeed, former IDF soldiers have shared how mass surveillance and data-mining is used as a means of intimidation for Palestinians in the occupied territories. Veterans of Unit 8200, an IDF elite intelligence unit, have reported that intelligence gathering to prevent violence include widespread phone tapping, where private information about Palestinians is gathered to use as blackmail against their targets. Examples include extorting gay Palestinians or those having affairs to report on their family members, or threatening to cut off medical care to those with health issues. In exchange for information on loved ones, friends and acquaintances, Palestinians gain access to life-saving medical treatment, or the ability to support and feed their families through the possibility of better paying work.

Finally, it's crucial to understand not just the size Israel's weapons industry and the means of enforcing the occupation, but the revolving door between the military and private sector. One event in particular which highlights this collusion is Tel Aviv's annual Cyber Week, where military heads, venture capitalists, and private surveillance firms come together around a shared vision of outsourcing military operations to the private sector. Such dynamics require scrutiny, especially considering the opacity around Israel's weapons industry: it is the only "democracy" where journalists must submit all articles related to foreign affairs or security to the IDF chief military censor before publication, which then has the power to prevent its publication or redact information contained in it. Israel refused to sign the UN's Arms Trade Treaty, an attempt to apply international standards and transparency around arms deals, as well as limit the transfer of arms to states with human rights violations.

In more recent decades, a vision for a new type of warfare that is autonomous and digitally controlled has been put forward, with claims that it will be more humane and less bloody. This is an obvious fallacy, as the language used -- the surgical strike, precision munitions - is high technology

discourse being used to whitewash war crimes. One need only look at the scale of civilian loss to see this and the sheer terror the Palestinian population lives under, from military checkpoints, to the constant whirr of surveillance drones, to the fear of colonists' aggression on the West Bank. That the victims of that violence are mostly indigenous populations that have been racialized helps us to see another through-line between the colonial logic of domination and submission and the state-building project that made Israel possible in the first place.

Of course, the Israeli tech sector is no different from Silicon Valley, an offshoot of the Department of Defense and breeding ground for invasive surveillance technology. Similarly, scores of countries like France, Britain, the UK, Italy, Germany, and the US have exported arms to repressive regimes, often fueling displacement and forcing people to flee their homes. But it is imperative to disrupt the narrative that Israel is exceptional, that the IDF is the "most moral army in the world," and that its existence is a safeguard to democracy. Not only are these incorrect, they prevent robust conversation around its military-technology complex and how this industry benefits from occupation. That Europe is implicated in the ongoing genocide is made clear by the technology transfers and the strong commercial ties in the arms and surveillance sector between the two regions. Finally, it is imperative that Israel's crimes are situated within the historical context of Western imperialism. Europe's racist border regime and the occupation of Palestine have the same ideological underpinnings, a fact long documented by Palestinians themselves. As we continue to bear witness to a livestreamed genocide, often while facing censorship or backlash in trying to denounce what we are seeing, we must try and continue to center and uplift the voices of Palestinians, as well as demonstrate the connection between their struggles and the fight against borders, and against continued death on land and at sea.

Free Palestine.



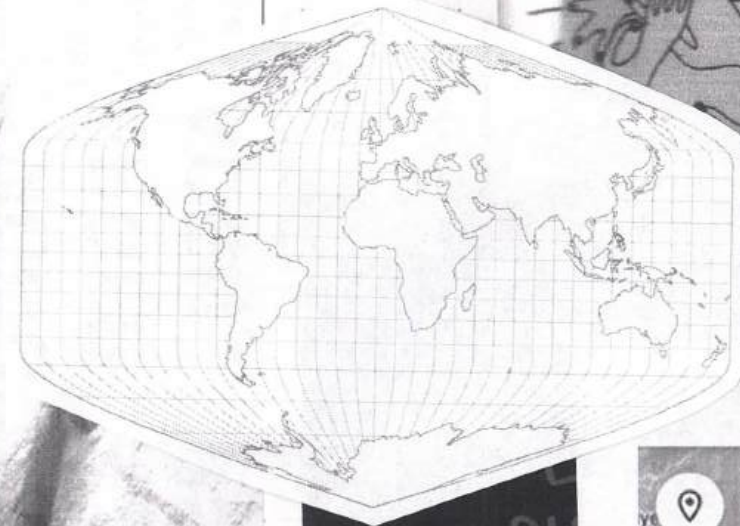
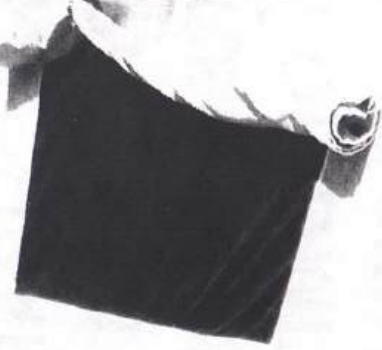
Map with layered tracks of Frontex aircrafts over the Central Mediterranean in 2021.

The map shows that Frontex rarely flies in the Maltese Search And Rescue zone and predominantly surveilles the SAR zone under the control of the so-called Libyan coastguard, providing them with information about boats and departures. It thus becomes apparent that Frontex flies to intercept and curb migration, not to save lives at sea.

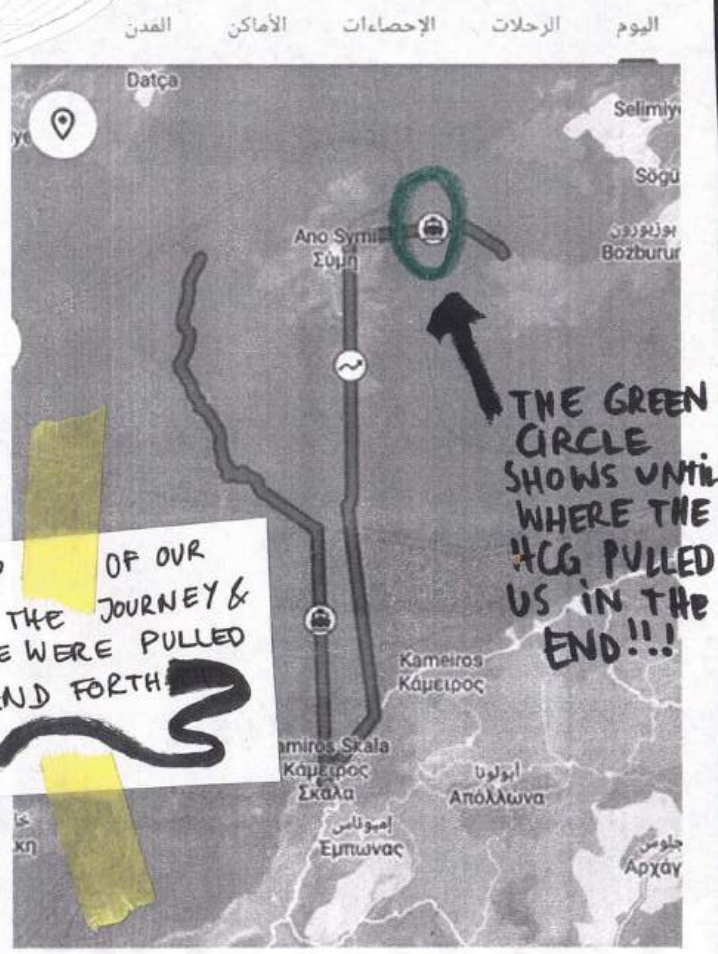
Source: *Border Forensics*, 2022

Weitere Information
Gesamtpreis
Meine Buch
Verfolge De
EMO - habe

Montag, 26
21:00
27. Juni
08:50



COMMEMORATION
<https://commemoration.net/>



ABOLISH
FRONTEX

5:30 PM
INFO-EVENT
BACKER
7:30 PM
PUBLIC
LINDEN
LEIPZIG

THE MAP OF OUR
TRACK OF THE JOURNEY &
HOW WE WERE PULLED
BACK AND FORTH

MOVEMENT OR BORDERS?

Which came first, movement, or borders?

L'accès au rdv n'était pas possible depuis le site.

„ l'objet et les conditions de séjour n'avaient pas été justifiés“

„ il existe des doutes raisonnables quant à sa volonté de quitter l'europe avant l'expiration de son visa“

it's crazy

She provided an international health insurance. Payslips, bank statement and the invitation and everything they asked for.

monstrous machinery that puts lives into different value-added categories.

Of 76 people who registered to join the meeting, we can only support 53 processes (capacities, money, time). From which we got positive decision until DATE is 30 visa applications.

Bonne chance au reste

hmm should we write an appeal just to annoy them?

Which came first, movement, or borders?

Freedom of movement is not a dream or inattainable.

It was perfectly normal and possible in the 60's, 70's, 80's before the Global Visa System.

The way they humiliate you by making you feel you're a criminal.

On attend les nouvelles

With all due respect and rage!

L'accès au rdv n'était pas possible depuis le site
NAME cancelled his participation in the meeting - no appointment in time :(

NAME from PLACE finally got a visum!

NAME from PLACE got her visum!

Also NAME! I can't believe it! It's so great good morning. Finally NAME and NAME has got her visa.

Bonne chance au reste

below a list of rejections I am aware of. Can you please add date of rejection letter and date of any further communication with authorities in response to each person respectively? So we can get an overview of deadlines.

it's crazy

nous voulans organiser un atelier et un débat sur la questin des visa, comment mieux organiser dans l'avenir, quille structure créer, etc.
nour devons commencer les démarches dès que possible, c'est à dire maintenant.

Which came first, movement, or borders?

Until the borders are destroyed; En attendant d'avoir détruit toutes les frontières

I HATE
BORDERS

List reasons why



WE HATE
BORDERS



Borders
are
EW EW EW EW



Do you
have a
pen?



We invite you to write on this scrapbook
& make it your own

Do you have some rituals which you do before or after a shift?

Sometime I light a candle after challenging and emotional shifts



How has being in the Alarm Phone changed your view on politics/borders/EU and the sea?

I feel more connected to other local struggles, solidarity and I am happy to see the people on the move behind the numbers and in between all the other actors

What keeps you going despite the increasing shittyness of the border regime?

Knowing all these wonderful people in the network, sharing moments of joy and strength

Tell us a memory which inspires you.

How do you take care of yourself after a stressful shift?

Sports, exchange with other people of Ap or friends

What do you think are difficult topics in the Alarm Phone network?

Distribution of money, in/visible division of work, decision taking process, internal hierarchies

What's your favorite Alarmphone memory?

Visiting Ap members in berkane after a an Ap meeting

What do you think is special about the Alarm Phone network?

Long time commitment and transborder solidarity

Tell us a funny memory from a shift (with PoB, CP or Coastguard etc.)?

Sleeping on a table during night shift

En quoi le fait d'être dans l'Alarm Phone a-t-il changé votre point de vue sur la politique, les frontières, l'UE et la mer ?

Je n'ai pas vraiment changé d'avis, mais de point de vue au sens le plus littéral. Je me suis rapproché de la réalité de la brutalité des frontières et des personnes qui la vive en première personne. Ce qui était un savoir théorique est devenu une réalité pratique qui s'est complexifié.

Qu'est-ce qui vous permet de continuer à vivre malgré le caractère de plus en plus merdique du régime frontalier ?

Alarmphone... Le fait de prendre part à un réseau qui tente de faire tout son possible pour changer cette situation tout en appliquant des principes d'horizontalité et d'égalité me fait un bien fou. Savoir que je ne suis pas seul à pleurer de rage et à m'organiser me donne de la force.

Avez-vous des rituels que vous pratiquez avant ou après une garde ?

Non pas vraiment.

Racontez-nous un souvenir qui vous inspire.

Lors de ma première shift j'étais au téléphone avec des personnes en détresse au large de la Lybie. Elle disait avoir les pieds dans l'eau déjà et que la situation était critique. C'était une shift du soir, je suis parti me coucher avec un drôle de sentiment. Couper le téléphone et laisser cette personne là bas dans cette situation difficile pour retrouver le confort de mon lit. Je me suis efforcé de n'avoir aucune image et de garder une distance mais j'avais peu d'espoir pour toutes ces personnes qui étaient encore très proche des côtes. En regardant le log le lendemain j'ai appris qu'elles avaient été secouru au matin... J'ai appris qu'il y avait souvent de l'espoir et aussi de belles histoires sur ces frontières.

Racontez-nous un souvenir amusant d'une mission (avec la PdB, la PC ou les garde-côtes, etc.)

Malheureusement il ne m'est pas arrivée de chose amusante. Des choses stressantes, des choses énervantes, mais rien d'amusant... Je sais que ça arrive parfois, mais je n'ai pas eu cette chance.

Selon vous, quelle est la particularité du réseau Alarm Phone ?

C'est un réseau de solidarité pratique avec les personnes en mouvement et qui s'attache à défendre la liberté de circulation et d'installation. Dans sa pratique le réseau a à coeur de faire vivre ici et maintenant la solidarité et l'égalité autant qu'il est possible dans ce monde capitaliste patriarcale et raciste. Nous tentons de prendre soin les un-es des autres dans cette pratique de l'action directe contre le système des frontières.

Quel est votre meilleur souvenir d'Alarmphone ?

Je n'ai rien de précis qui me vient. J'aime l'usage des emoticons, j'aime lire les messages des personnes et la gratitude que nous avons les un-es envers les autres. J'aime aussi l'attention porté à nos propres attitudes: le racisme et le sexisme et en générale les formes de dominations...

Comment prendre soin de soi après une période de travail stressante ?

Parler avec mes ami-es et quand s'est possible crier dans la rue et rendre présente ces situations.

Quels sont, selon vous, les sujets difficiles dans le réseau Alarm Phone ?

Arrêter... et avoir la force de continuer...

m: I am permanently scared. the fear of a soldier or border guard who feels he can do anything. when he thinks he is a god here, that he can beat up people, destroy their phones, condemning them to wandering in the forests. to further violence on the belarusian side. when he thinks he can beat up a person just for trying to cross the border or escape from him. that he can take away their food and shoes to discourage them from returning. can strip them naked and make them sing, just to humiliate them.

M: I saw scenes like out of a horror movie; a person in a coma or a boy from egypt begging the soldiers to let him go home. the polish border guards took away his sim card, his powerbank and his shoes, their dogs attacked him, he was still wearing torn jeans. the guy from syria was grateful when they caught him the 3rd time, otherwise he would have died in the forest, he had no phone. when I listened to those stories I was really scared, I understood that we could die there.

M: I spent 4 days in the forest, the we had no more water, we were losing reception, more pins from the smuggler. the driver of the van, who turned around and after an hour told us to get out, said we were being followed by the police, that we should fuck off.

worst towards the end, hope. helicopters overhead, no eventually showed up, drove fast, followed by the police, that we should fuck off.

m: if I could, had a driving licence and an idea of where, I would certainly take people with me, get them out of this hell here. what ever threatened me here is day, dehumanised, targeted as political-

nothing compared to what threatens them every objects of violence and sick nationalist narrative.

M: I regret sometimes, mainly when I experience racism. this is not the kind of europe I dreamed of. maybe not free of racism entirely, but at least the one with some rules. where I am not judged for my appearance.

REFUGEES
WELCOME

m: am I expecting anything? I hope that it will blow up, finally. if we are already forced to live in this state, it should serve us too. I also hope that you will not be afraid and will continue to support each other in the name of sisterhood, against capitalist exploitation, in abortions, in migrations and other actions making the national state collapsing.

M: we were walking in the dark through a dense forest, good that I knew how to use the gps. we were hiding from the belarusian army, we heard their whistles, we were scared. we walked at least 13 kilometres, at 4 am we reached the fence, still on the belarusian side.

m: was I scared? every time I was in the forest I was afraid that I would expose people to the polish services. that they would not be able to get to where they wanted, where they thought they would be safe. where they would be treated at least a little bit like human beings.

SOS The Evros / Meriç River ... of Pushbacks

Frequently we receive calls from people on the move stuck at one of the islets of the Evros/Meriç river which runs in Greece and Turkey. People fleeing war are left without food or clean drinking water, in the scorching heat, and in the freezing cold, for days and weeks at a time. We listen to their desperate calls for help and we relentlessly relay them to both the Greek and Turkish authorities. Due to the militarisation of the area, people are isolated from any networks of support or care including emergency medical help. They are left under the merciless violence of the police and the army, stuck as the Greek and Turkish authorities pass the buck. This is one of many cases we accompanied for days and nights.

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 8 Dec 2022
Relatives informed us about a group stranded on an islet on #Evros river. The position they sent shows the people on #Greek territory. On the phone, the border guard station of #Soufli promised a quick rescue. We have no direct contact with the group & hope help is on its way!



2 78 111

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 8 Dec 2022
The officer on duty of the border guard station in #Soufli told us on the phone that they have sent a team to the location but could not find the people. In the past, this line was used to cover up #pushbacks. We are worried - where are these people?

3 24 37

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 10 Dec 2022
The people called us directly today & appear to be on the Greek bank of #Evros river. They report they are ~40 people incl. 10 children & 16 women, many with serious medical conditions. They say that 2 persons went missing during a #pushback & a woman could give birth any moment.


2 22 36

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 11 Dec 2022
The group is still at the #Evros river. They say that some men/boys were stripped off their clothes & beaten and that the pregnant woman & her kids were evacuated towards #Greece by unknown people in civilian clothing. Border guards in Soufli didn't confirm that.

Rescue now!




5 77 50

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 12 Dec 2022 ...
The people are still exposed to the rough conditions of the #Evros river. They reported that a 10 year-old child got bitten by something in his sleep and is now in bad condition. They wrote us:

"We understand that we are on the river bank from the Greek direction..."

1 12 17

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 12 Dec 2022 ...
when the Greek border guards come, we go back a little bit by their order...and the Turks are the same issue, they say go there... Arresting us from the Turkish side, they will deport us to Syria and imprison us. The boy is in a bad condition and 112 did not help us in any way."

1 17 18


 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 12 Dec 2022 ...
We have updated @hellenicpolice, @UNHCRGreece and other organizations with all positions we received from the group & all medical conditions reported to us.

1 11 22

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 13 Dec 2022 ...
The people just told us: "No one has come to us. We have been here for 13 days".

We called several #Greek borderguard stations who claimed to have searched but not found them, even though the group hasn't moved. Stop this non-assistance, rescue now!


2 28 24

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 13 Dec 2022 ...
Still no rescue arrived! The people are tired after 13 days in rough conditions & repeated attacks by #Turkish and #Greek authorities. Their distress call has been forwarded to @hellenicpolice, @Frontex and many others. You are all responsible if lives are lost!


2 28 17

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 14 Dec 2022 ...
About an hour ago, the people reported "large movement of Greek border guards" in the area where they are stranded. They say they are afraid. We hope the purpose of this mobilisation is to provide assistance & eventually rescue the group & not to further terrorise them.

1 26 24

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 15 Dec 2022 ...
The people told us that yesterday night, Greek forces approached them, took bags & phones, attacked them physically & removed 4 people from the group. The rest of the group is still stuck in the same place & urgently calling for help as their situation is getting worse every day!

2 56 33

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 15 Dec 2022 ...
The @ECHR_CEDH granted Interim Measures acc. to #Rule39 for this group! The decision states that #Greece must provide food, water & adequate medical care. Meanwhile the situation on the ground gets worse. The people reported that a small child is vomiting blood.

Application no. 57123/22
M.M. and Others v. Greece (see list appended)

Total no. of pages: 4

Dear Madam,

I acknowledge receipt of your correspondence of 14 December 2022 received by the Court on 15 December 2022 requesting the European Court of Human Rights for interim measures under Rule 39 of the Rules of Court.

Reference for further correspondence
The file has been given the above number which you must refer to in any further correspondence relating to this case.


Decision on interim measure
On 15 December 2022, the Court (the duty judge) decided, in the interests of the parties and the proper conduct of the proceedings before it, to indicate to the Government of Greece, under Rule 39, that the applicants should not be removed from Greece and be provided with food, water and adequate medical care as needed until further notice.

1 41 25 11K


 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 16 Dec 2022 ...
The people sent the following message:
1/We are located on a small island in Greek territory and have sent our location many times to all organizations

"We are displaced from our country because we are persecuted in it. We crossed the Turkish border to cross into Greece


1 23 14 3.4K

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 16 Dec 2022 ...
2/*We have many medical conditions, we have people with a respiratory disease...we have heart patients...and there is a person with kidneys...and there is a child with a disability. And there are blood pressure patients and there is a person who was a cancer patient.

1 11 12 1.7K

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 16 Dec 2022 ...
3/And we have Infants. There is a person with fractures and bruises, as a result of the Greek border guards assaulting us. There are young people and the elderly. Yes, of course, these people need health care, because their medicines have run out, and everyone on the island

1 13 14 1.9K


 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 16 Dec 2022 ...
4/has rashes now. No medical assistance has been provided by any party and we need medical attention.
We do not have any medical documents or papers. You can come to us for a medical examination and check our health conditions. While we were on the island, we had a skin rash.

1 8 14 1.9K

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 16 Dec 2022 ...
5/The tips of the fingers and toes were cracked from the cold. And some cases of diarrhea.

*In the event that we are returned to Turkey, they will imprison us for several weeks or months. Then after that they will deport us to Syria and hand us over to the Syrian government.

1 10 11 1.9K


 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 16 Dec 2022 ...
6/After that, we will face death and certain imprisonment.. There are no documents, but this is confirmed.

We have great confidence in you and in the judiciary to solve our pending problem for more than 15 days in the freezing cold without the minimum necessities of life.

1 9 13 1.9K

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 16 Dec 2022 ...
7/We do not have food or drink. We drink water from the river, and this was the cause of many cases of intestinal colic.
And cases of diarrhea..we had a pregnant woman and her children with us. A boat came and took them and we do not know their fate.

1 15 20 3K

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 16 Dec 2022 ...
8/Yesterday masked people stormed and kidnapped 4 young men and assaulted us and we do not know their fate..we need help as soon as possible..
We don't have too much phone charge possible at any moment our connection is interrupted.

Help us
2 25 20 3.1K


 **@alarmphone**
@alarm_phone

● How long will #Greece continue to ignore the orders of @ECHR_CEDH ?

Despite Interim Measures granted, the group did not receive any medical assistance and is still neglected by the responsible authorities. This non-assistance must end immediately!

1:19 pm · 16 Dec 2022 · 4,302 Views

4 26 23

 **@alarmphone** @alarm_phone · 17 Dec 2022 ...
The situation of this group is getting worse. They report that several people "suffer from skin rashes and severe diarrhea". Their emergency situation is known for days, but no rescue arrived. The battery of their phone is dying, we are worried to lose contact with them.

1 16 19 4.7K

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 17 Dec 2022

sos According to the group, there is a child with asthma with them. Their medications have run out & consequently the health conditions have been deteriorating for hours. The child needs help! Rescue now!

How much longer will **#Greece** continue to ignore the orders of **@ECHR_CEDH**?

2 22 22 3.9K

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 19 Dec 2022

#Evros - The people are still stuck in the same place. According to the people, a child has gone missing & the health situation of the group is deteriorating day by day. It has already been 4 days that **@hellenicpolice** ignores the orders of **@ECHR_CEDH**. Rescue is needed NOW!

1 20 10 2.9K

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 23 Dec 2022

We lost contact to the people and are worried. We hope they were found and brought to a safe place. We were in contact with them for 2 weeks. They were exposed to rough weather and heavy violence.

1/2

2 8 14 2K

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 23 Dec 2022

While we communicated their location repeatedly to local authorities and **@Frontex**, **#Greece** claims in its response to the **@ECHR_CEDH** that they could not find the people. How can you not find a group of more than 40 people in a highly militarised & surveilled border region?

2/2

1 13 13 2.5K

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 27 Dec 2022

Today we were contacted by this group again. They are back at the same location. They report to have been picked up by **#Greek** border guards, then detained in an unknown location for 2 days & finally pushed back to **#Turkey**. **#Turkish** authorities then forced them back into **#Greece**.

@alarmphone
@alarm_phone

Now the ~48 people are again on **#Greek** territory where they wish to exercise their right to claim asylum. They're without clean drinking water or food and suffer from the cold weather. We hope this time their rights will be upheld! We demand their immediate safety and protection!



12:35 pm · 18 Jan 2023 · 12.1K Views

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 21 Jan 2023

!! @ECHR_CEDH ruling:
"On 19 January 2023, the Court (the duty judge) decided, in the interests of the parties and the proper conduct of the proceedings before it, to indicate to the Government of **#Greece**, under Rule 39, that the applicants should not be removed from Greece and..."



@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 21 Jan 2023
be provided with food, water and adequate medical care as needed until further notice.
The parties' attention is drawn to the fact that failure of a Contracting State to comply with a measure indicated under Rule 39 may entail a breach of Article 34 of the Convention."

1 4 9 1.9K

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 21 Jan 2023
The #Didymoticho border guards told us that a decision to rescue needs to come from the ministry. When the people called 112, they were told that "the mayor of the area must sign the court decision in order to be evacuated".
[@kmitsotakis](#) [@nmitarakis](#) [@theodorikakosp](#)
#StopPushbacks

2 13 12 3.2K

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 23 Jan 2023
sos The group is still exposed to extreme conditions on the islet!
They report that last night, a woman tried to throw herself in the river and is still in a very bad mental state, a child sustained an injury and needs medical care since days, and today, a person got burned...

1 15 16 2.5K

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 23 Jan 2023
while attempting to light a fire to warm up.
They also wrote us: "A few moments ago this happened, the Turkish side was shouting at us and threatening us to return to our lands..If you return, you will be imprisoned. Also, a little while ago, a camera called a drone appeared..."

1 10 8 2.9K

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 23 Jan 2023
and it filmed us."
Their health seems to worsen by the hour. Border guards at #Didymoticho are not answering the phone.
[@kmitsotakis](#) [@nmitarakis](#) [@theodorikakosp](#)
#StopPushbacks

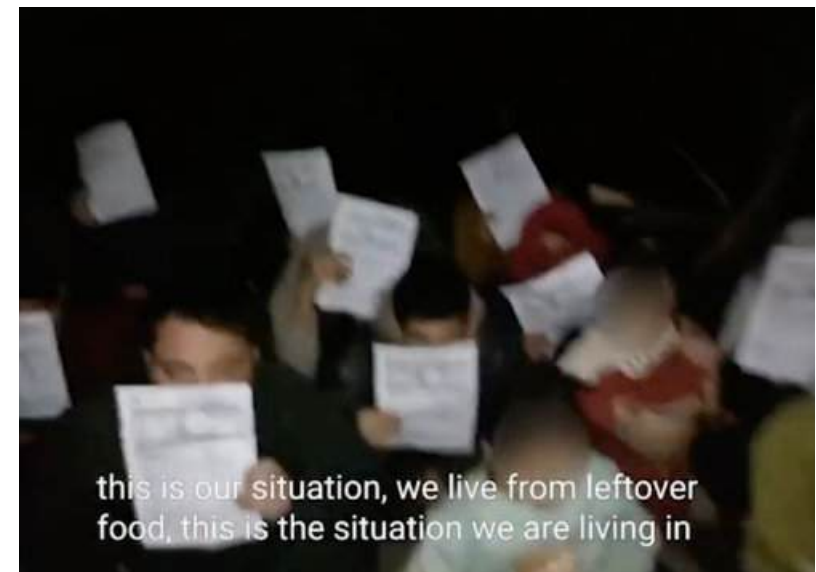
1 10 11 3.6K

@alarmphone @alarm_phone · 25 Jan 2023
The people sent this video explaining their situation two nights ago. We have not had news from them today. What are #Greece and the #EuropeanUnion doing to help them?
[@kmitsotakis](#) [@nmitarakis](#) [@theodorikakosp](#) [@Tineke Strik](#)

#StopPushbacks



3 18 12 1.8K



ADRES



13.11.2020:
Laut den Betroffenen raubt die griechische Küstenwache 5 Menschen aus, nimmt ihnen ihr Geld, ihre Ha
2 Menschen wer
und in den Evros



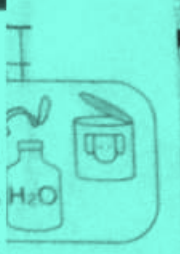
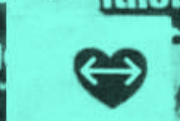
13.11.2020:
People reported
border guards ro
of their belonging

Diese Gewalt ist europäischen Gr
#Frontex abscha



25.10: Die Küstenwache rammt ein Schlauchboot, nur 39 der 80 Menschen auf dem Boot überleben.

Die Fluchtroute zu den kanarischen Inseln ist die tödlichste auf dem Mittelmeer!



port
aun
I zu spenden, ist ein
sen direkt zu helfen:
s.de/info

29.09.20

2
IFZ



24.10: 100 Menschen ertrinken & 51 werden von einem spanischen Kriegsschiff gerettet. Sie waren auf dem Weg zu den kanarischen Inseln.
Legale Fluchtroute jetzt!

06.09



auf

PUSHBACKS: The ongoing horrors at the Greek EU borders

From: Watch The Med - Alarm Phone

To: Hellenic Coast Guard

Copy: UNHCR Greece, UNHCR Turkey, Frontex, NATO, Greek Ombudsman, Hellenic Police HQ, Ministry of Citizen Protection HQ

Date: 2022-08-09 7:28 am

Dear Madam or Sir,

The Alarm Phone received a call from a boat in distress near Rhodos.

On board are ca. 25 people including women and children.

Position: 36 26 427 N, 27 50 485 E @ 06:33 CEST

Telephone number on board: +90 537 471 30 88,

Additional information: The people told us that their engine is broken.

They are urgently asking for help.

Best regards,

P. Passolini,

Watch the Med Alarm Phone

We alerted them, the authorities knew, still, a pushback, again!

PUSHBACK AFTER ARRIVAL ON RHODES:

» IN TURKEY I FEAR DEPORTATION AND EUROPE IS NOT ACCEPTING US...«

» WE LEFT FROM MUĞLA/DATÇA IN TURKEY WITH 29 PEOPLE (5 PEOPLE FROM PALESTINE, 24 PEOPLE FROM SYRIA), THEN SHORTLY AFTER SYMI ISLAND OUR MOTOR BROKE DOWN. WE WERE IN DISTRESS AND COULD NOT MOVE ON AND THEN THE HELLENIC COAST GUARD PULLED US TO RHODES ISLAND WITH A ROPE WITH THEIR VESSEL. THEN THE HCG KEPT US ON THE SHORE IN RHODES, WE WERE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE OUR BOAT AND ENTER RHODES ISLAND. THE HCG KEPT US ON OUR BOAT NEXT TO THE ISLAND.

THEN HCG BROUGHT US TO SYMI ISLAND AGAIN, BACK, TOWARDS A LOCATION NEXT TO THE FERRY PLACES. THERE THEY TOOK US, TOOK OUR PHONES, BEAT US UP HEAVILY AND TOOK OUR PERSONAL BELONGINGS. (I COULD HIDE MY PHONE, SO ONE PHONE WAS LEFT WITH OUR WHOLE GROUP). THEN THE HELLENIC COAST GUARD TOOK 2 PEOPLE OF US (BOTH SYRIAN NATIONALS) AND BEAT THEM UP VERY HARD AND KEPT THEM THERE. SINCE THEN WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE 2 PEOPLE - WE HAVE NO CONTACT TO THEM ANYMORE.

THEN THE HCG PULLED THE REST OF US, 27 PEOPLE, TOWARDS TURKISH WATERS. AFTERWARDS THE TURKISH COAST GUARD PICKED US UP AND BROUGHT US BACK TO TURKEY. THERE WE STAYED FOR 2 DAYS IN DETENTION AND AFTER THAT OUR RESIDENT PERMISSION EXPIRED AS A PENALTY. I AM AFRAID, MY RESIDENCY IS NOT VALID ANYMORE, I AM FROM SYRIA AND NO ONE WANTS US.

IN TURKEY I FEAR DEPORTATION AND EUROPE IS NOT ACCEPTING US. TELL ME MY FRIEND, WHAT SHOULD I DO, WHERE SHOULD I GO TO LIVE A DECENT LIFE? «





German Embassy
Ankara



Hallo, I am Lama from Alarm Phone. On 02 May we were in contact with you, when you were in distress with 32 people close to Lesbos island. How are you doing? Did you arrive safe on land? Do you need support? We condemn the violent and illegal practices of the coast guards and the police at Sea/at the border. Also, if you want to tell us what exactly happened, we are here to listen. You can always reach out to me on this number. Sending you much strength and solidarity

12:20 ✓

عربي

12:21

مرحبا، أنا لامي من هاتف الأنداز. يوم ٢ مايو/أيار اتصلنا بك عندما كنت في محنة مع 32 شخصاً بالقرب من جزيرة ليسبوس. كيف حالكم؟ هل وصلتكم بأمان؟ وهل تحتاج إلى أي دعم؟ نحن ندين الممارسات العنيفة وغير القانونية التي يقوم بها خفر السواحل والشرطة في البحر/على الحدود ونؤيدها. لذا، إذا كنت تريد إخبارنا بما حدث بالضبط، فنحن هنا للاستماع وللتوثيق. ويمكنك دائماً التواصل معي على هذا الرقم. مع تحياتنا والكثير من القوة والتضامن

12:29 ✓

الإعترض أو إعادة الإخلاء/الترحيل إلى تركيا | w2eu.info

من أجل حرية التنقل : معلومات مستقلة للاجئين و المهجرين القادمين إلى أوروبا
w2eu.info

نتمنى أولاً أن تكونوا بخير وسلاماً، ونشعر بالأسف الشديد لعدم تمكننا من الأرجح أن يأخذكم عناصر من الشرطة إلى مركز الحجز. في هذا الحال يمكننا الاتصال ب مجموعة المحامين الذين يستطيعون مساعدتكم. اسم المجموعة مولناجي لخير.

اللغة العربية، الاتصال على

00905494835421
00905494835422

اللغة الفارسية، الاتصال على

00905494835427

انهم متواجدين من الاثنين الى الجمعة بين الساعة ٩ ص: بلأحى الساعة ٥ بعد الظهر. وهم بحاجة للمعلومات الشخصية لجميع أفراد المجموعة: الاسم الكامل، اسم الأم والأب، تاريخ الولادة، الجنسية، واسم مركز الحجز، كما اللغة المحكية لدى أفراد المجموعة.

يمكنكم أيضاً قراءة المعلومات عن حقوقكم على هذا الرابط

<https://w2eu.info/ar/countries/turkey/interception-or-readmission-turkey>

12:31 ✓

Du hast diese Nachricht gelöscht. 12:36

بحكي عربي، بقدر تحكي معي عربي

12:37 ✓

اعلا

12:37

بعض الناس متوا

12:37

نتصل فيكم تساعدونا

12:37

معانا نلس متوا

12:38

اسفة جدا، ارسل التعازي وكل الدعم والتضامن. هل استطع الاتصال بكم؟

12:39 ✓

ما بقدر احكي اتصال بس بقدر اكتب

12:40

انتم وين حالوا؟

12:41 ✓

أزمير، طلعونا من شوي من المعتقل

12:42

كنا باليونان، وصلنا من يومين بأفيل على اليونان

12:43

كشونا اليونانية واجبرونا نركب بالمطاطي وتتحرك باتجاه تركيا

12:44

والخفر التركي كمشنا وخطونا بالسجن وطلعنا من شوي

12:45

اسفة جدا! عندي سؤال، حضرتك قلت انه فيه ناس متوا، كم عدد الاشخاص في المجموعة؟ وكم عدد الاشخاص اللي رجعوا على تركيا؟

12:48 ✓

بترقب عدد الاشخاص اللي توفوا؟ وهل بتعرف اسمائهم؟ عشان احنا نحاول اننا نساعد بعض العائلات بلاقوا معلومات عن اقاربهم المختلفين.

12:48 ✓

هايتلك كل المعلومات اللي عندي.

12:51

خلال ساعة او ساعتين

12:51

يا ريت تساعدونا

12:52

LCG numbers:

SOS Med 10.4.24

- 00218213606868 (GISIS)
- 00218213619380 (GISIS)
- 00218214446799
- 00218215631578

Civil Aviation Auth.

- 00218217173337
- 00218910349739
- 00218214449488 (english)

00218213501178 ← new Feb'22 Lib. Air-force

00218916928613 (not fully trusted)

- 00218917723506
- 00218925292328

Egypt: se LCG 00218619092772 gave info about a case

- 00218213694899
- 00218214449274
- 00218215631578
- 00218213605182
- 00218217173337
- 00218213695699

usually not working

00218917598483 (from email Jan 20 Lib. Navy CG officer)

AAAAA!!!



WESTERN LIBYA

- 00218214449488 (operational room)
- 00218214449149 (same)
- 00218910349739

Colond M (15.6.23)
 new in English on s.c.

00218913727786 (10.9. Sea Watch)
 (Team Manager / captain STR Moh. Abubi / Jebly)

00218213364579 (Colond N)
 No longer working for LCG
 00218911925057 mobile

8.3. in Egypt, gave these:

- 00218910349739
- 00218217173337
- 00218213364579

Cap.H (Liby. Coast G.) contacted us, speaks english:
 0021891171710

WESTERN LIBYA =
 (Captain S (20. Jan 2024))

- 00218913727786 (personal)
- 00218913800763 (private, other Libyan authority)
- 002189195509391 (other he gave us)

Jun 23
 se LCG gave these numbers

- 00218913727785 (captain S)
 - 00218213501215
 - 00218213501217
 - 09
- } ops room

00910016116 (mobile)

00218910520494 (port authority, East Ministry of Transportation kind of MRCC in the East Libya?)

00218611092772 Benghazi CG (answered 1.11.22)

002189132265781 engineer port ctrl - Benghazi (from se LCG on 11.3.23) no reachable

00218927569391 General M (also Benghazi)
 → only helpful for Benghazi cases!

TOBEUK:

- 00218920661802
- 00218915825793
- 00218210000000 (7x0) SSA (stability support apparatus)
 → also does interceptions



AL KHUMS

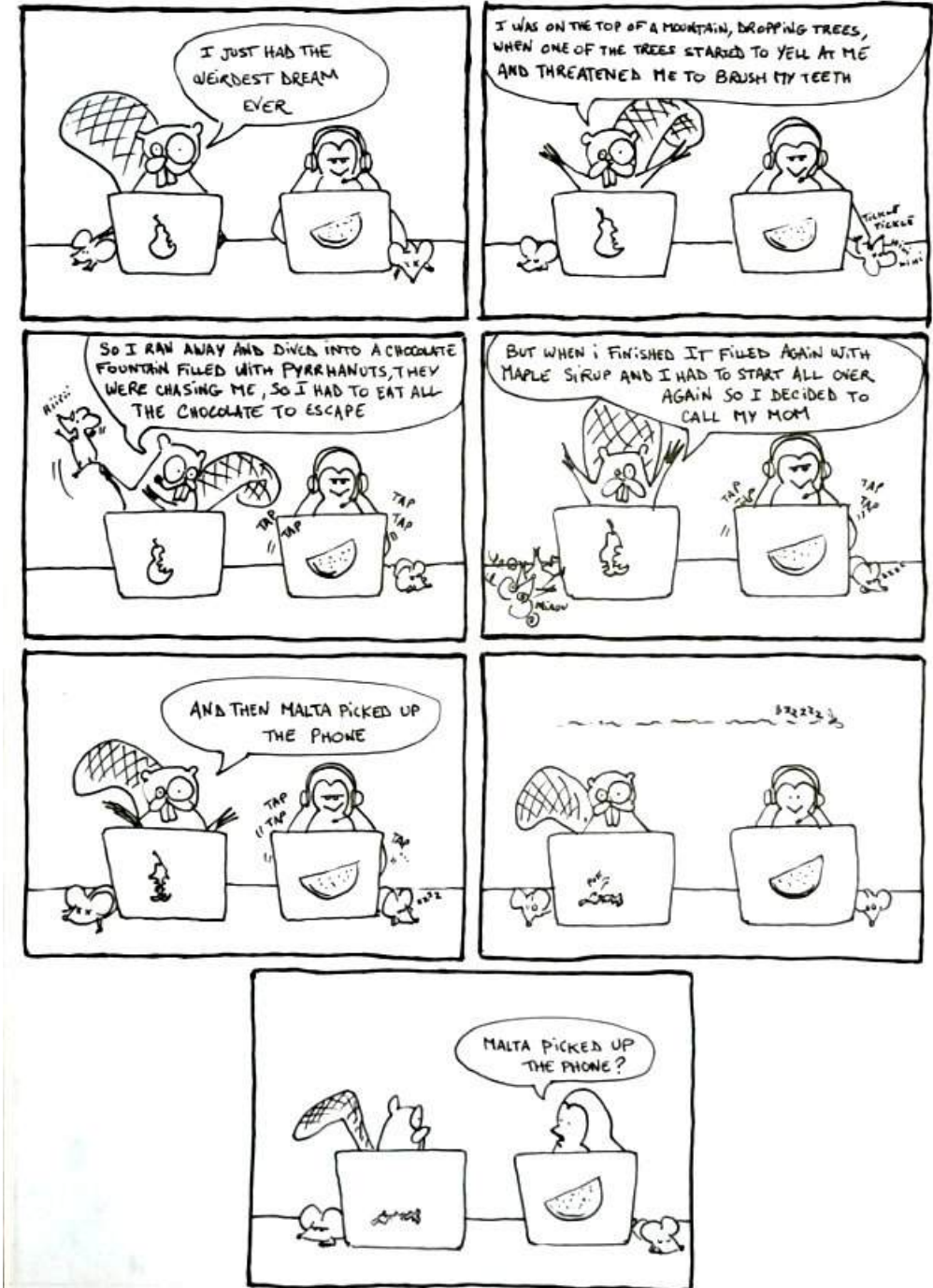
00218927206520 (private CG number from Facebook)

(00218913377733) (col. N from Aug 23 no english)
 → 28374 person really you're called

CALLING the so-called Libyan Coast Guard

All these are official phone numbers of the so-called Libyan Coast Guard. We call all the numbers when we support people on the move who are still in the so-called "Libyan Search And Rescue zone" and are in urgent distress and need immediate assistance. Even though we know that the situation in Libya is not safe at all. When we call these numbers, digit by digit, number after number we are often met with the melody of waiting loops or are being cut off after the first introduction. But most of the numbers do not actually work, or work only sometimes or no one ever picks up. But we still have to try, hoping to get someone. Hello?

RCC MALTA, hello,
answer our distress
calls! Ring ring
ring ring ring ring
ring ring ring ring
riiiiiiiiiinnnnnnngggg!



DW

Malta ignores migrants' sea distress call: NGO

Malta is ignoring pressing calls for help from Libyan migrants at risk of drowning in the Mediterranean Sea, Sea rescue organization Alarm...

Mar 14, 2020



European Council on Refugees and Exiles

Central Med: Malta Continues to Ignore Distress Alerts Leaving People at the Mercy of So-called Libyan Coast Guard, Civilian SAR Operators Save Lives as Crackdown i...

25th May 2022 | News. Maltese authorities continue to ignore distress calls resulting in interception and return to unsafe Libya by the so-called Libyan...

May 25, 2022



Newsbook

Malta ignores call to rescue people in distress at sea – Alarm Phone

Tista' taqra bil- Malti. A fibreglass boat carrying some 44 people is in distress south of Malta, BGO Alarm Phone said, as it expressed fears that Malta...

Oct 1, 2023



Newsbook

Malta once again ignores distress calls, 105 people rescued by Tunisia

According to Alarm Phone, the group in distress was in a state of panic and feared drowning as they awaited rescue. Despite the urgent situation, both Tunisian...

Feb 8, 2024



● Soundscape of a European Crime

Using narrated human rights reports, music, archival soundbites, and recordings by activists and people on the move; this experimental mixtape is an agitation against the ongoing crimes on European borders, both physical and externalized.

This work is dedicated to people on the move, and their resilience.



LISTEN

● RCC Malta's Music-on-Hold

What we constantly hear when we, or people in distress at sea, call Malta's coastguard. The soundtrack of non-assistance.



● Dear officer on duty...

A scream into the wind, a call to launch a rescue. An AP email sent to the authorities. Part of AP's creative action in Brussels in 2023



How to transport the repetitive style in social-media? And for ppl passing by?
lifestream → technically, charge!

timelaps
hashtags
slogans

Radio → mille
Marseille?
Lipstick?

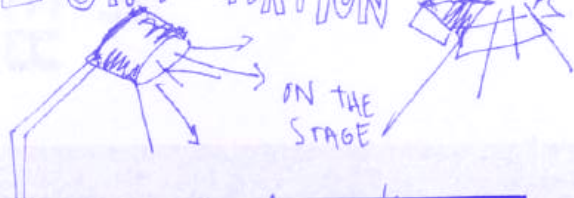


versch
teil
2 versch
Seite
versch
step

ZINE!
POSTER
TITLE



LIGHT SITUATION

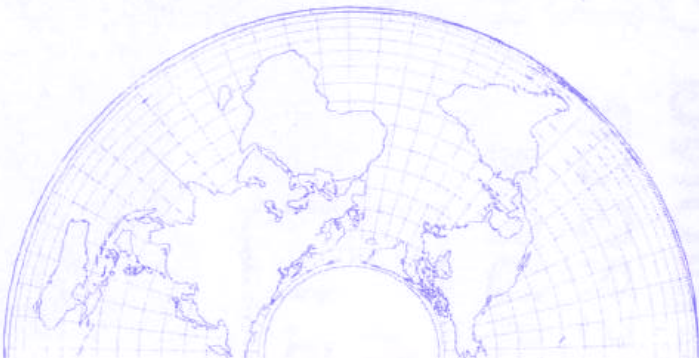


التفاهن مع عائلتك
المنقولين ببرنامج
#18/18



MAILS
336

PRESSURE
3 weeks
1 week
2 day



— railway



Language is a multifaceted power

Reading time: 2-20min, depending on need for translation, reading ability, attention & focus

Baking time: every day anew

Level: anyone

Language

Multi-lingual

When we come together

: cables, microphones, transmitters, radios, other equipment, batteries, headphones, baggage check, acoustics, static, frequencies, nerves.

: a lot of e-mails, phone calls, messages, misunderstandings, compromises, dissatisfaction, highs, patience, tiredness...

A lot.

When we come together

: Who speaks? Who speaks frequently? Who is made to listen only? Who chooses to listen only? Why?

Listening is harder over the radio.

Insecurities, internalized emotions

- Patterns
- Routines
- Impatience
- Shame
- Stress
- Practicalities

Expectations – met

- disappointed



Emotions, expressing myself in my own rhythm, and in my language vs in collaboration with

inexperienced interpreters vs

in collaboration with

experienced interpreters vs...

the heap of negotiations concerning language, habit, and interpretation that tend to happen in the middle of a conversation, a testimony, a discussion. No time, no priority if the reason necessitating those negotiations is not imminent – in the middle of a conversation, a testimony, a discussion. Supposedly no time, no priority.

Voices not given – status?

- Normalcy?
- Ease of expression?

Interrupted, fragmented, taken out of big collective spaces, pushed into smaller shared spaces; spaces of shared language.

Or does it happen like this?

No; and yes; and in many other ways.

Conversations are slower when

- speaking a language you need to think about a lot
- groups, networks, meetings, are in the process of getting used to working with more than one language on equal footing; with interpretation; with or without equipment. Sometimes

People prefer not to use interpretation

Sometimes, people speaking the same language prefer not to understand each other.

Sometimes, people speaking the same language misunderstand each other.

Sometimes, interpretation, as and in itself, is nowhere near enough to generate shared meaning.

Quel est votre meilleur souvenir d'Alarmphone ?

Les meetings, celui de tunis notamment

Selon vous, quelle est la particularité du réseau Alarm Phone ?

Le souci de préserver une diversité et la détermination des "membres"

En quoi le fait d'être dans l'Alarm Phone a-t-il changé votre point de vue sur la politique, les frontières, l'UE et la mer ?

Cam a radicalisée, et conscientisée, il m'est difficile d'imaginer d'aller naviguer ou en voyage pour le plaisir sur des routes migratoires

Qu'est-ce qui vous permet de continuer à vivre malgré le caractère de plus en plus merdique du régime frontalier ?

C est la seule manière de supporter ces merdes, de savoir qu'on fait un truc possiblement utile

Avez-vous des rituels que vous pratiquez avant ou après une garde ?

Manger dormir si possible



Racontez-nous un souvenir qui vous inspire.

Chaque Boza est inspirant!

Quels sont, selon vous, les sujets difficiles dans le réseau Alarm Phone ?

Les rapports de domination par rapport aux questions de classe, d'éducation, de racisme, de sexisme

Racontez-nous un souvenir amusant d'une mission (avec la PdB, la PC ou les garde-côtes, etc.)

avoir stressé des gardes cotes en leur parlant anglais plutot que leur langue, ils étaient intimidés et m'ont raconté plein de détails

Comment prendre soin de soi après une période de travail stressante ?

Aller nager ou marcher, retrouver quelqu'un d'ap (ou d'ailleurs mais qui comprenne de quoi il s'agit) pour en parler, ou pas. Parfois boire de l'alcool, parfois pas du tout, ça dépend des périodes.

Y a-t-il autre chose que vous aimeriez partager ?

Continuons sans relâche!

BOZA!!!



Quel est votre meilleur souvenir d'Alarmphone ?

Un jour un bateau partie de Libye avec lequel nous étions en contact est parvenu en Europe (en Italie je crois, secouru par les gardes côtes italiens), et nous étions beaucoup en contact avec un proche. Quand il a su que le bateau était secouru, il nous a envoyé un long message vocal très émouvant, dans lequel il racontait qu'il avait déjà tenté plusieurs fois la traversée, qu'il avait été intercepté plusieurs fois par les libyens, et qu'il n'arrêterait pas de recommencer jusqu'à parvenir en Europe. qu'il nous remerciait énormément pour le travail qu'on fait et qu'il avait une grande confiance dans Alarmphone, et qu'il espérait pouvoir nous rejoindre lorsqu'il serait en Europe, pour participer à cette aventure. Son message m'a fait pleurer, et c'était de larmes qui exprimaient à la fois la rage et la tristesse du régime des frontières, mais aussi l'espoir et la solidarité qui s'élèvent contre ce régime.

Comment prendre soin de soi après une période de travail stressante ?

On essaye toujours de prendre un temps de debriefing en équipe (plus facile en présentiel que à distance), et parfois je vais marcher, faire quelque chose avec mon corps en mouvement. J'essaye toujours d'avoir du temps libre après un shift, de ne pas avoir besoin d'enchaîner sur une autre activité, travail, réunion. Car même si ce n'était pas stressant, je sais que je serai fatiguée physiquement et probablement émotionnellement. Si le shift a été inquiétant pour moi, je retourne voir le log par la suite pour savoir comment une situation s'est terminée. Suite à des situations difficiles (nauffrage mais pas uniquement), il nous est arrivé de faire des petits rituels.

En quoi le fait d'être dans l'Alarm Phone a-t-il changé votre point de vue sur la politique, les frontières, l'UE et la mer ?

Participer à Alarmphone m'a permis d'apprendre énormément sur la réalité des traversées et des dispositifs de l'UE / Frontex, et également à quel point les personnes en mouvement sont "utilisées" de manière stratégique dans les rapports de force et négociations entre les états (je le savais déjà de manière théorique, mais avec le travail dans AP je comprends mieux concrètement comment cela se traduit).

Racontez-nous un souvenir amusant d'une mission (avec la PdB, la PC ou les garde-côtes, etc.)

Je ne sais pas si c'est vraiment amusant, ou plutôt absurde, mais il y a quelque temps les gardes cotes grec nous ont appelé pour nous demander de l'aide pour un bateau qui n'était pas un cas AP, car ils n'arrivaient pas à communiquer avec les personnes à bord et à obtenir une position GPS. Nous avons réussi, après beaucoup d'appels et d'explications, à connaître la position du bateau et à la transférer aux gardes côtes grecs, et ils m'ont demandé "Waw mais comment vous avez fait ??", alors j'ai raconté que j'avais expliqué aux personnes comment trouver la position GPS dans le menu de leur téléphone satellite, et cette conversation était si absurde ! On était plusieurs autour de la table à se dire "Mais, comment c'est possible qu'ils soient aussi nuls ?? C'est leur métier, nous on est des activistes bénévoles qui pour la plupart n'avons jamais navigué ni utilisé un téléphone satellite, et on sait mieux faire leur boulot !" Aussi parfois je ris en shift avec des erreurs de traduction qui créent des phrases amusantes, mais souvent c'est aussi un rire nerveux car il y a un gros enjeux autour de la communication et des langues, qui nous bloque trop souvent et nous rend incertain-es de la bonne compréhension entre les personnes. (mais ça fait quand même du bien de rire pour lacher la pression, je ne me sens pas coupable avec ça !)

Racontez-nous un souvenir qui vous inspire.

Je pense à une situation à la frontière fluviale entre la Turquie et la Grèce, le long du fleuve Evros, où nous étions en contact avec un groupe de personnes avec beaucoup d'enfants. Les situations dans cette région sont vraiment démoralisantes car il n'y a aucune ONG ni soutien, les personnes sont refoulées d'un pays à l'autre comme des poupées de chiffon, et pour les équipes de shift c'est difficile de savoir quoi dire aux personnes car les perspectives sont maigres.. Ce jour là, la communication avec le groupe était très fluide, iels étaient en contact avec AP mais aussi directement avec une avocate en Grèce, et iels avaient décidé quoi faire en ayant connaissance des enjeux, donc iels nous ont dit "demain matin à 8h nous allons traverser le fleuve", et iels avaient organisé leur traversée, construit des petits radeaux pour les enfants avec le bois de l'ilot sur lequel iels étaient coincé-es, et leur demande était : "à 8h on va traverser, rester avec nous". On a donc suivi en live leur traversée, avec les positions GPS actualisées, et pour moi c'était inspirant de voir la détermination des personnes, et également qu'elles sont "libres" de leurs choix ("libres" parce que bon leurs possibilités sont quand même restreintes", et nous demande d'accompagner ces choix, nous disent "c'est ça que vous pouvez faire pour nous soutenir". Je me suis dit qu'on était à une juste place.

Avez-vous des rituels que vous pratiquez avant ou après une garde ?

Non, mais dans mon équipe parfois des personnes allument une bougie au début du shift.

Y a-t-il autre chose que vous aimeriez partager ?

Quels sont, selon vous, les sujets difficiles dans le réseau Alarm Phone ?

Je pense que la question de l'argent entre les équipes du nord et du sud n'est pas facile, et je ne comprends vraiment pas encore tous les enjeux !

Selon vous, quelle est la particularité du réseau Alarm Phone ?

C'est un réseau très activiste et politisé, et on ne se contente pas de faire des permanences et de diffuser le numéro mais aussi de travailler sur les dynamiques internes de pouvoir pour améliorer notre manière de lutter contre les dominations également entre nous, je trouve ça très fort et beau. Aussi je trouve incroyable que malgré la taille impressionnante de ce réseau et les budgets de fonctionnement énormes, nous restions (et ayons à cœur de rester) un réseau autogéré, bénévole et horizontal. Merci pour ça <3

Qu'est-ce qui vous permet de continuer à vivre malgré le caractère de plus en plus merdique du régime frontalier ?

Le fait que les gens continuent de voyager et de traverser les frontières me donnent beaucoup d'énergie. Aussi, continuer Alarmphone, c'est trouver une prise, quelque chose à faire, dans ce monde de plus en plus fasciste, et de le faire dans un réseau qui me donne beaucoup de force car nous partageons cette lutte là, à plusieurs centaines, et en lien avec des milliers d'autres personnes. Donc le nombre me donne de la force.

++ AP Den Haag. Evening shift. Four cases. All from Sfax. We couldn't establish contact. Boats leaving Tunisia do not have Thuraya phones due to criminalisation. We hope they will make it safely, or find a way to contact the authorities and Alarm Phone. We handed over to AP Calais.



12:00

-

18:00

++ AP Toulouse. It is midday. We lost contact to a boat close to Lesbos. We are worried they might have been pushed back by the Greek Coastguard. Angry. Frustrated. Our shift is over, but we really want to know what happened. We will follow the chat. We handed over to AP Brighton.



An AP diary - *Nador*

**Awareness

J'aimerais parler un peu de mon travail à Alarmphone et du rôle que j'ai joué depuis au Maroc, en particulier dans la ville de Nador. En fait, j'ai déjà fait de la sensibilisation dans les communautés et aussi avec l'ETM. Donc déjà, mon rôle est de partager l'expérience de l'assistance avec l'ETM et les présidents des communautés pour essayer de voir comment on peut partager les expériences par rapport à la traversée des personnes vivantes qui ont besoin d'assistance. J'ai également participé à la sensibilisation, à la distribution de brochures, de dépliants, en donnant des explications, en essayant de donner des idées sur la façon dont les gens se sont comportés pendant le voyage et comment ils se sont comportés lorsqu'un appel de sauvetage a été lancé, le salvamento et aussi l'assistance, qui est peut-être le rôle de l'Alarmphone que nous faisons. Je le fais depuis des années et j'ai déjà partagé cette expérience dans le département de Nador, ainsi que dans l'Oriental, Nador, Berkane, Oujda et pratiquement dans tout le Maroc. Nous essayons toujours de sensibiliser, de partager l'expérience, de montrer aux immigrants comment se comporter et aussi d'avoir toujours le numéro, comment envoyer les positions GPS, envoyer la localisation, c'est très important. On distribue toujours des tracts, des flyers, c'est très bien mais quand on distribue il faut toujours expliquer comment faire et comment se comporter parce que la priorité c'est déjà de déclassifier dans la logique et aussi de partager l'expérience des gens qui font la traversée. ■

Hi, I'd like to talk a little about my work at Alarm Phone and the role I've played since then in Morocco, particularly in the city of Nador. In fact, I've already been raising awareness in the communities and also with the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM). My role is to share the experience of assistance with the ETM and community leaders to try to see how we can share experiences in relation to the crossing of living people who need assistance. I've also been involved in awareness-raising, distributing leaflets, handing out flyers, giving explanations, trying to give an overview of how people behaved during the voyage and how they behaved when a rescue call was made, which is the role we play as Alarm Phone. I've been doing this for years, and I've already shared this experience in the Nador team, as well as in the regions of Oriental, Nador, Berkane, Oujda, practically all of Morocco. We're always trying to raise awareness, to share our experiences, to show migrants how to act and to always have AP's number, how to send GPS positions, share their location, which is very important. Distributing leaflets and flyers is great, but when one is distributing flyers, you realize you have to explain how to do things practically and show people. The priority already is to demystify the logic and share the experiences of those who made the crossing. ■

Work on the ground

An AP diary - **Morocco**

****Dealing with deaths**

The reasons for the deaths of migrants en route are due to bad weather at sea, the overcrowding of people on boats or inflatable rafts, as well as those who fall into the gap at the border between Morocco and Algeria, being abandoned in the Libyan and Tunisian desert. These perilous journeys are often undertaken with unseaworthy vessels, which are not equipped to handle adverse weather conditions or the sheer number of passengers. Additionally, migrants face dangers such as dehydration, starvation, and violence from smugglers or border patrols. The treacherous conditions at sea, combined with the lack of safety measures, significantly increase the risk of fatalities.

The bodies are identified either through the victims' compatriots or by auxiliary forces. Identification can be challenging due to the lack of proper documentation and the deteriorated state of the bodies. In some cases, forensic methods such as DNA testing are employed to confirm identities. This process is often time-consuming and requires coordination between various agencies and countries. The involvement of international organizations can sometimes expedite the identification process, ensuring that families are informed as quickly as possible.

Burial costs are free, but they are not managed by the

authorities. Instead, local communities, NGOs, and humanitarian organizations often step in to ensure that the deceased receive a dignified burial. These organizations also provide support to the families of the deceased, helping them navigate the complex process of repatriation and burial. They may offer financial assistance, legal advice, and emotional support to grieving families. The role of these organizations is crucial in filling the gaps left by governmental bodies.

Repatriating the bodies to their country of origin is very difficult; it costs about 2,000 euros. If the family doesn't have the means, they can send a family member to authorize and attend the burial. This process is further complicated because of bureaucratic hurdles and the need for coordination between multiple countries and agencies. The high cost of repatriation often places a significant financial burden on the families, who may already be struggling with the loss of their loved ones. In some cases, community fundraising efforts or donations from charitable organizations can help cover these costs.

If we don't have contact with the family, the embassy

authorizes the burial. Embassies and consulates play a crucial role in facilitating the burial process, especially when the deceased's family cannot be reached. They ensure that the burial is conducted in accordance with the deceased's cultural and religious practices. This involvement of diplomatic missions is essential in maintaining the dignity and respect of the deceased, even in death. The embassies also work closely with local authorities to ensure that all legal requirements are met.

Another step in the burial process is the following: once the person has passed away, we first contact the local authority, either through a hospital or a doctor. Then, we contact the consulate or embassy of the deceased. After that, a state-approved funeral service organization takes charge of the case. These organizations are responsible for handling all logistical aspects of the burial, including transportation of the body, obtaining necessary permits, and arranging the funeral service. If the deceased was affiliated with a mutual insurance company, the mutual insurance handles the funeral costs, providing financial relief to the family during a difficult time. The involvement of professional funeral services ensures that the burial process is conducted smoothly and with the utmost respect for the deceased.

The tragic reality of migrant deaths highlights the urgent need for comprehensive international cooperation and humanitarian assistance. Efforts must be made to improve

the safety and conditions of migration routes, provide adequate support to migrants, and ensure that the deceased are treated with dignity and respect. This includes enhancing search and rescue operations, providing better resources for identification and repatriation, and supporting the families of the deceased. By addressing these issues, we can work towards a more humane and just approach to migration. ■



Fuck Frontex

BORDERS KILL



Work on the ground

An AP diary - **Aegean Region**

****Pushbacks**

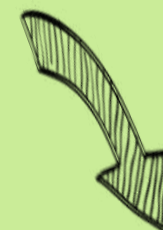
We are witnessing massive pushbacks in the Aegean Sea; many calls from boats between Turkey and the Aegean islands end up being a pushback. To alert the Hellenic Coast Guard today means to put people's lives at risk. It often leads to attacks and boats being towed back into Turkish waters, or to people rescued onto boats of the Hellenic Coast Guard, but then driven into the Turkish waters and forced onto life-rafts or back onto their own, now immobilised, boats. Presumably, in the latter cases the Hellenic Coast Guard hopes that their victims will drift back to Turkey, rather than drown.

From Alarm Phone Aegean regional team we contact people on the move after the person was pushed back. We talk to people when they are back in Turkey, provide useful information and sometimes people give testimonies and tell us about their experience and the violence they faced and we publish it to make the human rights violations seen and heard and document them..

You can read our reports on:
<https://aeg.bordercrimes.net/>

and on the Alarm Phone website
<https://alarmphone.org/>

**Aegean
Border
Crimes**



Alarm Phone

Texte original en français

Work on the ground

An AP diary - Laâyoune

**Pushbacks

Bonjour tout le monde moi c'est Babacar Ndiaye je suis un jeune activistes sénégalais qui vit au Maroc et au Sénégal qui a lutté pour le droit des migrants. Je travaille avec des associations et réseaux comme alarme phone. Je gère un centre d'orientation et d'écoute pour les migrants à Laâyoune dans le Sahara qui ouvre le droit de la santé des migrants, accompagner les femmes enceintes dans les hôpitaux, faire des enregistrements des actes de naissance, inscrire les enfants à école marocaine et aider les migrants détenus dans les centres de détention. On trouve des avocats pour plaider les migrants arrêtés dans les embarcations de fortune car pendant les traversées il y a parfois des naufragés, des migrants disparus, des migrants qui sont morts. Les autorités nous contactent pour venir faire l'identification des corps et après contacter les familles et les aider pour les rapatriements des corps ou recevoir des autorisations d'enterrer les corps des migrants dans les cimetières qui sont fait pour les migrants en dehors de la ville de Laâyoune. Parfois aussi il y a des arrestations arbitraires, que les migrants sont des victimes d'agressions sexuelles, de vols et d'autres maltraitements avec des fractures, des hospitalisations et autres. On cherche des mois pour venir en assistance à des personnes blessées qui n'ont pas les moyens de se prendre en charge eux mêmes alors on

s'occupe de la vie quotidienne des migrants à Laâyoune. On a aussi une maison d'accueil des migrants créée depuis 2015 pour aider les migrants qui sont en cours de transit, ça leur permet d'avoir un toit, éviter que les migrants restent dans les rues, les gares routières ou dans les places publiques. Cette maison est actuellement dans une projet d'achat, alors si vous pouvez nous aider à participer à l'achat ce sera un rêve qui se réalise. Merci à vous et la main sur le coeur ♥



Appel à don pour l'achat d'une maison permettant d'accueillir les personnes en exil à Laâyoune



Work on the ground

An AP diary - Laâyoune

**Pushbacks

Hello everyone, I'm Babacar Ndiaye, a young Senegalese activist living in Morocco and Senegal who fights for migrants' rights. I work with associations and networks like Alarm Phone. I run an orientation and listening center for migrants in Laâyoune in the Sahara, which supports migrants' health rights, accompanies pregnant women to hospitals, registers birth certificates, enrolls children in Moroccan schools and helps migrants held in detention centers. We find lawyers to plead for migrants arrested in makeshift boats, because during the crossings there are sometimes shipwrecked people, missing people, migrants who have died. The authorities contact us to come and identify the bodies and then contact the families to help them repatriate the bodies or receive authorizations to bury the migrants' bodies in the cemeteries set up for migrants outside the city of Laâyoune. Sometimes, too, there are arbitrary arrests, and migrants are victims of sexual assault, theft and other forms of abuse, with broken bones, hospitalization and so on.

We take months to come to the assistance of injured people who don't have the means to take care of themselves, so we take care of the day-to-day life of migrants in Laâyoune. We also have a migrant reception center set up in 2015 to help migrants in transit, giving them a roof over their heads and preventing them from staying in the streets, bus

stations or public squares. This house is currently in the process of being purchased, so if you can help us participate in the purchase it will be a dream come true. Thank you and with my hand on my heart ♥

Call for donations to
buy a house which
accommodate people
in exile in Laâyoune



Do you have some rituals which you do before or after a shift?

I drink hot chocolate after stressful shifts and try to implement it as a ritual.



How has being in the Alarm Phone changed your view on politics/borders/EU and the sea?

I am having so many different feelings when I swim in the Mediterranean Sea since I joined AP. I loved the sea and I still love it, but now its a more complicated topic and sometimes I dive under water and get sad, can not enjoy that much as I used to do.

What keeps you going despite the increasing shittyness of the border regime?

the friendships, comradeships across borders, the urge to do something with people I trust against this shittyness and fight for freedom of movement for all.

How do you take care of yourself after a stressful shift?

drinking hot chocolate, running and screaming, let my anger out and sleep sleep sleep.

What do you think is special about the Alarm Phone network?

I like how many different people we are in the network, how we have different approaches to life and to exchange and still to fight together and be comrades. Also its special how many meetings we do a year ;-)



What do you think are difficult topics in the Alarm Phone network?

power dynamics and hierarchies- we need to talk talk talk and get into action to change old habits and ways "how it used to be".

What's your favorite Alarmphone memory?

I love to think about the situation we had in Marseille 2018 when we as a network walked from the meeting place to the place the party took place and we were so many, so full of rage but also joy, starting to chant and sing and scream and a spontaneous demonstration started and we were so powerful. But also I love to remember the situation of the strength and the feeling I had at a commemoration at sea on the beach and how connected it felt, to the people who lost their lives, who were killed and also to the relatives who were praying and having speeches for their loved ones and the clarinet playing- the music I still have in my ears.

Tell us a memory which inspires you.

It inspires me when I think of all the sensibilisation workshops which are done in Morocco and all the work which people put into knowledge transfer before leaving, departing by boat. It inspires me to see the strength of people trying to cross in the aegean region, again and again and I can't really imagine how, but the power and hope and the strength out of rage and anger gives me inspiration and power to go on fighting.

Tell us a funny memory from a shift (with PoB, CP or Coastguard etc.)?

I had a very funny moment when I tried to speak Bulgarian via reading out loud the google translation and had the feeling it is worth it.



Do you have some rituals which you do before or after a shift?

Meditation and Walk



What do you think are difficult topics in the Alarm Phone network?

White Superiority and Power hierarchies

How has being in the Alarm Phone changed your view on politics/borders/EU and the sea?

Advanced

What's your favorite Alarmphone memory?

Munich Meeting 03/2018

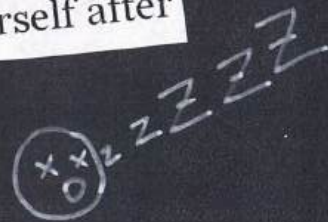
What keeps you going despite the increasing shittyness of the border regime?

The increasing shittyness of the border regime



How do you take care of yourself after a stressful shift?

Sleeping for good



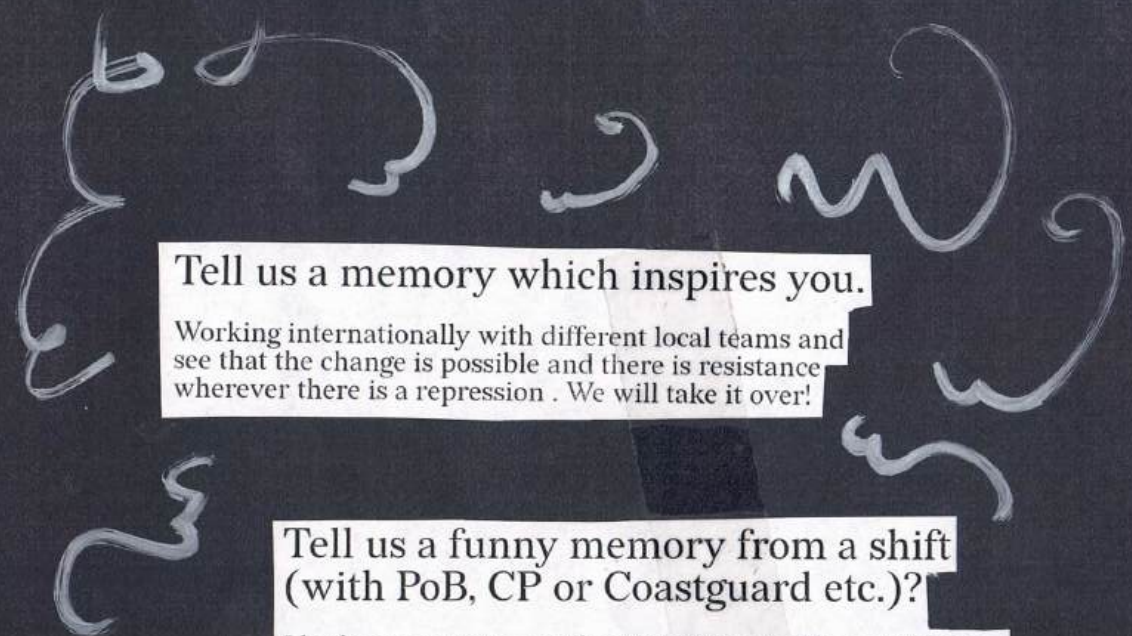
What do you think is special about the Alarm Phone network?

The Network itself



Tell us a memory which inspires you.

Working internationally with different local teams and see that the change is possible and there is resistance wherever there is a repression . We will take it over!



Tell us a funny memory from a shift (with PoB, CP or Coastguard etc.)?

I had a conversation with a SCLCG in Arabic and it turns out he is critisizing the border regime and the EU influence in North Africa



Photo courtesy of Refugees in Libya

Interview with David Yambio from *Refugees in Libya*

Hi David, thanks for joining us. Could you tell us about *Refugees in Libya*, how did it start and what is it?

Refugees in Libya is a self-organized protest movement, which started in Tripoli on October 1st 2021, in response to a violent crackdown on our homes in the Gargaresh neighborhood, which contained over 10.000 inhabitants ranging from various nationalities and identities. We were refugees, migrants, asylum seekers - all the categories were there. We wanted to seek recognition from the Libyan state and push forward

the responsibility of the EU and the international community towards our suffering in Libya. It was about having the autonomy and the courage to speak for ourselves, no matter our circumstance, and also to bring our plight to the Libyan common people, for them to recognize our existence and together advocate for the protection of our rights and the respect for our humanity and dignity. Because the suffering and the cycle of violence we had to experience the past years before 2021 was unspeakable. Though it was well-documented, we never had the chance to speak for ourselves. Today we are spread all over the African continent, Europe, the Americas, therefore refugees in Libya are not just people who are present at the borders, but everyone who has passed through Libya at some point.

It started as a protest in 2021, could you describe the beginnings and how you organized yourselves? Also since you said, there are people now spread in many different places, but are there still protests ongoing in Libya?

When I look back at our protest, it was nothing like an ordinary protest where you say, okay, we have to protest against a certain decree, a certain system that we don't want in our society. At this point we were at the point of no return. We were not the first to protest, but unlike others, we were very united from 11 different nationalities. This is where the strength of Refugees in Libya lies and it is something that we are still keeping. We were thousands of women, children, men of all kinds, including sick people, newborns, pregnant women living in the streets for one hundred days - three months and ten days. In these consecutive days of protest we were attacked every day and night by the militias, were left to the open skies, rain was pouring down on us, we felt cold, we were hungry and thirsty. We were completely abandoned until we managed to break through to have a sort of support from the international community. Because one of the pillars which we wanted to achieve was a bridge over the Mediterranean instead of a mass

grave. To be able to communicate with European civil society about what is happening on the Mediterranean Sea. Through this protest we were able to engage in face to face negotiations with the Libyan authorities and partially we exchanged emails or letters with members of the European parliament or church members in the Vatican. This started as a protest movement, but today we are registered in Italy as a non-profit organization, and we are trying to advocate for change on different fronts - for freedom of movement, for humanitarian reception, for people on the move, to recognize their autonomy and to provide humanitarian assistance whenever necessary.

Coming back to the present situation in Libya, it has not completely changed, which means that there is continuous protest and different versions of protest. There are people in detention centers who are protesting every day and they are members of Refugees in Libya.

In your protest, did you receive support from Libyan civil society? How did people react to your protest, what was the support structure around your protest?

Definitely. Our protest was a call to awaken the consciousness not only of the Libyan civil society but also politicians who got shocked. Because the way we have been silenced - no-one ever imagined that such a protest could happen, because of the oppression we had suffered. At this moment the Libyan civil society came forward to start supporting us, and some of them are still supporting us to this very day. Their support came as a strong win for us and our demands. But those supporting us faced repression by the Libyan government to stop them from engaging with us.

Could you talk about the challenges you faced and what you learnt along the way? What would you say were crucial or breakthrough moments?

The people who organized the protest, we had a lot of

responsibility. We lost lives, either being shot by militias or starving to death from hunger. Some people with medical problems didn't have medicine or and there were people who died from cold because of the rain. Dealing with the militias and the mafia regime every single day who tried to break through our protest and destroy us was a huge challenge. But we also learnt about the power of unity when people come together regardless of our identities, of our religion, of our background, our nationalities. This was our strength. We all had the same cause, that we want freedom of movement, we want dignity, we want evacuation, we want the EU to recognize its responsibilities in financing the mafia regime and the detention center system across Libya. The moment of breakthrough when we sat and negotiated with the Libyan authorities at one table, which is something that had never happened in Libya before and we had never imagined it, had we not come together in such huge numbers, as one mind, with strong mobilization from all sides, and also the support of the Libyan common people, the neighbors who understood our plight. This was a big win for us. And our connections to the European civil societies on the other side of the Mediterranean, which is keeping us active to this day, because of our solidarity network and the alliance which we managed to create.



Photo courtesy of Refugees in Libya

You mentioned that you were meeting with the Libyan authorities, how did they respond to your demands? Did you achieve any change?

Well, it changed things one way, in a good way, that the humanitarian flights coming and leaving from Libya which had been suspended were resumed and people could leave Libya, either to their countries of origin, or to Europe, because the European government had invited people to come as refugees and given them resettlement places. So when these flights resumed, including the evacuation flights to Rwanda, the humanitarian corridor to Italy, we couldn't have achieved these things had we not met with the Libyan politicians, the responsible authority. This would have never happened otherwise. But the consequences, the repercussions for us, were that those of us who negotiated with the Libyan authorities were targeted once the protest was over. We were shot at, some community members narrowly escaped from death. Some of us were put in prison and incarcerated for almost three years for having participated in the protest.

It takes so much courage to do this kind of protest under these kinds of circumstances. You also mentioned that you had talks with EU politicians, and I know you also met people in Brussels for example - can you tell us how those kinds of meetings went?

Well, as for the politicians of the European Union - politicians in Italy, in Germany, in Brussels at the parliament and the commission - I already started being in contact when I was in Libya. I felt that they were very aware of the situation, but chose not to recognize our pain, chose not to respond to the calls that we were making, that we are human beings, that we would like to have our rights respected and protected, that we would like to have access to medical facilities, shelter, housing etc. After I survived assassination attempts and came to Europe, thanks to the European civil society movements, we were able to meet with Italian politicians and members of the European parliament, the UNHCR in Geneva... At all these occasions I was forced to explain myself over and over

again and then being looked down at, like "who is this person?"; in the sense of, how do I even have the audacity to speak about these things? But nevertheless, one can never tell how things will change. The people we are now educating and sensibilizing might have the power to vote or take political decisions that matter. Some politicians pretend that they are not moved by this situation, but I know that deep down when we show them our testimonies these things shock them because they are human beings. But how they are manipulating the European public with their propaganda is extraordinary.

These protests started in 2021, and at some point you came to Europe yourself. How has it been for you personally to be so involved on the ground, but to be now working on the same topic from so far away? How is it for you to stay connected?

First of all, it's not easy on a personal level. When we are forced to leave our countries, we do it in the hope of finding safety, and safety is a very big issue. Safety means access to education, being able to pursue your dreams, but again I am living through a constant retraumatization when I engage with the people that I was once with on the ground. Some of them have died, this guilty feeling...I don't think anyone should have to live this situation, but I'm drawn to it because I don't want people to not have voices, to not be heard when they need help. This is why I constantly engage with it, focusing on Libya, Tunisia and other countries, but deep down if I am asked, I would not want to do this. This is what politicians are forcing us to do, when they create policies that kill, when they create border regimes that reject, when they create systemic approaches that do not recognize the autonomy of people on the move, even when they are vulnerable like they are now in Sudan, for example. It's a very big challenge. I don't know how I can explain this to people who have never experienced this, but my life is disturbed every single day because of this. Sometimes I don't have time to eat, I travel a lot, I don't sleep well, I'm

affected by nightmares that, even if I go to therapy, the following day they come back. I cannot speak to my family the way I want, because I am constantly attending to people who are calling the hotline, people who are stuck somewhere... These things for me are overwhelming sometimes and I feel down, but I get back up. Emotionally, I am affected in many ways.

Thank you for this honest answer. You got so involved in Refugees in Libya, but even before the protest started, having left your country, you never had this kind of "normal" life - if your life had been different, instead of full time activism, what would you be doing now?

People are born in circumstances where they are not given the same opportunities. If my life had been different, I imagine that I would have gone to school without interruptions, I imagine that I would have completed my studies. I would have wanted to become an entrepreneur or a philosopher. I believe exploring philosophical thought is really helpful for our society in many ways.

You mentioned the hotline before. Could you explain how it works and when it was established?

The hotline, I think also like Alarm Phone, started as a personal project. It started with my cellphone inside the protest. There were a lot of people who were calling when the militia had captured them after leaving the protest and then I had to mobilize a group to go and bring those people back. I did it once, twice and more, and people started to distribute my number. Also people from other parts of Libya started to inquire about the protest, if they could participate. I told them that it's open for everyone. A lot of people had been waiting for a chance to let out their anger and protest and show that they were really fed up with this situation. Afterwards, the protest ended and I used the hotline as a means of connection, to keep Refugees in Libya going. When I arrived in Europe, I switched to Whatsapp or Telegram and

people started to send lots of testimonies, also videos of them being stuck in the desert, being tortured, being at sea, in detention centers, women being raped... this started to increase and I had to filter those messages to use them for different purposes - reports, advocacy, journalism... but I felt overwhelmed when I was dealing with over 300 calls a day. Not only from Libya, but also Tunisia, Morocco or Algeria. Since last year I managed to shift part of this responsibility to the Alliance with Refugees in Libya, which is a network of civil society individuals, lawyers, journalists. We managed to build a group over the years to fight alongside Refugees in Libya and amplify our voices. The hotline is not so much like Alarm Phone, with very immediate situations to respond to, such as people in distress at sea, but here people call from detention, who are being tortured, who want to get out of Libya after five years, these are big requests from individual people. The team we have trained for the hotline for more or less a year now are people without lived experience in Libya and sometimes the cases from the main hotline are being referred to me, because of my knowledge of certain regions and certain dynamics I am familiar with.

Aside from the hotline, we also have the human rights defenders campaign and a mobile exhibition that tells the story of 150 people with their families who are stuck in Libya and are experiencing the effects of the European border externalization. We do a lot of things, like events in different countries. We engage with the ICC, on the ground in Libya or Tunisia - many different levels of activity.

Could you explain about the human rights defenders campaign?

The human rights defenders campaign is a campaign we initiated in January 2024. The idea was to focus on the 221 comrades who were captured during the violent dissolution of the protest. They were put in Ain Zara detention center, which is financed by Italy and European actors. They were severely punished for their involvement in the protest. They were put there for 18 months under torture and enslavement,

forced labor and extortions. We want to welcome them to European countries - not as vulnerable people, not as refugees, but as people who have stood up for human rights and the rights of refugees across Libya. We started this in Bologna with the participation of the mayor of Bologna, filmmakers, lawyers and civil society actors. The campaign is visiting different "welcome cities", cities that in 2015 declared themselves to be welcoming cities for refugees. We wanted to revitalize this approach of engaging with cities... We are still identifying cities we can approach.

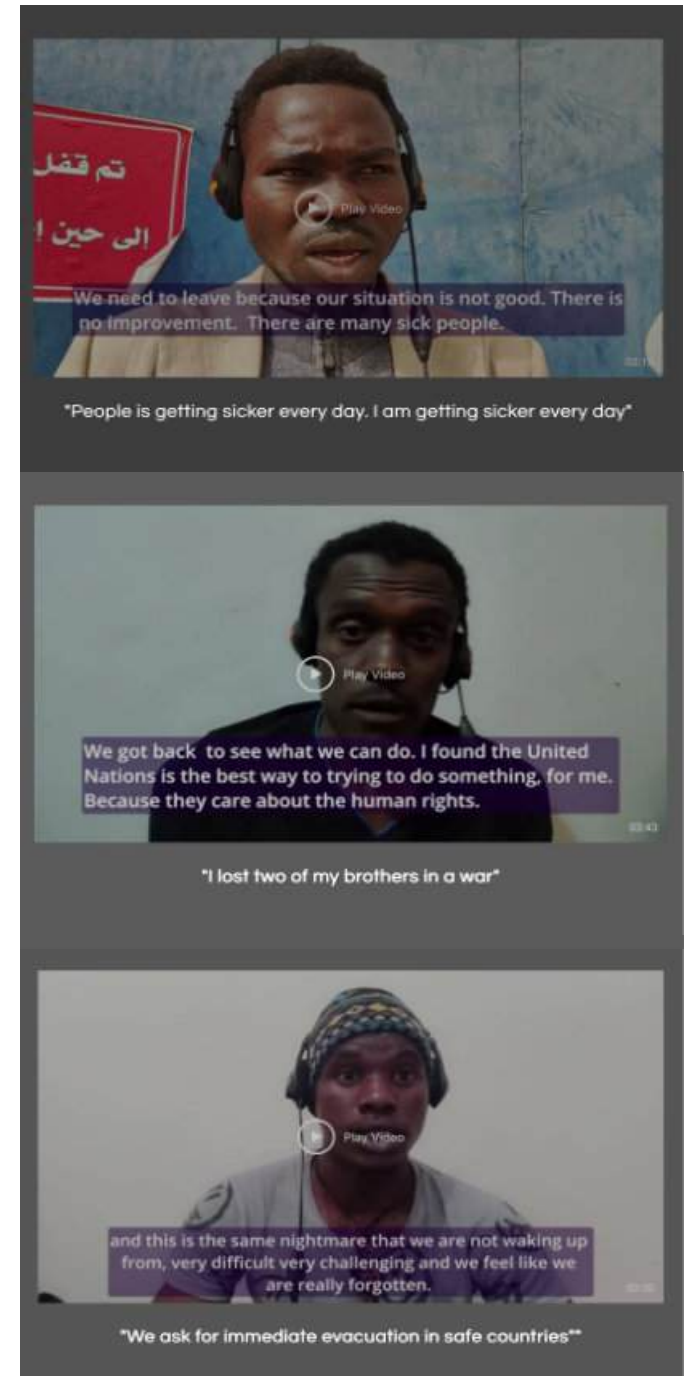
Is there anything else you would like people to know about Refugees in Libya?

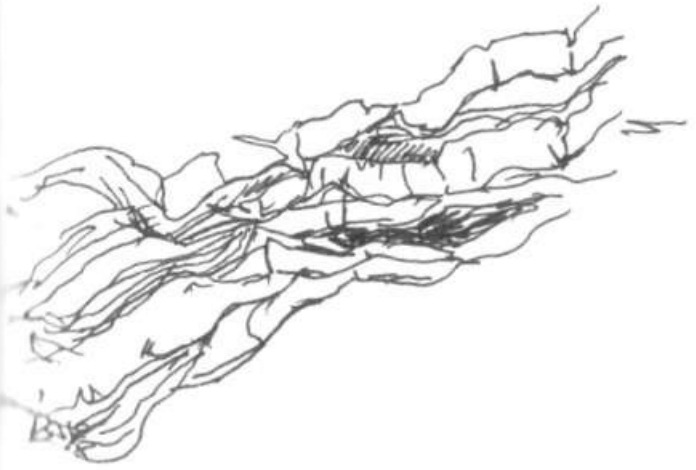
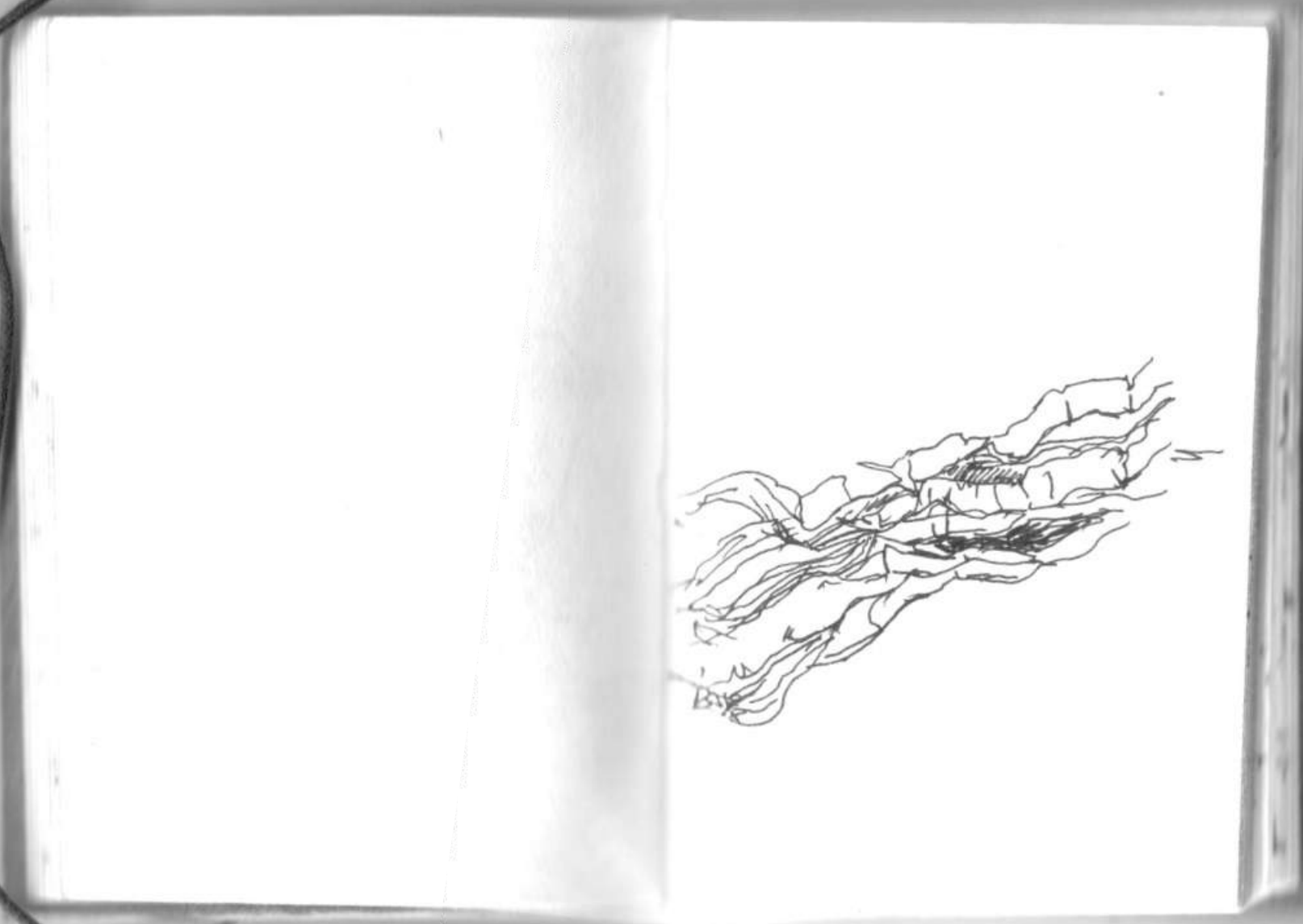
Try to listen to the stories that come out of Libya and identify the responsibilities of European people and taxpayers. The resources that are being used to kill people at the border, to finance agencies like Frontex, are made possible by people who vote. Listen to our voices and amplify our voices. We have stories and testimonies on our platform, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. Follow us and spread our messages.

You can become part of the Alliance with Refugees in Libya, which is an alliance of people who don't have lived experience of being in Libya, but who support us. You can also donate, we have a strong need for financial support for people who have survived the detention centers, people living in the streets. Men who need different kinds of support, because men are often expected to endure all hardships. No-one should be tortured or exposed to violence - neither women, children nor men.

Thank you so much - as always, it is a true pleasure and inspiration talking to you.

www.RefugeesInLibya.org





CommemorActions

CommemorAction is a blended word encompassing both **commemoration** and **action**. It emphasizes both our commitment to remembering those who died or disappeared in their pursuit of freedom of movement and our demands for justice.

CommemorActions are actions that commemorate people who died or have gone missing at sea during their journey to Europe. Born out of the collaboration between the friends and families of those who go missing in the Mediterranean and activists who collect their testimonies and reproduce their demands, CommemorActions have been organized around Europe and Africa over the last years. They are both commemorations and protest, mixing political messages with artistic performances, but most of all, linking grieving loved ones with as many people as possible, and making platforms together to make their stories and demands known.



Ky thi ra



CommemorAction

OCTOBER 5TH REMAINS AN UNFORGETTABLE DATE FOR ALL OF US. THAT NIGHT TWO BOATS CAPSIZED IN GREEK WATERS, ONE OF THEM JUST OFF THE ISLAND OF KYTHIRA. THE PEOPLE ON THE BOATS WERE FLEEING WAR AND TERROR - FILLED WITH LONGING FOR A SAFE FUTURE. HERE IN THIS PLACE, VERY CLOSE TO THE HARBOUR, THE BOAT CRASHED INTO A ROCK FACE. THE WIND WAS STRONG, THE WAVES HIGH, AND IT WAS DARK. MANY INHABITANTS OF THE ISLAND CAME AND TRIED TO SAVE THE PEOPLE BY ANY MEANS POSSIBLE. THEY SAVED 80 PEOPLE WITH THEIR EFFORTS. HOWEVER, AT LEAST 15 PEOPLE LOST THEIR LIVES THAT NIGHT. WHEN THE TRAGEDY BECAME KNOWN TO THE RELATIVES OF THOSE WHO WERE ON BOARD, FAMILY MEMBERS WHO COULD TRAVEL MADE THEIR WAY TO KYTHIRA. IN THIS TIME OF SHOCK AND LOSS, SURVIVORS AND RELATIVES MET THERE, AS WELL AS INITIATIVES IN SOLIDARITY AND PEOPLE WILLING TO HELP.

SOME OF THE DEAD WERE FOUND IN THE WATER. THEY WERE IDENTIFIED, TRANSPORTED TO KALAMATA'S HOSPITAL, AND THEN BURIED IN KOMOTINI. OTHERS ARE STILL MISSING A YEAR LATER. THE SURVIVORS HAVE BEEN HOUSED IN INHUMANE CAMPS AND ARE FIGHTING FOR THEIR RESIDENCE PERMITS TO LIVE A SAFE LIFE. SINCE OCTOBER 2022, WE - SOME OF THE SURVIVORS AND RELATIVES - REMAINED IN CONTACT. IN MARCH 2023, WE REMEMBERED WHAT HAPPENED WITH AN EVENING CALLED "A SEA FULL OF TEARS" ORGANIZED IN ERFURT (GERMANY). MORE THAN 200 PEOPLE CREATED SPACE FOR MOURNING, PAIN AND REMEMBRANCE, BUT ALSO

FOR COURAGE AND HOPE. IT WAS POSSIBLE TO FEEL THE PRESENCE OF THOSE WHO ARE NO LONGER WITH US. IN THIS TOUCHING ATMOSPHERE, THE IDEA OF RETURNING TO KYTHIRA BECAME MORE CONCRETE. WE GATHERED HERE IN KYTHIRA WITH EVERYONE TO MOURN AND COMMEMORATE THE LOST. WE KEEP ALIVE THE MEMORY OF THE PEOPLE WHO DIED IN THE SEA. WE ALSO COME ANGRY AT THE EUROPEAN BORDERS THAT KILLED THEM, AND CONTINUE TO KILL. WE COME WITH THE DESIRE TO BUILD ANOTHER FUTURE IN SOLIDARITY AND WITHOUT BORDERS. IT IS OUR RESISTANCE."

– Speech of family members introducing the commemoration at Diakofti beach



One year later, in October 2023, some survivors and family members went back to Kythira. They wanted to thank the local people, who, without thinking of the danger to their own lives, rescued a total of 80 people that night. People who otherwise would certainly not be alive today. They came together to hold a memorial ceremony on the beach of Diakofti, the place where the night of 5.10.2022 will remain forever present for all. At the beginning of the memorial, Shuja and Sultana told the story of how we all came together and introduced the speeches of the survivors and family members.

Khadijah, who lost her dearest husband Abdul Wase Ahmadi that night, began by expressing her discomfort. She said, "I stand here wanting to tell you so many words. But the waves behind me make me sad and I can't find the words. The last words from my husband were: who will save us here? You came and saved us, endangering your own lives. We are here to thank you. To embrace you. We are a family now. We will never forget you. Thank you!"

Zameer, who lost his mother, sister, and brother, stood with his back to the sea, which became their graves: "I lost my whole family here, in this sea, but you saved me. I wanted to say thank you. When I leave Kythira, I will be leaving my family here with you. Please take care of them."

More than 100 people came together to commemorate the dead that night, listening to the heart-breaking statements from the survivors.

In the days before the memorial, the 25 travellers to Kythira - including 12



4.10.: Koder in der Schule
(bedankt) für die die damals
Idee: 12 Orte; DANKE sagen an Supporter*inne
- K I T H I R A
• Strand unter (Alte)

survivors and family members of missing people and their supporters from Hamburg, Erfurt, Munich, Athens, and Kalamata, among others - had daily conversations and meetings with the people who saved them that night:

There was Dimitris, who took his uncle's crane and stood on the edge of the abyss with it, saving Khadijah, Hussein, Masih and many others from certain death.

Kostas, who also played the clarinet at the memorial, and who with others was able to pull up many people from the treacherous rocks with ropes, their strength coming from their hands and will power.

The vice mayor and volunteer firefighter who unobtrusively made everything possible throughout the entire rescue efforts.

The firefighter Spyros, who with two of his colleagues, abseiled down the dangerous slope with his private equipment to give instructions to people on how to be pulled up with the rope.

Everyone who spent the next few days cooking, bringing clothes, healing wounds, comforting worries, answering questions for the survivors and for the many relatives who immediately came from abroad. These people made sure that all who were there were comforted in their difficult time and helped through the bureaucracy.

Many of the survivors who could not travel listened to a live stream on October 5th, and were thus also present. Some had written their own speeches and sent voice messages.

The day before the memorial, the survivors had invited all those who had saved them to an Afghan meal in Karavas. Here, in this sheltered place, many were able to embrace and share stories and pain for the first time. Many of the locals said that they do not talk to anyone about this night, they do not want to burden anyone in their families, but constantly the images flash in their minds. Now, through this trip, they had finally found others again with whom they could share the painful experiences.

"I don't take off my sunglasses and you understand why," said Giannis.

And the other Giannis, the cook who after rescuing people still opened the kitchen of his restaurant and cooked whatever he had so that the survivors would have something to eat says: "Solidarity is a big cooking pot. Allilegii ine ena tsoukali."

Today, there remains no certainty for far too many about what happened to their beloved, because their bodies were not found or not identified. While some now have at least a grave to mourn, for others the comparison of DNA is still lost in the bureaucracy. The murderous border regime leaves traces, too many family members and survivors still suffer from the trauma that remains from the loss of loved ones.

We promise to never forget those who lost their lives at these borders. Our thoughts also remain with all the many people who are thinking of their loved ones, whose lives ended or who were forced to disappear due to the European policy of deterrence. We will move forward together: to tear down the borders and build another world of welcome.

slang



et up
if
As



Sultana Nael farsi text fragen

Interviews:

- Zaima Kontakt letter ✓ [Azade translate?]
- Mahsi in Berlin

wer kommt in welcher techn. version:



- Rahmy Maria + Remo



FRY LOY SS



CommemorAction

P Y L O S

Exactly one year ago, at 16:53 on 13 June 2023, we alerted the Hellenic Coast Guard to a boat in distress, near the coast of Pylos in Greece. There were over 700 people on board the heavily overcrowded boat called 'Adriana'. They could have all been rescued. They could still be alive today. But most of them were not rescued. Most of them are no longer alive.

We ended our email to the authorities with the words "They are urgently asking for help". This call remained unanswered. The Adriana sank and most of its passengers drowned in front of the eyes of the Hellenic Coast Guard, roughly 10 hours after we had sent out the alert. Over 600 people are estimated to have died. This shipwreck was not an accident. It was a massacre, it was a state crime.

Today, one year later, we commemorate all those who lost their lives and we fight for the ones still alive. We mourn the dead and continue to struggle for freedom of movement for all! We condemn the criminalization of nine survivors who were imprisoned by the Greek authorities and released only a few weeks ago (May 2024). And we support the demands of relatives for appropriate assistance in the search for the bodies of their loved ones. This is essential for them to find some peace after experiencing this horror.

With several hundreds of people who disappeared when the Adriana sank, there are thousands in many different countries who are searching for them, seeking answers and justice. But the European border regime that killed them is not giving any answers. We have stayed in contact with some of the relatives of people who were disappeared on 14 June 2023. We are trying to support them in their search and in dealing with their loss. We also try to draw attention to the ongoing mass murders committed by the European Union at the external borders. Some of the relatives told us that until today, their biggest need is support in the search for the bodies – a need which has been ignored by the Greek authorities. Behind every person who loses their life while

migrating, there is a story. There are brothers, a neighbour, sisters, a comrade, a colleague, parents and friends, looking for them, mourning their deaths, trying to keep their loved ones alive in memory.

These countless deaths are preventable. But unfortunately, they are a logical consequence of the brutal border regime established by Greece and the EU in the past years. Pushbacks, brutal attacks at sea and increasing criminalization against border crossers force people to board unseaworthy boats in high numbers. They often try to remain hidden as for people on the move, encountering the Hellenic Coast Guard, the Hellenic Police or the Hellenic Border Guards often means violence and suffering. As Alarm Phone, we have documented innumerable cases of pushbacks in the Eastern Mediterranean, executed or coordinated by the Greek or other border guards. People on the move know that they need to travel as far as they can to increase their chances to avoid pushbacks or pushbacks by proxy.

While Greece continues to direct blame at survivors and intensifies the criminalisation of projects like the Aegean Boat Report, also the violence at Greek borders continues. Just last week, Alarm Phone was in contact with several different groups in the Evros region who reported brutal attacks. Also pushbacks in the Aegean Sea continue to happen systematically – they became less visible after the Pylos massacre, but they never stopped.

While survivors and relatives fight for justice and against criminalization, the real crimes continue to happen: The war against migration and people on the move. As Alarm Phone, we continue to fight against death at sea, against border violence and against a global regime of migration apartheid. We are fighting for a world without borders and freedom of movement for all!

We are not alone. Survivors, relatives, lawyers and activists joined forces to collectively fight for justice. In the reconstruction of the Adriana shipwreck, survivors testify what really happened: they explain in detail the production of a disaster by the Greek authorities, who were subsequently trying hard to disappear evidence. This reconstruction serves as a powerful counter-

narrative to the account of the Hellenic Coast Guard, which is still too often believed in the media and public. Also, forty survivors have filed a criminal complaint against all responsible parties before the Naval Court in Piraeus. They are supported by a powerful alliance of human rights groups and lawyers, who seek accountability for the deadly actions and inactions of the Greek authorities. Moreover, there was a strong legal and solidarity campaign in support of and together with the nine survivors, who were cynically accused as smugglers and of having caused the disaster. The charges against the nine Egyptians were dropped in May.

We'll never forgive, we'll never forget: We build a collective memory from our pain in our struggle for a society based on solidarity and the freedom for all to make their own decisions about their lives.

United in Solidarity – Freedom of movement and equal rights for all!



In memory of all those who went missing

Abdul Wahid
Sufyan Abbas
Khawar Hussain
Unknown
Nasir Abbas
Unknown
Unknown
Muhammad Tehir
Unknown
Arsalan Ali
Unknown
Ibrahim Hamada Ibrahim Al-Hasi Baagr
Unknown
Unknown
Said Hamada Fattouh Abdel-Aty Saud
Unknown
Unknown
Adnan Khaliq
Unknown
~~Saqib~~
Saqib Shabir
Muhammad Yusuf
Unknown
~~Said-Hamada-~~
Mohammed Hosni Hassan Hassan / Abu Saud
Unknown
Mohammed Haitham Ahmed Mohamed Al-Sayed Azab
Abdul Rahman Imam Abdh Imam
Unknown
Faris Abdul Hadj Najeh Mohamed
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Muhammad Mustafa Ali Hamad
Laith Faleh Al-Amri
Unknown
Faleh Hakam Al-Amri
Unknown
Hamza Muhammad Khair Aiyash

Unknown
Mahmoud Fouad Aiyash
Unknown
Yacoub Abdel Wahed
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Mohamad Abdel Radwan
Unknown
Muaz Siddiq
Shahbaz Ahmad
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Muhammad Naeem
Sami Nassif Aziz Mamoun
Mohamed Tamer Saeed Abdul Sadiq
Unknown
Unknown
Suhib Abdul Salam Aiyash
Abdul Rahman Diab
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Yazan Kassem Sidwida
Unknown
Reda Saeed Mahmoud Mohamed
Unknown
Mohamed Khaled Abdel Shafee Desouky
Mohamed Walid Hassan Abdel Ghaffar
Unknown
Unknown
Adel Ahmad Alwa
Muhammad Ghassan Al-Talab
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Unknown
Riyad Ghassan Al-Talab

DUNKERQUE



/CALAIS

CommemorAction

„Où sont les lois entre ces deux pays, où étaient les secours pour venir les chercher et empêcher ce drame ?“

Twana Mamand Mohammed compte parmi les victimes du terrible naufrage du 24 novembre 2021, qui a fait au moins 31 mort·es. Il avait 18 ans et était originaire du Kurdistan irakien. Dans le texte ci-dessous, Zana Mamand, son frère, lui rend hommage, ainsi qu'à tou-te-s les naufragé-es. Mais le texte de Zana Mamand dépasse le simple hommage et pose la question des responsabilités des états français et britanniques, qui ont refusé de porter secours aux exilé-es, dans cette catastrophe. Ce texte a été lu par une militante associative lors de la marche de commémoration qui s'est déroulée le 24 novembre 2022, à Dunkerque.

Il y a un an jour pour jour, le monde et l'humanité était face à un événement tragique, le naufrage de 28 personnes innocentes et la disparition de quatre personnes entre deux états représentants des droits de l'Homme.

La Manche a fait face à cette tristesse de perdre nos proches, dont c'est l'anniversaire. Nous ne savons toujours pas ce qu'il s'est passé. Nous ne savons pas si nous faisons face à la mer, ou aux politiques de deux États.

Pendants plusieurs heures et en plusieurs langues, nos familles ont contacté les autorités, elles ont demandé de l'aide et que quelqu'un vienne les sauver en urgence. Leur vie était en danger, si ce n'était pas dans l'eau, elles auraient perdu la vie à cause du froid.

Imaginez la voix et la tristesse de 34 personnes en attente de recevoir une aide des côtes française et britanniques. Ce jour-là, l'aide n'est jamais arrivée. Sans aucune dignité et sans aucune humanité, nous étions face au décès de 28 personnes et de quatre personnes disparues. Seules deux personnes ont pu être sauvées par les pêcheurs après plus de 10h dans l'eau.

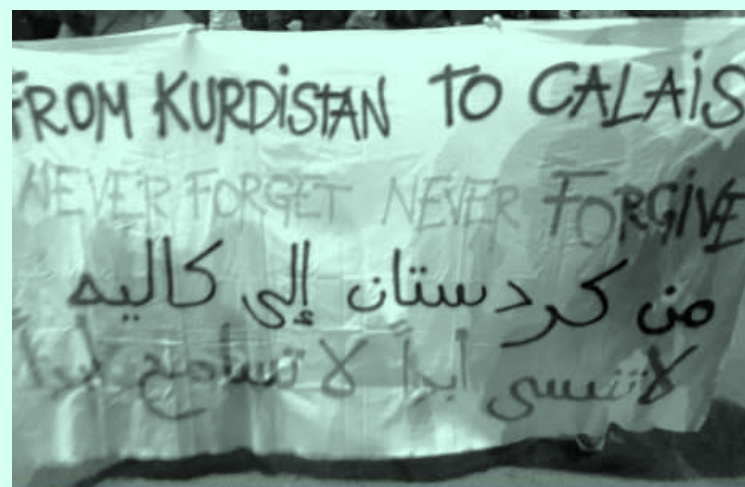
“Nous, familles des victimes, demandons le respect de la dignité et l'essence d'une humanité. Où sont les lois entre ces deux pays, où étaient les secours pour venir les chercher et empêcher ce drame?”

Aujourd'hui, nous demandons à toutes les associations d'aide aux personnes migrantes, à toutes celles mobilisées pour le respect des droits de l'Homme, et à tous les citoyens de continuer à se mobiliser pour la vérité, car à ce jour :

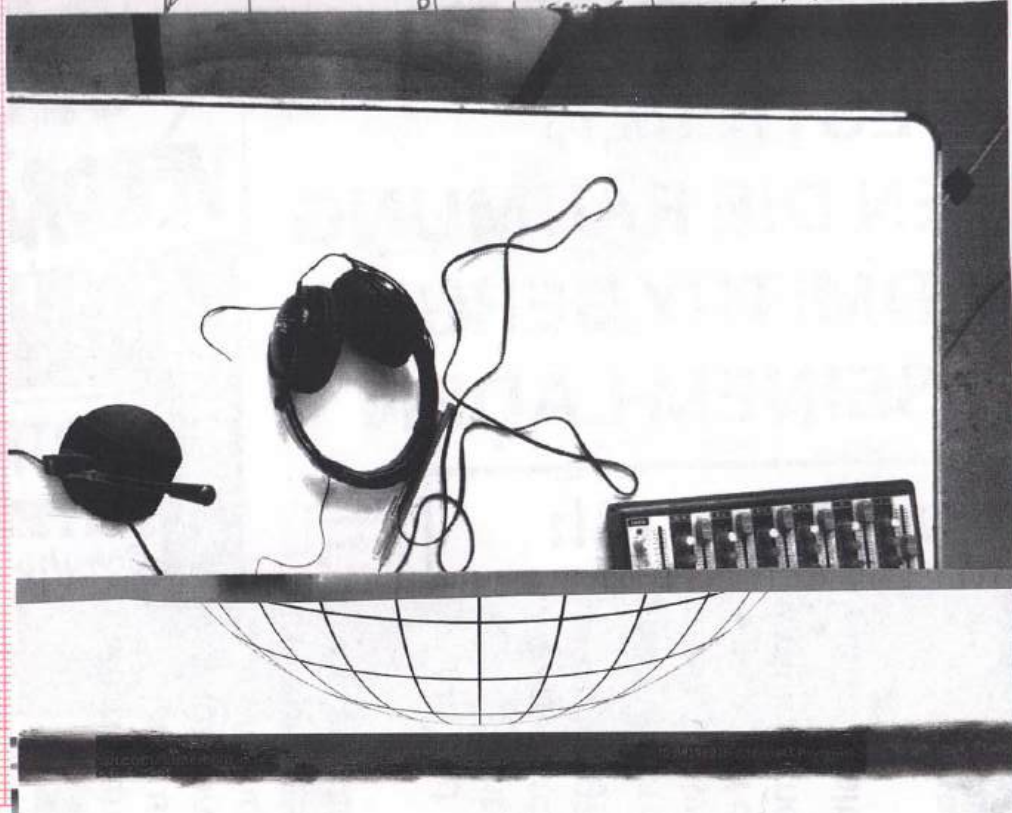
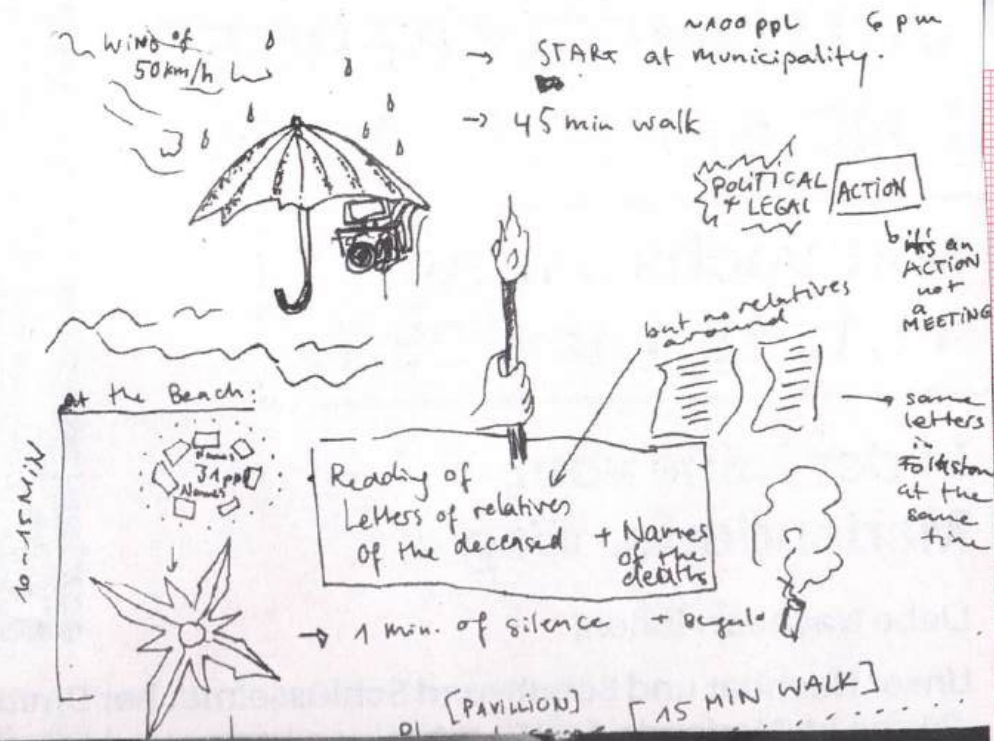
- 1- Quatre personnes, dont nous n'avons aucun signe de vie sont toujours portées disparues.
- 2- Les démarches judiciaires avancent très lentement en France et nous n'avons aucune nouvelle des autorités britanniques.
- 3- La France et le Royaume-Uni n'ont pas été en mesure d'interpeller les passeurs liés à cette tragédie.
- 4- Nos familles n'ont pas pu se rendre sur les lieux du drame.
- 5- Nos familles n'ont pas été entendues.
- 6- Nous avons l'impression que si nous continuons ainsi, nous ne parviendrons jamais à la vérité.

C'est pour cette raison que nous avons besoin de tout votre soutien et celui de tous les citoyens.

Zana, frère de Twana, disparu le 24 novembre 2021



(4 décembre 2022) "Où sont les lois entre ces deux pays, où étaient les secours pour venir les chercher et empêcher ce drame ? Calais, frontière meurtrière Calais, deadly border. Consulté le 9 septembre 2024 à l'adresse: <https://doi.org/10.58079/m6g8>



2x Morocco
2018 + 2020

2020 MATERIAL
10-15 different cities

DAKAR
2. 2022

2021 Bundestag

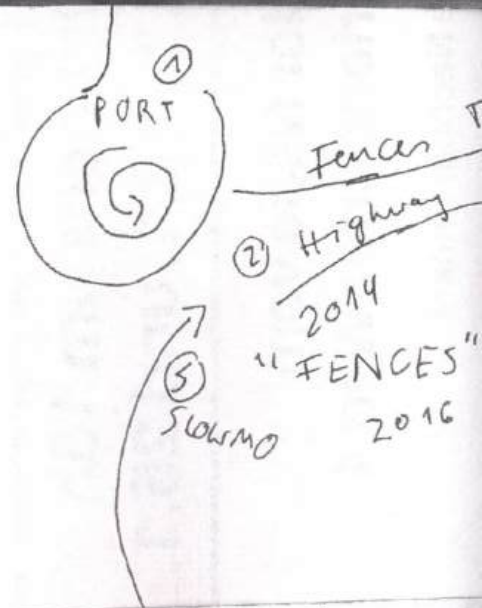
2021 April
Bein

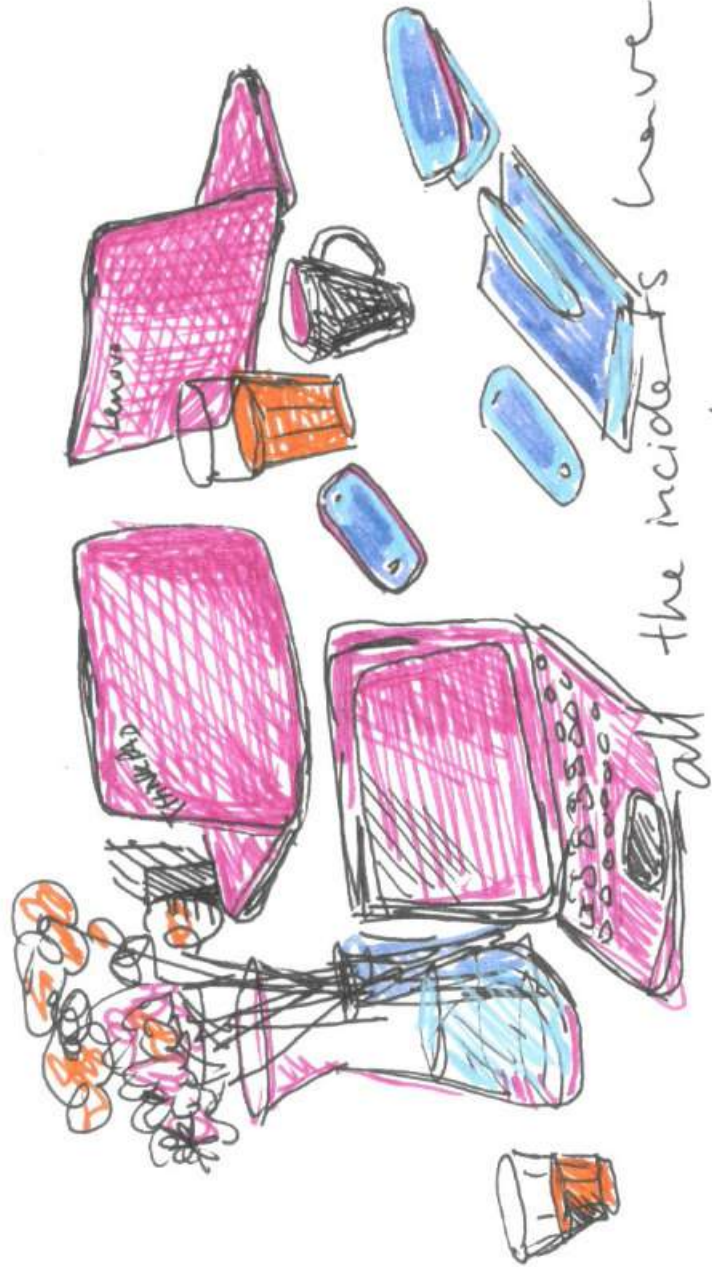
Dunkirk 2022
Nov.

Tunesien
Zuris 22
September

6. Feb.
2023

Idee
letzte Teil
vom Film
Jahrestag
Toni
Melika
Massaker
(Zuris)
Film





all the incidents have been resolved



++ AP Zurich: A calm night shift. We managed to sleep. We handed over to AP Asturias for the morning shift. 6 am. Two hours of sleep then we are off to work.

18:00

-

00:00

++ AP Berlin: I felt sick during the night, and it was too late to find a substitute for my morning shift. I woke up at 5 am hoping I was feeling better. I wasn't. I thought it was a mild cold. I went to Maya's house, as I couldn't leave her on the shift alone. But I could've done it remotely. My brain hurt. The shift felt super long. Two days later, Maya texted me that she is down with the flu and ended up missing her university exams. We handed over to AP Bretagne.



Thoughts on Legal Avenues of Justice

It has been 10 years since we started this project, and many more years of no border struggles, yet people continue to disappear every day at sea. Of some we know the names and faces, because relatives reach out to us in search of their loved ones. Of others we know nothing. Their traces are lost at the borders of Europe, on land and at sea. They are invisible even in the numbers of deaths at the border.

Those who survive tell us of violence and violations of all kinds: Being abandoned at sea, without food and water, experiences of brutal attacks by police forces at the border, kidnappings and pushbacks, refoulement and imprisonment in inhumane conditions.

The authorities are witnesses to much of this violence. Witnesses, because they are aware of the presence of people in danger, or because they are direct observers of the violence perpetrated. Witnesses, who are increasingly silent, whose daily monitoring dies in archives and databases. And more often than people like to believe, they are not only witnesses, but perpetrators themselves.

Those who listen to our narratives, those who follow our daily tweets, ask us how justice can be served. We too ask ourselves this every day. And we ask ourselves what kind of justice to demand: what are the right instruments, and which - among the possible instruments - are compatible with our principles of abolishing borders and prisons?

We do not believe there will ever be justice until people are free to move, to choose where to live, to realize their dreams according to their own wishes.

Yet, we believe it makes sense to help open legal avenues in response to systemic violence and human rights violations. We realize the limitations of such tools, yet we feel it is

appropriate to use a variety of tools - especially when it is the people on the move themselves who want to seek justice by pursuing legal action.

Apart from contributing to complaints after violations have already happened, in recent years we increasingly tried real-time interventions. In doing so, we hope to prevent refoulement or counter institutional non-assistance, like abandoning people at sea. We supported extraordinary appeals to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), according to Art. 39, on both the Central Mediterranean and the route between Turkey and Greece. Yet, some decisions, in which the ECHR ruled positively on the appeals of people with whom we were in contact, did not lead to any changes: In several cases along the Evros/Meriç river, which marks the borderline between Turkey and Greece, groups of people who were stuck on small islets that are on Greek territory in the middle of the river, were forcefully returned to Turkey. They were pushed back by Greek authorities despite a positive decision by the European Court of Human Rights based on Art. 39, which ordered Greek authorities to guarantee their access to an asylum procedure in Greece. In other words, rulings by the European Court of Human Rights were ignored by EU member states without further consequences.

Based on our conversations with survivors of pushbacks and shipwrecks, we helped reconstruct cases of violations in order to support more long-term legal struggles: on the one hand on the level of civil justice, which could compensate survivors economically for the harm they suffered, or enable their travel to Europe through a visa. On the other hand we supported attempts to seek criminal justice, aimed at clarifying the individual responsibilities of state officials in decision-making processes that caused people's deaths and human rights violations.

However, reconstructing governmental responsibilities in these cases is far from simple. Externalization policies, bilateral agreements with unsafe countries and EU funding for countries south of the Mediterranean to equip and 'train' their authorities to 'prevent departures' have all led to a profound reconfiguration of search and rescue policies. While the EU SAR authorities proceed in delegating operational responsibility to Libya, Tunisia, Egypt, Turkey

or Morocco, they continue to limit their operational range of intervention.

These realities stand in stark contrast to the values European countries like to project for themselves. “Libya is not a port of safety”, the court of cassation told us in the *Rackete* and *Vos Thalassa* cases. “Bringing people back to Libya is illegal,” the courts of Naples and Rome ruled in the *Asso 28* and *Asso 29* cases. “What the Libyan authorities do cannot qualify as a rescue operation,” the court of Crotona finally admitted in the appeal of *SOS Humanity*, after the ship had been detained for not cooperating with the so-called Libyan coastguard. While these rulings clearly state that the practices employed by European actors are illegitimate, they continue undisturbed to this day.

In theory, the people we support at sea are entitled to a sets of rights, clearly enshrined in the international human rights framework, including the right to seek asylum, the right to life, the right to escape, the right not to be exposed to inhuman and degrading treatment, the prohibition of collective expulsions, the principle of non-refoulement - and the list goes on.

Migrants crossing the Mediterranean, like all human beings at sea, are also protected by international maritime law, which requires any captain within reasonable capacity to conduct a rescue. Authorities have - like any other actor, public or private - the duty of rescue, which is fulfilled only and exclusively after disembarking the persons in a place of safety, where ‘life is no longer threatened, nor are fundamental human rights’.

Why then, is reality so different?

Why are we so far from any form of justice, even partial justice, which is supposed to be guaranteed by legal frameworks?

A first obstacle is the lack of transparency, the secrecy surrounding search and rescue operations at sea and the blurring of individual responsibilities through chains of commands that fragment accountability into nonexistence: as in the banality of evil, there is a succession of actions, including inactions, and decisions whose outcome everyone pretends to ignore. Furthermore, this lack of transparency becomes even

more obscure through different layers of responsibility between states, private security agencies and the EU that are impossible to disentangle. Attempts to access information through the Freedom Of Information Act (FOIA), are increasingly met with obstacles due to possible ‘violations of state secrets’, ‘harm to international relations’ or ‘interference with border surveillance missions’.

Even in the case of favorable court rulings, often times too much time has lapsed for them to have any meaningful consequences. Or, like in the extraordinary appeals to the ECHR, there is no-one there to enforce them. Although we know very well that it is unwise to place too much hope in the outcome of legal battles, they allow us to gain insights into the processes that lead to people's deaths and violations of their rights: forms of truth, albeit partial. They also give those who survived the violations a chance to speak out and be listened to - people on the move and their families who are generally silenced, racialised, unheard, and invisible. Their stories can help dismantle narratives in which state authorities deny any responsibility.

There is of course also a symbolic value to be gained by having the courts - the national organ of justice - acknowledge the wrongdoings people had to endure. But this symbolic victory should be met with caution, when it allows states to uphold the appearance of a working justice system, while in reality nothing ever changes.

All in all, legal procedures are only one of many necessary tools we use in our struggle for justice, and despite their severe limitations, we will continue to document, reconstruct, and support the demands of people on the move.



Do you have some rituals which you do before or after a shift?

At the end of the shift, I like to share with my shift-comrades the cases we have had, the situations we have followed, the anger or the sadness or, in the best cases, the happiness about the rescue arrivals.



How has being in the Alarm Phone changed your view on politics/borders/EU and the sea?

For me, as a white European, the work in Alarm Phone is a place where you can feel the responsibility we have - to break the racist system from within - the racist brutality at the border is often made invisible in western states and discourses - when you talk to people on the move and when you hear their stories and when you talk to western authorities, the anger against the racist system rises and there is no other way than to take your own responsibility and do what's possible for you to be in solidarity and try to change at least something.

What keeps you going despite the increasing shittyness of the border regime?

When we talk to people on the street and when we hear their stories and when we talk to Western authorities, the anger against the racist system is growing. So I think it is anger. And it is also seeing the other ap people - how they never stop, how brave they all are to the ap work and to the network. It is so powerful. I really admire the people in the network for their continued commitment.

How do you take care of yourself after a stressful shift?

Sharing with my shift partners the cases we have had, the situations we have followed, the anger or the sadness. Reflect on what we maybe missed to do, express our anger or sadness.

What do you think is special about the Alarm Phone network?

I think the Alarm Phone Network is special because it has built such a strong solidarity structure over the years - in terms of the network itself, but also in terms of sister projects, active individuals and the empowerment of other struggles. I really appreciate the continuous progress and changes we are working on in the network - it feels like our struggle is possible and has an impact.

What do you think are difficult topics in the Alarm Phone network?

Power dynamics/ decision making Free Palestine - disappointment that there is not simply unlimited solidarity with the struggle for a free palestine but endless discussions. instead of utilising our capacities and developing practical interventions.

What's your favorite Alarmphone memory?

I am not sure, sorry. There are several stories of people we have been in contact with as AP, and at some point we have met them in our cities after their long journeys. sometimes they become active in alarm phone or other struggles for freedom of movement... I think these are really powerful stories that show what people are capable of...

Tell us a memory which inspires you.

Tell us a funny memory from a shift (with PoB, CP or Coastguard etc.)?

Do you have some rituals which you do before or after a shift?

Have drinks and snacks, a clean desk

How has being in the Alarm Phone changed your view on politics/borders/EU and the sea?

That people will always look to ways to travel, to fight for their right for freedom of movement and our solidarity matters.

What keeps you going despite the increasing shittyness of the border regime?

That we have sth very concrete to keep up that we are despite everything convinced it makes sense.

How do you take care of yourself after a stressful shift?

I see friends from inside or outside alarmphone. Sometimes we talk about it sometimes not.

What do you think is special about the Alarm Phone network?

That we have such a huge task to fulfill together (24/7 hotline) and its mostly very horizontal decentral structures

What do you think are difficult topics in the Alarm Phone network?

Decisions that concern all the network. How to overcome racist structure that we live in within the network, how to change sth at least internally on the way we are with each other.

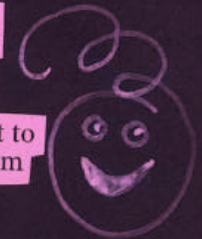
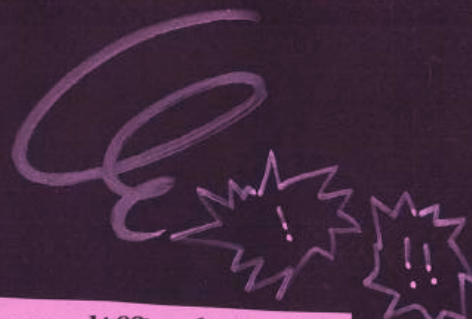
What's your favorite Alarmphone memory?

CommemorActions in different places.

Tell us a memory which inspires you.

Tell us a funny memory from a shift (with PoB, CP or Coastguard etc.)?

When the JRCC Pireaus called us to ask us to reach out to a PoB cause they had not been able to get a position from them cause of language barriers.



The Alarm Phone Creative Action Group

In Alarm Phone, we have written reports, regional ones, annual ones, with evidence, with data and numbers, with photos and without. We still do. Insistently. We publish them. We translate them. We share them. Our network, allies and supporters share them. We send them to organisations working on multiple fronts of justice and accountability. We share them with the press, and some of them amplify them. We document, we discuss, we draft, we publish, we spread.

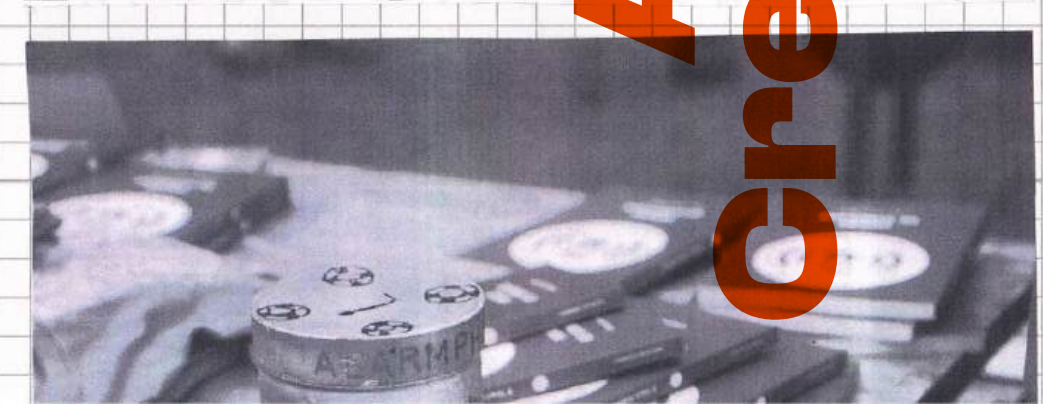
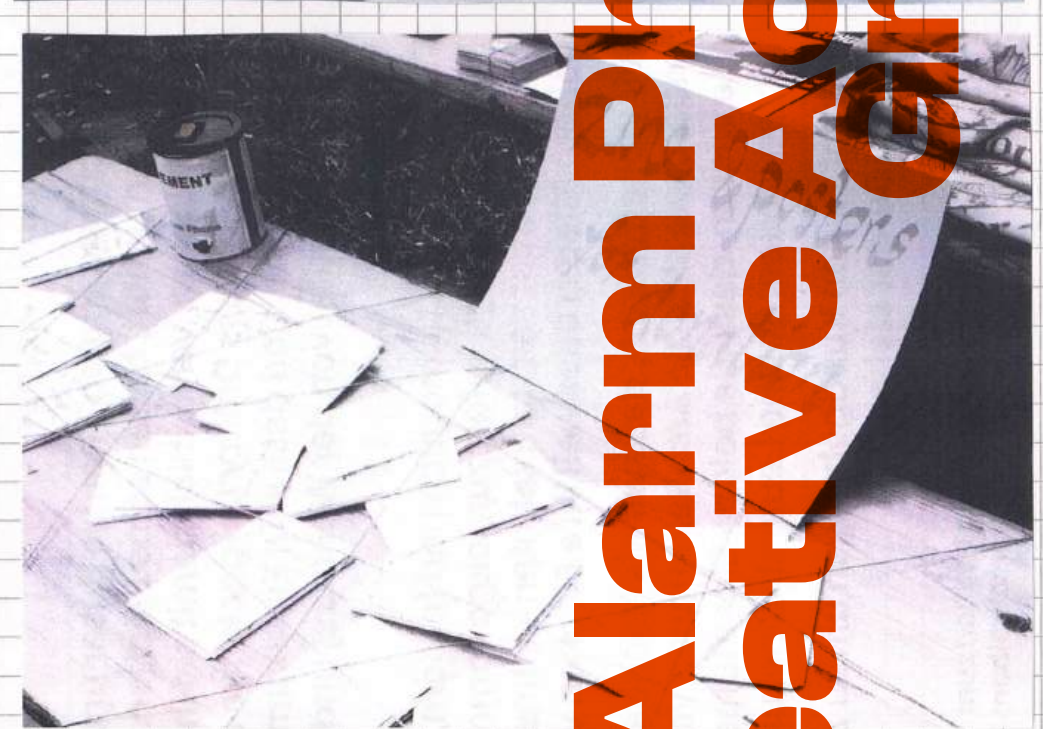
Every year, we write thousands of emails to the authorities, across Europe and North Africa. (on top of the thousands of alert phone calls we make)

In Alarm Phone, we protest. We join protests. We organise protests.

We tweet. We post on Instagram. We publish statements, regularly. We denounce the border regime and its crimes. We denounce the EU murderous migratory policies.

Again and again. We document. We report. We denounce.

We talk to people on the move, and we talk to their families.



Alarm Phone Creative Action Group

→ DEAR OFFICER ON DUTY ←

OUR HOTLINE WAS ALARMED BY A DISTRESS CALL FROM
A BOAT AT SEA. THE INFORMATION WE RECEIVED SO FAR:
N 35° 7.33' E 012° 34.53'
NUMBER OF PEOPLE: 41 PEOPLE INCLUDING
MINORS - ADRIFT. MOTOR NOT WORKING.
THE PEOPLE ARE ASKING FOR URGENTLY HELP
@ 13:09 CET 04.09.23

We are entrusted with some of the pain. We absorb some of it. We absorb some of the rage. We pile pain, and we pile rage on top of what we already carry against this regime of blood-drenched borders.

Then we write, we type, we talk. We spare no channel in our reach. But still, there is this undying need to scream. A need to break away from protocols. A need for a space for our pain, our rage, our creativity, our hopes, and our community to come together and let it all out, on our own terms. Our voices. To break away from the imposed language and tone, necessary to operate within the confines of institutional parameters.

So, a Creative Action Group was only a matter of time. To shout. To find another channel to lay out our pain, and to amplify the pain we are entrusted with on a daily basis. To put it out there, in their faces.

What if, on top of everything we do, our screams materialise in an intervention in the public place?

What about our rage turning into a durational performance at the doorsteps of the criminal den?

We hold place there, in community, and spit fire.

This is the Creative Action Group.

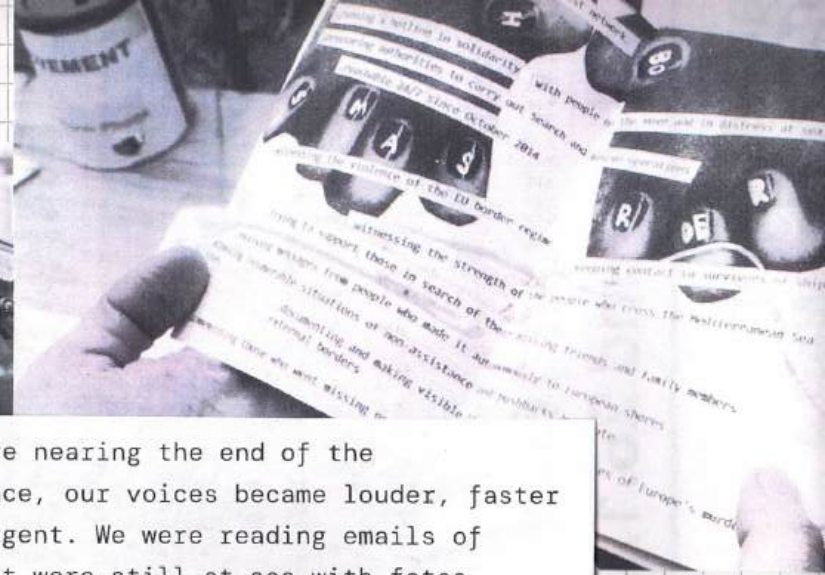
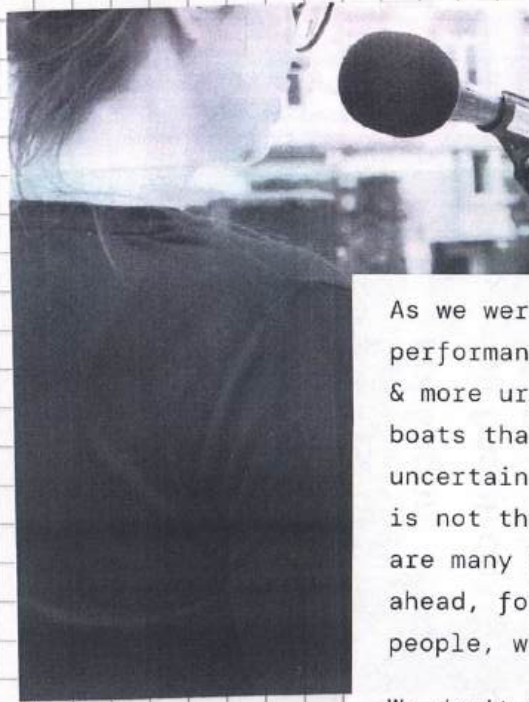
Brussels action 2023

Our Brussels action came to an end: 1338 emails were read in front of the EU Parliament in Brussels, but our work is far from over.

We started out on Wednesday noon with the 1st alert from Jan 1st, & finished Friday night at 2am with the last email of June 29, sent only a few hours earlier. We were reading under the midday sun, through wind, rain, and at night, illuminated only by 2 lights.

Surrounded by daytime politicians & nighttime partygoers, sometimes we had an audience, sometimes we had none and spoke into the apathetic void. Sometimes we were met with cheers of support & other times with racist ignorance. Regardless, we held our place & kept on reading, one after the other, passing on the microphone to the next person - just like we hand over the phone on our shifts.

Our voices were strong & steady, calm & angry, loud & quiet, desperate & tired - but always determined. As the stack of papers dwindled, the alerts to authorities kept sprawling around the stage on our little island in Place de Luxembourg. On Thursday night, hundreds of white papers were lying on the ground, staring up towards the empty night sky like silent accusations. Hundreds of boats full of people pushing up against centuries of colonial violence, exploitation and continuous injustice.



As we were nearing the end of the performance, our voices became louder, faster & more urgent. We were reading emails of boats that were still at sea with fates uncertain. And while we know that an arrival is not the end of the journey, and that there are many more imposed hardships still lying ahead, for the brief period we accompany the people, we put solidarity into action.

We don't know if our action in Brussels made any difference, whether we spoke only to those who already knew. But when every single email represents so much more than what is possible to contain on a single sheet of paper, the bureaucratic language we are forced to use will always betray the lives of people on the move. But as their lives matter, every single email does too.

Whether people choose to listen or to throw the paper away, we know what it means and what it has meant for us: we are not done fighting!



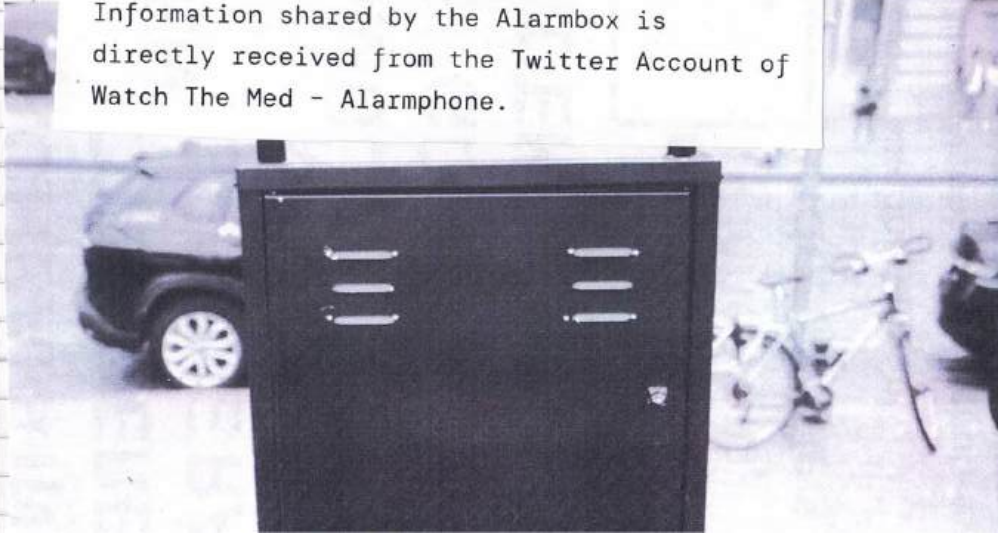
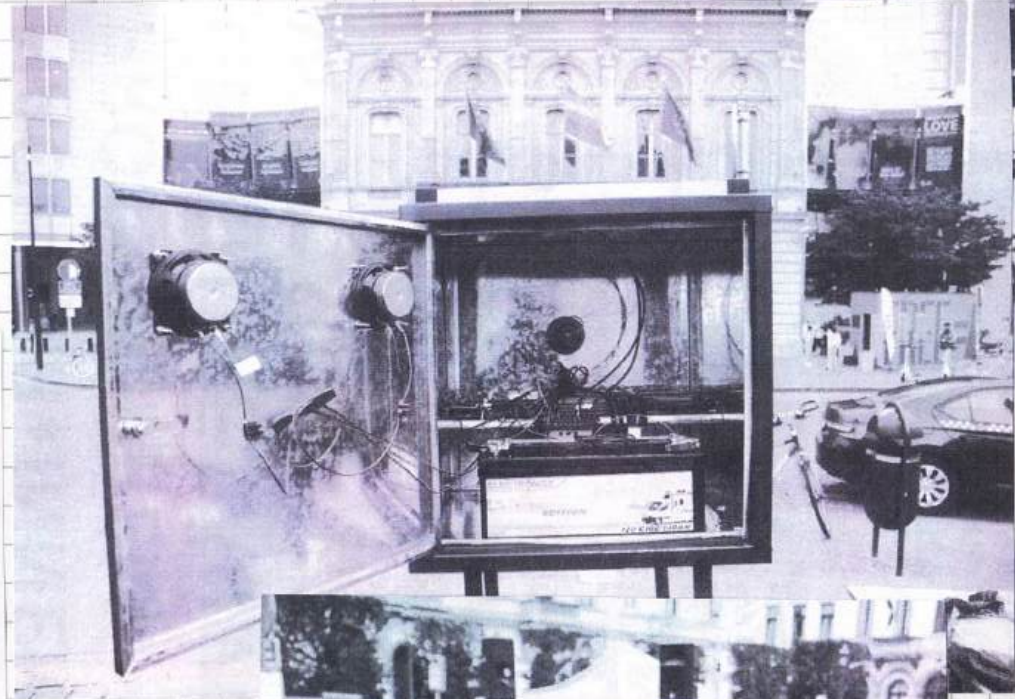
The Alarmbox:

A realtime Alarm when there are people in distress in the Mediterranean Sea, when a boat goes missing or is pushed back illegally at the EU's external borders.

A mobile memorial of the present. The Alarmbox is a memorial of the ongoing violence at Europe's murderous external borders.

An interruption and intervention into public space and everyday normality. The Alarmbox can also speak and is giving details about current distress situations.

Information shared by the Alarmbox is directly received from the Twitter Account of Watch The Med - Alarmphone.



Why a public Alarm?

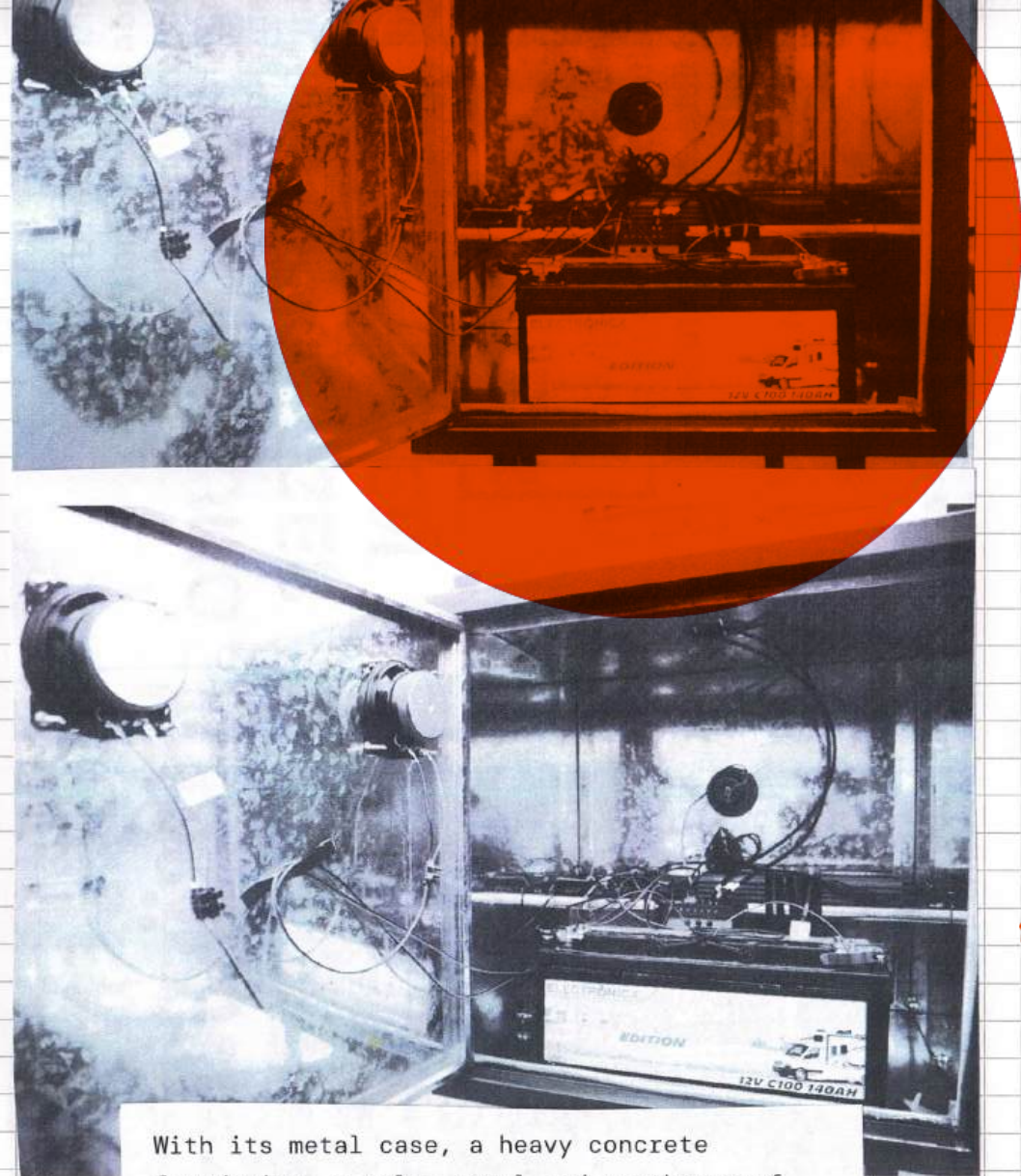
The experiences of people on the move along the EU's deadly maritime borders are visible to the whole world in realtime. What do people do with this information? Often the easiest thing to do is to keep scrolling and let the news be covered by another piece of information. Europe's normality.

The Alarmbox triggers a real-time alarm when a boat is in distress in that current moment. The project is motivated by the question whether it would make a difference to the awareness of the public, if there was an alarm alerting at all times about people in distress.

Is it possible to disrupt this European normality? At least it is always possible to make some noise!

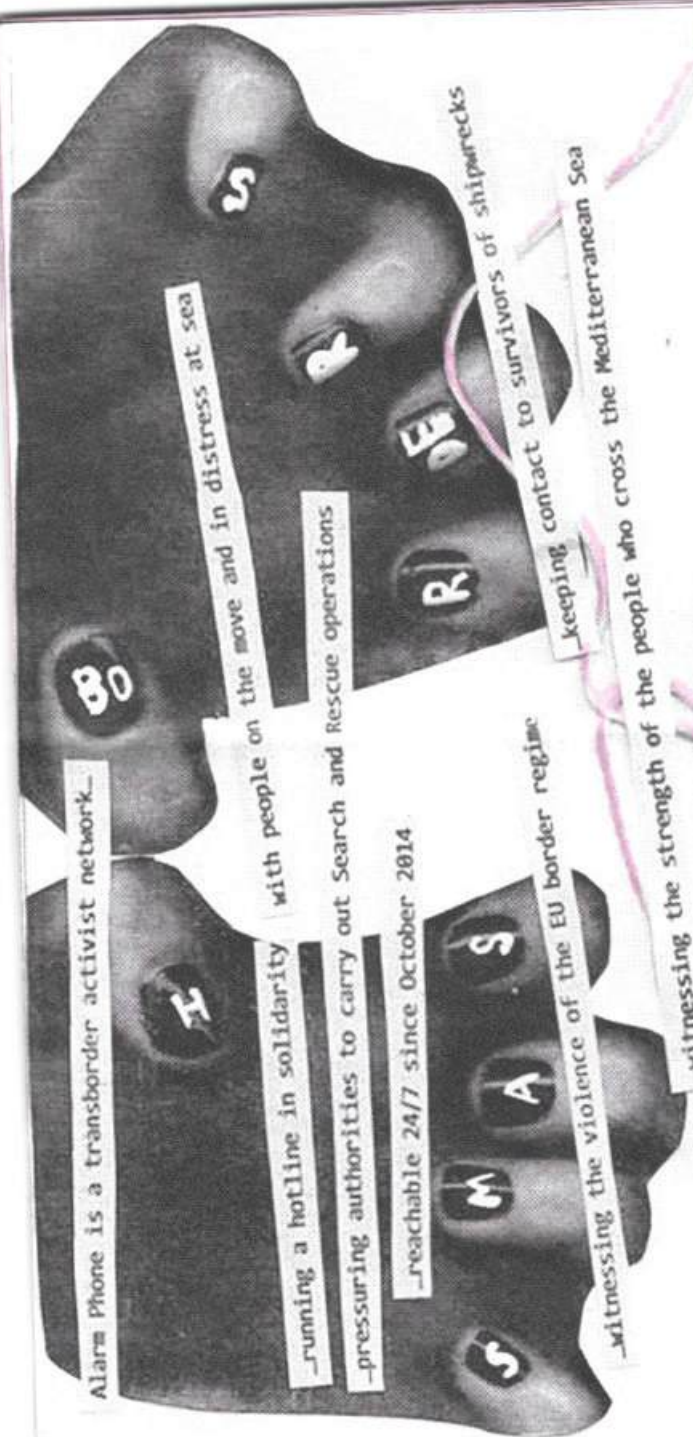
The alarmsound is a self-created fusion of the international SOS-morse-code (...---...) and alarm signals used on ships.

In June 2023, after almost two years of continuous development, the Alarmbox had its first public appearance. From June 28-30, it was installed in front of the EU Parliament in Brussels, parallel to the performance and protest of Alarmphone activists: We kindly request you to stop killing!



With its metal case, a heavy concrete foundation, a solar panel and weatherproof and secure closure, the Alarmbox is designed to be installed in public space over a longer time period - this is yet another milestone ahead.

<https://mahmoudtamaa.com/works/alarmbox/>



...keeping contact to survivors of shipwrecks
...the strength of the people who cross the Mediterranean Sea
...trying to support those in search of their missing friends and family members

...receiving messages from people who made it autonomously to European shores
...pushbacks by state
...fatal consequences of Europe's murderous
...European borders

We kindly request you to stop killing

We kindly request you to stop killing to deal with the systemic indifference in matters of life and death on the frontlines when we alert authorities in distress and send updates every day. Responsibility is outsourced to other agencies or denied altogether.

Sometimes we ask the same people who violently and illegally carry out systematic pushbacks to assist a boat in distress because there is nothing else we can do.

We witness those who denounce a person's right to claim asylum as "illegal immigration" break international maritime laws on a daily basis.

In a space that is so incredibly surveilled, authorities turn a blind eye at their convenience and information is guarded with silence.

We often don't know when or if at all a boat will be sent to the people in distress at sea. All we know is that now, in this moment, in that location, there are so and so many people for whom everything is at stake.



...the fear, the rage, the hope, until we become bureaucrats ourselves. We log each call and politely state our cause, one email at a time, 3890 emails a year. We are angry and there's no-one to yell at. We kindly request an intervention.

Our performance takes place in front of the European Parliament - 300 km from where human rights were invented, 600 km from where the convention on the status of refugees was signed, right where decisions are made that deny freedom of movement to millions, that send thousands back against their will, that install surveillance and security systems, that send drones and built barbed-wire fences, that claim to protect lives and rights but in reality kill and violate their own laws.

Do you have a pen?

Word Search

L L E B F O R T R E S S Q I S J Z U
 W N R D A P X X R V F I A A Z S W P
 R I N T E R C E P T I O N J V F V R
 A X B M U L G N P U L L B A C K W I
 C U E X T E R N A L I S A T I O N S
 I Z P Y E B Q U T H O T S P O T V O
 S F R O N T E X S H I P W R E C K N
 M P U X C O L O N I A L I S M X U H
 H R T S V A R E F O U L E M E N T W
 N D E P O R T A T I O N O A R M Y H
 F P O L I C E P U S H B A C K T N J
 V T R P B O R D E R S J E H H Q C I


Find the following words in the puzzle.
 Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| ARMY | FRONTEX | PUSHBACK |
| BORDERS | HOTSPOT | RACISM |
| COLONIALISM | INTERCEPTION | REFOULEMENT |
| DEPORTATION | POLICE | SHIPWRECK |
| EXTERNALISATION | PRISON | |
| FORTRESS | PULLBACK | |

CROSS IT OUT



Do you have some rituals which you do before or after a shift?

Having a  Pizza while reading about the situation in the log and the pad...



How has being in the Alarm Phone changed your view on politics/borders/EU and the sea?

I received a deeper and more complex view of the different situations along the outer european borders

What keeps you going despite the increasing shittyness of the border regime?

The knowledge of the Network and how committed many of its members are

How do you take care of yourself after a stressful shift?

I sit down in my kitchen and reflect the shift. Sometimes I chat with good friends or my partner. Sometimes I drink...



What do you think are difficult topics in the Alarm Phone network?

The very different opinions about the Israel-Palestine-Conflict

What's your favorite Alarmphone memory?

Being part of the organisation of a rescue-operation of more than 100 people



~~Tell us a memory which inspires you.~~

~~Tell us a funny memory from a shift (with PoB, CP or Coastguard etc.)?~~

What do you think is special about the Alarm Phone network?

Doing political work in a very practical way with direct impact. All of this within a strong and international network.

333

How has being in the Alarm Phone changed your view on politics/borders/EU and the sea?

When I got into Alarmphone my biggest question was: but does that mean you work with smugglers? And in the last years I supported Captain Support a sister project of Alarmphone that stands in solidarity with all people criminalized of facilitating freedom of movement.

Tell us a funny memory from a shift (with PoB, CP or Coastguard etc.)?

Once I informed a relative that their relatives were safe and then the relative and their friend paused and said: We have another question. And i said: yes? And they said: so my friend here, i don't know how to say this but, so, and they laughed a bit and then he said: he would really like to marry you. I was never asked that before. I mean it's not really a funny story cause there is obviously very good reasons to ask someone from Europe to marry as long as the visa policy is as it is. But still for me it was a bit funny to get a marriage proposal during a shift. Eventually I explained them that i don't intend to marry their friend even though i understand the reasons and they also did understand.



What do you think about the Alarm Phone network?

Tell us a memory from your shift

Is there anything else you would like to share?

What keeps you going in an increasingly shitty regime?

What is special about the network?

How do you take care of yourself after a stressful shift?

What's your favorite Alarmphone memory?

What is the most stressful part of your shift?

What do you think are difficult topics to discuss in the Alarm Phone network?

What are the challenges which you face during your shift?

Do you have any advice for people who want to join the Alarm Phone network?

Resisting the Criminalisation of Migration is to Fight for Freedom of Movement

At the beginning of March 2024, dozens of people gathered in front of the court in Trapani, Sicily, for the trial against the crew of the *Iuventa*. *Iuventa* was a search and rescue ship, which was seized by Italian authorities in 2017. After years of struggles, the charges were finally dropped. There was a lot of public attention on the case, many activists and media attended the final hearing. In front of the court room, it was made clear that this trial is no isolated incident, but part of a wider, often unnoticed criminalization of migration as such: “Today we especially think of the *El Hiblu 3*, waiting for the decision of the preliminary trial on Malta, the *Moria 6*, that will have their appeal hearing on March 4 in Lesbos and *Free Homayoun*, sentenced to 18 years for smuggling in Greece and having the appeal trial on April 22” the *Iuventa* crew told the public. While the processes against search and rescue actors have received a lot of attention in the past, the criminalization of people on the move for boat driving or crossing borders, has remained largely unnoticed. In the last year, a lot of efforts have been made to build strong alliances across different groups, organisations and across different regions, in order to counteract the divide between good and bad “smugglers” and to shift attention to criminalization of migration as such and giving support to all those fighting for freedom of movement. The goal of these networks: shed light on the extent of criminalization against people on the move, strengthen practical support for those in prison and fight for their release. The real crimes and violence are the borders, not those who try to overcome them.

Invisible form of violence

People on the move face increased surveillance and control: drones, razor-sharp fences, and pushbacks. These measures

endanger migrants, who rely on community networks to navigate obstacles. Thousands across the EU and Africa have been arrested for exercising freedom of movement. Facilitators—such as captains, drivers, and mediators—are also targeted, facing long prison sentences.

As Alarm Phone, we witness the criminalisation of captains who drive boats across the sea, as well as trucks/bus drivers who transport people across land borders or the desert, interpreters and mediators, people providing shelter, food or any kind of support to illegalised journeys, in all the regions where our network is active: from the shores of Morocco, Türkiye, Senegal, Mauritania and Tunisia to the ones of Italy, the UK, France, Malta, Greece and Spain. Those who facilitate journeys or those accused of ‘smuggling’, ‘trafficking’ or ‘facilitating illegal entry’, can face between 6 months to a hundred years in prison.

This phenomenon of criminalisation is enormous across the regions: in Greece, more than 2,100 people are being accused or condemned based on those charges. In Italy, more than 1,100 people are imprisoned. We estimate that, in the Canary Islands only, at least 250 people are now detained on charges of smuggling and facilitation of illegal entry on the Spanish territory. When people are disembarked in ports, it appears that agents of Frontex are automatically questioning people on who was driving the boat and/or arbitrarily targeting 2 persons per boat as captains. In Malta, France and Türkiye, hundreds of people are imprisoned and criminalised for similar reasons.

Criminalisation after shipwrecks

In cases of a shipwreck, or of people dying during the journey, the charges are hardened: the people considered responsible for deaths at sea and facing charges of murder or manslaughter are fellow travellers who survived the crossing, those steering the boat, keeping the compass, or having a role in organising the journey, as the cases of the *Pylos9* or the *Cutro4* demonstrate.

PYLOS9

The Pylos9 are nine survivors of the massacre off the coast of Pylos in Greece, which happened on 14 June 2023. Over 600 people drowned when an overcrowded boat sank, literally in front of the eyes of Greek authorities and Frontex: Alarm Phone and other actors informed them the day before about the overcrowded boat, but they failed to rescue and prevent the death of hundreds of people. In the aftermath, nine survivors were arrested and put on trial, accused of having facilitated the journey and being responsible for the shipwreck. After their arrest, a powerful campaign was built for their support. In May 2024, the charges were dropped, but despite this, the nine survivors were kept in prison. Only after the support campaign intervened and appealed, were they released. Lawyers and activists joined forces to organize legal support but also to raise public awareness around the imprisonment of the Egyptian nationals and the attempt of the Greek state to abuse the nine survivors as scapegoats for their own failure to rescue the overcrowded boat as it would have been their duty.

More info here: <https://captainsupport.net/freepylos9/>

Similarly, after a boat sank off the coast of Cutro, Italy, in February 2023, it was not the coast guard that was accused of manslaughter, despite having been alerted to the distress situation. Rather, four of the survivors stood trial and were convicted to year-long prison sentences. Also in this case, authorities failed to launch a timely and effective rescue operation, causing the death of dozens of people.

CUTRO 4

The 'Cutro4' are four survivors of the Cutro shipwreck, that took place on 26 February 2023, off the coast of Calabria, Italy. Although the shipwreck was clearly provoked by the non-assistance of Italian authorities, the 'Cutro 4' were arrested as those responsible for the death of more than 100 people, and for facilitation of illegal entry. This inversion of justice, which

characterises most cases which criminalise 'facilitation', often leads to life in prison for those accused. Their ongoing trial is the usual farce: not only are hearings regularly postponed, and translation is not provided adequately, but the witnesses' key testimonies used to jeopardise the accused are flawed. Those who had identified the boat drivers after the shipwreck later declared in court that the policemen who showed them pictures of potential boat drivers had suggested to them the people they should identify.

Criminalisation can impact people's entire lives, even once they are released from prison: often, they are refused the opportunity to ask for asylum, or their asylum cases are dismissed due to their conviction. This often leads to threats of deportation. Trials can take years, keeping people suspended in a legal limbo. Moreover, prison sentences are regularly accompanied by fines that are impossible to pay. Every administrative step of their life is made more difficult by the presence of a criminal record. Administrative violence compounds prison and penal punishment, subjecting people to multiple forms of punishment simultaneously and repeatedly.

In some cases, like in Tunisia, Greece and Senegal, families are blamed for, and sometimes criminalised for the death of their children, accused of encouraging their children to undertake the journey, bringing them on the boat or for sending them the money necessary for their journey. This shows how criminalization is part of a wider and systematic attack not only against individuals, but against migrant communities.

Scapegoats to cover up the real crimes

Those steering boats are targeted by legal means and used as scapegoats by authorities to hide their own crimes and violence. Campaigns in solidarity with people on the move—like the El Hiblu 3, the Pylos 9, Free Hamayoun, and

Free Ibrahima Ba—highlight how the criminalization of facilitating and supporting journeys legitimizes the violent interventions of states and authorities, while obscuring their responsibility for the deaths and suffering caused by the border regime.

FREE IBRAHIMA BAH

Ibrahima Bah was arrested in December 2022 after surviving a shipwreck in the Channel. He was steering a dinghy from France to the UK, across the English Channel. When the dinghy reached a fishing vessel, people stood up to get rescued. The sudden movement caused the floor of the dinghy to rip, and people were thrown into the water. Four people lost their lives and up to five are reported missing. 39 survivors including Ibrahima were brought to the UK. The UK Captain Support group organised prison visits, demonstrations, legal support and raised public awareness in support of Ibrahima Bah. Like in other countries, in the UK, hundreds of people have been arrested and imprisoned for crossing borders. As proved to be the case in other regions, the people piloting a dinghy often do so out of economic necessity: if they have no money to pay for a place in a dinghy they may agree to take additional risks in exchange for free passage. In Ibrahima Bah's case he confirmed he agreed to steer the dinghy but then tried to pull out when he saw the state of the craft. He was assaulted by the organisers of the passage and forced to comply. Survivors described him as saving their lives. However, by a majority of 10 to 2 the jury found that he contributed to the deaths that was more than minimal and convicted him of gross negligence manslaughter and facilitating illegal migration. He was sentenced to 9.5 years detention. Captain Support are supporting his appeal scheduled later this year.

Authorities and the media legitimise these forms of repression for those who cross borders or help others to do so, by constructing narratives of “dangerous/violent

smugglers” often portrayed as “threats for national order and security”. These narratives not only depict any facilitator of so-called 'illegal immigration' as a threat to national and societal security, but it also blames them for most forms of border violence.

This clearly intends to shift the blame for border violence, for deaths at the border, and for the dangerousness of migration routes away from border policies. It places the blame on those defying borders, rather than on those creating them, as formulated recently in Echoes magazine: “No Frontex, no smugglers. No violent EU border regime, no market for business. Let’s remember the summer of migration in 2015 in the Balkan route: the smuggling market collapsed as soon the people on the move could travel with usual buses and trains. Remember the refugees from Ukraine in 2022: no smuggling networks appeared as the Ukrainian refugees were free to move and even free to choose where they wanted to live. Safe passages is not a utopia, it’s just a political decision and we still and again know: tomorrow all the smuggling and even the deaths at sea could become history, if the border – and visa – regime would be abolished and all people would have their freedom of movement.”

FREE EL HIBLU 3!

On the 13th of April 2024, the Coalition for the El Hiblu 3 presented Abdalla Bari, Amara Kromah, and Abdul Kader with the Human Rights Defenders Award at the University of Malta in Valletta. From the celebration speech:

“We’re here tonight to celebrate Amara, Abdalla, and Kader, who arrived in Malta five years ago in 2019, as teenagers. In the days before they had acted as translators and mediators on an oil tanker that rescued them and their fellow passengers from a sinking rubber boat. Although they were only 15, 16, and 19 years old, they successfully mediated between frightened passengers and frightened crew members to de-escalate a tense situation at sea. They helped save over 100 people from

an illegal pushback to Libya – as their fellow travellers have attested to. Yet, as we know, they were not greeted by the authorities on our islands as the heroes they are, but rather they were wrongfully accused and imprisoned. Like then, again and again we have been reminded of how our government is complicit in deaths at sea and unlawful pushbacks to Libya. We are reminded not only of the bravery of resisting this border violence but the very necessity of it. The fact is that without Amara, Abdalla and Kader, another 100 people would have faced this fate. In their struggle against injustice, they have also been joined by an international campaign that demands that the charges against them be dropped. We stand in solidarity with them and in awe of their courage and bravery.”

Over the past years, most solidarity campaigns have focused on defending European solidarity workers and/or NGOs from criminalisation, defining it as an unjust repression against innocent people who were not criminals but life savers. Whilst the criminalisation of rescuers is the ultimate form of perversion of the border regime, these efforts to defend 'white innocent people' and taking distance from 'traffickers and smugglers' as the real criminals, perpetuate racist structures and white saviourism. It separates those deemed innocent and 'good' that should be supported and those allegedly criminal or 'bad' that, following this logic, are rightfully criminalised and detained. It creates a fake differentiation between European solidarity workers and other facilitators of people's journeys, therefore reinforcing – rather than challenging – the criminalisation of freedom of movement, implying that some indeed deserve criminalisation. In recent years, strong alliances were built to overcome this distinction and to see these attacks as part of efforts to criminalize migration as such.

CAPTAIN SUPPORT NETWORK

Captain Support is a transnational network of activists, organizing collectively against the criminalization of 'captains', namely boat drivers, as well as of border crossers. It stands in solidarity with all the people criminalised for facilitating freedom of movement. The network connects activists in different places, shares best practices, mobilises resources for legal support and pushes counter-narratives against different aspects of the criminalization of migration. It connects those accused of driving the boats to Europe to local support networks and lawyers. Activists and volunteers try to react to requests by providing helpful information and connecting people to lawyers and social support if needed. Different support campaigns are linked to the network. Captain Support's promise: "We will continue to support any acts facilitating freedom of movement, and we will continue to support those defying borders on land and at sea."

More info: www.captainsupport.net

Whilst we do not want to romanticise the role of smugglers or so-called traffickers, we also do not want to reproduce narratives portraying them as violent criminals. Instead, we see these roles as necessary services in the context of border militarisation. People turn to smugglers to make journeys possible and even safer in a context of illegalised crossing. Smugglers are often those who know the routes and the loopholes to challenge the border regime. The militarization of migration routes and the illegalisation of migration force people onto more dangerous routes and forces them to become more invisible.

The latest developments in Niger have seen the 2015-36 law repealed, thanks to the tireless struggles waged by activists and networks such as Alarme Phone Sahara. This law was a perfect example of how the criminalisation of facilitation can transform bus drivers previously tolerated

by authorities into “violent smugglers” from one day to the other. It also changed an entire economy: while travel agencies had front desks on the street, transparent prices and there were systems of trust and control between people providing service and their customers, the law forced them to go underground. Customers had less power of negotiation and possibilities to build systems of security to ensure they would arrive at the destination.

WESTERN MED – ATLANTIC

In this vast region that we call “Western Med – Atlantic”, each country has its own legal system and specificities in the way they criminalise those using their freedom of movement and/or acting in defiance of the border regimes. Yet, since the 2000’s and the acceleration of the implementation of the Palermo Protocol on “traffic of migrants” in national systems, the criminalisation of people on the move has never stopped to increase. From Senegal, Mauritania, Morocco and Spain, authorities use a range of criminal laws to target people on the move and punish those attempting to cross or support journeys. Families are targeted in Senegal for sending money to their sons who lost their life at sea. Young men who had distributed water or steered the wheel are detained and criminalised daily in Spain. In Laayoune, Morocco, several survivors, who were accused of manslaughter and aiding illegal exit of the country, have now been imprisoned after being condemned to 10 years in prison after their friends lost their life in a shipwreck.

These trials often happened after months of pre-trial detention, in centres with degrading conditions. Tired of the wait and the conditions in the Canary Islands, some prefer to plead guilty in the hope of benefitting from some sentence reduction. Everywhere, testimonies underline the violence people are often subjected to by the police in their court cases to designate the so-called “smugglers”. Lastly, people on the move in Morocco face arbitrary arrests and forced displacement to the South on a daily basis.

Strengthen solidarities

Whilst some legislations make a difference between the 'humanitarian smuggler' and those who do it for profit or as a business, we are not in a position to judge as blameworthy those who provide this service for profit, as profit-motives are what drive most human actions under capitalism. We are aware that the business around migration is created by the illegalisation of border crossing. Profit is made not only through smuggling, but mostly through the business of border militarisation, often involving state-sponsored private companies like Leonardo SPA in Sicily or the Israeli military company Elbit systems. Profit is made through surveillance technologies, like airplanes and drones, the construction and management of detention centres, camps and hotspots, as well as deportation charters. If some smugglers do make profit out of migration, this profit is fuelled by the border regime that makes their services necessary and expensive. If there was no border there would be no border violence, no smuggling, no profit. The solution against violent journeys is clear, but the process of criminalisation mystifies and reverts this logic.

As a transregional network, we want to strengthen solidarities with the people facing any form of criminalisation during their journey. Colonial borders continue to be used to prevent people from moving or detaining them, exploiting them, controlling their movement and their access to rights. European and African states keep using people on the move as pawns in their political game. We need to create alliances and solidarities across regions, as well as between and with those being criminalised for supporting, facilitating or using their freedom of movement, rather than reinforcing distinctions between good and bad facilitators. We want to build decolonial and abolitionist counter-narratives to put an end to the violence and criminalisation people on the move are subjected to.

ABOLITIONIST PERSPECTIVE ON BORDERS

was the most political outcome. 21st Sept 2011
Türkei war 21.4.21 130 Menschen

supported. Ich habe diesen Satz mit einem
an Samstag. Es kommt selbsterklärend auf mich
nicht, ist mir.

Δ questions the court system (legal system)
and being clear about that
but still stand in SOLIDARITY with
PEOPLE ON THE MOVE.

DOCUMENTATION

watch the med. outdated. but it's the way of struggle
from that time 10-15 years ago. let's keep that
in mind...

for what? How? How could we change the actual situation
with it? Does it support the change we are
working for / aiming for??

for what could we document?
strategic evaluation of our documentation

And not an Gedanke: Follow up → errors case, identify the body TCIG...

MISSING AT THE BORDERS: 5.10.22 Kythira shipwreck, locals rescued ppl
EIN MEER VOLLER TRÄNEN COMMEMORATION 5.10.23

13.8. Preparation meeting Kythira Commemoration with family members
in Hamburg
Shipwrecks...
paros, Kythira, Mykonos...

election so close based topic of deportation of refugees
input economic crisis → racist election strategy in
TJR: Syrians permit both parties
imprisonment Kurdish ppl → inflation 25 TL = 16

SMASH THE SYSTEMATICALLY



NORAS ZEHEN

deported

met in
formation,

wides

UPON THIS
ELECTIONS
EV

external
actors!

solidarity

was
not and
sect!!!

18 months
released)

So now refugee in Libya is so solving for ex/cultural of the
221 ppl (campaign) as human rights defenders and
not on the basis of vulnerability but HUMAN RIGHTS
DEFENDERS (Bologna, 3 cities in GER...) more cities to be had,
(needed!) SOLIDARITY CITIES www.many-cities.org
France is Germany's
Schwach!

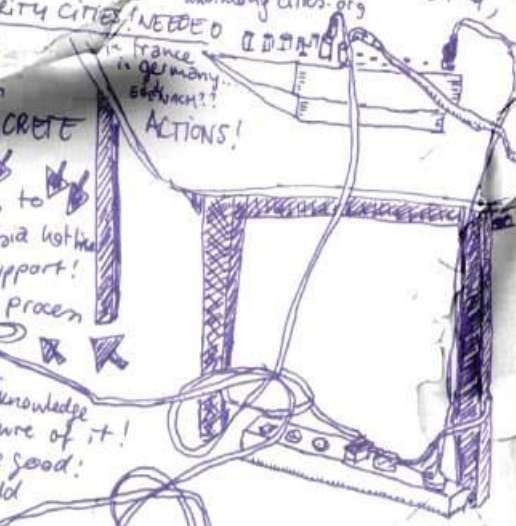
Hotline of refugees in LYB
+ evacuation campaign
needs support!
CONCRETE ACTIONS!
REDISCUSS in our teams to
Support refugees in Libya hotline
↳ maybe ppl can support!
support a self-organized process
and at the same time learn a lot! together
↳ contacts, knowledge
better picture of it!
- arabic language would be good:
- tiqrinya, somali, etc would
be good, bengali as well!

TUNISIA

→ we can not estimate
the level of
repression
the president
will go, how
far he will go!
→ risk of repression for
Comrades + friends of AP!
(AP TUNIS)
⚠ we need to watch out
that our Critic on
Externalization of
EU's borders
is not taken
by right

Why argumentation against
Migrants in TUN!
Contented Fight about
the narrative!

Documentation + reports are lacking!
→ we could put more efforts
on documenting + publishing
it!



10. MAY Commemoration Workshop

- missing people
mourning
→ again the topic of how to
mourn collectively
Grief + anger
↳ silent march is not our
way, or not only...
what means do we use?
VISIBILITY OF A COMMON STRUGGLE
MUSIC
instruments to put together
to create
expression: grief + rage
from different pieces
the focus differs.
→ People we lost continue to live
in us → put the remembrance
in the middle
with their pictures

borders.com/info.org (info source)

FROM SEA TO PRISON

BAKARY

Letters from the prisons of the border regime

Every couple of weeks in Palermo, a group of people meets to write letters to prisoners. The people we write to are captains, detained for having driven a boat carrying other people across the Mediterranean Sea to Italy. They are either in pre-trial detention, waiting for a sentence, or they have already been sentenced to up to 30 years. Letter-writing sessions are moments where people come together to cultivate relationships that have been going on sometimes for years, physically separated by the prison walls, but connected by threads traced on sheets of paper. They connect equally different people on the other side, with different life experiences and mother tongues. We write to each other in Italian, Arabic, Turkish, Russian, English, Farsi, Wolof and French. The project From Sea to Prison collects the correspondence, to ensure continuity and organize social and legal support in response to the requests received via letter. Because of Italy's draconian prison regulations, letters are usually the only way it is possible to communicate with prisoners as independent actors, or friends. Through the years, we have had the honor to read and respond to scorching, touching, political and intimate reflections that the people inside have shared with us, over their every-day lives, their situation in detention, their hopes and worries. We have carefully stored these pieces, and have not published many excerpts because we always need the express, clear authorization of the people concerned, which often takes time and repeated attempts.

However, here are some paragraphs from letters that the prisoners agreed to share (almost all originally written in Italian, and here translated to English).

*CPR is the acronym for administrative detention centers, or deportation centers in Italy. Conditions in administrative detention are known to be even harsher than in ordinary prisons.

29-12-2021

G.,

I really appreciate that you took your precious time to write me a letter. Every time an inmate receives a letter, it's a wonderful thing. I don't know how to explain the feeling, but it's something that completely changes your day. I would love to exchange information with you all, but as you know, we can only do so through letters, which is very slow! I thank you for letting me know that I'm not alone, that you are there as well--this is very kind of you.

It's true that I'm going through a difficult time, but I have never lost hope because my destiny is already determined by our God. I believe there are still many beautiful things I have yet to see, just as you said that this country can still offer me many wonderful emotions and amazing people! The permits I arranged with Arci Cosenza have shown me that the road ahead is still long. I will make it, and together, we will make it.

[...]

I'm happy that I'll have my freedom in four months. I can't wait! It will be so nice to meet you in person, spend time together, and have you show me Italy. I want to see many beautiful places so I can forget this difficult time. I hope you will be able to help me with that.

I wish you happy holidays, my friends! Yeah, see you next year!

27-01-2022

It will be very good if we can avoid them taking me to a CPR*, because Modou explained to me that that place is not good. My lawyer *** told me she will write again to the Tribunal of *** so that they fasten the process.

also **27-01-2022**

Dear G.,

It's nice to receive your letter again. I'm also happy that your first letter of 2022 was dedicated to me. You're so sweet! It's kind of you to update me more about your life. It's true that in life, things are always changing, just like the days of the week, the weather, the time changes, and so on. Life changes like that too, but to keep moving forward, we must think about the beautiful things that await us.

So you're absolutely right—thinking about the good things when we're sad or less happy always helps us move forward in life. If you look at this world, it's full of strange things, injustices, suffering, poverty, death, etc. But we can't give up because life always goes on, and I'm happy that you've been able to pull yourself out of your problems.

I'm very glad to be able to tell you more about myself. Feel free to ask me anything you want to know about me. I will always be ready to answer you. You will never feel alone; your companions and friends will always be by your side. The people at Arci are all kind. I'm lucky to know people like you. Your words have shown me that I'm not alone—you are always there for me. And I thank you for that!

Yes, G., I'll be free soon! To tell you the truth, I didn't have many thoughts in my head before, but now that I'm so close to my freedom, many thoughts are coming to me. Sometimes I wonder what my life will be like outside, if I can really go back to a normal life like before, if I'll be able to forget everything I have on my shoulders. I've almost forgotten how social media works, like Facebook, Twitter, etc. I miss my friends in Gambia so much, seeing my family without someone telling me that time is up. I'll need to go back to basics to rebuild a normal life. All this makes me a bit worried.

[...]

Thank you for your question, where you asked: What will be the first thing I'll do? That's a great question! I think the first thing I'll do is call my family and give them the great news they've been waiting for for years, and then my friends who haven't heard from me since I left my country. It will be so nice to hear from them again, to find out what's happening in their lives. To tell them that I'm not dead but have just been in prison all these years, to tell them that I haven't abandoned them, that they are always in my thoughts. That will be a really beautiful thing to do first on that day.

Here, I spend my days going to school, cleaning the cell, cooking dinner, watching the news, and then the evening is over. There's also two hours for walking, and a common room, but I don't often go for walks or to the common room. I prefer to stay in the cell watching a movie or listening to the radio. There are three of us in the cell. They are all sending you their greetings. One is Senegalese and the other is Egyptian. I often watch the France 24 channel to find out something about Africa. Right now, the Africa Cup of Nations is on. I'm following it on France 24.

What are you studying? You're strong, and everything will go well, you'll see! Thank you for your letter—it means a lot to me. I'll be waiting for you. Write me soon!

Take care,

B. - FREED IN APRIL 2022 AFTER AN 8 YEAR SENTENCE

ALI

****27-05-2021****

I am in excellent health. Let me tell you something strange—COVID was a terrible thing, but it brought me something positive. Due to COVID, the prison allowed us to make video calls with our families, and after five long years, I was able to see my family. This gave me more strength to face the injustice. I'm not giving up here, and I'm fighting until the truth—my only truth—comes out. Sooner or later, it will happen.

G., I don't need financial support or clothing. I just need to vent and talk to someone who will listen. Most of all, I need the truth.

****20-07-2021****

G., as for my legal situation, I am now destroyed and defeated. They did what they wanted without reading anything, and that's that. They stole my youth for no reason, and they condemned me without the law, if there even is law in Italy. I don't care about anything anymore. What makes me angry is the thought of having to spend my life here, and for that reason, I don't want to think about it.

****16-06-2021****

Regarding my case, first I want to say something important: my friends and I don't want to be compared to anyone because we didn't steer any boat. As for the other foreigners, I've seen many innocent young men who faced wrongful justice because of a lack of professionalism. To close an investigation, they take the first person they come across, and surely, you know this better than I do.

We were accused and sentenced to 30 years just because we're Libyan. Can you imagine, when they arrested me, a

police interpreter asked: "Are you Libyan?" I replied, "Yes." They said: "Please, come with us." Just because I come from a country in the reign of war, and for a bottle of water that wasn't even given on board, they sentenced me to 30 years.

I have a dream: if possible, one day, I would like to talk face to face with all the judges who sentenced me, to know why and on what basis they made such a stupid decision. It's my crazy idea. Also with some journalists who attacked us harshly without knowing or understanding who we were or the injustice we suffered. It's a shame that doesn't end with the conviction but goes beyond, as it shows the incompetence of the magistrates who handled the case.

I don't expect much from the hearing because the injustice has already been done. Just imagine—who would throw out the case and admit a colleague's mistake for five foreigners? Not because I don't hope anymore, but because I lost hope after the first and second trials, and from what I saw of my lawyer, who did an extraordinary job. If they had read or believed even 10% of it, I would have been acquitted, believe me. But who knows why they didn't.

****29-11-2023****

At the end of September [2023], the Libyan government and the Italian government signed an agreement stating that we must return to Libya to serve our sentence. I would say it's finally good news after 8 years. I know that the prisons there are harsh, with 50 inmates in one room, no programs, no schools, nothing... but I will have the chance to see my family again after all this time.

A. Sentenced to 30 years.

Ali F.

****02-01-2022****

I received your letter, and it made me very happy. As you can see, I'm responding even though I don't know how to write in Italian. I found a Nigerian friend who knows how to write, and he helped me read your letter. He is

the one replying to you, as I don't know English either.

Sorry, B., for asking you for favors, but as you know, this is a bleak place abandoned by everyone. I ask if you could track down my lawyer and tell him to come visit me because he only came once and hasn't returned. I need to talk to him and explain that I am not the scifista because I don't even know how to steer a boat. I'll also tell you that this Nigerian friend has helped and is trying to get an interpreter to come to court so that I can understand Italian in my native language.

Regarding your offer to contact my family and tell them where I am, I thank you, but I don't want you to, because they would be upset, and I don't want that. However, if you could, I would ask you to find my lawyer and tell him if he can submit a request to the court so I can call my family myself, as I would really like to hear from them.

****24/7/2022****

I would like to tell you my story because I am innocent and I want justice. I am a good person, polite and respectful, and I have never hurt anyone. That's why I want to share my story with the world: I want to prove that [...] what they say about me is not true. [...] When you get to know me, you'll see for yourself the kind of person I am, and you'll understand my innocence.

Take care,

Malankeba. (Man of the world in Mandinka)

****13/10/2022****

Hi B., how are you? I'm doing well here, everyone treats me well, but I still don't really understand what I've been accused and prosecuted for. Of the ** people who died, I only knew two of them, who were my friends, and for this reason, I'm suffering a lot and have even fallen into depression. It would be helpful to hear from all the witnesses because [...] I don't know who these three people accusing me are, and I'm not the captain. I just wanted to come to Italy to build a future for myself.

A. (faced a 10-year sentence, was acquitted on appeal and released in 2023.)

Really No Support

put a + if you are talking to public media

الأخبار أو عبر على الأنظمة التانية
شعرت
طلبنا من اليونانينا قالوا بنرد خبر
إسطنبول

- + 1.000 فقط
- + هو أبوهم
- + البالون
- + ديكونا النوان
- + الظابط
- + لازم ترفعوا على
- + هديروهم بالجبر بس النوان
- + راد حركتكم من اليونانينا
- + أهلي



POLITICAL RADICAL TAKE

HOW TO STRENGTHEN

THEM IN A WORLD WITH BORDERS

BEYOND COLLAPSING NATION STATES

RELATIONSHIP

EXCHANGE

SHARED POLITICAL OR

TRUST FIGHT TOGETHER

AND ALL THE STORIES WE ARE ANGRY!

TIPS

→ report in aeg + tweet
→

KW 20: arabic speaking

Contact

89 98

11 12 36

77 → contact Aoc!



Structure

tired...
العنفونين بجر جيس

arabic call
Shipwrecked
20 personer
sus dem tra

18/18

at yam wil qanib

Thimamun 80 lshaz bil lybia ala italia

date (a wahed aqshin, dshuni)

last night...
stpa
Hite thahin, hamza

ARABIC Scripts

HOW CAN WE TALK TO KIDS ABOUT BORDERS AND MIGRATION?

Talking with children is like discovering the world from scratch; everything is new and exciting for them. As adults, it's important to strike a balance between sensitivity and honesty. The truth is essential. Resorting to stories disconnected from reality underestimates kids' intelligence. Children have an inherent curiosity to understand complex topics, which is why they often ask, "Why?". There should not be a ready-made answer in your head, but the journey is the destination. If you are not sure about something, take this chance to research it with them.

When discussing topics related to violence or oppression, it is important to address what's wrong but also to highlight how such issues can be confronted. This includes considering the perspective of the person experiencing harm as well as those who stand by. Emphasize stories of courage, resistance, kindness, and justice. You may also encourage them to get involved in discussions or activism, according to their capability. Share examples of people who have made a difference.

Children's experiences are often limited to their lived experience, so using comparisons can help, but introducing different realities beyond their own is also an opportunity to broaden their worldview.

If children express fear, take it seriously. Reassure them and check-in with them. And if you have strong feelings about a topic, don't hide them—be open and transparent. Sharing your emotions helps build trust and models how to engage with complex issues thoughtfully.

Here are some general tips on how to discuss borders by age group. However, **you know your child best**, so you may adapt the complexity to their level of reasoning, regardless of age:

Ages 3-6 (Early Childhood)

- Keep your explanations **short and straightforward**. Avoid overwhelming them with too many details, but don't hesitate

to introduce challenging concepts. You can explain borders as lines on a map, emphasizing that people and cultures often travel across them. You can use **stories** and examples to explain this. Young children have a strong understanding of fairness and kindness, you may frame stories around these concepts.

- Young children may become anxious about the idea of people leaving home, so offer reassurance that their home is safe.

Ages 7-10 (Middle Childhood)

- Use **maps and visual aids** to explain what borders are and why they exist. Talk about the **various reasons people migrate**. This is also a good age to explain that not everyone has the same opportunities or freedoms at home. Encourage empathy, especially if your child has not experienced migration themselves.

Ages 11-14 (Early Adolescence)

- You can now explain the **broader factors driving migration**, such as poverty, war, or government policies, as well as the basic history behind these drivers. Discuss how borders are not just physical but also **political constructs** that can affect people's freedom. At this age, children can engage with questions about fairness, the role of governments, and economic systems.
- Help them identify **biased narratives** they may encounter in the media.

Ages 15+ (Teens)

- Introduce how global inequality, (neo)colonialism, political unrest, and environmental changes influence migration. Discuss **how borders are used** to protect resources in some places and explore the reasons why these resources are accumulated in certain regions. Explore with them **the consequences of these dynamics** and who may benefit or be burdened by them.
- Delve into international laws around migration and asylum. Discuss how different countries approach it. You can talk about **immigration systems**, border control, and citizenship processes.



It's time to travel! Siblings Nadia & Noa prepare their bags for the journey ahead: life vests, water, energy bars, a compass, and all their essentials inside a zipper bag.



Nadia & Noa must leave now. Their city is not safe! But their passports have a red colour. Not the right colour to board an airplane. Instead, their dad must pay 2,000 euros to a man they're not sure they can trust...



Meanwhile, in a different home, siblings Luna & Adam pack their suitcase too: summer clothes, sun glasses, sand toys. Their mom reminds them: "take your passports!"



Then, Luna & Adam go to the airport ready with their blue passports. "That'll be 100 euros" says the airline lady.



Nadia & Noa must walk on a dusty road to reach the place of departure of the boat. They are so exhausted from walking with their backpacks. It's so hot!



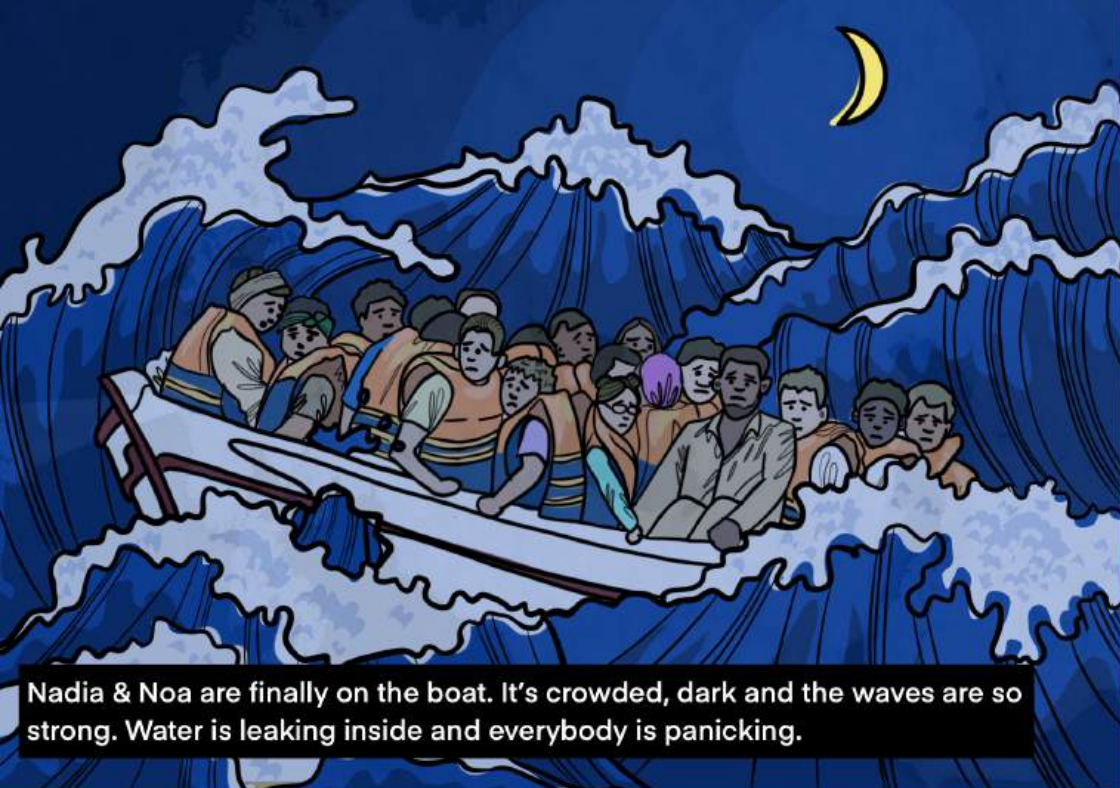
The police are here! If Nadia & Noa are caught without a blue passport, they'll be sent back. They need to hide until their boat arrives.



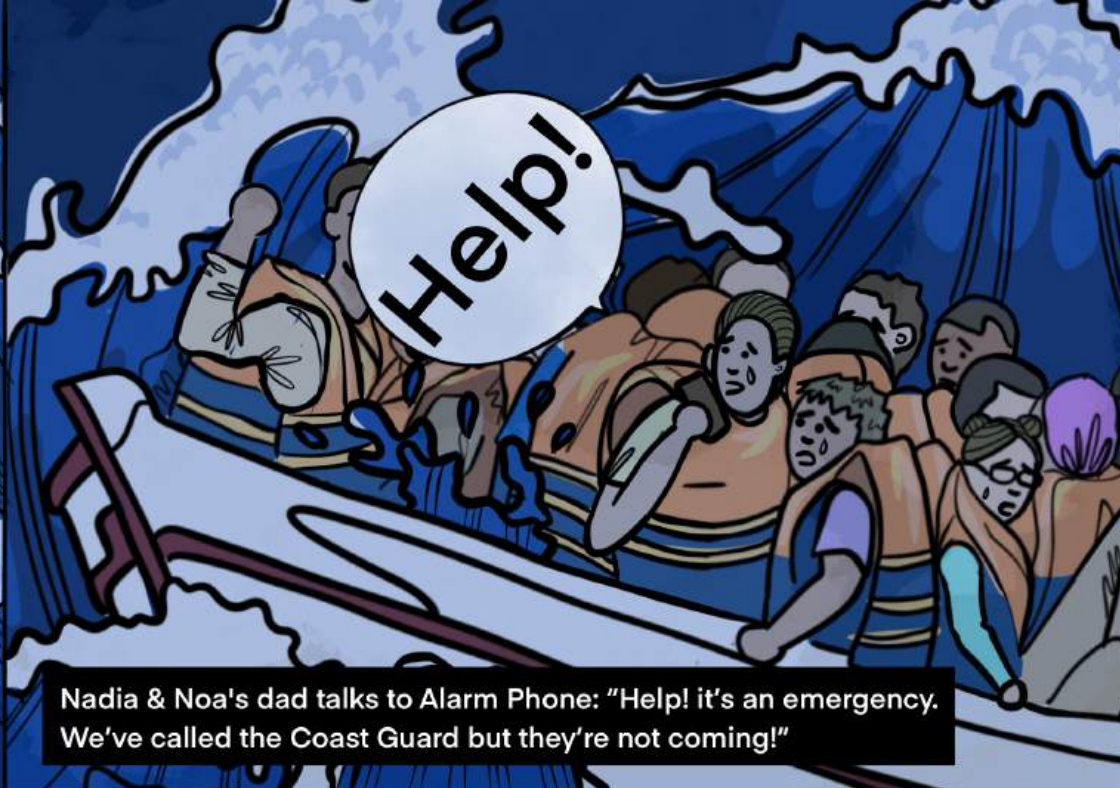
Meanwhile, Luna & Adam are already at the beach. Playing with the sand under the sun is so much fun!



Luna & Adam are flying back home. Their week at the beach is over. What a bunch of nice memories!



Nadia & Noa are finally on the boat. It's crowded, dark and the waves are so strong. Water is leaking inside and everybody is panicking.



Nadia & Noa's dad talks to Alarm Phone: "Help! it's an emergency. We've called the Coast Guard but they're not coming!"



Meanwhile, Luna & Adam are back home playing. Their mom's phone rings.



The person on the other side is Nadia & Noa's dad. Luna & Adam's mom volunteers for Alarm Phone to support people who might get lost at sea because they can't take safe paths.



Nadia & Noa's boat is finally rescued. Everyone is so tired, cold and sick, but they are safe for the time being. Their journey in this new place begins now.

Donation options

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Glossary

AFM: Armed Forces Malta. The Maltese authority under which the coast guard responsibility of sea rescue falls - has a huge area of responsibility but extremely rarely reacts to distress cases. Has sometimes given fuel to drifting boats so they may reach the Italian Search and Rescue zone.

ATLANTIC ROUTE: Most dangerous sea route to Europe. People leave from as far as Senegal to reach the Canary Islands. There would be shorter and safer routes, of course, but in some places the shore is very heavily monitored and visas are extremely hard to come by. EU governments receive 130 million € in fees from rejected visa applications per year, by the way.

BOZA: Victory (Bambara language). Celebratory call of West African migrants when reaching Europe.

CMRCC: Civil Maritime Rescue Coordination Center, a coordination and documentation platform for people in distress in the Central Mediterranean Sea, operated by members of the civil actors engaging in SAR activities.

FRONTEX: The EU border agency with a budget of close to 1 billion € per year. Created to prevent people from entering the EU. Directly or indirectly participates in pushbacks and human rights violations.

HARRAGA: Those who burn [the border] (Arabic). Self-description of people on the move who cross the sea from North Africa to Europe.

HCG: Hellenic Coast Guard. Tends to beat people up and put them on unseaworthy rafts back to Turkey instead of rescuing. Conducts illegal pushbacks and perpetuates violence which is well-documented, but little consequences and attention. Sometimes sinks boats.

INTERCEPTION: Stopping people on the move at sea or on land and forcing them back to the state of departure by the corresponding border police. This must not be confused with a rescue or SAR operation.

IOM: founded in 1951. Cooperates closely with (especially Western) governments, for example in the so-called "voluntary" return of migrants to home countries. Involved in facilitating deportations.

(Freja's flat) Freja, Ruby, me

5:04 7-13



MRCC (also sometimes referred to as **RCC** or **JRCC**): Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre. Primary search and rescue agency of states, coordinating and controlling SAR operations.

PUSHBACK / PULLBACK: Illegal but common practice of stopping people in one state territory or international waters and forcing them back to the state territory from which they left, without giving them the opportunity to exercise their right to seek asylum. Carried out by forces of the state of destination (pushback) or the state of departure (pullback).

scLCG: So-called Libyan coast guard. A dysfunctional group of administrators, ex-army people, smugglers, paramilitary goons... divided into different branches but who can really tell? Known to shoot at boats, intercept and kidnap people and take bribes. Funded and equipped by Italy and EU.

SAR ZONE/OPERATION: Search and Rescue zone/operation. The Mediterranean is divided into SAR zones. In case of a boat in distress, the corresponding MRCC is obliged to coordinate a SAR operation in order to rescue that boat.

THURAYA: Satellite phone provider from the United Arab Emirates and shorthand for the satellite phone itself. Thuraya phones can find and share a device's GPS position outside the normal phone coverage area. Essential for locating boats. Unfortunately quite expensive and in some countries, illegal.

WATCH THE MED: Online documentation and mapping platform to monitor the deaths and violations of migrants' rights at the maritime borders of the EU. Initiated 5 December 2013 as part of the Boats4people campaign.

www.watchthemed.net

ZODIAC: Common term for an inflatable rubber boat. The French company Zodiac is the main producer of that type of boat that is often used to cross the Mediterranean. Equivalent expressions are rubber dinghy or just dinghy.



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