

AGAINST DEPORTATION, EXCLUSION AND RIGHT-WING AGITATION  
FOR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL!  
UNITED AGAINST RACISM!



## Press release

Hamburg, 18 May 2018

### **Grand Coalition Against Racism: 200 groups and initiatives call for a parade against racism and deportations in Hamburg**

Also in 2018 people still die in the Mediterranean, live under inhuman conditions in camps and are increasingly confronted with racist violence. Against this, and for a policy of solidarity, the countrywide network We'll Come United stands up. Under the slogan "United Against Racism" the network is positioning itself with today's call for a statewide parade in Hamburg on 29 September 2018, against racist madness on the streets and in parliaments, against a society walling itself in and against the politics of exclusion.

200 organisations, initiatives, cafés and clubs, associations, cultural institutions, self-organised migrant groups, welcome initiatives, artists' collectives and NGOs are among the first signatories. These include '*Lampedusa in Hamburg*' and '*Youth Without Borders*', the '*Auschwitz Committee in the Federal Republic of Germany*', several refugee councils, the tribunal '*NSU-Komplex auflösen*', the sea rescue organisations '*Sea-Watch*' and '*Jugend rettet*', the NGO '*medico international*', the football clubs '*FC St. Pauli*' and '*SV Babelsberg 03*' and the Hamburg Theater '*Kampnagel - Zentrum für schönen Künste / center for finer arts*'.

"The problem throughout Europe is not migration, the problem is racism," said Newroz Duman, spokeswoman for the We'll Come United network. "In the last few weeks alone, a thread of racism has been running through the public, ranging from the AfD to Christian Lindner, from the media spectacle about Ellwangen to the new regulation of family reunification. We will not participate in this right-wing discourse. We do not let ourselves be divided into 'good' and 'bad' migrants. We stand on the side of all those who are exposed to the daily agitation, the border regime and the deprivation of rights and who are defending themselves against it. The more deportations are prevented, the better."

The parade in Hamburg is intended to show the strength and diversity of the anti-racist movement, which too often remains invisible. "Whether in the Mediterranean, in the fight against deportations or in the welcome initiative: the solidarity of countless people is the practical answer to the old and new racism," said Duman. Activists have been on a "Swarming"-tour for months. They visit camps and secluded shelters of fugitives to strengthen the people in their daily struggles. Last weekend, from 10-13 May in Göttingen, several networks of movement and science came together to form a "grand coalition of anti-racism".

"We are many - and even much more than we think. It is time for an anti-racist offensive," Duman concluded.

*We'll Come United is a network of groups and individuals involved in social, anti-racist, cultural and political activities. It is a coalition of refugees and supporters, scientists, teachers, neighbors, people of all ages and from the most diverse ranges of the society. The first We'll Come United Parade took place in Berlin in September 2017: Diverse, loud and colourful, this anti-racist gathering set an example on Berlin's streets shortly before the federal elections. Since then, the network has expanded to include many groups and people in order to make anti-racism and solidarity visible - as a demonstration, a carnival, a parade with music and performance this year in Hamburg.*

Further information:

Call: <https://www.welcome-united.org/de/aufruf/>

Video: <https://www.welcome-united.org/de/well-come-united/> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CnaG1mCzSUc>

Swarming Tour: <https://www.welcome-united.org/de/swarming-material/>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us by e-mail or telephone.

Contact:

Siri Keil: +49 176 620 674 93

Mario Neumann: +49 179 88 78 538

[presse@welcome-united.org](mailto:presse@welcome-united.org)

Voices of first signatories:

*"The Mediterranean is still the world's deadliest frontier, the humanitarian crisis is by no means over. Europe's attempt to stop migration by all means must finally come to an end. Instead of inflicting immense suffering to people on the run, denying them their fundamental rights and criminalising civil sea rescue, we must finally create decent entry routes!"*

**Johannes Bayer**, Member of the Board of 'Sea-Watch e.V.'

*"Collective deportations to Afghanistan have been taking place for 1.5 years now, although everyone knows that this is a crime against humanity. We need a strong bond from the camps to the population in order to fight resolutely against deportations to Afghanistan and all other countries".*

**Nabi Ghorbani**, 'Afghan outcry Düsseldorf'

*"The current anti-racist struggles also include the Roma right to stay - whose history is deeply linked to Germany. Germany under National Socialism: that meant deportation and persecution of the Roma in North-West and South-East Europe. Racism affects Roma in the past and present. Today, Roma continue to flee racism and exclusion, sometimes repeatedly. Therefore, solidarity with Roma is a fight against political and social exclusion - everywhere."*

**Kenan Emini**, 'everybody stay!'

*"In the fight against racism we are not talking about a temporary expulsion ritual, but about a centuries-old phenomenon. At present, it is again gaining ground in the center of society. As humanists, we cannot and will not allow this!"*

**Diana Henniges**, 'Moabit Helps e.V.'

*"I support the 'We'll Come United Network' because it is a strong sign of the power of solidarity."*

**Cornelia Kerth**, Federal Chairwoman 'VVN-BdA' ('Vereinigung der Verfolgten des Naziregimes – Bund der Antifaschistinnen', 'Union of Victims of Persecution by the Nazi Regime - Association of Antifascists')

*"Racism must no longer become socially acceptable, especially in Germany. That's why it must be uncovered, named and vigorously debated. The parade is a great initiative of the 'We'll Come United network'. Let us all go and celebrate a society without exclusion!"*

**Amelie Deuflhard**, Director 'Kampnagel - Centre for Fine Arts'

*"In view of increasingly intense racist discourses, the solidarity of anti-racist groups, initiatives and individuals is becoming more and more urgent. The experiences of people who are directly negatively affected by these discourses must be placed at the centre of attention. The 'We'll Come United' campaign does that – that's why it is supported by the ISD."*

**Tahir Della**, board 'Initiative Schwarze Menschen in Deutschland e.V.' (ISD)

*"In the current times, it is important to go forward and not only preach values such as tolerance and openness, but also to actively push them. That is what the 'We'll Come United' alliance is doing and that is why FC St. Pauli is, with all its strength, supporting the call for the anti-racist parade in Hamburg on 29 September."*

**Christiane Hollander**, Vice-President FC St. Pauli



**AGAINST DEPORTATION, EXCLUSION AND RACIST AGITATION –  
FOR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL!**

*We know already that September 29, 2018 will be the most beautiful day of the year. It will be our day. We are many, we are different and we struggle every day on our doorstep. We'll all come together in September. We will come to Hamburg by car, train and bus. From villages and towns, from camps and shelters, from welcoming initiatives and aid organizations, from construction sites, schools and universities. With soundtrucks, performances, lyrics, music and carnival we'll chase away the cold, the racism and the heartlessness from the streets of the city. Together we'll draw a picture on the streets: the picture of our friendship, the picture of a diverse and fearless life in solidarity. When we move, the world moves!*

**Call for the anti-racist parade in Hamburg, September 29, 2018**

**UNITED AGAINST RACISM**

**Against the lies!**

The stories that are told to us every day are unbearable. They're an insult and they're lies. They say the refugees are the problem while they drown in the Mediterranean. They say the limits of "integration capacity" have been reached, while a racist mob rages in the Bundestag and on the streets without restriction. They calculate that the "costs of integration" are rising, while we are denied language courses and work and huge sums are spent on deportation bureaucracy and harassment. They talk about violence - and children are kidnapped right from their beds and school classes in order to deport them to completely foreign countries.

It is easy to scold and exclude us, because many of us are at the bottom anyway. We fled war, hunger, poverty and misery. Many of us came because the global capitalism destroyed our lives. Our families cannot come because our love and our longing do not matter. The government plans to close the borders and put us in new camps. We surely do not want pity, we are humans, not victims. But we say: All this shows how democratic this democracy really is. Not the boats on the Mediterranean are a danger to us all, but the racism raging and murdering all over Europe.

**Let's name the problem: it's racism!**

In 2017, more than 3,000 people died or disappeared in the Mediterranean because they tried to reach Europe. Their death was barely a mention in the news. The dead remain unnamed. In Germany, 2,200 attacks on refugee shelters were reported during the same period. 180 times refugee supporters were attacked. Muslims and Muslim institutions have been attacked 950 times. 1,453 anti-Semitic offenses were registered. Over 5.5 million eligible voters in the last general election voted for the openly racist AfD. And we will not forget the NSU for a long time, which was able to kill people undisturbed for years.

That's what we think about when it's being discussed that Germany is becoming more dangerous. Let's talk honestly - who sits in the shelters and hears when the windows are clinking at night? Who gets harassed at the immigration office? Who is being exploited in illegal jobs and in unpaid internships? Who cleans the plates, the toilets and the homes? Who lives and works here for decades and still remains only a "guest"? No, for us it's not the end of an intact cozy world, just because the AfD now was able to enter the Bundestag with 13%.

### **The truth is different!**

We get up now. Again and surely not for the last time. Against this racist insanity, against this twisted world, against this heartless homeland, against the walled community, against the policy of exclusion. We do not separate and do not let us split. Whether "German" or "foreigner", whether "refugee" or "Saxon", whether from Dortmund or Damascus, from Afrin or Athens, from Kabul or Kassel: That does not matter to us since long time. No, it's about us all. It's about how and in which society we want to live together.

We have already started to build another world. We started with ourselves. Our doors are open. No matter where we come from, we know each other, we have our phone numbers, we have become living points of contact and information, we have become experts and friends. With each task that we accomplish together, with our mutual support we gain new strength. Whether at the authorities, or on the lifeboat in the Mediterranean, at the job center, at the apartment viewing or in the school. We will not stop to fight against old and new structures of power and the worldwide system of colonialism. We defend our bodies and our dignity – against sexism, racism and every form of violence!

### **Tear down the boundaries, break down the borders!**

What we experience together is important and big. "Welcome United" in Berlin in September 2017 was a celebration and a beginning. We have demonstrated for our voice and our rights, but more importantly - we have redefined ourselves: who and how many we can be. And we have shown that we can move cities and neighborhoods, our friends and neighbors, borders and horizons. Let us continue and start over. No fear anymore. No frightening. No loneliness. No servility. We enter the streets because we want a future. A future for all.

That's why we want to reunite for a big parade of anti-racism and solidarity in Hamburg. It might be the time of egoism, cold and racism. There might be more beautiful times; but this time is ours. What needs to happen now has already begun. We are many - and much more than we think.

**We call for a nationwide demonstration on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September in Hamburg.  
Join the parade for participation, equal rights, and solidarity!**

**We'll Come United!**

### **The call is supported by**

Afghan Refugee Movement

Afrique-Europe-Interact

agis Darmstadt

AK Asyl Göttingen

AK Colonial Amnesia / Koloniales Vergessen - Quo Vadis Hamburg?

AK Geographie und Geschlecht

Aktionsbündnis gegen Abschiebung Rhein-Main  
Aktionsnetzwerk gegen Rechtsextremismus Jena  
AKU Wiesbaden  
alle bleiben initiative  
Allmende e.V. - Haus alternativer Migrationspolitik und Kultur, Berlin  
Anlaufstelle für Sans-Papiers, Basel  
Antira\_k Frankfurt  
Antirassistisches Netzwerk Sachsen-Anhalt  
Arbeitsgemeinschaft kirchliche Flüchtlingsarbeit in Hamburg  
Arca - Afrikanisches Bildungszentrum e. V.  
Armut und Gesundheit in Deutschland e.V.  
Arrivati Park Hamburg  
ASK VM (Ashraf Sharif Khan & Viktor Marek)  
Asmaras World e.V.  
Assoziation A, Verlag, Berlin/Hamburg  
Attac Deutschland  
Ausbrechen Paderborn  
Auschwitz-Komitee in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland e.V.  
Autonome Schule Zürich  
Bag Mohajer  
Bayerischer Flüchtlingsrat  
BBZ / KommMit e.V.  
Bellevue di Monaco  
Berliner Bündnis gegen Abschiebungen nach Afghanistan  
BiLaN (Bildungsinitiative Lernen aus dem NSU-Komplex)  
Blauweissbunt\*Nulldrei e.V  
Borderline europe - Menschenrechte ohne Grenzen e.V.  
bordermonitoring.eu e.V.  
Bridge Radio Copenhagen  
Bundes Roma Verband e.V.  
Bundesfachverband unbegleitete minderjährige Flüchtlinge (BuMF e.V.)  
Buttclub Crew, Hamburg  
Can't Evict Solidarity  
CISPM (Coalition international sanspapiers et migrants) Mannheim  
CISPM Belgium  
CISPM France  
CISPM Italy  
CISPM Spain  
City Plaza - Refugee Accommodation and Solidarity Space Athens  
City-Hof e.V. – Für gelebte und gebaute Kultur  
Club Al-Hakawati  
CommUNITY Carnival Berlin  
Contact person network for rejected asylum seekers Denmark  
Copwatch HH

Corasol  
Daily Resistance - oplatz.net  
Demokratie in Bewegung  
Edition Nautilus (Verlag)  
Eine Welt Paderborn  
eipcp - European Institute for Progressive Cultural Policies  
el rojito, Hamburg  
Fachbereich Migration, Forschung und Beratung des CJD Nord  
Fanclubsprecherrat des FC St. Pauli  
Fanladen St. Pauli  
FC Lampedusa St. Pauli  
FC St. Pauli von 1910 e.V.  
Flamingo e.V.  
Flüchtlingsinitiative Bremen  
Flüchtlingsrat Baden-Württemberg  
Flüchtlingsrat Brandenburg  
Flüchtlingsrat Bremen  
Flüchtlingsrat Hamburg e.V.  
Flüchtlingsrat Niedersachsen e.V.  
Flüchtlingsrat Sachsen-Anhalt  
Flüchtlingsrat Thüringen e.V.  
Flüchtlingsrat Wiesbaden  
frauen- und menschenrechte-aktiv  
Free Kashmir Organisation e. V.  
Freedom of movement Denmark  
freier zusammenschluss von student\*innenschaften (fzs) e.V.  
fux eG  
Gängeviertel e.V.  
Gemeinschaft Lebensbogen  
GGUA Flüchtlingshilfe  
glokal e.V.  
Golden Pudel Club  
Göttinger Initiative Bürger\*Asyl - Jetzt!  
Groove City\* Record Store  
Hajusom e.V. - Transnationales Zentrum  
Hamburger Bündnis gegen Rechts  
Hessischer Flüchtlingsrat  
Infomobil Hamburg  
Initiative "Keupstraße ist überall"  
Initiative 6. April, Kassel  
Initiative in Gedenken an Ramazan Avci  
Initiative in Gedenken an Yaya Jabbi  
Initiative Schwarze Menschen in Deutschland - ISD Bund e.V.  
Initiative Wohl oder Übel

Institut für Geographie der Universität Hamburg  
Institut Solidarische Moderne  
International Women Space  
Internationalist Commune of Rojava  
Interventionistische Linke  
iz3w – informationszentrum 3. Welt, Freiburg  
Jacques Palminger & the Kings of Dubrock  
Jugend rettet  
Jugendaktion Bildung statt Abschiebung (JABA)  
Jugendliche ohne Grenzen  
Kampagne: Zukunft für Alle – Schule ohne Abschiebung  
Kampnagel – Zentrum für schönere Künste  
Kashmir Council EU, Brussels  
kassel postkolonial  
kein mensch ist illegal Darmstadt  
kein mensch ist illegal Hanau  
kein mensch ist illegal Kassel  
kein mensch ist illegal Köln  
kids welcome hamburg  
Kiezladen Bilgisaray Berlin  
Kommune Lossehof  
Kontakt- und Beratungsstelle für Flüchtlinge und Migrant\_innen (KuB) e.V.  
Kotti & Co, Berlin  
Kritnet - Netzwerk Kritische Migrations- und Grenzregimeforschung  
Lampedusa in Hamburg  
Lampedusa in Hanau  
Lampedusa-Bündnis Göttingen  
Lesbisch Schwule Filmtage Hamburg | International Queer Film Festival  
Love Newkirk Entertainment  
Lübecker Flüchtlingsforum e.V.  
Madhouse GmbH München  
Medibüro Berlin  
medico international  
Medinetz Mainz e.V.  
metroZones - Zentrum für städtische Angelegenheiten, Berlin  
Moabit hilft e.V.  
MobKitchen Formidable, Göttingen  
Moving Europe  
NAFS – Neue Alternative Flüchtlingsolidarität  
Netzwerk „Berlin hilft!“  
Netzwerk Kritische Solidarität/Teachers on the road.  
Netzwerk Recht auf Stadt Hamburg  
Netzwerk Solidarity City  
New Hamburg



Nijinski Arts International e. V.  
NINA - women IN Action - frauen IN Aktion  
No Border Academy  
No Border Frankfurt  
No Stress Tour  
NoLager Osnabrück  
Ökumenische BAG Asyl in der Kirche  
OpenUp! – Jugendtheaterprojekt Hamburg  
Oromo Community Hanau  
Plenum der St. Pauli Hafestraße  
Poliklinik Veddel Hamburg  
Potsdam-Konvoi  
Projekt Eschenhof  
Queer Flora  
Queer Refugees Support Hamburg  
Radical Solidarity Action Warsaw  
Recht auf Stadt - Never mind the papers  
Refugee Law Clinic Hamburg  
Refugee Law Clinic Jena e.V.  
Refugees Welcome to Rheingau  
RISE e.V. (Regionalentwicklung und interdisziplinäre Sozial- und Exklusionsforschung), Hamburg  
Roma Antidiscrimination Network (RAN)  
Roma Center e.V.  
Rückenwind in Wiesbaden  
rwkaro – refugees welcome karoviertel  
Schön, dass Ihr da seid! e.V.  
Schwabinggrad Ballett  
Sea-Watch  
she\*claim, Berlin  
Solidarität grenzenlos MTK  
Solidarity City Berlin  
Solidarity City Frankfurt  
Solidarity City Freiburg  
Solidarity City Göttingen  
Solidarity City Osnabrück  
Solinet Hannover  
Solizentrum Lübeck  
Sprachraum e.V. (antirassistische Sprachwerkstatt Hamburg)  
St. Pauli Office  
St. Pauli selber machen  
St. Pauli-Archiv  
Stay Human, the refugee solidarity network, Aalborg DK  
Stiftung :do  
SV Babelsberg 03 e.V.

The Association of the Ovaherero Genocide in the USA (AOG)  
The Ovaherero, Mbanderu and Nama Genocides Institute (ONGI)  
Theater X, Berlin  
transversal texts  
Treffpunkt Asyl Bochum  
Tribunal "NSU-Komplex auflösen"  
Unicorns UHH  
Villa Locomuna Kassel  
VVN-BdA Bundesvereinigung  
(Vereinigung der Verfolgten des Naziregimes-Bund der Antifaschistinnen und Antifaschisten)  
Watch The Med Alarm Phone  
We Will Rise - Ausstellungskollektiv  
Welcome to Europe  
Welcome To Stay Café Aschaffenburg  
WeltRaum Jena  
Willkommen in Lichtenberg  
Wohnprojekt StattSchloss Hamburg  
Women in Exile  
World Refugees - Let Fear Go Tour