



Berlin, 21.02.2005

New version published!

12th updated edition of the documentation

**"German asylum policy and their deadly consequences"
- 1993 to 2004 -**

The number of refugees, who were granted asylum in 2004, reached a low again. From 61.951 applications for asylum, about which the Federal Office decided, 96,8 % were rejected or "somehow settled" (BMI 23.1.05). About 960 persons (1,5 %) obtained asylum, and 1.107 persons (1,8 %) were granted deportation protection due to political or humanitarian reasons. At the same time the number of asylum applicants fell to the bottom of the last 20 years.

Permanently, the politics, the courts and authorities increased the pressure for departure on refugees living in Germany since eight, ten or twelve years. For example, accomplished facts should have made before the law for immigration came into force (1.1.2005). Critically ill or mentally traumatised refugees were often fetched and violently deported. These were often foreign citizens, who, according to the newly approved immigration law, would have had a chance to get the right of residence. Normally, this happened by excessive utilisation of the still valid laws, partly also by avoidance of these laws and regulations, and it always happened with defiance of humanitarian principles. Thus it happened frequently that public servants (from the Aliens department, carceral staff, Federal Boarder Guard) grabbed assiduously "harder" on duty. Normally, they do not have to fear penal consequences.

Low immigration figures and thousandfold effected deportations (2003 there were 23.944 deportations by air) are notifications of success for the these authorities. This only works due to the fact that people on escape are turned to concepts of the enemy. it is consequent, within this racist normality, to impose compulsory residence to asylum applicants, to force them into homes, to refuse them an appropriate access to medical care, to withhold them cash and to ban them from working. The refugees who offend against these measures are criminalised and deported as alleged offenders.

The recent documentation describes in approximately 3800 singular incidents the effects of this institutional racism on the affected people. These are refugees who have hoped to find protection and security in this country, and who finally perished with this system or were harmed. The figures of the documentation have not decreased within the last twelve years but remain constant. An essential higher estimated number of unknown cases has to be assumed.

The documentation covers the period from 1.1.1993 to 31.12.2004.

- 161 refugees died on the way to the Federal Republic of Germany or at the borders, thereof 121 of them died at the eastern borders*,
- 421 refugees were injured at the bordercrossing, 259 of them at the eastern border*,
- 125 refugees killed themselves in the light of their imminent deportation or died during the attempt to escape before deportation, 48 people in the deportation prisons,
- 575 refugees have injured themselves or tried to kill themselves because they were afraid of deportation or out of protest against the imminent deportation (risky hunger strikes); 372 people of them in the deportation prisons,
- 5 refugees died during deportation and
- 262 refugees were injured through forcing measures or mistreatments during the deportation,
- 21 refugees were killed after their deportation in their country of origin and at least
- 384 refugees were mistreated and tortured by the police and the military in their country of origin,
- 59 refugees disappeared after their deportation,
- 11 refugees died during compulsory measures by the police independent of deportation,
- 360 were injured through police and security personal, thereof 118 refugees in prison.

- 67 people died during fire or attacks on refugee homes,
- 700 refugees were severely injured,
- 12 refugees died through racist attacks on streets.

A conclusion::

Through state measures of the Federal Republic of Germany 323 refugees died - 79 refugees died through racist attacks or fire in refugee homes.

The print version (DIN A4 – 318 pages) of this recent documentation is now available and the CD-Rom version will follow soon to the price of 12,00 € (mail-orders: plus 1,60 € for postage & packaging); Only the previous 11th edition is available online at: www.berlinet.de/ari/titel.htm

* the numbers for 2004 will increase because the official numbers of the Federal Ministry are not fully available yet