

ANTIRASSISTISCHE INITIATIVE E.V.

Dokumentationsstelle

Mariannenplatz 2 A – Haus Bethanien – Südflügel – 10997 Berlin
Fon 030 617 40 440 – Funk 0177 37 55 924 – Fax 030 617 40 101
ari-berlin-dok@gmx.de – www.ari-berlin.org/doku/titel.htm



New release! 21. updated edition of the documentation

Berlin, 12.4.2014

"German Asylum Policy and its Deadly Consequences" (1993 - 2013)

21 years of research and documentation of state and societal racism

The many cases recorded in this annually updated documentation clearly show the level of violence used by governmental agencies, courts, police, medical personnel and others to implement laws concerning refugees.

They also document the degree of arbitrariness and disrespect for human dignity with which refugees are tormented, ignored, harassed, isolated and often driven to suicide or self-harm. Blackmail, harassment and fraud as well as kin liability, family separations or the imprisonment of minors are some of the measures used by the state and its compliant employees to create unbearable pressure on refugees in order to force them into "voluntary" departures. If all of these measures don't succeed, deportations are enforced with physical violence.

9/17/13: Ludwigslust-Parchim. A 32-year-old refugee from Mauritania poisons himself with pills. August 13: Upper Allgäu. A pregnant woman reaches the hospital too late and loses her child. 8/17/13: Neuburg. 29-year-old Cliff Oase drowns in the Danube river – presumably, it was suicide. 7/25/13: HARBKE. A 50-year-old refugee from Vietnam kills himself. 7/24/13: Mediterranean Sea. 21-year-old Nazlieh Semmo from Syria drowns in the Eastern Aegean along with 11 other refugees. She was on her way to Hamburg. 5/30/13: Adams Bagna, an asthmatic, suffocates in the refugee accommodation centre of Bernburg. Many inhabitants there suffer from respiratory distress because of mold and the use of insecticides (cockroach infestation). 5/28/13: Initial reception facility Eisenhüttenstadt. 20-year-old Djamaa Isu (Juma A.) from Chad hangs himself. 5/15/13: Raesfeld. An inhabitant of a refugee accommodation centre sets himself on fire and dies of

severe injuries in a hospital. 4/25/13: Friedersdorf. 33-year-old Cosmo Saizon from Benin dies of "natural causes" after an emergency surgery. He was transferred to the hospital way too late. 3/7/13: Hof. Hamid Samii (28) dies after overdosing on medication. 12/18/11: Initial reception facility Zimndorf. 18-months-old Leonard Petrovic is in mortal danger and brought to the hospital by foot and hitch-hiking by his parents after being denied assistance 7 times. Because medical aid was granted too late, the boy is in a coma for months, needs countless surgeries, and will suffer physical damage for the rest of his life. In December 2013, charges are pressed because of failure to render assistance.

⇒⇒ *for further information on these cases, please refer to the pdf file "Beispiele"*

"We are Here and We Will Fight, Freedom of Movement is Everybody's Right."

Refugees have made many attempts to resist these wheels of oppression over the years. Despite oppressive living conditions, they were successful in creating refugee organizations and nationwide networks. Through spectacular hunger and thirst strikes in the past two years, squats in city centers and long protest marches, refugees from Bavaria, Hamburg and Berlin have managed to break the isolation and use public spaces to be heard. In 2013, protesters pushed their physical limits in demonstrations for right of residence and protests against being kept in camps, residence restrictions ("Residenzpflicht") and other racist special laws. In thirst strikes organized by Bavarian refugees ("Non-Citizens") in Munich and Berlin, activists' lives were in danger 121 times and hospital stays became necessary.

The documentation covers the period from 1.1.1993 to 31.12.2013.

- 176 refugees killed themselves in the face of their impending deportation or died trying to escape from deportation, 69 of them while in custody pending deportation,
- 1271 refugees injured themselves out of fear of deportation, in protest against the impending deportation (risk hunger strikes) or tried to commit suicide, 642 of them in custody pending deportation,
- 5 refugees died during deportation and
- 451 refugees were injured by compulsory measures or mistreatment during their deportation,
- 33 refugees died in their country of origin after their deportation, and
- 582 refugees were mistreated and tortured by the police or military in their country of origin or were at the risk of their lives due to severe illnesses,
- 71 refugees disappeared without a trace after their deportations,
- 184 refugees died on their way to the Federal Republic of Germany or at its borders, 129 of them died at the German Eastern border, 2 people were driven off course on the river Neiße and have been missing ever since,
- 544 refugees suffered injuries crossing the borders, 306 of them at the German Eastern border,
- 17 refugees died because of physical force used by police or guards either in detention, in custody, while being arrested or deported, on the streets or in governmental agencies – at least 869 were injured.
- 18 refugees died through neglected assistance
- 72 refugees were killed in fires, attacks on refugee accommodation centres or dangers in these centres, 924 refugees were injured, in part severely,
- 18 refugees died through racist attacks on the street and 849 people were injured.

Since 1993 at least 433 refugees have died as a result of measures taken by the German Federal Republic – 90 people died through racist attacks and through being accommodated in camps (i.e. attacks, fires).

The documentation contains two books. Both books are available for 21 € plus 3.60 € for shipping & packing.
Book I (1993 – 2003) 11 € for 315 pages – Book II (2004 – 2013) 12 € for 369 pages - plus 1,80 € each for shipping & packing.
The 20th edition currently available online: www.ari-berlin.org/doku/titel.htm