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INFORMATION AGAINST THE FEAR

STOP DEPORTATION!



WE FIGHT
TOGETHER FOR
THE RIGHT TO
STAY

How to defend yourself against deportation from Germany

With the following information we want to support all people who are under risk of deportation or who might come into such a danger. “Solidarity will win” is a slogan, which became reality in many cases in the past and it will be so in future. Fear or even panic will not help. By providing information we want to empower everyone to resist deportations on a social, legal and political level. We want to encourage to build mutual solidarity structures with a clear message: the prevention of deportations is all the time possible.



The current situation

Lately there are a lot of media reports about increasing deportations from Germany. The German government negotiates with several countries of origin about return programmes, they speeded up asylum procedures and conducted more charter deportations supported by the European border agency Frontex. By this, they want to spread fear to all those who want to come to Germany and those who have been rejected.

Still, they cannot deport masses at once and in many cases there are chances to stay in Germany. When you face a negative decision in your asylum case it is good to get active fast and try to find support because there are often still options. Nobody should panic! You should rather get informed and organized by building support. Nobody should stay alone with his or her fear!



Most in danger: All those who have only a "Duldung" – or not even a "Duldung" any more – after their asylum application has been rejected by the German Asylum Authority Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge (BAMF). In case you have appealed on time against the negative decision, you can only be deported, if the court has also rejected your appeal.

People who were deported were picked up at home or at their workplaces, some of them already in the days before the charter deportation happened. Sometimes deportations are also conducted directly from the "Ausländerbehörde" (foreign office), when people have an appointment there. The police can come at any time, usually very early in the morning.

We try in two texts to give useful information against the fear of deportation.

In the text "Right to Stay" you find different options for how to get a right to stay even if your asylum case was rejected by the authorities. It is always best to watch out for possible solutions before it gets too late. Here below you can find ways how to stop a deportation last minute and what to do when the police are already there.

So called “voluntary” return

We know that the deportations are intended to deter and create panic within the communities. The German authorities try to also convince rejected asylum seekers to ‘voluntarily’ return to their country of origin. ‘Voluntary return’ means that they offer some hundred Euros so that people sign a paper and return to their country of origin by themselves. The ‘forced’ deportations now are intended to demonstrate that there are no other options but to return, either ‘voluntarily’ or by force. Authorities invite people to an appointment for ‘voluntary return’ and often put a lot of pressure on them to sign their ‘voluntary’ return. This is blackmail as, of course, it is not on a ‘voluntary’ basis. You are not obliged to sign a ‘voluntary’ return. Everybody should think twice before agreeing to a ‘voluntary’ return. If you consider this as a possible next step, you should try to find more information about options for a trustful counselling beforehand. Many times, we have seen people, who had to flee a second time from their countries of origin after a return.

How to stop a deportation last minute?

In case the police arrest you for deportation, it can still be possible to stop a deportation until the last moment. Most important is that you inform others (and especially your lawyer if you have one) and that you try to resist.

Most deportations are carried out on regular flights where tourists and businesspeople travel as well. If German police want to deport you on such a regular flight, they will most likely just put you on the plane but won't accompany you on the flight, if they don't expect any trouble. As it is easier to stop a deportation on the plane when police officers do not accompany you, it makes sense not to waste your energy on the way to the airplane but to start to resist only once police have left the plane.



Alert about charter deportations

In an airplane chartered only for deportation usually there will be police officers accompanying each person and so the chances to resist are limited.

About upcoming charter deportations you often find hints beforehand at “Deportation Alert”:

<https://de.deportationwatch.net/en/alarms>



How to prevent your deportation while still at the airport?

You can find ideas on how to resist in this video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g2Umb7MyDhw>



Once you are already on your way to the airport, it will be difficult to think about what you could do to prevent the deportation, because you will be most likely stressed. Therefore it is good to familiarise yourself beforehand with the existing possibilities. The following information should help you with this.

1. Informing other people

If you can, inform your friends that you are arrested by police and you want to resist the deportation. Especially inform your lawyer - but also other people who supported you in your struggle for your right to stay. The more people know that you are flying against your will, the greater the chance of preventing your deportation.

2. On the way to the aircraft

The German State Police often behave recklessly, and often also brutally, to enforce an ordered deportation. The law allows police officers to transport people to the airport in handcuffs and to use force to suppress any resistance. Sometimes the state police bully and beat to scare and discourage deportees before they reach the aircraft. If you want to resist the deportation, you should not waste your strength too early.

3. If you are injured or ill

If you get injured or become ill, then you should let everyone you meet on your way to the deportation know (immigration officials, the airport social services, the flight attendants in the plane, the passengers – really everybody). It is possible that because of this you are “not airworthy.” This does not always help, but deportations have regularly been aborted on medical grounds. In case you have medical documents that can prove that you are probably “unable to travel” carry them always with you.

4. Once you are on the plane

Due to international agreements, inside the aircraft police officers have no special authority. It is the pilot who will take all decisions. So save your energy to prevent your deportation once you are on the plane. Try, if necessary by calling loudly, to speak to the pilot (flight captain) or a responsible member of the aircraft crew. Explain that you are not taking this flight willingly. Usually a loud “NO” is enough. If that does not help you, be loud, refuse to sit down and refuse to fasten the seatbelt.

If the immigration officials (state police) do not stay on the aircraft, it is quite simple to stand up as soon as they have left the plane, and to go straight to the pilot and insist on having a conversation with them. Explain that you do not want to fly, and that they should not conduct this deportation. Explain clearly that you are not flying on your own free will and that you will fight to defend yourself if necessary.

If the immigration officials stay on the plane and intend to fly with you as „safety monitoring“, you should still try to reach the pilot.

If the immigration officials prevent you from doing this by cuffing you or holding you, you can protest with loud screams, once the first passengers are on board the plane. Still try to reach the pilot and to tell them that you will resist. There are hundreds of cases in which pilots refuse in the end to carry out a deportation every year.

5. What happens when a deportation is successfully prevented, or must be aborted?

ATTENTION: Resistance can result in being detained until the authorities make another attempt to deport you.

The German officials will usually try to continue to conduct the deportation. If the deportation was proceeded by detention, you will firstly be brought back to detention. In some cases, If there is no custody order, you will be sent back again to the place where you live in Germany. In either case there is little time to continue to fight your deportation using legal or political means.

After a prevented deportation there is always the danger of an arrest warrant, so simply waiting would be unsafe. Contact a lawyer or legal advice centre immediately.

6. What happens when the deportation takes place within the European Union (Dublin III Regulation), because my fingerprints were recorded in another EU country?

You can also resist a deportation within the EU. This is sometimes easier than resisting a deportation to your country of origin, because there is a deadline (usually 6 months) within which Germany must have carried out the deportation. If this deadline is not met, your application for asylum will be processed in Germany. If you manage to prevent your deportation (e.g. to Croatia or Bulgaria) close to the deadline, then you must be released from removal detention and your asylum case must be considered in Germany. Caution: this applies only for people who have had their fingerprints taken, but do not have refugee status in another country (e.g. Italy or Greece).

7. “Emergency exit”

Often the immigration authorities are forced to conduct deportations with airlines that do not offer direct flights to the country of origin. This means that the deportee must change to a connecting flight at an airport in another country. This creates the possibility of getting off the plane and refusing the onwards flight. In some cases the deportees have refused to board the connecting flight and have been returned to Germany.

8. Engage passengers for solidarity!

Supporters can inform the other passengers at the airport about the deportation that is going to take place and ask them to protest. Passengers can express their solidarity with the struggle in the flight if they do not sit down, too, and document assaults.

ATTENTION: Bringing a deportation into public attention and putting the airline under pressure needs the consent of the person who is threatened to be deported. Think carefully about your action and take a grounded decision together with the affected person. It is possible that an

intervention might lead to negative consequences during the deportation, such as increased police accompany.

9. "Abschiebebeobachtung" (deportation monitoring)

In case you are deported from the airport in Frankfurt, Düsseldorf or Berlin you can contact the so called "Abschiebebeobachtung" (deportation monitoring).

They are on-site and can watch the deportation, but they cannot intervene. Find their contacts here:

[https://nodeportation.antira.info/en/
abschiebungen-verhindern/
abschiebebeobachtungen/](https://nodeportation.antira.info/en/abschiebungen-verhindern/abschiebebeobachtungen/)



**Be strong – and don't forget: our
good wishes will be with you.
No border – For freedom of
movement!**



More useful information:



Stop deportation comic: <http://fluechtlingscafe-goettingen.com/informationcomic-stop-deportation/>



Deportation Alert:
<https://de.deportationwatch.net/en/alarms>



Bring back our neighbors
[Abschiebealarm Hessen Blog in English:](http://nodeportation.antira.info/en/abschiebungen-verhindern/flyer/)
<http://nodeportation.antira.info/en/abschiebungen-verhindern/flyer/>



[Deportation Alert Hessen Blog \(in english\):](http://nodeportation.antira.info/en/)
<http://nodeportation.antira.info/en/>



www.w2eu.info

Welcome to Europe is an activist transnational network for freedom of movement on all refugee routes. The web guide w2eu.info provides useful contacts and information in favour of the right to stay, against deportations and for equal rights for all in four languages (English, Arabic, Farsi and French).

www.welcome-united.org

We'll Come United (WCU) is a self-organized, decentralized network of people from diverse social, antiracist, and political backgrounds working together across local and transnational groups to fight for freedom of movement, the right to stay, and equal rights for all.

