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New release! **24rd** updated edition of the documentation

Berlin, May 2017

Asylum Policy in Germany and its Deadly Consequences (1993 - 2016)

24 Years of Research and Documentation of State and Societal Racism

This documentation in three volumes is a collection of individual cases of refugees who experienced physical harm. We document deaths and injuries before, during and after deportations as well as attacks from the German population against refugees. In its 24th year, this regularly updated documentation demonstrates the living conditions that people seeking refuge in Germany have to suffer by documenting 9000 events where people got harmed.

In refugee camps and mass accommodation and on the streets, refugees experience particular forms of violence. Parts of the German population manage to make life a consistent struggle for refugees and add trauma to their lives by hurling racist insults, demonstrating their sheer hate and directly physically attacking people.

Assault in public places has multiplied by six

Racist attacks against minor refugees in public spaces lead to particularly grave consequences regarding psychological and physical health. 134 minors were physically assaulted in 2016 – that's roughly a 600% increase compared to 2015 where 23 minors were harmed. This is true for all ages: there has been rise in physical violence against refugees in general. From 2014 to 2015, the numbers tripled from 72 to 242. From 2015 to 2016, the numbers again doubled to 505 cases.

Acts of desperation

Many refugees don't find safety here for a myriad of reasons: lack of privacy in mass accommodation, aggressions and assault perpetrated by the staff of facilities or other refugees, attacks from 'outside' – arson, things being thrown, shots, or invasions of refugee housing. Many people experience further destabilization on top of the often intense psychological harm that results from the escape journey and the reasons for escaping (hunger, violence, persecution).

As a result, we have documented more cases of refugees who attempted suicide or harmed themselves physically in 2016 than ever since we started documenting in 1993. 239 such cases are documented in 2016, that's 70% more than in the previous year. But this is only a small fragment of the real numbers. A response by the Ministry of the Interior of NRW to an information request by the party fraction PIRATE mentions 111 attempted suicides and 6 completed suicides in mass accommodation in North Rhine-Westphalia in the first 11 months of 2016. The equivalent ministry in Lower Saxony also recently made public that the number of self-inflicted injuries has gone up considerably in their jurisdiction. Many Federal Lands don't even compile statistics or publish them. So we can safely assume that the real numbers are many times the ones that are published.

The Documentation spans the period from 1.1.1993 to 31.12.2016.

- 217 refugees killed themselves in the face of their impending deportation or died trying to escape from deportation, 73 of them while in custody pending deportation,
- 1875 refugees injured themselves out of fear of deportation, in protest against the impending deportation (risk hunger strikes) or tried to commit suicide, 701 of them in custody pending deportation,
- 5 refugees died during deportation and
- 526 refugees were injured by compulsory measures or mistreatment during their deportation,
- 35 refugees died in their country of origin after their deportation, and
- 605 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,
- 74 refugees disappeared without a trace after their deportations,
- 205 refugees died on their way to the Federal Republic of Germany or at its borders, 131 of them died at the German Eastern border, 3 people were driven off course on the river Neiße and have been missing ever since,
- 681 refugees suffered injuries crossing the borders, 345 of them at the German Eastern border,
- 22 refugees died because of physical force used by police or guards either in detention, in custody, while being arrested or deported, on the streets, in governmental agencies or in refugee accommodation – at least 1074 were injured.
- 23 refugees died through neglected assistance
- 83 refugees were killed in fires, attacks on refugee accommodation centres or dangers in these centres, 1421 refugees were injured, in part severely,
- 24 refugees died through racist attacks on the street and 1683 people were injured.

Since 1993 at least 507 refugees have died as a result of measures taken by the German Federal Republic – 107 people died through racist attacks and through being accommodated in camps (i.e. attacks, fires).

The documentation contains three books. All books are available for 30 € plus 5,00 € for shipping & packing.
Book I (1993 – 2004) 10 € for 356 pages – Book II (2005 – 2011) 11 € for 262 pages - Book III (2012 – 2016) 12 € for 336 pages
plus 1,80 € each for shipping & packing.

The 23rd edition currently available online: www.ari-berlin.org/doku/titel.htm