

## **Where wrong becomes right...**

A Saturday protesting against restriction of movement and the confining of asylum seekers to underground bunkers as political policy.

Saturday, 18th March 2017, from 11am.

Autonomous School Zurich  
Sihlquai 125

Maxim Theater  
Ausstellungsstrasse 100

Provitreff  
Sihlquai 240

The external European border doesn't just run through the Med, it also cuts through Switzerland. Asylum seekers and undocumented migrants are being systematically deprived of their rights as per the proverb *out of sight, out of mind*. They have to survive on a few francs per day in the richest land in the world. They have to live in makeshift accommodation, often put up in hastily adapted bunkers without any daylight. They are harassed by officials and subjected to increasingly strict sanctions. The final straw was the policy regarding restriction of movement, which canton Zurich adopted in summer 2016. People without legal residency are no longer allowed to leave their municipality of residence. This invisible prison is a tool for incarceration, which robs people of the basic human right to freedom of movement. This has serious psychological repercussions on those affected.

In light of the illegal route through the Med or Eastern Europe and the ensuing dangers, aid for refugees is more than justified. When a constitutional state turns into an illegitimate state through its treatment of the weakest members of society, civil disobedience and active resistance become necessary. For this reason on Saturday, 18th March, we're inviting anyone who's interested, from undocumented migrants to official citizens, lawyers to activists, to a conference against restriction of movement as policy and the confining of asylum seekers to underground bunkers.

We'd like to look back over the history of asylum policy - how it has progressively become more restrictive over recent decades - and examine what sort of resistance from previous years we can still use today. We want to look further than our own canton - how are those affected and activists in other parts of Switzerland and further afield organising support? We're going to brainstorm practical ideas in workshops as to how we can overcome these invisible barriers, from organising visits to the bunkers to a taxi-service for refugees.

## **Programme Overview**

11-11.30

Welcome reception (MAXIM Theatre, Ausstellungsstrasse 100)

1st block of workshops and presentations

11.45-13.15

Freedom of movement  
in canton Zurich and worldwide

Acts of Resistance in Zurich -  
occupying the Predigerkirche

Resistance in the name of the Bible?  
Memories and reflections from the sanctuary movement (Kirchenasyl)

The (lack of) human dignity with which failed asylum seekers are treated

13.30-14.30  
Lunch

2nd block of workshops

14.30-16.00  
Visit to one of the blocks of emergency accommodation (NUK) -  
providing direct support for those facing restrictions of movement

Sanctions in the asylum process and resistance in French speaking Switzerland

Resistance-  
Opposition on a local level

Civil disobedience and the fight against the 'mandatory residence' law in Germany

16.00-16.30  
Break

3rd Block of workshops

16.30-18.00  
'Borderline' resistance  
A day of action against the border regime in canton Zurich (13.05.17)

Political action in the municipalities where there are emergency accommodation stations (NUKs)  
Example: Adliswil

How to help those facing restriction of movement?  
'Underground railroad'

The 411 on civil disobedience and the legal situation

18.00-19.00  
Cultural interlude with theatre, music and capoeira

From 19.00  
Dinner

From 21.30  
Benefit party with Niels van der Waerden, Big Tuna and the Penguins, Hangover Jam and DJ  
Combo Melena and DJ MXA.

The respective event venues will be signposted on site.