# 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 ! 19. updated edition of the documentation

## "German Asylum Policy and its Deadly Consequences" (1993 bis 2011)

## Harmed and dead refugees are the content and focus of the documentation. They would have stayed unharmed if not for the racist special laws of the German Federal Republic or the racism prevalent in German society.

The documentation illustrates in more than 6,000 single cases the impact of state and societal racism on the people it targets. The presented cases document the amount of violence employed by government agency officials, courts, police and even medical workers and other aides. They show the arbitrariness and disrespect for human dignity with which refugees are abused, humiliated and even driven to suicide or self-mutilation. Extortion, harassment and fraud as well as making family members liable for each other, separating families or imprisoning minors are some of the means of the state and its compliant employees to force refugees to leave the country.

### Without mercy – deportations of Roma refugees

The goal of the federal government to deport all Roma refugees with a suspension of deportation from Germany is being pursued without restraint in 2011. After having stayed for one and a half decade on average, Roma are being taken out of their homes with force and carted to the airports to be part of so-called mass deportations. Even gravely and chronically ill, traumatized and disabled people aren't spared. Children are torn out of their school and class room communities and the elderly are separated from their sons, daughters and grandchildren.

Their hopes for a life in safety and a positive perspective on the future take a shocking end through these violent deportations. What awaits most Roma who are deported to Kosovo is literally a life on the fringes of garbage dumps. Generally, they are excluded from local housing and labor markets – public health insurance doesn't exist. 98 percent cannot find work in this country which suffers from mass unemployment.

Massive discrimination, social exclusion and racist attacks shape their daily lives. Children find themselves in an especially vulnerable position. Many of them – born and raised in Germany – speak neither Albanian nor Serbian. Three out of four drop out of school after being deported.

The federal government's comment in response to a minor interpellation initiated by the German Left Party: On many previous occasions, it had already pointed out "that in the Republic of Kosovo there exists no more imminent endangerment simply because of a person's belonging to a certain ethnicity."

Cynical ignorance in the face of reality and many reports by human rights organizations and politically fatal against the background of Germany's historical responsibility regarding the Roma people. Hundreds of thousands fell victim to the devastating NS policy of extermination – many of them in the Balkans.

### The documentation covers the period from 1.1.1993 to 31.12.2011.

- 182 refugees died on their way to the Federal Republic of Germany or at its borders, 131 of them died at the German Eastern border, 2 people were driven off course on the river Neiße and have been missing ever since,
- 527 refugees suffered injuries crossing the borders, 302 of them at the German Eastern border,
- 164 refugees killed themselves in the face of their impending deportation or died trying to escape from deportation, 64 of them while in custody pending deportation,
- 968 refugees injured themselves out of fear of deportation, in protest against the impending deportation (risk hunger strikes) or tried to commit suicide, 571 of them in custody pending deportation,
- 5 refugees died during deportation and
- 410 refugees were injured by compulsory measures or mistreatment during their deportation,
- 32 refugees died in their country of origin after their deportation, and
- 554 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,
- 13 refugees died during police assignments independent from deportation
- 9 refugees died through neglected assistance
- 447 were injured by the police or custody staff, 140 of them during arrest,
- 70 refugees were killed in fires, attacks on refugee accomodation centres or dangers in these centres
- 829 refugees were injured, in part severely,
- 18 refugees died through racist attacks on the street and 798 people were injured.

Since 1993 at least 405 refugees have died as a result of measures taken by the German Federal Republic – 88 people died through racist attacks and through being accomodated in camps (i.e. attacks, fires).