

**100 years of immigration detention:
End immigration detention forever!**

There will be several sad anniversaries in 2019:

For 100 years ...
foreigners are imprisoned
not for any crime
but only to make it easier for authorities to deport them.

For 25 years ...
Büren has been the largest deportation prison in Germany, where also
more than half of the prisoners are illegally detained

20 years ago ...
Rachid Sbaai died in the midst of unresolved
but in any case scandalous circumstances in Büren

**This is injustice – this is racism!
This contempt for humanity must no longer continue!**

Large Demonstration 31.8.2019
11 a.m. UfA Büren
3 p.m. large demonstration Paderborn central train station

Shuttle service - see homepage
<http://100-jahre-abschiebehaft.de/buerendemo>

From the Weimar Republic to the Present Day

The gruesome practice of detention prior to deportation is a cruel tradition in Germany: As early as 100 years ago, mainly Jews who sought shelter from pogroms in Eastern Europe were imprisoned arbitrarily - with the aim of driving them out of the country.

Immigration detention was massively extended in 1938 with the Foreigner's Police Ordinance issued by Heinrich Himmler.

This Nazi law was literally adopted by Western Germany in 1951 and only revised in 1965. As a reaction to the racist pogroms at the beginning of the 1990s, the legislation was further tightened and again applied massively. Together with the abolition of the basic right to asylum by the "asylum compromise", the construction of the Immigration Removal Centre (ICR) in Büren was decided in 1993.

The practice today violating fundamental rights

The mere suspicion of possibly evading deportation is sufficient to imprison a person for up to 1½ years. Detention - the most massive encroachment on the freedom of the individual - thus turns from a measure against convicted offenders into a simple administrative act against innocent people. As a result, detention prior to deportation is now a common instrument of the authorities for foreigners and is routinely used to allow the authorities to carry out a "comfortable" deportation. The immense misery of those affected is accepted without pity.

Lawyers who regularly deal with deportation detention found that more than half of the people in deportation detention were detained illegally.

Those affected are often denied access to legal assistance or have more difficult access. There are no independent complaint -structures or higher supervisory bodies. Medical and psychological care

is also limited to the bare essentials. Solitary confinement and fixations are part of the everyday in IRC.

In Büren this practice recently led to the suicide of another prisoner in summer 2018 [2].

No end in sight

Instead of saying goodbye to a practice with such a story, it is even to be expanded:

25 years after the opening of the prison in Büren NRW, the prison conditions were further tightened. Even now, opening hours are being massively reduced and aid organisations are finding it more difficult to gain access to the prisoners. There are collective punishments and coercive measures to facilitate the work of the security forces at the expense of human rights.

Other federal states are also planning to tighten prison conditions.

New deportation prisons are being planned throughout Germany. In Passau alone, a new "super" prison with over 200 places is to be built.

The practical consequences of immigration detention:

Illegal detentions, human rights violations without any processing, breaches of statutory regulations, repressive measures without control authorities, solitary confinement and fixations, separation of families and destruction of livelihoods.

It is therefore high time to finally say goodbye to this legislation and racist practice deeply rooted in the Third Reich.

This is why we demand:

No more special laws, no more uncontrolled official practice!

Abolition of immigration detention!

Immediate closure of all deportation prisons!