

## Evacuate Eritrean Refugees from Libya

On Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> September (on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> September in Berlin) sit-ins and actions worldwide, launched by the international network of Eritrean communities, will take place to denounce the detention, tortures and break of any kind of legality for migrants trapped in Libyan camps. The situation has exacerbated in the last weeks due to the armed conflict, endangering even more the life of the hundreds thousands of migrants coming from several countries from Africa and elsewhere who are not able to leave Libya and ask for registration and asylum. The Eritrean communities call for the immediate evacuation of migrants from Libya and a rapid and direct relocation to third safe countries.

They denounce the EU, Libya and the member States to converge on policies that disregard even the most basic human rights, with the inspections of the UNHCR being seriously prevented by the outbreak of the armed conflict and in general being unable to really check a highly informal and confused situation. No UN can prevent migrants from being sold out like slaves in public markets, no inspection has crushed the systematic collaboration between Libyan officers and traffickers, the rapes, the tortures, the abuses, the kidnappings by traffickers and the arbitrary imprisonments by the police.

The present situation is the direct consequence of the EU's ferocious stance towards migrant in the last years, since it decided to give up any kind of right for the sake of pushing away migrants from its borders and exploiting those who are inside. Since the infamous deal with Turkey, the EU has decided to openly endorse the illegal and inhuman detention of thousands of migrants. By declaring arbitrarily what country is "safe" or "unsafe" to divide those who might have a right to continue living and those who might well die, the EU and its State are legitimizing violent and dictatorial regimes abroad. When migrants manage to enter Europe the situation they encounter is not better: detention, harassments by the police, harsh labour conditions, uncertainty over the future, constant insults and threats. The hands of Europe and its States are covered with the blood of migrants dying on their way and with the sweat and tears of those who are daily put to work for cheap wages to support the growth of EU's profits. The recent escalation of nationalist expression, like that of Salvini in Italy refusing to let boats dock in Italian ports and declaring illegal the rescues of migrants is not an isolated expression, but rather the part of a larger Europe wide strategy played out on the skins of migrants.

We support the action of Friday and unite in a cry of dismay against the conditions experienced by migrants moving towards Europe in search for a better future. We support the call for the immediate release of all those who are trapped in Libya and call for a European residence permit that allows for entrance and freedom of movement to all migrants, with no distinction of country of origin and condition. Nothing will stop migrants from arriving and striking the borders, the priority is to stand on their sides against institutional racism and a murderous and inhuman politics that treats them as objects to be used, displaced and dismissed.