

Down with the racist agreement of EU – Tsipras – Erdogan

Down with the Greek law which repels, prisons and deports refugees

ANTARSYA (Anticapitalist Left Revolutionary Coalition) is a Greek political party, which, from the very first moment stood by refugees, denouncing imperialist interventions and wars, that force people to become refugees. ANTARSYA struggles for open borders, against arbitrary divisions in refugees and immigrants and defends the rights for asylum and decent life for all.

Today, we see with anger and shame the imprisonment of newly coming refugees and expulsions back to Turkey.

Following the agreement between E.U and Turkey and according to the newly voted Greek law for refugees:

- The borders with Europe (Balkan route) have been closed.
- Application for asylum can only be made in the EU country of entry (in Greece), application through Skype is almost impossible and most applications are rejected on the grounds that the country of origin (Turkey) is "a safe third country".
- Newcomers are confined in hotspots for 25 days and then face prohibition of leaving the islands. The «hosting sites» all over Greece are concentration camps, with restrictions in the freedom of exit and entering and miserable living conditions. Army and NGOs have undertaken the obligations of the state towards immigrants and refugees. Access has been banned to «non-accredited» labor unions, local collectives, social clinics and individuals in solidarity, to all those who warmly and unselfishly supported the refugees in the past. It is allowed to a very limited number of individuals and only with a special permit by the ministry. The Greek government intends to confine all the refugees in controlled areas. Informal settlements like Idomeni, where thousands of refugees were demanding to open the borders were evacuated by mobilizing vast police forces and avoiding the lights of publicity.
- Those who do not apply for asylum in Greece or their application is rejected, are to be deported to Turkey. A number of applications made in the hotspots has already been rejected under the excuse that «Turkey is a safe third country». It is comforting that those objections which have until now been examined in appeal boards have vindicated the refugees against this unacceptable argument. There is no time for complacency, we know that the Greek government and the EU are working on to control these procedures and their staff, so that they issue rejections.
- In the Aegean Sea, forces of the Greek and Turkish naval coastguard, FRONTEX and NATO continue to stop the refugees from crossing the borders.

For the majority of the Greek society, for the people who supported the refugees, these decisions and their results mean pure racism, violation of international rights and repression.

We welcome and support your increasing struggles for open borders and rights, all forms of demonstrations and protests, the hunger strikes inside and outside the camps. We fight for your voice and your fair demands to be heard. We fight against your isolation in confined spaces -inaccessible to the solidarity of the Greek people and to social control-, against the horrible behavior of the Greek Government and the inhuman «hosting» conditions you face.

The workers, the unemployed, the youth in Greece, we understand that your sufferings have the same root with our own suffering. The world capitalist system tries to relieve its crisis at the expense of the working class and peoples. With imperialist interventions, impoverishment and war in your countries. With hard austerity, memorandums, hunger and misery for the working majority, with police violence and the abolition of political and social rights in the Western countries. The only way to fight back and win is solidarity.

We call you to unite in the struggle for your rights, regardless nationality, religion, race, language. To resist to attempts to divide you on national, religious, cultural and political lines, so that they weaken your struggle. On the refugee issue we are all brothers and sisters. We challenge the (minority) racist voices inside Greece. We welcome you to unite with the Greek working class, the unemployed, the youth to a common struggle for rights and decent life for all. Against imperialist interventions and war. Against policies that condemn all of us to hunger and deprive us of our rights.

- ✓ **Down with the inhuman agreement between EU and Turkey and the SYRIZA-ANEL government which legitimizes it.**
- ✓ **Open the borders for refugees and immigrants. FRONTEX, NATO, European coast guards out of the Aegean. Open European borders.**
- ✓ **No to deportations, no to asylum rejections, Turkey is not a «safe third country», no to the imprisonment of refugees in hotspots.**
- ✓ **No to camps and Hotspots. Decent hosting areas. The Greek state should undertake housing (in closed hotels, state buildings, public buildings e.g. closed hospitals), catering, health care, education of refugees, through staff appointment and under decent conditions.**
- ✓ **No to the crackdown of the refugees struggles, no to the criminalization of the solidarity shown by the Greek people.**
- ✓ **No to Fortress-Europe, no to Prison- Greece**
- ✓ **No to imperialist interventions and war.**

