

We,
the Romany from Berlin
have occupied today the Karl Liebknecht Haus
(state office of the PDS, Kleine Alexander Str 28, 10178 Berlin)
We will stay here for now

Why?

We are in imminent danger to be deported to Yugoslavia.

The PDS is part of the Berlin Government. The PDS has decided (as part of the coalition) that the Romany in Berlin should receive the right to stay (Bleiberecht). The PDS has not prevented that Mr. Körting, the Senator of the Interior and his savage office of foreign affairs continue to deport our people. They separate families, deport the sick and they do not care what will happen to us when we get there.

We have no homes anymore in Yugoslavia. There is no safe place for us there. And it is winter.

Many of us cannot even go to relatives because they also had to flee or they were injured or killed by the NATO bombardments or they live in terrible poverty. There they discriminate against us. That means for instance that the police or the public don't think anything about it when we get insulted or hit without reason.

We cannot find work. We are not needed for the reconstruction of the country.

Our children cannot go to school. There is no money for learning material.

Our sick are not looked after.

The office of foreign affairs claims that everything is all right there. They base their claims on the information from the German embassy and the Serbian laws and politicians.

Those are lies. Laws and the speeches of politicians have nothing to do with reality. We like to remind you that a democratic constitution in Yugoslavia has not stopped a Milošević coming to power, and the NATO did not give a toss about what was written on paper.

We are looked after, they say, because in Yugoslavia exists a good health care system. This is a blatant lie. We do not get anything with insurance or without because we are Romany. They deliberately do not mention that one has to pay extra for every visit to the doctor, for every prescription and for every stay in hospital.

We are forced to act because we cannot bear any longer the constant psychological terror and the shameless humiliation through the office of foreign affairs at Noeldnerstrasse in Berlin. Our hope for a promise by Mr Koerting that he will argue for a right to stay for Romany at the conference has been wrong. Who wants to believe him when he continues to deport people and tolerates the despicable conditions at the office of foreign affairs. The governing parties do not protest.

We believe now that that is all intended to terrify and humiliate us.

But: We will stay here! Full stop!

Is it not enough

- that we had to flee from war and poverty
- that many of us have been living here for a very long time
- that our kids go to school here

We like to remind you that hundred of thousands have been killed by the Germans to clean Germany from us as it was done to others as well. Germany has a historical responsibility towards us.

We demand from the governing parties and from the Senator of the Interior Mr. Koerting:

- **The deportation of Romany from Berlin to Serbia has to stop immediately!**
- **The Senator of the interior Mr Koerting has to speak to us and has to explain to us why he wants to deport us.**
- **We demand right to stay for Romanies.**

We are staying here! Full stop! ----- Amen ačas kate !

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