

Good to see you all here today – on this militant and resistant day!

We are the **Care Block** - we are professionals from child care, social work and from the education sector. We are organised in the basegroups **Kriso**, **Trotzphase** and **Krilp**. We are **Care-Workers**, **FLINTA-People** and **activists** – and we have had enough!

We fight for good working conditions in care work, against the systematic debasement of our jobs – and for the well-being of people, with whom we work with every day. We do paid, underpaid and unpaid care work – often under precarious conditions. We are angry and we say: **Enough!**

That is why we were on the street today and we remain resistant. Because we know: the crisis within care work is not a new phenomenon. It is structural and politically wanted. And we say: **Not with us!**

Skilled labor shortage, resource scarcity, overload, bad salaries, too big groups, too many cases – that is our daily work life. And still we keep this society running. But instead of supporting us, the state is making more cuts: With the so-called **Relief Package 2027 (Entlastungspaket 2027)** 3.6 billion francs are supposed to be saved – one third of it on the back of social welfare.

This means: cuts in the family-supplementary care, in victim consultation, in education and in violence prevention. Our base groups are affected directly in their professional fields by these saving measures. But on top of that: current fights for better working conditions in daycare centres in Zurich are currently threatened.

And this is exactly why we are here today – loud, in solidarity, angry and organised!

In **Kriso** we are currently dealing with the saving measures the federal government has announced – the so-called **Relief Package 2027 (Entlastungspaket 2027)**. But we ask ourselves: **Relief – for who?** While the super rich are happy about tax gifts and the military celebrates an 4 billion franc increase in their budget, 3.6 billion francs are supposed to be saved on a federal level – and mostly in those areas, where people need it most urgently and where there has always been resource scarcity: in **social welfare!**

The army is arming up – in the name of “security”.

But which safety is meant, when **94% of women in the military experience sexualised violence? An army that doesn't even protect its own members is supposed to protect us all? Laughable!** At the same time there are being cuts made in the true security: **1.7 Billion less for social work, shelters and prevention.**

This means: less safety for victims of violence, less protection for children and less support for people in need. **Money for tanks – but less for social welfare. This type of politics does not protect people – it protects a system, which is built on inequality.**

And who pays the price for this austerity policy?

FLINTA* individuals, refugees, people affected by violence – and ultimately all of us!

This austerity package is nothing less than a massive attack on equality and a setback in feminist and social policy!

Specifically, cuts are being made to integration funding for refugees:

Instead of offering genuine support, the focus is on pressure, control, and punishment. Professionals are expected to do more and more with fewer and fewer resources. If “success” is not achieved, refugees risk losing their benefits – integration as a threat instead of an opportunity.

Further cuts target financial support for extracurricular child and youth programs:

The diversity and quality of the offerings are at risk, small non-profit organizations could disappear, and professionals would have to spend more time on fundraising than on youth work.

Training subsidies in victim support are being cut:

This violates the Istanbul Convention! Victims of violence receive less protection, support becomes a lottery depending on the canton, and professionals toil under miserable conditions – a violation of international protection standards.

Cuts to health insurance premium subsidies are also planned:

Health becomes a class issue. Those who can't afford it stay sick – or fall deeper into debt.

There will also be cuts in education and violence prevention:

Funds for anti-violence campaigns are to be slashed, and subsidies for extracurricular child and youth programs reduced. This contradicts the **Istanbul Convention** and endangers non-formal learning, integration, and social exchange.

All of this shows that the people who rely on social services – and who already face daily stigmatization – have no lobby in politics. With such measures, the Federal Council contributes not to solving social problems, but to reproducing them.

We say: enough with this antisocial policy and demand:

- ✓ Secure funding for victim protection!
- ✓ More shelters for women and girls!
- ✓ Campaigns for awareness and prevention!
- ✓ Consistent implementation of the Istanbul Convention!

Because: **Safety means a life without fear – of domestic, sexualized, and gender-specific violence!**

Let's organize – for feminist, solidary, and emancipatory social work!

We are many, we are loud, and we will not be silent – until something changes!

We are Trotzphase:

We are a group of professionals in school and family supplemental childcare – that is, professionals from daycares, after-school programs, day schools, and family daycare settings.

For nine years, we've been fighting to finally improve working conditions in childcare. For more recognition, secured quality standards, and publicly funded childcare. Among other things, the feminist strike in 2019 got a lot moving. Today, everyone knows the vital work we caregivers do every day. Through mobilizations, feminist strikes, and public outreach, we've put a central demand – a collective labor agreement (CLA) for the childcare sector – on the political agenda. That pressure was incredibly successful.

In March 2024, negotiations began between the **VPOD** (on the workers' side) and **kibesuisse** (on the employers' side) for a first CLA for Zurich city daycares.

A key part of these negotiations is the Childcare Regulation. This regulation anchors crucial elements for improving care quality and working conditions. It also regulates the funding of the CLA.

Creating better working conditions means allocating more financial resources to care work!

But this success is now under acute threat. In December, three daycare operators filed appeals against the regulation! One of them is **Christian Geier** from the **Fugu** daycare chain – ironically someone who is himself sitting on the CLA negotiation delegation of kibesuisse! The other two belong to the daycare chains **Joey** and **Kinderparadies**.

With this appeal, they are threatening not only the improvements already achieved in the regulation but the entire CLA negotiations. If this "Childcare Regulation" does not come into force, the CLA's funding is no longer secure.

Anyone who opposes fair wages and clear rules in the daycare sector is also opposing the future of children and the entire industry! Economically driven daycare chains like **Fugu** are harmful to the health of both children and caregivers. Because they're not about quality of care – they're about profit. With this appeal, the claimants have made it clear: they don't care if we caregivers burn out from being overworked and if our psychological, physical, and mental health goes down the drain. These profit-oriented daycare chains are mainly concerned with economic freedom and market competition.

What now?

We demand a **swift review and rejection of the appeal!**

A strong CLA! And finally, the recognition we deserve for the important work carried out in daycares every single day – through decent wages and good working conditions! Let's make our voices heard loud and clear: **we oppose the appeal, and we fight for quality childcare!** And we reject the austerity policies! Only together and through organized action can we change the conditions in our field!

One Solution – Care Revolution!

In the Care Block and in our grassroots groups – **trotzphase**, **krilp**, and **kriso** – we are organizing for June 14 and beyond, demanding adequate resources for good conditions in care, education, and social work! **Together we resist the many austerity attacks!**

The protest doesn't end today – our resistance continues!

Join us, become part of our movement, organize with us! Let's be part of the change. Because: **A good, healthy, and safe life for all – we will only reclaim it together!**

We stay angry, we stay loud – and we will be back.
Until something finally changes.

The streets today were just the beginning.

Mir sind de Care Block, mir hebed zäme
(We are the Care Block, we stand together)

Sozis Ciao, Fabes Ciao, Lehrkräft CiaoCiaoCiao
(social workers bye, care workers bye, educators bye bye bye)

Mir hend kei Bock meh, es brucht Ressource
(we don't want this anymore, we need resources)

Suscht hennd mir alli es Burnout (-out -out)
(or we will all have a burnout, -out, out)