

## Speech 14. June Pylos

It has been two years. Two years since that night, where off the coast of Pylos a boat carrying over 700 people capsized. The majority of them, all people with parents, friends, stories, hopes and dreams, did not survive that night.

They drowned - right under the eyes of the European authorities. Over them hovered a Frontex-drone, next to them floated a ship of the Greek coast guard, merchant ships were nearby. All of them knew of the boat in distress, they saw it, observed. And they did nothing. Until the Greek coast guard capsized the boat and then watched and did nothing, as hundreds of people died in the Mediterranean sea.

These people had decided to flee: Each year climatic destruction, patriarchal violence, colonial, racist, exploitative conditions force millions of people to flee – and Europe meets them with violence. This incomprehensible violence accompanies people on their flight routes, through border fences, over the sea, into camps and prisons, into deportation planes – right up to here, at this place.

Also here in this transit centre, migration control wields its ugly face. People who have survived dangerous routes land in a system, which controls and isolates them and takes their rights away.

And we say: Not in our name.

Our feminism fights for freedom of movement, for self-determination that crosses borders. For there is no liberation, if we are not all free. Feminism must be transnational. It must be anti-racist, must be loud, when the Mediterranean sea becomes a mass grave. It must be loud when people are locked up, exploited and have their rights stripped from them along their flight routes into Switzerland. Feminism means that we fight – against borders, against camps and against the stripping of rights.

Our solidarity does not end at the outer borders. And our anger will not quiet down as long as people have to die, to live. Our grief is anger. Our memory is resistance.

While we are able to dream up a life here, in which we are all able to decide independently over our life plans and our bodies and fight together, people died on June 14th 2023, as they opposed borders. They opposed this racist, patriarchal and capitalist border regime, which decides who can move how in the world, and who has to have which reasons to live in a different place.

Today, we remember the hundreds of people who drowned at Pylos. And we will not look away. We will not stay still. We will not stop. We network. We strike.

**For a different world. For a world of solidarity. For a world without borders – for the right to stay, to go, to come. For everyone. Always. Everywhere.**