

## Speech draft 14. JUNE kriip collective at Schulhaus Kern – EN VERSION

Today we stand here because we want to be visible. As teachers, as people who work in the education system – and as part of a bigger movement for social justice. Our fights are connected with those of other professional groups: in healthcare, in care, in childcare, in service and in the industry. We all carry responsibility daily – and we demand the recognition that we deserve.

One year ago thousands of us went out in the streets to demand better conditions in the education department: smaller classes, more resources, less overload. Not much has changed since then – quite in the contrary: In March the cantonal council of Zurich accepted the initiative for support classes. This aims to separate and exclude children with special needs by putting them in their own classrooms.

To that we say: No!  
No to this backward role in educational policy.

No to the separation of children into “normal” and “not normal” children. The initiative calls for a return to small classes in the Zurich school system. The so-called “system crashers” are to be banned from classrooms and to be taken care of by a special education teacher. In a small room where no one can see or hear them. Instead of supporting teachers with the right and long-demanded resources, additional staff is taken away from regular classes, to teach a few pupils in a separated setting. Instead of supporting teachers with longstanding and logical means, such as team teaching, smaller classes and well paid staff, it is expected to rely on an anti-social education from the past. Teachers are being let down once again.

The integrative approach was a hard and collective progress. It stands for equal opportunities, for the right of all children to learn together – with the support that it needs. If integration does not work today, then it is not because it didn't work, but because it wasn't implemented properly.

We are finally demanding the means to make inclusion possible:  
More specialists, more time, more space for relationship based work.

An inclusive school is not a luxury - it is a human right.  
Let us be loud, today and everyday.  
For an educational system, which doesn't leave anyone behind.  
For solidarity instead of exclusion.  
For an equal society - from preschool up to pension.

German Parole:

Es liegt nicht an uns, sondern am System, dass wir vor dem Burn-Out stehen.

*(EN) It is because of us, but because of the system, that we are facing a burn out.*