



Karawane für die Rechte der Flüchtlinge und MigrantInnen

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The curdish artist Engin Celik is on hunger strike against his threatening deportation

We demand his immediate release from the deportation imprisonment and the acceptance of his asylum!

During a train ride from Frankfurt to Düsseldorf on the 7th of January 2007, he was arrested by policemen near Gießen and brought to the JVA Gießen. He was told that his asylum proceeding was decided negatively and that he would be deported. On January 15th Ergin Celik went on hunger strike to protest against his deprivation of liberty and against the intention of the German authorities to deliver him to Turkey.



Engin Celik became known in Germany with his sharp critics on the brutal politics of repression by the turkish state against the kurdish population. As a member of the theater group „Stage of dreams“, of the musicgroup „Daglara Ezgi“ and as a poet he performed on various cultural events and recieved different cultural awards for his art.

Lastly he was honoured with the first prize for his poetic work at the „International Yilmaz Güney Festival“ in Frankfurt in November 6th. Besides his intense cultural and political work, he dedicated the rest of his time for youth and human rights work. Together with others he organised seminars and dicussion workshops for young people, to support a social and progressive development and values like solidarity, courage to stand against injustice, respect, openness and selfconsciousness among the participators.

The Mig-Zentrum (association of the cultural and medial communication center of the migration e.v.) and the „International center B5“ in Hamburg were solid platforms of his creative work. Furthermore he spent much time for events, meetings , music and theatre performances all over Germany.



In human rights work he mainly participated actively in the German wide network of the „Karawane for the rights of refugees and migrants“. He saw it as his duty, to speak out against the chauvinistic and repressive State politics and to solidarize with the struggle of other refugees against political persecution, repression of freedom of opinion and for real democracy and emancipation. With the accentuation of the Karawane-slogan „The right for asylum is a human right and not a privilege“, he joined the critics of the rigoros deportation politics in Germany. The German authorities also denied to protect him against his persecution in Turkey.

In reference to European-right and with documents about the tireless activities of Mr. Celik his lawyer submitted an Asylfolgeantrag (second application) at the Federal office in Lübeck. On January 17th Engin Celik was transfered to the deportation prison in Offenbach.

Engin Celik is in great danger. We call on all progressively thinking people to do everything possible for his release and prevention of his deportation.

We ask you insistently to appeal with the demand for release and acceptance of asylum for Engin Celik on the following adresses:

Präsident des Bundesamtes
Dr. Albert Maximilian Schmid
Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge
90343 Nürnberg
Telefon: 0911 943-0
Telefax: 0911 943-1000
E-Mail: info@bamf.de

Innenministerium Schleswig-Holstein
Innenminister Ralf Stegner
Düsternbrooker Weg 92
24105 Kiel
Telefon: 0431/9 88-0
Fax:0431/9 88-30 03
E-Mail:pressestelle@im.landsh.de

more information: <http://www.thecaravan.org>
contact: caravan hamburg: 040-43 18 90 37 or mobil 0174-150 84 57

send also letters of solidarity to Engin Celik:

Engin Celik
z. Zt. JVA Gießen
Gutfleischstr. 2a
35390 Gießen

Background why he had to flee to Germany

Early in his childhood Engin Celik had to learn what means oppression and racist persecution. He was born in the kurdish village Tunceli (Dersim). His family (kurdish Alevites) was forced to leave Dersim because of permanently increasing attacks of the turkish military. Engin Celik was in the age of 14 years when he fled together with his family in 1993 to Istanbul (like ten thousands of Kurdish people had to do before and after that).

In the age of 17 Engin Celik was arrested the first time because of taking part in the 1st of May Demonstration which was attacked by the police. Because he was a Kurd from Dersim he was beaten and maltreated twice as much.

When he started his studies he took part more and more in the democratic and revolutionary movement and founded his first music group. On university he and his comrades again and again had to suffer the attacks of turkish fascists (the „Grey Wolves“). Unwavering but very cautious he continued his political and cultural work.

After the great earthquake of August 1999 he committed himself to the support of people who had lost their homes. During protests against the lack of aid by the state he was arrested another time in the year 2000. The police tried to force him to sign some blank papers. Because he refused to do so he was tortured. After this, the police physician refused to certify the maltreatments but produced a written declaration about Engin Celik being released without any injuries and in good health.

In 2002 Engin Celik together with fellow students founded a student newspaper criticising the antidemocratic highschool law „YÖK“. This caused new persecution. Preliminary proceedings against Engin Celik as Co-Founder and editor were initiated. The association „SAGEK“ (Club of social activity and development), which Engin had founded together with other democratic and revolutionary activists was prohibited and declared to be an illegal organization.

In August 2003 the preliminary proceedings against Engin Celik were abandoned just to be taken up two month later again according to the new „law to fight terrorism“ (TYK § 7-2). Lawyers explained him to be in a critical situation. He could hide by friends, and in November 2003 he could flee to Germany.

a first call for his release and the acceptance of asylum is signed by many musicians artist and human right defenders:

Dağlara Ezgi, Tiyatro Düşler Sahnesi, Tiyatro İstasyon, Tiyatro Asmin, Grup Yol, Grup Cemre, Grup Mig (Folklor), Kardelen Halk Oyunlari Ekibi (Ludwigsburg), Tiyatro Atelye (Ludwigsburg), Mavi Halk Sahnesi Tiyatro toplulugu (Frankfurt), Grup Esenyeller (Ludwigsburg), Grup Devinim, (Duisburg), Grup Isyan (Solingen), Grup Harman (Frankfurt), Grup Hasad (Mannheim), Ludwigsburg Kültür Merkezi e.V., Avrupa Demokratik Halklar Konfederasyonu (ADHK), Almanya Demokratik Halklar Federasyon (ADHF), Avrupa Demokratik Gençlik Hareketi (ADGH), Anadolu Derneği, Anadolu Müzik Grubu, Sano'ya Gildaxe (Tiyatro), Schwäbisch Gmünd Demokratik Kültür Dernegi e.V., The Voice Refugee Forum, Stiftung der iranischen SchriftstellerInnen u. KünstlerInnen im Exil e.V. BRD und Schweden, Sozialistische Partei Iran, Goetz Steeger - Musiker, Journalist, Hamburg, Siri Keil - Künstlerin, Hamburg, Christof Schäfer - Künstler, Park Fiction, Hamburg, Susanne Hasenjäger- Journalistin, Hamburg, Hafenklang Kultur e.v., Thomas Lengefeld, Vorstand, Hambur, Dr. Florian Keil - Wissenschaftler, Frankfurt am Main, Birgit Gärtner - Journalistin, Hamburg, Dr. Michael Schiffmann- Lehrbeauftragter des Anglistischen Seminars der Universität Heidelberg, Übersetzer Herausgeber Autor, Kai Degenhardt - Musiker, Hamburg, Annette Schiffmann - PR Theater, Heidelberg, Catharina Boutari - Sängerin, Hamburg, Volker Griepenstroh - Pianist, Hamburg, Owen Jones – Musiker, Kerstin Davis - Grafikerin, Hamburg, Revolte Springen - Musiktheaterkollektiv, Berlin, Mehmet Ergin - Musiker, Komponist, Steve Baker - Musiker, Autor, Schneverdingen, Esther Bejarano- Vorsitzende des Auschwitz-Komitees in der BRD e.V., Künstlerin, Hamburg, Abbi Wallenstein- Musiker, Hamburg, Peter Nowak- Journalist, Friederike Meyer & Thorsten Seif -Geschäftsführer Buback Tonträger GmbH, Hamburg), Matthias- Kaul Musiker (Winsen), Astrid Schmeling -Musikerin (Winsen), Ramon Kramer -Filmemacher, Musiker, Autor, Dr. Heinz Jürgen Schneider – Rechtsanwalt, Heike Geisweid - Rechtsanwältin, Bochum, Dr. Peter Strutynski, Kassel, Rahel Puffert - Kunstvermittlerin, Autorin, Hamburg, Lucha Amada, Veranstaltungskollektiv, Berlin, Dagmar Brunow - Übersetzerin, Hamburg, Heli Schneider - Musiker, Verleger, Hamburg, Ulf Panzer - Richter, Hamburg, Marily Stroux -Fotojournalistin, Hamburg, Salinia Stroux - Ethnologin, Hamburg, Hinrich Schulze - Fotojournalist, Hamburg, Helmuth Sturmhoebel – Sonderpädagoge, Peter Imig - Shibly Band, arab. Musik, Seevetal, Rocky Beach Club - Musikagentur / Humberto Pereira, Jutta Konjer - Künstlerin, Hamburg, Manfred Kroboth – Künstler, Peter Holler - Sänger, Hamburg, Frank Baumgart - Redakteur und Moderator, Radio Jam Bürgerfunk, Remscheid, Matthias Pfeiffer - Historiker und Journalist, Jens Langbein - Komponist, Hamburg, Stephan Gade - Musiker, Hamburg, Gerd Büttner - Musiker, Hamburg, Ruben Jonas Schnell - Journalist, Hamburg, Benjamin Richter - Grafik-Designer, Verlag "Pläne" GmbH, Dortmund, Friedemann Stuhm - Mensch, Kaltscha club e. V., Dortmund, Jörn Heilbutt – Musikproduzent, Andrea Rothaug - Kulturmanagerin, Hamburg, Katja Cichowski - Kulturmanagerin, Hamburg, Ursula Richter - Malerin, Dortmund, Wolfgang Richter- Prof., Dortmund, Beatrice Ullmann – Regieassistentin, Tobias Pflüger - Mitglied des Europäischen Parlaments, Tübingen, Matthias Pfeiffer - Historiker, Journalist, Tübingen, Rudi Mika - Musik und Hörbuchproduzent, Verlag Aktive-Musik, Dortmund, Dr. Benjamin Ortmeier, Mitglied des Vorstandes der GEW BV, Frankfurt am Main, Andreas Mann - Jurist, Berlin, Christoph Ziegler - bildender Künstler, Berlin, Club Mestizo Kollektiv Hafenklang, Hamburg, Lisa Politt – Kabarettistin, Gunter Schmidt – Musiker, Eckart Spoo - Publizist, Berlin, Kulturzentrum Bhf.-Bochum-Langendreer - Soziales Zentrum, Bochum, DJ Gärtner der Lüste – Bochum, Radio El Zapote, Bochum, Radio BonteKoe Bochum, Redaktion bo-alternativ.de, Friedrich von Mulert - Architekt AKNW, Dortmund, Stephanie-Debra Rose - Auszubildende, Verlag 'pläne' GmbH, Angelina Maccarone – Regisseurin, Bahman Nirumand - Autor und Journalist, Günter Zint, Fotograf, Rolf Becker, Schauspieler, young struggle, AGIF Föderation der ArbeitsmigrantInnen aus der Türkei in Deutschland e.V., Genclik Evi Interkultureller Jugend- und Kulturverein Düsseldorf, Sevim Dagdelen MdB Linkspartei/PDS, Ulla Jelbke MdB Linkspartei/PDS, Angelika Beer Mitglied d. Europa-Parlaments, Norman Paech MdB Linkspartei/PDS, Wolf Wempe, Schauspieler Hamburg, Schorsch Kamerun, Musiker, Regisseur, Gutzeit - Musikband, Hamburg