

# Zugvögel,

interkultureller Süd-Nord-Austausch e.V.

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Zugvögel-News March 2015

9<sup>th</sup> Edition

*Dear friends of the Zugvögel,  
a warm welcome to our first edition of the  
Zugvögel-News in the new year. We hope, that  
all of you had a good start! At the Zugvögel  
already a lot has happened during the first  
months of 2015. How you may have noticed,  
the newsletter now has a new look. But the con-  
tent is also filled with a lot of news. The racism  
critical process supporting is now starting into  
the next round, the campaign is going public  
and the preparations for the next volunteer ge-  
neration are already at fullspeed.  
But now enough!  
Have fun while reading!*

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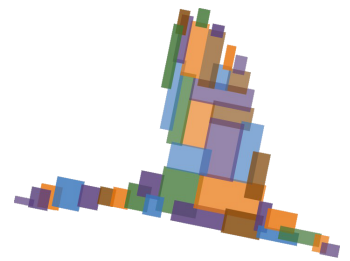
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## NEWS & DATES

**VISA WIE? (VISA HOW?).** In the context of the Karlsruher International Week Against Racism a workshop with the title "The power of the visa: colonial continuity and the German visa-politics taking place in the U-max in the Prinz-Max-Palais in Karlsruhe on March, 21st from 2pm-6pm. This was planned by the from the Zugvögel initiated Visa campaign "Visa Wie? Gegen diskriminierende Visaverfahren (Visa how? Against discriminating Visa proceedings) in tight cooperation with the regional group Karlsruhe. A registration is wished for: [info@visawie.org](mailto:info@visawie.org)

**FILM SHOWING IN FREIBURG.** The regional group Freiburg, together with the antifascist initiative Freiburg, planned a film showing of the movie "Waterberg to Waterberg". It will be taking place in the White Rabbit, Leopoldring 1 on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

**SUMMER-MEETING.** Additionally the date for our summer-meeting is set. It will now take place once a year, instead of a second general meeting. It shall give us the time to revise topics and decisions for the general meeting and the organization in general. From June 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> our



heads will hopefully work a their full potential in the Petershof in Erbach-Erbuch, where we already held our last general meeting.

**PRESS REVIEW.** Sandro of the Regional Group Ulm has given an interview on FreeFM. You can listen to it [here](#).

## THE VOLUNTEERS

### MIDTERM SEMINAR.

From the 22nd to the 27th of January, the 2014-2015 Zugvögel volunteers participated on the midterm seminar, wich took place in Mainz, Hocheim am Main. Sudarshan (Nepal), Richard, Diane, Ernest (Rwanda), Andrea and Paola (Ecuador) shared six days of seminar with Nass (volunteer 2014), and Christian and Erick, volunteers from the „Deutsch- Tansanische Partnerschaft eV“ organization.



*The Volunteers on their midterm seminar*

During the seminar, the volunteers shared their experiences about the first six months in Germany including topics such as: daily conflicts, relationship with host families, work, leisure time, etc. They also discussed about social perceptions, and it was also possible to talk about culture, development, discrimination and stereotypes. Another important topic was the one concerning about the visa application process and information about labor rights.

Empowerment was also discussed during the seminar, with the participation of the Phönix or-

ganization, the volunteers exchanged views and experiences in large and small groups according to this topic. Through games and exercises it was possible to maintain a relaxed environment to talk about desires, plans and fears for the next six months of voluntary service.

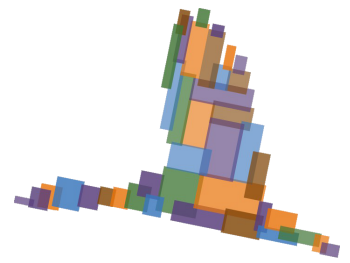
During this time it was also possible to enjoy Mainz with a city tour and all the volunteers visited the Gutenberg Museum, and they also had a fun afternoon with ice skating, and finally, a delightful evening of international cuisine was organized. Time passes quickly but the happiness, big hugs and smiles of the volunteers are still warm and strong. As a volunteer all I can say is that we are a family! Thanks to everyone who organized the Zwischenseminar.

by Paola Solis Arana

## NEWS OF THE ORGANISATION

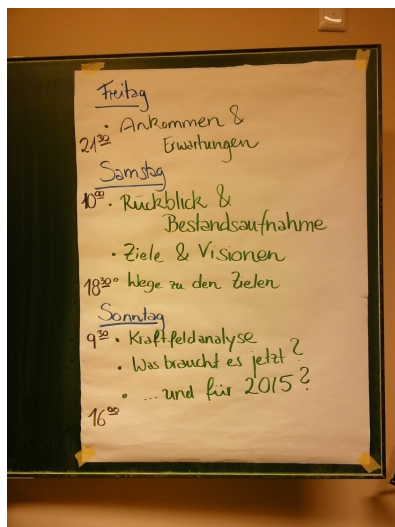
**VOLUNTEER PROGRAM.** We have been able to find quite an impressive number of available projects for the upcoming volunteer generation. We have prepared an overview of all the projects and send it to our partner organizations. Now we are waiting for the volunteers to decide for which projects they want to apply. Yes, for our volunteers which have already been chosen. Felipe and Karina from Ecuador, Manabi and Narayan from Nepal and Gloria and Patrick from Rwanda are going to come to us to Germany for one year this summer.

**MEETING OF THE ORGANISATION TEAM.** Our new team met during the first days of February in the ecumenical center Stuttgart in order to organize ourselves and to dedicate ourselves to our new tasks and the content of our work. First and foremost, we dealt with financial questions but we also spent a considerable amount



of time on fundamental debates. Especially those questions will be the ones that the whole association deals with during our summer meeting.

**THE EVALUATION OF OUR WORK FROM A PERSPECTIVE THAT IS CRITICAL TO RACISM.** It was in May 2014 that we decided to scrutinize our work as an association with the help of an external evaluation of our processes that would be critical to the issue of racism. We founded a working group and in September 2014 the first meeting with the association *glokal e.V.* took place. *Glokal e.V.* is a small association dedicated to counseling and educational work that puts an emphasis on criticism of power structures. The outcome of this meeting was a workshop open to all interested members of the *Zugövgel*.



*The seminar plan provides many plans of work.*

It was then from December 5th to December 7th that a group of about 12 *Zugövgel* from all over Germany came to Jena and met with two members of *glokal e.V.* in the first workshop outside of the working group.

After Friday evening was filled with welcoming the participants and was a rather relaxed setting, on Saturday we really got down to it. The whole workshop was dedicated to the main goal of loo-

king at our association from a point of view that is critical to racism and to analyze our work in general. So our weekend was structured in 3 different phases: A look into the past, discussion of our goals and visions and finally the intent to think of a way that can lead us to achieve these goals. Whereas there was a lot of participation when we talked about our past, we noticed that it grew increasingly difficult to establish concrete goals and visions. Nevertheless it was especially the next step that challenged us most: trying to analyze how we could methodically and effectively reach these goals.

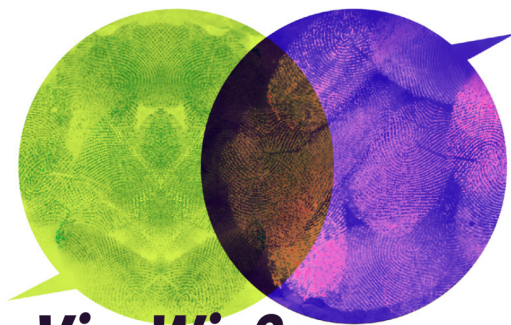
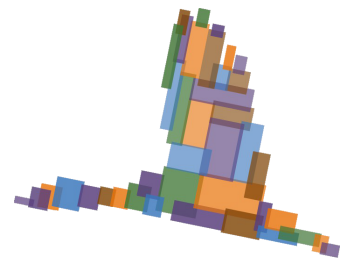
At this point we also spent time looking at general criticism of North-South voluntary services and at the ways found to deal with this criticism.

In the end the confrontation of these issues has led each and every one of us to consider these issues. Since we came to agree that this result, the process the weekend started in each of us, is one of the most important result of the weekend, we established a work plan on Sunday that established how to further pursue the contents of the workshop and of the process evaluation as such over the course of the next year. We agreed to establish a general outline for future workshops that are to be conducted in all of Germany by the end of April so that we can work on that basis during the summer meeting in June.

The concept is now finished and we look forward to hopefully exciting workshops.

by Claudia Schmidt-Cotta

**VISA WIE?.** The campaign for a fair visa process is not only the work of the *Zugövgel* and *grenzenlos e.V.* anymore. Now financial support from the *Bewegungsstiftung* is part of the project as well as a media partnership with the magazine for volunteers “*mittendrin*”.



**VisaWie?**  
*Gegen diskriminierende Visaverfahren!*

*Christina Röckl has designed this great new logo for the campaign*

Apart from these partnerships that we have already established we are sending our position paper to potential supporters and ask them for their signature. Add to that our homepage [visa-wie.org](http://visa-wie.org) is now online. There we publish updates about the campaign and the topic of visa policies in general. It also pays off to visit the facebook page of the campaign or to follow us on twitter.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL GROUPS

**FREIBURG.** The Regional Group Freiburg is currently on the way of establishing a small series of movies. We are going to start at the end of March with the movie "Waterberg to Waterberg", which we are going to show in the framework of the international weeks against racism. Add to that we plan to show the movie den "Blickwechsel" in May together with the two directors.

*by Fabian Albrecht*

**KONSTANZ.** We have new regional group in Konstanz. Do you live near Konstanz and would you like to join the Zugvögel? Just contact us under [mitgliederverwaltung@zugvoegel.org](mailto:mitgliederverwaltung@zugvoegel.org)

## PARTNER COUNTRY UPDATE

**AVES DE PASO.** At the beginning of February the organization conducted the seminar for the election of the new volunteers in Cayambe. With Andrés, Gaby, Che and Azucena all former Zugvögel volunteers from Ecuador worked together to select a new generation. The two volunteers they selected are Karina and Felipe from Guayaquil and Cuenca.

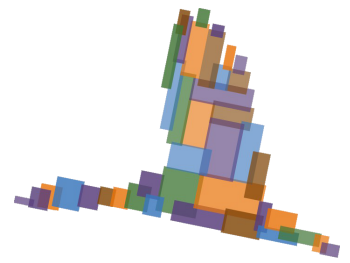


*Seminar for the election of new volunteers in Ecuador*

Our 4 former volunteers are extremely motivated to properly prepare the two and to establish themselves as a team. To achieve that goal they plan an assembly of the members. This is also the first time that all the work, from advertising the program to organizing the seminar and financing, was conducted by the organization in Ecuador.

*by Isabel Röder*

**TS'UNUNETIK MEXICO.** Although our youngest partner will not yet be sending any volunteers in this period, they are highly motivated to work with us. Ts'ununetik means Kolibri in Tsotsil, and indigenous language spoken in the federal State of Chiapas in Mexico. The Kolibri will from now on be flying with us.



At the moment six motivated members of Ts'ununetik Mexico spent their time designing a logo for the association that is supposed to give them a shared identity. They have also finished outlining a plan for their year.

First contact between Kolibris and Zugvögel is by now established and we are looking forward to a successful cooperation!

## WANTED

**HOST FAMILY.** We are looking for a family in or near Mannheim/Heidelberg. Give one of our volunteers the wonderful feeling of having found a home in a foreign country and win a new family member by doing so. If you are interested please contact us under [info@zugvoegel.org](mailto:info@zugvoegel.org).

We will be more than happy to answer all your questions and to explain further proceeding to you.

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## IMPRINT

### ZUGVÖGEL, INTERKULTURELLER SÜD-NORD-AUSTAUSCH E.V.

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