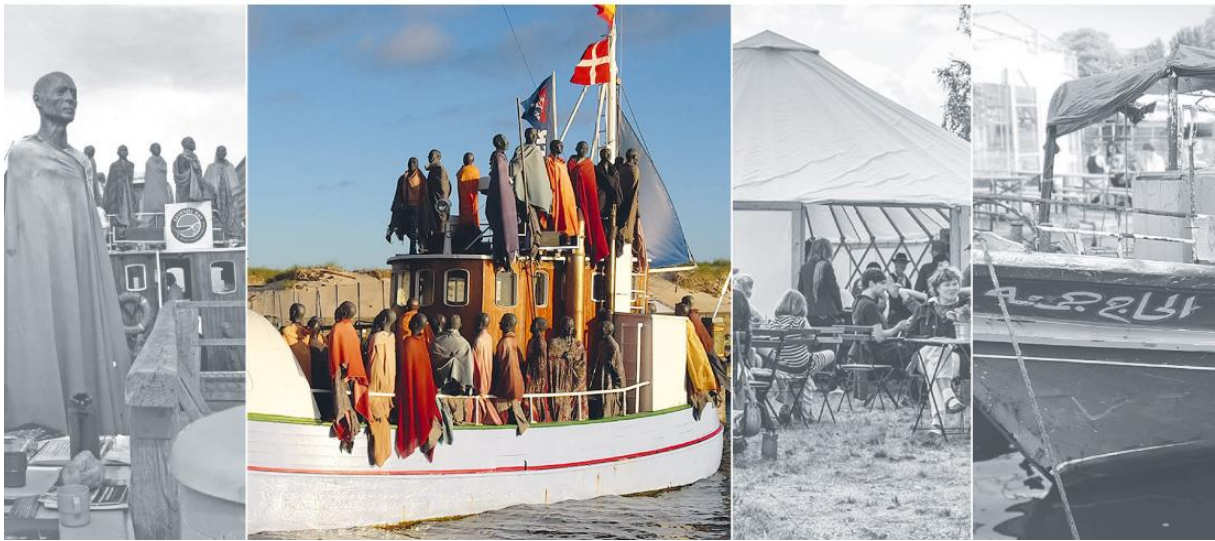


Ein sozial-kulturelles Schiffsprojekt zu Flucht und Migration
vom 28.07. bis 01.10.2017

MIT SICHERHEIT GUT ANKOMMEN



 OUTLAW.
die Stiftung

This is a translation of the information booklet to the project:

To Arrive Safely

A maritime project about flight and migration, from the 28th of July to the 1st of October

What it is all about

The core part of the project is the journey of two vessels, sailing through Germany via rivers and canals, mooring in different Cities along the coast of the North Sea and all over the country. Aboard are 70 figurines by Danish artist Jens Galschiot.

The objective of this social-cultural project, with the help of the aforementioned boats plus supporting events, is to establish opportunities where people can face up to the subjects of flight and migration in a different manner than they usually do.

All this is based upon the Norderneyer Erklärung. This declaration defines key positions on flight and migration, both generally worded and specifically formulated to the role of child and youth welfare.

This project helps drawing attention to the situation in which refugees are before they decide to flee their homeland, during their flight and after they arrive. The focus will especially be laid on the weaker and those in need of help (be it women, children, adolescents or young families)

Throughout the whole project, aid projects, refugee initiatives and social refugee aid organizations will be able to present themselves to the public and the public discussion. This contributes to the transparency of refugee work and its local objectives.

The participating actors themselves will get in contact with each other, whereby active exchange and networking will be encouraged. The international character of the project makes it clear that flight and refuge as a subject are not merely a national problem and thus have to be solved at European level.

We, the foundation

Roughly a quarter of a century ago, an association called OUTLAW was founded. With month-long voyages aboard the vessel of the same name as the key concept, young people were given the opportunity to cope living in confined space, thus experiencing themselves as socially competent. This, in turn, encouraged them to take their lives in society into their own hands, too. Furthermore, it enabled them to redeem their right to human dignity, education and participation in society. After being lead astray into the realms of lawlessness, these young people were to get in with society again.

Eventually, the charitable Outlaw Association for Child and Youth Services mbh developed.

In the summer of 2012, OUTLAW.die Stiftung was founded. It was geared towards focusing on children's rights beyond the regular work of a child welfare private agency. Implementing and executing children's rights is a challenge both on a national and an international level, requiring the use of every opportunity to successfully integrate and actually living children's rights on a daily basis.

The furtherance of Children, adolescents and their families in their rights to development, education and participation through social, cultural and scientific projects is the key purpose of the foundation OUTLAW.die Stiftung.

This purpose is being realized – among others – by informing the public about living conditions of socially disadvantaged demographic groups, thus enhancing their situation.

The project “Mit Sicherheit gut ankommen” will engage in the topics of flight and migration, especially focusing on children and adolescents, their rights to protection in times of war and on the run, as stated in the UN convention of the right of the child, and their consequential rights to development, promotion and participation whilst being safe and socially affiliated.

The Journey

The journey will begin on the Danish, heading towards the German coast of the North Sea, where the M/S Anton will cast anchor at the first stop, Bremen.

After another four stops in different harbors, each accompanied by days filled with several activities, the copper figurines aboard the M/S Anton will embark onto the Al-hadj Djumaa, which waits at anchor in Papenburg, Germany. From here on, the journey will take the Al-hadj Djumaa along rivers and canals to its final destination, Berlin, Germany. Being the United Nations World Refugee Day, the 30th of September marks the last day of the journey.

The stops

In a number of ways, the project is interrelated across national borders. There is art from Denmark, a refugee ship from Egypt now mooring in the Netherlands and of course the various stops in Germany, all of which being closely related to the work of OUTLAW in terms of child welfare and realization of children's rights.

What happens at the stops?

The ships will be welcomed by the responsible players from politics and local administration, by representatives of local initiatives and organizations and by the local community. The media (newspapers, radio stations and television broadcasters) will be invited. There will be a short framework program, which includes speeches and cultural and artistic performances.

The ships and the figurines as places of irritation and encounter

Visitors will be able to board the vessels, receiving and impression and letting the atmosphere sink in. The volunteer crew is happy to answer questions regarding the vessels, the artist who designed the figurines, and flight and exodus routes.

The Yurt as a place of meeting and information

Within the range of vision to the ship, a Yurt (a a portable bell tent with a diameter of roughly 10 meters) will be installed. Inside there will be a travelling exhibition on the issue of migration. A stage for small events (music, theater, readings, speeches and discussions) will be there, too. Furthermore, drinks and finger food invite the visitor to stay and exchange with others.

Parallel events, information booths and activities from local groups and organizations

Our local partners can be found inside the yurt and at several booths. On the one hand, these partners are the local branches of Amnesty International, Pro Asyl and the Refugee Council and UNICEF. On the other hand there will be local cooperating partners which will hold parallel events in their respective localities.

An open stage for artists

Young fled musicians, poets and actors but also local artists will be given the chance to perform on stage. This can be both “professionals” and amateur groups; most important are personal encounters and artistic exchange. Again, this is an opportunity to get to know each other and to create networks.

Hereby, every stop of the journey becomes a forum for diverse activities of local people and organizations, which support refugees and their integration.

The Figurines

The figurines are made out of copper, designed by the Danish artist Jens Galschiot. They will be displayed on the ships in a variety of ways, thus creating a synthesis of the arts.

The figurines show women and men, young and old, children and families. Four ethnicities are being displayed in total, again showing that flight isn't a subject of territorial limits.

The caravan on land

The concept and support of a trek on land that is carrying the infrastructure (Yurt with a bar and a small stage, toilet facility, tables and stools for 80 persons and an extra, larger stage) for the parallel events and the base camp is organized by Krossa Ideenmanufaktur.

The ships

The journey begins in the middle of July 2017, when the M/S Anton will set sail in Assens, Denmark, heading towards Bremen, Germany. Here, ship will be expected to arrive on Friday, 27th of July.

The M/S Anton is a typical Danish fishing cutter from 1948. Owner of the vessel is the association Levende Hav. The cutter was purchased in 1978 for the fishing collective, a social-economic company for “criminal and social vulnerable youngsters”. With the cutter at its core, the marine environment activities emerged in the 1980s. With this background, the association Levende Hav was founded in 1995.

Since 2010, the M/S Anton ported in approximately 40 Danish harbors. She moored in Sweden, Norway and Germany (Hamburg, Warnemünde), as well. With the sculptures on deck, visitors were encouraged to think about the connection between climate policies, geopolitical events and refugees worldwide. More than 100,000 people have seen the M/S Anton and her figurines so far. Wherever people lay eyes on her, she left a strong impression and encouraged public debate and deeper thoughts.

After the first 5 stops, the M/S Anton will arrive in Papenburg on the 17th of August 2017. Here, the figurines will change vessel, boarding the Al-hadj Djumaa, which is a boat suitable for inland navigation. The Al-hadj Djumaa is owned by the “Rederij Lampedusa”, a non-

profit organization located in Amsterdam, Netherlands, who offer canal rides thematically focused on flight and forced expulsions. In the summer of 2013, she came with 217 Eritreans and 65 Ethiopians from Egypt and was confiscated by the Italian Coast Guard off the coast of Lampedusa.

The “Norderneyer Erklärung” (Declaration of Norderney)

The “Norderneyer Erklärung“ functions as the basis of the project “Mit Sicherheit gut ankommen“. All local activities in the context of the project are linked together by this declaration.

In February of 2016, as a result of the congress known as the “Norderneyer Gespräche” (discussions of Norderney), the declaration was passed. Approximately 50 experts from different work fields and with different approaches to flight and migration were invited by OUTLAW.die Stiftung to help with their expertise in creating the declaration. Representatives of their respective self-help organization, people directly concerned and those voluntarily involved were present.

The Norderneyer Erklärung and the positioning and tasks of child and youth services in concern to flight and migration

The invitation states: “Together we want to get to the bottom of what flight and the foreign means and how those can become more familiar/friendly, losing their intimidation and ultimately leading to a welcoming environment. We want to do this not in an abstract way, but fundamentally, thereby especially referring to children, adolescents and their families, as well as child and youth welfare; all without being isolated from society and politics.”

Controversies and tensions were brought up during the discussion, ultimately leading to perspectives for the future, which are printed out and summarized in this “Norderneyer Erklärung“. This is a declaration helps people who work in child and youth services to orientate themselves and will hopefully encourage them to address this difficult topic in a confident way.

Think global...

Refugees do not come to Germany because of how beautiful life is here, but rather because of how threatening and hopeless life is where they come from.

What causes flight and expulsion needs to be addressed on a fundamental and concrete basis, especially in their range of war and persecution as well as poverty and a resulting lack of perspective. For child and youth services, this means giving room to boys and girls so they can talk about their experiences and stories. Furthermore, it is especially important to watch one’s own language: People who come to us to look for shelter are in need and not a “wave of refugees” or “distribution problem”.

... and for that we and our society with its history, way of life and economic policy is responsible

We have to constantly remind us (being part of the German society) of our responsibility when it comes to the specific circumstances in which people in their homelands live in - be it because of the consequences of exploitation during colonialism or the current global trade. The people's awareness of a global responsibility of flight and expulsion has to be raised in everyday life, too, e.g. with regard to climate-damaging energy consumption or food which is produced by foreign agricultural enterprises and deep-sea fishing fleets instead of the local farmers and fishers. These specific contexts have to – and can – be discussed with children and adolescents in child and youth services. Here, alternatives can be developed and a sense of responsibility can be supported.

Thus, developing perspectives for a life in dignity and with perspectives in the respective countries of origin is a challenge for organizations and supporting organizations of the German child and youth services, e.g. through local partner projects. There are several possible ways how children and adolescents can be actively involved in the process.

War, persecution and poverty create generations of lost children, literally and figuratively

We as adults have a strong responsibility for the following generations worldwide. Especially the generation which is essential for future existence and – although this may sound cynical – the reconstruction e.g. in Syria, is being destroyed by war, persecution and poverty. Furthermore, it is our responsibility to care for every young person who seeks shelter in Germany, to prevent an irreplaceable loss for his or her home country, regardless of whether or not he/she decides to go back someday.

Considering the fundamentals...

Children and adolescents are, above all, girls and boys with unique rights to development, support and participation with regards to security and belonging.

The UN Children's Rights Convention functions as the normative frame of reference for every pedagogic work with young people, even more so for girls and boys who seek refuge from injustice, disregard and death.

“We are not the problem, but part of the solution – that is why you have to talk with us, not about us”

This is what those affected and their self-help organizations claim confidently. Young people want to be asked for their opinion, especially those who worked very hard to finally come to Germany. This is very important, and the only way to go.

Inclusion is the process of living diversity as the norm – this is the overall objective, and enabling people to participate is the specific task

Inclusion is more than integration, it goes way beyond this. Inclusion opens up chances for a life in diversity, and it has to be fought for consistently. The great debates about the chances and especially the costs of inclusion being the key objective of German child and youth

services have to become more concrete when it comes to the work of children and adolescents who come to us for refuge and perspectives.

For them, the ability to participate in our society comes down to the access to education right from the beginning, even if they are over the age of 18 and thus of full age, according to our legislation.

Fundamental rights to dignity and inviolability, to freedom and development, to equality and anti-discrimination are non-negotiable foundations for a peaceful cohabitation in Germany. These rights have to be accepted by everyone, carried through by the state's monopoly to the use of force if necessary and they must be shaped on a civic basis.

Insisting on these fundamental rights as a basis of our society that everybody has to obey, be it somebody who seek refuge or somebody who lives here, is crucial - not only after the Night of the New Years Eve in Cologne in 2015. In a constitutional state we must be able to expect that every government body assures these rights through legal means for everybody. Yet how exactly everybody, every boy and girl, all parents and families are able to live in dignity and autonomy, has to be constantly spelled out on a civic basis, which includes organizations of child and youth services. Herein lies the responsibility of a youth welfare that has arrived to take its place at the centre of society, according to the Youth Assistance Day of 2014 in Berlin.

...and act local

Flight and migration confront child and youth services with structural problems, yet refer to established concepts as well

An old structural problem of the German child and youth service can be seen in the unsolved tension between specialization, focusing on the problem and the individual case on the one hand, and quite effective concepts of social spatial orientation.

Especially the work with refugees and migrants has to make sure that these old orientations (e.g. in specialized large institutions) are not being resurrected, may the problems be ever so pressing. Here, supporting organizations and specialists must prove that even in "turbulent times" qualities gained can be kept up; this applies e.g. to taking into care of children and adolescents or assistance plan procedures.

The necessity of skilled workers and specialists applies in respect to the work with people who suffered flight and migration, too. This complex field of work does not require a new form of specialist but rather well qualified pedagogical specialists who are trained in the prevention of violence and the overcoming of traumas as well as in handling local authorities and political forums. Good specialists and durable cooperation are indispensable, especially to prevent the reproduction or the reenactment of violence, which is being experienced as threatening.

Another old problem is that municipal administration and financing are struggling with the tasks of a modern child and youth services. It is at this point that local cooperation between politics, administration, supporting organizations and civil societies in cities and counties, shows how exactly it is possible to do a good job "regardless", and how to solve specific tasks

with specific people to the benefit of refugees and migrants – all without losing sight of fundamental structural problems.

Precise action is needed, without abandoning fundamental positions, e.g.:

It is possible to find flexible solutions whilst respecting and further developing binding standards. Working with – and for – migrants and refugees does not require the lowering of standards. Rather, searching for individual solutions for individual problems and needs must also apply in this case. It is imperative to examine needs and to coordinate tasks for specialists with those concerned.

Child and youth friendly spaces have to be established in institution for the first admittance as well as in emergency shelters. These spaces give children during and after an emergency a safe and secure environment. With the help of qualified personnel and a structured daily routine they develop a sense of normality and safety, whilst their resilience is being enhanced. Consistent child protection standards assure the children's safety from internal or external risks and control who will be given access to the children. Children and adolescents can find contact partners for their concerns and possible risks to the protection of the children can be identified and, with the help of local representatives of child and youth services, be dealt with and thus, minimized. In institutions for the first admittance and emergency shelters, models for the structural linking between honorary offices, mentoring and professional social work can be tested and defined.

Residence for vocational training and work in the 3+2 model means, that after a vocational training which usually requires three years, the possibility of further two years of residence must be guaranteed. This helps the training organization as well as giving the trainee a perspective, regardless where he or she will be after this period of time. This enables especially those adolescents, with whom a life perspective has already been developed during their time in child and youth services, to establish a long-term, independent livelihood.

And everything is political! ...

The organizations and people working in child and youth services act deliberately political

... in political forums such as the youth welfare committee, the workgroups in accordance with § 78 SGB VIII, their associations and representatives;

... by cooperating on a national and international level, e.g. with the “Themennetzwerk Flüchtlinge” of the National Coalition Deutschland;

... by cooperating and supporting self-help organizations by refugees and migrants, e.g. Jugendliche ohne Grenzen e.V.;

... through the political positioning of independent supporting organizations of the child and youth welfare, as it was done in the position paper “Flüchtlinge in Deutschland” by Outlaw gGmbH;

... by showing moral courage when it comes to preventing deportation, confronting hatred in the streets and by scandalizing violence against those who seek refuge.