

STAND UP TO RACISM!



SPEAK OUT AGAINST RIGHT-WING HATE!

Racist mobs attack refugee housing on an almost daily basis and Islamophobic street harassment is on the rise; meanwhile, a frightening number of Germans have started attending racist demonstrations drawn to the anti-refugee and anti-Muslim bile spewed by the organisers behind Pegida. As if things weren't bad enough already, the so-called Alternative für Deutschland ("Alternative for Germany", AfD) has begun attracting more and more active fascists. In many parts of the country, the AfD has become the centre of the local far right. Their parliamentary deputies spread Nazi slogans and rail publicly against anyone who thinks differently. It's no exaggeration to say that the AfD is becoming a serious threat to anyone and everyone who doesn't fit in their right-wing worldview.

We want to do something about it. We want to intervene when racists attack people in our midst. We're against dehumanising rhetoric towards refugees, Muslims, Roma, Sinti, Jews, and anyone else. We want to defend refugees, ourselves and our society from attacks and pogroms. Dangerous political rhetoric like the AfD's demand to deploy live ammunition on the German border is a large part of what evokes this poisonous atmosphere.

We are many, and we welcome refugees. We are standing up to the racism of Pegida, the AfD, NPD and the rest of them. We're raising our voices and taking a stand against the rising tide of right-wing populism. We are against immigration caps and border closures, which simply pour fuel on the racist fire. We believe in an open and just society. We will not allow people to be played against one another. We want solidarity, togetherness and a better life for all!



We will continue to welcome refugees with open arms – asylum is a human right!

We won't allow racists and fascists space to spread their hate.

We will push for equal political and social rights for all.

We will confront the AfD anywhere and everywhere, on the streets and in parliament.



We will be there whenever the racists of the AfD and their friends demonstrate, speak out or recruit, to say loudly and clearly: Stand up to racism! Speak out against right-wing hate!

To fight the spread of hate, we're spreading information and awareness: at school, at university, at work, at the theatre, at the local club – everywhere!

Our success depends on lots of people like you getting active and participating.

Together we can show our society that racism is not an alternative!

What's next? A few words about the activist conference

What's going to happen on the evening of 13 March, when the results of the elections in Saxony-Anhalt, Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate are announced? There is good reason to believe that the AfD will enter the state parliaments, most likely with double-digit results in some areas, and thereby set the stage for a rightward shift across the country. We can't take such a dangerous development lying down. Our initiative is trying to ensure that the state elections become a wake-up call to start building a counter-movement. Our goal is to set in motion this kind of a broad counter-movement throughout Germany.

As a first step, we've approached a wide spectrum of prominent individuals, representatives of civil society and many organisations large and small to draft a comprehensive call to action. This call has been published after the shock of the state elections. Now we're planning a nationwide activist conference on 23-24 April 2016 in Frankfurt am Main to found an official coalition together with many other activists and sympathising organisations.

Next steps will be discussed at the conference. We envision some sort of nationwide awareness and information campaign against racism and the AfD, combined with various local actions and activities. Suggestions regarding a broad mobilisation against the AfD national convention or larger anti-racist cultural events (concerts, etc.) will also be discussed. Ultimately, we are trying to develop and strengthen a strong anti-racist mood and movement throughout society.

We would be more than happy to discuss further united actions with the many signatories to the draft text (either at the conference or another time).

More on the campaign on: <https://www.aufstehen-gegen-rassismus.de/>