April 2nd - European Call to Action

Call for a second European day of action For freedom of movement and the Right to stay

Last year a European Day of Action against detention centres and for the legalisation of migrants without papers was launched during the European Social Forum in Paris.

On the 31st of January 2004 demonstrations and actions were held in more than forty European cities. It was an important day in the development of networking among migrants, struggles and activists on a European level.

There is another day of action on the April 2nd 2005. It is centred around the claim for freedom of movement and the right to stay.

A European citizenship is being created. We need to focus on the way the borders of this citizenship are built and managed. Detention centres for migrants have played and continue to play a key role in this process. These camps are even being set up outside the borders of the EU - from the Balkans to Libya and Morocco.

These Camps are a dark symbol of migration politics. Not just because they are the reality of racist laws to keep people out, but also because they exist so that richer countries can take advantage of cheap migrant labour when they want it.

The creation of a European citizenship effectively creates a hierarchy of legal and political rights. This process is going to effect more than migrants. It mirrors a new model of labour force management based around casualisation and exploitation.

Migrants are the guinea pigs for new European labour laws. We want to bring these interconnections and demands inside the Euro-May Day process, so we are calling for migration related groups to have a strong participation on the 1st of May 2005.

"Freedom of movement" isn't just a slogan for us. We believe that freedom of movement involves different struggles taking place every day throughout Europe: struggles for housing and legalization, struggles against racism and camps, struggles in the workplace, the struggles of women to free themselves from patriarchal oppression.

On April the 2nd we will stress the importance of these struggles. Let's provide a framework to support their growth and their diversity.

We invite all groups, networks and social movements in Europe, not only the ones working on migration-related issues, to join this call and to mobilize for April 2nd 2005. Demonstrations, actions and struggles must take place everywhere in Europe on that day!



Meet 2nd April 12.30 Whitworth Park, Oxford Rd, MCR. For more information contact nobordersmancheser@lists.riseup.net or http://manchesternoborders.org.uk