

**FREE
THE WARSAW
THREE
AND THE OTHER POLITICAL
PRISONERS**

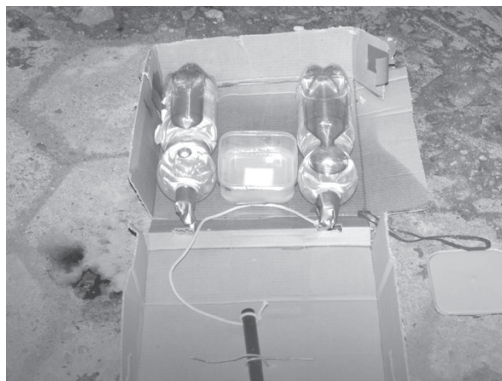
**FANZINE ABOUT THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN POLAND,
NEW LAW, ANARCHISTS ARRESTED IN WARSAW
AND OTHER OPRESSED.**

**JANUARY 2017,
WAWA3.NOBLOGS.ORG,
RESISTE.SQUAT.NET**



FREE THE WARSAW THREE

On the night of May 23rd 2016, the police in Warsaw arrested three anarchists on charges of an alleged arson attempt of a police vehicle. The three were transferred to a remand prison to be held in custody. They faced up to 10 years in prison. Media frenzy broke out over the arrest in the few days after situation had happened, with high-ranking politicians and experts on terrorism discussing the matter on TV. Photos and video rerumed of the arrested walking with chains around their feet and hands were broadcast on public transport.



The accusations were: possession of explosives and the intention to use them by setting police car on fire. They were called terrorists by police and media, despite the fact that the arson didn't actually take place. This accusations are quite serious - they face from 6 months to 10 years of prison. First hearings of the accused took place at District Prosecutor's Office on 24th May. Marks of tortures were visible on their bodies. One of them was beaten so severely that police had to select for the media only photos taken from the rear. On 25th May, during prosecution session at district court, prosecution decided to hold them in custody for three months. A few days later whole issue was transferred to the special section of the State Prosecutor's Office for organized crime and corruption. All three have been qualified as particularly dangerous ("N" for Niebezpieczni), detained in isolation and during the first week none of them had access to a lawyer.

18th of August, court decided to hold three anarchists next 3 months in custody. All of them were still in single cells and treated as "the most dangerous" prisoners.

How does life in the "N" part of prison look like? Detainees had no right to contact other prisoners. They lived in single cells and could walk only for an hour a day (in the isolated sections of jail). All letters were thoroughly controlled and often came with a monthly delay, many were just blocked. They were able to be visited only by the closest relatives once a month for an hour and could see them through the glass, hear by the phone. They were granted two books a week and if they needed more, they had to apply a paper for it. Same applications were necessary for newspapers, additional pair of socks — just everything needed for a everyday life or what might be useful for

killing time. Isolation in cell 2x3 m, 23h/day, limited contact with close ones, necessity to ask for every basic thing... it's being called torture not without a reason. Were they not being called anarchists, would society accept six month torture for them? Or would it be too much for attempted property damage?

Mass media in the service of the state reproduced authorities propaganda. Witch-hunt begun, creating mass hysteria and the image of the country threatened by terrorism. By doing this, the authorities and their collaborators were trying to justify the implementation of the new Anti-Terrorism Law. Significantly, just before the entry into force of the Act on 10th May, on 23rd May and 30th May in several Polish cities a series of false bomb alarms took place, leading to evacuation of sites such as the editorial office of the press and television, shopping mall and banks.

The wave of repression against the anarchist movement was rising. On May 23rd the police four times haunted one of Warsaw's collectives involved in fighting the real estate development industry and empowering the struggle for the food sovereignty. Since then, the collective was constantly harassed by uniformed visitors. In Kraków, they searched the apartment and questioned a person who have set up a social media site ridiculing with irony the inflated police accusations. In Warsaw information multiplied about police bothering people associated with the movement, and attempting surveillance of places that are important for the movement.

The witch-hunt atmosphere of the campaign against the broad anarchist movement was building consent for repression and surveillance targeting social movements, that are fighting against the most influential interest groups in this country.

14th of September during a court sitting concerning the complaint for prolonging the arrest of the 3 anarchists, a decision was made to release them on bail. A fee of 20 thousand PLN (4600 euro) was set for each of them. Because of international mobilization and big support from our comrades from different collectives and regions we managed to gather all money we needed and on 19th of September all three **were released**.

We want to say THANK YOU to all people who support us. Only because of your fast reaction we managed to pull them out of jail.

We will not be intimidated ! Solidarity is our weapon!

Freedom for the 3 of Warsaw and all the prisoners of the State!

Open letter in connection with the arrest of three anarchists in Warsaw

The mass media in Poland are releasing increasingly more absurd, one-sided reports about the arrest of three anarchists on Monday, May 23rd. We interpret this as an attempt to intimidate and criminalize social justice movements in Poland.

As we write, Polish authorities are pushing for the so-called “Counter-Terrorism Act” to enter into force by June 1st of this year. It is no coincidence that as we approach this date, the media and politicians are desperately trying to construct a reality in which this new law will seem absolutely necessary. Yet a step-

by-step analyses of the police operation that neutralized the alleged arson attempt of a police car on the night of May 23rd stands in stark contrast to the media’s silence around other recent events challenging to the image of “police heroes”. Just a few days before, the police in Wroclaw murdered Igor S., an unarmed man. Igor was beaten to death while in custody at the police station. In this case, righteous indignation on the part of politicians, media, police or terrorism experts is hard to find. Journalists prefer to safely turn their critical gaze in another direction when it comes to police brutality. But police killings are only the tip of the iceberg: extortion, beatings and the unlawful protection of the interests of the powerful are daily bread in Poland. Every year, among 16,000 complaints filed against the police only 5 percent is taken into consideration, while the rest is simply ignored. Due to media bias and omissions, the police have little fear of repercussions. It is safe to say that people are officially discouraged from filing complaints since they bring no effect. The truth is that only loud protests and upheavals have the power to prevent police violence from being quietly swept under the carpet. We must bear this in mind, as the media will not miss the opportunity to pave the way towards the greater expansion of police authority and to further reduce public control over the activities of these bodies of repression.

Today, the panic over an alleged, failed attempt to burn down a police car fabricates the consent necessary in order to pass a severe law that will allow for uncontrolled surveillance, a database of potential terrorism suspects, shoot-to-kill policies, martial law, the delimited right to public protest, and the profiling of migrants, Muslims in particular. This is legislation which will allow for unlimited police violence against all people. Today, irresponsible journalists use sensationalism associated with “terror” in an attempt to persuade those not yet convinced: even official political trends in Poland express doubts about the new “anti-terrorist” law.



The anarchist movement in Poland is active within groups of workers and tenants, in the environmental and anti-racism struggles, as well as in the fight against land-grabbing. It works without compromise towards social justice and against the oppression of business and political elites. The lack of public control over the police force has led to a tacit approval of uncontrolled brutality, on the part of police, against people opposed to systemic violence in various fields. More broadly, the atmosphere of a witch-hunt of the entire anarchist movement serves to build consent for the repression and surveillance of communities that challenge the most influential interest groups in this country.

Today, amidst the media reconstructions of the alleged arson attempt, the psychological profiles of the would-be arsonists and the press conferences, it is with great anger that we recall the lack of a similar reaction to the repression of people fighting for our causes. When the tenant activist Jolanta Brzeska who lived 50 meters from a police station was repeatedly harassed and eventually assassinated in March 2011, we could not count on similar outrage from the political elite.

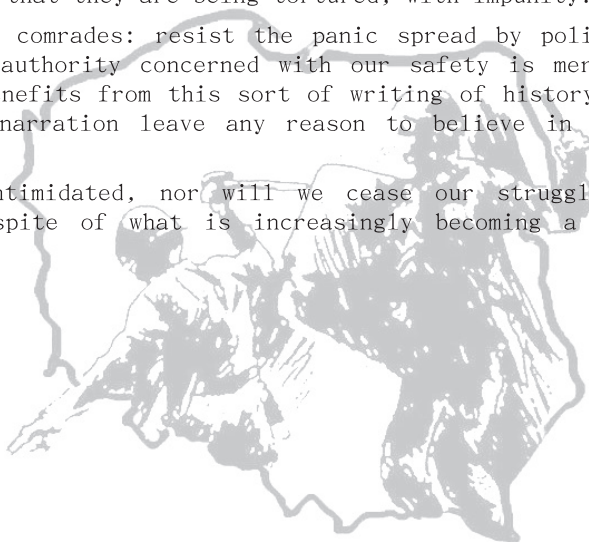


There were no TV debates, expert opinions, or step-by-step accounts of how she was kidnapped and burned alive like a witch. There were no psychological profiles made of the real-estate developer who harassed her; there were never even any murder suspects. Indeed, whenever attacks are made on social justice fighters, public opinion does not pay them any attention.

In contrast, a media storm explodes around an arson, which in fact, did not take place. The arrested anarchists are being referred to as “terrorists”. This serves to enforce social acceptance of using physical and psychological violence against them while they are in custody. Their current state of health and physical appearance already testifies to the fact that they are being tortured, with impunity.

To our friends and comrades: resist the panic spread by police and the media. The good authority concerned with our safety is merely an illusion. Ask: who benefits from this sort of writing of history? Does such a manipulative narration leave any reason to believe in a fair trial?

We will not be intimidated, nor will we cease our struggles for social justice; in spite of what is increasingly becoming a fully-fledged police state.



To the media: until you have the courage to condemn many years of police violence, sustained by an excess of privileges and the entire state apparatus, your judgement of the imprisoned anarchists and your campaign against the whole anarchist movement will only ever serve to reveal your well-funded bias. There is no, and there never will be any authority, business or church behind this movement. Our history is made of a thousand social struggles about which many of you are too afraid to speak. Our history will survive any repression.

We stand in solidarity with the arrested and we call on all people to do the same.

Enough of a state founded on fear and police violence!

Kolektyw Syrena (The Syrena Collective)
Warszawskie Stowarzyszenie Lokatorów (The Warsaw Tenants' Association)
Kolektyw Przychodnia (The Przychodnia Collective)
Ruch Sprawiedliwości Społecznej (The Social Justice Group)
Kancelaria Sprawiedliwości Społecznej (The Social Justice Office)
Warszawska Federacja Anarchistyczna (The Warsaw Anarchist Federation)
Jedzenie Zamiast Bomb — sekcja Warszawa (Food Not Boms — Warsaw section)
Antyfaszystowska Warszawa (Antifascist Warsaw)
ROD Kolektyw (The Radical Allotment Gardens Collective)
Codziennik Feministyczny (Feminist Newspaper)
161 Crew, Antyfaszystowski Konin (Konin Antifascist)
No Borders Warszawa
Stowarzyszenie Wolne Konopie (Free Cannabis Association)
Koniec Stagnacji (Against Stagnation)
Kolektyw Reaktor (Reactor Collective)
Squat RC10



Chronology

Below the current chronology of events related to the arrest of three anarchists, and in italics accompanying events that are shaping the media hysteria, assisting the introduction of a new anti-terrorism law.

May 23rd, 2016

3.30 According to the police reports in Warsaw, Poland, in the Włochy district: police arrest three anarchists. They are accused of possession of explosives and attempting to use them in an attempted arson of a police car.



4.20, Warsaw, ROD (Radical Allotment Gardens): 6 undercover cops break into the area of the Radical Allotment Gardens (pl.: ROD). They search the area without a court order, question gardeners and give conflicting reasons for intrusion.

8.00, Warsaw, Radical Allotment Gardens: 2 uniformed officers demand admission into ROD, they withdraw when asked for a court order

9.20, Warsaw, Radical Allotment Gardens: 15 uniformed officers enter ROD because a neighbour opens the gate to them. They write down the details of those who are in the ROD, ask questions and give conflicting reasons for the intrusion.

ci. 12:00, Warsaw: Police search the home of one of the detainees (they arrive with him). Our comrade has no visible injuries.

15.00, Warsaw, Radical Allotment Gardens: 5 police officers interview ROD gardeners, they do not give reasons for the intrusion.

ci. 15:00, Warsaw: Police search the house of another detainee.

15.00, Warsaw, Plac Europejski 6: The headquarters of Frontex (EU border control agency) is evacuated due to a bomb alarm. At the same time a demo commemorating Maxwell Itoya (murdered by police in 2010) was planned. The demonstration is cancelled and the alarm turned out to be false.

ci. 17:00, Warsaw: Police come a second time to the house where they were at 12:00. This time without the detainee.

May 24, 2016

Warsaw, Prosecutor's office: the first interrogation of detainees in the District Prosecutor's Office. Marks of beatings and torture are visible on their bodies. The lawyer is present but has no possibility to talk privately with detainees.

May 25, 2016

Warsaw, District Court: during the prosecution session at the District Court, prosecution decides to hold detainees in custody for three months.

15.00, Warsaw: Police press conference: the first press articles are

released that quote police spokesman saying that such actions “it is not far off to call them acts of terror.” In the press pictures one of the detained, who has visible marks of beating on his face, is only shown from behind.

18.00, Warsaw, in front of Police Headquarters: press conference and statement of Warsaw anarchist collectives

May 26, 2016

Warsaw: Statement of the Warsaw Anarchist Federation

May 27, 2016

Poznań: Anarchist Federation sec. Poznań issued a statement on police brutality and arrested activists of the anarchist movement

Poland Wide: An Open Letter in relation to the arrest of three anarchists in Warsaw is published <http://syrena.tk/>

Olsztyn, Warsaw: false bomb alarm at the premises of TVP (national TV) and Radio Olsztyn, the editorial office of “Fakt” and “Przegląd Sportowy” newspapers, the seat of the Stock Exchange, the National Council for Radio and Television, TVP Wrocław.



May 28, 2016

9.30, Krakow: Four police officers search the house of a member of Anarchist Federation in Krakow and activist of the Workers’ Initiative Trade Union. He had created a facebook event called „Strzeżcie się. Mamy po 2 butelki i karton.” (“Beware. We have 2 bottles and a cardboard box”) making irony about the arrest of the three anarchists in Warsaw. Police claim that he promoted terrorism. Despite the absence of a warrant, police searched his house and confiscated his mobile phone and computer.

May 30th, 2016

A series of false bomb alarms, among others:
Katowice: Silesia City Center, customs, treasury Chamber, the Institute of National Remembrance, Prosecutor’ s Office, the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection and the Katowice branch of the General Directorate for National Roads and Motorways, offices at Korfantego Street, the seat of TVP Katowice;
Krakow: offices on Szczepanski Square, Galeria Kazimierz mall, Tesco at Kapelanka;
Gdańsk — District Prosecutor’ s Office in Pruszcz Gdanski and a nearby clinic, shopping center “Madison” Shopping Center “Cliff” ;
Wroclaw: TVP Karkonoska av., tax chamber at Powstańców Śląskich, customs chamber at Herzena;
Warsaw: hotels and offices, including the OCCP and FRONTTEX.

June 2nd, 2016

Warsaw, ROD: a policeman enters ROD with the list of people noted on May 23rd and interrogates gardeners. Asked for the cause and the legal basis of the intrusion he answers that he will come every week to check if everything is in order.

June 4, 2016

Warsaw: a commentary by several anarchists to recent events in Warsaw is published

June 8, 2016

18.00, Wrocław: picket- against the police state!

June, 14, 2016

Warsaw, First interrogation after the Prosecutor Office was changed. From now the National Prosecutors Department of organized crime and corruption is dealing with the matter

June 18, 2016

Warsaw, Syrena: two undercover cops enter the Syrena squat, they withdraw when their identity is revealed by residents.

June 20, 2016

Poznań: Stop police violence! Picket at the court

July 2, 2016

Warsaw: Soli-picket with the arrested in front of the prison

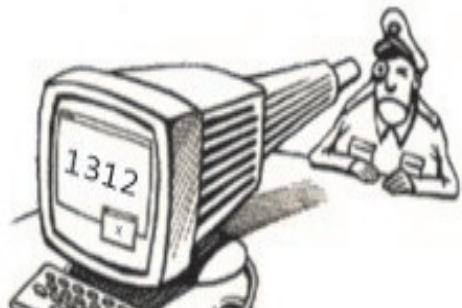
July 4, 2016

The three arrestees are moved to a prison in Radom (city in Poland). This means that they will have problems to receive visitors. All three had planned to meet their family this week. Now the families need to reapply to visit.

4.00 am. Biała Podlaska: police entered the area of independent space EŁ4. On 4th of July at 4:00 am two policemen tried to enter the area of the autonomous space EŁ4 in Biała Podlaska. When they came into the building they started walking around and searching. They wrote down the data of four people which were there and asked about different topics. This intervention was an hour long. We think that the invasion of police is connected with political actions which took place on the night of the 3rd-4th of July in Biała Podlaska.

July 12, 2016

Central Bureau of Investigation (pol. Centralne Biuro Śledcze) informs about anti-terrorist actions which took place in 12 cities in Poland. 14 people in custody, 3 of them with charges. The accusations are possession of explosives and drugs.



August 18, 2016

Prosecutor has prolonged the arrest , they will spend in custody six months. They are still staying in isolated sales, being monitored 24/7. The state is treating them as the most dangerous people, their families have right to one visit per month, using telephones and cabins. It is really hard to contact with them.



September 14, 2016

Warsaw: During a court sitting concerning the complaint for prolonging the arrest of the 3 anarchists, a decision was made to release them on bail. A fee of 20 thousand PLN (4600 euro) was set for each of them. If the money is transferred in a week' s time (7 days from today), the arrested will be released and kept under police surveillance instead.

September 16, 2016

Radom: First person was released !

September 19, 2016

Radom: All of three anarchists were released!

They are staying under so called house arrest, can not meet with each other or with the witness. Every day they need to sign at police station, travelling aboard the country is prohibited. Date of trial still not known.

After nearly 4 months of absolute isolation we managed to pull them out of jail.

This release proves how weak is the police evidence and how "necessary steps" of the prosecution were justplaying time, using detention as form of torture to force confessions. This also proves that solidarity campaigns make sense — not only in moral dimension, but also practically.

January 16, 2017

Warsaw: Prosector Office: Prosecutor presented the results of 4th expertize about "explosive materials". It says very clearly that nothing dangerous could happened. Prosecutor is ready to change the accusations - attemp to destroy expensive cars (sic!)

Letters from the warsaw three

On solidarity, or thank You!

On the „ N” cell (maximum security) one doesn' t get much contact with the outside world. Its easy to fall into paranoia and delusions. You can turn on the radio, with auditions choosen by the administration. But for us , who act with the political motive program on the radio eska or vox is not very satisfactory, and in my case eska only intensified states of depression. I do not know if it is appropriate to start on a humorous note. But I came back from prison, and its like coming back from another planet, where You were stuck not knowing for how long, in the midst of the environment and the phenomenons that You have zero control over.

In such isolation, as an „ N” cell, a person can only rely on faith and hope. This is torment for someone who is trying to see the world rationally. These terms do not belong to scientific world. Faith and hope do not require critical thinking, are hostile to it. Someone who believes, doesn' t doubt. Faith can justify everything, every crime, every falsehood. But there are some situations when you are left with just faith. For me it was the belief in solidarity. I held to it tightly to fight with a sense of hopeless loneliness.

There will be time to discuss all the events deeper. In fact, the situation (contrary to what many assume) is not just about the three of us and attempt to set one or two police cars ablaze. Surveillance done by the police and secret services, is ranging on a much larger scale, at least nationwide, and cooperation with the services of other countries can' t be ruled out neither. This is the first thing i would like You all to be aware of. Repression often do not need to touch us directly, may affect our loved ones. Currently, it does not seem that we have any other way except through solidarity to build structures that are capable of rapid and effective response to upcoming reprisals. Despite the different topics covered on a daily basis by various individuals and groups. The police and services do not bother to dispute whether the actions are “more or less” legal. Showing solidarity, we must work together, no matter what social issues and forms of struggle are our main field. I realized this for real in the slammer, and that this solidarity was the object of my faith and hope. I was not disappointed. Response, not only Polish, but from all over Europe (I have to confess) exceeded my expectations. Help and words of support came not only from Warsaw, Krakow, Lublin, Poznan, or Jaworzno but also France, Germany, Greece, Great Britain, Spain, Italy, Lithuania and Russia. To be clear — in prison I did not receive even 10% of the letters sent to me. There were dozens of them, I got a few. For two months I didn' t receive any messages, only information from the prosecutor' s office about the refusal of visit.

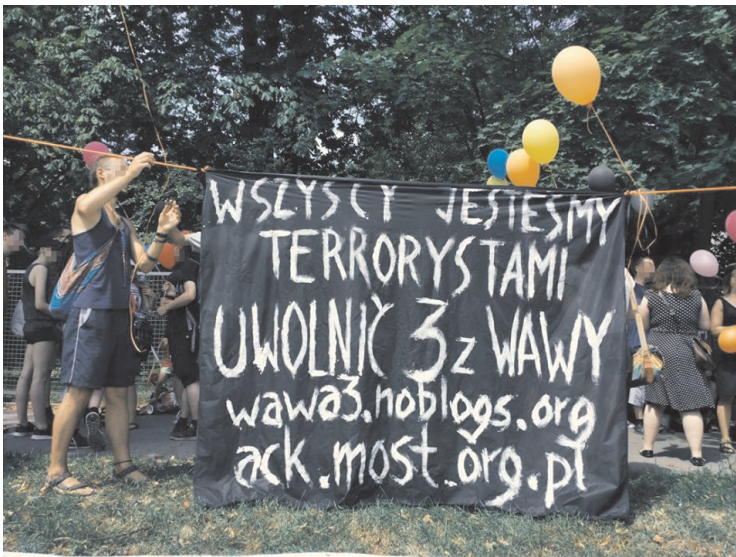
It is thanks to support from all over Europe (and the sluggishness of the public prosecutor) how I got out of jail. Thank you. But this is not

the end of the warsaw three case, nor the end of the activities of the state aimed at us. We can't be intimidated, abandon activities inspired by our ideas. Prepare for an increased wave of repression to which the state already secured their legal tools. Already there were attempts to blackmail, intimidate or expulse our friends. We will be easily shattered and divided, if we do not feel confident that in the difficult situation of conflict with the state, we can count on the support and solidarity. Regardless of the level of personal relations or familiarity. Let's inform each other when all sorts of services harrass us, our friends, or families. Publicize every such a case, trust in help, support, and solidarity. Above all, show it.

This letter doesn't say much about things, that You all probably want to find out. There will be time for that. This letter is a „thank You”, to all and each, who have showed solidarity, wrote letters, collected money, spoke about the case in the country or internationally. Its a „thank You”, to those who corrected punctuation in texts, did Wawa3.noblogs.org page, translated articles, drove through Europe organizing fundraisers. Especially to those few people who have devoted every spare moment to think about us, who have spared no action, often having to stand in the difficult situation of inside conflict and risking the loss of others sympathy, make hard decisions just to help us get out of prison. This small group has been successful. It pulled us out of jail doing a tremendous job. I will never forget that. You turned the defeat into victory (even if it was just one of the many battles that we will have to fight in the future).

Freedom! Equality! Mutual Aid! — Always.

One of the three



To be perfectly honest (that is to the extent the situation allows it), I have to admit and confess doing something I feel ashamed about. In the days following my getting arrested, I called empathy and solidarity in question: I who have shouted on so many occasions that "Solidarity is Our Weapon!". I answered the first letter that reached me with aggression. I want to apologize to all those who have fallen „ victim" to my taking my anger out — this was the case with a couple of exchanges in the beginning. I also want to apologize to anyone who has faced hardship or bad consequences due to my case. I feel forever grateful and indebted to those who have been writing, collecting, speaking, remembering. It's thanks to you that I'm here now, with my family and my close ones. Thank you.

While in prison, I reached a state in which it didn't seem to matter when, and if, I'd ever leave the inside. The lack of any kind of conversation with another person or closeness: these are the reasons, I think, for my doubting that solidarity we've been fighting for. What happened to me made me realize truly what Solidarity is. It's about one person helping another, and being there for someone even if you don't know them.

I'd like to be able to meet everyone who have taken interest in this case and answer any questions, to tell the story from my perspective. Sadly, I cannot do so until the case is closed. We all have to remember though, that we'll most probably never know the whole truth about it.

It's only now I'm receiving all the letters and cards. In prison, I got three out of the forty that had been sent. Only now am I learning about all the solidarity actions throughout Europe: Russia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Germany, France, UK, Spain, Italy. I answer the letters I can answer, I thank the people I get to see. I know there are lots and lots of people who did not know me and still helped, and that I will most likely never meet them or be able to thank them in person for what they'd done for me. If this message should reach you somehow — thank you.

It's thanks to those who were there for me that I held it out psychologically. Solitary cell, cameras over the bed, under the shower, in the toilet. Before leaving the cell at any one time, one has to strip naked. Contact allowed only with the wardens. Two books per week. Red clothes and hands always cuffed behind the back when outside the cell. The air vent keeping me awake. No intimacy, no talking, no companionship. Thanks to those rare letters I knew there was someone out there, waiting and not forgetting.

Thank you so much again and see you, I hope.

Solidarity Is Our Weapon!

One of the three

One of the three decided to publish small part of his testimony, which tells a lot about police behaviors

"One of them (policeman) slant and spray into my eyes with gas screaming "You fucker !", my face was hit. I was trying to protect my head. In this moment another cop press me to the floor with his knee, keeping my head with one hand, with the second he was beating me. (…)

Human, when kicked by electricity, is screaming in really specific frequencies. It's not possible to do anything with that, it's just a reaction. So I was screaming and i heard that the rest were screaming in the same way. Cops didn't like that we made such a noise, they transported us to the police van. I was handcuffed, lying down and the cop was striking me with paralizator/taser in the heart area and crotch..he was asking me who told me to do that. With a hand he was closing my mouth to not let anybody hear me. He promised that if anything will happen to them, they will find a way to not let me go out alive. (…)"



Freedom for Ameer!

Why student of biology has to be deported

Ameer Alkhwilany is a doctoral student in biology who lives in Cracow, and comes from Iraq. He has been also a victim of a deadly combination of ineptness and racism of the Polish authorities. For the last month Ameer has been detained in custody for foreigners and faces deportation.



The reason for his arrest is yet to be given, and we can only speculate that it has something to do with his refusal to collaborate with the Polish Internal Security Agency (ABW). Its agents approached him before the Pope's visit to Poland in August and wanted him to infiltrate the Muslim community within Polish cities. Only massive pressure on the authorities can now make the innocent student get out of arrest and avoid being expelled from the country he chose to live and study in.

What led Ameer to where he is now is a systematic and individual racism in Poland.

The situation is deplorable in the area of public security. Antoni Macierewicz, an old friend of Jarosław Kaczyński and the current Minister of Defence and the head of the secret services, presents a very peculiar and potentially extremely dangerous mixture of persecution fixation, orthodox Catholic religiosity, obsession with both the Western and the Russian cultural and military threat — combined with suspicious links to Russian agents of influence — and an absolute lack of professionalism. The secret service under his leadership sometimes looks like a sinister apparatus of oppression, and sometimes like a bunch of radical right-wing teenagers who watched too many action movies and were then unexpectedly given the power to play with other people's lives and futures.

What has been happening to Ameer is a perfect example of this. Internal Security Agency contacted Ameer multiple times trying to convince him to collaborate. Initially, they wanted him to infiltrate Cracow Muslim community and get the information about intended actions, addresses and even sources of income of its members. As he refused, saying that he was an atheist, and would not know how to behave in a mosque, the ABW agents charged him with a new task: he was supposed to travel across Poland in search of people of Middle Eastern origin, to obtain information.

From the very beginning the agents combined harsh and radical methods of recruitment with utter incompetence: some of the foreigners Ameer was supposed to spy on didn't even speak any language known by Ameer, the agents didn't believe that an Iraqi citizen could be an atheist and they kept confusing the information about Ameer given them by Ameer himself. At the same time the agents were threatening him by making it clear that it solely depends on them if he would be able to prolong his stay in Poland. Despite the agents' threats, Ameer didn't give in, constantly rejecting their offers.

For a while it looked like nothing changed: despite his refusal, in September Ameer received his permit to stay in Poland until the end of January 2017. But then events changed dramatically: on the 3rd of October Ameer was captured by the Border Guard and transported to court which immediately decided to arrest and deport him — a decision which also results in a ban on entry to the Schengen zone for five years. The court's decision was not based on any evidence or grounds other than a recommendation from the Head of the Internal Security Agency.

If anyone had any doubts about why Ameer was detained, they were dispelled almost immediately. The day after the detention Ameer was visited in the custody by his two agents, who gave to understand that his arrest was a punishment for refusing to cooperate. According to the agents, a similar fate was awaiting both of Ameer's brothers, one of them studying in Poland, the other one in Germany. Obviously, Ameer was ordered to keep quiet both about the visit and about other doings of the Internal Security Agency.



And at first Ameer indeed kept quiet in the vain hope that his situation could be easily solved with legal measures. He had one week to appeal the arrest warrant and two weeks to appeal the deportation order. The court didn't inform him that he had a right to defense, but fortunately his brother quickly hired him an attorney. The lawyer managed to appeal the arrest warrant, even though Ameer himself received the document translated into Arabic four days after the deadline for appeal. Precise reasons for Ameer's arrest were still confidential and not disclosed even to his attorney. He was only told vaguely that his client's behavior was a threat to Polish security. However, the Internal Security Agency didn't even pretend to believe in its own absurd indictment line: Ameer's room was not searched, his brother, friends and lecturers were not interrogated.

Two weeks later, Ameer still in detention, a superior court was examining the appeal against the arrest warrant. The Internal Security Agency disclosed the confidential reasons of Ameer's detention to the judge, still keeping them secret from others. Interestingly, the court's decision to reject the appeal had nothing to do with those highly secret information, whatever it was, probably because of its triviality. As we can read in the substantiation of the verdict, "the court of the first instance was acting intuitively" and this intuition was reason enough for them to justify the arrest. Acknowledging how desperate his situation was, Ameer then decided to make public his contacts with the ABW, but this changed his position in no way.

This Kafkaesque situation means that the defendant and his attorney are kept in the dark and it is impossible for them to prepare any defense. In addition, as a non-Polish citizen, Ameer is charged with the costs of his 'accommodation' in the detention centre and a plane ticket back to Iraq, the overall amount of approx. 1,100 euro.

In October Ameer has applied for the refugee status in Poland to avoid the deportation to Iraq. For the duration of the asylum procedure he cannot be deported. On the 7th of November Ameer was interviewed by the officials from the Foreigners Affairs Office regarding his asylum. Now we are waiting for further steps and the decision from the Foreigners Affairs Office. If it turns out to be negative, Ameer will be at risk of sudden deportation to Iraq again. It will depend on the head of the Foreigners Affairs Office Rafał Rogala.

Around 5/11/16 Polish Parliamentary Committee for Special Services sent a letter to the Internal Security Agency asking them to reveal the reasons for Ameer's arrest, the evidence against him and especially the charges. We don't know of any response from the Agency. At 8/11/16 we learnt that the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research made a decision to suspend their scholarship program to Poland and shift it to Germany because of Ameer's situation. The Ministry also decided to form a committee to discuss the possibilities of shifting Iraqi students currently studying in Poland to Germany, in cooperation with German universities. The spokesman of the Ministry urges Iraqi

students who are currently in Poland to finish their studies as soon as possible in fear for their safety.

We face here a situation where Polish special forces arrested an innocent person, exclusively because of his ethnicity, and locked him up in custody without a possibility to defend himself. They did it to efface a failure of an unsuccessful recruitment action which had been itself based on racial prejudice and blackmail. What led Ameer to where he is now has nothing to do with his actions, views or attitudes. The only reason is systematic and individual racism. The only reason is institutional hunt for scapegoats, so very much needed in times of any social unrest. Ameer's broken life is supposed to be a side cost of the crawling suspension of democracy in Poland.

But we will not be fooled again. The social crisis we face is not caused by Ameer, as it is not caused by other foreigners arriving to Europe to find peace, to study, work and live here. This crisis has its deep roots. We indeed have enemies in it, but they are not Ameer; they are those who caused the crisis by their greed, and those marching through streets of our cities with banners preaching hate. It is crucial that we stand united against economic oppression as well as against nationalism and xenophobia fuelled by politicians and the media. It is crucial to show our solidarity with the oppressed. It is crucial to resist all attempts of imposing racist and authoritarian rules on our societies. We have to prevent European governments from repeating mistakes of the past.

**This is why we need to speak with one common voice:
free Ameer Alkhawlany!**



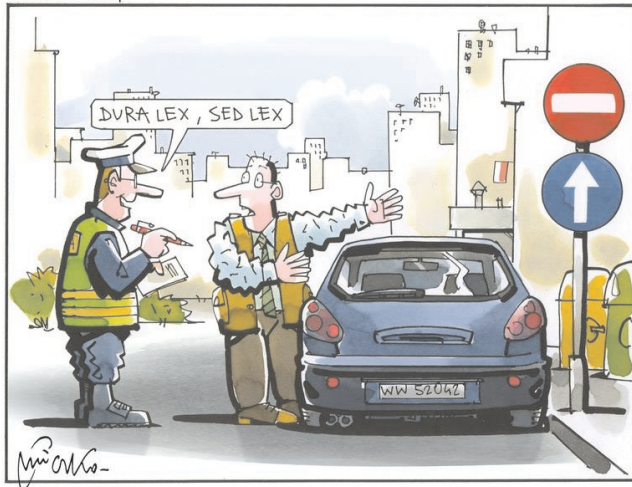
Three Acts - no freedom. New polish laws

Since 2015 each political party in government in poland makes new laws against people's rights and freedoms, and giving strength to nationalist movements that promote state violence as the way to secure society.

All of this is nothing new in europe. We have seen it at least since 2000 in many countries on the world. What is specific to poland is the speed at which the process of surveillance is developing and the fast track from liberal democracy to something that more resembles Russian "independent democracy", based on total political control by the government over every form of power in the state: courts, police, agencies etc. and attempts to take over the economy by „repolonizing” (a word invented probably to avoid using “re-nationalizing”) banks and industry. To do all of this, the government needs force. To build that force, they use a special kind of ideology which legitimizes their actions and allows them making new repressive laws, which will be used to destroy both kinds of opposition; the old liberal elites and the leftist and anarchist movements.

Today the polish government claims to represent the “polish nation”, or — in the language of the ruling party - “sovereign”. By this logic everything the government does, every decision they make — even against law or constitution — is right, because automatically it's a decision of “the nation”. This one “brilliant” move destroyed all the rules of polish democracy built by the liberals, making human rights and freedom less important than “the wellbeing of the nation” - as interpreted by the government. To complete this little draft about situation in poland, it's worth adding that this government is not even the most radical right wing party on the polish political scene.

Of course this process of taking power by right wing parties has lots of similarities to the rise of fascism, and that history needs to be seen, but in this zine we would like focus more on three new laws which dramatically change the situation for polish citizens and foreigners who are in this country for whatever reason (even as a tourists). It's obvious that these changes will have a big influence on the life, work and struggle of anyone involved in political activism, in poland.



The "Surveillance law"

Basically this is a new version of a law called the "Police Act", and makes some changes to that law. The most important are:

Without the permission of the courts, the ABW (Agencja Bezpieczeństwa Wewnętrznego — or Internal Security Agency) and the other three intelligence agencies (one civil external agency and two military), border guards, military police, Central Anti-corruption Bureau, Tax Agency and (last but not least) the police can:

- record your image and voice at any time and in any place, public or private;
- access your correspondence of any kind;
- access and store your phone bills, network information and other databases;
- observe your activity in Internet, including: checking your searches, what kind of websites you visit and how often, and accessing your facebook or other social media accounts if you have them. Basically they can watch every step you make on the web.

We know this was possible in the past and has often been done. However, the difference now is that no one has control over those activities. The basic rule in the paradigm of the "state of law" is to break the presumption of innocence.

The Anti-terrorist law

Controlled and imprisoned because agents said so

This law makes surveillance, control and oppression much greater. It allows the different secret services and the police (but mainly the ABW which has become a political police in the full sense of the word) to keep you under arrest for 14 days without any evidence. If you're not citizen of poland they can deport you to your country without any evidence of any kind of guilt. Just because you are considered to be a suspicious person. Probably the main reason for this would be your refusal to cooperate with state agents — at least, that is how it has been used so far.

Sacred mystery

Next interesting change is the fact that the prosecutor can use records from your conversations with your lawyer in court. From whom could the prosecutor have got those records? Easy: from internal security agency because they can legally break the provided protecting the relationship between banks, doctors and lawyers and their clients. In poland all meetings in prison cells are under surveillance. However, you are still safe if you speak to the priest — this sacred privilege is still protected by law.

Shoot to kill.

Little explanation is needed for this subtitle. In situations when the chief of ABW or the minister of internal security decide that in a specific time and place (this could be a little police precinct during a half hour period or whole country for three years) there is a danger of terrorist attack or just a suspicion of a danger of terrorist attack, either of them could authorize policemen, or soldiers, or tax agency officers or ... yeah, that's right, they can use any military forces against people everywhere... to shoot to kill. No questions asked. Anyway, they were probably a terrorist.

The Public Assemblies Act

This law was made by the previous government but the new one is trying (and success is almost guaranteed) to make some “funny” additions. The Law on public assemblies has been criticized for two main reasons. First — because it almost ruled out the possibility for counter-demonstrations by giving to the local authorities the right to withdraw permission for any public gathering if there is to be another one in the same time and place. Second because the local chief of police has a right to cancel any public assembly at any time. If people on the

gathering do not accept that decision the police can arrest them and they could face serious charges, because once the police cancel gathering, people are no longer protected by the assembly law. It is quite normal that people on a demo face charges for disrupting traffic or... illegal demonstration.

The next interesting thing is how this Act is connected with the anti-terrorist law. In some cases, such as the blockade of motorway, demonstrators could face the anti-terrorist law because they "interrupt the economic system of the state on a large scale" which is a definition of terrorist behavior in the law. That could mean people involved in such actions face the threat of surveillance, 14 days arrest without charge and, of course, charges and trial.

That is the situation for now. What more does the state need? What other kind of changes would they like to see?

The main change is introducing a scale of importance for public assemblies. When the new law enters into force (which will probably happen this year) the most important demonstrations will be gatherings organized by the state and church. Second place will be given to so-called cyclical assemblies - "organized at least 4 times per year in the same place and for the same reason, or at least one time per year during last 3 years to celebrate important events in Polish history and traditional anniversaries." If you don't know what this is about, it is designed to give privilege to the nationalist 11th of November demonstration, and little gatherings that happen on the 10th of each month to celebrate the crash of a government airplane in 2010 in Russia, in which the Polish president and twin brother of the chief of the ruling party died. In all of these cases no one will make any gathering or demo. It is reserved only for the state and forces that in one or another way are useful for rulers. By this move the present government wants to take over fascist and nationalist movements and secure themselves against uncomfortable demos or counter-demos.

As we can see, even in this short draft about the situation in Poland, the picture is quite obvious. We still cannot call Poland a dictatorship, but it is definitely not a liberal democracy anymore and it will not be in the future. Even liberals don't protest against these new laws, as they hope to use them when they next take power (which probably will not happen). It's our job to stop the state. We must be conscious of the threat of state.

SOLIDARITY IS OUR WEAPON



WARSAW 3 SOLIDARITY DINNER



Solidarnościowa
kolacja dla
warszawskiej
trójki

Thurs 27 Oct 2016

6.30PM

KEBELE

14 ROBERTSON

ROAD EASTON

BRISTOL

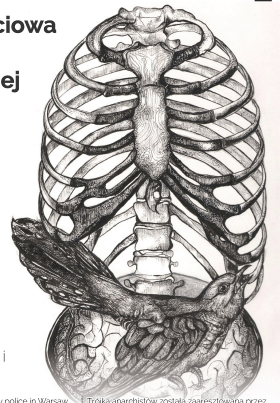
BS5 6JY

£4 Three-Course

Dinner & Short talk

£4 trzydaniowy-obiad i
krótkiej rozmowie

Three anarchists were arrested by police in Warsaw, Poland, with the accusation of arson attempt on a police vehicle. Imprisoned in isolation for over 4 months, they now face trial. They are called terrorists by police and media, despite the fact that the arson didn't actually take place. The wave of repression against the anarchist environment is rising. Learn about the current situation in Poland & help to raise much needed solidarity funds for the Warsaw 3. Never alone, never forgotten!



Trojka anarchistów została aresztowana przez warszawską policję pod zarzutem podpalenia policyjnego pojazdu. Podeszram byli wcieleni w izolacji od ponad 4 miesięcy, teraz czeka ich rozprawa sądowa. Media i policja publicznie nazywają ich terrorystami, pomimo że podpalenie faktycznie nie miało miejsca. Fala represji przeciwko środowisku anarchistycznemu rośnie. Dowiedz się więcej o sytuacji w Polsce i pomóż zebrać środki pieniężne potrzebne dla warszawskiej trójki. Nigdy nie opuszczaj, nigdy nie zapominaj!

Thank you for all solidarity actions!

You can contact us by e-mail:
(if possible, use the PGP key ! you can find it on the website)

wawa3@riseup.net

What we need now is strong solidarity before the next attacks against prisoners by the government! We hope for solidarity actions in other cities. You can also help by collecting funds to pay lawyers or to financially support the arrested people.

We will not be intimidated !

Freedom for the Warsaw 3 and all prisoners of the State!

**For more information visit the websites:
wawa3.noblogs.org and resiste.squat.net**

