

Not Welcome!

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Crim Scapes

Navigating citizenship through European landscapes of criminalisation

EXTRACT:

NOT WELCOME!

"A SEARCH & RESCUE MISSION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA"

THE ETHNOGRAPHIC STORY "NOT WELCOME!" IS PART OF A LARGER RESEARCH PROJECT IN ANTHROPOLOGY ABOUT THE CRIMINALISATION OF ACTIVISM AND SOLIDARITY TOWARD MIGRANTS.

IN THIS RESEARCH, JÉRÉMY GEERAERT INTERVIEWED SEARCH AND RESCUE ACTIVISTS AND PARTICIPATED IN THE ACTIVITY OF THE NGO MISSION LIFELINE (BASED IN DRESDEN IN EASTERN GERMANY). THIS IS HOW HE MET THORSTEN, THE SECOND OFFICER ON THE RESCUE SHIP ELEONORE AND THE MAIN PROTAGONIST OF THIS STORY.

THORSTEN AND JÉRÉMY MET ON THE ELEONORE AS THE SHIP WAS BLOCKED AT THE PORT OF POZZALO IN SICILY (ITALY). ELEONORE WAS CONFISCATED FOR ALMOST TWO YEARS (FROM SEPTEMBER 2019 TO JUNE 2021), THE TIME THAT THE COURT TOOK TO DROP THE CHARGES AGAINST THE CAPTAIN FOR ENTERING THE ITALIAN PORT WITHOUT AUTHORISATION.

THE SHORT ETHNOGRAPHIC STORY, WHICH BRINGS THE READER THROUGH THE ONE AND ONLY MISSION OF ELEONORE, IS ABOUT SEARCH AND RESCUE AND THE EFFECT OF CRIMINALISATION. THE TITLE "NOT WELCOME!" POINTS TO THE DETERRENT EUROPEAN MIGRATION AND BORDER POLICY DIRECTED AGAINST BOTH MIGRANTS AND SEARCH AND RESCUE ACTIVISTS.

THE STORY EXPLORES SEVERAL THEMES THAT EMERGED FROM THE FIELDWORK: THE ROLE OF MEDIA AND POLITICAL DISCOURSES, THE REPRESENTATION OF MIGRANTS AND THOSE WHO TRY TO HELP THEM, AND THE VIOLENCE OF/AT THE BORDER.

SA 11

SA 12

SYLVAIN ADAM IS A GRAPHIC ARTIST AND AN ARCHITECT, SPECIALISED IN PARTICIPATORY PROCESSES IN URBAN PLANNING (RECENT PUBLICATION: "LUTTER POUR LA CITÉ, HABITANTES FACE À LA DÉMOLITION URBAINE", MONTREUIL, ÉDITIONS DE LA DERNIÈRE LETTRE, 2022, WITH APPUI/ RENAISSANCE DES GROUX).

SETTLED IN ATHENS IN 2021, HE IS INVOLVED IN SEVERAL GRAPHIC PROJECTS AND IS WORKING IN THE COOPERATIVE COMMON SPACE (ONGOING PROJECTS: "100 MEMORIES", "FAIRVILLE").

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JÉRÉMY GEERAERT IS AN ACTIVIST AND AN ANTHROPOLOGIST BASED IN PARIS AND BERLIN. HIS RESEARCH FOCUSES ON MIGRATION POLICY, ACTIVISM, AND CRIMINALIZATION.

HE IS PART OF THE MEDIBÜRO COLLECTIVE IN BERLIN WHICH FIGHTS FOR THE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FOR ILLEGALIZED MIGRANTS.

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