

Statement from the executive and advisory board of the ethecon foundation

## **Stop the economic war against the global south! Open the borders!**

**For the right of escape from inhumane conditions.**

For the last decade the figures of people fleeing from climate change, economic and civil wars are rising. In relation to the 7.000 people traveling from Central America to the USA on foot since 2018 the Honduran human rights activist Jaime Flores said: 'It is not a caravan - it is the suffering that is walking there.'<sup>1</sup>

According to some estimates about one billion people worldwide are migrants. This means, that about one quarter of the workers around the globe are migrants and face especially precarious conditions: social marginalization, forceful exploitation, impending deportation, racially motivated violence and even murder. Nobody seeks these fatal conditions out of mere thirst for adventure. What pushes these people are war, poverty and hunger, deprivation of a livelihood coupled with the hope for a dignified live in a different place.

### **'Refugees of an economic war'**

Within the scope of the neoliberal globalisation, the causes of the migration wave are mostly due to the industrial societies of the north and the multinational conglomerates. They affect the people from the former colonies or rather the global south that are forced by climate change, environmental destruction, free trade agreements, destruction of independent industries, landgrabbing, human trafficking and civil wars to leave their native homes.

For the Malian author Aminata Dramane Traoré there is no doubt, that the fiercely debated 'refugee crisis' first and foremost shows how the neoliberal strategy, pursued by leading EU executives, failed and that the EU states themselves are responsible for the caused problems. 'Those, that organize hunts on people on their soil, in the sea or in the desert are mostly responsible for the impoverishment of these people. The historical and structural reasons for the mass migration, the responsibility that the European

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<sup>1</sup>From: <http://www.kommunisten.de/ueber-joomla/kommentare/7379-es-ist-keine-karawane-es-ist-das-leiden-das-dort-geht>

countries actually bear for the destruction of eco-systems and of economic and social networks that force whole populations to leave their native homes, are getting covered up.' It is the 'question of free trade' that is central to the fate of all migrants, no matter 'if they're from Latin America or Africa'.<sup>2</sup>

At the same time, the walls surrounding states are not only getting higher but are covered in more barbed wire and defence systems, the boats of the refugees are getting destroyed on sea and the defence against refugees, be it on sea, land or air is getting more militarized. The legal basis for migration and granting asylum are systematically getting changed to the detriment of the refugees. The governments and the weapons-related industries of the industrialized nations are arming dictatorships around the globe for warfare against the refugees. Racism and nationalism are getting stirred up and run rampant. Solidarity, empathy and aiding are being criminalized while people are being barbarized by being forced to watch and condone the mass murder of refugees.

**Hold the profiteers of the causes for migration accountable!**

ethecon - Foundation ethic & economy is, as stated by its constitution, working towards 'compliance in regards to ethical, ecological, social and human rights principles when organizing and conducting economical projects.'

The advisory and the executive board of ethecon stands in solidarity with those that are forced to leave their native homes. The ethecon foundation demands the granting of asylum wherever the refugees might choose. The wealthy nations have to face their responsibility and fight the reasons of migration - war, environmental destruction, poverty - and not the refugees! The owners and managers of the prevalent corporations that are the profiteers and architects of slavery, climatic chaos and civil war are the ones that should carry the financial burden!

ethecon notes that the reason for the migration, as well as the treatment of the refugees is owed to the capitalistic economic system. Thus follows, that a remodelling of the social order away from egoism and personal gain, away from the dictate of profits and

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<sup>2</sup>All citations are from the interview 'The migrants of an economic war' with Aminata Dramane Traoré in the French communistic newspaper 'Humanité' from 09/24/2018, Translated by Georg Polikeit

towards democracy, solidarity and friendship between nations is necessary to live, produce and trade in a peaceful, socially just and ecologically sensible manner. Instead of more uncontrolled privileges for corporations and financial investors there is need for restriction of their power and democratic supervision!

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