



Media Monitoring

Situation Report January 13, 2010

1) The reception center in Eberau

After the ministerial meeting of yesterday, *Der Standard* announces today that the government plans now to count with one to nine reception centers for asylum-seekers in Austria.

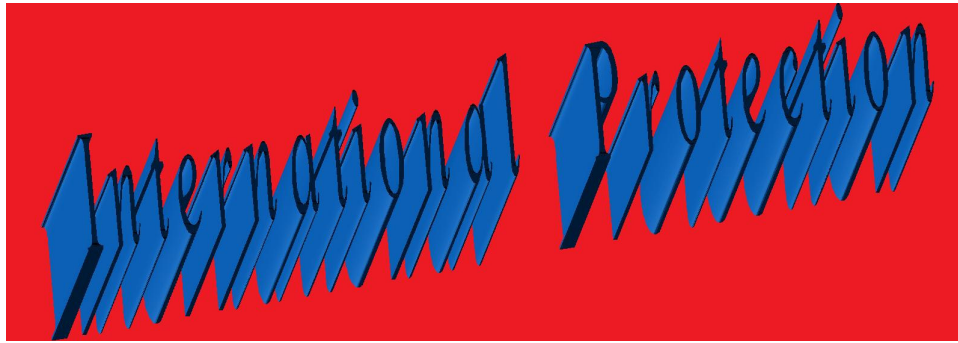
The Green party has proposed, according to an article published by *Die Presse* today, that asylum-seekers should be assigned to the provinces without consent of the corresponding province.

2) Situation of asylum-seekers in Austria

Oesterreich publishes an article today asserting that Mr. Heinz-Christian Strache, Chief of the Freedom's Party, is proposing the use of shackles on asylum-seekers as to avoid that they leave the asylum-centers. He has asserted that the interning proposed by Mrs. Fekter does not go far enough: "We should discuss the possibility of using shackles as to avoid that they submerge in clandestinity." The professor of Constitutional Law, Mayer, has found a problem: "we are accusing everybody that they want to disappear." The costs of such a measure (calculated about 10 million EUR per year) would also speak against that possibility.

Kurier publishes an article about a recent documentary on the life of "Mama Bock", a very engaged woman fighting for the rights of asylum-seekers, particularly, the right to housing. The journalist writes "Consequently, asylum-seekers are no problem for Bock. They are people that have a problem. ... 'I see people, not asylum-seekers.'"

Mr. Hofer, Vice-President of the Freedom's Party has issued a press release today advocating for stopping the payment of



unemployment insurance to asylum-seekers with criminal background.

3) Treatment of foreigners in Austria

Der Standard publishes an article entitled "Foreigners: the most important issue," Written by Hans Rauscher, who asserts: "Yes, the 'asylum-seekers' –immigrants 'foreigners' issue is the most important of the country. Because, on one hand, it will decide the political culture for the next 20 years, and it will also decide, whether we shall live under a climate of triumphing right-extremism; on the other hand, it will contribute to decide the economic future. If we permit, as until now, that 20-25 % of the young people that are in the country with a bad education, that the easiest cultural techniques are not lead almost by anybody from the lower class with 'migratory background' then we shall simply and easily depend on the circumstances. The governments of the last 20 years have decided to impede that Austria becomes a migration country. The flows – call them asylum-seekers, call them legal migrants – were facing the denial of the reality by them. And first slowly, then quickly, giving up to the hate speech of the right-extremists Haider/Strache and the corresponding media, specially Krone.

They were confronting a change of times and have taken back the very old recipe of the Austrian spirit of their subjects: more severe legislation, bureaucratic harassment, repression. 'Confining' is all what Ms. Fekter is inclined to. But worst, even much worst: they are helpless. They guess that they will not be ready with this reality (one third of the population of Vienna has migratory background); but they try no dramatic new beginning.

The truth is: in the last 30 years cheap labor from archaic societies (SIC) was brought in the last 30 years, abandoned to themselves. That is so now, and we have to manage it, better than 100 years ago, when the Jew and Slavic immigration to Vienna had deadly consequences. ... The politic must now stop, to give up to those who spread hate... "



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