



## **Media Monitoring**

### **Situation Report January 6, 2010**

#### *1) The reception center in Eberau*

- In *Krone Zeitung*, the major of Traiskirchen, Mr. Knotzer, argues for the end of big refugee camps and the need of counting with a reception center in every Austrian province in an article entitled "*Bürgermeister von Traiskirchen fordert Ende der Großlager*"
- *Kurier* publishes an interview to Minister Fekter (Home Affairs) who is asked, after a long interview about Eberau, about the Arigona Zogaj case (a failed asylum-seeker whose family was partially deported; the girl is about to be 18 years old, see our Situation Report 1-4 January, 2010): Question: "Arigona Zogaj is afraid of her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, consequently, of a possible deportation, does this move you?" Reply: "I can only give her a tip: she must voluntarily leave the country and essay to return legally to Austria. This family has never questioned that they have always come to our country illegally." [Note: the members of the family have been all asylum-seekers].

#### *2) Partnerships of persons of the same sex*

Der Standard has published yesterday an article "Protesthochzeit' in Klagenfurt" (Protest wedding in Klagenfurt), concerning the problem related to the recently approved registration of partnerships among persons of the same sex at the civil registry office or at least in a room with a ceremony, what does not take place in Klagenfurt (capital of the province of Carinthia), but in the office of population matters. Initiatives advocating for the rights of homosexuals in Carinthia have protested yesterday with a "protest wedding," and the presentation of a petition to the major Mr. Christian Scheider (Freedom's Party of Carinthia) as not to avoid the symbolic part of the registration. The petition starts a discussion proceeding at the city senate. Mr. Scheider



has already discarded a ceremony at the civil registry: "I am not of the opinion that this should be performed like a wedding between man and woman" asserting however that he is open for discussions. When confronted to the fact that the registration is performed differently in other cities, he asserted that he was against that. In the Carinthian city of Villach [Note: almost the sister city of Klagenfurt, but traditionally social-democratic], a room has been inaugurated for these ceremonies at the city hall, asserted the major Helmut Manzenreiter (Social-Democrat).

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