

Justice and Peace

All over the world millions of people protest under the motto #blacklivesmatter in response to George Floyd's murder in the United States. And so do we. We need to put an end to insult, harassment, abuse and the deprivation of rights. Whether its implementation is subtle or brutal. Whether it is because of skin colour, origin or religion. Racism is not a »minority issue«. It is an attack on all of us, on our coexistence, on democracy. It affects everyone.

The protests show that racism is commonplace: On the streets, at school and university, in the workplace and when it comes to finding a flat. There is racism in government institutions, including the police forces. The anti-discrimination office of Germany states that the recorded cases of discrimination have doubled to 1176. Last year almost three million people were searched by the police for no reason. Many officers follow racist criteria based merely on the outer appearance. Although so called »racial profiling« is often denied, it happens all the time. This needs to be legally prohibited!

Let us remember Oury Jalloh. He burned during police custody, tied to a bed. His death was never resolved. He is one of the many. Since 1990, the campaign called »Death in Custody« did count 159 cases in Germany, in which people of colour died in police custody or while being arrested. Let us remember the terrors of NSU: For years the institutions did not investigate against the Nazi-perpetrators. Instead they focused on the victim's families and their environment. Even though the police did in fact have strong evidence that the murders of Süleyman Taşköprü, Habil Kılıç, İsmail Yaşar und Theodoros Boulgarides where

parts of a racist murder series they rather focused on »organised crime« instead.

Time for change

These examples make it very clear: The problem is systematic. Racism is incorporated in society and institutions. We need to change that. That's what we are fighting for. Die Linke stands side by side with everyone fighting against racism and for equal rights. Furthermore, we work on reorganising society and institutions to be anti-racist.

We call for:

- Reinforcement of anti-discrimination laws for all people affected by racism;
- The police must not investigate police, we need independent recourse mechanisms;
- Prohibition of »racial-profiling« in all police laws;
- People with a migration background should no longer have any barriers, whether it concerns finding a job, filling out documents or having formal conversations;
- We need a law to ensure democracy promotion in order to support initiatives against racism on a long term basis;
- The same rights must apply to everybody living in Germany.



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