CHARLEA. MANDEDUSA

SHORT VERSION

meeting that gathered various organisations, NGOs, groups and individuals. The Charter of Lampedusa as a draft law, legislative proposal or as a petition to governments.

The Charter of Lampedusa was written between 31st January and 2nd February 2014 during a

All the groups and individuals who undersign the Charter of Lampedusa commit to putting it into practice and to defending its principles through their endeavours, in the ways, languages and actions that each of them considers relevant, whether or not the Charter obtains recognition by current state and/or supra-state institutions. These are basic rights that must prevail all over the world. Current migration policies foster global inequality and exploitation – particularly the European

Union's and those of any other country which are de facto part of the European migration

system. This system anchors the distinction between those who can move freely and those to

whom such a right is denied. The Charter of Lampedusa requires a radical economic, political, legal and cultural rethinking. Such a U-turn begins with the construction of an alternative vision: freedom and right to self-determination for all regardless of one's nationality or place of birth/residence.

As human beings we all inhabit the Earth as a shared space. Differences must be considered as a shared space. assets, a source of new opportunities, and must never be exploited to build barriers.

The principles of the Charter of Lampedusa:



FREEDOM TO SELF-DETERMINE

FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

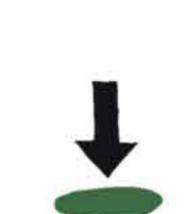
ONE'S PLACE OF RESIDENCE

All human beings shall be free to determine where they want

No one shall be forced to leave the country where they were

born or the country where they live against their will. Everyone

The Charter of Lampedusa claims Freedom of Movement for all.



shall have the freedom to live wherever they wish to. Everyone

FREEDOM TO STAY

to live.

shall have equal access to social and political rights. FREEDOM TO PLAN A NEW LIFE Anyone who is forced to leave their country shall have the right to move to any other country without any form

of bureaucratic hassle. They should be able to choose

freely the place and the social and cultural environment



in which they want to live.

right to freedom of movement. FREEDOM TO RESIST

Everyone has the freedom and equally the duty to rise against

unfair rules. Everyone has the freedom and equally the duty not

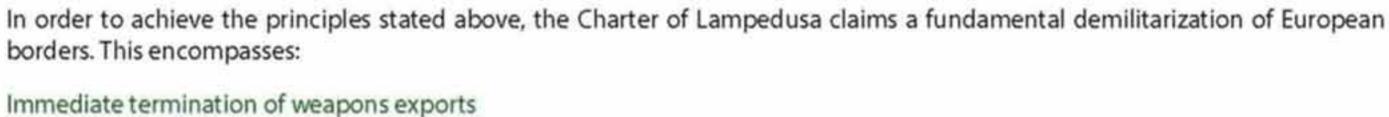
No one shall be imprisoned as a consequence of claiming their



to follow unfair commands.

PERSONAL FREEDOM

lacartadilampedusa.org lampedusa-hamburg.info



ment is used and seek protection in the EU are held at the borders by means of military violence.

Abolition of the European agency Frontex conceived to combat the arrival of migrants in EU

Abolition of all material barriers (walls and physical barriers) intended to prevent freedom of movement.

EU countries benefit massively from weapons exports. People who are forced to flee from conflicts where such European arma-



Redirection of all financial means currently used to militarize borders to guarantee safe migration routes and high standards in protection and reception of those who migrate out of need Abolition of the Ecosur system conceived to impede access to EU countries

DEMILITARIZATION OF BORDERS

borders. This encompasses:

FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

Immediate abolition of visas

- Termination of all military operations led by the EU and its member states carried out both at the borders of the EU and outside of the EU territories (e.g. Libya) Abolition of all control systems and military agendas intended to control migrations
- The history of humanity is a history of migration. Over time migration has become a basic feature of neoliberalism and the capitalist economic system. Moving in the world according to the needs of the global economy is an economic imperative which is forced upon a large number of human beings, whilst personal movement is a privilege accorded to a minority.

Abolition of "migratory clauses" from any agreement with third-party states

No criminalisation of people helping migrants regardless of the "legality" of their status.

Equality of employment conditions for all regardless of residence status

to participate in the decisions which are made about them.

countries or sent back to the country of their first arrival.

The Charter of Lampedusa stands for global freedom of movement for all.

Right to entry regardless of one's income or wealth Abolition of legal entry quotas and any other form of restriction No Illegalisation of people: migration is not a crime

At all moments of the migration process, every person facing institutional representatives must be permitted to understand what

is happening to them, be informed of their rights, be able to make themselves heard and understood in their own language and

fore impedes them from achieving their life plans. Migrants are either forced to stay in some countries, or pushed back to transit

We refuse that people be split according to their origin, their nationality or any other legal or social criteria. No distinction shall

be made between those who can enjoy freedom of movement and those who, to travel the same path, must suffer discriminati-

on, exploitation, violence, imprisonment and the risk of losing their life. Therefore, the Charter of Lampedusa claims:

- FREEDOM OF CHOICE Current migration policies and border controls prevent people from choosing freely the place where they want to stay and there-
- Every human being shall be free to choose where to live. Spaces and territories shall not be claimed to be the property of individuals, organisations or national States. Therefore we claim: the abolition of all national and international laws, especially EU legislation deriving from the Schengen treaty, which limit the

freedom of movement of European citizens and of those who come from so-called 'third countries'

All countries should reach high and fair standards in protection and reception of migrants. FREEDOM TO STAY

Even when migration seems to be an individual choice, it is never completely separate from ecologic, social, economic and

political factors. Armed conflicts, natural disasters and injustices ravaging large parts of the planet, are phenomena linked to the

freedom to fight any form of exploitation and discrimination remains essential. Every human being shall be free to choose where

to live and realise their life plans. Every human being must benefit from equal access to social and political rights.

the abolition of the Dublin Regulation which forces migrants to apply for international protection in the first EU member state

Bureaucratic-impediments-free access to residence status and freedom to stay The right to work: the right to access all professions, to work in safe conditions, with full respect of the person, with no discrimination and with equal pay.

The right to inhabit an adequate housing space regardless of income level or country of origin

members The right to participate in social, cultural and political life: right to vote at all levels

The right to education: non-discriminatory, free access to knowledge and education for all

- physical, economic, social, cultural, individual/group potential or past persecutions, has the freedom to choose where to settle and shall have the right to be reunited in their new home with their loved ones. The Charter of Lampedusa claims:
- The abolition of all containment and detention centres To oppose the externalization of borders by means of containment and detention centres outside of the EU → To refuse the squandering of public resources on the current migration system and their distribution in the hands of subjects

who speculate on migrants' lives - there is no way these places can be reformed

- To redirect the resources that to date have been dedicated to such places, to build instead, a shared system based on the development of decentred, widespread reception activities in various areas around the Mediterranean and beyond.
- arrested and kept in detention centres which resemble prisons. These centres are places where violence prevails and all the deaths and violence which have occurred within detention and confinement centres, on EU grounds and in countries to which EU borders control is externalized, are to be denounced. Such centres foster the criminalisation and discrimination of migrants

the abolition of all forced repatriation practices the immediate abolition of administrative detention and the closure of all detention centres and of all reception centres which limit freedom of movement

the redirection of resources that to date have been dedicated to such places to social projects for everyone.

The Charter of Lampedusa affirms everyone's freedom to resist policies which foster inequality and disparity, intended to create

divisions, discrimination, exploitation and precariousness of human beings, and which generate inequalities. Everyone has the freedom and equally the duty to rise against unfair rules. Everyone has the freedom and equally the duty not to follow unfair commands.



current economic model. At the global level resources and wealth are shared in increasingly unfair ways. Consequently it has become impossible for many individuals around the world to lead a dignified life in their place of birth. Yet even when forced to flee, migrants are prevented from choosing freely the place they want to live in, they are instead arrested, interned or sent back. No one shall be forced to leave the country where they were born or the country where they live, against their will. Therefore the

The Charter of Lampedusa claims:

Equal right to healthcare and access to welfare for all

they enter

The obligation to fight all forms of verbal and written discrimination which foster prejudices and racism A new form of citizenship: recognition of the full exercise of equal rights to anyone who finds themselves in the EU, regardless of their citizenship and to call for the recognition of a single European citizenship based on ius soli (right of the soil). FREEDOM TO PLAN A NEW LIFE, WHEN MOVEMENT IS NECESSARY

The chronic and structural socio-economic production of conflicts, as well as climatic and environmental disasters often result in

an immediate need to leave one's place of residence. Every human being forced to leave their country of birth/residence due to

To oppose all EU's and any other international Organisations' "humanitarian" policies which translate into repressive measures

The right to build and preserve a family and affective personal core: bureaucratic-impediments-free immigration of other family

against people seeking protection The need to guarantee safe migration routes and to guarantee unconditional right of entry for all The immediate abolition of all forced repatriation

In the EU, migrants without residence status are either arrested or pushed back at the borders. Migrants seeking protection are

PERSONAL FREEDOM No one shall be imprisoned as a consequence of claiming their right to freedom of movement.

while being funded through public finances.

Therefore the Charter of Lampedusa stands for:

FREEDOM TO RESIST