

## NEWSLETTER KLIMA-ANTIREPRESSION # 27 – April 2025

Hey,

we have several trial dates where you can come to support and some information about how police saves data. Have fun while reading!

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#### RHINELAND

There will be several trials regarding the eviction of Lützerath and we also have news on the case of BlockNeurath.

### **Erkelenz: Solidarity trial support on 7 May**

In January 2024, people gathered at the Holzweiler cemetery to commemorate the destruction of Lützerath. The setting for this was a memorial service with the well-known yellow wooden cross.

Now one of the participants has been charged of having violated the assembly law. The public prosecutor's office is not questioning religious character of the meeting, but is instead subjecting an undisputedly religious meeting to the provisions of the law on assembly - although these are explicitly excluded in federal law.

The trial is open to the public and the defendant is looking forward to solidarity support.  
07 May at 1 pm, Erkelenz district court

### **Monk trial**

Do you remember the videos and photos of the 'Monk of Lützerath'? Images of a barefoot person in a brown robe shoving the cops into the mud sweetened the winter evacuation for many of us. In the meantime, a person has been charged and convicted as allegedly this 'monk', accompanied by supporters and observers in solidarity. You can find reports from the trial and statements from the

accused person on our website, e.g. here <https://antirrr.nirgendwo.info/2025/02/20/prozessbericht-moench-von-luetzerath/>

Spolier: ‘‘Just as everyone was wondering whether Elon Musk had made a Hitler salute, I'm beginning to wonder whether I really pushed a police officer. (...) I don't think I can be judged when you know that the video made a lot of people laugh. (...) It's not me who is a repeat offender of G20, but the state with its destruction and violence.’

### **BlockNeurath: 1.2 million euros? No way!**

One day before the deadline, RWE filed a claim for damages against the activists, who are accused of being chained to the tracks leading to the Neurath coal-fired power plant and thus ensuring that RWE was able to emit up to 22,000 tonnes less CO2 into the air and make 1.4 million euros less profit. RWE is now demanding 1.2 million euros from the four individuals, who are also being prosecuted. They are defending themselves legally and state: ‘We hope that RWE and other large corporations never try this again, either because they don't like having to disclose their dirty business in court or because they or their law firm may suffer corresponding material damage elsewhere for every euro they claim.’

More information in the statement of those affected:

<https://antirrr.nirgendwo.info/2025/03/04/blockneurath-12-mio-euro-pustekuchen/>

### **Lützerath-Soli excavator occupation in front of the district court**

During the eviction of Lützerath, a digger was occupied in the Hambach open-cast mine. Last year, several activists stood trial at Kerpen District Court for this. In the same case, there were both convictions (<https://antirrr.nirgendwo.info/2024/04/24/richter-witzel-macht-ernst/>) and acquittals (<https://antirrr.nirgendwo.info/2024/04/25/kerpen-freispruch/>) So much for the objectivity of courts.

The case will now go to the 2nd instance at the regional court this late summer.

The expected dates are 1 August at 9 am, 26 September at 9 am and 13 October at 9.30 am, all at the regional court in Cologne. We look forward to seeing you at the trial in solidarity.

### **Trial because of blockade while Lützerath-eviction**

On 27.05.2025 at 11 a.m., a trial will start at Grevenbroich District Court that will be both legally and politically exciting: The accused are six people who took part in a determined blockade on the edge of the coal mine in the final days of the brutal eviction of Lützerath 2023. Also in the dock are activists from Scientist Rebellion and the former Last Generation - one person is traveling from Italy and will defend himself & for several people it is the first court case. Remarkable in the run-up to the main hearing: The judge responsible had rejected the original penalty order for alleged resistance (§113 StGB) - she did not see any initial suspicion confirmed in Gluing. Only after pressure from the public prosecutor's office and a detailed complaint to the district court were the proceedings referred back to the local court. Now the case is to be heard.

We are looking forward to solidary support of the trial - the state's attempts at repression affect us all!

EAST

### **Attitude during protest against Tesla**

In March 2022, activists protested on the opening day of the Gigafactory in Grünheide. A sign on the A10 motorway was pasted over with ‘DeMUSKieren’ and ‘Autos raus’. Activists also abseiled down a sign between Freienbrink and Erkner. The motorway was closed for hours. Three

defendants were charged with coercion and road traffic offences. In March 2025, an agreement was reached to discontinue the proceedings.

## NORTH

### **Update on repression around Tümpeltown**

The EA (legal team) Leinemarsch informs about the repression in relation to resistance against eviction and deforestation in the Leinemasch (Hanover) in January 2024:

The LeinemaschBleibt initiative published an initial statement during the eviction:

<https://leinemaschbleibt.de/statement-zu-polizeiverhalten-einschraenkungen-der-pressefreiheit-berichterstattung-der-medien/>

The first subsequent attempts at repression then began from summer 24 with summonses, a house search and the first fines. These were also publicised on the initiative's website (and via social media): <https://leinemaschbleibt.de/ea-leinemasch/>

Later on, there were longer statements on Indymedia in cooperation with various anti-repression groups:

1st statement: <https://de.indymedia.org/node/461910>

2nd statement: <https://de.indymedia.org/node/471961>

Since then, the accusation of trespassing has been largely dropped following a lawsuit against the house search, and court dates that had already been scheduled have also been cancelled. However, there was also a conviction and only recently another indictment.

### **Wolfsburg - city of traffic change? Trials concerning action at VW**

A number of trials against people associated with the 'Amsel44 Project House' will also be taking place in Wolfsburg in the near future, and one of these criminal proceedings is currently underway. For three relatively harmless actions, the Braunschweig public prosecutor's office already tried last summer to bring charges before the lay assessor's court (this means a sentence of at least 2 years imprisonment). The Wolfsburg district court did not go along with this, and now, almost a year later, the trial has begun before the criminal court. Three actions are charged: Entering the VW power plant site, supporting a climbing action during the Wolfsburg 2022 traffic transformation camp and entering the trade union building. On the first day of the trial, the judge refused to accept some motions or have them recorded, but according to the press, the defendant and his lawyer were once again to blame. The trial is expected to continue on 15 May 2025.

Further trials are scheduled for 12 and 26 June, again concerning trespassing on the grounds of the power plant.

We invite you to accompany the processes in solidarity.

Process reports and current dates can be found at: <https://blog.verkehrswendestadt.de> or at <https://autofrei.noblogs.org/>

## FOCUS ON POLICE DATABASES

People keep asking where the police store the data collected about them and for how long. Often we can only say that we don't know because it's pretty arbitrary. However, we know from experience that once data has been stored, it has rarely been deleted automatically once the statutory retention periods have been reached. Here we provide a brief, incomplete insight into which databases and storage systems exist and what storage can mean.

## **Right to information**

In principle, you have the right to obtain information about what data the police have stored about you. In bureaucratic terms, this right is called a 'request for information'. There is an online generator that you can use to generate the appropriate document:

<https://datenschmutz.de/cgi-bin/auskunft> - the letter is supplemented with the currently valid legal paragraphs that justify your right to information. It is usually worth asking the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA), the Federal Police, the central register of proceedings (operated by the public prosecutor's offices) and the state criminal investigation offices. Theoretically, the state criminal investigation offices must then pass this on to the respective individual police stations, but in practice they sometimes do this. However, the respective legal basis of the federal states also allows individual police departments to be asked what they have.

Information about data can be refused, e.g. if the police see a danger to their work or to the state. Sometimes this does not even have to be communicated. If something like this is suspected, the only recourse is via the data protection officers of the federal states or the courts. In principle, however, the police also provide a lot of information about what they have stored, so it is worth asking.

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The enquiries themselves only end up in a case management system with relatively short retention periods and restricted access. This means that the probability of the police or even the state security department becoming aware of you due to requests for information (e.g. after you have been travelling anonymously and want to know whether they have found you) is relatively low.

## **Police databases**

INPOL is the central information system of the German police, operated in an 'electronic data network' by the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) and the respective state police forces. Some of the state systems also run under the name POLAS/POLIS. The system is used for searches, information and research. Information is stored, for example, on personal data, identification procedures (fingerprints, photographs), existing criminal files (on proceedings conducted by the police), property searches (of lost identity cards or stolen items reported), search alerts, detentions, personal references.

All cops can access all this information, i.e. if you are checked and they phone your name through or enter it into the computer, this is information that they receive and on the basis of which they take action, e.g. give you an exclusion order or lock you up preventively. Personalised information is particularly relevant here. In our contexts, this is often something like 'violent offender' (GEWA) or 'offender motivated by left-wing motives' (LIMO). Whether such a reference is stored is arbitrary. Sometimes the police do this as part of criminal prosecution, but often not.

The police may be looking for you with a warrant for arrest, i.e. there is a direct threat of arrest if you are stopped. However, there are also search alerts for checks, which means that if a person is checked with such an alert, the police must always report this to the police station that issued the alert (i.e. it is practically tracked where you have ended up in police checks). Sometimes this can also be combined with a check of the people travelling with you or searches, as far as legally permissible (i.e. only if they find a legal basis for this and have the motivation to do so).

In addition to this, there are also various interconnected files in which entries can exist, for example the 'internal security' interconnected file or those relating to left-wing or right-wing threats. These files are 'phenomenon-specific', which means that not every cop has access to them during a bicycle check, but (in this example) all 'those involved in combating politically motivated crime' do. This means that these files are also often queried in the context of checks at demonstrations. It is precisely in the internal security file that allegations of (politically motivated) offences are often stored, which you have committed.

There are 'data owners' for all the information stored by the Federal Criminal Police Office in these files, usually the respective state criminal police office that has entered the data. If you want things to be deleted, you have to request this from the data owner.

In addition to these interconnected police files and the state systems based on them, there are also police case management systems. The police save every case that is created, i.e. every check, in some cases every time they become active in a demonstration registration, when they summon someone as a witness or defendant, in short, everything they do. This is supposedly used to document and monitor police actions. In fact, a lot of data is stored, but unlike the other files, this data does not immediately appear for every cop who makes a query, which means that such storage is less relevant to our everyday lives. The retention periods are also shorter and are often 2-3 years (and seem to be adhered to more in the case management systems than in the rest of the databases).

### **Delete data?**

The police are very reluctant to delete data and the deletion practice depends very much on the country. There are often so-called segregation check dates, which is a date after which the police theoretically check whether the data will continue to be stored. However, this often only happens after a request has been made or, for example, in the case of a request for information, if it is established that these check deadlines have been exceeded. If something new has been added to the data stored in the system, the police often claim that this gives them a reason to continue storing older data so that it is never deleted. Deletion can be requested informally from the organisation holding the data. However, if the police then refuse, the only option is to appeal or take legal action, which can sometimes take years and cost a little energy, but can sometimes be successful.

You can find some older reports and articles on such disputes about data storage here (german):

<https://datenschutz.nirgendwo.info/>

<https://datenschmutz.de/moin/Irre%20Geschichten>

<https://datenschmutz.de/gc/>

In Solidarity,

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