

Diakonische Werke  
Berlin-Brandenburg-schlesische Oberlausitz e.V.  
Paulsenstr. 55/56  
12163 Berlin

05.11.2014

## **Gerhart-Hauptmann-Schule**

Dear Ladies and Gentleman,

we, students of Social Work, Education in Childhood, Health- and Caremanagement and Physio- and Occupationaltherapy at the Alice-Salomon University of Applied Sciences Berlin are shocked and upset about your intention to evict the occupied Gerhart-Hauptmann-School in Kreuzberg in order to implement your plan of an "International Refugee Center", in cooperation with the district of Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg.

With this aim you're not only taking part in breaking the promise of the district government of letting the refugees live in the school and build a self governed and self organized space for refugees, but also are you sending these people into homelessness.

Especially the fact that you, as one of the biggest employers for Social Work with 450.000 employees in Germany, are part of this, shocks us and leaves us speechless. Your engagement for human rights, securing peoples' livelihood and your fight against exclusion and poverty in this case seem cynical and not credible.

In our concept of Social Work there is no either-or. The support of a group can not be at the expense of others. The dignity of humans has to be upheld, irrespective of their residence permit status (Aufenthaltsstatus). Your commitment should not start with the responsibility for an "International Refugee Centre", rather it should focus on the structural implementation of equal rights for refugees.

Herewith we call on you not to take part in the racist and inhuman manner the Berlin Senat treats refugees. Start talking with the people of the school, let the people themselves create the school actively. Exert pressure on the district and the senate in order to provide safe legal status and the right to work to refugees, enabling a decent and equal life to all humans.

# Grenzen\_Weg Berlin

Studentische Initiative an der Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin

Sincerely yours.

Grenzen\_weg Berlin

P.S.: Attached you find this letter as a pdf-document, also will it be published on our blog.