Old wars and new continue to devastate countless regions in the world, Europe's colonialist and predatory grasp on power is constantly being redefined, and poverty and violence leave millions with no other choice but to flee their homes. Borders are being mercilessly pushed back and the Mediterranean has become a mass grave. In Switzerland, slave trading in Libya is met with outrage, while the public rejoices as the number of asylum seekers decreases.

The anti-racism movement is facing huge challenges in 2018. New federal centres make contact between the civil population and asylum seekers all the more difficult and many are driven into isolation. The provisional F status traps many into a precarious long-term living situation and is an obstacle to developing an independent and self-determined life in Switzerland. The motion from the right for a 'coherent legislation on undocumented persons', which has been tabled for the autumn parliament session, aims to strip undocumented persons of fundamental rights, such as the right to health insurance coverage or the right for their children to receive education. In cantons like Zurich or Geneva, emergency aid has become a sector for the state to experiment with repressive strategies to force people to leave the country. In December, Switzerland will have been a Dublin member state for 10 years. During this decade, Switzerland has conducted 30,000 repatriations to EU states. Counting the death of Mike, an undocumented person and member of the Jean Dutoit collective in Lausanne, 5 non-white persons have died at the hands of the police in the last 18 months. This is sadly just the tip of the iceberg.

On the 16th June, 60 organisations are calling for a national demonstration, 'No borders between us'. The antiracism movement must challenge these repressive and xenophobic tendencies, on an interpersonal right up to the international level!