

On the 70th anniversary of the massacre of Distomo:

Not forgiving Nazi crimes, not forgetting anti-fascist resistance!

Fight together against growing Fascism in Europe!

70 years ago, on the 10th of June 1944, German SS-troops murdered almost half of the 500 inhabitants of Distomo - 218 men, women and children. The murderers were known but their criminal prosecution in Germany never took place. Until now the victims were paid nothing.

Distomo is only one of the uncountable places in Greece and Europe where the German Armed Forces and the SS raped and cowardly murdered guileless civilians. But Distomo became a symbol of the successful resistance against the German decade-long thwarting and delaying of the payment obligations due to these crimes. For in 2000 the small village won against the great Germany in the highest Greek court, the Areopag: Germany has to pay 28 million Euro. But since 14 years Germany tries by all means to shirk this responsibility. Germany forced the Greek government to block the execution of the judgment against German state property in Greece.

One of the lessons of history is that oppression, plundering and extermination of other nations must not pay off. The robbery of German Fascism however does pay off for the Federal Republic of Germany to this day: only the returnable sum of the coercive loan which had been forced off from the bank of Greece 1942 by the German fascist state as well as the Greek damage claims defined on the occasion of the Paris Reparations Agreement of 1946 add up to many millions of Euro. Additional to these are damage claims and compensations for pain and suffering of the victims of the Nazi war crimes. Germany wants to keep this money.

We, antifascists from Greece and the Federal Republic of Germany, claim since many years the immediate compensation of the victims of the Nazi massacres in Greece as well as the reparations. The re-growing fascism in Europe is a consequence of the fact that accounts have never really been balanced with the German Nazi crimes. Fascism today is downplayed and accepted as an opinion. But it was and it is a conviction of murderers.

The terror of the „Nationalsozialistischer Untergrund (NSU)“ (a German Nazi underground organization), who murdered nine migrants under the eyes of German state authorities, casts dark clouds on the role played by the German police and intelligence services. It became very clear that without the protection of state departments the murdering could have been stopped much earlier. The investigations were and still are heavily hindered, important documents were destroyed and lies were told in the inquiry committees as well as in court.

In Greece rages the mob of the „Chrysi Avgi“ („Golden Dawn“) with murder and violence against refugees, migrants and people with a leftist leaning. This movement finds a massive support in the Greek state authorities and is accepted as a normal parliamentary force. The growing strength of „Chrysi Avgi“ („Golden Dawn“) is an alarming sign because it shows that also in the Greek society fascism becomes presentable again.



Without balancing the accounts of past crimes, without a radical enforcement of damage claims and reparation claims the sign is the same, in Germany as well as in Greece: oppression, exploitation and even extermination of people with a different nationality or conviction leads to long-term benefits. That must not be.

A first step would be that the Greek Minister of Justice finally grants his approval for the immediate enforcement of the Areopagos legally binding judgement concerning the victims of Distomo. We would expect this as taking up a clear stance against the Nazi war crimes and against the new dawn of fascist threats.

To this objective we want to demonstrate, about the way to it we want to discuss.

**Thursday, 5 June 2014 – Perama, Social Center Pyxida, Fleming 92/Corner Achilleos 7:00pm,
Information and discussion meeting**

Friday, 6 June 2014 – Athens...12:00am, press conference

**Friday, 6 June 2014 – Athens–Exarcheia, Steki Metanaston, Migrants Social Center,
Tsamadou 13,**

8:00pm, Information and discussion meeting

Saturday, 7 June 2014 –Athens, Syntagma Place,

11:00am, Demonstration to the German embassy

Sunday, 8 June 2014 – Distomo, 6:30pm, information and discussion meeting

**Tuesday, 10 June 2014 –Distomo, 10:00am, commemoration of the massacre in
Distomo 70 years ago**

**Execution of the Areopagos' compensation judgment in the
Distomo case – now!**

For the compensation of all Nazi victims!

