RED SOS REFUGIADOS
Asociación de ayuda humanitaria

Monthly report:

October 2020

Refugee girls and women are at the lowest tier, the most beaten and vulnerable of the millions of people in search of a decent life. Our reflection this month is dedicated to them.

The force of nonviolence is the latest book by non-violence activist **Judith Butler,** who has focused her reflections on the brutality of groups persecuted on the basis of sex, gender or race. Although applicable to any group of people whose lives are considered dispensable, the author focuses this essay on women as the object of persistent and premeditated violence.

In it, she analyses with precision the nature of that violence, so deep-rooted and lethal precisely, she says, because it is not only the expression of institutions and systems, but because it is in the air like a toxic atmosphere that seeps into us. She looks up to see the current situation and asks herself why our society has established that there are lives worth mourning and others not. Why are there lives that can be destroyed or made to disappear without a trace and without consequences. And she calls for a militant public opposition that will make its pain and rage against the violence inflicted on millions of people heard.

"Peoples are too often divided between those whose lives are worth protecting at any cost and those whose lives are considered expendable. Depending on our gender, race and economic status in society, we can feel whether we are more or less tearful in the eyes of others".

Violence against refugee girls and women is being intensified and we cannot stop making it visible and denouncing it.

And now let us turn to the harvest of this October, which has been abundant and generous.

COLLECTIONS, EVENTS AND SOLIDARITY INITIATIVES:

On Friday 30th two trucks loaded with food from *Zaporeak* arrived at the Athens warehouse and are already being delivered. Thank you, comrades!

Patricia Colon and the group of volunteers about to unload the truck that has brought several pallets donated by Zaporeak.

The Platform coordinated by *Acción Directa Sierra Norte*, which has involved hundreds of people throughout Spain, also this past Friday, the 30th, shipped a container that will arrive in

Athens on November 3rd, loaded with warm clothes, blankets, tents, food and a lot of commitment and love. And they have a second container almost ready. What immense luck to have you on our side! Thank you *Gracia Solidaria, Traycco, Un gest de calor, Grup voluntàries Terrassa, Orts Risk, Ecolectia, Leftlovers, Andrea Sant Antoni, Kris Figueres, CGT Barcelona, La Floresta contra fronteres, Ensorrem Fronteres, Associació gastronòmica i cultural La Pastora; Caudete Se Mueve,* Villena, Málaga, Albendiego as well as many other groups, towns and cities.

Loading process of the container that will arrive in Athens the first week of November.

At the Across warehouse in Valencia, two more containers are waiting to be shipped very soon with collections from numerous groups and individuals. In them goes the solidarity of Zambrana, Tres Cantos, Premià de Mar, Eva de Benicarló, Banco de Alimentos de Albacete, *Tortas Inés Rosales,* Zuleima, *Ayuda al Pueblo Saharaui, Dones de Foios* (home for retired *people*), *Ayuda Refugiadxs Zaragoza, Plataforma Alto Aragón de Sabiñánigo,* Cornellá, L'Eliana, *Móstoles Sin Fronteras,* Héctor de *T&W*, *Asociación Arena,* Figueres, Albendiego, Marcos Rubio, Goyo Martín-Blas, *Karaama*, *Negia*.

From Sweden, *Act for Sweeden* sent a truck to Athens with clothes and food. And Belinda, from Germany, is at it again with several pallets of sleeping bags and blankets that have already arrived at the warehouse. From England, *Gortex* has donated 1000 items of clothing. Patricia from *Smiles in Action* is already shopping for food to send a few pallets to Athens.

Thanks to Carlos and Eduardo of *Across,* the shipping company with which ***SOS Refugiados*** works, because they go beyond the solvency it is expected from them in the performance of their commercial relations with us. Thank you for your cordiality, the favours you continuously do for us, the facilities you give us to store pallets, palletise boxes that arrive loose, your patience, the speed with which you inform us of any incident. Professional and supportive. Thank you very much.

Thanks to the logistical work of the *Seur Foundation, the* workers who spend part of their time altruistically travelling to the collection points and then delivering pallets and boxes in Valencia. We appreciate the extra effort you have made during these weeks. You are very valuable to ***SOS Refugiados***.

Thanks to the transport company *Truck and Wheel and* to Hector, who give us a hand whenever we need them in an emergency. And to *Conductors Solidaris* for their collaboration with *Karaama*.

Loving thanks to Gerd from Sweden for the beautiful gesture she and her friends made after her husband Mikaels passed away. Flowers for life to flourish

FINANCIAL DONATIONS:

A gratitude hug to the almost 500 *teamers* who each month contribute their grain of hope to the work of ***SOS Refugiados***. Thank you to those of

you who have participated in the Facebook collections.

Purchase of fruit, eggs, vegetables thanks to donations

Thanks to the private donors, regular or not, that this month you have pushed again with your generous and disinterested gesture. Your quiet efforts are really appreciated.

Thanks once again to the groups that are faithful to this daily effort to dignify human life. And to other groups and associations that you have now joined. It is our pleasure to name you: *Plataforma Alto Aragón, Ayuda a refugiadxs Zaragoza*, *SOS Terrasa, Proyecto Ponte su zapato, Federación de Sindicatos Barcelona, Colectivo SF.Albacete, Proyecto PHES, Ateneu del Mon* de Sant Quirze del Vallés, *Caudete Se Mueve, Pasaportes para Siria, 2HELPINGHANDS, L'Eliana Vol Associacio Pel Voluntaria, Asociación Ibiza Conciencia, Ecologistas en Acción, Holes in the Borders,* Eva Andersson, *Mesa de Solidaritat de Sant Quirze*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

We remind everyone that the transport from any point in Spain to the port of Valencia is managed by the *Seur Foundation,* so if you are encouraged to make your own food collection from your friends and family of a couple of boxes (they don't have to be just pallets), all you have to do is call us to arrange for a transport to pick them up (you can contact Arancha and Miguel at logistica@sosrefugiados.org).

We hope that the calendars will start to circulate next week and that not a single one will be left undistributed. Many thanks to the authors of the photographs.

Thank you also to those of you who are contacting new groups and explaining who we are and why we do what we do. To those of you in your surroundings, neighbourhoods, schools, radio programmes and media who are trying to ensure that there is no silence about this genocide in doses, which the pandemic is helping to sweep even more under the carpet.

Cover of the new SOS REFUGEES calendar.

To those who try to explain, to put some truth, to fit the situation of the refugees in the context that corresponds to it, which is none other than the brutality of the system against a sizeable part of humanity, and after all, against all of us. Thanks to those of you who put your finger on the sore spot of the shame of Fortress Europe and of those frightened Europeans who prefer to listen to tales of fear and simplistic tales of good and bad, of us against them. Are we going to let only those false discourses of the external enemy and the cultural threat be heard? Can we allow ourselves to continue to build fences and borders without losing every day something of our own freedom, something of our joy in being alive?

What does each of us do to combat ignorance, misinformation, bad faith, exacerbated fear, and

the most blind tribal hatred? If we know that they are more toxic than this COVID-19 virus, what are we willing and able to do to fight them? Each of us should make a list of those non-negotiable values and treasures that we do not accept being taken away by this ideology of hate. And if you find any, fight them.

Our warmest hug to you all