



Luise Amtsberg MdB - Platz der Republik 1 - 11011 Berlin

Prime Minister of Malta Dr Robert Abela

Minister for Home Affairs, National Security and
Law Enforcement Dr Byron Camilleri

Berlin, 10.09.2020

Dear Prime Minister Mr Abela,

Dear Minister for Home Affairs Mr Camilleri,

We are writing to you as Members of the German Bundestag from different political groups.

It has now been more than one month since the oil tanker MAERSK ETIENNE rescued 27 people from distress at sea on 5 August. For more than one month, the people have been detained off Maltese territorial waters, waiting for a Port of Safety. The situation on board is becoming more and more dramatic: Over the weekend, three persons desperately jumped overboard.

Since Malta coordinated the rescue of the 27 people it is the duty to assign a Port of Safety according to international law.

This is the longest stand-off in front of the European coast that we have witnessed so far. We are deeply concerned about the current state on board and the condition of the rescued persons.

A commercial vessel can never be regarded as a place of safety and is not equipped to provide shelter and nutrition for a longer period of time.

The people are deprived from their fundamental rights for more than four weeks now.

We urge you to put an immediate end to this unacceptable and inhumane situation and to let the people disembark in Malta. Rest assured, that we will continue our support for a fair, solidary and swift distribution among EU member states in the future and we will urgently appeal to the German government for that matter.

We sincerely hope for your support and extend our best regards

Luise Amtsberg, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen

Margarete Bause, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen

Dr. Jens Brandenburg, FDP
Michel Brandt, Die Linke
Kai Gehring, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
Lorenz Gösta Beutin, Die Linke
Erhard Grundl, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
Peter Heidt, FDP
Frank Heinrich, CDU/CSU
Gabriela Heinrich, SPD
Ulla Jelpke, Die Linke
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Christian Kühn, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
Uwe Kekeritz, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
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Caren Lay, Die Linke
Ulrich Lechte, FDP
Cornelia Möhring, Die Linke
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Stefan Schmidt, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen
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Johannes Schraps, SPD
Frank Schwabe, SPD
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Dr. Kirsten Tackmann, Die Linke
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