



## Green helmets are preparing a great operation at the African coast

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Already at this stage we are searching for builders, experienced good craftsmen, engineers, cabinetmakers, electricians, carpenters, and also health professionals for the next winter when it will be nice and warm in Africa. We want to do something with and for the young Africans which are waiting at the coasts of Morocco, Senegal, and Mauritania filled with anger. Waiting for a boat, a floating coffin, or people smugglers to bring them somehow to somewhere on the promised continent “Schengen-Europe”.

The European governments are still sending the wrong signals: they believe they can head these people off with the navy Task Forces in the Mediterranean and at the Western African coasts. You can not. Even with a triplication of the wall in Ceuta and Mellila it will not work. The Home Secretary of Spain recently declared that – that what is happening now and what will arise to a mass migration of the people within the next years – is the “peaceful revolution of the have-nots against poverty”.

To this we have to react with a humanitarian offensive ON THE SPOT.

In a coastal spot we will give those young people vocational training in vocational education centers and production facilities and let them work profitable at the same time. The products have to be sold in the same country as well as exported to Europe or other African countries. We have not decided on a place so far. We negotiate with the eligible countries at the coast: Mauritania, Senegal, and Morocco. The point is that these countries and their governments want and support this and in return have to give privileged conditions for entry and import. In exchange we offer the highest respect for the African cultures.

The inquiry will start in October – the work shall be taken up in January 2007. The pilot project will take place in RWANDA. For Rwanda I have a binding agreement with the president, Paul Kagame, which also agreed to accept the patronage for the project in RWANDA.

We will start this activity on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Why January, 6<sup>th</sup>? On January 6<sup>th</sup> in 1907 one of the greatest Europeans of the Twentieth century introduced what was later on called development politics and humanitarian work. The word “humanitarian” was still pristine and pure, “humanitarian wars” did not exist then.

In the church of St. Nicolai in Strasbourg the then 32 years old Albert Schweitzer gave a homily that stayed on minds of all listeners. For us it could be the fanfare for a new period in fighting extreme poverty:

“This gentle culture, which knows to talk so highly about Human Rights but disobeys and spurn these human rights and human dignity of millions, just because they live on the other side of the sea, have a different colour of the skin, and cannot help themselves.”

This our culture be miserable, rhetorical, and mean. “It has no right to talk of human dignity and human rights.”

This man. Albert Schweitzer, was a pastor, theologian, philosopher, virtuosic organ player and above all a doctor. Many years later he became a Nobel Peace Price laureate. He believed that words should not only be said but have to be acted upon. “For every person acting violently in the name of Jesus there has to come one to help in the name of Jesus. For everyone who is stealing there has to be one who brings something.” And: “For everyone swearing, one who is blessing”.

Albert Schweitzer himself started the program in 1913 with a hospital in Lambarene. He stayed there with interruptions for 50 (!! ) years. Let us, the Green helmets, take a leaf out of his work: Albert Schweitzer as a patron posthumous for such activities. We do not have enough money right now, but the fellow citizens will give it to us. It just has to be done.

And we need the young people with the good professions, who are not snivelling, not hypochondriac, uncontaminated by wealth, holiday and luxury, and willing to do this for six months.

Please contact the Green helmets!

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