

Name: **Hanna Poddig**

Age: 27

Political experiences, background: My main focus is on environmental issues, such as anti-nuclear protests and activities against genetically modified seed. After several years of work with different NGOs I decided to act more selforganised. I am experienced in a lot of direct action stuff like climbing actions, blockades, sit-ins, lock-on-actions.

name **johanna**,

age: 25 (I will get 26 when you are here).

I grew up in a small village closed to Lüneburg. The region is quite known because of his strong protests against the nuclear waste transports that have passed every year (the nuclear waste is stored there).(We want to visit this region with you, because the forms of protests are quite different there, so its really interesting to see how different forms of protesting can go together)

With 16 i had the possibility to spend a year in Brasil (i went to school there, lived in a host family). Since than I work alot with exchance students which spend a year in germany or go for a year to another country.

In 2007 i got more into politic activism. I started to do things against GMO and tried to occupy a GMO-field with a group of people. Since than political activism is what i do most. squatting-actions, climbing-actions (and give trainings in action-climbing), actions to inform the public about a special topic. a lot of different stuff :) and why i wanted to take part of the project? because i found it quite interesting to combine the scills that i have from the work with exchange stdents withe my political interessts. so I'm really getting forward to get to know you and hope we will have a great time together :)

Name **Sara Zavaree**

Age: 30

Phone Number: 0049 - 15776823912

Personal Background: I was born in Tehran/Iran and live currently in Cologne/Germany. I am a student of Cultural and Social Anthropology with a focus on Colonial History and Islam in Africa.

Political Background: Special interests in south-north relations, migration, and immigration politics. Experiences in political campagning, social activism, and action training (preparation workshops for political actions). I am not bound by any organization, but acting within changing alliances and divers networks, depending on the current political project

Motivation to participate in the project: My main motivation is intercultural exchange in the field of political activism on street

level, which I believe is a quite new field. I am convinced that to move towards a more just world it is necessary to reduce global asymmetries by self-empowerment and increasing agency. For me it is very crucial to learn from each other on eye level, always keeping in mind the compatibility and viability of different forms of activism in differing political and cultural contexts

Name: **Barbara Macholdt**

Age: 29

Personal background:

I am born in Darmstadt, near Frankfurt. I lived in Heidelberg for my studies at university there 2002-2008. I was travelling for more than a year from one political action to next and finally moved to Berlin in 2010 where I am still living.

Political experiences background:

I was involved in the student protests against the study fees 2007-2009 and for structural changes at university. In the state where I went to university a students parliament is forbidden by law since 1971 and there were quite a lot of struggle to get that back. Last year they finally changed the law.

After the g8 meeting 2007 and the big protests against it I started giving trainings for civil obedience and knowledge for actions.

I learned climbing for actions and did several blockades or actions using climbing skills. I also lived a few months in a squat of a forest, trying to prevent a company from cutting the trees for an extension of the airport in Frankfurt (we failed but it got quite expensive for the government and the company).

I became part of the "clandestine insurgent rebel clown army" and later also gave trainings for that. We use the clowns as an instrument to distract police and to act as deescalation or a leading factor during demonstrations. But we also do actions as political clowns on our own without demonstrations.

Parallel to all that I was and still am active in the more autonomous spectra, that means selforganized structures like gardens, cafés, autonomous social centers, autonomous political groups. I don't belong to any organization and at least the police says that I am anarchist :o)

Why I am part of this project:

Well, the reason that I know about this project is that I am part of the network skills for action that was first asked by kengonet to come to Nairobi for an action training camp before the election.

But my personal reason is that I think if you want to change things it will in most cases only work when you have enough pressure on the streets. For me it is important, that the protest on the streets is nothing static but always changing its faces. Only by this it is possible to stay unpredictable and surprise the

public/police/government. In order to do that we all need to exchange experiences so that we can learn different strategies and improve or change our own actions. So I hope to get an inspiring exchange how things are done in Kenya and how they are done in Germany and have discussions to figure out the points which we can learn from each other and to reflect our own actions.

Name: **Kathy Kohlbrenner**

Age: 26

Personal Background:

I m grew up in a little village in South Germany, close to the Switzerland border.

After school, I took two years travelling (mostly in East- and West-african countries) and organizing political actions before I decided to study in 2008. Since then I live in Freiburg, which is small city with (somehow) a lot of political activism in South Germany.

I finished studies in 2012 and since then I keep on running up and down for several projects in Freiburg and Berlin.

Political Background:

I m involved in different projects. In Freiburg I m part of a cooking collective which supplies political struggles with food. We cook for big demonstrations or tiny political camps within Germany and Switzerland. The idea is that everyone who s doing political work shall have access to proper food. We serve the food by donations, so that its not up to a persons financial background if he/she can eat or not.

In Freiburg I m as well involved in a radio project. We have one broadcast every month when we discuss different issues about the rights of refugees and their political struggles in Germany and the whole world. We claim the right to stay for everyone.

Besides that I m member of a network wich offers anti-discrimination-workshops in schools. The idea is to inform pupils early about the structures of discrimination so that they know about it and (if they want) can get activ against it.

In Berlin I m as well involed in anti-racist-activism.

I m not member of a formal group or assoziation.

Motivation to take part in this project:

I m interested in the project because I know that my perspective on political activism and struggle is a very limited one - since it takes part in a western europe context. I m eager to exchange ideas about political action and to get to know more about political struggle in Kenya.

Name: **Jannik Böhm**

Age: 25

Personal Background:

I was born in the middle of the mountains in a small village called Schönried which in the German speaking part of Switzerland. When I was 15 I moved to Neuchâtel, in the French speaking part to do my high school degree. I spent one year in the Caribbean, Central America and Kenya (!!!) and then started my bachelor's degree in political science at the University of Geneva in 2008. Since 2012 I live in Berlin.

Political Background:

My political socialization started in 2003 with the demonstrations against the war in Iraq. I was part of an anti-militarist group called GSoA (Group for a Switzerland without Army). I was involved in student struggles against tuition fees and the commercialization of education, built up a self-organized students coffee-shop at the university of Geneva. I was involved in several occupations and squatting-actions. I was engaged in an autonomous education-project which organized language classes for and by migrants. I was also involved in several eco-projects, such as the climate camp in Zurich. I am part of the trainers-network Skills for Action and moderate direct action trainings in Europe. Here in Berlin I am part of a group called FeLS (Für eine linke Stömung - for a left current) which is a so called post-autonomous group involved in many radical left campaigns, such as Blockupy which just took place at the end of May.

Motivation to take part in this project:

I am very interested in sharing skills and methods and learn things I've never heard about and try to develop new tactics together. Since I was in Nairobi and Mombasa for 4 months I also have a personal connection to Kenya and therefore looking forward to further develop it and get to know activists like you!