

Let's put our foot down



The intrusive presence of the police doing raids, checks at every corner and bar are immediately evident to whoever walks along north Turin streets. Statistics prove what's foreseen by people perception, the effort in punishing small crimes seems to increase, the number of arrests due to unimportant illegal activities is growing. The tribunal of Turin is already equipping itself with instruments to faster convict who commits crimes such as theft, assault, threat, resisting police officer, breaking of seals, brawl, handling stolen goods.

When crackdown manages to force undesired people out of the streets, cleaning them up for the new urban profit, CCTV and private security are left to monitor the space and do the patrols. In this scenario, gentrification processes find places in some districts, by now ex-popular, of Turin.

In an atmosphere of attention in eradicating illegal behaviours, the public prosecutor office of Turin, and generally the tribunal, have chosen to undertake a crusade to the last breath against people and groups that oppose infrastructure projects, cycles of exploitation, exclusion mechanisms, in various ways.

Also in Val Susa, precautionary measures such as house arrest, condition of residence, obligation to daily report to the authorities had been notified to the ones who took active part in the opposition to the high speed train.

In the city, precautionary measures due to a police report following a demonstration in public offices, a picket against an eviction, an opposition to law enforcement is an habit. The last bad news arrived on May 25th, when the police knocked on several doors in Barriera di Milano to notify twelve “town banishment” from Turin. A scene in which a few buckets of worms have been thrown in Ladisa offices during an open day - company that was providing meals for prisoners in Cie - is at the source of these precautionary measures.

These twelve are the latest in a long line of militants banned from Turin in the last years. Ban after ban, with a minimum effort, with a minor precautionary measure whose announcement does not cause as much clamour as that of an arrest, a lot of people involved daily in the pursuit of the opportunity to struggle, organise, subvert the present are pushed out of the city. A measure that does not last only few months but, being considered soft, can be extended for more than one year, forcing people to pack up their things and come up with a reason to live elsewhere.

This way, the possibilities to carry on the struggle are reducing: forces decrease and the awareness that it doesn't take much to be kicked out increases.

To carry on the struggle against evictions and Cie it seems necessary to us to put our foot down about these measures.

We want our comrades, friends, affection here beside us to live and FIGHT!

*Saturday, June 18th, 16.00,
Demonstration
starting from Piazza Castello*

We're not leaving!