

A large group of swimmers are participating in a triathlon swim leg in the Bosphorus. In the foreground, a swimmer is captured mid-air, jumping into the water. The water is a deep blue-green, and many other swimmers are visible in the background, some already in the water and others jumping. The Bosphorus Bridge is visible in the distance, spanning the water. The sky is blue with some light clouds. An orange circular graphic is overlaid on the image, containing the text "swimming to europe".

swimming to
europe



swimming
to
europe
?

We are a group of 20 friends (18 girls and 2 guys) from Munich, Zurich, Berlin, and Lake Constance with the crazy idea to swim from Asia to Europe. Our 6.5 km swim across the Bosphorus will take place on the 20th of July as part of the 26th Bosphorus Cross Continental Race (bogazici.olimpiyat.org.tr). We are participating in this swim both for simple enjoyment and in order to raise awareness for the fact that 'swimming' to Europe is not always that simple.

Many people dream of being able to simply swim to Europe. Last year alone, 66'000 refugees came across the Mediterranean to Europe. But far from all of them succeed. Since 2000, 23'000 refugees have drowned in the Mediterranean, and there are almost daily reports of more refugee boats, and of missing and drowned refugees. Those refugees who do reach Europe are often anything but welcome. They flee from war, persecution, and hardship in the hopes of finding freedom and a better life only to end up in a spiral of poverty, hopelessness, and loneliness in prisons, detention centers, asylum homes or on the street.

We want to help refugees who are fleeing to Europe. In "Watch The Med" we found an organization that documents human rights violations in the Mediterranean via transnational monitoring and both publicly and legally prosecutes maritime denials of assistance. Rescue efforts can be enabled through rapid dissemination of information to the public, and the creation of an independent alarm system will help ensure that emergency calls from refugee boats are no longer ignored. For the past two years, "Watch The Med" has contributed to the establishment of an efficient civilian support network for refugees on both sides of the Mediterranean.

We would like you – our families, friends, and colleagues – to sponsor our swimming of the Bosphorus in order to donate the collected money to "Watch The Med" in Istanbul.



**HELP US SPONSOR WATCH
THE MED'S WORK, KILOMETER
BY KILOMETER!**



For more information on „Watch the Med“ check: www.watchthemed.net

DONATION INFORMATION

Donation Account Germany

Forschungsgesellschaft Flucht und Migration (FFM) Berlin

Keyword: Watch The Med

Sparkasse der Stadt Berlin

Account Nr.: 61 00 24 264

IBAN: DE68 1005 0000 0610 0242 64

BIC: BELADEBEXXX

BLZ: 100 500 00

Paypal

(via Libereco – Partnership for Human Rights)

paypal@lphr.org

Donation Account Switzerland

(via Libereco – Partnership for Human Rights)

Recipient: Libereco

Account Nr.: 85-792427-8

Bank: Postfinance

IBAN: CH61 0900 0000 857924278

BIC: POFICHBEXXX

IMPORTANT

Please indicate *«Watch the Med – Bosphorus – Name of your Swimmer»*. And your address, in case you wish a donation receipt.



Part of our group right after the dress rehearsal in June: The crossing of Lake Constance



danke
tesekkür