

The rise of fascism and what to do about it

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1. Introduction

First, I want to tell you something about myself.

I started writing this document (it isn't yet clear to me if it should be just considered an article, or if it turns into a book later) while sitting in a room in Aachen, Germany, after having moved away from Chemnitz, where the problematic developments I'm describing here have already advanced much further than what one has to deal with here.

I'm queer (trans, non-binary) and pretty anarchist, and the developments I'm witnessing in regards to centralization and repression are fundamentally concerning, especially as the range of people impacted (whether as oppressors or oppressed) is steadily increasing, but most of the reactions I'm witnessing are misdirected or bigoted anger, or hopelessness and defeat, and this state is not something I want to accept.

I've been leaning into an anarchist direction for most of my life, but what changed along the way is that I lost the belief in capitalism, and the recognition that my original environment was harming me in dozens of ways, most of which I only recognized once I had spent sufficient time outside of it.

Now, lets consider the situation Germany is currently in.

If the currently developments in Germany (and to be honest, similar developments are happening across the rest of Europe, too, and most places outside Europe aren't better, either) continue in the same direction, it appears almost inevitable that after the next general election, the country will be ruled by fascists. From my perspective, it truly doesn't matter if the AfD or the CDU will be the party in power in the federal parliament in Germany, as both originated from the same tendencies, and they're currently converging again. Both have already announced that they're intending to make the lives of queer people (particularly trans and non-binary people), poor people and immigrants effectively as hard as they can, and basically round-robin cycling through those groups of people.

Therefore, one should prepare for exactly that scenario, and one should keep in mind that most mitigations, preparations, etc. for that case will be very useful in the future even if the worst case depicted in the paragraph above doesn't happen.

This scenario might've seemed absurd just a decade ago, but the current Trump administration in the USA has demonstrated that it's actually quite realistic that fascist policies don't just get announced, but also implemented with frightening brutality in modern times, in previously at least temporarily

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democratic nations with relatively liberal politics. It isn't unprecedented, it can and probably will happen again.

One should also keep in mind that the situation of France and Italy is very similar to that of Germany, and they have roughly the same problems as Germany.

2. A strategy

My goal is to push for a dual approach here: Setup resistance & support structures both inside of Germany and outside of Germany, and optimally also form alliances and cooperative which act EU-wide.

The primary reason for structures outside of Germany is that it might quickly become unsafe for many to continue to reside in Germany, either due to outright persecution as part of a minority, collapse or bans of necessary healthcare, inability to find/hold jobs (e.g. due to harassment, persecution, or bans) or other means to fund/support expenses (e.g. via mutual aid support structures) such as food, and similar necessities.

3. Glossary

Bibliography