

## INITIATIVE GEGEN DAS CHIPKARTENSYSTEM

### INITIATIVE AGAINST THE CHIP- CARD SYSTEM

c/o Berliner Büro für Gleiche Rechte  
Haus der Demokratie und Menschenrechte  
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Dear Refugees, dear people with chip- cards or vouchers!

If you read this leaflet and receive chip- cards and vouchers from the social security offices (Sozialamt), then you can come and see us – we then try to exchange these for cash.

We are available every Tuesday between 19:00 and 20:00 in an office in the “Haus der Demokratie”. The exchange usually works in practice like this - If you come and see us then we will explain again in more detail over a quiet cup of tea:

- If you receive a chip- card then the best thing to do is to come to us the first Tuesday after your appointment at the social security office when the card is valid for the longest possible time. You then lend us the card for two or, if possible, 3 weeks. We now know lots of people who find this law racist and have cash. We lend them your card and they use it to go shopping. When you come back to us we will return your card and give you the cash. Unfortunately we cannot give you the money in advance but we exchange the chip cards 1:1 and have been doing this for a few years now – and so far nothing has gone wrong. Sadly we cannot promise to be able to exchange the full value of the card, it all depends on how many people go shopping with the cards – but we try our best.
- If you receive vouchers then the procedure is easier – Just come to us on Tuesday and we exchange the vouchers 1:1, meaning that you get the cash directly from us. Sadly here too though we cannot promise to be able to buy all the vouchers from

So that the exchanges do not always have to take place through us we also organize “Patenschaften”. These are people who will regularly exchange your cards / vouchers – they either go shopping with you or simply pick up the cards / vouchers from you directly. This has the advantage that the exchange does not have to always involve us. If you know other people who receive these cards or vouchers then tell them of our project and bring them along with you. You can also ask us for further leaflets – we have them in many different languages – and simply lay them out where you live.

We do not see ourselves as a humanitarian aid- organization but rather as a political initiative. One side of our work is the direct exchange of cards and vouchers, the other side is political actions aimed at getting rid of the racist asylum laws in Germany. In order to push politically for the abolition of the exchange system we organize informational public shopping actions to which you are always very welcome. At these events we openly exchange cards and vouchers and speak to the public in order to persuade them to join in. We see the most important part of these public events to be the political protest. Even if you only receive a small amount of cash it has a political meaning that as many people as possible come and protest.

See you soon, Your Initiative Against The Chip- Card System