

# Free the Warsaw Three

*Fanzine about the anarchists recently arrested in Warsaw*

July 2016, [resiste.squat.net](http://resiste.squat.net)

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## **Three anarchists were arrested by police in Warsaw, Poland, with the accusation of arson attempt on a police vehicle.**

*They will be held in custody from 3 to 6 months, waiting for trial, and they face up to 8 years of prison. The comrades denied being involved; one of them was seriously beaten by cops.*

The accusations are: possession of explosives and the intention to use them by setting police car on fire. They are called terrorists by police and media, despite the fact that the arson didn't actually take place. These accusations are quite serious - they face from 6 months to 8 years of jail. First hearings of the accused took place at District Prosecutor's Office on 24th May. Marks of tortures were visible on their bodies. On 25th May, during prosecution session at district court, prosecution decided to hold them in custody for three months (that might be automatically prolonged to 6 months). Since then, each of the three is detained in isolation, they had denied the right to communicate with relatives and during the first week of detention none of them had access to a lawyer.



Mass media in the service of the state reproduce authorities propaganda. Witch-hunt begun, creating mass hysteria and the image of the country threatened by terrorism. By doing this, the authorities and their collaborators are trying to justify the implementation of the new Anti-Terrorism Law. Significantly, just before the entry into force of the Act on 10th May, on 23rd May and 30th May in several Polish cities a series of false bomb alarms took place, leading to evacuation of sites such as the editorial office of the press and television, shopping mall and banks.

The wave of repression against the anarchist movement is rising. On May 23rd the police four times haunted one of Warsaw's collectives involved in fighting the developer industry and empowering the struggle for the food sovereignty. Since then, the collective is constantly harassed by uniformed visitors. In Krakow, they searched the apartment and questioned a person who has set up a social media site ridiculing with irony the inflated police accusations. In Warsaw information multiplies about police bothering people associated with the movement, and attempting surveillance of places that are important for the movement.

Almost at the same time, the police murder of Igor from Wroclaw took place. No way to find there an immediate response and outrage of the multitude of politicians, journalists, police officers and terrorism experts. Almost no journalist will even sigh, when cops kill a man. Yet police killings are only the tip of the iceberg. Extortion, beatings, unlawful protection of the interests of influential people - every year among the 16,000 complaints against the police, authorities recognize only 5 percent. As a result of years of media selectivity and omissions, the police feels impunity.

The witch-hunt atmosphere of the campaign against the broad anarchist movement is building consent for repression and surveillance targeting social movements, that are fighting against the most influential interest groups in this country. The anarchist movement has been active, among other, in workers, tenants, ecological,

anti-racist groups and the fight against land-grabbing. It acts without compromise for social justice, against the repression from business and political elites. Lack of social control over the police, for years allowed them to use uncontrolled violence against people fighting the system of violence in various fields.

What we need at this moment is the firm stance of solidarity with the arrested people and against upcoming attacks from the state! On July 2, in Warsaw, picket of solidarity with the arrested was held. We also count on your solidarity actions in other cities. You can also help in the collection of funds to pay the lawyers and to financially support detainees.

**We will not be intimidated**

**Free the Warsaw Three and all hostages of the state!**

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## **Irony about police behaviour provokes house search - Kraków**



The 28th May, at around 9.30 am, 4 policemen have searched the house of a member of the anarchist Federation and of the trade union "Inicjatywa Pracownicza" in Kraków.

Police says that he was calling people to do acts of terrorism by creating an event of facebook. The event was called "Beware, we have two plastic bottles and carton". The title is connected to the recent arrests of

3 warsaw anarchist. In this event members were publishing photos of constructions that are impossible to detonate, similar to that one that was supposedly found by police in Warsaw.

Cops didn't had a permission from court to prove their acts, nevertheless they did a search in the house of our college. They were looking for explosive materials, but the only one thing that they have found is a can with acrylic paint inside. They took his computer and mobile-phone.

The operations of police took place just to justify the need of a new anti terrorism law.

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## **The Polish government's project about anti terrorism law:**

### **1. Limited freedom of assembly**

Due to unclear definition of terrorist act or threat that will trigger special security procedures in the country, the government gain a powerful tool to ban public protests. The new provisions may be used to silence angry public. For example, in 2012 some government websites were hacked in the protest against ACTA, which could be seen as illegal act against public security. Had the new anti-terrorism law been in force at that time, this form of civic protest could have been treated as an act of terror and as such, could have been used to impose a ban on street protests.

### **2. Limited freedom of communication**

The law provides for an obligation to register all pre-paid phone cards (with national ID). This measure will be of little use in fighting serious crime, as it can be easily circumvented by a determined individual (especially

coming from abroad). However, it does limit the rights of journalists who want to protect their sources, and citizens, who have legitimate reasons to protect their privacy.



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### **3. Unlimited access to public databases for the Internal Security Agency**

According to the law, Internal Security Agency gain unlimited access to all public databases (e.g. social security database, municipal registers or fingerprints stored by the police), with no oversight mechanism.

### **4. All foreigners under suspicion**

The current standard of protection provided for foreigners that are subject to polish jurisdiction is drastically lowered: their phone calls might be wire-tapped without a court order and police might verify their fingerprints at any time. In a relatively ethnically homogeneous country like poland, this creates a huge risk of discrimination on the grounds of skin colour, nationality or ethnicity. Although these provisions seem to be directed at foreigners, everyone is affected as all communication with the person under surveillance is subject to this lower standard of protection.

### **5. Internet blocking on demand of Internal Security Agency**

Regulation provides for immediate blocking of the access to any Internet content on demand of the Chief of Internal Security Agency. Only after 5 days, a court will be supposed to verify whether the blocking demand was justified. People searching for instructions how to create an explosive material (usually well hidden from the broad public) will find it anyway, but once a filter checking all page requests is implemented, it might – and probably will be – used to block access to other types of content.

In addition to its controversial and unjustified provisions, this piece of legislation was to be adopted without any public consultations and has been pushed through the Parliament in less than a month, which by no means allowed for a reasonable public debate.

**We call for international solidarity actions and support !**

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## **About the three anarchists arrested in Warsaw**

*On the night of May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the police in Warsaw arrested three anarchists on charges of an alleged arson attempt of a police vehicle. The three were transferred to a remand prison where they are to be held in custody for three months, awaiting trial. They face up to 8 years in prison. Media frenzy broke out over the arrest in the past few days, with high-ranking politicians and experts on terrorism discussing the matter on TV. Photos and video reruns of the arrested walking with chains around their feet and hands are broadcast on public transportation. The text below is a translation of the statement that was sent out by various groups from the anarchist and wider social justice community in Poland, in response to these arrests.*

### **Open letter in connection with the arrest of three anarchists in Warsaw**

The mass media in Poland are releasing increasingly more absurd, one-sided reports about the arrest of three anarchists on Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. We interpret this as an attempt to intimidate and criminalize social justice movements in Poland.

As we write, Polish authorities are pushing for the so-called “Counter-



Terrorism Act” to enter into force by June 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. It is no coincidence that as we approach this date, the media and politicians are desperately searching to construct a reality in which this new law will seem absolutely necessary. Yet the step-by-step analyses of the police operation that neutralized the alleged arson attempt of a police car on the night of May 23<sup>rd</sup> stand in stark contrast to the media’s silence around other recent events, which challenge the image of “police heroes”. Just a few days before, the police in Wroclaw murdered Igor S., an unarmed man. Igor was beaten to death while in custody at the police station. In this case, righteous indignation on the part of politicians, media, police or terrorism experts is hard to find. Journalists prefer to safely turn their critical gaze in another direction when it comes to police brutality. But police killings are only the tip of the iceberg: extortion, beatings and the unlawful protection of the interests of the powerful are daily bread in Poland. Every year, among 16,000 complaints filed against the police only 5 percent is taken into consideration, while the rest is simply ignored. Due to media bias and omissions, the police have little fear of repercussions. It is safe to say that people are officially discouraged from filing complaints since they bring no effect. The truth is that only loud protests and upheavals have the power to prevent police violence from being quietly swept under the carpet. We must bear this in mind, as the media will not miss the opportunity to pave the way towards the greater expansion of police authority and to further reduce public control over the activities of these bodies of repression.

Today, the panic over an alleged, failed attempt to burn down a police car fabricates the consent necessary in order to pass a severe law that will allow for uncontrolled surveillance, a database of potential terrorism suspects, shoot-to-kill policies, martial law, the delimited right to public protest, and the profiling of migrants, Muslims in particular. This is legislation that will allow for unlimited police violence against all people. Today, irresponsible journalists use sensationalism associated with “terror” in an attempt to persuade those not yet convinced: even official political trends in Poland express doubts about the new “anti-terrorist” law.

The anarchist movement in Poland is active within groups of workers and tenants, in the environmental and anti-racism struggles, as well as in the fight against land-grabbing. It works without compromise towards social justice and against the oppression of business and political elites. The lack of public control over the police force has led to a tacit approval of uncontrolled brutality, on the part of police, against people opposed to systemic violence in various fields. More broadly, the atmosphere of a witch-hunt of the entire anarchist movement serves to build consent for the repression and surveillance of communities that challenge the most influential interest groups in this country.

Today, amidst the media reconstructions of the alleged arson attempt, the psychological profiles of the would-be arsonists and the press conferences, it is with great anger that we recall the lack of a similar reaction to the repressions of people fighting for our causes. When the tenant activist Jolanta Brzeska, who lived 50 meters from a police station, was repeatedly harassed and eventually assassinated in March 2011, we could not count on similar outrage from the political elite. There were no TV debates, expert opinions, or step-by-step accounts of how she was kidnapped and burned alive, like a witch. There were no psychological profiles made of the real-estate developer who harassed her; there were never even any murder suspects. Indeed, whenever attacks are made on social justice fighters, public opinion does not pay them any attention.



In contrast, a media storm explodes around an arson, which in fact, did not take place. The arrested anarchists

are being referred to as “terrorists”. This serves to enforce social acceptance of using physical and psychological violence against them now, while they are in custody. Their current state of health and physical appearance already testify to the fact that they are being tortured, with impunity.

To our friends and comrades: resist the panic spread by police and the media. The good authority, concerned with our safety, is merely an illusion. Ask: who benefits from this sort of writing of history? Does such a manipulative narration leave any reason to believe in a fair trial?

We will not be intimidated, nor will we cease our struggles for social justice; in spite of what is increasingly becoming a full-fledged police state.

To the media: until you have the courage to condemn many years of police violence, sustained by an excess of privileges and the entire state apparatus, your judgment of the imprisoned anarchists and your campaign against the whole anarchist movement will only ever serve to reveal your well-funded bias. There is no- and there never will be any- authority, business or church behind this movement. Our history is made of a thousand social struggles, about which many of you are too afraid to speak. Our history will survive any repression.

We stand in solidarity with the arrested and we call on all people to do the same.

Enough of a state founded on fear and police violence!

Kolektyw Syrena (The Syrena Collective)

Warszawskie Stowarzyszenie Lokatorów (The Warsaw Tenants' Association)

Kolektyw Przychodnia (The Przychodnia Collective)

Ruch Sprawiedliwości Społecznej (The Social Justice Group)

Kancelaria Sprawiedliwości Społecznej (The Social Justice Office)

Warszawska Federacja Anarchistyczna (The Warsaw Anarchist Federation)

Jedzenie Zamiast Bomb – sekcja Warszawa (Food Not Bombs – Warsaw section)

Antyfaszystowska Warszawa (Antifascist Warsaw)

ROD Kolektyw (The Radical Allotment Gardens Collective)

Codziennik Feministyczny (Feminist Newspaper )

161 Crew, Antyfaszystowski Konin (Konin Antifascist)

No Borders Warszawa

Stowarzyszenie Wolne Konopie (Free Cannabis Association)

Koniec Stagnacji (Against Stagnation)

Kolektyw Reaktor (Reactor Collective)

Squat RC10

## Chronology

Below current chronology of events related to the arrest of three anarchists, and in italics accompanying events that are shaping the media hysteria, helping with the introduction of new anti-terrorism law.

### May 23, 2016

According to the police version **3.30**, Warsaw, Poland, Włochy district: police arrest of three anarchists. They are accused of possession of explosives and attempting to use them – arson of a



police car.

**4.20**, Warsaw, ROD (Radical Allotment Gardens): 6 undercover cops break into the area of the Radical Allotment Gardens (pl.: ROD), searching the area without a court order, questioning residents, give conflicting reasons for intrusion.

**8.00**, Warsaw, Radicla Allotment Gardens: 2 uniformed officers demands admission into the ROD, withdraw when asked for a court order

**9.20**, Warsaw, Radical Allotment Gardens: 15 uniformed officers gets into the ROD because of one of the neighbors, write down those who are in the ROD, asking questions, they give conflicting reasons for intrusion.

**around 12:00**, Warsaw: Police searches home of one of the detainees (they comes with him). Our comrade has no visible injuries.

**15.00**, Warsaw, Radical Allotment Gardens: 5 police officers interviewing ROD residents, do not give reasons for intrusion.

**around 15:00**, Warsaw: Police searches the house of next detainee

**15.00**, Warsaw, *Plac Europejski 6*: The headquarters of Frontex, the EU border control agency is evacuated due to bomb alarm. At the same time a demo commemorating police murdered of Maxwell Itoya, in 2010, was planned. The demonstration is canceled and the alarm turns out to be false.

**around 17:00**, Warsaw: Police comes again to the house where they were at 12:00, this time without our comrade.

### **May 24, 2016**

Warsaw, Prosecutor's office: the first interrogation of detainees in the District Prosecutor's Office. Marks of beatings and torture are visible on their bodies. The lawyer is at place but he has no possibility of private talk with detainees.

### **May 25, 2016**

Warsaw, District Court: during prosecution session at the District Court, prosecution decided to hold detainees in custody for three months.

**15.00**, Warsaw: Press conference of the police, the first press articles that quote the words of a police spokesman that such actions "are not far from it, to call them acts of terror." In the press pictures detained, who has visible marks of beating on his face, is shown only from behind.

**18.00**, Warsaw, in front of Police Headquarters: press conference and statement of Warsaw anarchist collectives

### **May 26, 2016**

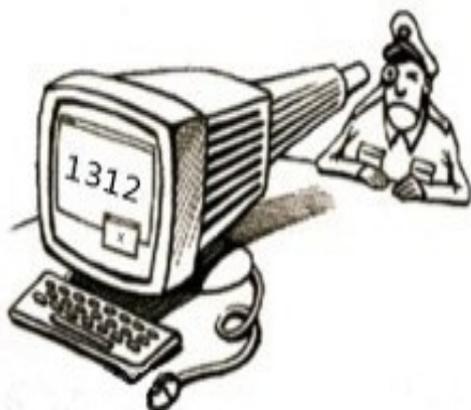
Warsaw: Statement of the Warsaw Anarchist Federation

### **May 27, 2016**

Poznań: Anarchist Federation sec. Poznań issued a statement on police brutality and arrest activists of the anarchist movement

The whole Poland: Open Letter regarding arrest of three anarchists in Warsaw <http://syrena.tk/>

*Olsztyn, Warsaw: false bomb alarms at the premises of TVP (national TV) and Radio Olsztyn, the editorial office of "Fakt" and "Przegląd Sportowy" newspapers, the seat of the Stock Exchange, the National Council for Radio and Television, TVP Wrocław.*



## **May 28, 2016**

**9.30**, Krakow: 4 police officers house search member of Anarchist Federation section Krakow and activist of the of the Workers' Initiative Trade Union, who created a facebook event called „Strzeżcie się. Mamy po 2 butelki i karton.” (“Beware. We have 2 bottles and a cardboard”) making irony on the arrest of three anarchists in Warsaw. Police claims that he promoted terrorism. Despite the absence of a warrant, police searched his house and took his mobile phone and computer.

## **May 30, 2016**

*A series of false bomb alarms, among others:*

*Katowice: Silesia City Center, customs, treasury Chamber, the Institute of National Remembrance, Prosecutor's Office, the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection and the Katowice branch of the General Directorate for National Roads and Motorways, offices at Korfantego Street, the seat of TVP Katowice;*

*Krakow: offices on Szczepanski Square, Galeria Kazimierz mall, Tesco at Kapelanka;*

*Gdańsk – District Prosecutor's Office in Pruszcz Gdanski and a nearby clinic, shopping center “Madison” Shopping Center “Cliff”;*

*Wroclaw: TVP Karkonoska av., tax chamber at Powstańców Śląskich, customs chamber at Herzena;*

*Warsaw: hotels and offices, including the OCCP and FRONTEX.*

## **June 2, 2016**

Warsaw, ROD policeman at the ROD, with a list of people noted on May 23, interrogating residents. Asked for the cause and the legal basis of intrusion he answers that he will come every week to check if everything is okay.

## **June 4, 2016**

Warsaw: commentary of several anarchists to recent events in Warsaw was published

## **June 8, 2016**

18.00, Wroclaw: picket- against the police state!

## **June, 14, 2016**

Warsaw, First interrogation after change the Prosecutor Office. From now National Prosecutor – Department of the organized crime and the corruption is dealing with the matter

## **June 18, 2016**

Warsaw, Syrena: 2 undercover cops gets into the Syrena squat, they withdraw unmasked by residents

## **June 20, 2016**

Poznań: Stop police violence! Picket at the court

## **July 2, 2016**

Warsaw: Soli-picket with the arrested in front of the prison

## **July 4, 2016**

Three arrested had been moved to the prison in Radom (other city in Poland). It means that they will have problems with the visits. Everyone had a plan to meet with family this week. Now family needs to apply for the visit again.



**4.00 am.** Biała Podlaska: police entered the area of independent space EŁ4. On 4th of July at 4:00 am two policemen tried to enter the area of independent space EŁ4 in Biała Podlaska. When they had come into the

building they started walking and searching. They wrote down the data of 4 people which had been at place and asked about different topics. This intervention was an hour long. We think that the invading of police is connected with political actions which had place at night 3rd-4th of July in Biała Podlaska.

**July 12, 2016**

*Central Bureau of Investigation (pol. Centralne Biuro Śledcze) informs about anti-terrorist action which had place in 12 cities in Poland. 14 people in custody, 3 of them with charges. The accusations are possession of explosives and drugs.*

### **Write to the prisoners**

At the moment contact with the arrested is difficult. You can send letters by e-mail to: **wawa3@riseup.net**, and we will deliver them when it is possible.

What we need now is the strong solidarity before next attacks against prisoners from the government! We hope in solidarity actions in other cities. You can also help by collective funds to pay lawyers or to help financially the arrested people.

**We will not be intimidated !**

Freedom for the 3 of Warsaw and all the prisoners of the State!

**We need solidarity actions!**

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If you want more information or you want to make a donation, visit:

**wawa3.noblogs.org**    and    **resiste.squat.net**

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