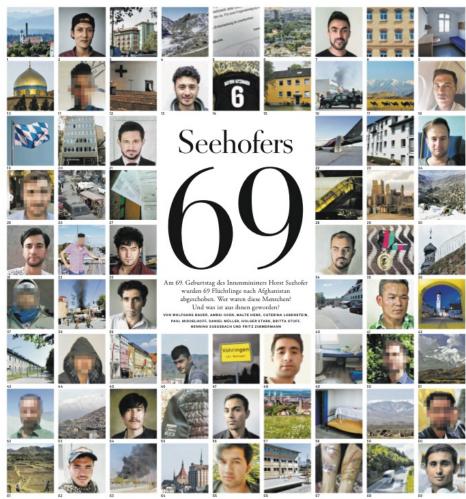
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"Seehofer's 69" Die Zeit

Assignment 6, deconstruct an investigation Erik Nordin, Nina Müller, Freyan Bosma

Content

- The press conference
- The idea
- The team
- The process
- The structure/storytelling
- The other challenges
- The Conclusion

The press conference

Horst Seehofer Secretary of the Interior

"Just on my 69th birthday, 69 people, that was not my order, were returned to Afghanistan. This is far beyond what has been usual."

(10th of July 2018)



The idea

Britta Stuff Editor and leader of the project

"People think that you have an agenda... If we just tell stories from the 69 people we don't have one. Let's just tell it like it is about these persons."



The idea

Daniel Müller Editor in the Investigative Department

"We wanted the readers to know that these are real people, not numbers."



The team

10 journalists from Die Zeit (3 full-time, the others part-time) with different backgrounds/departments:

- Politics
- Migration
- Investigative experience
- Afghanistan expertise
- Storytelling skills



1. Everything depended on finding the list!

- Took 3 weeks to find the list
- No luck in Germany
- Source in Afghanistan

2. Finding the people on the list

- Division into their residence states in Germany
- Division of the 69 on the list among the team (approx. 8 refugees per journalist)
- Personal details of the 69 refugees:
 - -Name (challenge: identify everybody → up to 190 people with the same name)
 - -Date of birth
 - -Place of birth



"From the bottom of my journalistic heart: it was a real pain in the ass." (Daniel Müller)

3. Structuring the material

- Narrowing down the people into groups
 (integrated, segregated, convicted, mentally ill, addicted, etc.)
- Evaluating the most interesting cases

The structure/storytelling

"With so many reporters involved and people to find, it was a nightmare."

(Britta Stuff)

The structure/storytelling

Britta set up principles for the article

(to create a coherent storyline and not to confuse the readers):

- From each group featuring one case in depth
- Name everybody of the 69, but only once
- Not naming anybody else (e. g. sources), except Horst Seehofer and the 69

The structure/ storytelling

13. SEPTEMBER 2018 DIE ZEIT N° 38





en in der Provinz einst gefichen aus Kundus 27. Ries H., zurückgelassene Unterlagen 28. Milad M., Ruggast- zwe Ausbildungen ab 51. Destagir S., wie viele afghanische Arybewerber aus der Provinz 6. Walir S., Germann S., Germann S., Germann S., Germann S., Germann S., Barrell M., Burn Fellertun S., Marcel K., Selfe aux Adjananton S.J. Jameshid A., Burn Paperen iffic A. and in der verdem in Konar St. Asien D. welte eigenfelch Maler verden 32. Neural N. wurde bei der Bermann in der affahrenzehen Hauptstadt Kabul SA. Amir J. nahm ein deutsches Lahrbuch für g son Leistungen sichtigung seiner neuer Flüchfingsunterkunft fertgenommen 22. Abdul 5. machte in Deutsch- Gleichneit mit nach Afghanisten 55. Hedayst G. leiß diese Jacke bei seiner Freundin in The state of the s in die inzeitche 4L Allabyar Y., ein Flüchtlegsheiter in Beitrathausen bevohrt zein Fahrrad auf 42. Sehab Z. Rostock abgeschoben 45. Ahread A. hatte einen unbefristeten Arbeitzvertrag 65. Majan A. indistand Bayers with the zuletzt in Krumbach 42. Sayed J. war untergekommen in der Münchner Bayernkasser- lebte in der Uhrerkunft Geretzeiled und ist psychisch krank 62. Navid A. verletzte sich selbst wegen terssellen no 44. Zehöblish S. drohte mit Suzi d 45. Gardel Z. lötte in Fürsterfoldbruck 46. Hamed A. 69. Arman H. betrat deutschen Boden erstmalt auf einer Autobahn be München, gemeinsen Blick auf die Ab- von Berufsschüler in Wasserburg am im 47. Mahmoud E., am 3. Juli abgeholt aus seiner Un- mit seiner schwangeren Schwerter 69. Minagha M. war Torvert des Refugee Teams Bamberg

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The other challenges

- Time pressure (the Bavarian election)
- Summer time/holidays
- Aim: finding at least 60 of the 69, found the last persons in the last hours before publication
- Size of the article (4 pages)
- "A lot of smoke, but no smoking gun"

Conclusion

"Deportation is not a joke." (Britta Stuff)

What we like:

- They found everybody
- They managed to show various facets of the topic
- They gave an insight into the execution of a deportation
- → A basic idea which lead to a powerful investigative story.