

[BACKUP COPY]

<http://www.presseurop.eu/fr/content/news-brief-cover/350821-repression-policiere-contre-de-braves-citoyens>

press europ

Social

Allemagne

« Répression policière contre de "braves citoyens" »

[Police repression against good citizens]

[French summary of an article published by the German language-edition of the FINANCIAL ZTMES]

01 octobre 2010 [Financial Times Deutschland](#) Hambourg

"*Les chrétiens-démocrates ciblent le centre*" titre le *Financial Times Deutschland* le jour où la presse entière s'offusque de la répression violente par la police d'une manifestation pacifique contre le projet dit "Stuttgart 21". Les quelque 1 000 manifestants, dont nombre de conservateurs, voulaient perturber l'abattage de 300 arbres du parc de Stuttgart (dont le gouvernement est chrétien-démocrate), première étape avant la construction d'une immense gare souterraine. Le projet est contesté à coups de manifestations depuis des mois. Mais le 30 septembre, la situation a dégénéré : face à une foule qui entonnait l'hymne national allemande – fait rarissime dans le pays – la police a sorti les canons à eau et les gaz lacrymogènes blessant environ 400 personnes. Pour le *FTD*, l'Etat a commis une grave erreur politique en se montrant intransigeant et risque ainsi la radicalisation des "*braves citoyens*".

“*The Christian Democrats take on the middle of society*, was the title of an article in FINANCIAL TIMES DEUTSCHLAND on the day when the entire press focused on the violent repression of a peaceful demonstration against a project called Stuttgart 21 undertaken by the police.”

The article notes that among tens of thousand of demonstrators that took to the streets in Stuttgart on September 30, 2010, **about one thousand specifically attempted to block access for crews ready to cut down trees illegally in the Schloss-Park.**

An injunction sought against DEUTSCHE BAHN (GERMAN RAILWAY, INC.) by BUND (the German Federation for the PROTECTION OF NATURE AND THE ECOLOGY) failed to achieve its end in court that day because DEUTSCHE BAHN withheld a letter or fax which it had received on that day from the supervising authority, the EISENBAHNBUNDESAMT (FEDERAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY). The supervising authority expressly forbade the felling of the trees which had been placed years ago under legal protection for ecological reasons.

In the night of Sept. 25, the first 25 trees (out of about 300 that must go, according to DEUTSCHE BAHN) were felled.

About two weeks later, the ADMINISTRATIVE COURT (VERWALTUNGSGERICHT) decided that the tree-cutting action undertaken for DEUTSCHE BAHN, an action that was made possible by the police violence against peaceful demonstrators, among them 7-year-olds and 12-years-olds engaging in a peaceful sit-in, was illegal at the time.

DEUTSCHE BAHN was critiqued by the court for withholding the crucial document.

The report published by THE FINANCIAL TIMES about police repression of a middle-class demonstration in Stuttgart contradicts police reports that 100 people were injured. According to THE FINANCIAL TIMES, the correct figure is 400.