

**vienna
2018**



summer university

Program English

**A Dialogue
for Progress
in Europe**

EuropeanLEFT
transform!
europe

welcome!

I would like to welcome you at our this year's Summer University in Austria! The Party of the European Left (EL) is a political



Party at the European level that was formed in 2004. Member, Observer and Partner parties of the EL are socialist, communist, red-green and other democratic left parties. At the moment, the

EL has 38 Members, Observers and Partners from 25 different countries. Their basic principles and political aims are laid down in the EL Manifesto from 2004.

This year is the 200th anniversary of Karl Marx, one of the sharpest analysts of capitalist forms of production. Marx fought for a future, a hope that can drive us, „... to overthrow all conditions in which man is a degraded, enslaved, abandoned and contemptible being“. In this sense, we want to invite you at this year's Summer University to debates on various topics and an intensive dialogue for a progressive Europe.

Gregor Gysi

President of the European Left

Dear comrades,

I am pleased to welcome you to our Summer University in the name of transform! europe in my hometown Vienna. transform! europe is a network of 31 institutes, associations and journals from 21 countries, inside and outside the EU, recognized by the European Left as its associated think tank.



As every year, the Summer University will provide a framework for diverse and open debates on the issues that concern the radical left in Europe. We believe that this is of particular relevance at the present time, when European integration has entered a crisis that cannot be resolved on the basis of the neoliberal and technocratic policies still employed by the European elites.

We believe that in view of the world wide advance of nationalist and right-wing parties, for which Austria is unfortunately an example, the solidarity and unity of the left are of particular importance. In this sense, I wish all of us fruitful debates and stimulating beautiful days in Vienna.

Walter Baier

Political Coordinator, transform! europe

self-emancipation Against political Fatalism



By Elisabeth Gauthier | 12. March 2014

If, according to enquiries, interest in politics has not diminished in France, on the other hand the crisis of confidence has taken on unprecedented dimensions. A sense of powerlessness is taking the place of 'they're all rotten'. What is felt is the absence of political power in the face of the great economic powers, but also a deficit of political will. Politics is increasingly less perceived as a solution or as a lever for changing things. Anger, protest, although real, find it difficult to locate their target.

The state appears, using the words of our German friends, to belong to 'others'. According to an Ipsos-Steria poll

of January 2014, in France only 27 % trust the Senate, 28 % the National Assembly, and 31 % the European Union. National institutions and EU institutions are equally affected.

‘Political fatalism’ takes its place alongside ‘crisis fatalism’. It is clearly very great in France where the political involvement of the popular classes has historically constituted an important dimension of class confrontation.

Despite the differences, today there is strong criticism of the system in the three countries studied – Germany, Greece, and France. But this does not ‘naturally’ lead to the presentation of another possible, credible alternative, a feasible transformation. This question is essential. How do we modify the representations of reality and promote a ‘power of interpretation’, which is indispensable for getting one’s bearings, for representing an alternative possibility, for uniting, and for reappropriating social and political intervention?

In Greece, in the confrontation with the Troika, the banks and the national government, in a context of an acute humanitarian crisis, and with a political force (SYRIZA) in the picture capable of representing, in the long term and coherently, an alternative choice –

there the perception of who is responsible is less confused, and the need for a political change appears more clearly. The economy and politics are called into question simultaneously. In Germany, on the other hand, we see a kind of re-legitimation of the market economy since 2010. In Germany and France, in waging their ideological battle, the dominant forces dispose of a larger margin than in Greece.

To build a left strategy to face the crisis of politics requires the audacity to innovate. If the deficit of political power and will deprives citizens of the levers they need for changing the direction of things, one of the central questions is how to reappropriate politics, how to de-alienate it. If more than three-quarters of the French population think that government policies are not concerned with them, they also think that their choices and their actions as citizens can change society and political life. Being aware of this potential for engagement can help us in opening up breaches. The erosion of democracy is twofold: An oligarchy is increasingly appropriating powers, and the people, conscious of its loss of sovereignty, are gradually losing interest in the res publica. The transformational left needs to be up to this challenge. The confrontation over democracy becomes an essential aspect. Citizens' involvement, 'power to the people', is what we have always said, and not-

hing is more right and more modern. Simple participation in processes that remain external to the participants is not enough when the crisis of politics reaches today's levels. Nor is it enough to ask the voters to give their mandate to future elected officials to represent them in the institutions. If the state today is seen as the state of 'the others', the mandate has to consist in changing the institutions, giving meaning back to them, and making them function in the common interest. This presupposes a new relationship between the voter, the elected official, and the institutions.

The paths that make it possible for citizens to become the protagonists themselves and master the political processes, are still to be determined. This requires an original and bold reflection on the evolution of parties and trade unions, on the role of elected officials when the goals consists of promoting the self-emancipation of the masses (Rosa Luxemburg) or, using today's vocabulary, of the citizens.

The article L'auto-émancipation contre le fatalisme politique was published in French by L'Humanité on 14 February 2014.

Translation into English: Eric Canepa

Program

Every Plenary is translated in english (EN), french (FR) and german (DE). Also one seminar of each Seminar time slot.

Wednesday 11. July

Opening: (18.00 – 20:00)

Welcome speeches from

Mirko Messner (Chairman of the Communist Party Austria) and Gregor Gysi (President of the European Left)

Inauguration:

In memory of Elisabeth Gauthier:
Austrian French Woman and Citizen
of the World.

Presentation of a text with comments
by Chantal Delmas (PCF) and Barbara
Steiner (transform!europe)

Concert: Aron Quartet

Break

Open space for workshop ideas and
first meeting for organizing "youth
track"

Dinner (20:00)

Thursday 12 of July

“Europe’s Role in A Globalized World”

Plenary 1 (10.00 – 11.45):

„Marxism / Feminism – Today“

Gregor Gysi (European Left President)

Gabriele Michalitsch (University of Vienna)

*Moderation: Barbara Steiner (trans-
form!europe)*

Seminars (12.00 – 14.00):

a) Europe and the Mediterranean basin

Natasa Theodorakopoulou
(SYRIZA, Greece)

*Elias Demetriou (International Relations
Bureau AKEL, Cyprus)*

Ghassan Saliba Zeghondi
(Communist Party of Lebanon)

Moderation:
Roberto Morea (transform!europe)

// translated EN FR DE //

b) Resisting NATO expansion and aggression:

*Inna Shupac (Party of Communists of the
Republic of Moldova)*

Volodymir Ishchenko
(Center of Social Research, Kiev)

Erhard Crome (RLF Berlin)

Moderation:
Natascha Wanek (KPÖ, Austria)

c) Resisting the new round of arms race and cold war in Europe

Claudia Haydt (Die Linke, Germany)

Maite Mola (Vice-President of the EL)

Antero Eerola (Left Alliance, Finland)

*Moderation: Attila Vajnai (Workers' Party
of Hungary 2006)*

d) The Times Are A-Changing: 68/69 in US, France, Germany, Italy, Scandinavia and UK

Introduction by Gérard Streiff (PCF, historian and editor of Cause Commune)

*Short intervention of 7-8 minutes:
Inger V. Johansen (RGA, Denmark)*

*Tatiana Moutinho
(cult:tra, transform!europe, Portugal)*

Franco Russo (Italy)

Makis Kavouriaris (Greece)

*Moderation: Pablo Livigni (Espaces Marx,
transform!europe, France)*

Lunch break (14.00 – 16.00)

Plenary 2 (16.00 – 18.00):

„Elements of an Alternative Concept vis-à-vis the Militarisation of the European Union European“

Dagmar Enkelmann, (RLF)

Maite Mola (EL Vice President)

*Moderation : Josiane Durrieu (PCF,
France)*

Evening Event and dinner (20.00):

„Music and solidarity with the Left forces in Latin America“

*Maite Mola (Vice-President of the EL)
Cuban Embassy (TBC)*

Friday 13. July

"Social Justice: A European Concept of Economic, Ecological and Social Convergence"

Plenary 3 (10.00 – 11.45):

"Towards a European Plan for Economic, Social and Ecological Recovery"

Rosalía Martín Escobar (Member of the Federal Working group on Women of IU,

Spain)

Pascal Cherki (Génération-s, France)

Giorgos Katrougalos (Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs, Greece)

Luka Mesec (Levica, Slovenia)

Moderation:

Paolo Ferrero (EL Vice President)

Seminars (12.00 – 14.00)

a) Different Scenarios of the Future of the Monetary Union

Kenneth Haar (CEO)

Marika Frangakis (SYRIZA, Greece)

Steffen Lehndorff

(University of Duisburg, Germany)

Moderation:

Roland Kulke (transform!europe)

// translated EN FR DE //

b) A radical agenda for social and gender appropriate energy transition.

Manuela Kropp (assistant MEP, Die Linke)

Gitte Pedersen (RGA, Denmark)

Pablo Torija (Podemos, Spain)

Moderation:

Jean Claude Simon (transform!europe)

Lunch break (14.00 – 16.00)

Seminars (16.00 – 18.00):

a) Europe, China and the New Silk Road

Josef Baum, (transform!europe)

Giorgos Katrougalos (Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs, Greece)

Moderation: TBC

// translated EN FR DE //

b) "The Simple That Is Hard To Achieve" : 68/69: CSSR, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Poland

Gáspár Miklós Tamás (Philosopher, Former member of the Academy of Science, Hungary) / Jiří Hudeček (SDS, Czech Republic) / Filip Balunivic (Political Scientist, Serbia) / Moderation: Dagmar Svendova (transform!europe)

Different City tours offered (15.00 – 18.00)

Meeting point at 14.45 in front of the Seminar house / Europahaus

Dinner at Brick 5 (Entry 18:00)

19:00 Performance inspired by Bertolt Brechts FLÜCHTLINGSGESPRÄCHEN („refugee talks“, 1940) with Eva Brenner & Team from FLEISCHEREI_mobil (German with English introduction)

19.30 Dinner

20:30 Viennese Music

** don't forget your drink coupons*

Saturday 14. July

"Appropriation, Participation and Democracy"

Plenary 4 (10.00 – 11.45):

"Can we re-appropriate Europe as a Common?" – How to re-appropriate Europe as one Dimension of Initiatives to reclaim a Social Justice, Ecological Sustainability and Democracy?

Renato Soeiro

(Bloco de Esquerda, Portugal)

Walter Baier (transform!europe)

Iniciativa per Catalunya Verds (TBC)

Moderation: (TBC)

Seminars (12.00 – 14.00):

a) Right wing populism and the far Right in Europe

Antoine de Cabanes

(transform!europe, Espace Marx, France)

Gabriele Michalitsch (University of Vienna)

Joanna Gwiazdecka

(RLF of Prague, Poland)

Joseph Healy (Left Unity, UK)

Moderation: Roberto Musacchio

(Alta Europa con Tsipras, Italy)

b) A Dialog among the Left about Strategies, Democracy and possible Allies

Makis Kavouriaris (Greece)

Conny Hildebrandt (RLF Berlin, transform!europe)

Waltraud Fritz (KPÖ, Austria)

Iniciativa per Catalunya Verds (TBC)

Moderation: Angelina Giannopoulou

(transform!europe, NPI)

SEMINAR WITH TRANSLATION EN, FR, DE

Lunch break (14.00 – 16.00)

Seminars (16.00 – 18.00):

a) “Under the pavement lies the beach” 68/69: The Awakening of a New Feminism in the aftermath of 68

Heidi Ambrosch (transform!europe)

Alba Gutiérrez (Ezker Anitza, Spain)

Rosa Rinaldi

(Rifondazione Comunista, Italy)

Moderation: Gitte Pedersen

(RGA, Denmark)

// translated EN FR DE //

b) Transformation processes and Authoritarian Neoliberalism in Eastern Europe

Veronika Susova Salminen

(Finland / Czech Republic)

Attila Vajnai

(Workers' Party of Hungary 2006)

Moderation:

Andreas Günther (RLF, New York)

Closing Event (18.30)

Sunday 15. July

Departure day

**Take part on Social Media!
#SummerUniversity**



Mainstation

*Trains to Hütteldorf (Europahaus)
Metro U1 to Karlsplatz, then further
with Metro U4 to Hütteldorf*

Sommerhotel Wieden

Schelleingasse 36, 1140 Vienna

Brick 5 (Friday Evening Event)

*Herklotzgasse 21, 1150 Vienna
Station Margareten Gürtel, Metro U4*

Europahaus (Main Venue)

Linzer Str. 429, 1140 Vienna

Train Station Hütteldorf

Trains to Main Station / Westbahnhof

Metro U4 to City

Bus to Europahaus

49A / 50A to „Wolfersberggasse“

Hostel Hütteldorf

Schloßberggasse 8, 1130 Vienna



