

Two years after the first ‘Another Road for Europe’ forum, the **European Progressive Economists Network (euro-pen)** in cooperation with **Alter Summit** invites civil society organisations, social movements, networks, trade unions and political forces to a discussion at the European Parliament in Brussels on the ways out of the European crisis

European Progressive Economists Network Forum

Another Road for Europe

End austerity, control finance, expand democracy

19 March 2014

European Parliament ■ Brussels

Place du Luxembourg

Building Altiero Spinelli, Room ASP 1G-2

Participant organisations

The European Progressive Economists Network (euro-pen) members:

EuroMemorandum, Economistes Atterrés, Sbilanciamoci!, Transnational Institute, EconoNuestra, Econosphères, Transform!, Beigewum, Critical Political Economy Network

Other organisations

AlterSummit/Joint Social Conference, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), FIOM-CGIL, Corporate Europe Observatory, Nicos Poulantzas Institute

On the eve of the European elections in May 2014 Europe is faced with the prospect of economic stagnation, rising inequality and a growing divide between the countries of the centre and the periphery while democratic processes continue to be undermined at all levels. The dominant rhetoric on the European elections is currently polarised between the neo-liberal argument for austerity on the one hand and an anti-European populism on the other. We believe there is another road for Europe; a Europe of democracy, of social rights, of ecological sustainability and of employment for all. There are a wide range of social and political initiatives that have been working for a different Europe. Economic policy alternatives have been put forward by the organisations involved in the European Progressive Economists Network and in the context of the forthcoming European elections we want to

open a discussion with social movements and trade unions about the policy changes that are necessary for promoting another road for Europe. These proposals will be presented at a Forum at the European Parliament on 19 March 2014 engaging progressive European political forces in a debate about the future of a democratic Europe. The meeting will be organised around two main sessions, one on Macroeconomic Policies and Finance and the other on Employment and Environmental Policies, and a round table on Democracy. Each session will be introduced by speakers from civil society organisations and experts’ networks who will summarise the proposals that have emerged on each topic, opening up a discussion with activists, representatives of different political forces and Members of the European Parliament. The aim is to contribute to the emergence of shared proposals for alternative policies at the

European and national levels. Participants will include a wide range of civil society organisations, networks, trade unions, experts and intellectuals, as well as the progressive political forces in the European Parliament. The event will take place in English. The event is hosted by Gianni Pittella, Vice President of the European Parliament, with the participation of the political groups Socialists & Democrats, European United Left/Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL) and The Greens/European Free Alliance.

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9.00 Building Altiero Spinelli, Room ASP 1G-2

Opening:

Gianni Pittella Vice President of the European Parliament

Susan George Transnational Institute

9.15-10:30

1. Confronting finance, ending austerity and the future of the euro

Members of euro-pen and affiliate organisations (10 min. each):

John Grahl EuroMemorandum

Henri Sterdyniak Economistes Atterrés, France

Elena Papadopoulou Nicos Poulantzas Institute, Greece

Felipe van Keirsbilck Alter Summit

Erik Wesselius Corporate Europe Observatory

Jordi Angusto, EconoNuestra

Members of the European Parliament and political forces (7 min. each):

Stefano Fassina Italian MP, Partito Democratico (former deputy economic minister)

Jürgen Klute GUE/NGL MEP from Die Linke, Germany

Giulio Marcon Italian MP, Sinistra Ecologia Libertà (SEL)

Liêm Hoàng Ngoc Socialists and Democrats MEP from Parti Socialiste, France

Discussion

10.45-12.00

2. Creating jobs for a sustainable & just economy

Members of euro-pen and affiliate organisations (10 min. each):

Andrea Baranes Sbilanciamoci!, Italy

Luciana Castellina former MEP

Benjamin Coriat Economistes Atterrés, France

Ronald Janssen ETUC

Stefano Maruca FIOM-CGIL, Italy

Sigfrido Ramirez, Transform !

Members of the European Parliament and political forces (7 min. each):

Giorgio Airaudo Italian MP, Sinistra Ecologia Libertà (SEL)

Elisa Ferreira Socialists and Democrats MEP from Partido Socialista, Portugal

Sven Giegold Green MEP from Die Grünen, Germany

Willy Meyer GUE/NGL MEP from Izquierda Unida, Spain

Giovanni Paglia Italian MP, Sinistra Ecologia Libertà (SEL)

Lukas Vesely member of the cabinet of László Andor, Commissioner for Employment

Discussion

12.00-12.30

round table discussion

3. Democracy in Europe and economic alternatives

Chair: **Mario Pianta** euro-pen

Nicholas Chountis GUE/NGL MEP from SYRIZA, Greece

Monica Frassoni co-chair of the European Green Party

Cecilia Gondard Socialists and Democrats representative from Parti Socialiste, France and member of the Global Progressive Forum

14.30-17.30

euro-pen workshop

at the European Parliament Paul-Henri Spaak Building Room PHS 1C051

Strategies and initiatives for another Europe

Discussion among the participants and other civil society groups on common initiatives in view of the European elections, sharing of experiences and launch of the euro-pen website.



IMPORTANT: REGISTRATION AND ACCESS

Participants and speakers have to register in order to have access to the European Parliament.

To avoid delays, registered attendees must show up for entry at the Altiero Spinelli Building no later than 8.15.

All participants MUST REGISTER by 13 March 2014 by sending an e-mail to info@euro-pen.org with the following information:

1. Name and surname
2. Date of birth
3. Country of residence and address
4. Number of a valid document (passport, national ID, etc.) and date of expiration.