



transform!
europe

◀ **MARX** 2019

**//climate change and the
end of capitalism//**

**Reclaiming ideological and programmatic
hegemony: The role of radical left political
foundations in Europe**



transform! european network for alternative thinking and political dialogue

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IMPRINT

2019



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transform! europe is partially financed through a subsidy from the European Parliament.

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Layout: sanja.at e.U.

Cover illustration: marxconf.org

Reclaiming ideological and programmatic hegemony: The role of radical left political foundations in Europe

Although it is increasingly obvious that neoliberal capitalism is responsible for the catastrophic climate change and the increase of poverty and inequalities in Europe and the world, people either do not react, or are attracted by authoritarian, nationalist and extreme right discourses. Political education of radical left party members, activists of social movements, trade-unionists and, in a broader sense, society as a whole is an important weapon in the necessary fight of emancipatory forces for regaining hegemony in the field of ideas. Representatives of five European radical left and marxist think tanks (the Swedish Center for Marxist Social Studies, the French Espaces Marx, the Portuguese foundation Cul:tra, the Greek Nicos Poulantzas Institute, the German Rosa Luxemburg Foundation) and the European network *transform! europe* discuss their own experiences among themselves and with the public and trace a road for a closer future cooperation.

Facilitation: **Haris Golemis** (*transform! europe*)

Giuseppe Cugnata (Espaces Marx, France), **Danai Koltsida** (Nikos Poulantzas Institute, Greece), **Jenny Lindahl** (Center for Marxist Social Studies, Sweden), **Tatiana Moutinho** (Cul:tra, Portugal), **Katharina Pühl** (Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Germany), **Barbara Steiner** (*transform! europe*)

Room: **SANDLER: Saturday 26.10. Period 3 [14:15-15:45]**



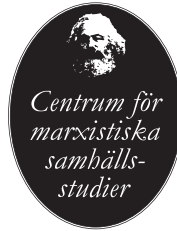
transform! europe is a network for alternative thinking and political dialogue, established in 2001 and presently consisting of 37 European radical left organisations from 23 countries. Since 2008 it has been the recognised political foundation of the Party of the European Left (EL). It is funded by the European Parliament and its members and observers' contributions and donations.

transform! europe is committed to the values of democracy and social transformation at the national, European and international levels. It critically examines all issues related to the EU and European integration in general with the aim of providing spaces for free and unprejudiced discussion of democratic alternatives to pave the way towards a democratically and peacefully united social Europe.

The members of the *transform!* network coordinate their scientific and educational work, cooperatively organise theoretical and educational events and discussions (lectures, seminars, workshops, conferences, etc.) regarding key issues for the democratic left in Europe and the world, and work together on publications and educational materials aimed at a dialogue within the left and its scientific and educational institutions. Its publications include an annual Yearbook, an electronic newsletter and various e-papers, e-brochures, and e-dossiers. For more detailed information please see *transform!*'s website (www.transform-network.net)

transform! europe is directed by a Board elected by its Annual Members' Assembly for a period of two years. The Board elects its Political Coordinator and appoints its Treasurer, Directors, and Scientific and Strategic Advisor. Six staff members are employed in the coordinating office in Vienna and one each in Athens, Brussels, Paris, Porto, and Rome.

office@transform-network.net



The Swedish Center for Marxist Social Studies, CMS, is a foundation established in 1977 on the initiative of the Left Party. The Left Party is the principal funder of the foundation, but CMS has autonomy and works with researchers and intellectuals of the broader left.

The purpose of the foundation is to promote research, investigative work, and studies regarding the historical development of society, contemporary conditions, and future development trends. The purpose of the CMS is to support such activities based on a Marxist scientific outlook and to connect the academic debate with political movements and organisations, allowing scholarship, studies, and the pursuit of knowledge to enrich the left at all levels.

The foundation is directed by a central board that employs one part-time secretary. Independent local member associations work in Umeå, Norrköping, Uppsala, Malmö/Lund, Göteborg, and Stockholm. The local associations organise lectures, debates, and seminars and conduct study activities. They work to promote a broad and vibrant left debate rooted in the Marxist tradition and to create open meeting places where research can interact with the local political culture. Among its activities are the tri-annual Marx Conference in Stockholm, the researchers network that exchanges findings, theses, and essays, the Salong Marx gatherings, the numerous study circles, lectures and seminars, cultural events and debates, and even the occasional party.

Over the years, a large number of researchers and intellectuals have participated in the CMS's activities, and the Center has come to be highly regarded in both the academic field and the broad left. Lectures from certain events have been published in book form or in the journal CMS previously published by CMS.

CMS is a founding member of the *transform! europe* Network

cms@cmsmarx.org

www.cmsmarx.org



cul:tra

COOPERATIVA CULTURA TRABALHO E SOCIALISMO

CULTURES OF LABOUR AND SOCIALISM, PORTUGAL

Cul:tra – Cooperativa Culturas do Trabalho e Socialismo (*Cooperative Cultures of Labour and Socialism*) is an organisation without a professional staff, the activities being organised by its more than 70 members.

Cul:tra belongs to the political sphere of Bloco de Esquerda, with two founding members, Fernando Rosas and Francisco Louçã, also being founding members of the party, and another founding member the current party leader, Catarina Martins. Nonetheless, this is an organisationally and politically autonomous organisation.

From 2009 onwards, Cul:tra began to develop, organise, and stage, on a regular basis, different types of cultural and political activities. These include debates, seminars, conferences, workshops, courses, exhibitions, publications, and cultural events (such as movie showings, theatre, or concerts) around themes that relate to the world and the culture of contemporary labour, history, economics, and politics, both at the national and international levels. All these activities are open to the general public and are projected to the broadest possible audiences.

Many of the activities presented up to now were done not only in partnership with several different national collectives, organisations, and institutions (ranging from social movements, universities, trade unions, publishing houses, and cultural agents) but also had frequent support from important international organisations (namely *transform! europe*, la Fec – Fundacion por la Europa dos Ciudadanos, and the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation).

Cul:tra joined *transform! europe* in 2007

info@cultra.pt



ESPACES MARX – EXPLORER, CONFRONTER, INNOVER, FRANCE

Espaces Marx is a French political think tank primarily engaged in theoretical reflection and sociological research, founded in 1995 as an association within the framework of the French Communist Party. President is Yann Le Lann and director Hugo Touzet. It is based in Paris and it has several local offices all over France.

It aims to contribute to the production and dissemination of research and ideas on the themes of human emancipation and social progress, based on current Marxist theories and more broadly on the richness of different critical theories.

Its activities are mainly addressed to researchers, political activists, associations, trade unions and students and are carried out in the form of academic research and studies, book publications, conferences, seminars.

In 2019 *Espaces Marx* has promoted the following workshops:

- “Mondialité culturelle : vers une insécurité heureuse?”
- “Les arts-de-vivre post-capitalistes”

Since October 2018, *Espaces Marx* has been involved in different activities in cooperation with the research collective “*Quantité Critique*”. In particular those organizations have carried out two main studies: one on the yellow vest movement, the other on the protests of young people for the climate, trying to analyse, from a Marxist perspective, the socio-economic profile of the masses that have joined these movements, their modes of action, their claims, their degree of politicisation and consciousness.

Espaces Marx is a founding member of the *transform! europe* Network within which it has carried out several projects and initiatives.

The activities of *Espaces Marx* are carried out by staff members and volunteers.

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NICOS POULANTZAS INSTITUTE

GENERAL INFORMATION

The **Nicos Poulantzas Institute (NPI)** was founded in 1997 on the initiative of the political party Synaspismos, today SYRIZA – also its main shareholder. It is a political, theoretical, and research institute, a non-profit institution managed by the Assembly of its shareholders and a Board that consists of academics, politicians, and activists of the left.

NPI aims at fostering left values, systematically developing an awareness of contemporary social, ecological, political, and cultural issues, and exploring the emerging changes within society. It seeks to contribute to scientific research and theory, and to social change, as well as to the political programme of the radical and ecological left and its cadres.

ACTIVITIES

- Organisation of research programmes, seminars, conferences, lectures, workshops, festivals, and other types of events that cover a wide spectrum of issues.
- Publication and distribution of books, special brochures, and audiovisual material focusing on the Institute's activities and other issues of broader theoretical, political, or policy importance.
- Political education and seminars for SYRIZA cadres, members of SYRIZA Youth, MPs, elected officials in local government, trade-unionists, and others.

Apart from the volunteer work of its members, NPI's work is mainly carried out either by its permanent staff or those working on specific projects in various fields of political and social sciences, economy, philosophy, history, art, etc.

NPI is a founding member of the *transform! europe* Network

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www.poulantzas.gr



The Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung is one of the six major political foundations in the Federal Republic of Germany, tasked primarily with conducting political education both at home and abroad. The Stiftung is closely linked to Die Linke, the German Left Party.

Since its founding in 1990, the Stiftung's work has adhered to the legacy of its namesake, German socialist leader Rosa Luxemburg, and seeks to represent democratic socialism with an unwavering internationalist focus. The Stiftung is committed to a radical perspective emphasizing public awareness, enlightenment and social critique. It stands in the tradition of the workers' and women's movements, as well as anti-fascism and anti-racism.

Based on the firm belief that social change requires a reflective confrontation with today's capitalist society as a whole, the Stiftung strives to develop alternative concepts and approaches for a comprehensive process of social transformation enabling the creation of a more united and just society. Education and training in democratic socialist politics, analysis, information and policy advice are therefore the Stiftung's basic tasks, which we pursue and implement at the regional, national and international levels.

The Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung aims to:

Organize political education, provide a venue for critical analysis of contemporary capitalism serve as a forum in Germany and abroad fostering dialogue between socialist forces, movements and organizations, left-minded intellectuals and non-governmental organizations, grant funding to young scholars via undergraduate and doctoral scholarships and support initiatives for peace and international understanding towards a socially just and solidary world

RLF is a founding member of the *transform! europe* Network

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www.rosalux.de

transform! Members and Observers

Austria

transform!at
www.transform.or.at

Institute of Intercultural Research and Cooperation (IIRC)
www.latautonomy.org

Cyprus

Research Institute PROMITHEAS*
www.inep.org.cy

Czech Republic

Society for European Dialogue – SPED
email: malek_j@cbox.cz

Denmark

transform! danmark
www.transformdanmark.dk

Finland

Left Forum
www.vasemmistofoorumi.fi

Democratic Civic Association – DSL
www.desili.fi

France

Espaces Marx
www.espaces-marx.net

Foundation Copernic*
www.fondation-copernic.org

Foundation Gabriel Péri*
www.gabrielperi.fr

Institut de Transition Citoyenne / Intérêt Général*
https://interetgeneral.net/

Germany

Journal Sozialismus
www.sozialismus.de

Rosa Luxemburg Foundation – RLS
www.rosalux.de

Institute for Social, Ecological and Economic Studies – ISW
www.isw-muenchen.de

Greece

Nicos Poulantzas Institute – NPI
www.poulantzas.gr

Hungary

transform! hungary*
www.balmix.hu

Italy

transform! italia
www.transform-italia.net

Claudio Sabattini Foundation*
www.fondazionesabattini.it

Cultural Association Punto Rosso
www.puntorosso.it

Lithuania

DEMOS. Institute of Critical Thought*
www.demos.lt

Luxembourg

Transform! Luxembourg
www.transform.lu

Moldova

Transform! Moldova*
email: transformoldova@gmail.com

Norway

Manifesto Foundation*
www.manifesttankesmie.no

Poland

Foundation Forward / Naprzód
www.fundacja-naprzod.pl

Portugal

Cultures of Labour and Socialism – CUL:TRA
email: info@cultra.pt

Romania

**Association for the Development of the
Romanian Social Forum***
www.forumulsocialroman.ro

Serbia

Centre for the Politics of Emancipation (CPE)*
www.cpe.org.rs

Slovenia

Institute for Labour Studies – IDS*
www.delavske-studije.si

Spain

Alternative Foundation (Catalonia)
www.fundacioalternativa.cat

Europe of Citizens Foundation – FEC
www.lafec.org

Foundation for Marxist Studies – FIM
www.fim.org.es

Instituto 25M*
www.instituto25m.info

Iratzar Foundation (Basque country)*
www.iratzar.eus

Sweden

Center for Marxist Social Studies
www.cmsmarx.org

Turkey

**Social Investigations and Cultural Development
Foundation – TAKSAV***
www.taksav.org

R-komplex*
www.r-komplex.org

UK

Transform (UK) – A Journal of the Radical Left
email: transform@prruk.org

The World Transformed – TWT*
www.theworldtransformed.org

** Observers*



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