

DiEM25 - PUBLIC MEETINGS

9 February 2016

10.00-11.00 PRESS CONFERENCE

11.00-13.00 Session 1

OUR FRAGMENTING EUROPE & DiEM's RESPONSE

Re-conceptualising the centrifugal forces, and multiplying divisions, tearing the EU apart: Refugees, Borders (Schengen, fences, fortress Europe, Frontex), Inequality-Poverty, Chauvinism, Nationalism, Insecurity

Several weeks ago, at a party congress in Karlsruhe, Chancellor Angela Merkel said that 2015 was “an incredible year, but very difficult to understand”. It was indeed an “incredible year”!

- 2015 began with the enthusiasm of the Athens Spring and the New Politics it heralded, but ended with its strangling (in the troika's hands) as well as with the influx of more than 1 million refugees and new walls and fences around Europe
- 2015 was marked by the Paris atrocities and its repercussions: the new police-states abolishing civil liberties and breathing great new powers into our surveillance/opacity/top-down 'culture'
- 2015 saw the deepening of an economic crisis that reinforces centrifugal forces tearing Europe apart, pushing the Eurozone deeper into the mire of low-investment and low-hope, while non-Eurozone member-states look elsewhere for solace and partners
- 2015 gave birth to the hope of a New Politics as well as to a process of fragmentation.

It is crucial that, in 2016, the New Politics grows stronger so as to defeat the forces of fragmentation. DiEM's first session is envisaged as a 'cognitive mapping' of the centrifugal forces tearing Europe apart, aiding and abetting nationalism, ethnocentrism, insecurity and bigotry.

If the 'conversation' envisaged by DiEM leads Europe's progressives to a common understanding of what occurred in 2015 and to a consensus of what

we must do to arrest the process of Europe's fragmentation, *2016 can be an even more incredible year than 2015 was!* Session 1 is just the beginning of this conversation...

Session 1 – Introduction & Moderation: Srećko Horvat

Auer Borea Gertraud (Kreisky Forum, Austria)
Baier Walter (Transform! Network – Austria)
Demh Dieter (MP, Germany)
Fassin Eric (Academic, France)
Luis Martin (Journalist, Spain)
Negri Tony (Public Intellectual-Activist, Italy)
Papastergiadis Nikos (Academic, Australia-Greece)
Pisarello Gerardo (First Deputy Mayor, City of Barcelona, Cataluña)
Salmon Christian (Author, France)
Tsomou Margarita (Author-Journalist, Germany)
Ventura Christophe (Author-Activist, France)

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| 13.00-14.00 LUNCH BREAK (self-paying basis - list of restaurants near Volksbühne to be provided) |
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| 14.00-16.00 Session 2 |
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| DiEM's ECONOMIC ANALYSIS & POLICY FRAMEWORK |
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DiEM's Manifesto promises specific, rational economic policies that will pave the ground:

- for the re-politicisation/democratisation of money and power throughout the EU
- for stabilising the Eurozone's economy while allowing non-Eurozone member-states more breathing space within the EU
- for re-creating a vision of shared prosperity – essential steps prior to moving to the next phase of re-designing the Treaties in the context of the Constitutional Assembly DiEM is proposing
- for diverting idle savings into sustainable development
- for trade treaties (within the EU and between the EU and other blocs) that enhance, rather than restrict, democratic control over Europe's social economies
- for Europeanising four realms in which the crisis is raging (debt, low investment, banking and poverty) but in ways that boost the sovereignty of local, regional and national Parliaments

The session will discuss the process by which DiEM's policy proposals will transpire. Emphasis will be placed on

- investment-led recovery
- green technologies
- combating the culture of opacity and corporate take-over promoted by the TTiP rounds

- public and private debt within and without the Eurozone
- an EU-wide anti-poverty campaign
- the institutional framework necessary to achieve these objectives.

Session 2 – Introduction & Moderation: Stuart Holland

Allegretti Giovanni (Austhor-Activist, Italy)

Augusto Jordi (Economist, Cataluña)

Ayala Jordi (Head of Finance Department, City of Barcelona, Cataluña)

Bayou Julien (Green Party MP, France)

Fehrer Michel (Academic-Publisher, France)

McDonnell John (MP and Shadow Chancellor, UK)

McWilliams David (Kilkenomics founder, Ireland)

Nordqvist Rasmus (The Alternative, Denmark)

O'Toole Fintan (Author-Journalist, Ireland)

Urban Hans-Jürgen (IG Metal, Germany)

Varoufakis Yanis (DiEM, Greece)

16.00-18.00 Session 3

What should we (DiEM) do?

The post-2008, crisis-ridden, Europe generated a whiff of a New Politics across the continent. Public spaces were occupied (Occupy London, Puerta del Sol, Syntagma Square, Sarajevo's Teatro Valle) and turned into arenas of public debate, 'horizontality', direct democracy. These 'occupations' ran out of steam but their spirit was reincarnated in new political parties, like Syriza or Podemos, which began to 'occupy' the electoral-political space and even the political imagination of Europe's member-states. Existing political parties, like Britain's Labour, were energized also by this spirit. Municipalities (e.g. Barcelona, Valencia, Madrid) were swept up by the political energy of this New Politics. Meanwhile, a variety of pan-European networks (from the European Social Forum to Altersummit) had success in providing some 'infrastructure' for unifying these loci of New Politics.

However, in 2016, after significant defeats (e.g. the crushing of the Athens Spring), a new impetus seems necessary to imbue the New Politics with fresh energy, and to extend its limits by embracing millions of Europeans who noticed in 2015, possibly for the first time, that the EU is crumbling under a sinister mutual reinforcement between: (a) authoritarianism and (b) failed economic policies.

DiEM's purpose is to act as a bridge bringing together the movements that flourished before 2015 together with Europeans who were awakened in 2015 (e.g. by the Athens Spring) and who now see that the EU will either be democratized or it will disintegrate (with frightful repercussions for Europeans and for the world at large).

DiEM's aim is to provide existing movements and the new forces of progressive change with the 'infrastructure' necessary to build up the pan-European horizontal organisation necessary so that it becomes much, much

more than the sum of its parts.

Session 3 will pose this question: How can we make this work? What should DiEM do?

Session 3 – Introduction & Moderation: Anthony Barnett and Mary Fitzgerald (opendemocracy, UK)

Celakoski Teodor & Horvat Vedran (Right to the City Movement, Croatia)

Lovink Geert (Academic, The Netherlands)

Malamatinas John (Blockupy, Germany)

Marsili Lorenzo (European Alternatives, Italy)

Mesec Luka (Activist, Slovenia)

Meyer Judith (Activist, Germany)

Mezzadra Sandro (Euronmade - Italy)

Misik Robert (Academic, Austria)

Nedeljkovic Nikola (The Alternative, Denmark)

Negri Toni (Public Intellectual-Activist, Italy)

Ventura Christophe (Activist, France)

20.30-22.00 THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH

Democracy in Europe – Movement

Volksbühne Central Theatre Stage

The logo for DiEM25, featuring a red-to-orange gradient square with the text 'DiEM25' in white, preceded by a white double arrow symbol. A small '2a' is visible in the top right corner of the square.

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