



## Alter Summit General Assembly Report - March 13 and 14 2014

Organisations represented at the summit:

Attac Hongrie ; Attac Allemagne ; ETUCE-CSEE ; CS-CCOO ; Solidaires ; AD FSR ; Transform ! ; SNES-FSU ; CADTM ; CIG ; ELA ; CEO ; Nei til EU ; Mouvement de la Paix ; FGTB ; CNE-CSC ; USO ; Coalition of Resistance ; Euromarches ; Fondation Copernic ; Attac Espagne ; Attac Irlande ; CG FGTB ; CGT ; Prague Spring 2 ; GEW ; Attac France ; FSU ; Solidarity for all ; TNI ; Campaign for the Welfare State ; Coordination anti-fasciste Athènes ; Global Labour Institute ; Alter Summit ; Coordination group 22M

### Thursday 13 March

#### 1. Work group discussions

##### Austerity/Troika

- We have a useful tool, the Manifesto → make it visible

##### TTIP

- Writing a short text

##### Education

- Proposal of a declaration (appendix) → to modify, to amend. Your reactions are expected in late April.
- Important to work this topic, yet without formalising the network
- A common methodology to work public services within AS?

##### Far right

- Preparation of the conference in Budapest on April 3<sup>rd</sup> → registrations: [farright@altersummit.eu](mailto:farright@altersummit.eu)  
This conference could result in the creation of a structure to work this topic (appendix)
- Proposal: day of action in October → Which support from AS?
- **Urgent:** strategic text on the causes and our strategies

#### 2. The functioning of Alter Summit

The discussion is based on an analytical text written by Attac-Brussels and presented by Alex Gobry (appendix)

Some elements of the debate:

- Our weakness is also due to the social and political situation
- The network must be stabilised → follow-up of the decisions taken
- Improve our internal communication → tool: work list by mail
- Differentiate short and long-term objectives → have a strategic vision over time
- We are making progress thanks to our involvement in the actions and the links with other networks
- We must continue to federate around the Manifesto, around a clear and strong discourse, around an identity (to further define) and reach the grassroots of the member organisations
- The link between trade unions and social movements is not evident, this should be a focus of attention

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- The member organisations should involve themselves as organisation and not only through their representative at the assembly
- The actions in May represent an important test for Alter Summit

We should continue this discussion, better analyse our weaknesses (per sector, per country). We need a working methodology in order to do it (proposal to be made by the Coordination).

## Friday 14 March

### 3. Discussion on the EU economic and political situation

This discussion answered to a need: update our analysis on the current situation in Europe.

Some elements of the discussion:

- The crisis is further deepening
- Few coordinated answers from the social movement at the European level
- Crisis of social democracy
- The crisis is and becomes political → Need political answers
- Situation of deflation

Questions:

- How to evaluate the state of the balance of power?
- What changes will take place in the method of production in the coming years?
- How to rebuild unions integrating youth, unemployed and precarious...?
- There are aspirations to equality in society → how to respond?
- How to bring forward our alternatives and keep them up-to-date according to the context?
- The issue of increasingly fiercer competition
- We have an organisational challenge: coordination and unity

In order to take the debate further, it seemed useful to the participants to update our founding texts (call, situation analysis) in the light of the current situation.

### 4. Communication at Alter Summit

Presentation of a note on communication (appendix)

Decisions:

- A flyer will be made for the Euro Manif of April 4<sup>th</sup> and the mobilisation in May
- A communication working group has been established
- A work list will be temporarily set up for us to get organised by June
- No funding of member organisations for tools. AS budget will be used for this.

Priorities:

- Newsletter
- Website update
- Make the Manifesto known

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## 5. Coming actions

1. AS text supporting the Marches for Dignity in Spain
2. Conference on far right in Budapest → April 3<sup>rd</sup> (and the continuation in Vienna?)
3. Presence at the ETUC Euro Manif on April 4<sup>th</sup> with stand and flyers
  - > CSC and FGTB are organising a stand
  - > They are asking for speaking on behalf of Alter Summit

### 4. Week of actions in May 2014. Three AS priorities

- 4.1 May 15<sup>th</sup>: encirclement of the Business Europe summit in Brussels → international mobilisation?
- 4.2 May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>: Tribunal of austerity in Brussels organised by TNI, CEO and CADTM → How can AS support this initiative?
- 4.3 May 17<sup>th</sup>: Alternatives day. Actions expected in France, Germany, Elsewhere?  
→ inform [sebastian@altersummit.eu](mailto:sebastian@altersummit.eu)

5. AS can formulate some questions to ask to the election candidates: proposal following
6. ATTAC Summer academy (August 19-23) → Opportunity to offer a workshop
7. Other actions and initiatives

- 7.1 Troika Party campaign
- 7.2 UK People's Assembly (March 19<sup>th</sup>)
- 7.3 Caravan of the undocumented and refugees: week of action in Brussels, from June 21<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>

## Next assemblies:

- > an assembly in June - date will be fixed according to the doodle - in Brussels, to
  - Evaluate our mobilisations of March, April and May; establish the next objectives
  - Discuss the political situation in Europe after the elections of 25 May and the appointment of the new Commission
  - Take decisions as to the reform of the way in which the Alter Summit network will operate following the discussions of 13 and 14 March
  - Evaluate the new communication tools used in March, April and May
- > an broad assembly will be fixed in October - Location TBD