



Invitation

Preparatory meeting for a European Labor & Social Conference in Autumn 2016

5th of May – Vienna, Austria

Dear Comrade,

In autumn (probably mid-October) 2016, Alter Summit is planning to organize a two day-conference on labor and social rights in Brussels (in the ETUC building - to be confirmed). For our network and its members, it is crucial to put this issue in the center of public debates again, especially the issue of working conditions and the right for collective bargaining.

Indeed, for many years now, these rights have been under attack; right wing governments (as well as many of the so-called “socialists”) and economic forces are willing to dismantle, as much as possible, the workers’ rights which are the result of two centuries of struggle of the people’s movement.

To challenge this, we need to be creative and go on the offensive. That is the purpose of the conference; to make proposals based on the experiences of social movements and the new challenges Europe is facing (climate, migration, digitalization, ...). As Alter Summit as such does not represent the social movement, we want to invite all interested organizations to join us in this process.

In light of the different political initiatives being pursued at the European level (DIEM25, the Madrid Plan B Conference,...), this conference must give us the opportunity to frame the discussion about labor and social rights in the broad perspective of the deep political changes Europe needs.

Concretely, the meeting in Vienna is an important opportunity to meet **Yanis Varoufakis** and someone from “DiEM25”, and **Miguel Urban** and/or **Adoración Guamán** (from the Plan B meeting of Madrid). We want to use this working day in order to

- meet different interested networks, trade unions and other organizations and discuss the political importance of such a conference in the current political juncture
- to discuss the first proposals made by the working group (this proposal will be circulated in the coming days)
- to decide the next steps (political and logistical aspects)

We don't want to gather a very large group on May 5th: it is just a working day with these political leaders and some members of our networks: we hope this proposal will interest you and that you will join us. If your organization wants to be part of this working day, but you, personally, are not available, please call us in order to arrange for the possibility of inviting someone else.

Practical issues:

- The timetable of the working day is as follows: we start at **8 am** ; from 8:30 to 10 we work between us; from 10 to 4 pm we work with the leaders of DiEM25 and Plan B; the meeting ends at **4:30 pm**.
- In order to start working early we suggest you get to Vienna on the **evening of Wednesday 4th**; those able to be there at 8pm or before would have dinner together
- The exact venue in Vienna will be confirmed at the beginning of April, as well as the accommodation
- The meeting will be in **English** only
- Everyone is asked to provide their own **travel and accommodation expenses**; but if you need financial support, please contact sebastian@altersummit.eu
- Please register at koetter@transform-network.net

Best regards,

For transform! europe

Walter Baier

for Alter Summit

Felipe Van Keirsbilck

List of invited people annexed