

Important: registration until December, 20th via E-Mail: office@transform.or.at

I take part of the workshop on Friday Saturday

I will prepare/sent a contribution about _____

I need accommodation (Hotel Regina) from _____ to _____
= _____ night(s)

Firstname
Surname
Street/No
Postal Code/town
E-mail
Organisation/Country
Date/Signature

transform!
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»transform! European journal for alternative thinking and political dialogue«

Edited by
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The journal is published in seven languages (English, Greek, German, French, Portuguese, Italian, Hungarian). The eighth edition, which will be in Spanish, is in preparation.

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www.vsa-verlag.de

The Crisis in Europe



Depression economics – social crisis – state policy – alternatives

International workshop by transform! europe

Vienna, 15th/16th January 2010

transform!

European network for alternative thinking and political dialogue

Europe is fighting against the deepest recession since the great depression in the 1930ies. After the financial turmoil starting in 2007 and the crash of the real economy in 2008/2009 we are now facing a severe social crisis with rising unemployment and growing pressure on what has been left of the welfare states after the neoliberal regime.

In this process the state and the central banks played an active role and stopped the free fall of the economy. But: this is not the end of the crisis yet. And without illusion: the political left is not the winner of this »game«. Wage earners and normal tax payers shall pay to save the assets of the wealthy. The casinos opened again.

The transform!europe-workshop will focus on five topics:

- the causes of what has to be characterized as a systemic crisis
- the role of politics and the state in the world economic crisis,
- the social consequences of the financial and economic turmoil and
- alternatives and transformation strategies proposed by the political left and progressive social forces.

Although this crisis is more global than every economic crisis before, the workshop concentrates on the situation in Europe in the first place.

To get a deeper understanding the workshop starts with a more theoretical debate. The first topic is the theory of overaccumulation of capital which is widely accepted but understood in quite different ways. The second topic is the tension between the renaissance of the nation state and the internationalization of the state.

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Agenda

Friday, January 15th

13.00–13.15h

Welcome and opening by
Elisabeth Gauthier (transform!europe)

13.15–14.45h

Joachim Bischoff (editor of the monthly review Sozialismus):
Overaccumulation of capital: what does it mean for the understanding of the current crisis?

14.45–15.00h

Break

15.00–16.30h

Bob Jessop (Lancaster University)
The role of the state today: internationalization and the nation state

16.30–17.00h

Break

The workshop takes place in

**Hotel Regina
Rooseveltplatz 15
A-1090 Wien**

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The Hotel is located next to the University of Vienna and the Votiv Church, underground station U2 Schottentor. From the airport you can take the bus to Schwedenplatz, change to the underground U4 direction Heiligenstadt for one Station until Schottenring, change to U2 direction Karlsplatz for one Station to Schottentor. Distance from airport Schwechat: 30 km

17.00–20.00h

Francisco Louça (Lisbon, tbc)
Europe in the world economic crisis: comeback of Keynesian politics or launching of a »financial coup d'état« (D. Harvey)?

Interventions by **Euclides Tsakolotos** (University of Athens), **Peter Fleissner** (Univ. prof. em., Vienna), **Jiri Malek** (transform!Czech Republic) and others (Spain, Italy...)

Saturday, January 16th

9.00–11.30h

Maria Karamessini (University Pantheon, Athens)
The social crisis in Europe: politics of precariousness or shift to a new social model of regulation
Interventions by **Stephen Bouquin** (University Amiens France), **Asbjörn Wahl** (Norway, Trade unionist, tbc), **Lutz Brangsch** (Rosa Luxemburg Foundation Berlin)

11.30–12.00h

Break

12.00–15.00h

What are the lessons of the crisis and how can they be communicated?
Proposals and projects of »the left of the left«

Round table with:

Thomas Händel (MEP)
Jürgen Klute (MEP)
Miguel Portas (MEP)
Francis Wurtz (former leader of GUE/NGL in EP)

Inputs from transform!, European Left Party and members of GUE/NGL-Group
Walter Baier (transform!) is chairing the debate

Languages: *English, German, French*