




WHAT COMES AFTER THE NATION-STATE?

15/09/2018 — HAUS DER
BERLINER FESTSPIELE

Thoughts for a future beyond the nation state on the 10-year anniversary of the collapse of Lehman Brothers

in collaboration with

internationales literaturfestival  berlin

Ten years have passed since the collapse of Lehman Brothers ushered in the great Western financial crisis. Since that day, history has returned with a vengeance. From ongoing economic stagnation in large parts of the West to rising extremism, from threats of an end to liberal democracy to challenges to neoliberal globalization, the world appears in a state of flux. But while events are racing forwards, can the same be said of ideas? Our conceptual toolkit appears tragically unable to describe our present and shape our future. Why is that? And what are some of the categories that we should radically re-interpret today?

In the context of the international literature festival berlin, the civil society network European Alternatives seeks to explore these questions with activists, artists, and intellectuals from around the world.

PROGRAMME

10.30 - Welcome

10.45 - Intro to What Comes After the Nation State? By Daphne Bülsbach (European Alternatives) [DE]

Welcome words By Thomas Krüger (Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung) [DE]

11:00 - Panel: On Democracy Beyond the Nation State

With: Ulrike Guérot (European Democracy Lab) [DE], Maya Goodfellow (Journalist/SOAS University) [GB], Niccolo Milanese (European Alternatives) [FR/GB]

After ten years of global political, economic, and financial crisis, the world remains in turmoil. »Krisis«, in its Greek original, refers to a moment of choice, where opportunities open up and decisions on an alternative course may be taken.

But whether it is reforming the European Union or tackling the inequalities of neoliberal

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globalization, no such decisions appear to have been taken. Democratic institutions are not fit for the challenge. What do we need to finally move beyond crisis and enter into new territory?

12.45 - Live-text-sound-video. Nicoletta Esinencu [Moldova]

Staged reading of the text »Fuck You Eu.ro.pa« by Selin Kavak [DE] with sound design by Milena Kipfmüller [DE] and video by Lemohang Jeremiah Mosese. [Lesotho/DE]

13:00 - Panel: Solidarity and Cities of Change

With: Mimmo Lucano (Mayor of Riace) [IT], Gesine Schwan (Humboldt Viadrina Governance Platform) [DE], Raúl Sánchez Cedillo (Fundación de los Comunes, Madrid) [ES], Manuela Bojadzijev (Leuphana Universität Lüneburg). [DE]

The concept of *Heimat* (homeland) is a very contested term. Used by the far-right as an exclusionary concept, the question is what kind of new homeland is Europe offering to those seeking it? Cities around Europe have shown solidarity to refugees. The municipalist movement has gained momentum and achieved a reframing of the debate. Is there a renewed focus on the local to go beyond the nation? Mayor Mimmo Lucano discusses the Riace model of welcoming refugees, followed by a conversation with the panelists.

15:00 - Live-text-sound-video. Sivan Ben Yishai [DE/IL] Staged reading of an excerpt of 'Daddy loves you' by Sivan Ben Yishai with sound design by Milena Kipfmüller and video by Lemohang Jeremiah Mosese.

15:15 - Lecture: Movements Beyond the Nation State: The International Women's Strike by Tithi Bhattacharya [US]

»Feminism for the 99%« was one of the slogans of the International Women's Strike, calling for a truly intersectional movement across the globe. Tithi Bhattacharya was one of its organizers and, as a long-time feminist writer and social reproduction theorist, she examines how the reproduction of society—within households, schools, hospitals—produces and sustains the neoliberal economy and economic exploitation.

16:30 - Live-text-sound-video. Lehman Brothers and Ariel Nil Levy [DE/IL]

Staged reading by Ariel Nil Levy of Lehman Brothers protocols of the night of September 15, 2008, with sound design by Milena Kipfmüller and video by Lemohang Jeremiah Mosese.

16.45 - Panel: 10 Years of Lehman Brothers Collapse — O Brother, Where Art Thou?

With: Brett Scott (Author) [GB / ZA], Ann Pettifor (Prime Economics) [GB], Harald Schumann (Tagesspiegel). [DE]

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The failure of the investment bank Lehman Brothers on this day 10 years ago brought the financial system within hours of collapse. A decade on from the financial crisis, what have we learned? We take a look back at what happened, how it happened, what conclusions to derive from it, and what's next on the European horizon.

18:45 - Lecture Performance "Live together, die alone" - by Felipe G. Gil [ES] Felipe G. Gil shares a personal and biographical journey of how the financial crisis has affected him, the communities in Southern Spain of which he is a member, and how Spanish activists have reacted to the global challenges they have been facing since 2008. The format was conceived by the Sevillian cultural collective ZEMOSg8, called the Audiovisual Source Code: next-level storytelling through the use and remix of excerpts of movies, TV shows, internet videos, memes, etc.

20:00 - Live-text-sound-video. Maren Kames [DE], Katharina Schultens [DE] and Mehdi Moradpour [DE]. Staged reading of the text »die katastrophenerichte häufen sich, ich fühl sie nicht« with sound design by Milena Kipfmüller and video by Lemohang Jeremiah Mosese.

20:15 - Panel: What's More Extreme Than the Center?

With: Ellen Überschär (Heinrich-Boell Foundation) [DE], Lorenzo Marsili (European Alternatives) [IT], Agnieszka Dziemianowicz-Bąk (Razem) [PL], Alberto Alemanno (The Good Lobby) [IT/ES]

Nationalism and populism appear to be precipitated in no small part by a crisis of the imagination in the so-called establishment. To what extent is an immobile »extreme center« responsible for the rise of political extremism? And is resurgent nationalism a sign of its irreversible decline?

22:00 - Closing performance by Babylon Berlin Orchestra with Adrien Braud : Clarinet [FR], Michael Glucksmann: Guitar [IL], Muhammad Rafat: Percussion [SY] and Wesam Karema: Accordeon [SY].

***In Parallel – throughout the day**

»Wir gehen schon mal vor« — Project exhibition of European Alternatives for a future beyond the nation state.

»Print for Politics!« — Drop-in poster-printing workshop with Collective from Croatia "This Town Needs Posters" (between 13:00 – 17:00).

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