

## Our vision

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Our vision of an alternative Europe includes and emerges from:

- > Creative cultures which question and go beyond boundaries.
- > Critical awareness of Europe's connections with the rest of the world, its global role and its colonial history.
- > Informed and critical transnational publics that are engaged with systemic change.
- > Practices of political, social and cultural activism which take account of the ways key-issues cross geographical borders and combat social injustice.
- > Alternative economic models which are socially inclusive, decolonial and anti-oppressive.
- > Transnational political institutions, political parties and forms of governance which are citizen-led.
- > A political European citizenship, respect of human rights, fundamental rights and civic space, genuine free movement, and a critical engagement with legal principles.

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- 5.- Activists of European Alternatives demonstrating in Rome in the 60th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome / 2017, Marco Casino.
- 6.- **Third Time - Overtime**, the celebration of the tenth anniversary of European Alternatives in the MAXXI Museum of Contemporary Art in Rome / 2017, Marco Casino.
- 7.- Artistic map of social movements in Europe between 2007 - 2017 by Marco Raparelli / photo by Marco Casino.
- 8.- Training in Warsaw of our series ACT4FreeMovement (2018) / Photo by Jakub Szafranski.

## Network and Participation

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Our network includes committed individual members as well as civil society organisations and movements, who are actively imagining, demanding and enacting transnational alternatives to the current political institutions and economic models. Together, we are charting the strategy of the network at the yearly Open Assembly of European Alternatives, offline and online, in an open and participatory process. We cooperate on programs, campaigns and events to influence politics and increase our capacity to effect change through meaningful action at the European level. In cities across Europe, members regularly organise activities such as debates, exhibitions and workshops to think, reflect and act for a Europe beyond the nation-state and build alternatives for a viable future for Europe.

We establish synergies with various stakeholders, both formal and informal, at the European level such as Networking European Civic Education, European Democracy Lab, Fundacion Platform, Krytyka Polityczna, CIVICUS alliance, DiEM25, Institut Solidarische Moderne and Another Europe is Possible. We are also members of Civil Society Europe, where we lead the Civic Space and Fundamental Rights Working Group.

# Democracy, Equality, Culture

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# Beyond the Nation State



EUROPEAN  
ALTERNATIVES

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## Our Mission

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European Alternatives works to promote democracy, equality and culture beyond the nation state. We imagine, demand and enact alternatives for a viable future for Europe. More specifically we aim to:

- > Articulate a radical, long-term vision of democratic, just and culturally-open politics, society and culture beyond the nation-state for Europe and for the world.
- > Experiment with forms of action that contribute to transformative change in political institutions, society, the economy and imagination.
- > Build the capacity, the mutual-awareness and connection of members, activists and organisations working in line with our values.
- > Advance and defend human, fundamental, civic, democratic and social rights across borders.

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### PHOTOS >>

- 1.- Open Assembly of European Alternatives in Berlin (2018) / photo by Frieder Unselt
- 2.- Exhibition at the opening of TRANSEUROPA Festival 2017 **Convergent Spaces** in Madrid / Photo by Elisa Sanchez
- 3.- Shooting an interview during the Transeuropa Caravans in the South of Europe.
- 4.- Open event of 'Rebel Cities' in Marghera (Venice), 2016, with the mayor of Barcelona Ada Colau, the mayor of Naples Luigi de Magistris, Lorenzo Marsili, director of European Alternatives and Gianfranco Bettin, Italian politician.

# Our Values

Our values guide how we work to pursue our mission:

- > Transnational and local: we believe local and regional initiatives benefit from going beyond national boundaries and interests.
- > Transdisciplinary: we believe alternatives are generated at the intersection of disciplines and are enriched by diverse expertise and perspectives.
- > Creative and experimental: we believe in the power of the arts and culture to unlock imaginaries.
- > Open, inclusive and feminist: we believe in a culturally open society and in diversity as a precondition for sustainable alternatives to emerge.
- > Empowering and participatory: we provide the space for citizens to network and ensure our activities give space for co-creation.
- > Anti-eurocentric: we believe involving other parts of the world in our reflections is necessary to make new alternatives emerge.

# Key Projects

**TRANSEUROPA Festival.** Transeuropa is an unusual artistic, cultural and political event organised by European Alternatives since 2007. Transeuropa attracts thousands of attendees and active participants through a decentralised event structure (Transeuropa Open) in over a dozen European cities and a high profile moment in one city. These took place in Belgrade (2015) and Madrid (2017). In 2019 Transeuropa Festival goes to Palermo and joins the Biennale del Archipelago del Mediterraneo for a joint programme.

**School of Transnational Activism.** The School for Transnational Activism, a reflective and action-oriented space, gathering citizens and activists across disciplines to experiment and explore how to articulate and enact a radically democratic vision of politics beyond the nation-state. Through a mix of lectures, participatory courses, and a yearly Campus, activists are engaged to develop the knowledge and skills to work towards systemic change in the fields of politics, economy, ecology, education and culture for people living in and outside of Europe.

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**Political Critique.** Political Critique is a pan-European online magazine that focuses on the most important trends in today's politics, culture and society. In 2017 we started a media partnership with the Polish network Krytyka Polityczna with the objective of joining forces in order to continue developing a transnational media network able to speak beyond European borders. PC also has its own audiovisual platform and format under the name of Talk Real. It combines a captivating transnational broadcast, mixing talk-shows with shorter audio-visual productions that speak across Europe.

**Transeuropa Caravans.** Ahead of the 2019 European Parliament elections, a group of young activists travels throughout 15 European countries on board of 5 caravans reaching out to places of struggle and resistance, in defense of fundamental rights beyond borders. They travel to meet directly European citizens, connect their stories, and mobilize together to promote our electoral rights and participation throughout Europe.

# Research Projects

**Youth and democratic participation.** The EURYKA project is coordinated by the University of Geneva and involves scientists from France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. EURYKA aims to study the relations between inequalities and young people's ways of doing politics and to advance scenarios for future democratic models and political systems in Europe that are more inclusive for young people.

**Transnational Solidarity in times of crisis.** A transnational research project dedicated to providing systematic and practice-related knowledge about European solidarity at times of crisis. It brings together researchers and civil society practitioners from eight European countries: Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. TransSOL is a collaborative project coordinated by the University of Siegen and it was funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 program.

**Co-Creation Network: addressing urban disadvantages.** A 4-year EU-funded project that aims to bring together different actors, such as researchers, policymakers, residents and artists from Europe but also from Latin America. The objective is to 'co-create' understanding about different urban neighbourhoods and to address disadvantages in partnership with City Mine(d) (Brussels), Tesseræ (Berlin); and three Universities: University of Bath (Bath), University of PUC-Rio (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) and the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM, Mexico City).

