



**EUROPEAN
ALTERNATIVES**

Democracy | Equality | Culture
Beyond the nation state



IMAGINE, DEMAND, ENACT:
2014/2015 REPORT



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WELCOME

The years 2014 and 2015 have made it clearer than ever that there is an open battle for the meaning and future of 'Europe': is the name of this continent to be understood as racist, exclusionary, authoritarian and self-interested, or is it to be understood as open, diverse, democratic, curious, showing solidarity and promoting equality?

The first vision of Europe has been embodied in the figure and appeal of Victor Orban and the rise of the far-right wing in the 2014 European elections; in Europe's failure to humanely receive migrants fleeing persecution, war or poverty; in Europe's failure to turn the page of austerity and give a fair deal to the Greek and European population, in Europe's failure to live-up to its responsibilities to the East and South.

The second vision of Europe has been present on the euromaidan in Kiev; in initiatives for a renewed European democracy; in a thousand acts of solidarity shown by citizens in welcoming migrants in spite of their governments; in protests against evictions and for affordable housing; in citizens projects and initiatives to call for meaningful action on climate change and in hundreds of other struggles.

The racist and closed understanding of Europe has terrifying precedents, and we see a kind of paralysis of the political establishment faced with it. European Alternatives has from its creation acted dynamically in every way it can to promote an open, diverse, democratic, equal vision of Europe's future. These two years have shown what we are up against and how politics-as-usual is not an effective option.

European Alternatives is unique in its approach to this situation. We embody an ideal of Europe in its totality and complexity and we work both at the grassroots throughout the continent



and in the political institutions. Simultaneously highly local and transnational, specific and general, European Alternatives attempts to create a movement of thought, of proposals, of people and of organisations working together to create an alternative Europe. We aim to pull together in the network of European Alternatives a civil society and citizenry that is too often divided geographically, and divided between thematic concerns, target groups or ways of acting.

We sum up this approach in two slogans:

Democracy, equality and culture beyond the nation state describes the values and ideals we work towards, the mission of the movement.

Imagine, Demand, Enact encapsulates the different dimensions we work in, stimulating a new Europe to be created in the way we understand the world, what we call for from institutions and society, and the way we act.

In this biannual report you can read about the myriad projects, programme and campaigns we have led with hundreds of partners and thousands of participants and volunteers. You can also read about how we measure our progress as we continue to build this young organisation, and what strategic objectives we set for the coming years.



TIMELINE

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

August 15, 2006
An idea forms

March 6, 2008
Building on success,
second Festival of
Europe opens

February 10, 2010
EA opens Paris office

January 12, 2007
EA's first home

April 29, 2008
Charlemagne
Foundation and EP
prize

**April 24 / May 10,
2010**
A multi-city festival

May 5, 2011 — May 16, 2011
TRANSEUROPA
Festival 2011

September 2012
Recipient of the Youth
Democracy Prize from
the Federal Agency
for Civic Education in
Germany.

October 4/27, 2013
TRANSEUROPA
Festival 2013

January 1, 2014
EA opens Berlin office

October 21/ 24, 2014
FixEurope Campus

March 19/25, 2007
Festival of Europe
launches in London

March 15, 2009
Third London Festival
of Europe

**September 25/26,
2010**
Transeuropa Network
comes to life

December 7, 2011
EESC prize winners

December 3, 2013
Citizens Manifesto
launched

October 1/ 5, 2015
TRANSEUROPA
Festival 2015

March 15/16, 2008
Movements combine
European Feminist
Summit and 'How to
Make Europe Dream'
Cultural Congress.

August 1, 2009
EA goes to China

October 7, 2010
Start of media
freedom campaign

May 9/20, 2012
TRANSEUROPA
Festival 2012

**April 24 / May 4,
2014**
Transeuropa
Caravans



2014/2015 WORK PROGRAMME

CITIES OF ACTIVITIES 2014/2015

- ◆ Our offices
- Cities where active



EUROPEAN INITIATIVE ON MEDIA PLURALISM: FIGHTING FOR A FREE PRESS

www.mediainitiative.eu

Since 2010, EA has promoted the safeguarding of free, independent and pluralistic information by European institutions. In 2014 we established the European Initiative for Media Pluralism with the immediate goal of running a European Citizens Initiative (ECI) campaign demanding the implementation of an EU Directive on media pluralism.

We established and coordinated coalitions in the UK, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovenia and Belgium, as well as coordinating individual activists across Europe. The coalition included over 100 organisations ranging from established trade unions and professional bodies like Germany's Ver.di and Italy's CGIL, to grassroots initiatives, NGOs and alternative media. We rallied over 60 members of the European Parliament to support stronger EU actions on media freedom and pluralism. Over the course of the year we organised dozens of events, flash-mobs, demonstrations and online and offline actions all across the EU to spread awareness among a vast and diverse public about the importance of a free media for a free society.

We campaigned on European issues - better regulation for better media - as well as localised struggles. Including a strong focus on fighting the retrenchment of liberties such as media freedom in Hungary, and strong on-the-ground action in Bulgaria and Italy targeting the overlap between media, politics and business.



THE EUROPEAN INITIATIVE
FOR MEDIA PLURALISM



The campaign ran until August 2014 and collected in excess of 200,000 signatures across the continent, leveraging hundreds of press mentions and thousands of social media interactions.

As an immediate result of this mobilisation, EA and the EIMP established themselves as a credible and representative interlocutor on media freedom and pluralism at the EU level. In December 2014 we established an international NGO in Brussels - the **European Media Initiative** - to continue the work of the campaign and to continue applying pressure on European institutions for better regulation and better media, beginning with the review of the Audiovisual Services Directive in late 2015.



"I am signing the Citizens Initiative for Media Pluralism since I am convinced that it is the duty of the EU to guarantee this right, set forth by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, to all European citizens."

Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament

"I'm supporting the European Media Initiative because pluralism is still under attack in many parts of the European Union. Media conglomerates threaten the diversity of opinions, of media, and even of cultures."

Ska Keller, MEP

"I support the European Media Initiative because I believe journalism is key for our democracy"

Judith Sargentini, MEP

CITIZENS MANIFESTO

www.citizenspact.eu

Through a three-year bottom-up participatory project involving thousands of Europeans, the Citizens Manifesto collected and articulated concrete transnational policy proposals on work, welfare, financial reform, legality, democracy, media pluralism, commons, the environment, migration, women's rights and gender equality, LGBT rights and Roma rights.

Through the organisation of over 100 citizens' panels in 18 European countries, we have encountered large groups of people, including migrants, Roma people, LGBT people, unemployed or precarious young people and many EU citizens living in states they are not citizens of.

Their concerns and proposals have been gathered in the Manifesto and elaborated into concrete and legally applicable policy proposals by thematic groups of experts and activists. The Manifesto was published in 2013 and presented in the European Parliament in January 2014. The full 100-page document is available online:

<http://citizenspact.eu/citizens-manifesto/>

The idea of a pan-European dialogue of citizens and the breadth of concrete policy proposals that emerged from this process provided the basis for our work around the elections for the European Parliament in May 2014.



'European citizenship, culture, education and the future of Europe's youth are very important to citizens throughout the Union, as our actions have shown and the Parliament has now acknowledged. We hope and demand that the new Commission will mark a break with the previous administrations and take bold decisions to promote these areas.'

6/10/2014

VICTORY! EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BLOCKS TIBOR NAVRACSICS



TOWARDS THE 2014 ELECTIONS: TRANSEUROPA CARAVANS

30 activists. 6 caravans.
12,000km. 100+ projects. 18 countries. 11 days.
1 mission: connect local, alternative voices across Europe.

www.citizenspact.eu

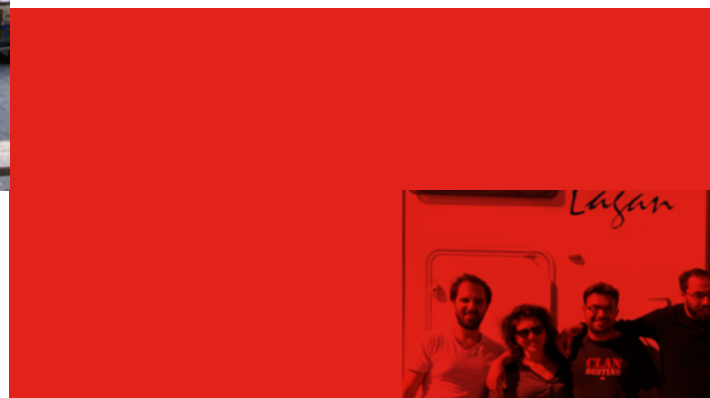
In the lead up to the 2014 European Parliamentary elections, EA set out to connect local alternative voices by launching six caravans, each loaded with activists and a film-maker.

Six caravans travelled thousands of kilometers ahead of the European Parliamentary elections to reach out to Europeans where they are, at their sites of struggle, at their places of initiative, to understand, collect and connect local alternative voices. To start with, we collaboratively mapped initiatives, ideas and local projects to understand the bigger picture of what we call civil society. We discovered how many activities are going on across Europe far from the spotlight. So we chose to visit those places of action where we felt that a different conversation was taking place: from the migrant squats of Calais to the student markets of Canterbury, from the Roma camps of Pata Rat to protests in Southern Spain. During the simultaneous tours we talked to over 2,000 people and interviewed many of them on their concrete proposals and ideas for a different Europe. Of course we asked them about the upcoming elections and found that many did not see a point in voting. Our aim was also to deepen the interaction with the Citizens Manifesto



and its policy proposals, discussing and finding concrete ways of putting proposals into action. Along the route we engaged Members of Parliament and candidates to bridge the connection to decision makers and those closer to policy-making in Brussels.

What we saw along the journey was both astonishing and well-known. Voices which are not being heard by politicians, needs which are not being met by states, solutions which are not being supported by institutions. We portrayed these voices through an interdisciplinary team in each caravan that took part in this process, they were: a filmmaker, a blogger and a comic artist. On the dedicated website www.citizenspact.eu we compiled over 270 blog entries of all the tours, containing 70 video interviews, numerous comic strips and one final documentary movie of feature film length that was produced by EA and distributed in documentary film festivals.



MORE ACTIVITIES AROUND THE 2014 EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

Beyond our Caravans, in the lead-up to the 2014 European elections we organised several other events and activities to engage citizens in discussions around different themes of European politics in creative ways.

Formats included:

- **World-café discussions** of the Citizens Pact themes in Cluj, Athens, Prague, Paris, Marseille, Vienna, Amsterdam and Bratislava.
- We hosted **election parties** with music, performances and candidates debates in Amsterdam, Cluj, London, Rome, Valencia, Athens, Budapest, The Hague, Warsaw and Berlin.
- We also organised a **poetry slam** in Budapest, bike tours and screenings in Prague, film-screenings in Lublin, photo exhibitions by homeless artists in Bratislava and theatre performances of plays on themes relating to the political situation in Europe in Athens and Bratislava, Living Libraries in Paris, Amsterdam, Cluj and Prague.
- We held a **major conference** in the European Parliament on migration policy, with the attendance of Cécile Kyenge, Italian minister for Integration at the time, and MEPs Helene Flautre, Marie-Christine Vergiat, Silvia Costa. The conference took place a few weeks after the October 2013 deaths off the coast of Lampedusa.



- In France we created a 'Rating Agency' for political party manifestos on the model of financial ratings agencies, called 'AAA'. The agency rated the manifestos on their policies relating to youth unemployment. This was done through consulting experts, NGOs and through a participatory debate held in Lyon with the attendance of candidates.

Over 2,000 people directly participated in these activities. In addition, EA trained over 40 people who themselves hosted election events in their cities and became points of contact for European Parliamentary election themes in their own communities. We had 31 members of Parliament and candidates attend our events, including more women than men.

The conference in the European Parliament on migration attracted considerable attention including in Euronews, Sky and Gazzeta del Sud. Aspects of the project, notably dealing with women's rights and LGBT rights in Poland, Romania and Hungary, were attacked in the local press for undermining 'traditional values', underscoring the importance of raising these topics in these locations.



Demanding a new constitutional settlement which puts democracy at the heart of European decision-making must be an imperative of the new Parliament to restore its credibility.

21/4/2014

THE ELECTIONS AND EVERYTHING AFTER

#FIXEUROPE CAMPUS AND CONFERENCE

From October 21-24, 2014 EA organised the #FixEurope Campus in Schloss Wartin in Brandenburg, just outside of Berlin. The Campus gathered 70 activists from all corners of Europe, including representatives of initiatives through the Transeuropa Caravans. It provided space for reflection, learning, strategizing and, most importantly, defining political priorities after the 2014 EU Parliament elections. Going beyond scattered initiatives, the Campus was also an opportunity to come together, unite ideas, practices and proposals to build on common struggles for democracy and equality in Europe and beyond.

The programme included over 20 sessions, divided into three formats: workshops, trainings and case studies. Workshops gave participants the opportunity to discuss, exchange and search for solutions to questions such as “what’s on the agenda for European social movements?” Trainings served to empower participants to claim and fight for their citizen rights. The focus of these sessions varied from digital security training to advocacy and communication skills. The programme was completed with a set of case studies on the most pressing issues for civil society in Europe, such as the erosion of civic space in Hungary, migration and the TTIP negotiations.

The week was rounded off by the Campus group attending the #FixEurope Conference in Berlin. The conference with the title “strategies for a social and political renewal in Europe” was also open to the public. It was opened with a keynote by sociologist Saskia Sassen and followed by two in-depth discussions with panels consisting of recognised thinkers and actors in the world of social change such as philosopher Hauke Brunkhorst, scholar and author Igor Stiks and political scientist Ulrike Guérot. The conference took place at the Heinrich Böll Foundation in Berlin and was attended by 150 participants.



By meeting, connecting and involving activists from different European countries both the Campus and conference contributed to EA's overarching aim to build a transeuropean civil society. We had around 40 participants who signed up as members of EA and enlarged our professional network of activists, speakers and experts. The events contributed to the debate about the restriction of the civil space and rights in Europe. The format enabled us to think about this issue and possibilities for change from a transeuropean standpoint by bringing together experienced activists and renowned thinkers from all across Europe. In all, we were able to train and empower 70 activists to be better prepared for their struggle for civil rights and democracy in Europe.

Since the collapse of the Greek military junta in 1974 Europe has represented a promise of stability and prosperity and a powerful force for the democratisation of the continent. The risk of sleepwalking towards the destruction of this heritage is real. If in the minds of a generation Europe becomes inexorably associated with technocracy, failure, and misery; if Europe becomes the problem and not the solution; if Europe becomes the place where dreams are broken, then Europe has been raped once more.

30/6/2015

THE RAPE OF EUROPE

CITIZEN RIGHTS

citizenrights.euroalter.com

Since June 2015, through the Citizen Rights project run under a programme of DG Justice, we've been working with civil society activists from across Europe to better understand areas of rights protection that are being challenged, and what new and transnational techniques can address those challenges.

This has taken the form of research conducted in cooperation with the Italian National Research Council, a civil society and activist training programme, and classes in schools across Europe.

Our first civil society training session took place in Berlin in June 2015 and looked at the topic of digital rights – what are the rights implications of growing digital surveillance and how can we advocate for privacy rights across borders?

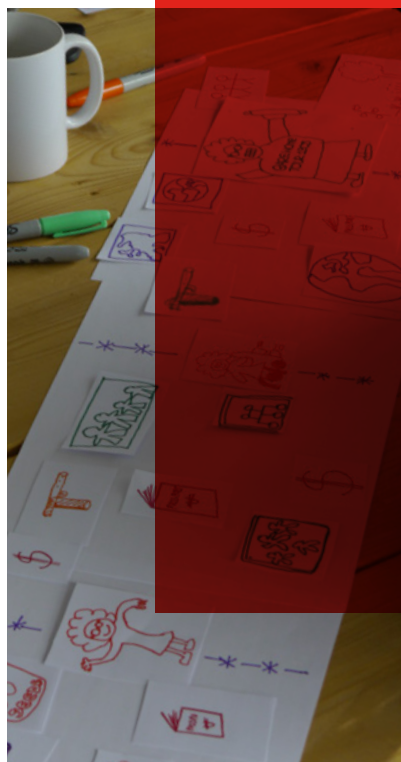
Lisbon was the location of our second session, which took place in July 2015 and looked at economic and social rights, and how we can use community engagement as a tool to protect rights and how we can link community-led campaigns across borders. This session was led by Academia Cidada and looked particularly at the work being done in the district of Loures to combat social exclusion.

In September 2015 we went into our third session, this time in Warsaw and looking at cultural rights. Led by Krytyka Polityczna, this session looked at cultural rights, joining artistic and cultural

projects to work on human rights protection and how this is being concretely practiced in Poland. Included in this session were discussions on using artistic means to challenge extreme right violence and campaigning with communities losing cultural heritage.

October 2015 saw the fourth of our sessions. This was held in Budapest, led by the Hungarian Europe Society, and focussed on EU legal instruments to enforce rights. Kicking off our event in Budapest, we held a public conference – What can we do to create a Europe of rights and values? – together with European Civic Forum. This served to frame a lot of the discussion that took place in the coming days, where we looked at what EU institutions can and cannot do to enforce rights protection, in particular looking at the fields of refugee protection, media pluralism and constitutionalism and democracy.

Our school work began in October 2015. While this is still on-going, we are aiming to reach out to 50 schools in 10 countries to provide them with classes on citizen rights and to engage students actively in imagining how rights protection in Europe could be. We have produced a free to use teaching guide for citizen rights as part of this.



'The protests in Ukraine are about more than a will to join the European Union or to side with Russia in geopolitical terms. They are about universal values that Europe claims to represent and advocate: democracy, liberty of speech, the right to live in peace, anti-corruption. This is about Europe in its most noble sense of a cultural commitment to these values and not in the sense of a bordered territory'

24/3/2014

UKRAINE: A STRUGGLE FOR THE RIGHTS
OF ALL EUROPEANS

CITIZENRIGHTS

TRANSEUROPA FESTIVAL

CREATING A COMMON SPACE FOR EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVES

www.transeuropafestival.eu

In 2007, EA created the London Festival of Europe as a response to the lack of an imaginative dimension to the European project. It aimed to open up a space for creative conflicts and alternative forms of engagement with Europe by approaching it from a cultural and artistic perspective, as opposed to a technical one. From 2010 on, it expanded to several cities in Europe becoming TRANSEUROPA Festival.

TRANSEUROPA is at the same time a festive celebration of the idea of Europe, a space for critical reflections about Europe to be brought to a large public and a hub for artists and activists to define common action. It does so through artistic, cultural and political events open to all, and using participative and innovative formats.

TRANSEUROPA Festival is transnational in its making and in its realisation, as events take place in several cities throughout Europe. It encourages encounters between people from diverse backgrounds and countries and fosters long term transnational collaborations between them.

TRANSEUROPA
FESTIVAL



In 2013, the festival took place simultaneously across 14 cities: London, Paris, Amsterdam, Bratislava, Prague, Brussels, Cluj-Napoca, Lublin, Bologna, Rome, Sofia, Warsaw, Barcelona and Berlin.

In 2015, TRANSEUROPA Festival held events in Paris, Rome, Lublin, London, Vienna, Budapest and culminated in a four day festival in Belgrade, gathering people from Europe, and also from Asia and the Americas.

Each edition of TRANSEUROPA Festival addresses the most burning issues Europe faces.

In 2013 it enthused its participants to Imagine, Demand and Enact alternatives for Europe.

In 2015 the festival took place primarily in Belgrade and called for going beyond fragments and to formulate comprehensive and sensible responses to the main issues facing Europe: the refugees seeking shelter in Europe, the attacks on fundamental and digital rights, growing nationalism and xenophobia, the war at Europe's borders, the danger of the unravelling of the European Union (Brexit and Grexit) and the continuation of self-defeating economic policies and mass unemployment. All tendencies that push us away from the core political principles of justice, unity and solidarity.



Calling artists and thinkers to define alternatives for Europe

"Art is a tool to enact ideas that seem impossible"
Tania Bruguera, TRANSEUROPA Festival, 2013

Renowned artists and poets such as Dan Perjovschi, Tania Bruguera, Stefano Boeri, Danielle Arbid, ORLAN, Cai Yuan and Jan Jun Xi, Casimiro de Brito, George Szirtes, Fiona Sampson, Marcelo Exposito, Ma Yongfeng, Hiwa K and Oliver Ressler have brought their creations and art projects to the Festival.

Key thinkers of our time, such as sociologists Zygmunt Bauman and Saskia Sassen, philosophers Rosi Braidotti, Bernard Stiegler, Etienne Balibar, Genevieve Fraisse and Franco Bifo Berardi, and art critics and curators such as Peter Weibel, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Steven Wright and Hou Hanru have shared their ideas and proposals during Festival events.

TRANSEUROPA FESTIVAL 2015: BEYOND FRAGMENTS

In European cultural and political landscapes, there is fragmentation not only between individuals, movements, organisations and institutions, but also between ideas, claims and practices. Alarming, this fragmentation is widespread among those who have common goals. Beyond fragments was a call to examine these fragments and to imagine, demand and enact an alternative Europe. TEF15 sought to do this by focusing on four key topics: new forms of political and social movements, the commons, free movement and mobility and alternative economies.

TRANSEUROPA Festival promotes a Europe of progress, creative change and solidarity rather than oppression. By focusing on the above topics, #TEF15 sought to empower all participants to imagine new dreams, thoughts and actions and a joint transnational and common action plan for the coming years.

Through a physical, social and intellectual journey through Europe and Belgrade, participants of TRANSEUROPA Festival were invited to

- pick up the pieces: review the multiplicity of claims, positions, movements and practices in the European space, to
- undo the status-quo: shred the ideological mist that has fallen on Europe and is being used to perpetuate an unjust system and set of policy choices, and
- identify the path beyond: build convergences, propose concrete alternatives.

Each participant was invited to build their own festival journey,



beginning with a transnational, collaborative marathon public reading of Hannah Arendt's *The Origins of Totalitarianism* in several cities in Europe and by joining a hitchhiking challenge to get to Belgrade.

In Belgrade, the programme was organised around four action packed days, combining parallel workshops, panel debates, city walks, interviews, performances and parties. It closed in a ceremony animated by radical local fanfare in which everyone could symbolically take home a piece of the festival as an invitation to continue the common effort in other places, at other times.

The programme was conceived of with more than 50 partners, activists and artists throughout Europe and attracted more than 80 contributors and speakers. All events were covered through live blogging and the festival was documented through photo and video. More than 300 people attended the festival in Belgrade coming from all corners of Europe. The results of the post-festival survey were overwhelmingly positive. The full report is available on EA website.



TRANSNATIONAL DIALOGUES

AN ARTISTIC EXCHANGE BETWEEN EUROPE, CHINA AND BRAZIL

www.transnationaldialogues.eu

Transnational Dialogues is an open and on-going cross-media platform that manages and imagines artistic and cultural projects with a focus on the new geographies of globalisation and the emergence of a multi-polar artistic and intellectual world. Expanding our core value of transnationalism beyond the confines of Europe, the programme facilitates artists, professionals and thinkers from Brazil, China and Europe to come together for exchanges in person and online and offers a trampoline for future collaborations and initiatives.

In 2014 and 2015, Transnational Dialogues strengthened and consolidated its network and launched a dedicated transnational research and production process. One of the main assets of Transnational Dialogues is its ability to establish and run an effective Euro-Asian-Latin-American dialogue by creating a functioning logistical, linguistic and conceptual infrastructure.

In 2014, the project ran "Transnational Caravans" in Brazil, China and Europe involving around 60 participants. Over the course of ten days, the caravans visited a number of sites and organised seminars, workshops and meetings. A final large-scale symposium was hosted by the MAXXI Museum in Rome:



young professionals from the artistic and creative sectors of Europe, China and Brazil gave life to a two-day programme of conferences, video-screenings and art performances in the framework of the exhibition "Open Museum, Open City". The products were varied, including the Transnational Dialogues Journal, a 64-page publication in English, Chinese and Portuguese, and two documentaries: "Home on Display" by Laura Engelhardt and Nina Gschloessl (GER, 2014, 18") and "A Tiger's Skin" by Chris Paul Daniels (GB, 2014, 47").

In 2015-16, the project focus is the question of marginality. Since it is often from the margins that alternative creative and social practices develop, we ask how the margins can acquire a new centrality in crafting future alternatives in a moment where existing economic and democratic models seem to be failing us, and inequality is on the rise. Among the activities organised so far are a series of events in Sao Paulo, Recife, Berlin and London, two artistic performances and a workshop on urban commons in Belgrade, and a two-day event in cooperation with SaLE Docks and the Brazilian Pavilion at the 56th Venice Biennale.

The 2015 series of events was part of the first of three Nomadic Residencies organised by the project. The second will take place in Brazil in March 2016 and the third in China in June 2016, with a rich programme of events, performances, research and production.



TALKREAL: INNOVATING WITH MULTIMEDIA FORMATS

www.talkreal.net

In late 2014 European Alternatives started piloting a new talk show for web-tv.

TalkReal is an informal but professional audiovisual platform for the dissemination of innovative ideas and the organisations and individuals behind them. The show is nomadic in nature, with episodes recorded in different parts of Europe and linking national or local specificities with European debates and actors.

The talkshow is available on youtube (youtube.com/TalkRealTV) and distributed in partnership with openDemocracy.org and ROAR magazine. Each early pilot episode received approximately 4,000 direct views and many more through partner websites.

TalkReal enjoys a heterogeneous participation of intellectuals, cultural workers and activists, helping to build a network and further engage key thinkers of our time in our work.



Participants so far include **Toni Negri**, acclaimed intellectual and co-author of “Empire” and “Multitude”; **Srečko Horvat**, Croatian activist and philosopher; **Celia Meyer**, councillor for culture in the City of Madrid; **Costas Douzinas**, professor of law at Birkbeck College and MP for Syriza; **Juan Luis Sanchez**, director of ELDiario.es; **Luciana Castellina**, former MEP and co-founder of Il Manifesto; **Margarita Tsomou**, Greek performer and public commentator; **Ugo Mattei**, one of the key figures of the movement for the commons; **Walter Baier**, head of Transform! network, and many more.



‘If we need something today it is probably more Europe and a better interconnection between countries, working together on the same threat and challenges rather than one more action going in the direction of dismantling Europe and free movement. Giving up these things is doing the work of the terrorists for them.’

18/11/15

PARIS BOMB ATTACKS: MUSIC, HAPPINESS AND ROCK’N’ROLL SHOULD BE PART OF THE ANSWER, NOT WAR ON TERRORISM



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND STRATEGY

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND STRATEGY

In 2013 European Alternatives made a two-year strategic plan for the growth and development of the organisation. We identified 4 overall strategic priorities, each with specific key areas to address. In 2014 and 2015 we have taken action in each of the areas, as shown below.

CLARIFYING THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Priority 2014-2016	Action taken
Democratic institutional reform	Following the European Year of Citizens we played important roles in establishing the Europe + coalition for democratic renewal and Civil Society Europe. Some of our key events in the TRANSEUROPA festival 2013 and 2015, as well as FIXEUROPE Campus 2014 touched on this. During the European elections we published the Citizens manifesto which included 6 specific policy proposals for democratic reform.
European solidarity and anti-identitarian European imaginary	Published Charter of Lampedusa together with hundreds of NGOs to overhaul EU migration policy. Citizens Manifesto included 5 specific policy proposals to give Europe a more humane migration policy. Organised high level conferences in European Parliament and participated in European Migration Forum. TRANSEUROPA Festival 2013 and 2015 in Belgrade had specific events and workshops on migration and refugees
Fundamental and civil rights	Citi-Rights Europe project throughout 2015 has been training NGOs on fundamental rights, doing rights education in schools in 6 countries, and producing innovative research into the topic. We campaigned on the rights and civic space situation in Hungary specifically, and prepared research on a Copenhagen Commission to protect fundamental rights in the EU. We lead the fundamental rights and civic space working group in Civil Society Europe.

Research and policy production

Citi-rights Europe has a major policy research component; Transnational Dialogues has a cultural policy component which brings together three continents (Europe, China and Brazil); we are starting research on conditions for European solidarity, and establishing a database of civic initiatives. Citizens Manifesto included over 50 detailed policy proposals emerging from citizens consultations and expert focus groups. FIXEUROPE Campus brought together over 60 leading activists from across Europe to share experiences and get training.

DEVELOPING NETWORK AND PARTNERS

Priority 2014-2016	Action taken
Sustaining thematic partnerships for European campaigns	We created a media pluralism NGO in Brussels with leading civic organisations as founding members building on our Media Pluralism Initiative in 2014. We also co-organised the OpenAccessNow campaign bringing together European organisations and citizens movements against detention for migrants.
EA as back-bench empowering partner	Citi-rights CREATE/REACT training program has given 6 training sessions on crucial areas of fighting for citizens rights to over 100 activists over 2015; TRANSEUROPA Festival involved hundreds of small and medium sized partner organisations, providing a transnational stage for them to run workshops, show artworks or develop campaigns; FIXEUROPE Campus brought together over 60 leading activists from across Europe to share experiences and get training.
Strengthening TRANSEUROPA Festival	New concept of Festival has been developed, centred around a biannual event focussing in one city with a transnational opening and process
Promoting active participation from members and groups	IN 2014: Caravans, election parties and FixEurope Campus directly engaged members as co-creators IN 2015: hack your borders project launched by members, involvement of members in board as observers, more communication with members, attempts to clarify and renew memberships

INNOVATING WITH NEW METHODS FOR CHANGE

Priority 2014-2016	Action taken
advocacy and lobbying	We ran a European Citizens Initiative on media pluralism in 2014 collecting over 200k signatures; we promoted our citizens manifesto in advance of elections and in the European Parliament. We have been involved in the setup of Europe+ and Civil Society Europe platforms, and have developed strong collaborations with European social movements such as Blockupy or Change4All.
Community organizing (online and offline)	2014: Caravans and campus organized communities 2015: Beginning development of state-of-the-art database for online community organising. We have recruited a head of network to organise the community from 2016 onwards
Public artistic and intellectual engagement	We developed a strong artistic program with Transnational Dialogues, collaborating with some of the most important museum and cultural institutions such as the Venice Biennale. We built an artistic opening and quality artistic program including performance, video art, street art, comics and exhibitions as part of TRANSEUROPA Festival 2015. Media partnerships, such as with openDemocracy, have led to substantial increase of intellectual outputs and dissemination.
Strengthening transnational dialogues	We have renewed funding for the program through 2016 and developed a new concept, in partnership with the City of Sao Paolo, the Goethe Institute; and important cultural institutions in Rio de Janeiro, Rome, Berlin, Xi'An and Shenzhen.

INVESTING AND ENRICHING OUR RESOURCES

Priority 2014-2016	Action taken
Investing in staff and training	We have recruited a senior project manager and a junior project manager, we have promoted a new director, recruited head of communications and a network manager for 2016; and substantially trained and promoted our head of administration.
Increasing and maintaining intellectual and artistic quality	We established an advisory board of leading intellectuals, artists, curators and civil society actors from around the world to ensure our work is consistently of high quality and pertinence.
Investing in communicating effectively	We have recruited a head of communications and dedicated more human and financial resources to social media and content production including innovating with a political talk show. We have developed a sophisticated communications database to be used from 2016 onwards.
Increasing and diversifying donors and resources over long term	We secured a significantly increased amount of funding for core costs from a diversity of funders, with a longer time frame to ensure financial security, as well as diversifying our funding base in general, in terms of countries, types of funder and types of activity supported.

OUR STRATEGY FOR 2016

Each year we set organisational priorities for the year ahead, in consultation with our staff, advisors, and trustees. Priorities serve to focus our work and orientate the implementation of our work programme, and provide the basis for our new Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning framework. For 2016 we have four key priorities.



Articulate sound positions and become a recognised reference point in the debate for an alternative Europe

We want to make our voice heard at a crucial time where re-nationalisation, xenophobia, and an untenable status quo risk overshadowing calls for a renewed, democratic and just Europe. We plan to do this by:

- Increasing organisational time devoted to producing opinion, comment and analysis and our capacity to pitch the mainstream media
- Capitalising on our work with DG Justice on fundamental rights and on our upcoming work with the Horizon2020 research programme of the European Union to develop a capacity and reputation for sound political research
- Consolidating our reputation for innovative formats and actions, notably by establishing our political webshow TalkReal and continuing to mix political and artistic approaches
- Improving on the organisation and accessibility of the multiple content produced through our work programme, both by creating an accessible web platform and by ensuring syndication agreements with media partners for increased diffusion
- Ensuring at least two high-profile events as part of our work programme.

Establish, enlarge and animate a functioning individual and organisational network

Through its work programme, European Alternatives connects with thousands of activists, social movements, NGOs and citizen groups across Europe. We want to increase our capacity to organise and mobilise this constituency. We plan to do this by:

- Developing a network management strategy including the employment of a dedicated Network Manager and the establishment of a state-of-the-art database
- Building on the pilot Create | React training program we ran in 2014 to establish a regular transnational program on European activism with a particular focus on empowering existing and potential partners
- Establishing the yearly alternation of Transeuropa Festival and European Alternatives Campus as a point of reference for European activists and our organisational partners
- Building up on TRANSEUROPA Festival 2015 in Belgrade, implement a strategy to develop our network in the Balkans

Continue funding diversification, including self-generated income

We want to continue the diversification of our funding, and notably begin to develop a capacity to self-generate income. We plan to:

- Aim for one crowd-sourced activity to establish benchmark and generate internal know-how
- Develop a new approach to and relevant material for donations and membership dues, together with our new strategy for membership.
- Establish clear and longer-term lines for funding for the alternation of our Festival and Campus
- Continue diversification between public and private funding

Consolidate staff and organisational development

We wish to place an emphasis on the development of our organisation and staff.

- Consolidating our newly established Board of Trustees and Advisory Board, developing them as a structural component of our organisation and developing feedback mechanism between staff and boards.
- Work with external experts in organisational development to develop new and improved theory of change, impact assessment, and strategy
- Fully establish our Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning framework to improve quantitative and qualitative assessment and reporting of our work
- Invest in staff trainings, and make our work programme also relevant for the empowerment and growth of our staff



FINANCIALS

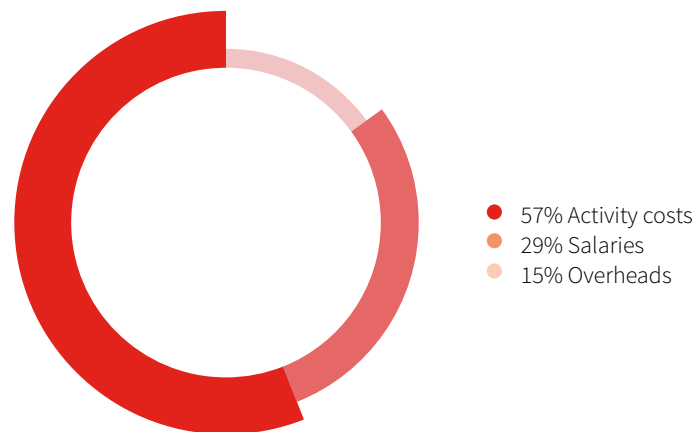
European Alternatives has grown substantially from 2012-13 where its annual turnover was approximately 400,000 euros, to 2014 and 2015 where its annual turnover is over 600,000 euros. Along with this growth, European Alternatives has been able to diversify its funders to include several of the leading foundations supporting political, social and cultural civil society activities at a European level, along with support from programs of the European Commission and European Parliament, including Europe for Citizens, Erasmus+, Horizon2020 and the Culture Program.

European Alternatives endeavours to ensure that more than half of our income is being spent on participative activities on the ground, and the charts below show we are achieving this. European Alternatives has consolidated its staff in 2015 by hiring a Senior Project Manager and Head of Communications, as well as appointing a new director.

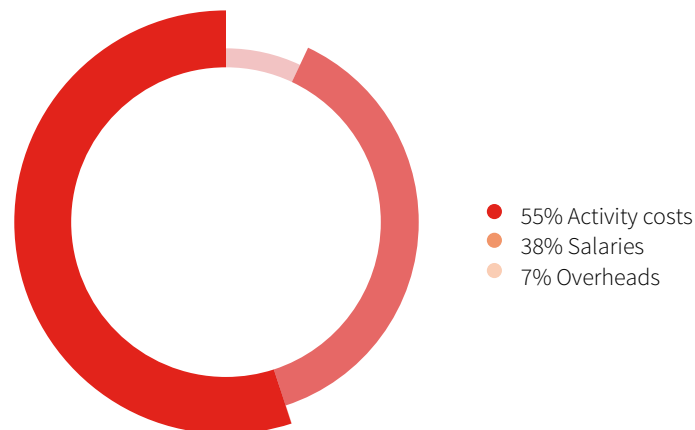
In addition to donations from our members, our institutional funders over the period 2014-2015 included:

European Commission
European Parliament
French Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Allianz Kulturstiftung
Bundeszentrale Fur Politische Bildung
Charles Stuart Mott foundation
European Cultural Foundation
ERSTE Foundation
Goethe Institut
Heinrich Boell Foundation
Mercator Stiftung
NESTA
Open Society Initiative for Europe

2014 EXPENDITURE



2015 EXPENDITURE



OUR GOVERNANCE

European Alternatives is an ongoing experiment in creating a transnational grassroots organisation, committed to participation and democratic functioning, and empowering its members to both influence internal decision making and take the initiative to propose and run new activities.

The Transnational Board of Trustees is legally empowered to oversee the running of the organisation, set its strategy and approve its work programme. It does so in dialogue with individual and organisational members, local groups and our partners.

The Advisory Board includes leading thinkers, artists and activists from throughout Europe and beyond, who advise the organisation on its message, its strategy, on formats of activities, on partners and potential stakeholders.

Staff is responsible for the implementation of the work programme, its communication and coordination of the membership.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Beppe Caccia, Trustee

Beppe Caccia is a scholar of history and political thought. He served as the Deputy Mayor for Social Affairs of the city of Venice. He is active with a number of European organisations, including Globalproject, Blockupy and the daily newspaper Il Manifesto.

Guilhem Delteil, Observer

Guilhem is a journalist at Radio France Internationale. Delteil has been the president of Alternatives Européennes in France since 2013.

Catherine Fieschi, Trustee

Catherine Fieschi is the director of Counterpoint. She holds a Ph.D. in Comparative Political Science from McGill University and is the author of *In the Shadow of Democracy* and numerous pamphlets and articles on extremism, populism and identity politics.

Noel Hatch, Trustee

Noel Hatch develops and manages research and design programmes for public services, think tanks and cultural organisations to better involve communities and transform services. He has cofounded award-winning civic innovation and design programmes.

Srećko Horvat, Trustee

Srećko Horvat is a philosopher from Croatia. He is the author of *After the End of History. From the Arab Spring to the Occupy Movement* and, together with Slavoj Žižek, *What Does Europe Want? The Union and its Discontents*.

Sara Saleri, Observer

Sara Saleri is a researcher at the University of Bologna, with a focus on migration in contemporary European cities. She worked for several years in the nonprofit sector with particular experience in editorial coordination and project management.

Luisa Maria Schweizer, Observer

Luisa Schweizer is an anthropologist and activist. She works for Humanity in Action, in the field of political education and communication, digital public affairs and transnational movement building. She is Chairwoman of European Alternatives Berlin.

Tony Venables, Trustee

Tony Venables is the former director of the European Citizens Action Service. He has expertise in European issues, particularly in the areas of the EU's relationship with NGOs, free movement of people, citizenship rights and consumer protection. He has previously worked for the Council of Europe.

Alessandro Valera, Observer

Alessandro is the Launch Director of Ashoka Italy. He's an Italian national and a global citizen passionate about social change and transnational movements. At European Alternatives he took responsibility for the Citizens Pact and Manifesto.

ADVISORY BOARD

Etienne Balibar

Etienne Balibar is Professor Emeritus of moral and political philosophy at Université de Paris X – Nanterre and Distinguished Professor of Humanities at the University of California, Irvine. He has published widely in the area of European citizenship and moral and political philosophy.

Raffaella Bolini

Raffaella Bolini is International Director and a member of the National Board of ARCI, the largest cultural association in Italy. She is Vice President of the European Civic Forum, a member of the International Council of the World Social Forum, a member of the Executive Committee of the Euromed Network for Human Rights and a member of the Board of SOLIDAR.

Tania Bruguera

Tania Bruguera is a Cuban installation and performance artist. She is founder and director of Arte de Conducta, the first performance studies program in Latin America. She was an Assistant Professor at the Department of Visual Arts of the University of Chicago and is an invited professor at the University IUAV in Venice. She recently founded the the Hannah Arendt Institute for Artivism in La Habana, Cuba.

Sigrid Gareis

Sigrid Gareis is the Secretary General of the “Akademie der Künste der Welt” (Academy of the Arts of the World) in Cologne, a member of the Board of Allianz Cultural Foundation and a trustee of Festspielhaus Hellerau/Dresden. She is the founding director of Tanzquartier Wien.

Ulrike Guérot

Ulrike Guérot is Founder and Director of the “European Democracy Lab” at the European School of Governance in Berlin and a lecturer on European integration at the European Viadrina University. Previously, she served as Head of the Berlin office of the European Council on Foreign Relations, as Senior Associate for Germany at the Open Society Initiative for Europe, Head of the European Union Unit at the German Council on Foreign Relations, and as senior transatlantic fellow with the German Marshall Fund.

Engin Isin

Engin Isin holds a Chair in Citizenship and is Professor of Politics at the Faculty of Social Sciences, the Open University. He is the author of *Cities Without Citizens, Being Political and Citizens Without Frontiers*.

Sandro Mezzadra

Sandro Mezzadra teaches political theory at the University of Bologna and is a fellow at the University of Western Sydney. Previously, he has worked at the Humboldt University in Berlin, Duke University, Fondation Maison des sciences de l’homme in Paris, the University of Ljubljana, FLACSO Ecuador, and UNSAM in Buenos Aires.

Gianluca Solera

Gianluca was among the co-founders of the first Italian Green political platform. He served as political advisor to the Green Party in the European Parliament for ten years and worked for the Anna Lindh Foundation in Egypt. He is author of several books, including *Walls, Tears and Za’tar* and *A Mediterranean Awakening*.

Igor Štiks

Igor Štiks is a Fellow at the Edinburgh College of Art. He co-edited the collections *Citizenship after Yugoslavia*, *Citizenship Rights* and, with Srećko Horvat, *Welcome to the Desert of Post-Socialism: Radical Politics after Yugoslavia*. His novel *A Castle in Romagna* received the Award “Slavic” for best debut in 2000.

Catherine de Wenden

Catherine de Wenden is a political scientist, Research Director at CNRS and professor at the Institut d’études politiques de Paris. She specialises in international and European migration. She is a consultant for the OECD, for the Council of Europe, and an internal expert of UNHCR.

STAFF — DIRECTORS

Daphne Büllsbach, Programme Director

Daphne Büllsbach is the Programme Director and a member of the Transnational Board. After many years as an EA activist, she founded the Berlin office in 2012. Previously, she worked in social science research and the evaluation of government programmes. She also has a background in international humanitarian and development organisations.

Niccolo Milanese, Chair

Niccolo Milanese chairs the Transnational and Advisory Boards. He is part of the elected steering committees of the Cultural Innovators Network – a trans-Mediterranean network of cultural activists and hybridizers – and the Europe+ campaign for a more democratic EU. He has consulted for the British Council, the Goethe Institute and the Open University.

Lorenzo Marsili, Director

Lorenzo Marsili is the co-founder of European Alternatives and the initiator and spokesperson of the European Media Initiative. He has degrees in philosophy and Chinese studies. He is a regular commentator on Italian and European media, and has previously worked in publishing in Beijing and London and co-founded the cultural journal Naked Punch.

Ségolène Pruvot, Cultural Director

Ségolène Pruvot is Cultural Director and coordinates TRANSEUROPA Festival. She was trained as a political scientist and urban planner. She has extensive experience in designing and implementing transnational cultural programmes and stimulating volunteers groups around Europe.

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