



**EUROPEAN
ALTERNATIVES**

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INTRODUCTION

15 YEARS OF EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVES



Assemblies of Solidarity in Between Land and Sea Festival Palermo 2022.
Photo by Maghweb



Theater premier of Prometeo in Between Land and Sea Festival Palermo 2022.
Photo by Maghweb

European Alternatives is a transnational civil society organisation and citizens movement promoting democracy, equality, and culture beyond the nation state.

When we started running this organisation, we believed Europe could be a laboratory for political invention and progress with global implications, but only if we radically changed course. We felt that the current European regime was undermining its own claims to universal rights, democracy and justice. We rejected the idea that we must choose between the status quo and nationalism: we held Europe had to be reclaimed and reinvented, made hospitable to others and to other ideas.

At the same time, we knew that Europe had the resources to reinvent itself: a history of democratic invention, of human rights and responsibility, of art and intellectual endeavour, of dissidence, resistance and utopian action. We started small, a group of like-minded individuals with almost no material resources, only our energy, ideas and our email accounts, but it rapidly became clear that there was a need for an organisation, a structure, an institution, a medium, to empower a new generation of Europeans to act for a different future in multiple ways.

Today, 15 years later, we still reject the idea that there has to be a division between 'metropolitan elites' and 'ordinary people'. The lives of us all are politically and socially determined by forces that cross borders, and we can only try to have political agency by acting in a transnational way in solidarity with others who may be physically distant but in a similar circumstance. The relevant political division is between elites which profit from exploitation and a monopoly over power and influence, and those of us who believe an alternative future is possible. The task of European Alternatives is to contribute to connecting, organising and empowering these people across borders, acting locally. Accordingly, European Alternatives does not limit its action to one theme, topic or geographical area but endeavors to be generalist and transnational. In this report you will find at a glance some of our key actions and impact of the past few years.

WHO WE ARE

OUR STRUCTURE



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

Working through our various cities, European Alternatives has over the past years developed innovative approaches to promoting European citizenship and fundamental rights by organising citizens' discussions, transnational campaigns, festivals, and conferences, by using innovative online methods (multilingual websites, podcasts, social media activism, online videos, magazines, web documentaries and more) and by involving excluded groups in activities with a European focus (migrant groups, local democracy groups, youth groups, artistic organisations).

EA STAFF is responsible for the implementation of the work programme, its communication and coordination of the EA community.

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.



**BILLIE
DIBB**

**INTERN IN CULTURAL
MANAGEMENT**

Billie is an Intern at European Alternatives, mainly working on the 'Room To Bloom' and FIERCE projects.

They have an academic background in International Politics, with a focus on gendered nationalism and big data. She also has experience within the asylum & migration sector across the UK & France, volunteering for multiple groups over the last 7 years covering roles in event management, graphics & communications, campaigning, and coordination.

Billie created and runs an event in Paris, 'La Voisin', an exhbocum-party creating a space for feminist thought and artistic expression. She is passionate about, and dabbles in, the creative possibilities of new technologies in the arts and how they can facilitate social change.



**CSENGE
SCHNEIDER-
LONHART**

**TRANSEUROPA FESTIVAL LOCAL
COORDINATOR**

Csenge is the Local Coordinator of the TransEuropa Festival, taking place in Cluj this year. She was born in 1998 in Budapest. In 2022 she finished her Master's degree in Contemporary Theatre at the Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj Napoca, Faculty of Theatre and Film. She has volunteered at various festivals, such as the TESZT Festival in Timișoara, the Interferences Festival and the Khetane festival in Cluj. She was one of the founders of the Questioning Reality Festival, the first research festival in Cluj-Napoca, organised around the topic of the Smart City concept of Cluj. The QR project debates, analyses, and dissects, together with the local community, the hidden problems of a smart city.

She is currently collaborating with Casa Tranzit, where she is involved in projects that address interaction and care for children. She is part of the movement Social Housing NOW!, which is a local movement for public housing and housing justice.



GABRIELA SIEGEL

INTERN IN COMMUNITY ORGANIZING EDUCATION

Gabriela is Intern at the Berlin Hub of European Alternatives, working on the School of Transnational Organizing's education and training programs for migrant workers, East German & Eastern European activists, as well as youth activists and campaigners from across Europe.

She has almost ten years of experience in direct legal services, community organising, and policy work with refugee and immigrant communities, both in Lebanon and the US. Gabriela worked in the US as a movement lawyer, representing low-income undocumented individuals, first in their immigration cases and later on employment and labour matters. She also worked on designing and implementing benefits and policies to support low-income immigrants in New York State. She is currently completing a master's programme through the Global Labour University on Labour Policies and Globalisation.



GEORG BLOKUS

BERLIN HUB DIRECTOR & HEAD OF ORGANIZING EDUCATION

Georg, born in 1987 near the Polish Solidarnosc city of Gdansk, is the Director of our Berlin Hub, which primarily runs the School of Transnational Organizing providing a space for education and training on movement building, transformative organizing, and popular education for grassroots campaigners, migrant workers, union organizers, climate justice activists and many more seeking for skills and tools to build the next generation of movements and organisations.

He is a psychologist by training and has been working for several years as a documentary theatermaker, before turning to political organizing and grassroots education with progressive movements, trade unions, and civil society organizations. Because of his own family history, his focus is on organizing workers, migrants, and their communities on the frontlines.

Before joining European Alternatives in early 2021, he worked as Artistic-Pedagogical Director of the Academy of the Arts of the World/Cologne from 2014 to 2016 and initiated the SCHOOL OF POLITICAL HOPE as a place for citizens, communities, and civil society actors seeking inspiration, empowerment, and support to overcome our feeling of powerlessness and revive the lost art of organizing solidarity.



JANA AHLERS

GRASSROOTS EDUCATION MANAGER

Jana is Grassroots Education Manager at European Alternatives, working within the School of Transnational Organizing. She is dedicated to creating transformative learning spaces and building capacity to collaboratively strategize for system change.

With a background in education, she has a passion for critical and experiential pedagogy and research interest in how social movements learn and engage in counter-hegemonic knowledge production. As a social and climate justice organizer and activist she has experience and a wide network across the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium, the UK, and Germany.

Most recently, she coordinated the programme of the People's Summit for Climate Justice in Glasgow. Working with the COP26 Coalition, she draws on capacity organizing with a wide range of civil society groups, ranging from environment and development NGOs, to grassroots community campaigns, youth groups, indigenous groups, and migrant and racial justice networks.

Outside of EA, Jana is a Berlin-based grassroots organizer and activist, steadily pushing towards new imaginaries and strategic wins by the people.



MARTA CILLERO

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Marta Cillero is responsible of the communications at European Alternatives. She graduated in Media Studies, Journalism and Communication (Madrid, Istanbul and Chicago) and has a master degree in Gender Studies (Rome). She has published several articles and research reports about gender violence in Mediterranean countries.

She is a member of the executive board and project manager at Chayn Italia, an award-winning organisation based in Italy, Pakistan, India and the UK helping women experiencing abuse and gender violence through open and free multilingual resources on online safety.



MARTIN PAIRET

BERLIN HUB FINANCES & ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Martin was the Network Manager of European Alternatives for five years until 2020. In the last years he became a French baker. In the Berlin Hub was in charge of the development of the transnational community and network of the organisation. Martin has been working in the non-profit sector for more than eight years with experience in membership development, communications and fundraising in international organisations such as IFOAM – Organics International and Oxfam France. He is also engaged as a member of SOS Méditerranée, a civic European organisation for the rescue of people in distress in the Mediterranean and of MitOst, an international network of cultural actors and active citizens. He has a strong interest on how activists and civil society organisations are articulating and organising themselves to influence European politics both at the grassroots and at the institutional level. Since April 2023, Martin is supporting the team again as Berlin Hub Finances & Administration Assistant.



MARTINO BOZZI

INTERN IN TRANSNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

Martino is an Intern at European Alternatives, working on the Transnational European Assemblies (TEA) and Youth Movement & Campaign Accelerator program (YMCA) projects.

He also collaborates with the University of Milan on an ongoing research project aimed at disclosing the precarious conditions of migrant workers in Italy. Martino's academic interest and background is centred on the study of global and social policies with a specific focus towards European integration, comparative politics, welfare systems, and globalisation processes. His most recent work in this field explores the Effects of Globalisation on Social Public Expenditure will be featured in the journal Quaderni di Economia Sociale.

Outside of academia and work, Martino has dedicated his attention to co-founding a non-profit environmental group within his small home-town. His interests and passions are grounded in politics, art and photography. From this, he has long helped his father in his work at the ANPI (Associazione Nazionale Partigiani d'Italia) and in organising photo exhibitions.



NICCOLÒ MILANESE

DIRECTOR

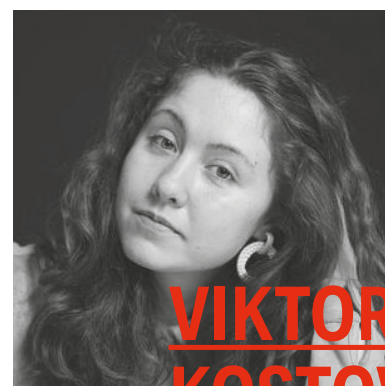
Niccolò is a director of European Alternatives. He is currently a Europe's Future's Fellow at IWM, Vienna. Niccolò was educated in Cambridge, Siena and Paris where he was an Entente Cordiale Scholar. Besides from European Alternatives he has been involved in the founding of numerous political and cultural organizations, magazines and initiatives on several sides of the Mediterranean.



MYRIAM ZEKAGH

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Myriam Zekagh is coordinating EA's Youth Movement & Campaign Accelerator program. As such, she works with young activists and partner organisations throughout Europe to create a space of learning and practice around organising, community building and political activism. Outside of European Alternatives, Myriam works on developing and evaluating projects with high social impact, engaging with local activists, civil society organisations and local authorities outside of Europe, most notably in North Africa, on behalf of European, American and international organisations. Through this work and her training in sociology, she has shown a real interest for social change, and gained solid experience and expertise in conflict resolution, community development projects and participatory processes.



VIKTORIA KOSTOVA

Viktoria Kostova has a Bachelor's degree in Journalism and just finished her Master's degree in Management of Creative Industries and Cultural Organizations in Sofia, Bulgaria. She has worked for different NGOs in the sphere

of culture and education locally and internationally, predominantly in Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Tenerife, Sweden, UK and the USA. She is interested in sustainability in the arts, activism, youth engagement and audience development.



OPHÉLIE MASSON

PROGRAMME COORDINATOR

Ophélie coordinates the Assemblies of Solidarity programme as well as several other key areas of work at European Alternatives, including the Citizens Take Over Europe coalition.

She has worked as communications officer for several international NGOs, where she focused on defining new common narratives and championing inclusive language processes. She has created and led campaigns at EU level, engaging with actors ranging from grassroots organisations to European institutions. She has also worked in communications for an MEP at the European Parliament.

Ophélie is a committed feminist, who believes in an intersectional approach to ending all forms of gender-based violence and oppression. She is passionate about ceramics and volunteers with local organisations defending LGBT+ rights. She has featured in the movie « En ce Moment », selected at the Venice Biennale.



SÉGOLÈNE PRUVOT

CULTURAL DIRECTOR

Ségolène Pruvot is a Cultural Director of European Alternatives. Trained as a political scientist and urban planner in France, the UK, and Germany, she has developed extensive experience in designing and implementing transnational participative cultural programmes.

Ségolène has led the Creative Europe Project on Re-build Refuge Europe and is a researcher within the H2020-RISE project Co-creation focussed on disadvantaged urban areas.

Ségolène is passionate about equality, feminism, migrant; minority rights. She is a researcher in urban sociology at the University of Milano Bicocca working on how arts can help to build a (more) just city; exploring participatory theatre experiments in an area North of Paris (Saint-Denis). She has also been working for 15 years as a consultant to the URBACT European Programme (www.urbact.eu), which includes a wealth of municipal good practices in alternative practices in education and in the welcoming of migrants.



ENGIN ISIN

Engin 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* (Montreal, 1992), *Being Political* (Minneapolis, 2002) and *Citizens Without Frontiers* (London, 2012). He has edited with Greg Nielsen, *Acts of Citizenship* (London, 2008). Isin is currently conducting three main research projects: (i) concerning postorientalist conceptions of citizenship; (ii) concerning 'acts' especially those that constitute subjects as claimants of justice traversing frontiers; and, (iii) concerning 'digital citizenship' with a focus on governing conduct in cyberspace.



GIANLUCA SOLERA

Gianluca was among the co-founders of the first Italian Green political platform, in the City of Mantua. After his studies on urban and regional affairs in Venice, Paris and Berlin, he was political advisor to the Green Party in the European Parliament for ten years, as well as coordinator of the Spanish Green Party in Europe for two years. At the Anna Lindh Foundation for the dialogue between cultures, over

ADVISORY BOARD



ETIENNE BALIBAR

Etienne 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 in general. His many works include *Lire le Capital* (with Louis Althusser, Jacques Rancière); *Spinoza et la politique* (1985); *We, Citizens of Europe?* (2001); *Politics and the Other Scene* (2002); *L'Europe, l'Amérique, la Guerre. Réflexions sur la médiation européenne* (2003); *Europe, Constitution, Frontière* (2005).

the last eight years (2005-2012), he has built a network of 4,000 organisations from more than forty countries between Europe, the Arab world, Israel and Turkey. He is author of several books, among which *Walls, Tears and Za'tar* (Nuovadimensione, 2007) and *A Mediterranean Awakening* (Nuovadimensione, 2013). He is a member of the Mediterranean Citizens' Assembly.



RAFFAELLA BOLINI

Raffaella is International Director and a member of the National Board of ARCI, the largest cultural association in Italy with one million members and formed by 5.000 local community centers promoting citizenship, democracy and rights. She is also 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.



SIGRID GAREIS

Sigrid 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.



PHILIPPE VAN PARIJS

Philippe Van Parijs studied philosophy, law, political economy, sociology and linguistics at the Facultés universitaires Saint Louis (Brussels) and the Universities of Louvain, Oxford, Bielefeld and California (Berkeley). He holds doctorates in the social sciences (Louvain, 1977) and in philosophy (Oxford, 1980).

He is Professor at the Faculty of economic, social and political sciences of the University of Louvain (UCL), where he has directed the Hoover Chair of economic and social ethics since its creation in 1991. He has also been a special guest professor at the KuLeuven's Higher Institute for Philosophy since 2006. From 2004 onwards he was for several years a Regular Visiting Professor of Philosophy at Harvard University.



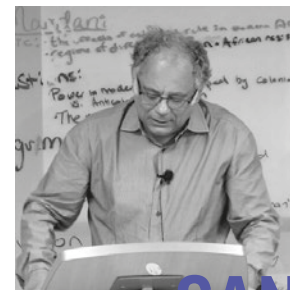
TANIA BRUGUERA

Tania is a Cuban installation and performance artist. She studied at the Instituto Superior de Arte in Havana and then earned an M.F.A. in performance from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is the founder and director of Arte de Conducta (behavior art), the first performance studies program in Latin America, which is hosted by Instituto Superior de Arte in Havana. From 2003-2010, she was an Assistant Professor at the Department of Visual Arts of The University of Chicago, United States and is an invited professor at the University IUAV in Venice, Italy.



WANG HUI

Wang Hui is a Professor in the Department of Chinese Language and Literature at Tsinghua University in Beijing. He was named one of the top 100 public intellectuals in the world in 2008 by Foreign Policy, and is the author of The End of the Revolution, China's New Order, The Politics of Imagining Asia, and China's Twentieth Century.



SANDRO MEZZADRA

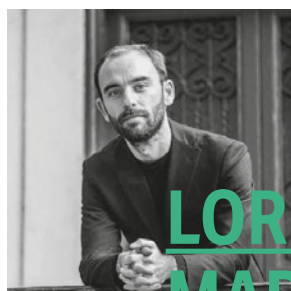
Sandro teaches political theory at the University of Bologna and is adjunct fellow at the Institute for Culture and Society of the University of Western Sydney. He has been visiting professor and research fellow in several places, including the Humboldt Universität (Berlin), Duke University, Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme (Paris), University of Ljubljana, FLACSO Ecuador, and UNSAM (Buenos Aires). In the last decade his work has particularly centered on the relations between globalization, migration and citizenship. Among his works: "Diritto di fuga. Migrazioni, cittadinanza, globalizzazione" (ombre corte, 2006) and "La condizione postcoloniale" (ombre corte, 2008). With Brett Neilson he is the author of "Border as Method, or, the Multiplication of Labor" (Duke University Press, 2013).

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



ALESSANDRO VALERA

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.



LORENZO MARSILI

Lorenzo Marsili is a philosopher, activist, and one of the co-founders of European Alternatives. He previously worked in cultural journalism in London and Beijing, where he founded the journal Naked Punch Review. He was the initiator of the European Initiative for Media Pluralism, an international campaign demanding better protection for media pluralism and freedom at European level, and of Transnational Dialogues, a multi-year arts



ALBERTO ALEMANNO

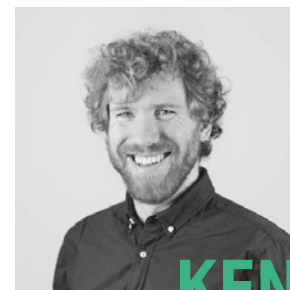
Alberto joined the board of European Alternatives in December 2017. Alberto is an academic, civic advocate and public interest lawyer. He's Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law at HEC Paris and Global Professor of Law at New York University School of Law. He runs The Good Lobby, the first advocacy skill-sharing community aimed at connecting people with expertise with CSOs who need them in pursuit of the public interest.

exchange programme between cultural innovators in China, Brazil and Europe. In his book Citizens of Nowhere: How to Save Europe for Itself (Zed Books 2018, written with Niccolo Milanese), he tells the story of European Alternatives within a wider political and philosophical analysis of the crisis of the nation-state. He is a regular commentator on European media and has degrees in philosophy and sinology from the University of London.



GUILHEM DELTEIL

Guilhem's first advocacy for democracy was through his job orientation. Believing in the importance of freedom of speech, he became a journalist. Willing to confront his views on news with the ones of people with different backgrounds, he's now working for an international broadcaster employing journalists from over 20 countries. Looking for a more active way to weight on the evolution of society and convinced that challenges can't be faced anymore at the national level, he became involved in European Alternatives in 2010. He's been the president of Alternatives Européennes in France since 2013.



KENO FRANKE

Having lived in Denmark, France, Germany and New Zealand transnationalism has always been a part of Keno. His educational background in European, parliamentary and civil society studies make Keno a keen European with a special interest in participatory democracy both within and beyond the nation state. He joined European Alternatives in 2015, has been involved with EA over the years since and was elected into the Board in 2020. In 2018 Keno joined Zebralog to design processes which help to give people the best possible voice in democratic processes.



ANNEKE ILSEMANN

Anneke Ilseemann graduated in European Studies at the University of Bremen and got an MA in Democracy and Governance in Europe from the University of Tübingen. Her main interest lays on the topics of social movements and digitalisation in Europe. Over

the last years she worked in admin in the fields of architecture, digitalisation research and environmental protection. She started getting involved with European Alternatives in 2016 and joined the board of EA Berlin in August 2020.



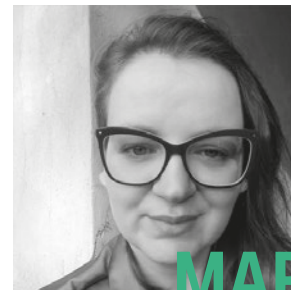
LYDIA BERNEBURG

Lydia is a committed European and an advocate for child rights. Since 2018 she has been advocating for child rights in the spheres of development cooperation and humanitarian affairs in her position at UNICEF Germany. She worked for different NGOs aiming to strengthen the rights of vulnerable groups such as migrants and refugees, people with disabilities and people in deprived areas. She graduated in Social Sciences at the Humboldt-University in Berlin and got an MA in International Development Studies at the Philipps-University in Marburg. An internship at EA Berlin in 2017 was the starting point of her involvement with European Alternatives. She has been a board member of EA Berlin since August 2020.



MARTIN PAIRET

Martin was the Network Manager of European Alternatives for five years until 2020. In the last years he became a French baker. In the Berlin Hub was in charge of the development of the transnational community and network of the organisation. Martin has been working in the non-profit sector for more than eight years with experience in membership development, communications and fundraising in international organisations such as IFOAM – Organics International and Oxfam France. He is also engaged as a member of SOS Méditerranée, a civic European organisation for the rescue of people in distress in the Mediterranean and of MitOst, an international network of cultural actors and active citizens. He has a strong interest on how activists and civil society organisations are articulating and organising themselves to influence European politics both at the grassroots and at the institutional level. Since April 2023, Martin is supporting the team again as Berlin Hub Finances & Administration Assistant.



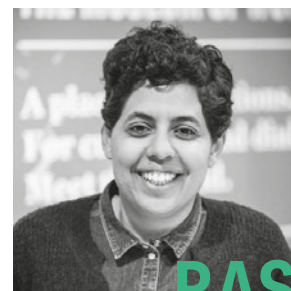
MARCIA BARATTO

Marcia Baratto lives in Munich and leads the Research and Legal Coordination of REVIBRA Europe, a network of legal experts and psychologists which provide support to Brazilian victims of gender violence in the EU. Marcia has a PhD in Political Sciences and an extensive CV as Professor in Human Rights issues in Brazil and truly understands intersectionality in practice and the inequalities faced by racialized minorities, including migrants.



SUZANA CARP

Suzana joined the board of European Alternatives in December 2017. Suzana lives in Brussels where she leads on the EU engagement work of a London based climate policy think tank Sandbag. She worked on a number of migration related projects, including working on a project investigating migration in the media across different countries, completing a comprehensive study of refugee support across the EU, etc. She founded the project Act 4 Democracy, which strives to offer education for democracy through theatre to youth from underprivileged backgrounds and remote areas.



RASHA SHAABAN

Rasha joined the board of European Alternatives in September 2016. She is currently working at the National Museum of World Cultures as coordinator of the Anna Lindh Foundation civil society network in Sweden. Her work includes mainly the coordination of the biggest network of Swedish organisations (governmental and

non-governmental) on intercultural dialogue. She is in charge of organising national and regional events to promote intercultural dialogue around different topics. Since the beginning of 2015, she has also been in charge of the transnational project called “WoMidan” (WoMen of the Square) which aims at empowering women activism for social change.

WHAT WE DO

OUR INITIATIVES IN 2021 AND 2022



Niccolò Milanese demonstrating in the context of Transeuropa Festival 2022 in Porto on April 25 to commemorate the Carnation Revolution that took place in the country. Photo by Natacha Oliveira.



Participants of Transeuropa Festival 2022 in Porto under the theme Decolonize, Decarbonise, Democratize. Photo by Natacha Oliveira.

TRANSEUROPA FESTIVAL

On 19th March 2007, in a packed hall at the Courtauld Institute of Arts, Zygmunt Bauman opened the *London Festival of Europe*: many of the audience were surprised to see not some well established or official organisation behind the festival, but a group of young people. It was the first public act of European Alternatives.

The French poet Paul Valéry wrote of Europe as being a giant machine that runs on dreams and transforms the world around it. Our machine was miserable - with less than a couple of thousand euros we set about transforming this experience into a pan-European festival that would span the continent and provide the infrastructure to grow our ideals: for us, this is Transeuropa festival.

TRANSEUROPA 2022
A FESTIVAL OF ARTS, POLITICS AND CULTURE

Renowned intellectuals, artists and activists have supported TRANSEUROPA and contributed to its development by taking part in various editions of the Festival. Artists and poets such as Dan Perjovschi, Tania Bruguera, Stefano Boeri, Danielle Arbid, Marcelo Exposito, ORLAN, Cai Yuan and Jan Jun Xi, Casimiro de Brito, George Szirtes, Fiona Sampson, Ma Yongfeng, Hiwa K and Oliver Ressler have brought their creations, ideas and art projects to the Festival.



At a glance

- **TRANSEUROPA** is a transnational festival taking place in as many as 15 cities simultaneously and encompassing several topics and activities in the areas of art and politics. From Belgrade to Barcelona, from London to Bratislava, from Cluj-Napoca to Paris, since the first edition thousands of activists across Europe have been invited to engage in this movement spanning dozens of cities across the continent.
- **TRANSEUROPA** is a moment of synergy and openness; a moment of gathering and a place from which it is possible to develop new perspectives, imaginaries and launch common projects and initiatives across Europe. It is the moment for European Alternatives to reaffirm its commitment to putting culture and arts at the centre of its vision of Europe.
- Beyond inviting people to think Europe differently, **TRANSEUROPA** aims at creating a shared space between people located in different countries and cities, where they can think and act together. A transnational space, where the feeling of belonging to one community is not linked to territoriality or nationality.
- The last edition of **TRANSEUROPA** took place in Porto (20-25 April 2022). Curated collectively and taking into account a plurality of voices, the programme actively participated in deconstructing spaces of oppression and works in building spaces of freedom and imagination to construct viable and long-term alternatives. The curatorial theme, Decolonize, Decarbonise, Democratize, focused on three key concepts shaping our world and our relationships today. Porto became the ideal location to take forward these concepts and rethink a new physical and conceptual space in which the relations between Europe, Africa and Latin America take a different shape.

"We, people living in Europe, in the Americas, in Africa, in Asia, with diverse biographies, backgrounds and connections, believe that human rights are universal and their respect is an imperative for peace. In the name of that belief we call for Russia to end the war in Ukraine and withdraw its invading forces"

Quote from the Porto Declaration on Transnational Peace (2022)



IT IS THE
MOMENT FOR
EUROPEAN
ALTERNATIVES
TO REAFFIRM ITS
COMMITMENT
TO PUTTING
CULTURE AND
ARTS AT THE
CENTRE OF
IT VISION
OF EUROPE

"SHEVEK IYAPO" – MUSICAL LECTURE PERFORMANCE BY
FELLOWS OF THE ACADEMY OF MIGRANT ORGANIZING In
the context of Transeuropa Festival 2022 in Porto.
Photo by Natacha Oliveira.

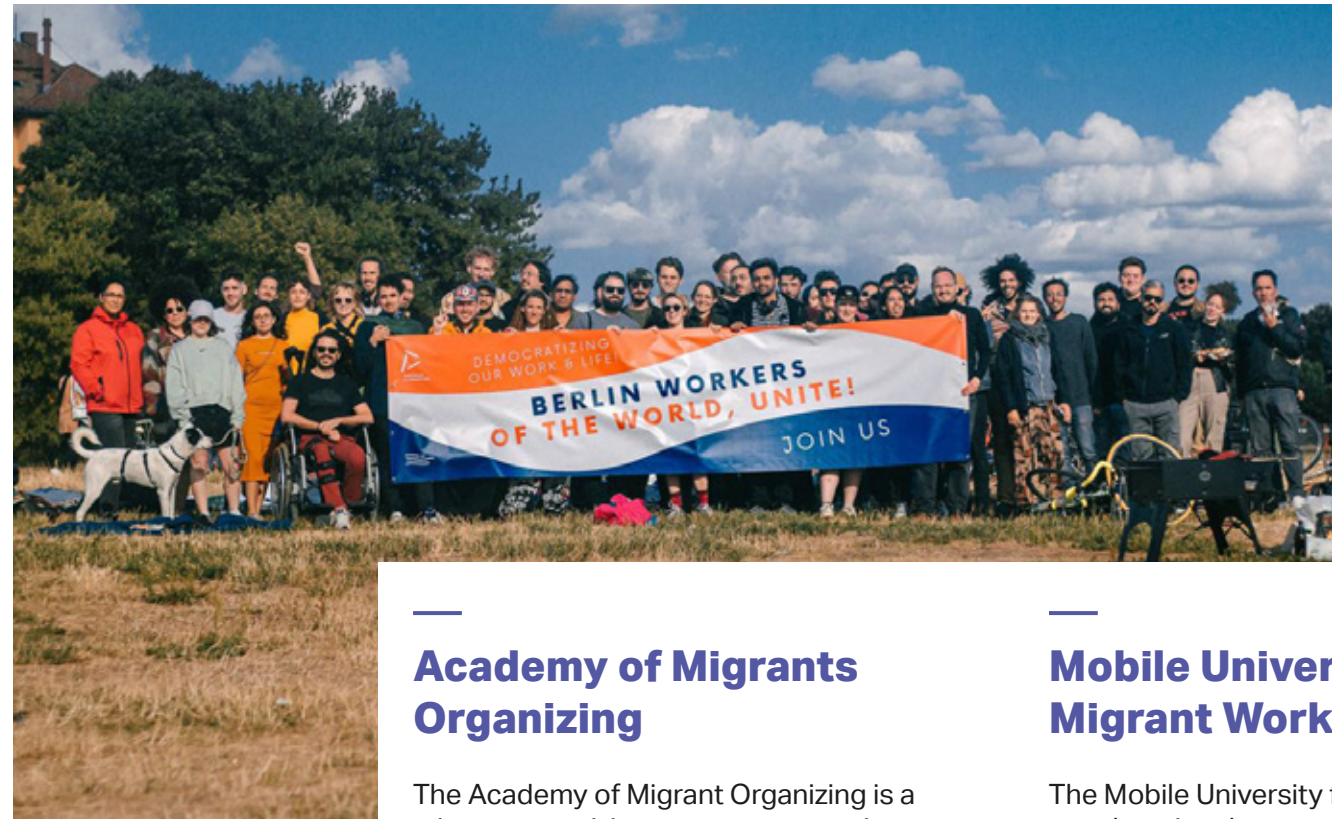




SCHOOL OF TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISING

In The School of Transnational Organizing, everyday people, social movement builders, trade union organizers, migrant workers, climate justice activists as well as marginalized communities meet to learn the tools and skills to master the lost art of organizing solidarity and together shape the landscape of what we think is possible. We create brave spaces involving different people: allowing us to overcome the deep sense of powerlessness many of us share and enabling people “to turn the resources they have into the power they need to make the change they want” (Marshall Ganz). With a wide community of trainers, facilitators, and educators, we inspire, train, and support new popular pioneers, organizations, and movements to spread political hope, courage, and joy in their countries, cities, and communities. Our offline and online educational programs and classes are free of charge and do not require prior academic knowledge or political experience. We believe that only when people see more and more people acting collectively and building capacity for a common future can we keep believing in democracy and solidarity.

Projects within the School of Transnational Organizing include:



Academy of Migrants Organizing

The Academy of Migrant Organizing is a migrant organizing program promoting a new strategic way of transformative organizing as it was and is being practiced in many unions and movements around the world. The program is specifically aimed at migrant, refugee and BIPOC organizers in Germany, with the goal of starting a joint process of reflection, research and education with three public events mainly designed by the expert group: We want to lead the discourse about identity and solidarity of and with migrants out of the political dead-end. Connecting to recent campaigns for the right to vote for migrants as well as affordable housing, health care, workers rights, and fundamental rights in Germany we thus want to engage in a critical discourse about political representation, agency and transformative community organizing, as diaspora communities, social movements and trade union campaigns show that migrants are at the forefront of the struggles of the last decade.

Mobile University for Migrant Workers

The Mobile University for Migrant Workers is an educational program aimed at expanding and developing migrant workers' awareness of rights and their political capacity to effect change.

Over the course of three years, European Alternatives, the School of Transnational Organizing, and their partners across labor unions and academic institutions aim to build a dialogical and relational organizing and co-learning process that supports migrant workers on the frontlines of care, agriculture, delivery, tech, logistics, aviation, and transportation. Through this process, we not only work together to expand self-organizing capacities, but to transform and democratize legal and representational structures through which migrant workers channel their power.

During the first phase of the project in 2022, we organize different storytelling sessions and legal advice, organizing trainings, migrant history classes and community events, as well as two summits (in collaboration with documenta Institute and Theater Bremen) and an online town hall meeting, to gain initial insights on how migrant workers can become stronger together and have a common voice in the German political discourse. This knowledge and tools will finally be shared with the public in our [Migrant Organizing Toolbox](#) and the [Online Handbook for Transnational Organizers](#).

Youth Movement & Campaign Accelerator

The Youth Movement & Campaign Accelerator offers European youth and community leaders a way to engage in, and build, European democracy, by establishing a transnational network able to connect national and local issues to EU-level policymaking. Our newest youth education program aims to increase the engagement of young people and their communities in constructing European democracy by the creation of a network of over 60 young people aged 18-30 from different European countries, who will have been trained in activating their local communities, articulating their issues and demands, and moving them to take collective action. In synergy with other ongoing projects like the Assemblies of Solidarity and the Academy of Migrant Organizing, and drawing from the experience and resources of the Citizens Take Over Europe coalition, the Youth Movement & Campaign Accelerator connects young activists and organizers with a broader network of individuals and organizations throughout Europe - as a trove of resources and connections that will empower them to lead increasingly impactful campaigns on the ground. This tight-knit network of engaged young European citizens and organizations will serve as a link between European institutions (and especially the Parliament) and their citizens and especially frontline communities, thus promoting the active participation of young European citizens ahead of the 2024 European Parliament elections.

Movement Learning Catalyst

This year-long+ programme aims to nurture the interconnected movements and responsive strategies needed to challenge the interlocking systems of oppression we face today. It combines high quality training, an action learning framework, as well as cross organisational and movement networking.

The programme is designed as a transversal movement project – connecting different struggles and communities across barriers of gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, social class, dis/ability and others. The course places action-learning, deep ongoing reflection, and building solidarity-based relationships at its core. In addition to exploring key themes related to transversal and transnational movement building, the programme aims to model these practices and provide a well designed framework for ongoing action-learning and relationship building. The programme is designed to strengthen our capacity to embed learning across our different movements' practices, so we can continue to learn from experience, design creative and testable interventions, and build strategic approaches that can respond to the ever-changing conditions we struggle within.



Members of the Citizens Take Over Europe coalition demonstrating in Strasbourg after publishing the Open Letter sent to the Executive Board of the Conference. June 2021.

CITIZENS TAKE OVER EUROPE



Citizens Take Over Europe emerged in the spring 2020 amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. It is composed of a group of more than 50 civil society organizations, citizens and residents from across Europe, joined in a common effort to promote a forward-looking and citizens-centered European democracy. The coalition believes that it is fundamental for people in Europe to organize across borders and design the Europe that we want: "a Europe that cares and is taken care of".

The CTOE coalition aspire to a Europe that is:

**Democratic — Solidary — Feminist
Ecological and sustainable — Peaceful
Antiracist — Plural, open and inclusive**

Some of the project that the coalition carries out are:

Assemblies of Solidarity

Our Assemblies of Solidarity are a series of citizens-led events, meaning organised by and for citizens and residents of the EU, aiming at connecting different marginalised groups. Citizens assemblies are one of the most accessible tools at civil society's disposal as a form of direct participative democracy.

The assemblies consist of a series of events and participatory moments co-created and co-organised by citizens to raise awareness on key topics related to:

- **Democracy and fundamental rights.**
- **Social Europe and health.**
- **Environment and climate change**



**Assemblies
of Solidarity**

The Assemblies of Solidarity result in the co-creation of a feedback mechanism between EU citizens and the EU institutions (Parliament, Commission and Council), a package of petitions to promote the right to petition and other participatory democracy tools. We believe that European democracy must be based on innovative engagement formats, fostering the relationship and dialogue between citizens throughout Europe and their capacity to give useful inputs, reports and testimonies that can help European decision makers develop more informed policies.

The goal for European Alternatives is to showcase successful examples of Assemblies organised at local, national and European levels so as to promote the implementation of permanent European Citizens Panels as a viable and sustainable institution in European politics. Participative democracy should go hand in hand with the current representative democratic institutions in place, as a way to re-establish the trust and interest for civic participation, especially for the usually under-represented communities.



Participants of the Assembly of Solidarity in Gothenburg. June 2021

Generation D Liberation

With the project Generation D-Liberation, Citizens Takeover Europe and European Alternatives welcomed young people to show that all Europeans – including youth – have the right and the wish to say what the future of Europe should look like. We invited youth across different countries in Europe to organise their own citizen deliberation and draft their recommendations for the future of Europe. The objectives of the project are to develop and test a methodology for deliberation at school level that can be used by students and schools in order to promote youth engagement and political debates and recommendations. We also aim to promote youth engagement, school deliberations and to bring the voices of school students to their political representatives creating a meaningful dialogue among them.

EU Democracy Rally

The EU Democracy Rally is a platform supporting people of all ages in their active citizenship. As partner organisations from all over Europe, we developed a training programme helping all of us hone our democracy skills and fine-tune our projects of social and political change. The aim of the project is to support citizens of all ages and young people in particular in the further development of our democracies. With this project we are working to enhance the direct participation of citizens in our democracies and help our societies focus on the ecological transition, the reduction of inequalities, and the improvement of the general quality of life. The first rally brought together around 30 young people in Luxembourg to participate in a one week programme on the topic of active citizenship.



Members of Room to Bloom in the first workshop on Ecofeminism in Athens organised by AthensSYN and Avtonomy Akadimia. June 2021.

ROOM TO BLOOM

Room to Bloom is a platform and network bringing together feminist artists with a migration background who create ecological and postcolonial narratives of Europe. By associating artists and creators who – too often – occupy a peripheral place in the world of arts and places who are considered to be geographically peripheral, Room to Bloom aims at building a discourse on European Culture that is fully built on the experience and knowledge of the periphery and to bring it back to the centre.

Beyond a few famous faces, women and migrants struggle to be effectively contributing to the making of the European cultural and artistic discourse, not from a lack of ideas or capacities but because the structural obstacles they face are not of those that one can easily fight individually.

Room to Bloom recognises that it is more than time to build on that and provide artists and cultural operators to navigate patriarchy and racism in the world of arts and to open up the space for them to bloom in a transnational Europe. The platform promotes emerging feminist artists and provides them with tools to operate in the European cultural scene. The platform is jointly coordinated by European Alternatives, AthensSYN, Avtonomi Akadimia, Studio Rizoma and the Museum of World Cultures.

The work of the platform at a glance

Biennales & Festivals



roomto
bloom



Trainings & Artistic Productions



Networking & Mentoring



Room to Bloom in Numbers



100+
artists member
of the network



20+
artists supported



10+
public events



8+
online sessions
& trainings



Lo Def Film Factory The Subterranean Imprint Archive 2021 installation. Luca Giradini.

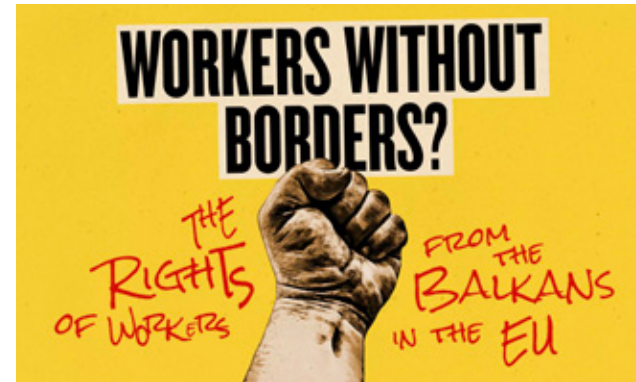
RESEARCH & ADVOCACY

European Alternatives constitutes a unique organisation in that it combines political, social and artistic projects taking place simultaneously in many different cities and with different formats. For this reason, we combine our work with academic research in cooperation with different universities, research centres and educational institutions.

Artsformation

Artsformation is a research project exploring the intersection between arts, society and technology. With this project we aim to understand, analyse, and promote the ways in which the Arts can reinforce the social, cultural, economic, and political benefits of digital transformation. Artsformation investigates the potential of the Arts to intervene in critical social issues, with a view to remedying a range of abusive and exploitative aspects of digital technologies, such as labour politics, privacy and education.

So far with Artsformation we've organised artistic residencies, published academic research, participated in international artistic events such as transmediale or LABS, and hosted workshop with young artists on topics such as the impact of the Tik-Tok algorithm in our private and professional lives.



Do workers from the western balkans who move to the EU have full access to their rights?



How should work and life conditions of western balkan workers in the eu be improved?



What do trade unions & migrant workers do to address their problems?



What is the situation of workers moving from the western balkans to work in the EU?

Workers Without Borders

Workers without Borders advocates for the European institutions to do more to protect the rights of workers who move. In particular, it calls on the newly established European Labour Authority to take initiative in order to protect the rights of young workers and people in precarious forms of employment.

Through researching the risks to the rights of these workers, as well as best practices of trade unions and governmental agencies to protect these rights, the project will produce policy recommendations and promote structured dialogue between young and precarious workers and EU institutions.

FIERCE: Feminist Movements Revitalizing Democracy in Europe

FIERCE aims to revitalize the alliances between the feminist movement, civil society and political decision makers. We envision the possibility to rekindle the movement-institution relationship by means of a multidimensional, bottom-up and impact-oriented approach.

FIERCE will kick off in the Autumn of 2022 and it will work to produce shared best practices of feminist mobilisations across Europe, strategies for countering far right in front of a growing anti-feminist and anti-gender movements, discourses, activities and the establishment of a strong network of feminist movements and public actors able to defend and advance women's rights.

Trust Without Borders

Trust Without Borders is a research project in cooperation with the University of Siegen that aims to determine the status quo of European solidarity and pathways towards a future Europe of solidarity. It brings together civil society with academia and political decision-makers to address the most pressing trust and solidarity issues of the EU and to develop proposals and recommendations for action. In line with European Alternatives' mission we focus on the needs and claims of civil society actors and activists to expand their transnational networks, strengthen collective action and knowledge across borders, and promote policy changes in the EU.

Over the three years (2021 - 2023), European Alternatives, together with the Department of European Political Sociology at the University of Siegen, will investigate what the real state of transnational trust and distrust in each other, in other member states, and in EU institutions is. The focus is on people's cross-border experiences and connections, which we want to discuss in focus groups and public events in Germany, Italy, and Poland.

Democracy Doesn't Exist, We Make It!

Democracy Doesn't Exist, We Make It! is a research project and artistic exhibition about the importance of democratic engagement organised in cooperation with the Museum of World Cultures in Gothenburg. The exhibition is based on research from the V-Dem Institute, measuring the state of democracy in the world. Their research shows that the survival of democracy depends on people being active and holding their governments to account when democracy is being restricted. Democracy cannot be taken for granted and it cannot survive without people getting involved.

As part of the research and exhibition, we interviewed 15 activists from across the world and asked them to connect a personal story in their experience as activists with a daily life object. What does a duck have to do with democracy? What is the connection of a little taxi-toy with participation in democracy? The videos and objects gathered by our protagonists will be exhibited in the Museum and displayed in an ad-hoc app for young students in highschools.



Preview of the exhibition in the Museum of the World Cultures in Gothenburg. Credits to the Museum - 2022

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR THE YEARS AHEAD (2023-2025)

OUR MISSION & VISION

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. Going beyond the nation-state is a condition for promoting a more democratic, equal and culturally open society, and Europe, as an idea and political space, offers a possibility for doing this.

Striving towards these mission and vision, each year we set organisational priorities for the year ahead, in consultation with our staff, advisors, and trustees. These priorities serve to focus our work and orientate the implementation of our work programme.

Creating and opening alternative futures for Europe and the world through imagination, assembly and empowerment, bringing the marginalised and the oppressed to the centre.

Training, organising and networking communities, movements and individuals to contribute to an ecosystem of transformative power.

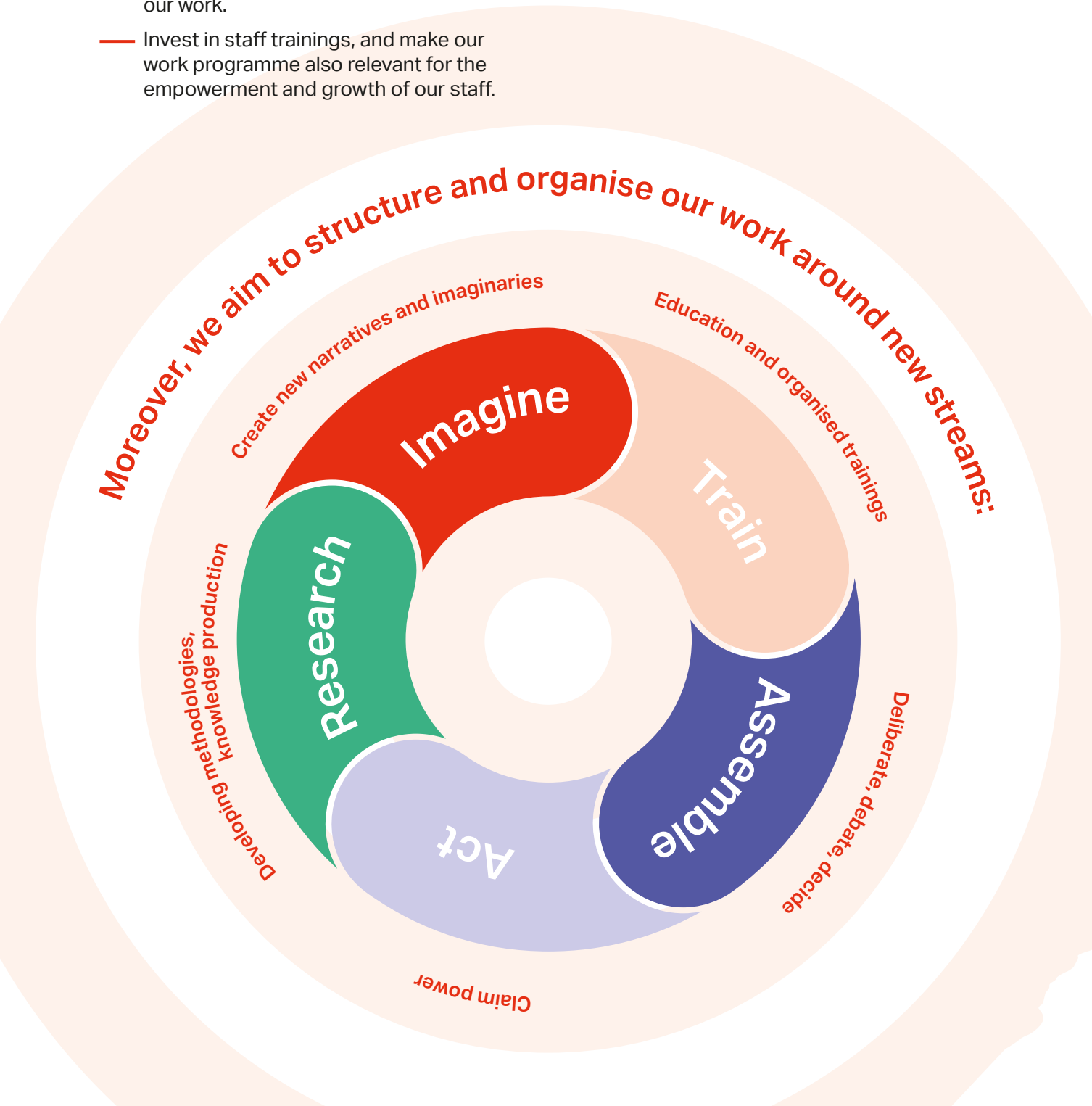
Co-creating a shared theoretical basis and common political objectives amongst our communities and shifting public political discussion towards transnational democracy, equality and justice.

For EA it is also an important priority placing an emphasis on the development of our organisation and staff. Therefor, we aim to:

- Developing feedback mechanisms between staff and boards members, and between staff and the EA community.
- Work with external experts in organisational development to develop new and improved theory of change, impact assessment, and strategy.
- Improve quantitative and qualitative assessment and reporting the impact of our work.
- Invest in staff trainings, and make our work programme also relevant for the empowerment and growth of our staff.

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

- Generate internal know-how
- Develop a new approach to and relevant material for donations and membership dues, together with our membership fee scheme.
- Continue diversification between public and private funding



CITIES OF ACTION

EUROPE





AMERICAS



CHINA

UK

- 1. London
- 2. Cardiff
- 3. Manchester
- 4. Leeds
- 5. Edinburgh
- 6. Northampton
- 7. Bristol
- 8. Brighton
- 9. Oxford
- 10. Liverpool

BELGIUM

- 11. Brussels
- 12. Liège

SPAIN

- 13. Barcelona
- 14. Madrid
- 15. Valencia
- 16. San Sebastian
- 17. Seville
- 18. Zaragoza
- 19. A Coruña

FRANCE

- 20. Paris
- 21. Toulouse
- 22. Marseille
- 23. Vannes
- 24. Douai
- 25. Lyon
- 26. Evry
- 27. Grenoble
- 28. La Rochelle
- 29. Nantes
- 30. Lille
- 31. Strasbourg
- 32. Saillans
- 33. Marseille
- 34. Villeurbanne

SWITZERLAND

- 35. Zurich
- 36. Lucerne

LUXEMBOURG

- 37. Luxembourg

NETHERLANDS

- 38. Amsterdam
- 39. The Hague

PORTUGAL

- 40. Lisbon
- 41. Viena Do Castelo
- 42. Porto

GERMANY

- 43. Berlin
- 44. Cologne
- 45. Leipzig
- 46. Bochum
- 47. Duisburg
- 48. Hagen
- 49. Hattingen
- 50. Wuppertal
- 51. Hoyerswerda
- 52. Munchen
- 53. Dresden
- 54. Kassel
- 55. Chemnitz

ITALY

- 56. Bologna
- 57. Messina
- 58. Rome
- 59. Milano
- 60. Trieste
- 61. Udine
- 62. Palermo
- 63. Faenza
- 64. Padova
- 65. Calabria
- 66. Fiesole
- 67. Pordenone

POLAND

- 68. Warsaw
- 69. Lublin
- 70. Wałbrzych

ROMÂNIA

- 71. Cluj-Napoca
- 72. Bucharest
- 73. Timișoara
- 74. Iasi
- 75. Brașov
- 76. Constanța

SLOVAKIA

- 77. Bratislava
- 78. Banska
- 79. Bystrica

SERBIA

- 80. Belgrade
- 81. Novi Sad
- 82. Nis

UKRAINE

- 83. Kyiv

BOSNIA

- 84. Sarajevo

BULGARIA

- 85. Sofia
- 86. Varna
- 87. Byala Slatina
- 88. Sliven
- 89. Stara Zagora

CZECH REP

- 90. Pardubice
- 91. Praga
- 92. Brno
- 93. Mlada Boleslav

MONTENEGRO

- 94. Podgorica

MACEDONIA

- 95. Skopje

KOSOVO

- 96. Prizren

TURKEY

- 97. Istanbul

GREECE

- 98. Athens

CROATIA

- 99. Zagreb
- 100. Rijeka
- 101. Pula

AUSTRIA

- 102. Vienna
- 103. Alpbach
- 104. Ried
- 105. Lustenau
- 106. Salzburg
- 107. Feldkirch

SWEDEN

- 108. Stockholm
- 109. Malmö
- 110. Hässleholm
- 111. Gothenburg

MALTA

- 112. La Valetta

CHINA

- 113. Beijing
- 114. Shanghai

BRAZIL

- 115. Sao Paulo
- 116. Rio de Janeiro
- 117. Salvador

ALBANIA

- 118. Tirana

HUNGARY

- 119. Budapest
- 120. Szeged

MEXICO

- 121. Mexico DF

COLOMBIA

- 122. Bogota

FINLAND

- 123. Mynämäki
- 124. Tampere
- 125. Turku
- 126. Helsinki

ESTONIA

- 127. Tallinn

SLOVENIA

- 128. Maribor
- 129. Ptuj
- 130. Ljubljana

THE EA CONSTELLATION

Since 2007, European Alternatives has been working and networking with thousands of organisations, groups and initiatives around Europe and beyond.

Our partners are ally organisations which we have closely collaborated with on projects, campaigns, events, training, or which we are a member of. Partnerships are the backbone of all our activities and play a fundamental role in achieving our mission. Some of our partners include:

AthenSYN (Athens & Berlin)
Avtonomi Akadimia (Athens)
Museum of World Cultures (Gothenburg)
Visual Research Culture Centre (VCRC, Kyiv)
Another Europe is Possible
WeMove.eu
Citizens for Europe
European Democracy LAB
Anna Lindh Foundation Network Sweden
Desire Foundation
Demos association
ARCI
Project Forum
Carnegie Europe
ForumTesserae

Documenta Institute
University of Kassel
University of Siegen
Global Labour University

ver.di – Vereinte
Dienstleistungsgewerkschaft

Oyoun (Berlin)
ASA-FF e.V. (Chemnitz)

Hand in Hand e.V. (Chemnitz)

Biennale Warszawa

Berlin Governance Platform

Humboldt University of Berlin

Free University of Berlin

International Institute of Political Murder with
Milo Rau & partners

Our members are activists and citizens who are actively imagining, demanding and enacting transnational alternatives to the current political institutions and economic models.



The feeling we are getting from the experience of being part of EA, and also its network, is incredibly valuable, it really helps in empowering you

Jasper, YMCA participant

The problems we are facing in France, Germany, and other countries are usually the same, and that is why we can't just tackle these problems here locally. We have to join forces transnational with other activists who are working on the same problems, at least on a European level but also globally, to really create change.

Mara, YMCA participant

OUR FUNDERS & SUPPORTERS

European Alternatives is a transnational organisation with offices in Berlin and Paris, working in cooperation with Studio Rizoma (Palermo). We are committed to transparency and accountability in the use of funding. We publish the financial supporters of each of our projects, and financial reports are available online.

In addition to donations from our members and partners, our institutional funders in 2021 and 2022 included:



Members of Room to Bloom in one of the sessions of the Living Palivion in Palermo with presentations by artists at Moltivolti organised by Studio Rizoma and curated by Marcela Caldas. November 2022. Photo by Maghweb.



**EUROPEAN
ALTERNATIVES**

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IMAGINE DEMAND ENACT

**SINCE 2007 EUROPEAN
ALTERNATIVES
WORKS TO PROMOTE
DEMOCRACY, EQUALITY
AND CULTURE BEYOND
THE NATION STATE.**