

## **Digitalization and corporate power in agriculture**

### **Discussion tour and study presentation with Pat Mooney, laureate of the Alternative Nobel Prize**

Smart farming, drones, remote-controlled tractors, the use of climate and weather information with Big Data technologies, or an application of a synthetic biology: is digitization the new panacea for stopping hunger crises and biodiversity loss, or even limiting climate change?

New technologies promise increased efficiency and sustainability in food production. At the center of this phenomenon is the massive gathering and analysis of aggregated data generated at the farms, in cultivation and by the consumers. Agribusiness companies such as Bayer and Deere, but also Internet companies such as Amazon and Google are already in the process of establishing their dominance over the digitization of agriculture. Through mergers, they consolidate power not only in one sector, but across multiple sections of the agricultural supply chain. Political decision-makers in Germany and elsewhere support their efforts, emphasizing the benefits of digitization and by removing investment barriers.

A critical examination until now has been insufficient. Who are the key players in the digitization business and what are their goals? What does digitization explicitly mean for small-scale producers and workers in agriculture and the food industry worldwide? To what extent and with which political measures can digitization be used for the conversion to a socially and ecologically just agriculture?

Events:

#### **Berlin**

**When:** Tuesday, 9th October 2018, 6.30pm to 8.30pm and reception

**Where:** Münzenbergsaal of Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung, Franz-Mehring-Platz 1, 10243 Berlin

**With:** Pat Mooney (ETC Group and laureate of the Alternative Nobel Prize), Geraldine de Bastion (Konnektiv), Franza Drechsel (GLOCON) and Jan Urhahn (INKOTA-netzwerk)

#### **Hamburg in cooperation with Agrar Koordination**

**When:** Wednesday, 10th October 2018, 6.30pm to 8.30pm

**Where:** Rudolph Steiner Haus, Mittelweg 11-12, 20148 Hamburg

**With:** Pat Mooney, Jan Urhahn (INKOTA-netzwerk) and Ursula Gröhn-Wittern (Agrar Koordination)

#### **Cologne in cooperation with Arbeitsgemeinschaft bäuerliche Landwirtschaft (AbL NRW) and FIAN Germany**

**When:** Thursday, 11th October 2018, 6.30pm to 8.30pm

**Where:** Karl Rahner Akademie, Jabachstraße 4-8, 50676 Köln

**With:** Pat Mooney, Dr. Gregor Kaiser (Arbeitsgemeinschaft bäuerliche Landwirtschaft Northrhine Westphalia), Jan Urhahn (INKOTA-netzwerk) and Philipp Mimkes (FIAN Germany)

The events will be held in English and German and will be simultaneously translated.

The event series is organized by INKOTA-netzwerk, GLOCON and the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung in cooperation with the Arbeitsgemeinschaft bäuerliche Landwirtschaft (AbL) Lower Saxony, North Rhine-Westphalia and Schleswig-Holstein, as well as the Agrar Koordination and FIAN Germany.

If you have any questions, please contact Jan Urhahn of INKOTA ([urhahn@inkota.de](mailto:urhahn@inkota.de)).