

Migration-Congress



Migration, antiracism, self-organization of migrants and trade unions

**June 30th - July 1st 2007
Gewerkschaftshaus Stuttgart
Willi-Bleicher-Str. 20**

Purpose and content of the congress

The purpose of the congress is to topicalize migration as a social phenomena, to show how it is linked to the development of capitalism, what kind of subversive potential it contains, and also how relevant this will be for leftwing discussions and practical work.

We believe that it is necessary and possible to link migrant's self-organization, trade unions' struggles, the work of antiracist groups, and movements that are critical of globalization, with each other. By organizing this congress we want to contribute to this linking process.

We are of the opinion that it is essential to link theoretical and praxis related perspectives with each other. Therefore we want to ask and discuss what kind of analytical accesses to migration fulfil the several demands that the phenomena of migration contents, and which conclusions can be drawn for antiracist praxis. The main focus of the first day will be on these discussions: **“Theoretical and praxis related perspectives of migration.“**

The topics for the second day will be three – we consider them as especially relevant – „**fields of antiracist intervention**“. To have the chance to deal with the contents of those fields in a more accurate way, we will offer three workshops: Building trade as a place for male working migrants, house and care work as a place for domestic servants, janitors and nursing auxiliaries, mainly concerning female working migrants, as well as a workshop about struggles for fundamental- and human rights, concerning those migrants who live in this country, and of whom some are illegalized.

Finally, one of our tasks will be, to ask for a perspective that could offer a chance to link several struggles with each other. At this stage we want to have a closer look whether the demand for global social rights, will be a suitable demand. This will especially take place after the workshops, but also later on in a final discussion, using the outcomes of the discussions that took place within the three workshops.

Directions

The trade union house (Gewerkschaftshaus) is located in Stuttgart's city. It will be a 10 minutes walk from the station (Hauptbahnhof). You can find it between a place called small castle place (kleiner Schlossplatz) and the university.

On foot:

Train station (Hauptbahnhof) → Exit (Ausgang) Lautenschlagerstraße → Theodor-Heuss-Straße → turn right into Willi-Bleicher-Straße

Tram(s) (S-Bahnen (S)):

Line(s) (Linie) S1 - S6 stop city (Haltestelle Stadtmitte), exit (Ausgang) Büchsenstraße



Possibilities to park your car:

Car park Hofdienergarage (Parkhaus Hofdienergarage), via Schellingstraße.

Overnight accommodation (Übernachtungen)

Overnight accommodations have to be booked on your own. On demand we will be happy to arrange contact for you.

Catering

Food and drinks will be available for the time the congress takes place.

Contact

Rosa-Luxemburg-Forum Baden-Württemberg Planckstr. 79,
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Theoretical and practical perspectives of migration

9:30 am -12:00 – Collective event of the alliance “100th anniversary of the International Socialist Congress in Stuttgart”

The historical meaning of the International Socialist Congress 1907 in Stuttgart

with: Prof. Frank Deppe (Marburg) und Ulla Jelpke (MP, The Left Party)

13:00 – Beginning of the Congress

13:00 - 15:30 – Neo-liberal dynamic of the global market and migration

Topic 1: **Neo-liberal globalization, underdevelopment and migration**
with: Martina Backes (iz3w, Freiburg)

Topic 2: **Migration, Change of class composition and social struggles**
with: Editorial staff Wildcat (requested)

Topic 3: **Are Migrants the avant-garde of a process that leads to precariousness? What lessons can be drawn from this process for a debate about organizing that takes place within trade unions?**
with: Efthimia Panagiotidis (Kanak Attak, Euromayday Hamburg, Transit Migration)

16:00-18:30 – European border-regime and a new configuration of borders

Topic 1: **The European migration policy: “Fortress Europe“, sealing-off, camp structures at the external borders**
with: Christopher Nsoh (Berlin, receiving a stipend from RLS for doing his PhD)

Topic 2: **Governing Migration – A new configuration of borders and sovereignty by migrants and their autonomy**
with: Vassilis Tsianos (Kanak Attak, Transit Migration, society for legalisation)

Topic 3: **Militarization of the European external borders and the fading from civil to military structures**
with: representatives from the Information Centre for Militarization, Tübingen

19:00-21:30 – Migration, a process towards precariousness of rights and left consequences

Topic 1: **Deprivation of rights, monitoring, compulsory measures and sanctions against refugees versus a self-organization of migrants**
with: representatives from antiracist initiatives and projects

Topic 2: **“Integration“ as an instrument to discipline and normalize**
with: Kien Nghi Ha (Political scientist, Berlin)

Topic 3: **Global social rights – a unifying bracket for migrant and social struggles?**with: Thomas Seibert (medico international), (requested)

Sunday, July, 1st: Fields for an antiracist intervention

10:00-12:00 – Presentation of initiatives, projects, and campaigns. A chance to get connected organized and linked with each other

13:00-15:30 – Workshops

Workshop 1: **About migrant workers’ situation in the building trade**

with: Matthias Kirchner (secretary general of the European Migrant Workers Union) and Hartmut Zacher (building trade union (IG BAU) regional association, Stuttgart), (requested)

Workshop 2: **The situation of female migrants who work in the service and domestic sector**

with: Iris Nowak (Hamburg), (requested) and Sonja Marko (national executive committee ver.di, department migration policy / foreign labour, requested)

Workshop 3: **The struggle for civil and human rights for refugees and migrants**

With : representatives of antiracist initiatives and projects

16:00-18:00 – Final discussion and conclusions

Can global social rights be seen as a common perspective? Discussion about the outcomes of the workshops and the perspectives of further work