

## Global crisis – global solidarity

A LabourStart Conference, Berlin 23-25 May 2014:



## Programme (as of May 22, 2014)

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## Programme overview

Friday, May 23	
15:00-17:30	<a href="#">Walking Tours: Labour history of Berlin</a> City Center tour starting at 15:00; Kreuzberg tour starting at 15:00 and 17:15 Start and end points see description In English Tour Guides: <b>Günter Regneri, Win Windisch</b>
17:00	Meeting for people who have agreed to help with conference organisation Room: to be announced
18:00-18:45	<a href="#">An introduction to Labourstart</a> venue: ver.di HQ, room tbc Speakers: <b>Derek Blackadder, Eric Lee (LabourStart)</b>
19:00-21:00	<a href="#">Opening Event: Global crisis, global solidarity – how do we build global union power?</a> Venue: verdi headquarters, room AIDA (basement), with video translation to the Gallery (upper level on ground floor) Speakers: <b>Mag Wampel</b> , LabourNet Germany, <b>Michael Bride</b> , Deputy Organising Director for Global Strategies, UFCW <b>Dave Oliver</b> , Secretary, ACTU, <b>Mostafa Berrchid</b> , Total Call Center Union, Casablanca, Morocco; <b>Kıvanç Eli Açıık</b> , DISK, Facilitator: <b>Gisela Neunhöffer</b> Followed by discussion between participants
21:00-23:00	<a href="#">Informal get-together for conf. participants</a> Venue: ver.di HQ Gallery
Saturday, May 24	
9:00-9:30	Registration of participants; Meeting of language groups to coordinate translation for workshops
9:30-10:00	<b>Opening of the conference</b> Venue: ver.di Aida and Othello rooms Welcome – <b>Eric Lee</b> , LabourStart, <b>Frank Bsirske</b> Ver.di Introduction to “Action on Edeka!” – <b>Katharina Wesenick</b> , Verdi
10:00-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-12:30	<a href="#">Plenary Session: How do we build power at the global workplace? Experiences in building various models</a> Speakers: <b>Claudia Rahman</b> , IG Metall; <b>Petra Brannmark</b> , IndustriALL; <b>Nazma Akter</b> , Sommilito Garments Sramik Federation; <b>Myrtle Witbooi</b> , IDWF; <b>Stuart Applebaum</b> , RWDSU (tbc), <b>Burcu Ayan</b> , IUF Facilitating: <b>Michael Fichter</b> , Global Labour University
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	<a href="#">Workshops 1</a> (see table below)
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:30	<a href="#">Workshops 2</a> (see table below)
18:00	<a href="#">Action on Edeka: Solidarity along the global value chain!</a>
20:00- open end	<a href="#">Congress party – live music and informal get together</a> Venue – <b>Jockels Biergarten, Ratiborstr. 14c</b> , featuring <b>Neofarius &amp; DJs Lucha Amada</b> and <b>Aural Guerilla</b>
Sunday, May 25	
9:00-10:30	<a href="#">Workshops 3</a> (see table below)
10:30-11:00	Coffee break
11:00-12:30	<a href="#">Workshops 4</a> (see table below)
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:00	<a href="#">Closing plenary session: The role of LabourStart in the global trade union movement</a> Speakers: <b>Eric Lee</b> (LabourStart), <b>Martina Hartung</b> , ver.di, <b>Kirill Buketov</b> ( IUF), <b>Sunghye Oh</b> (KGEU) Facilitator: <b>Espen Løken</b> , Industri Energi <b>Closing remarks</b> The Internationale
16:00-17:30	<b>LabourStart correspondent’s annual meeting.</b> Chairing: <b>Derek Blackadder</b> Only LabourStart correspondents are invited to attend this session. (But participants can sign up at the conference in Berlin if they wish.)



## Workshops - Overview

Time slots	Room 1 / Plenary room	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4	Room 5	Room 6	Room 7	Room 8	Room 9	Room 10	Room 11	Room 12	Room 13	Room 14
Sat 14-15.30	Track 1 <a href="#">Fair Play? – Working conditions at mega-sports events</a>	Track 2: <a href="#">Care-Crisis and struggles for health</a>	Track 1 <a href="#">Limits of solidarity</a>	Track 2 <a href="#">Solidarity in the Crisis – the shadows stemming from the „sunny side“ of the crisis</a>	Track 3 <a href="#">The Arab Spring: Labour and the Aftermath of Revolution</a>	Track 4 <a href="#">Forced labour &amp; trafficking of women migrant workers in the garment sector</a>	Track 5 <a href="#">Supporting each other: Gays and Lesbians in the Trade Union Movement.</a>	Track 6 <a href="#">The Power of mainstream media: How to get your union into the news?</a>	Track 6 <a href="#">The Power of Voice: Activism and broadcasting</a>	Track 8 <a href="#">Trade Unions and Protests in Turkey</a>	Track 9 <a href="#">The organizing debate in Europe</a>	Track 3 <a href="#">China: Unions, strikes, and solidarity</a>	Track 8 <a href="#">Basic Income: a trade union goal?</a>	Childcare
Sat 16-17.30	Track 9 <a href="#">Organising in the fast food industry</a>	Track 1 <a href="#">Social / Fair trade labels – pros and cons</a>	Track 1 <a href="#">Climate change and new energy regimes – what do trade unions do about it?</a>	Track 2: <a href="#">The neoliberal regime of „activating and forcing people to work“ in Europe. A challenge not only for initiatives of the unemployed</a>	Track 3 <a href="#">Oil, the Law &amp; Exploitation – Labour in Iraq</a>	Track 4 <a href="#">Domestic Workers – Global Families, Global Solidarity</a>	Track 1 <a href="#">Solidarity: Dan Gallin on the Global Labour Movement</a>	Track 6 <a href="#">The Power of networking: Making local to global connection</a>	Track 7 <a href="#">Internet-based union busting strategies: where do we stand?</a>	Track 8 <a href="#">Building up Trade Union Power at national level</a>	Track 9 <a href="#">Strategic campaigning – successful examples and tools for planning</a>	Track 3 <a href="#">Workers movements in Iran today</a>	Track 8 <a href="#">Trade Unions and Human Rights</a>	Childcare
Sun 9-10.30	Tbc	Track 1 <a href="#">Internationalisation of trade unions - what needs to happen at local and national levels?</a>	Track 1 <a href="#">New unionism in Israel: The struggle to unite Arab and Jewish workers in the fight for social progress and peace</a>	Track 2: <a href="#">Youth Unemployment in Europe – trends, policy initiatives and Trade Union Alternatives</a>	Track 3 <a href="#">Workers’ rights and labour organisations in post-Soviet countries</a>	Track 4 <a href="#">Gender Based Violence – Strategies for Strong Activism and Empowerment</a>	Track 2: <a href="#">Last exit – Austerity policies? Trade union alternatives for a social Europe</a>		Track 7 <a href="#">Union communication on smartphones and tablets</a>	Track 8 <a href="#">Building Alliances for campaigning</a>	Track 9 <a href="#">Labor solidarity and organizing in global value networks</a>	Track 6: <a href="#">Organizing Digital Labour and Digital Labour Organizing</a>		Childcare
Sun11-12.30	Track 8 <a href="#">TTIP and other free trade agreements: trade union’s counterstrategies</a>	Track 1 <a href="#">Union strategies towards migrants</a>	Track 1 <a href="#">Labour Struggles in the Global South: commonalities and variations.</a>	Track 2: <a href="#">Answers to the Crisis: Right-Wing Populism – implications for European Politics</a>	Track 3 <a href="#">Defying the state: Building Worker Power &amp; International Solidarity</a>	Track 4 <a href="#">Instruments of trade union equal opportunity work and experiences of equal politics</a>	Track 5 <a href="#">The case of the 14 disappeared Union representatives at Mercedes-Benz in Argentina</a>	Track 6 <a href="#">The Power of pictures: Bringing your message across</a>	Track 7 <a href="#">Online campaigning and social media</a>	Track 8 <a href="#">Fighting privatization – Trade Unions save public services and goods</a>	Track 9 <a href="#">Organising globally: creating networks in TNC</a>	Track 6 <a href="#">The Power of film: Video as a weapon of the proletariat</a>	Track 5 Interfaith labor solidarity partnerships-- its strengths, successes / weaknesses / challenges	Childcare

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## Workshop and Plenary descriptions:

### Plenaries

#### Opening Event (Friday, 19:00-21:00): Global crisis, global solidarity – how do we build global union power?

The Global crisis which we are experiencing has made it ever more clear that the global working class needs to build its collective global power. Over the last decade, the international trade union organisations, such as GUFs and the ITUC, have explored various strategies to rebuild union power and extend its reach to global governance processes. We have won certain battles. In some places, trade union have become part of huge, but often shortlived, social movements. We have started to recognise, in many places, the importance of international cooperation (again). But have we done enough? Have we found the right allies? Which of these strategies are contributing to our longterm success? Are we winning battles, but losing the war? What do we need to do in order to build global solidarity that finally will enable us to overcome the global crisis of the current economic, political and social system?

*Speakers: Kıvanç Eli Açık, DISK; Mag Wompel, LabourNet Germany; Michael Bride, UFCW; Dave Oliver, Secretary, ACTU; Mostafa Berrchid, Total Call Center Union, Casablanca, Morocco*

*Facilitator: Gisela Neunhöffer*

#### Plenary Session (Saturday, 11:00-12:30): How do we build power at the global workplace? Experiences in building various models

Global union power starts with worker power at the workplace – and in creating linkages between those various local workplaces so that workers can make their voice heard globally. Combining local organising and getting organised globally is a challenge. Global union federations have focussed a lot on transnational companies, where the need for global organising is most evident. Various models, from International Framework Agreements over creating networks between unions in TNCs to pushing for multiemployer agreements, have been pursued in order to challenge the rules under which global corporations build their labour relations. However, outside TNCs and even outside the big companies as well, there is growing global networking, pushing for regulation and space for organising for workers as scattered, precarious and informalised as domestic workers. In this plenary discussion we will compare different strategies and explore, what they have in common, where they are disparate, and what they can tell us about ways forward.

*Speakers: Petra Brannmark, IndustriALL; Claudia Rahman, IG Metall, Nazma Akter, Sommilito Garments Sramik Federation; Stuart Appelbaum (RWDSU); Myrtle Witbooi IDWF, Burcu Ayan, IUF*

*Facilitating: Michael Fichter*

#### Closing plenary (Sunday 14:00-15:00): LabourStart – the way forward

In this session we would like to discuss where LabourStart should move in the future. How do we improve our campaigns? How do we enlarge our network? Do we campaign offline as well? Participants will be asked to reflect on what the issues discussed at the conference would mean for a network such as LabourStart in practical terms.

*Speakers: Eric Lee, LabourStart; Martina Hartung, ver.di; Kirill Buketov, IUF, Sunghee Oh (KGEU)*

### Other events

#### Introduction to LabourStart (Friday, 18:00-19:00)

The network behind this conference is LabourStart. But what, and who, is LabourStart? What does it do, and how does it work? What's its contribution to the Global Labour Movement? And how can you become part of LabourStart? In this introductory session we'll give you a short overview and answer your questions – as far as we do have the answers, of course!

*Speakers: Eric Lee, Derek Blackadder (LabourStart)*



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## **Action! Solidarity along the global supply chain of orange juice ! (Sat. 18:00-20:00)**

**Join us at 6.p.m for an international solidarity walk. We will gather ver.di headquarters, and walk together to the Labourstart party location at Jockels Biergarten. On our way we will stop at an outsourced Edeka shop in order to express our demands!**

The Edeka retail chain is the biggest private employer in Germany and the biggest importer of fruits in Europe. A study published by CIR and the trade- union ver.di ([www.EDEKAnnbsesser.de/643](http://www.EDEKAnnbsesser.de/643)) reveals, that the group is rejecting any responsibility for the employees, who work in the production, transportation and sale of its orange- juice. Up to today Edeka hasn't shown any reaction with regard to the manifold cases of labour law violations that occur along the supply chain. From the orange plantations in Brazil to the outsourced Edeka shops in Germany: nothing but pressure, wage dumping and hostility towards trade- unions. In October 2013 Edeka did not accept to receive the study mentioned above.

### **We ask Edeka to take responsibility NOW!**

We are demanding from Edeka to agree to:

- the creation of a comprehensive code of behaviour which applies for all employees along the supply chain
- Compliance, control and checkability of this code via direct cooperation with trade- unions.
- Responsibility for all 150.000 employees in outsourced Edeka shops, including collective agreements and co-determination on all levels.

**Organised by ver.di, CIR, Supermarktinitiative und Initiative Eigentum-verpflichtet.org**

## **Workshops**

### **Track 1 – Building Global Labour Movements**

Since 2008, the global financial crisis has shown in a most obvious way and in many places very aggressively the crisis of hegemonic neoliberalism – in fact some say, of capitalism. While analyses about the depth and nature of the crisis vary, clearly strong global movements are needed if we want to save ourselves and the planet from the devastating consequences of no more consensual but coercive neoliberalism. This track explores how a global labour movement can emerge stronger – which tools and strategies are being explored and with which results, what we can learn from these fights, with what other forces we can and should cooperate, and which role LabourStart as a global online news and campaign portal can and should play in the network of a global Labour Movement.

Workshops in this track:

#### **Social / Fair trade labels – pros and cons**

*(Workshop organised with IG BAU)*

Companies often try to improve their image through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), usually by voluntary commitments and look at gaining competitive advantages and market share through this. But who controls whether these commitments are being met? Can the "Social Label" instrument improve social (or ecological) standards?

These questions are discussed quite controversially in trade unions. We will look at the main arguments and present and discuss 3-4 examples in which unions participated or initiated labels. FSC (forestry ), FLP (Fair Flowers), Global Gap (Agriculture), Xertifix (Stones)... which concrete social improvements did we reach through these labels? Which possibilities for action do unions have when creating, implementing and controlling social labels? Which standards are being supported? And how much influence does the much quoted consumer power really have?

*Speakers: Thomas Hentschel IG BAU, Ingrid Sehrbrock Chairperson at Xertifix, Sandra Dusch CCC*

*Facilitating: Hanne Imig, Peco Institute/IG BAU*

#### **Labour Struggles in the Global South: commonalities and variations.**

Many countries in the global south have seen unprecedented waves of mass strikes, social protests and other activities of the Labour movement, often including state repression and wildcat strikes but also new coalitions since the onset of the financial crisis in 2008. This workshop will give an overview on the conflicts, results, sectors and dynamics of these struggles. Focusing on Chile, Brasil, Ecuador, Venezuela, India and South Africa, the workshop tries to approach the question of how these struggles can be connected to each other.

*Speakers: Juana Torres (Sindicato Athono), Dasten Julian (University of Jena), Jörg Nowak (University of Kassel)*

*Facilitator: Manuel Schneider (IG Metall Youth Germany)*

#### **Union strategies towards migrants**



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### *Workshop organised with AK Undokumentierte Arbeit (Working group on undocumented workers)*

This workshop explores a variety of union experiences with organizing migrant workers. In doing so, we want to engage a longstanding controversy around specific strategies for organizing migrant workers.

Some labour activists contend that trade unions are based on the commonality of interests of workers and that a division into special interests (migrants vs. non-migrants) undermines solidarity - others argue that unequal opportunities related to migration status require special support as a precondition for solidarity.

What approaches do different unions choose, acting in diverse contexts to organise migrants and what are they based on? What activities does this involve?

Panelists and workshop participants are asked to reflect on how their union strategies towards migrant workers have engaged this challenge, where it has succeeded and where it has failed. We wish to pay particular attention to one aspect that shapes the circumstances of many migrant workers: precarious legal status (no residency or work permit).

*Speakers: Henry Lopez, 3cosas, IWGB; Miyoung Ryu, KCTU; Anna Bolsheva, BWI, Yessy Byl, CUPE*

*Facilitator: Markus KipAK, Undokumentierte Arbeit*

### **Fair Play? – Working conditions at mega-sports events**

*Workshop organised with IG BAU and BWI*

Construction workers who are the builders of the stadiums, infrastructure, hotels, and other facilities related to global mega-sports events such as the Olympics and the World Cup are instrumental players in the success of these games; however, they often work long hours for low wages and under unsafe and difficult conditions. The situation for migrant workers is much worse as evident by the reports in the preparations for the Winter Olympics in Sochi and the World Cup in Qatar. Migrant workers are often exploited and find themselves in positions of forced labour. BWI is working with trade unions to not only organize workers in the host countries but to also galvanized its affiliates to support these efforts nationally and globally to ensure that workers have decent work, safe and healthy working conditions, and living wages.

*Speakers: Jin Sook Lee, BWI, Anna Bolsheva, BWI-Kiev.;*

*Facilitator: Lisa Bauch, IG BAU*

### **Climate change and new energy regimes – what do trade unions do about it?**

Social priorities of trade unions also include maintaining a healthy environment for working people and their families. Therefore, trade unions have a duty to take an active part in tackling the problems caused by climate change which is no longer the domain of environmental experts. Climate change is real and already happening. It affects citizens' rights and democracy, and must be addressed also at the level of social dialogue and collective bargaining. What we need is a massive effort to transform our economy to a sustainable low carbon economy to maintain societies in which it is still worth living and working. This will need a lot of work done in a very short time. Are unions fit for tackling this challenge? What options have trade unions so support a sustainable development of our economy? And how should they act in the future to prevent an excessive climate change?

*(Speakers: tbc)*

### **Solidarity: Dan Gallin on the Global Labour Movement**

Dan Gallin (Global Labour Institute), a longterm veteran of the Global Trade Union movement and former General Secretary of the International Union of FoodWorkers, has been promoting solidarity and democracy as the only ways to develop a strong global labour movement since decades. We are proud to announce he will be presenting his new book, published by LabourStart, on the Global Labour Movement. Eric Lee and Liza Merliak will comment on his presentation.

*Speakers: Dan Gallin, Global Labour Institute, Eric Lee, LabourStart; Liza Merliak, Belarusian Independent Miners Union*

### **New unionism in Israel: The struggle to unite Arab and Jewish workers in the fight for social progress and peace**

Workers in Israel face today an extremist right wing government that still preaches the neo liberal model. Moreover the Netanyahu government is stopping any move towards peace and continues in racist campaign against Arabs & African asylum seekers. Facing this new socio economic and political setup there is a new grassroots social awakening in Israeli society with new groups and unions coming forward to defend their rights – a significant rise of 40,000 new members in different unions. The protest movement of 2011 disappeared but it left behind it new ideas of solidarity and fighting the Tycoons who took over the economy. This is the background to the development of new union initiatives on a local and national level that are shaking the labour scene - like Koach Laovdim, the junior lecturers union, WAC MAAN and others. The challenge in front of this new emerging workers movement is tough. But we get inspiration from the workers and young people who created the Arab spring and we know that a change is possible. Come and hear the representative of WAC MAAN the independent Trade Union Center that unites Arab and Jewish workers and stands firmly against the occupation of Palestine and for peace based on two states solution.

*Speakers: Assaf Adiv – National Director and founder of WAC MAAN, Yoav Tamir – organizer of the Jerusalem Branch*



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### Limits of solidarity

*(Workshop organised by LabourNet Germany)*

Solidarity – as long as it is limited to signing petitions and email campaigns, is largely unproblematic. And it works – but to a limited extent, because it is either directed to governments or is dependent on the good will or dependency on a good image of a corporation.

But what happens, if of say 4 factories of a company 2 are up for closure? The competition in the Zero-Sum-Game of waged jobs that are (seemingly) essential for our existence but scarce creates systemic limits for solidarity.

How can these limits be overcome? How can we create conditions under which it is possible to think and live solidarity?

This question is being addressed too rarely in our opinion – we'll do it in this workshop.

*Speakers: Mag Wompe (LabourNet Germany)*

### Internationalisation of trade unions - what needs to happen at local and national levels?

In order to build a strong and truly global labour movement, international perspectives need to be developed, understood and put into practice at all levels of trade union work from local over national to global. What changes would need to happen in order really become a strong force united in solidarity, across all the dividing factors of competition between locations, varying living and work situations, racist and nationalist propaganda and others? How could rank and file activists be better included into union's international activities, what would real internationalisation mean in terms of political and socio-economic agenda-setting, organising and bargaining strategies, (how) would we need to reallocate resources?

Speakers from various perspectives will provide some theses in short inputs and will then open the floor for discussion.

*Speakers: Valery Alzaga, Change to Win; Matthias Fritz, Mahle Works Council; Mike Fichter, GLU; Heiko Glawe, DGB Berlin*

*Facilitator: N.N., ITF (tbc)*

## Track 2 – The European and global crisis – trade union responses to a 'Europe from above'

The European and global crisis has hit workers particularly hard – so it is all the more alarming that trade unions are not benefitting from this crisis of capitalism, and that so far they have been unable to mobilise mass responses to it. Right now, just when the idea of crisis-free capitalism is being exposed as a myth, surely unions should be acclaimed as experts about the crisis. Union aspirations, going back many years, for a social Europe, statutory minimum wages, and investment programmes for 'Crisis countries' should be at the top of the agenda. Instead, the crisis has brought us dismantling of social security systems, and ever more precarious jobs; at the same time, the attack on the benefits system in Germany (the 'Hartz laws') is being rolled out across Europe. These events create clear opportunities for unions to take a lead in the political process; but instead of acting as a channel for protest and discontent, and linking these with trade union aspirations, what we see is the European and global trade union movement slipping into lethargy, and wearily organising days of action and solidarity. This workshop track looks behind the scenes of union crisis policies, and seeks solutions and opportunities in Europe and around the world. As well as analysing symptoms of the crisis, we will consider union responses to youth unemployment, to destructive austerity policies, and concepts of a common European tax policy, and we will look at how to deal with growing right-wing populism. This will include examining different forms of right-wing populism within Europe and further afield. There is also a workshop on 'Labour as a commodity', which will focus on the role of unemployment within capitalism.

Key questions include: Where is the potential power of unions? What are the opportunities for European and global solidarity? How can unions become political and social actors in the struggle against youth unemployment and austerity policies in Europe, and against global damage resulting from the crisis? What can unions offer as an alternative to nationalist responses to the crisis?

### Workshops in this track:

#### Solidarity in the Crisis – the shadows stemming from the „sunny side“ of the crisis

Key issues in this workshop are: what opportunities and challenges do protests against the crisis in countries that are on the winning side of the crisis face? What are the prospects of the current protests on local and European level? Has there been a reconstitution of a "Europe built from the bottom up"? How could we develop a common vision given the different preconditions within the countries?

Further specific questions:

Who is facing what kind of crisis? What kind of crisis are we talking about? Varieties of the crisis within the context of capitalism? Protests against the crisis and trade unions - or a brief summary of the failure to counteract within the



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German/European exit strategies regarding the crisis. Implications for Trade Unions - Does something like an awakening exist? What problems need to be tackled? **What role does the Blockupy movement play? - as an activist, event, reference point?**

*Speakers: Jana & Karin*

### **The neoliberal regime of „activating and forcing people into work“in Europe. A challenge not only for initiatives of the unemployed**

Initially, the social insurance, especially the unemployment insurance, was conceived on the part of the labour movement as the means to fight against capitalism. Within the recent ten to twenty years, the social security system in all countries of Europe was fundamentally revised under the heading of "activation instead of alimentation", supported by the economic and social policies of the EU. These policies aim to dismantle social security by means of the artificially created austerity policy measures and to push as many people as possible - especially those persons who had been exempted from this obligation to work such as poor, lone parents and people with a disability - in all circumstances onto the free labour market, where they should sell themselves as the "ware workforce". This workshop will show the fundamental paradigm shift of the labour and social policies that has been enforced by these activation policies. These policies aim at the subjection of all employees' living and working conditions to this so-called regime of valorisation. We thus want to examine the possibilities to link the struggle of the often isolated unemployment initiatives with a refocused trade union movement.

*Speakers: Martin Mair und Karin Rausch*

### **Youth Unemployment in Europe – trends, policy initiatives and Trade Union Alternatives**

The youth unemployment in Europe continues to be high and has dramatically increased since the onset of the current crisis. Europe is further on profoundly affected by the crisis, and it's difficult to foresee an economic upturn. The past political efforts to combat youth unemployment have proved to be insufficient. The current status regarding the implementation of the "European Youth Guarantee" has rather been piecemeal so far than an effective tool to combat youth unemployment. The young people themselves only have a minor influence as to the elaboration and implementation of the policies intended to combat youth unemployment. Decisions concerning the young people are made without even consulting them. There is hardly swift and determined action to offer prospects to youth. Within the workshop, different points of view as regards the issue European youth unemployment and simultaneously the helplessness within Europe as regards effective counter-measures will be discussed.

*Speaker: Michael Wagner, Confederation of German Trade Unions (DGB); Carmela Negrete (Freie Journalistin)*

### **Last exit – Austerity policies? Trade union alternatives for a social Europe**

*Speaker: Ralf Krämer, ver.di / Economic Department – Moderation: Martin Beckmann (ver.di / Politik&Planung)*

### **Answers to the Crisis: Right-Wing Populism – implications for European Politics**

*Speaker: Tobias Peter*

### **Care-Crisis and struggles for health**

*Speaker: Julia Dueck & Kalle Kunkel*

## **Track 3: Building Labour Movements under authoritarian regimes: (How) Can they be supported from the outside?**

Trade unions and worker organisations of any kind have always had to deal with strong opposition not only from employers but often from backlashes and crackdowns by their very own governments. To this day, dictatorial and authoritarian regimes around the world resort to oppression, jailing and even murder when dealing with trade unions. In recent years, independent trade union movements in the Arab world and elsewhere have taken a front line position in the struggles for social and political freedom and equality. This thematic track aims to shed light on some of the most recent events and current developments and most importantly address tactics and strategies of trade union work under authoritarian regimes and questions on what forms of global solidarity could be adequate in these cases.

**Workshops in this track include:**

### **The Arab Spring: Labour and the Aftermath of Revolution**

With old regimes deposed, where do Arab unions stand today, what are the next steps for the region and what connections



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to the global labour unions are needed.

### **Oil, the Law & Exploitation – Labour in Iraq**

Despite a deposed despot and declining foreign occupation, Iraqi labour continues to struggle for recognition. What chances are there for international support for the struggle of workers in one of the essential oil producing economies?

### **Workers' rights and labour organisations in post-Soviet countries**

Only today, almost 25 years since the disintegration of USSR, Eastern Europe and Central Asia see the raise of civil society and intensive workers mobilization. Mass movements are faced with corporate counter-power, state repressions, and nationalist propaganda, which lead to open violence and provoke military conflicts. What is our way forward? How do we build a class-oriented, cross-border internationalist movement, capable to formulate and shape political and economic agenda of the working class?

*Speakers: Nina Khodorivska, Direct Action Students Union, Maidan, Ukraine; Liza Merljak, Belarus Independent Mineworkers' Union – BNP; Larisa Kharkova (tbc), Confederation of Free Trade Unions of Kazakhstan; Aleksander Lekhtman, Confederation of Labour of Russia, Aitova Gulnara, Tyumen State University, Russia*

*Facilitator: Julia Guseva, GLI/Center Praxis, Russia*

*The session will be run in Russian with interpretation into English.*

### **Workers movement in Iran today**

Speakers in this workshop will present their activities and positions about international workers communications and solidarity and the most recent workers movements and struggles in Iran. They will shed light on the Workers activists who have been arrested, as well those still in jail, and those who have been released and discuss how they can be supported. The perspectives of the political and workers movement's situation in Iran today will be evaluated.

*Speakers: Shahla Daneshfar, Goran Gustavson, (IWSC)*

*Facilitation: Kazem Nik-khah*

### **China: Unions, strikes, and solidarity**

The Chinese working class is the largest in the world, and yet very few trade unionists outside the country know much about what is going on. Are new, independent workers' organizations emerging? Who is organizing workers and leading strikes? What is happening with the official unions — the All China Federation of Trade Unions? And finally, how can trade unionists outside China help?

*Speakers: Wolfgang Müller, IG Metall; Pun Tin Chi or Sally Choi, HKCTU, NN, Forum Arbeitswelten (tbc)*

*Facilitation: Elisabeth Tang, IDWF*

### **Defying the state: Building Worker Power & International Solidarity**

Identifying common difficulties & strategies to building union power under authoritarian regimes and necessary methods for global solidarity & support. Statements and discussions by representatives from Asia, Eastern Europe, MENA and Latin America

## **Track 4 – Women workers issues and gender equality**

Gender equality and the empowerment of women require a critical view on modern society and world of work. In particular, they require a change of the general framework. Real equality requires more than the implementation of the "Equal pay – Equal Treatment" principle. Economic globalisation and patriarchal structures cast their shadows on the living and working environment of women in various ways. And so, the workshops will consider labour migration, the impact of violence against women, traditional gender roles and implications for the empowerment of women in the Arab countries and the equality of women in trade union structures.

**Workshops in this track include:**

### **Domestic Workers – Global Families, Global Solidarity**

Neoliberal globalisation has forced (and enabled) women to migrate and pursue livelihoods far from their homes. Nowadays, half of all migrants in the world are women; many of them are domestic workers. Nannies, caregivers and house-cleaners keep our communities running by supporting our families and our homes. But often, they are excluded from labour rights. Most of them have precarious jobs and are left to work without many key legal protections. Fighting for these rights is difficult as their jobs are not accepted as regular jobs, and also because of the insulation on the job in the houses of their



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employers, and last but not least because of their often precarious migrant status, sometimes as people without papers. As a result many are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation on the job. This sector was perceived as being too difficult to organise for a long time, but organisations like the International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF) have begun to build a strong network that unites domestic workers globally to protect and advance domestic workers' rights everywhere. There campaign combined organizing on the ground with a push for regulation at global level, which finally led to the adoption of ILO Convention C189 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers in June 2011. How is the Convention being used? How are domestic workers organizing? What are strategies to protect the rights of domestic workers and to organise at local, national and global level?

*Speakers: Myrtle Witbooi and Elisabeth Tang, IDWF*

### **Trafficking & forced labour of women in garment sector & domestic work**

Of the 21 million women, men and children in forced labour globally, over 12 million are found in the Asia and Middle East. 55% of trafficking victims are women and girls. Forced labour & trafficking of workers involves deception about terms and conditions of work, sexual and physical violence, intimidation and threat, coercion, unpaid wages, confiscation of identity documents, excessively long working hours without days off, restrictions on movement. Women and girls, who suffer discrimination and social exclusion due to their sex, caste, race or religion, are particularly vulnerable to forced labour & trafficking. Trafficking is facilitated by weak regulatory frameworks and poor law enforcement, as well as by restrictive and gender-insensitive migration policies. Women's vulnerability affects their experience at each stage of the migration process – from recruitment, through employment and upon their return home.

More and more women from South Asia are entering the labour market in search of domestic work and in the garment industry. Child domestic workers, aged less than 18, are particularly at risk of trafficking and forced labour. There are continued reports of abuse and labour violations of women workers in the garment and textile sector - excessive working hours, forced overtime, low or unpaid wages and sexual harassment, and whilst awareness has been raised about the problems, there is not a great deal of progress as yet.

Tackling these problems demand integrated approaches – responsibility of governments to protect workers through improved laws, policies, responsibilities by employers and companies to respect workers rights and be accountable for their actions; better systems of recruitment and protection of migrant workers; and the right of women to organise themselves to have a voice and ability to seek redress if their rights are violated.

*Speakers: Cindy Berman, Ethical Trading Initiative, Nazma Akter (tbc)*

*Facilitator: Martina Hartung, ver.di*

### **Gender Based Violence – Strategies for Strong Activism and Empowerment**

The elimination of violence against women is an essential part of the fight for gender equality and the empowerment of women. Gender inequality breeds gender violence, and violence in turn increases inequality. Gender based violence affects women in all societies of the world, but because of existing social inequalities it has its most effects on ethnic minorities, migrants and the poor.

We'd like to focus on violence at the workplace and the influence of domestic violence on the job. We will show and discuss different strategies and campaigns that fight against gender based violence and empowers women to fight for their rights.

*Speakers: Arlette Puraye, UNI Europe Women, and Martina Hartung, ver.di*

### **Instruments of trade union equal opportunity work and experiences of equal politics**

The rate of unionisation of women increases. The number of members, especially of powerful trade unions, increases because of disproportional high admissions of women. This was achieved mostly by the commitment of trade unions to anti-discrimination and equal politics – first verbal. Step by step anti-discrimination politics of unions became more and more concretely and measures of gender equality politics were implemented within trade union organisations and programmatically through their work in companies and in society. In this workshop we'd like to show how this was achieved in unions, what measures of equality instruments and the experiences with them. And we'd like to discuss the next steps to continue that of equal opportunities within trade unions.

*Speaker: Vera Morgenstern, former Head of Gender and Equal Politics in ver.di, today local politician in Berlin*

*Facilitator: Martina Hartung, ver.di*

## **Track 5 – The Labour Movements' history, values and traditions**

From its beginnings the international labour movement drew its strength and cohesion from social and moral values such as justice, solidarity, emancipation and equity. In this track we want to engage with what these (and other) values mean for trade unionism today, as well as explore what their role in mobilising the international labour movement still is.



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However this track also recognizes that there are particularities to different national and regional labour movements creating particular conceptions of these social and political values and traditions. Questions that will be investigated include: How do these differences look? Do they separate or connect us? What is the impact of these potentially conflicting conceptions of values such as solidarity and justice in relation to, for example, increasing global inequality? And how do these national-specific differentiations relate and interact with the values of other social movements such as the women's liberation movement or the LGBTI\* movements? We want to unpack these and other questions in this subject track.

### **LGBTI and the trade union movement**

*Speakers: Jolanda van Gool and Michiel Odijk , Abvakabo, Mike Jackson USDAW, Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners  
Facilitation: Michael Frey (GEW).*

### **The case of the 14 disappeared trade union representatives at Mercedes Benz in Argentina**

Since 1999 this case has been widely published: during the Argentinian Military dictatorship 1976-83 in the Argentinian subsidiary of Mercedes Benz 14 trade unionists disappeared. They were abducted by military people during nighttime and tortured, and were later murdered. Their corpses were never found. At other companies as well management got rid of active trade unionists, but the case of Mercedes Benz gained worldwide attention and was even discussed at the US Supreme Court. This turned out to be a difficult issue for trade unions in Germany and internationally, highlighting the failure of solidarity action during the dictatorship. Gaby Weber, a journalist who has done extensive research in the case and found important evidence, will report about the current state of affairs.

*Speaker: Gaby Weber, Journalist; Ria Reich, IG Metall (tbc)*

## **Track 6 – Media culture and culture of media**

It is now widely accepted that independent grassroots media and social media communication have been some of the central drivers for successful human rights campaigns and political movements in recent times.

Workers' movements have been able to dramatically increase their visibility and gain public support through the speed and spread of online media and social networking. Developments such as the digitalization of media, the widespread use of social networking, the simple and relatively cheap access to IT equipment such as smart phones, but also programs of the web 2.0 generation has allowed this to occur.

On the other hand, traditional media still remains an important tool for sharing information, education and influencing public opinion, which trade unions need to utilise.

This track explores how trade unions can increase their access to the media, how to use media tools for strengthening workers' rights as human rights and build global solidarity. In this track there is a practical workshop, where you can learn more about video campaign material production, but also workshops on how to get your union into the news and how to build a communication or media strategy. There will also be time to discuss several forms of global networks, common forums and other information exchange tools for trade unions to generate momentum for campaigns and build global solidarity.

### **Workshops in this track include:**

#### **The Power of mainstream media: How to get your union into the news**

In this workshop we will get an insider's view of the media starting by giving an overview of who owns the media, why we have the problem of getting our stories in there, why they tend to ignore trade union stories, how to maximise the chances of getting your story out there, and how activists can use social media to bypass the mainstream media altogether. Tim Lezard is a campaigning journalist, and editor of @UnionNewsUK.

*Speaker: Tim Lezard, @UnionNewsUK*

#### **The Power of networking: Making local to global connection**

The global union Public Services International has been actively building the power of local affiliates to tell union stories to national and international audiences, while building a global network of public service union communicators. Learn how PSI members are working together on the front lines of labour communications in Greece, Tunisia and Wisconsin. The Building and Wood Worker's International (BWI) is also using the power of networking at local, national and international levels. It has managed to build a global network of communicators and has been using the media in various solidarity and global campaigns including IKEA and sports. In this workshop, Teresa Marshall (PSI) and Genevieve Kalina (BWI) will describe organizational approaches and experiences. In the discussion, we will elaborate how these networks can best meet the needs of workers.



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*Speakers: Theresa Marshall, PSI; Genevieve Kalina, BWI*

*Facilitator: Marc Bélanger (RadioLabour)*

### **The Power of film: Video as a weapon of the proletariat**

In the workshop we will present the aims and the work of producers/supporters of films on workers struggles. Labournet.tv as well as Neontetra Films collect films, that take the workers' perspective, and give them a platform to speak, convey important experiences. Beside that Labournet.tv produces videos about strikes and workers struggles documenting strikes and street mobilizations, while Neontetra films support Unions to develop and implement a video based campaigns. The discussion will be how to use films as a part of a media strategy. We try to will find out, what are the advantages of labour film/video and how can this support global campaigning. We will think about social grassroots movements and workers rights movements are linked to each other.

*Speaker: Bärbel Schönafinger, labournet.tv, Anna Burton (tbc), producer, Neontetra Films*

*Facilitator: Örsan Şenalp labour expert, unionist, international political economist and Internet specialist*

### **The Power of pictures: Bringing your message across**

*Infographics for union campaigns - some graphic design basics*

In the age of social media and prevalence of visual information it is crucial for us in the labour movement to be able to bring our message across in the most effective way. We have grown generations of leaders, writers and speech makers – yet our graphic messages are not always as powerful as our words and actions. This workshop is intended to give participants some very basic ideas about what is graphic design and typographic, why one picture grabs attention and another does not, how to put things on a page together and avoid the most common mistakes. Masha Kurzina is a graphics professional working with IUF in the Moscow office and is very experienced when it comes to giving campaigns a label by designing the logo of campaigns.

*Speaker: Masha Kurzina, IUF Moscow*

### **The Power of Voice: Activism and broadcasting**

In this workshop, after a brief introduction on the history of audio broadcasting and its use in struggle, our two speakers will inform on practical examples.

Viviana Uriona, filmmaker (kameradisten.org), member of Community Media Forum Europe and former member of the board of the German Federal Association of Free Radio Stations (Bundesverband Freie Radios), will speak on her experience of the use of radio in factory occupations and social struggles in Argentina, communication as a basic human right, and the differences between 'free radio' and 'public service' broadcasting.

Marc Bélanger, the news producer from RadioLabour (radiolabour.net), a labour movement news service based in Canada with an audience of 50,000 internationally, will talk about how newscasts and audio documentaries are produced and how unions can produce their own podcasts. RadioLabour produces daily newscasts, special programmes about union events, and half-hour audio documentaries. The service has been operating since January 2010 and works closely with LabourStart.

In the discussion we hope to talk about the particular usefulness and advantages of radio broadcasting as a media form 'from below' and how it can be used to build global solidarity.

*Speakers: Viviana Uriona; kameradisten.org; Marc Bélanger, RadioLabour*

*Facilitator: Matt Heaney, CoLaboRadio (senderberlin.org/colaboradio), ver.di FB13/LabourStart*

### **Organizing Digital Labour and Digital Labour Organizing**

The digitalisation of the economies means major challenges for workers and their unions globally. New ICTs create new structures and new 'cyber-works' that allow the state and capital to reorganize production, consumption, finance and politics alongside global production commodity networks. While we lose social and labour rights that we won after giving long and painful democratic struggles in the centre and the periphery. Yet, the developments in the ICTs also bear great potential for us when re-organizing ourselves. The workshop creates a space for fruitful practical and solution focused discussion to exchange and work on efficient digital tools and tactics, core issues, main problems and useful lessons about digital labour (self-)organising, especially of informal and precarious workers. We invite key labour activists, organiser and researchers who are engaged and observing the most recent experiences, to share ideas and collaborate.

*Organised and facilitated by Örsan Şenalp NetworkedLabour.net, FNV Bondgenoten, NL*

## **Track 7 – Digital communication**

**Workshops in this track:**



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### Internet-based union busting strategies: where do we stand?

Since the HBGary revelation it has become known that anti-terror-cyberwar tools are also used as a union busting strategy. But how does this affect our union practice? In these two workshops (part 1 and 2) we want to explore, what technologies exist and how they are used. We also want to gather and discuss experiences - whether you yourself were already exposed to such tactics and how you dealt with the situation. How can we handle such threats?

*Speakers: Suse Lang, N.N. Tactical Tech (tbc).*

### Online campaigning and social media

Trade unions have been campaigning online since the 1990s. Meanwhile, the use of social media for campaigning is quite commonplace. But how do we do this effectively? How do we avoid common mistakes? And (how) can we translate short term and low commitment mobilization through social media into strong union organization?

*Speakers: Lina Dencik, IWW/Universities and Colleges Union; Eugene Flynn; Janna Pea, RWDSU; Eric Lee, LabourStart*

### Union communication on Smartphones and Tablets

As our union websites because an increasingly important part of how we communicate with members and with the outside world, and as more and more people access the net over their smart phones and tablets, it's essential that our websites work for those devices too. In this workshop we'll look at practical – in the technical and communication sense - and political issues this entails.

*Speaker: Eric Lee, LabourStart.*

## Track 8 – Trade Unions and Politics

Workshops planned in this track so far include:

### TTIP and other Free Trade Agreements: Trade Union's counterstrategies

Pilfering workers rights behind closed doors? Unions have become aware of the TTIP and its potential damage for workers rights after secret documents have been leaked. Most of the negotiations around this important international trade agreements between the US, Canada and the European Union (like TTIP, CETA, TISA) are taking place behind closed doors. However the results could dramatically affect the way labour relations are organized on both sides of the Atlantic. What should be the strategy in order to avoid the pilfering of workers' rights?

*Speakers: Jürgen Maier (Forum Umwelt & Entwicklung); Elmar Wigand, arbeitsunrecht.de; Florian Moritz, (DGB);*

*Facilitation: Elisabeth Winter, FU Berlin*

### Building Alliances for campaigning

New thinking for labour and community partnerships and mobilization. Experiences learned working with national unions, major NGOs and the Council of Global Unions to build the Robin Hood Tax, global tax justice and other campaigns."

*Speakers: Teresa Marshall (Public Services International); Joel Odigie (ITUC Africa); Wilke Witte (ver.di/Germany); Frauke Banse (Clean Clothes Campaign/Germany)*

*Facilitator: Manuel Schneider (IG Metall Youth/Germany)*

### Trade Unions and Protests in Turkey

Much happened in Turkey since the European Social Forum 2010 and the LabourStart Conference 2011 in Istanbul. We like to discuss the developments, protests, new civil coalitions and still existing threats to the Labour and Social Movements. What can progressive Trade Unions learn from the experiences made in Turkey?

*Speakers: Kivanç Eliaçık (DISK); Burcu Ayan (IUF), Tim Ackermann (DGB Youth NRW)*

*Facilitating: Bilge Pınar Yenigün (GLU)*

### Fighting privatization - Trade Unions save public services and goods" (railways, education, right2water):

With national and international campaigns, Trade union together with social movements and community activists are combating against the further privatization of public goods and services. The right2water-campaign in Europe made a big success in the process of an European Citizens' Initiative, but how about the struggles in South Korea (public services and railway sector) and Germany (in the education branch)?

*Speakers: Dr. Martin Beckmann, verdi; Sunghee Oh(International Director, KGEU; Uli Thoene, GEW*

*Facilitating: Johanna Lauber (GLU)*

### Basic Income: A trade union goal?



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(aka basic income, basic income guarantee, unconditional basic income, universal basic income): a proposed system of social security in which citizens or residents of a country regularly receive a sum of money unconditionally, either from a government or some other institution able to ensure an equitable distribution of common wealth. Should every human being have an Unconditional Basic Income, enough for a decent life? Come and discuss why this is a central issue for trade unionists and how it should be designed.

*Speaker: Raphael Salkie, UCU, Ronald Blaschke (European Citizens' Initiative on a Unconditional Basic Income in Europe)*

*Facilitator: Mechthild Bock (Network on Basic Income in Germany)*

### Trade Union and Human Rights

Realising our rights - how a human rights approach can support union power. This workshop will look at examples of a) Amnesty International - trade union collaboration in support of workers rights, b) the ITUC Africa Human Rights campaigns and c) the international solidarity actions of the German Education Union (GEW). We like to take a general look at the opportunities and pitfalls that can arise.

*Speakers: Shane Enright (Amnesty International, Berater für Globale Gewerkschaften); Joel Odigie (IGB Afrika, Menschenrechtssekretär); Klaus Bullan (GEW);*

*Facilitation: Wilke Witte (ver.di)*

### Building up Trade Union Power at national level

*Re-thinking minimum wage campaigns, election recommendations and political coalitions*

This workshop will focus on the relations between trade unions, political parties and the federal government in Brazil and the tripartite alliance between political parties and the Congress of Trade Unions in South Africa. Also the minimum wage campaign driven by the trade unions in Germany and the method of the local people's tribunal will be presented and discussed. What are the lessons learned? What could have done better?

*speakers: Mziwandile Tshofela; NUMSA; Gabriel Musso (Global Labour University/Brazil), Rolf Wiegand (ver.di), Gill Boehringer (NTEU)*

*facilitator: Alex Lichtenstein (Associate Professor of History, Indiana University/re:work, Humboldt University)*

## Track 9 – Organising and Trade Union renewal

Trade unions are working hard to reverse the trend – in many countries – of falling membership. Since a number of years, increased exchange of experience is taking place, and sometimes the transfer of organizing approaches is attempted. Organising strategies are not only about increasing membership, but at the same time about renewing trade union democracy, including new groups of membership, building a union on rank and file involvement – and increasing trade union power through all of these. In this track we are exploring a number of examples and strategies.

**Workshops we are exploring at this point in time include:**

### The organizing debate in Europe– experience with (adapted) US models in Europe

All over Europe, in the last years unions have been experimenting with “new” (sometimes going back to old traditions) organizing approaches. We want to look at a number of examples from recent years and ask – what made them successful? What problems were encountered? (How) was international embeddedness important for those successes?

*Speakers: Antti Vainio, Baltic Organising Academy; Jonas Berhe, IG Metall, Adrian Durtschi, UNIA, Jeffrey Raffo, ver.di*

*Facilitation: Valery Alzaga, Change to Win*

### Organising in the fast food industry:

Fast food restaurants are said to be difficult to organize, as they often they employ the most vulnerable categories of workers und precarious employment relationships. However in several countries and under various circumstances, unions are actively organizing and defending the rights of these workers. In this workshop, they come together to share experiences and insights.

*Speakers: Nick Allen, Change to Win; Funda Uygur, NGG*

*Facilitating: Lina Dencik, IWW/Universities and Colleges Union*

### Labor solidarity and organizing in global value networks

Well-known transnational companies employ only a minority of the global labor force. The majority work for no-name or subtier-suppliers in TNC-controlled global value networks (GVN).

Worker's power in these GVNs has been undercut through ever increasing competition between sites, and the distance



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between where workers' are negotiating and corporate decisions are being made. As a result, employment relations and core labor standards become precarious and weaken. Building solidarity across transnational supply chains has proven difficult. In this workshop we would like to share and draw on some experiences of building solidarity and organizing in global value networks. The campaigns explored range from small to large, and some are either ongoing or complete, but each offers different insights into how the complexities of GVN can be addressed.

*Speakers: Bea (Works councillor at H&M); Michael Fütterer (TIE - transnational information exchairs). Katharina Wesenick (ver.di, Federal division for commerce); Sandra Dusch-Silva (CIR – Christian Initiative Romero)*

*Moderation: Thomas Sablowski, Rosa-Luxemburg-Foundation*

### Organising globally: creating networks in TNC and globalizing workers struggles:

Building networks within TNCs can be seen as the first step to building global industrial relations and workers powers within TNCs, who are among the most powerful actors globally. Speakers will talk about their work to build and maintain such networks and the struggles they have fought.

*Speakers: Burcu Ayan, IUF, Jinsook Lee, BWI; N.N. Daimler coordination, Hans Koebrich, IG Metall AKI)*

### Winning struggles - Strategic campaigns

Trade Unions are campaigning all the time offline and online - but often we miss the time to reflect on what makes a campaign successful - and how do we can plan and implement our campaigns in order to make success more likely. In this workshop we want to take a look at examples of successful campaigns and ask what did make the successful, and what are the corner stones of successful strategic campaigning.

*Speakers: Adam Lee, IndustriALL Global Union; Wilfried Schwetz, IG Metall; Donna McGuire; Eyup Özer (DİSK Birlesik Metal İş).*

## Cultural events at and around the conference

We'll not only discuss, we'll enjoy time together in various other ways as well! From the start to the very end.

### Guided city tours, Friday, 15:00 and 16:30

We are offering two guided city tours on the labour and social movement history of Berlin on Friday before the conference opens.

The tour in the city center will start at 3 pm, at **Potsdamer Platz**.

**The tour in Kreuzberg will take place twice, at 3 pm and at 5:15 pm, and will start at ver.di headquarters.**

For those who arrive early and want to attend the introduction to LabourStart at 6, please go the first one. For those coming a bit later and already familiar with LabourStart, please go to the second one. Both are identical tours.

**For participants from Berlin:** please consider leaving the tours to our out-of-Berlin guests. You can always arrange a tour for your union with our tourguides Günter (Email available from us) or Win ([www.berlin-subversiv.de](http://www.berlin-subversiv.de)), directly at a later point in time.

**Both tours will be held in English.**

### Sites of the Labor Movement in Berlin

*with Günter Regneri, historian*

This tour will start from the center of town at Potsdamer Platz and pass along various important places of the Berlin and German labour movement touching on topics such as Where the communists denied their founder a monument – Where in 1848 murdered revolutionaries won the day- Where the union learned about New Objectivity – Where the union owned a real gem until the fluctuating groundwater took it away – Where the union smashed a military coup in 1920 – Where squatters used songs to defeat the GDR border police . Where in 1844 the calico printers instigated the first strike in Berlin – Where the Labourstart conference takes place – the tour will end at verdi headquarters.

This tour will use public transport quite a lot. Please make sure to buy a day pass for public transport to attend (6,70€, AB area).

*The meeting point for this tour is the "Ampelturm" at Potsdamer Platz, near the S-Bahnstation at the crossing of Potsdamer Str., Ebertstr. and Stresemannstr. Watch out for the LabourStart flag!*



### "When Kreuzberg was the 'Red South-East'...1848 -1933"

*with Win Windisch, tour guide about "A Peoples History of Berlin"*

This tour will take place twice, at 3:00 and 5:15, and will start at the verdi-headquarter and go through the district of Kreuzberg. We will look at its history as the "cradle" of the workers movement in Berlin and the time until 1933 when the Nazis got in



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power: the first trade union house of berlin 1900, its occupation by the Nazis May 2nd 1933 and the destruction of the unions after/ the beginnings of the trade union movement 1848/ the clandestine work of the forbidden Social Democratic Party and the beginnings of the proletarian womens movement during the Bismarck Era (until 1890)/ the tragic split of the workers movement in the 1920s between communists and social-democrats and the street fights against Nazis/ a cleaning woman active in the anti-fascist resistance/ as well as the role of beer, culture and sports for the workers movement.

*The meeting point for this tour is in front of ver.di headquarters (entrance facing the river) at Paula-Thiede-Ufer 10. see [www.berlin-subversiv.de](http://www.berlin-subversiv.de) (click on Logo, webpage has english section)*

## Informal get-together, Friday, after the opening event

This opening event will give us some food for thought – and discussion! We'll therefore hang around the verdi atrium and gallery for some time after the conference. Some drinks will be provided, but don't come hungry!

*With lounge music by DJ Lucha Amada*

## Get ready to dance!

This will be THE event – the LabourStart conference 2014 congress party!

With a live concert by **the Neofarius v. Occasionally Flyer K.Orchestra** (Klezmer, Polka, Balkan), and DJ's **Lucha Amada** (Berlin) and **Aural Guerilla** (Leipzig).

**At Jockel's Biergarten**, 09:00 pm (address: Ratiborstr. 14c) .

In solidarity with antifascists in Germany and Greece.

Don't miss it!



## Films on labour and trade unions

We'll show labour films during the workshop programme. A list of films and screening time will be available separately.



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