

The crisis of nation-states – anarchist answers?

BACKGROUND

Nation-states are frequently taken for granted as indispensable prerequisites of social organization in larger groups. The nation-state is regarded as the sole institution able to guarantee and ensure basic human rights, that seem unthinkable without an enforcing national-state.

Meanwhile, a crisis of the nation-states power to regulate is evident. The point-of-view that the nation-state is the guarantor of its citizens' maximum of personal rights is controversial nowadays.

Empirically, this crisis is made apparent by an incredible number of inter- and intra-state armed conflicts, by the crisis of welfare states as well as continuous violations of international law since the 2nd World War (as analyzed in the Work of Daniele Ganser).

From a theoretical perspective, a number of plausible arguments can be made against the nation-state – from a historical point-of-view it is disputable that the nation-state is aiding human progress (cf. Claus Offe, Jürgen Habermas or Wolfgang Streeck). Moreover, ethnological and anthropological observations point out, the existence of historical and contemporary social examples – even of large social groups – devoid of police or the state's monopoly on legitimate use of force (cf. Christian Sigrist or more recently Hermann Amborn).

FOCUS

All those reasons can be subsumed into Karls Kraus's saying, that the nation state is the very same ailment, that he propagates to cure. Despite all this justified critique of the current state of the world dominated by national-states, one question is left open:

How else? What can be the alternatives?

The planned conference aims to find out, which theoretical approaches of the anarchist spectrum can answer the question: how is a world society thinkable beyond the limitations of nations and what are the requirements for maintaining a better society? The convention addresses two central themes: the critique of nation-states and possible forms of alternative social organization (of small or large scales).

- From a feminist perspective, how is power designed without domination?
- How can justice be pronounced without rule?
- How does a society without a state organize the distribution of goods?
- How can you resist power?
- How do you make decisions effectively and without domination in large societies?
- Which form of organization is appropriate for freedom of rule?

- How do you give reason and its form in the argument priority over power and individual interests?
- How do you change the world without taking power?

INFORMATION

Participation is free of charge.

Conference Committee and Organization

- Uwe H. Bittlingmayer
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- Thomas Stölner (Vienna)
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More Information, registration and conference program

• <https://www.ph-freiburg.de/soziologie/veranstaltungen.html>

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Freitag, 19.03.2021, 9.30 - 20.00

1. Answers to the Nation-States Crisis: Stateless Regulation, Critique of Power and Economic Alternatives

9.30 - 10.00: Greeting, Aims of the Conference (Thomas Stölner, Uwe Bittlingmayer)

10.00 - 12.00: Ilija Trojanow: Power and Resistance. Anarchist Approaches. Overview, Current Approaches and Lines of Discussion

12.00 - 13.00: Lunch Break

13.00 - 14.30: Stephen Shalom: democratic councils: organizing power with nested councils

14.30 - 14.45: Break

14.45 - 17.45: Michael Albert: Participatory Economy: institutions of a just and democratic economy

starting 18.30: Concert by Konstantin Wecker

Samstag, 20.03.2021, 9.00 - 12.30

2. Anarchy and Alternative Models of Economical Structure: Scope, Consistency, Plausibility, Requirements

9.00: Welcome

9.15 - 11.00 Ilse Lenz: Woman power without domination. Overview and discussions of the feminist theory.

11.00 - 12.30: Claude Klöckl: Centralized Allocation of Goods

12.30 - 13.30: Lunch Break

Samstag, 20.03.2021, 13.30 - 18.30

3. How to (differently) organize Power? Possibilities, Success Requirements, Implementation strategy, Plausibility

13.30 - 15.00: Hermann Amborn: Law as an anarchist Stronghold, Overview, Current Approaches and Discussion within Social Anthropology

15.00 - 16.30: Savina Chowdhury: reproductive labor in a participatory economy

16.30 - 17.00 Tea- and coffee break

17.00 - 18.30 Eve Lecture: John Holloway: Changing the World without Taking Power.

Sonntag, 21.03.2021, 10.00 - 17.15

4. Workshops

12.00 - 14.00: Workshops I *

14.00 - 16.00: Workshops II **

16.00 - 16.15: Tea- and coffee break

16.15 - 17.15: Results of the workshops + discussion

Goodbyes and joyously contemplating the realization of new ideas

Links:

*Workshop-Block I

🔗 *Workshop zur Entscheidungsfindung mit größeren Gruppen I – Christoph Besemer*

🔗 *Philosophieren und Anarchie – Akademie für philosophische Bildung und Werteerziehung*

🔗 *Herrschaftsfrei die Re_Produktion organisieren – Johann Bergmann*

🔗 *Anarchist Accounting – Anders Sandström*

🔗 *Gemeinschaftsbildung nach Morgan Scott Peck als Ressource für anarchische Gruppenbildungsprozesse – Zora Weber*

🔗 *ja! Anarchismus. Gelebte Utopie, Theorie und Praxis im 21. Jahrhundert – Bernd Drücke*

**Workshop-Block II

🔗 *Workshop zur Entscheidungsfindung mit größeren Gruppen II – Christoph Besemer*

🔗 *Klimabewegung in Zeiten des Kapitalismus, eine Welt zu Gewinnen – Lena Schilling – Lena Schilling*

🔗 *Investment and Development Planning in a Participatory Economy – Robin Hahnel*

🔗 *Participatory Planning Workshop – Jason Chrysostomou and Mitchell Szczepanczyk*

🔗 *Rechtsetzung und Rechtsdurchsetzung in anarchistischen Gruppen. – Dr. Peter Seyferth (München)*

🔗 *Die Verwirklichung „der gegenseitigen Achtung“ – Zu anarchistischen Vorstellungen von Solidarität im Anschluss an Pjotr Kropotkin – Jens Kastner*