

## Transformation strategies

As much as we are hoping for the “day of decision”, when the working-class delivers the “blow of the hammer” (Rosa Luxemburg) that tears down the wall between capitalist society and the best of all possible worlds, it seems unlikely to come about. Nevertheless, in the next arranca! we will examine strategies for social change.

Social transformation is not an historically (pre-)determined process. History is not created by a phantom locomotive pulling evolution along a track, rather somehow by us. But *somehow* is simply – by any no longer enough. It is time to ask one of the Left’s most crucial questions: *how?*

Reforms versus revolution, marching through the institutions versus Bolsheviks storming the winter palace, critical versus truncated criticism – in the past the question of “how” has been discussed along these dichotomies, but mostly end- and fruitless. We believe however that some of these apparently irreconcilable antagonisms will disappear by taking the risk of political practice. Therefore when we collect and discuss specific approaches to transform the world beyond different forms of domination, we want to be as concrete as possible. What are the cultural, political and social fields in which struggles take place? Which struggles are worth the Left’s involvement? How can we prevent radical, socially-critical approaches from gravitating into the sphere of trade-able commodities and transforming to become part of neo-liberal domination? Are there ways to combine demands for concrete changes, like active participation in society for all and social security with an emancipatory anti-capitalist criticism of current conditions? Do the steps there – like free public services or the demand for universal basic income – only change conditions of reproduction within capitalist society, or are they arrows pointing in the direction of, or even elements of, a non- or post-capitalist society? How would the future for which we can hardly wait look? Can it be designed in advance?

Your contributions can be detailed using previous approaches and experiences as well as examining what are often seen as fringe topics: how does the emancipatory potential of new technologies relate to their daily use? In computer-communism, will production no longer be driven by the market, but instead by networked communication and smart algorithms linking it to human needs and resources? What can we learn from past approaches; for example, what happened to Haraway’s Cyborgs? Can a change in language also change society? What effects can solidarity economy have and can planned economy work? Do we want to overcome representation? Radical democracy? A system

of councils?

We are looking forward to interesting, thought-provoking article suggestions. And, since the Left is known to continue fighting, even when all big utopias have failed: think big! There is no alternative to real change. A different world is especially one thing: necessary.

**We also are happy to receive article suggestions which are not primarily related to this thematic focus.** And if you are interested in dealing with the subject on the graphic level and layouting the next edition of the *arranca!* please contact us, too.

The deadline for your abstracts will be the 30<sup>th</sup> of august 2009 and the 11<sup>th</sup> of october for the final articles.

*arranca! editors*

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