

INVITATION TO THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE UPRISING GROUPS OF CENTRAL EUROPE

Greetings!

The Initiative for city-wide assembly (IMZ) is hosting a plenary meeting of all uprising groups, non-government organizations, active in the field of direct democracy, socially and politically critical groups and their sympathizers.

The meeting is going to take place in Maribor, on the 6th of December 2013, in cultural center Pekarna, Gustaf hall, Ob železnici 8. The aim of the gathering is to present and share different views related to alternative social structure.

The first part is going to take place in the form of two discussions on the subject of participatory budgeting and advocacy, where we will try to find possible ways and solutions to these issues, followed by a plenary meeting, where the participants will discuss ongoing practices in the field of active citizenship.

Therefore we ask you to confirm your attendance and give us the estimated number of participants. Please let us know if you require sleeping arrangements. Stands will be made available if you wish to present your publications or other materials. Lunch will be vegan. Press will not be present.

Due to international nature of the event, discussions will be held in English language. Translators will be available, if required.



PROGRAM OF THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE UPRISING GROUPS OF CENTRAL EUROPE

6. 12. 2013 | from 9.00 until the early hours Maribor | Pekarna Magdalenske mreže | Gustaf hall

9:00	Arrivals and coffee
10:00-12:00	Discussion: Advocacy in NGO Rene Suša The main emphasis will be on the different forms of advocacy and their specifics. We will discuss the different advocacy approaches when working with media, political decision makers and about organizing public campaigns. Some analytical tools and tools for the development of advocacy strategies will be presented.
12:00-14:00	Discussion: Participatory budgeting Matic Primc Participatory budgeting is a concept of governance which directly includes the citizens into the process of city-governance. Its aim is to reduce the number of intermediary steps between implementing the needs of the citizens, while simultaneously making a direct democratic principle, which reflects the public will in the public services a reality. Such a method of public governance has several advantages: people can directly influence the process of answering the needs of their local community, due to a greater level of transparency citizens have greater confidence in their decision makers, public spending is more cost effective while increasing people's self-reliance, self-confidence and sense of solidarity.
14:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-18:00	Plenary assembly Format: Each participating group will make a short presentation about themselves and their activities. Then we will try to find common goals. The short-term goal: a joint public declaration, The long-term goal: creation of new networks, to reinforce the existing ones, as well as creation of inter-group connections for possible future collaboration.

18:00-21:00	Break The reason for the prolonged break are several lectures that are taking place in Maribor at that time, and would be interesting for participants. The other reason is that Gustaf hall needs to prepare technical means for evening events.
21:00-5:00	The fun bit
21.30-23:00	Tadej Vesenjak Vesenjak is a singer-songwriter from Prlekija region. He is a three-time laureate of the singer-songwriter festival KantFEST and participant of Lent Festival 2007 and 2008. His songs are lyrical, worldly, socially critical and humorous. Musically, he uses a combination of folk and blues traditions with a strong rock streak. https://myspace.com/kantavtor
23:30-1:00	About All hairy and soaking and wet arising from the mud as he hissed like a phoenix all-mighty all over the commune he pissed everyone is watching him he is aged and always drunk, oh, that blooded ancient dog the keeper of all the truths WOOF https://myspace.com/staripes
1:00-5:00	Dj CiguleMigule (Radio Marš) and democratic karaoke

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