

Workshops at Transnational Social Strike meeting in Ljubljana

Autonomous Factory Rog, Trubarjeva 72

19-21 May

Four workshops will take place on Saturday, 20 May 2017 in two slots: first slot of two workshops before noon from 10:00 to 13:00, second slot of two workshops from 15:00 to 18:00.

In the evening, on Friday and Saturday we will have opening and general assembly.

TSS meeting will finish with final plenary of Transnational Social Strike coordination platform on Sunday morning.

Other important information:

[Call out // TSS Ljubljana meeting](#)

[Registration form](#)

[Travel information](#)

1. Freedom of movement and right to stay

The first workshop will be devoted to freedom of movement and right to stay. It will be connected to the processes of migration taking place mostly in late two years and connected to the Balkan Route. Balkan Route changed the political space of Europe both from below and from above. Refugees opened the borders by pushing the move to the north and states consequently closed the borders by pushing the move to the south. As a result of the closure of the so-called Balkan corridor, lots of questions are arising. What are those restrictive mechanisms that were taken in action by nation states in order to prevent people from moving? The role of Schengen agreement, ongoing push-backs, Dublin deportations and deportation to the countries of origin? The question of racism and the rise of populist organized political options that are putting migrants in more dangerous situations? How are these movements connected with a broader process of precarization that keep using migrant labor as a laboratory? How is it possible to connect migrant existing struggles against exploitation and institutional racism with these movements against the border regime whose power has still to be organized? How do we face the issues of education and general access to welfare states in a contest of general financialization of welfare?

2. Logistics labor

The second workshop we are proposing is about logistics. Following the analysis advanced in our previous meetings, we will consider logistics as something more than the proper 'logistics sector', understanding it as a force which deeply changed the way in which production and labor are organized and distributed across different places, regions and states. Logistics is thus for us crucial in order to understand how to face the neoliberal reforms and projects for infrastructure development that want to turn the Balkan region into a hub for global trade and exploitation. In this workshop we will consider workers in logistics and the many struggles criss-crossing the sector against the background of this general change, starting from the specific role of ports. We have invited workers from Luka Koper, the most strategic [national] logistic center in Slovenia now included in global

networks and also willing to invite other port workers of North Adriatic ports (NAPA network). There were a few strikes and other attempts of workers organizing in the past and we will try to get as much of them presented on the panel. Of course we take stock of other experiences and examples of logistics' workers organizing discussed in the past meetings (such as the Amazon struggles involving Poland, Germany and France, Deliveroo and the role of the gig economy, etc.) [are the most welcome to participate]. We want to hear about organizing of people employed in the very sector of postmodern world, that is logistics, but welcoming also any other sectors to discuss the wider implications of the current reorganization of labor and production.

3. Migrant and/or precarious labor

The third workshop will discuss connections between migrant labor and precarious labor. Assuming that precarization processes, at first experimented on the migrant labor in terms of blackmailing and of privation of rights, now concern whole labor, the question that we are facing is different from a uniform process of leveling the economic conditions and citizenship status of migrant and non-migrant labor as well. The precarization, impoverishment and invisibilization of the labor result in a political stratification and fragmentation that is continuously reproduced by institutional racism, government of mobility and salary regimes. This is most evident for people with refugee or international protection status, who are entering the labor market as most subordinated one, but in a different way. There is an urge to develop a discourse able to underline common denominators and at the same time the multiple political conditions of exploitation in order to produce connections and common fields for insubordination.

By inviting two young unions that are focused on issues of growing precarious working conditions and right-less labor forces, we would like to rise the questions of problems seasonal workers without contracts are facing on a daily basis, fragility of migrant labor in the hands of employers, growing rates of unemployment among young people and migrants, agency employments, needs on how to organize locally and transnationally, how to articulate our situation inside labor market and in society, how to mobilize for claims of European minimum wage, European welfare and European residence permit.

4. After the Global Women's Strike: struggles against patriarchy, capitalism and precarization

This year, 2017, women all around the world joined in action and strikes on International Women's Day. Some of us had to demand basic reproductive rights, some brought attention to a pertaining domestic violence issue, others were protesting the decomposition of the welfare state, which mostly affects women from low income families, who are still trapped in the domestic sphere, where they do all of society's reproductive work. Even though our problems seem different, they have the same common ground, second role that society assigns to women the moment we are born. So we have a common enemy, patriarchal capitalist society. As the mobilizations leading to the strike on March 8th showed, the issues women are raising are not just a "woman question", but rather address the very core of neoliberal patriarchy, offering also to others the possibility to contrast it. We would like to discuss how to strengthen on a transnational level this power of disruption manifested by women, how to make a step beyond the denunciation of what women suffer on a daily basis.

At the workshop we will discuss how patriarchy and capitalism are affecting each of us, how re-traditionalization of society and uprising of conservative right wing parties impact and how it impacts our daily lives. Along these lines, the Ljubljana location invites us to focus on migrants women condition and struggles. Migrant women experience a double exploitation due to manifold conditions imposed or exacerbated by the border regime, such as the violence suffered in the countries of origins, transit and arrival. Their dependency on the residence permit, most of the times linked to that of their husbands or fathers, or to a precarious labor contract; the unpaid work they have to perform in order to be eligible for asylum seekers' status; the whole reception system, which deprives them of the freedom of movement. Due to the so called transnational chains of care, some women in some countries are able to free themselves from reproductive labor paying a migrant woman to do that instead. Thus, while they are looking for their freedom from reproductive labor, women are forced to reproduce the patriarchal principle according to which that labor is an exclusively women burden. This tension between freedom and patriarchal domination is also evident in relation to prostitution: since migrant women are often obliged to choose between domestic and sexual labor as 'female' activities, their search for freedom is caught inside a patriarchal order which can also assume the violent face of sex trafficking, rape and exploitation. Nonetheless migrant women are not just vulnerable subjects: by migrating they challenged their destiny both in their countries of origins and in those of arrival, thus putting into question the patriarchal order as such. Starting from this strength we would like to discuss how to build terrains of struggle which put migrant and local women in communication.

Besides, we would like to share evaluations on the global women's strike of March 8th, on how the strike was used and allowed women to trigger unprecedented processes of insubordination and on the next step of the mobilization. We would like to talk about next year's International women's day, start a discussion on what our focus should be, and what kind of tactics and strategies we should use to make our common struggle even more effective, how to embrace common claims, at least on a European level, that are able to connect women's struggles with those of others (e.g. US fight for minimum wage of 15 \$)

We are looking forward to meeting you all, dear comrades!

Transnational Social Strike meeting #4 at Autonomous Factory Rog, Ljubljana

19 – 21 May, 2017

Program and timetable:

	Friday, 19.5.	Saturday, 20.5.		Sunday, 21.5.
10:00 - 13:00		Workshop #1: <i>Freedom of movement and right to stay</i> (Živko Skvotec)	Workshop #2: <i>Logistics labor</i> (Social centre Rog)	Final Plenary (Social centre Rog)
13:00 - 15:00		Lunch (Second Home - 1st floor)		Lunch (Second Home - 1st floor)
15:00 - 18:00		Workshop #3: <i>After Global Women's Strike: struggles against patriarchy, capitalism and precarization</i> (Živko Skvotec)	Workshop #4: <i>Migrant and/or precarious labor</i> (Social centre Rog)	
18:00 - 19:00	Opening Assembly (Social centre Rog)	Dinner (Second Home - 1st floor)		
19:00 - 21:00		General Assembly (Social centre Rog)		
21:00 - 22:00	Dinner (Second Home - 1st floor)			
22:00 - 5:00	Balkan cafe / Kafana na Balkanu <i>Socialising and hanging out together</i> (Blue Corner / Modri Kot)	Transnational Social Party / Transnacionalna družabna zabava <i>Hanging out together</i> (Social centre Rog) <i>Partying together</i> (Blue Corner / Modri Kot)		

Autonomous Factory Rog

A former bicycle factory, occupied in 2006. Over the next ten years it becomes haven to over thirty collectives and spaces whose production spreads from socio-cultural activities to arts, sports and activism. The TSS meeting in Ljubljana will be organized in the following four spaces →



Entrance to Autonomous Factory Rog

Modri Kot / Blue Corner

Space for multidisciplinary cultural production, music and literature events, performative and ambient art. It offers project space for research and theorization of processes and/or activities it produces.

Second Home

Migrant community space, run by asylum seekers, refugees, migrant workers, local and international activists, established with the purpose of working on self-organization of migrants, establishing emancipating tools for sans-papier and asylum seekers.

First floor is devoted to daily and project activities, education programs and community meetings. Ground floor operates as a night club organizing dance classes, exhibitions and music events.

Socialni center Rog / Social centre Rog

Dedicated to political organizing of socially excluded and marginalized social groups and individuals, whose worker's, civil and/or human rights have been violated.

Dealing with problematic of social inequality, social exclusion, economic exploitation, racial discrimination and other forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation, personal circumstances, cultural characteristics, etc.

Živko Skvotec

Space for autonomous production of theoretical, political and artistic practices, which tend to pluralize the established scene. Its' collective derives from the necessity for non-institutionalized, not-for-profit, engaged production and exchange of knowledge that transcends into practice.