



Call for Participation to the VI International Gathering of “The Workers’ Economy”

Buenos Aires/Pigüé, Argentina
August 30th to September 2nd, 2017

The VI International Gathering of “The Workers’ Economy” will take place in Argentina between August 30th and September 2nd, 2017.

We invite the participation of all workers from recuperated and self-managed enterprises, cooperatives and social and popular economy organizations, as well as trade unions and academics interested in and committed to self-management practices and the project of a new workers' economy.

The opening event will be held at the worker-recuperated Hotel BAUEN in the City of Buenos Aires (that is currently facing risk of eviction ordered by the court as well as the Argentine government). The rest of the gathering will continue at the facilities of the Textiles Pigüé Cooperative, a worker-recuperated factory in the interior of the province of Buenos Aires.

This new, sixth edition of the International Gathering will take place ten years after the first edition was organized by the Programa Facultad Abierta (Open University Program) of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters of the University of Buenos Aires in July 2007. Subsequent editions have taken place in Buenos Aires (2009), Mexico (2011), Brazil (Joao Pessoa, 2013) and Venezuela (Punto Fijo, 2015). Beginning in 2014, regional gatherings have also been taking place in South America, Europe and the Mediterranean, and in North and Central America, the last of which were held in October and November 2016 with the participation of representatives from 30 countries.

This new International Gathering will be held in a particular moment when a workers' economy based on self-management appears to be more and more needed as an alternative to savage capitalism. This is particularly so given that our contemporary capitalist order increasingly condemns the majority of the world's working people to exploitation, precariousness, and unemployment, while unleashing wars, discrimination and destruction throughout the planet. In Argentina, where the sixth edition of the gathering of “The Workers’ Economy” will take place, one of the world's most extensive experience of self-management and the recuperation of workplaces faces the offensive of this new stage of neoliberalism. Amidst this reality, we invite you to participate in this new edition of the International Gathering, which intends to bring together and extend the numerous debates, discussions, and shared experiences of the three most recent regional and earlier International meetings. At the same time, it aims at broadening and strengthening the debate and “The Workers’ Economy” network's organization.

In addition to the sessions that will begin on August 30, the VI International Gathering's local organizing committee is planning activities and visits to social organizations and worker-recuperated companies in Buenos Aires one week prior to the gathering. The organizing committee will also guarantee transportation logistics for all participants from the city of Buenos Aires to the city of Pigüé, where most of the gathering will take place and which was already the site of the First South American Regional Gathering of "The Workers' Economy" in October 2014.

The schedule of the prior activities will be available in June 2017.

Thematic streams of the VI International Gathering of "The Workers' Economy"

Each thematic stream provides an orientation for the discussion themes that will be debated during the International Gathering and are to be taken as reference for the organization of the program based on the received proposals. This task will be carried out by the local and international organization committee.

Thematic streams:

1. Political and economic analysis of the global capitalist crisis
2. Self-management as practice and as alternative project
3. The challenges of unions and other forms of waged workers' organizations facing global neoliberal capitalism
4. The growing precariousness and informality of work: Exclusion, inclusion or reformulation of the way of working in global capitalism?
5. The workers' economy and issues relating to gender
6. Articulation and integration of the workers' economy
7. State and public policies in the workers' economy
8. Popular education and knowledge building in the workers' economy

Deadlines for submitting paper proposals and presentations

Abstract submission: 16 June 2017

Abstract approval: 2 July 2017

Full presentation or paper submission: 30 July 2017

The paper proposals and presentations should be presented in an abstract no longer than a single page. We recommend that they should be accompanied by a suggestion regarding in which of the thematic streams listed above it should be included. In case of approval, the final paper or presentation should be a maximum of 15 pages, in Times New Roman or Arial 12, in 1.5 line spacing. The approved presentations shall be loaded on a web page before the Meeting. For presentations or interventions in other formats, please contact the organizing committee.

Deadlines for the presentation of workshops, books, journals and audiovisual works

Submission: 16 June 2017

Approval: 3 July 2017

In the case of presentations of workshops, these should be supported with themes, methodology, participants and an indication of which of the thematic streams of the gathering they are related to. These proposals shall also be evaluated taking into account relevance and availability of space in the meeting.

For further information please see www.recuperadasdoc.com.ar or email centrodoc@gmail.com or sextoencuentrointernacional@gmail.com

VI International Gathering of “The Workers' Economy” organization committee:

Argentina: Programa Facultad Abierta (Fac. de Filosofía y Letras, Universidad de Buenos Aires); Cooperativa de Trabajo Textiles Pigüé; FEDECABA; FACTA; ACTRA; Red Gráfica Cooperativa; Cooperativa 19 de diciembre, Cooperativa Los Chanchitos; Cooperativa La Cacerola; Casa de los Trabajadores (Córdoba); Cooperativa Proyecto Cooper; IDELCOOP; Programa Relación Capital-Trabajo Ciecs-Conicet, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba; Carrera de Relaciones del Trabajo, Universidad Nacional Arturo Jauretche; Instituto de Ciencias Antropológicas (FFyL-UBA); Red TISA-Universidad Nacional de Quilmes; Asociación Civil INCLUIR; Cátedra Libre de Fábricas Recuperadas de la Universidad Nacional de La Plata; Centro Cultural de la Cooperación "Floreal Gorini", Programa de Articulación Territorial-Universidad Nacional de San Martín (UNSAM); Grupo Alavío.

International Committee (confirmed at the moment:

Italy: RiMaflow; Officine Zero

France: Asociación por la Autogestión; Union Syndicale Solidaires

Canada: Centre for Learning, Social Economy & Work de la Universidad de Toronto
Toronto Airport Workers' Council (<https://www.facebook.com/TAWCYZZ/>).

Brazil: Red Tecnológica para la Inclusión Social Brasil: INCUBES- Universidades Federal da Paraíba, Núcleo de Solidariedade Técnica (SOLTEC/UFRJ), Grupo de Pesquisa de Empresas

recuperadas por Trabajadores (GEPERT/UFRJ); Fábrica Ocupada Flaskó; Grupo de Pesquisa Organizações e Democracia (UNESP - Marília)

Colombia: Federación Nacional de Trabajadores del Estado, los Servicios Públicos y la Comunidad, ÚNETE

Venezuela: Comuna Socialista José Pío Tamayo y Empresa de Propiedad Social Directa Comunal Proletarios Uníos de Barquisimeto; Movimiento Nacional por el Control Obrero; Plataforma de Lucha de los Consejos Socialistas de Trabajadores; Movimiento Uníos.

México: Área de Estudios del Trabajo y Departamento de Relaciones Sociales de la Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco; Colectivo de Cooperativas de la Nueva Central de Trabajadores; Coordinadora Nacional de Sindicatos Universitarios, de Educación Superior, Investigación y Cultura (CNSUESIC); Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Universidad Autónoma de Chapingo (STAUACH); Centro para la Justicia Global A.C. en San Miguel de Allende; ALCONA (Alianza Cooperativa Nacional).

Uruguay: Centro de Formación y Documentación en Procesos Autogestionarios: Red temática de Economía Social y Solidaria de la Universidad de la República; Asociación Nacional de Empresas Recuperadas por sus Trabajadores; Federación de Cooperativas de Producción del Uruguay (ANERT); Instituto Cuesta Duarte, Espacio de Autogestión y Plenario Intersindical de Trabajadores - Convención Nacional de Trabajadores (PIT CNT); Federación Uruguaya de Cooperativas de Vivienda y Ayuda Mutua (FUCVAM) y Coordinadora Nacional de Economía Solidaria

China: Chinese Working Women Network

International network: Workerscontrol.net