



*A call to social movements, frontline communities and campaigning networks, and progressive NGOs, academics and parliamentarians across Asia and Europe:*

**Join the 10<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Peoples' Forum**  
**“Towards a Just and Inclusive Asia and Europe -**  
**Building States of Citizens for Citizens”**  
Milan, Italy, 10-12 October 2014

The Asia-Europe People's Forum (AEPF) will hold its 10<sup>th</sup> biennial People's Forum on 10-12 October 2014 under the title **“Towards a Just and Inclusive Asia and Europe - Building States of Citizens for Citizens”**.

AEPF10 will tackle major themes or People's Visions, which represent AEPF's hopes for citizens of Europe and Asia. These are:

- **Socially Just Trade and Investment**
- **Universal and Transformative Social Protection – guaranteed jobs and livelihoods, access to essential services and social security for all;**
- **Food Sovereignty and Sustainable Land and Natural Resource Management;**
- **Climate Justice, Sustainable Energy Production and Zero Waste; and**
- **Peace and Security**

Progress towards the realisation of these People's Visions, or Alternatives, is at the heart of a way out of the multiple crises confronting people, states and institutions. The ecological, debt, financial, energy and food crises, which have been caused and compounded by the policies and practices of many governments in both rich and poor countries and their approaches to regulation of business, have caused increasing social polarization between peoples and states. In Asia the crises are exacerbating poverty and inequality, already widespread before the present crises. In Europe the crises are creating indebtedness, joblessness and insecurity.

We are increasingly experiencing 'corporate capture'—multinational and national corporations structuring and determining our lives and livelihoods. The responses of citizens are often at local and national levels and to complement these, the AEPF is looking to encourage and strengthen cooperation and solidarity of people's networks regionally, inter-regionally and globally.

This is a call to social movements, frontline communities and campaigning networks, and progressive NGOs, academics and parliamentarians across Asia and Europe to come and join us, to be part of the AEPF10 Forum. You can be part of an event that is open, dynamic and inclusive and focuses on meaningful and practical discussions for change.

AEPF10 will be an exciting series of interlinked dialogues, workshops, actions, policy debates and open spaces.

The forum will be held over **10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> October 2014**.

**AEPF 10 will be in La Fabbrica del Vapore, via Procaccini 4, Milan**

The working languages of AEPF10 are English and Italian.

**Interested in joining [please pre-register online at www.aepf.info](http://www.aepf.info)**

# 10th Asia-Europe Peoples' Forum - Towards a Just and Inclusive Asia and Europe

## *Working Programme*

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**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October morning 9.30 – 13.00**

We open with a speech from **Shui-Meng Ng** wife of **Sombath Somphone** from Laos. Sombath was a co-organiser of AEPF9 in 2012 and was the victim of enforced Disappearance on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

This will be followed by presentations from representatives from Italy.

### **AEPF Forum of Ideas - Our Current context and Challenges - Alternatives, Responses**

There is a strong consensus across Asia and Europe that the dominant approach over the last decades - based around deregulation of markets, increasing power of multinational corporations, unaccountable multilateral institutions and trade liberalisation – is failing in its aims to meet the needs and rights of the poor.

We have two inspiring sessions which will set the scene and inspire participants of the AEPF10 on the current **Context and Challenges** (session 1) to progressing “Towards a Just and Inclusive Asia and Europe” and **Responses and Alternatives** (session 2).

**Speakers include:** Anu Chenoy, Jawaharlal Nehru University (India), Charles Santiago, Monitoring Sustainability of globalisatioN and Member of Parliament (Malaysia), Meri Koivusalo, STAKES National Research and Development Centre on Welfare and Health (Finland), Andy Storey, Action for Ireland (Ireland), Walden Bello, Member of Congress (Philippines), Pablo Solon, Focus on the Global South (Thailand), Yannis Almpanis, Syriza (Greece), Lola Sanchez, Member of European Parliament (Spain)

**We have two parallel thematic plenaries**

**Thematic plenary 1: Socially Just Trade and Investment**

Trade, Investment and Corporate Power - the plenary panel includes speakers from Italy, other European Countries and Asia who will dissect the elements of the economic agenda that is exemplified by TTIP, CETA and TISA in the case of Europe but also by TPP, EU FTAs, RCEP in the case of Asia, as well as the agenda for free trade in environmental goods and services and identify key points for campaigns and actions.

**Co-organizers:** Stop TTIP Italia campaign, EU-ASEAN FTA Network, Focus on the Global South, Ecologistas en Acción (Spain), Transnational Institute, Global Campaign to Dismantle Corporate Power and Stop Impunity, Rosa Luxembourg Foundation, AsienHaus

**Speakers include:** Walden Bello, Charles Santiago, Pablo Solon, Kavaljit Singh, Madhyam (India), European speaker tbc, Italian speaker tbc

**Thematic plenary 2: Universal and Transformative Social Protection – Guaranteed Decent Jobs, Access to Essential Services and Social Security**

Since the unfolding of the crisis in 2008, Asian and European social movements have actively promoted social protection systems that cover the demands for decent work and livelihood, quality essential services, and social security. They seek nation- and region-wide and globally-funded social protection systems that are universal, rights-based, comprehensive, legislated, and state-underwritten with mechanisms for public control. They see these as fundamental contributions towards fulfilling the right to a life of dignity, empowering people and transforming societies.

At the plenary meeting, scholar activists and experts will present the contextual challenges (e.g., corporate hijacking) and workable alternatives. Experts from the ILO will also detail their recommendation for “social protection floors” and other resource persons will present their alternative proposals for a comprehensive, universal, and transformative social protection in the context of reclaiming the social commons.

**Co-organizers:** ARCI, Network for Transformative Protection in Asia (NTSP), Global Social Justice, ITUC, GUE-NGL

**Speakers:** Luciana Castellina (ARCI), Helmut Scholz (Die Linke), Francine Mestrum, Luise Steinwachs (Bread for the World), Tina Ebro (Network for Transformative Social Protection, Working Group for an ASEAN Social Agenda/Charter), Yannis Almpanis (Syriza), Eleonora Forenza (MEP, GUE-NGL), Yorgos Altintzis (Asia-Europe Labor Forum/ITUC), Priti Darooka (PWESCR), Sandeep Chachra (South-South People’s Solidarity Network), Kamal Chenoy (India)

**Summary:** Maris dela Cruz (NTSP)

**Moderation:** Birgit Daiber and Rafaella Bollini

**We have two parallel thematic plenaries**

**Thematic Plenary 3: Food sovereignty and Sustainable Land and Natural Resource Management.**

In response to the financial, economic, and ecological crises, a new wave of land, water and resource grabbing is occurring. Powerful international and domestic forces are pushing forward a new round of enclosures globally for both food and non-food purposes. There is a growing body of evidence that large-scale investments in agriculture and extractive industries are resulting in a cascade of negative impacts on rural livelihoods and ecologies, human rights, and local food security and food sovereignty.

Food sovereignty embraces dimensions such as right to food, valuing farmers, fishers, local production and environmental sustainability; each comes with its own gender dimension. It is in essence the right of people to control their own food systems, their own markets, production modes, food cultures and environment. As a movement it is capable of moving away from chemical intensive, fossil-fuel dependent industrial agricultural model that has contributed to global environmental degradation and the climate crises.

**Co-organizers:** Action Aid Italy, Transnational Institute, Focus on the Global South, Indonesia Global Justice, European Via Campesina,

**Key inputs will address:** State of Land in Europe by European Via Campesina, State of Land in Italy by Italian food sovereignty group, State of land in Asia, Ocean grabbing and fisheries by World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP) members, Mads Barbesgaard and Riza Damanik .

**Thematic Plenary 4: Climate change, sustainable Energy production and zero waste.**

The climate change talks have shown that the rich industrialised countries of the North are simply not prepared to shoulder their share of responsibility for emissions mitigation, let alone enabling the global South with finance and technology to avert emissions or to adapt to climate change. We will gain an overview, exchange analyses and deepen collective understanding of the situation, critical trends and challenges in climate change, sustainable energy and waste management. We will take stock of ongoing local, national and global campaigns on climate justice, on energy (against dirty and harmful energy; for peoples access to energy; for democratic governance of energy systems), and on waste management (people-centric solutions versus corporate).

**Co-organizers:** Indian Social Action Forum (INSAF), Jubilee South -APMDD, Europe Solidaire sans Frontières, Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace, Focus on the Global South, Zero Waste Europe, Ecologistas en Acción

**Speakers include:** Pierre Rousset (France), Praful Bidwai (India), Pablo Solon, Lidy Nacpil (Philippines), Pal Martensson (Sweden), Joan Carling, Asian Indigenous People's Pact (The Philippines), Tom Kucharz (Spain), Speaker from Italy tbc

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October afternoon 14.30 -18.00**

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**We have one thematic plenary**

**Thematic Plenary 5: Peace and security**

We want to strengthen Asian and European civil societies in the areas of peace building, conflict prevention and resolution, disarmament, and in developing new ways of thinking and acting on security issues, where security is based on peaceful co-operation and respect for human rights instead of military spending, confrontation and domination.

**Our Key topics for discussion are:** Military spending, Arms production and transfers, Nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, Peaceful conflict transformation and Killer Drones, Killer Robots.

**Co-organizers:** Indian AEPF Committee, the Vietnamese Peace and Development Foundation, Stop The War Coalition Philippines, Peace Boat (Japan), the International Peace Bureau (IPB), the European Network Against Arms Trade (ENAAAT), the Finnish AEPF Committee, Rete Italiana per il Disarmo.

**Speakers include:** Ingeborg Breines (Norway), Pham Van Chuong (Vietnam), Chito Sta.Romana, Martin Broek/ENAAAT, Gus Miclat, Achin Vanaik (India), Summing up: Dong Huy Cuong, Cora Fabros

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## Workshops and Open Spaces

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At the heart of the Asia Europe People's Forum is the space and possibility for workshops and open spaces which are dynamic and self-organised.

These will take place over **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October afternoon, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October morning and Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October afternoon** in a range of venues in La Fabbrica del Vapore.

**There are already over 20 planned. These are**

### **Nuclear Weapons and Weapons of Mass Destruction**

- With: Lisa Clark, Guiseppe Schiavello, Dao Duc Liem, Ahmad Shahab Ud Din, Rete Italiana per il disarmo

### **Peaceful Conflict Resolution, Gender relations, intercommunity and identity relations, regional conflict**

-With: Dong Huy Cuong, Rete Italiana per il Disarmo, Pham Van Chuong, Au Loong Yu, Alicia Cabezudo Wong Chin Huat

### **Climate Justice/Climate migrants/refugees**

- With Mary Clair Miranda, Lidy Nacpil, Badrul Alam, Praful Bidwai, Reza Kruha and Pierre Rousset, JSAPMDD, Filipino movement for climate justice

### **Youth and Education for Education post 2015 Agenda: Ensuring public financing of education.**

- With Rene Raya, Uwe Gartenschlaeger, DVV international, ASPBAE, EAEA, ARCI

### **Trade and Investment and Corporate Nexus: campaign issues and impacts of FTAs-BITs.**

- With: Transnational Institute, RLS, Ecologistas, Focus on the Global South

### **Tourism needs another governance**

-with: Andy Rutherford (Fresh Eyes – People to People Travel) Monika Duelle (Eine Welte), Sumesh Mangalassery (Kabani the other direction, India), Antje Monshausen (Tourism watch Germany)

### **No to nukes, Yes to sustainable Energy**

- With Achin Vanaik, Praful Bidwai, Ms. Vaishali Patil, Pierre Rousset tbc, Energy CNDP,

### **On Dangers of Armed Conflicts, Internal conflicts, Unresolved Conflicts and Points of Conflagration**

- With Augusto Miclat, Ms. Naw Hla Hla Soe, Susanna, Lee Daehon Francis(South Korea), Rete Italiana per il Disarmo

### **Ocean Grabbing and fisheries**

- With: Crocevia Italy, Transnational Institute, IGL, Afrika Kontakt, WFFP

### **Tax justice, social protection and corporate domination**

With: Charles Santiago, Mary Claire Miranda, Lidy Nacpil, Attac, JSAPMDD

### **Democracy & Human Rights in Thailand**

- With: Junya Lek Yimprasert (former director Thai Labour Campaign), Tippawan Duscha, Claudio Sopranzetti, Oliver Pye, Wolfram Schaffar, Thailand Asienhaus, Thai-German Forum for Democracy and Human Rights, LEMS - Laboratorio di Etnografia dei Movimenti Sociali

### **Zero waste: Towards sustainable resource and energy consumption and production**

-With: Pal Martensson, Danilo Boni, Dann Diez, Maris dela Cruz, Zero Waste Europe, Rifiuti Zero Italia, SEED

## **Trade and Investment and Corporate Nexus: Campaigns – responses strategies, activities in the framework of Stop TTIP & TPP & Dismantle Corporate Power**

- With: Transnational Institute, Italian TTIP campaign, EU- ASEAN FTA Network, Focus on the Global South, Ecologistas en Acción

### **Women Food Sovereignty Panel**

- With: Action Aid Milano, Professor Anuradha Chenoy, Suman Sahai, Geneviève Savigny, European Smallholders' Movement, European Coordination Via Campesina (ECVC) Valentina Hemmeler Maïga, Uniterre Switzerland

### **Social Protection: Decent Work and Sustainable Livelihoods**

The best form of social protection is secure and dignified work and sustainable livelihoods. Demands are: living wages, work guarantees, end to contractualisation, shortening of the workday, ILO core labour standards, and social dialogue. With half of the world's population still engaged in agriculture, land should be accessible to all tillers.

- With: ITUC, Network for Transformative Social Protection, ARCI, Rex Varona (migrants), Wilson Fortaleza (informal workers), Shahnaz Iqbal (women workers), Ronnie (formal workers), Steffano Maroca and Sergio Bassoli-Italian ITUC, Sally Rousset

### **Social Protection: Essential Services and Social Security for All**

#### **Panel 1: Essential Services/Common Goods**

Essential services such as health care, education, housing, water, power, and public transport are fundamental components of social protection that belong to the core obligations of the state, and must be available, accessible, and affordable for all. Demands are: no privatisation and marketisation of these essential services, consider these services as "common goods" owned by citizens that must be managed in a democratic and participative way, underwritten by a people-centred state.

- With: ARCI, NTSP, Global Social Justice, Christine Roperez (IPD), Surya Tjandra (Trade Union Rights Center), Ricardo Petrella, Alda Sousa (former MEP-Portugal/GUE-NGL), Rafaella Bollini (ARCI)

#### **Panel 2: Social Security**

Demands are: living pensions, sickness insurance, unemployment, and natural disasters allowances, basic amounts for children and for disabled people, no to public-private partnerships, no to financialisation of social security, development of non-contributory systems based on taxes as well as public-public partnerships that include uncovered majority.

- With: ARCI, NTSP, Global Social Justice, Roni Febrianto (Indonesian Trade Union Confederation - KSPI), Nyo Nyo Thin (MP, Myanmar), Usa Khiewrord (HelpAge International), Saowalak Thongkuay (Disabled People's International-Asia-Pacific), Gunnel Axelsson (Church of Sweden) on social pension system, Koen Detavernier (11.11.11) on Belgian National Coalition's platform on social security, Barbara Caraciollo (European working group on social protection), Richard Werly

### **Social Protection: Caucus on a People's Social Agenda in the ASEAN**

Put forward ideas and perspectives on a social dimension in the ASEAN regional integration. Propose an alternative social agenda or charter that represent the interests of workers, farmers, and other groups, and guarantee a life of dignity and security for all in ASEAN, including migrants, refugees, and undocumented persons.

- With: ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights, NTSP, Monitoring Sustainability of Globalisation (Malaysia), Hoang Phuong Thao (Director, Action Aid-Vietnam), Nyonyo Thin (head of opposition bloc in Myanmar Parliament), Charles Santiago (Member of Parliament, Malaysia), S.Tjandra (Trade Union Rights Center, Indonesia), Rex Varona (Migrants Forum Asia)

## **Women and Social Security and Protection**

The goal of the workshop on Women and Social Security and Protection is to assess impact of and gaps in existing social security schemes from a women's human rights perspective. The workshop will also bring experts from both Europe and Asia to share some of the discourses, challenges around the issues of social security, social protection, entitlements etc.

- With: PWESCR, Priti Darooka (PWESCR), Shahnaz Iqbal (LEF, Pakistan), Usa Khiewrord (Thailand), Luise Steinwachs (Bread for the World), Christa Wichterich (Germany)

## **Social Protection: In Defence of the Commons Debate**

Crucial to a life of well-being and dignity, this right to social protection is part of the social commons, where the commons are essential things that support life. The commons paradigm is central to the sought-for alternative system that provides for the needs of individual and society, and that considers the regenerative capacities of the environment. As a counterweight to the neoliberal storyline, the framework asserts that the commons and public goods should not be marketed as commodities.

- With: Common Good Network, South-South Solidarity People's Movement, Network for Transformative Social Protection, Birgit Daiber (Italy/Belgium), Sandeep Chachra (India), Ana Maria Nemenzo (Philippines), Tommaso Fattori (Italy), Farooq Tariq (Pakistan), Francine Mestrum (Belgium)

### Highlights of 5 thematic Plenaries

- Socially Just Trade and Investment
- Universal Social Protection – Guaranteed decent jobs, access to Essential Services and Social Security;
- Food Sovereignty and Sustainable Land and Natural Resource Management;
- Climate Change, Sustainable Energy Production and Zero Waste; and
- Peace and Security

Presentation, discussion then adoption of AEPF10 Final Declaration

Closing speaker and responses

Our closing and looking forward

Interested in joining **please pre-register online at [www.aepf.info](http://www.aepf.info)**

### Support for the Asia Europe People's Forum 10

We are able to host the AEPF10 due the significant support from a range of organisations

All the members of the AEPF International Organising Committee including the two focal points of Transnational Institute (TNI), The Netherlands and the Institute for Popular Democracy (IPD) The Philippines.

The Milan Organising Group:- ARCI Milano, Action Aid, Rete Italiana per il Disarmo, Altreconomia, Istituto Cooperazione Economica Internazionale.

We have support for participation of 85 speakers and resource people and key logistical aspects from the ASEM Dialogue Facility of the European Union through DEVCO.

The venue- La Fabbrica del Vapore – is a contribution from the Milan City Council

We have support from a range of other organisations in many forms including the Rosa Luxembourg Foundation, 11-11-11 Belgium and Action Aid.

We warmly thank all the women, men and organisations who are making AEPF10 possible.