

Congress in Leipzig August 25 – 29, 2020

Suggestions for the design of workshops

We invite you to submit workshops on topics that deal with transformation and utopia(s). With your contributions, this congress can also become a laboratory for political education that is critical and initiates change. At the same time, learning spaces can be testing grounds for a utopian living and being together. This ultimately also means that learning spaces are also areas in which we want to be *sensitive to existing power relations*.

We would like to encourage you to take steps towards a so-called *transformative education*, which aims to support people in a process of *emancipation* and to sensitize them for a *solidary way of living*. Be courageous and try out new methods! This should not trigger any pressure to perform or claim perfection. Every step in the mentioned direction is desirable from our point of view.

What can this mean for your submissions?



If you want to develop workshops, please ask yourself the question who has access to your offer and can participate in it. Many ways of organizing learning exclude certain people and we will try to avoid such exclusions at the congress. This also includes the language you use. Or how you want to teach the participants and what methods you use. At the congress we want to offer workshops that consciously deal with who has privileges and power and who doesn't. The workshops should be transparent and at the same time allow access especially to people who have less privileges.

An example of a setting we would like to avoid could be: A (supposed) expert gives a frontal lecture in a technical language with the claim of general validity and the listeners have no opportunity for discussion and contradiction. This is not to say that (in an otherwise diverse learning setting) deliberately chosen presentations cannot also be meaningful, stimulating and constructive.



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In the sense of an emancipatory political education not only the choice of content is important but also the form – *the design of the learning setting*. In addition to workshops with little hierarchy, we would like to see a variety of methods that not only communicates cognitive knowledge, but also *involve emotions, the body and the senses*. Brain research has shown that learning is particularly fruitful when it is self-determined, people experience self-efficacy and positive emotions are involved. It is good if learning is not only inspiring but also sometimes irritating and generally has a *process-like open character*.

In order to support each other on the way towards such learning spaces, we would like to offer telephone conferences in which all people interested in skillsharing can *exchange ideas on the topic of "Designing learning settings and workshops"*. People with different experiences in the field are welcome to participate.

Skillssharing offer:

Number: +49 (0)30 - 868 757 757

Pin: 8458936

First exchange:

German: August 06., 7 pm English: August 13., 7 pm

(Further exchanges as required)



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In summary: Guidelines for the conception of your submissions

- ► Which hierarchies could I reproduce through my learning setting (space, atmosphere, number of participants, content, form of teaching etc.)?
- ► Which (technical terminology) language conditions are required?
- ▶ On whose knowledge or skills do I base my offer?
- ▶ Who can (not) be reached by my offer and is that ok or relevant?
- ▶ What is the attitude towards the participants?
- ► How much possibilities to shape the learning setting do participants have?
- ► Are there possibilities for learning with head heart hand?
- ► Does my offer encourage the participants to form and represent their own opinion? And to exchange opinions with each other?
- ► Are there possibilities for the participants in or through my offer to practice solidarity and support?

Manuals and method collections:



If you would like to take a closer look at the connection between content, didactics and emancipation, we recommend the following manuals, platforms and methodological collections as examples:

or in German:

Handbook:

www.learn2change-network.org

Methods:

www.endlich-wachstum.de www.learn2change-network.org

Handbuch:

www.openschool21.de

Methoden:

www.akg-online.org
www.mangoes-and-bullets.org
www.endlich-wachstum.de
wwww.futurzwei.org
www.epiz.de