



GUE/NGL seminar, in cooperation with the Forum Social Europe
(European network of trade unionists)

17&18 October 2013 at the European Parliament in Brussels,
room ASP 1 G 2

Reclaiming our commons, 'free trade' and trade union strategy under neo-liberalism

Draft agenda

Thursday 17 October 2013, 3.00 - 6.30 p.m.

Welcome by **Gabi Zimmer MEP** (GUE/NGL President) and **Horst Schmitthenner** (FSE)

3.30 - 5.00 p.m.

The struggle to bring our commons under democratic control: *Recommunalisation in Europe*

- Presentation of a study on recommunalisation in Europe by **David Hall**, *PSIRU*
- Presentation of concrete experiences from:
 - **Gerlinde Schermer**, the "Watertable", Berlin, Germany
 - Paris, France - Water
 - **Frank Boye**, Garbage collectors Branch, 3F Kastrup, Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Thomas Händel** (MEP, *GUE/NGL*) will introduce the state of work in the European Parliament with the EU Concessions Directive

5.00 - 6.30 p.m.

Who will really benefit from 'free trade' across the Atlantic?

- *Consequences of an EU/USA trade and investment agreement (Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership – TTIP)*

- Introduction by **Helmut Scholz** (MEP, *GUE/NGL*) with special focus on the consequences for trade unions and workers (social dumping).
- Analysis by **Bruno Ciccaglione**, *S2B Network*.
- A view from the US by a representative of the *AFL/CIO*.

Friday 18 October 2013, 9.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Report on the Alter Summit in Athens on 7-8 June 2013 and follow up

- **Felipe van Keirsbilck**, General Secretary, *CNE*, Belgium

Report on actual trade union disputes

- The struggle of Legoland workers continued by **Tim Lubecki**, *NGG* regional Secretary
- Other actual disputes?

Trade union struggle under neo-liberalism

- How to organize and mobilise workers to fight back against the on-going onslaught on workers and trade unions

- Report from *Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers' Union* in the UK by General Secretary **Bob Crow** on their strategies and perspectives.
- Basque experiences by **Adolfo Muñoz**, General Secretary of *ELA*.
- Croatian experiences by **Mario Iveković**, President of the *New Union* (Novi sindikat)

Any other business