

»»» OUR LETTER TO YOU «««

DIALOP NEWS

transversal dialogue project



THE FUTURE IS DIALOGUE.



Innsbruck, Austria: the youth of the Focolare Movement with Leftists and Christians of DIALOP at the workshop on "Communication in times of war and the impact of social media" end of February 2024.

Breaking news

End of February 40 youngsters (17-21) in Innsbruck wanted to get involved into the dialogue experience of DIALOP at a workshop on social media and communication in times of war. The workshop on communication seems to turn into an applicable pattern for schools and groups. The interest was huge!

13 young scholars from Canada to Argentina, Europe and Cyprus asked for a zoom presentation of DIALOP on March 25. It showed that the encyclical texts of Pope Francis are creating common references for Marxists and Christians. We have now a body of writings which unites us. This builds "a new historical situation, bringing dialogue on a concrete basis" - Michael Löwy concluded. Regular meetings with agenda and a follow up have been requested.

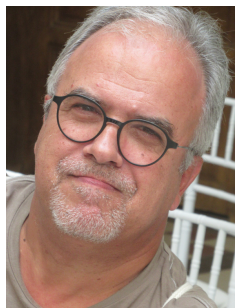
French students are building a group of dialogue after the experience of the conference for *Integral Ecology for a social ecological transformation* last January in Italy.

Dialop is organising a dialogue event together with Standing Together and KPO that brings together Israelis and Palestinians (politicians, scholars, religious representatives, activists from both sides). The event takes place at the Catholic Church of the UN headquarters in Vienna on April 30.



BEHIND THE SCENES

In DIALOP every move is coordinated bilaterally. In this issue we are presenting the coordination team.



from the left to the right:

Cornelia Hildebrandt is co-President of transform!europe. She is consultant on parties and social movements and ideological dialogue of the Institute for Critical Social Analysis of the Rosa-Luxemburg-Foundation.

Josè Manuel Pureza is a Portuguese sociology professor and politician. He is a member of the Portuguese Left Bloc and president of the scientific committee of DIALOP.

Angelina Giannopolou is a political scientist and facilitator of Transform!Europe for European Integration and the strategic perspectives of the Radical Left programme.



from the left to the right:

Petra Steinmair-Pösel is a Catholic theologian and scholar at the KPH-ES in Feldkirch (Austria). She was active as women's speaker in the Catholic Church.

Luisa Sello is an Italian psychologist and theologian, member of the Focolare Movement.

Franz Kronreif is an Austrian architect and theologian. With Walter baier he is the initiator of DIALOP. He led the international department for the dialogue with secularism of the Focolare Movement.

SOLIDARITY OR COMPLICITY. THIS IS THE QUESTION.

A webinar on *Migration: Responsibilities and Solidarity* was held on March 15-16 with more than 100 participants. The high qualified experts and activists from Austria, Sweden, France, Portugal and Italy could highlight complexities and aporia of the social politics concerning migration.

They reinterpreted the concept of borders, pointing out inadequacies for the globalized times, but also beamed on the most painful situations of the dangerous routes of Calais, the Mediterranean, the Balkan, and the agricultural surroundings of the mafia interlaced regions in Southern Italy, where refugees have become the slaves of a new colonialistic economy.

On the other side good practices of integration and equal rights, granted to the refugees, showed possible solutions. Honest politicians, who did not cope with the restrictive measures of the government, like Mimmo Lucano, the mayor of Riace (Italy), who was threatened with court and jail.

WHY I – A MARXIST – WORK FOR DIALOGUE

by Angelina Giannopolou

Coming from an atheist background combined with a social sciences corpus of views, perspectives, and criteria, the necessity and potential for dialogue with Christianity may not immediately seem apparent. However, one can firmly assert the need for such dialogue from a single standpoint: the imperative of political unity.

By embracing the idea of a broad progressive political unity to tackle the pressing challenges of our era—such as peace, environmental justice, and social equality—you inherently recognize the shared foundational principles among vastly different worldviews, including Christianity and Marxism. Not only the encyclical letters of Pope Francis (*Laudato si', Fratelli tutti*), but also significant portions of the Church's

social teaching resonate with Marxist social critique and the historical trajectory of communist thought.

Moreover, the question of dialogue both as a means and a purpose lies at the heart of democratic politics. It is within the arena of dialogue that diverse ideas and utopias can be tested, refined, or ultimately discarded.

It is this realization that led me to commit to pursuing a PhD at Sophia University Institute (Loppiano, Florence) on the past and the present of the Christian-Marxist dialogue focusing on the case of Dialop Project. As a leftist, I view dialogue as a substantial political commitment.

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MIGRATION RESPONSIBILITIES AND SOLIDARITY

DIALOP WEBINAR

FRIDAY 15 MARCH 2024
TIME 14.00 - 18.00
SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024
TIME 9.00 - 13.00

PLEASE REGISTER: [HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/J2AGSC1CW40WRIUEZ](https://forms.gle/J2AGSC1CW40WRIUEZ)

