

>>> OUR LETTER TO YOU <<<

DIALOP NEWS

transversal dialogue project



LIGHTFUL EMBROIDERY



Members of DIALOP in dialogue with the KPÖ-mayor of Graz (Austria) on woman's day

WE ENTER INTO DIALOGUE ON TWO LEVELS: THE FIRST IS A DIALOGICAL TENOR; THE SECOND IS A METHODOLOGICAL EXPERIMENT.

Dialogue is... method.

editorial

Summer is saying goodbye - or maybe not, depending on the next climate tipping point, but we have to leave that aside for now. Let's assume that we are heading to the next icy and cold winter - at least in the northern hemisphere. In the southern they are enjoying the Springtime. So do perspectives change. These become subjective, and determine our reality perception. What is then true? Both. In front of some easy-going false prophets, who show reality as a white or a black landscape (where they are the white and all the others are the black ... sheep), we must take good care of the health of our mindset and be aware that not only we do acknowledge partially, but we also definitely need the sight of an opposite view, to understand reality.

That's what DIALOP tries to do in its dialogue efforts between Christians and Marxists/ Socialists. By an experienced methodology named *differentiated consensus and qualified dissent* we enter into dialogue on two levels: a dialogical tenor and the experiment itself.

This form of dialogue is not only an instrument but an encounter, a journey of common intellectual and spiritual experience, in which the peculiarity of the respective partners does not vanish but becomes clearer; it unfolds and develops.

In this sense, opposites become complementary. Recognizing this, does not necessarily lead to bland pluralism or indifferent tolerance but to a polarity without polarization.

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM GERMANY AFTER THE REGIONAL ELECTIONS?

By Cornelia Hildebrandt - Berlin

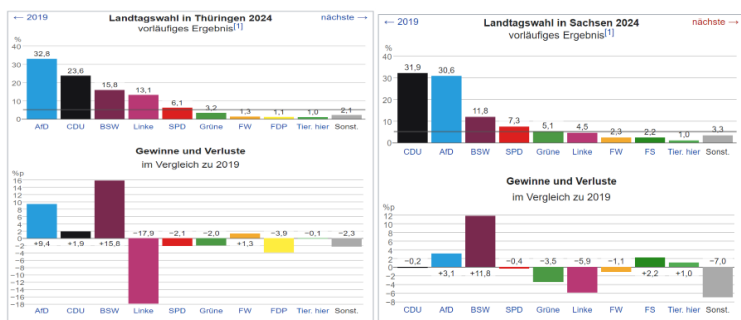


After the European elections, the results of the regional elections in Saxony and Thuringia should not have come as a surprise to anyone. The Alternative for Germany (AfD) was already the strongest party in the European elections in all eastern German states. Now, however, for the first time since 1945, an extreme right-wing fascist party - monitored by the Office for the Protection of the Constitution - has become the strongest force in the regional elections in Thuringia with 32.8%. The AfD also achieved 30% in Saxony, only just behind the conservatives (CDU) with 31.9%. The LEFT remained in double digits in Thuringia with 13%, largely thanks to its former Prime Minister Bodo Ramelow. In Saxony, it remained below the 5% threshold with 4.5% and can only enter the Saxon state

parliament thanks to two direct mandates in Leipzig. This development has been foreseen since the European elections, in which the Left Party suffered its worst defeat since its foundation with 2.7%.

This means that the formation of a government in Thuringia can only take place between the AfD, CDU, SPD, BSW and LINKE. However, the conservatives have ruled out any cooperation with the AfD and the LINKE. This also applies to Saxony. It remains to be seen how a stable government majority can be established in this way. None of the established parties stand for real action on key challenges such as the increase in global conflicts, the danger of the Ukraine war spreading, the management of migration and the realpolitik implementation of the individual right to asylum. On the contrary: it is all about social and military warfare at the price of cutting social benefits and public services and reducing funding for public infrastructure.

And the LEFT? It is not credible if it places social issues at the centre of its struggles in times of war, but only half-heartedly defends its peace policy positions. This approach was already strategically wrong in the European election campaign and could not be credibly corrected until the state elections. Most of the BSW voters came from the Left Party and former non-voters - also because of their clear demand for diplomatic initiatives to end the war in Ukraine and rejection of the deployment of US medium-range missiles. Without a clear peace policy profile, the LINKE has no chance in the future.



THINK AND ACT 2025

Further developments in transversal Social Ethics



Publication of the Ecological acts and Recommendations for the EU Commission following the conference 2024 on Ecology at the Sophia University

The acts of the Conference on *Social Ecological Transformation* held in January 2024 at the Sophia University in Loppiano, will be presented in December.

An online conference about its results is planned. More information will follow.

Working papers on transversal Social Ethics

Our goal is to facilitate an intellectual and practical encounter between the social

teaching of the Church and the Socialist social critique. Themes as: option for non-violence, development and implementation of positive peace, a new European order including nuclear disarmament, the view of human being in both traditions, debt cancellation in the Global South during the jubilee year 2025, have been prioritised to start with a deeper digging in our respective traditions and the research of what can emerge from the dialogue among them. The goal is not just an academic exercise, but an urgent need for a more inclusive thinking and acting world, in order to move together towards peace.

A NEW STARTING POINT FOR POLITICS

by Zhao Tingyang

In order to credibly solve the problem of conflicts between interests and values, politics must become the art of good and overcome politics as a technique of evil. More precisely, politics must become an art of turning enemies into friends, rather than a technique of struggle. In fact, the fundamental question of the political is not the conflict between good and evil, but the conflict between two goods.



Politician, Intellectual, Church leader in dialogue - Sophia University Jan. 2024

The conflict between good and evil is an undeniable problem, that good must triumph over evil is one of the undisputed beliefs of mankind. The real political tragedy is conflicts due to differences between good and good, where one good tries to destroy the other. The result is the unsurmountable division of the world and the failure of politics.