Towards a convivial economy? Theoretical perspectives and practical experience

Workshop organised by Frank Adloff & Philipp Degens (University of Hamburg), Peter Heller (Canopus Foundation), and Rupert Graf Strachwitz (Maecenata Institute for Philanthropy and Civil Society)

Recently, debates on alternative forms of living together (con-vivere) have been invigorated by the concept of convivialism and particularly by the publication of the convivialist manifesto in 2013. Convivial practices aim for coexistence on a non-competitive basis, both within and beyond societies. Such practices involve searching for forms of prosperity without growth, allowing humans to take care of each other and of nature. It seems obvious that such a convivial society needs to be grounded on an alternative form of the economy; and such an economy, in turn, requires a different kind of society.

In the workshop, we will discuss questions such as:

- How might the economy be constructed in a way that is socially just and ecologically sustainable?
- How should a convivial economy be embedded in society?
- What steps might lead to a convivial alternative?

Within state and business such questions are not addressed sufficiently. We therefore include perspectives and innovative impulses from civil society actors. The workshop brings together French proponents of convivialism with German representatives of alternative economic concepts and practices.

Location & date:

University of Hamburg, Department for Socio-economics (VMP9, A 215); April 4-5

Organisation

If you would like to attend, please send an email to philipp.degens@uni-hamburg.de. Please note that space is limited to 40 participants. Participation cannot be guaranteed.
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University of Hamburg, Department for Socio-economics, jointly with Canopus Foundation and Maecenata Institute for Philanthropy and Civil Society

Venue: University of Hamburg, VMP9, A 215

Programme

Thursday, April 4, 2019

14.00-15.00   Registration, Welcome, and Opening Remarks
Frank Adloff, Peter Heller, Rupert Graf Strachwitz

15.00-16.00  What is (and how to study) the economy?
Moderated discussion with Adalbert Evers (CSI, Heidelberg), Silja Graupe (Cusanus Hochschule) and Lino Zeddies (Plurale Ökonomik)

16-16.30    Coffee break

16.30-17.45 Degrowth between utopia and necessity.
Short talks and round table discussions with Matthias Schmelzer (University of Jena/KNÖ) Andrea Vetter (KNÖ, Lepizig) and François Schneider (degrowth, Spain/France)

18-19.15  Evening lecture: A convivialist transformation of the economy
Alain Caillé (University of Paris X Nanterre)

19.30 Dinner reception

21.00 Drinks? (We've reserved tables at a bar nearby)

Friday, April 5, 2019

9.00-10.00:  Alternative business approaches – practical perspectives (in German language)
Moderated discussion with Christian Hiß (Regionalwert AG), Maximilian Felsner (social bee), Tim Goydke (Gemeinwohlökonomie Bremen)

10.00-11.00 Uhr:  Morning lecture: Economy and Sustainability
Geneviève Azam (University of Toulouse)

11-11.15  Coffee break
11.15-12.15  Local economy, co-operatives, and economy for the common good: Short statements and table discussions
Karl Birkhölzer (Technologie Netzwerk Berlin), Petra Teitscheid (FH Münster), and Heike Walk (Hochschule Eberswalde)

12.15-13.15  Economy for the common good
Talk by Christian Felber (GWÖ)

13.15-14.00  Lunch break

14.00-15.15  Round table discussion with Geneviève Azam, Alain Caillé, Silja Graupe, François Schneider, Christian Felber

15.15-15.30  Closing

Contributors
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Alain Caillé (Sociologist and economist; spiritus rector of convivialism, Paris)
Adalbert Evers (CSI, University of Heidelberg)
Christian Felber (Gemeinwohlökonomie, Wien)
Max Felsner (social bee)
Tim Goydke (Gemeinwohlökonomie, Bremen)
Silja Graupe (Economist/Philosopher, Cusanus Hochschule)
Christian Hiß (Regionalwert AG)
Matthias Schmelzer (Economist, degrowth, University of Jena)
François Schneider (ecological economics, degrowth, Spain/France)
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