

INVITATION



All-European Autonomous Feminist Womyn's Gathering April 9 - 14, 2009 · Vienna, Austria

At the beginning of 2008 about 70 women and lesbians from different countries, from both autonomous feminist and mixed organised backgrounds, came together at Freiburg / Germany, because "*we are also in our countries involved in struggles against a patriarchal, capitalist and racist system.*" (from the summoning letter to the Freiburg gathering). In the end it was clear to all who had participated: the time had been too short, the interest in each other too strong - there was a wish for further gatherings. And that's what we are having now.

What we want from this gathering

We want to meet feminist women and lesbians from different countries who are involved in struggles against sexism, racism, homophobia, capitalism, fascism and patriarchy. We want to have an exchange on radical-feminist theory and practices and discuss perspectives and possibilities of action. At the same time we want to pass on and extend our practical knowledge in workshops and carry out actions on-site.

Who we are

We are an organisational group consisting of seven feminists who are active in both women's and lesbian contexts and mixed organised groups. We come from different backgrounds as far as our political experience, life and work contexts and ages are concerned. What we share is our understanding of ourselves as parts of the Autonomous Women's Movement and our considering an independent and separate organisation of women as an indispensable feminist necessity. The separate organisation of women is a political expression of and means of struggle towards the subjectivity of women and again and again an important source of inspiration for our feminist analyses. And it is a practice shaping our relationships to each other as women. At the same time we consider the exchange with the protagonists of other feminist approaches and forms of organisation as important.

How the gathering will function

The gathering is self-organised, which means that all participants are asked to contribute actively. This can happen in various ways: by preparing workshops, actions and discussions, by sharing our skills, by taking part in discussions, by translating, cooking, cleaning etc.

Topics

The women who took part in the Freiburg gathering would like to continue dealing with topics such as "The her-story of the women's movement and present-day patriarchy", "Feminist counter-public", "Breaks, continuities and common grounds between radical feminism and queer feminism". Another idea is to take up again the topics discussed at the recent gathering in Italy: violence against women, hetero-sexism, racism, precariousness and economy etc.

Which discussions and practical workshops are important to you?

If you want to hold a workshop, send us your concrete suggestions, please.

Contact:
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We are looking forward to seeing you in Vienna.