

INFORMATION
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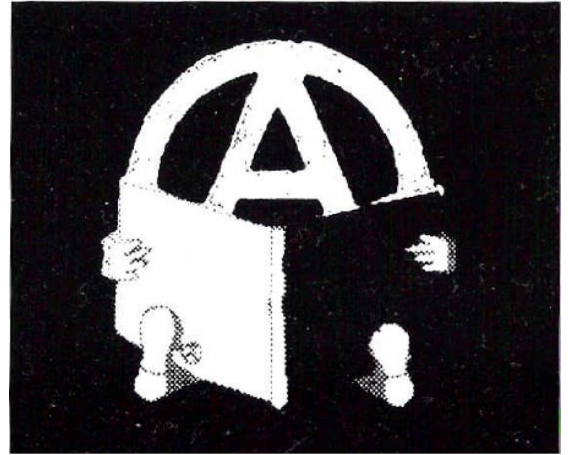
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What is the infoshop?

Despite the spread of internet and other media, access to information is still unequal and barred by censorship, surveillance and copyrights. Our infoshop is a place where you can find free printed materials (books, zines, leaflets, posters, stickers) on radical topics. It is an autonomous, self-organized and do-it-yourself project based entirely on donations. There is a large section of materials that you can take home, and the rest you can enjoy reading in Klit's comfy lounge spaces. The infoshop is a space where you can discover and exchange ideas and thoughts, where you can have free and unlimited access to information. Our space is open to anybody, regardless of their race, ethnicity, sexuality and gender identification, regardless of their so-called education level, social status or abilities.



It is a space that is free of authoritarian, racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic or speciest ideas. Our materials focus on anarcho-feminist, anti-fascist, animal liberation and ecological, DIY and punk, anti-racist and anti-nationalist issues – among others. We have regular events where we show underground political films, have presentations of different struggles from all over the world, and generally intermediate the exchange of ideas and stories between people that are interested in such topics.



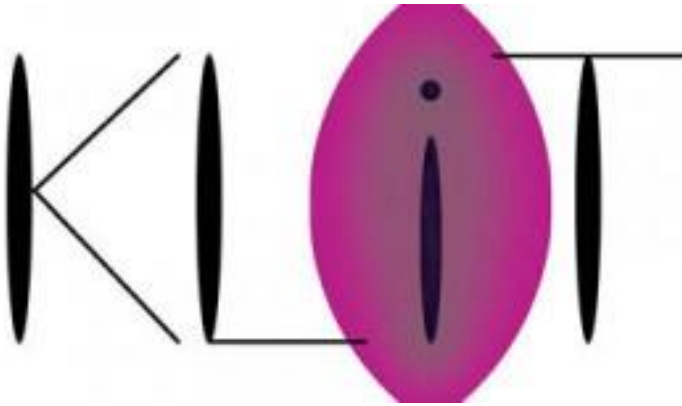
Our blog is here

<http://budapestinfoshop.noblogs.org/>

We are hosted by Klit:

<http://klitbudapest.wordpress.com/>

Call for Solidarity and Donations for KLIT



KLIT: A Queer Feminist Community Safe Space in Budapest (Hungary) needs your help NOW!

Who we are

Two years ago, we began to work on building up a queer feminist community space here in Budapest. Now KLIT hosts seven different non-institutional groups covering topics from trans* issues to radical high-school activism. We are currently seven activist groups in KLIT: The Radical Queer Affinity Collective, the Freeshop Collective, TransVanilla, TETT, Rhythms of Resistance, the Infoshop Collective and the New Wave Faggots.

Due to conservative political pressures and heavy cracking down on alternative uses of urban space, our main allied cultural centers in Budapest have been closed down over the past two years. Although it is not presented in international media, Budapest's micropolitics systematically target politically critical spaces, homeless, independent artists, anarchists, non-national anything, migrants, women, LGBT (for example: <http://rqac.wordpress.com/2013/03/30/rqacs-statement-on-the-police-invasion-of-the-dragq-2-0-show-in-siraly/>).

Under the current political conditions, it is practically impossible to squat. Since most alternative spaces have been evicted, the needs of our space has grown as many of our allied groups and individuals have turned to KLIT. In KLIT, our groups screen films, conduct workshops, run an infoshop, a free shop, share knowledge and skills on DIY activities, hold assemblies, host activists in need, organize and participate in demonstrations.

Why we need your support

The safety of our space has been and is a priority and necessary condition for our actions. Due to the current themes that we work on, such as gender, sexuality, migration, we need to pay for the rent of this space in order to keep KLIT as it is: a dedicated safe space for women, queer and trans*people!

We are getting evicted now! The only thing we need money for is rent to cover the remaining 2 months of our stay in the current location. So far this has been covered for 18 months by FRIDA: the Young Feminist Fund. Through our various activities, we have exhausted this funding. So we need around 1000 Euros to bring us through May 2014, until we find together with our allies another solution. If you have the capacity to throw a solidarity party for our community, or any other way to fundraise to meet our goal, it would be empowering for us.

If you want to know more or have any questions, check our blog klitbudapest.wordpress.com or write to fork@riseup.net.

KLIT



Zines



Our infoshop has a nice collection of fanzines that you can read and take home. We have materials on such topics as: feminism, queer politics, radical organising, anarchist theory and practice, animal liberation, green anarchy, gentrification, patriarchy, racism, antifascism, do-it-yourself, anti-nationalism, anti-capitalism and many more.

You can find zines about struggles and resistance from occupied territories with names such as hungary, canada, france, england, u.s., romania, spain, italy, belarus, germany, poland, austria and so on. You can read them in hungarian, english, spanish, french, romanian, russian, polish etc.

All zines can be read inside the Klit space, where the infoshop is hosted. Some zines you can take home, for a small donation that we use to print other zines.

Our collection can also be used for radical events, where there is a need for a distro-table, a space where information can be distributed.

Read, share, and fight! knowledge is power!

Opening of a new feminist space in Bucharest



In December 2013, a new feminist space, Centru Feminist Sofia Nadejde, opened in Bucharest, Romania. It is explicitly antisexist, antiracist, antihomophobic, antitransphobic, antiableist, anticapitalist and antispeciesist. In the words of the collective: “We believe in feminism, intersectionality and solidarity as daily practice much needed in our own daily personal lives, our communities and the society we wish for. We know that in our current society domestic violence, sexual violence, sexual harassment, racism, homophobia, poverty, the limiting of reproductive freedom and the lack of an adequate access to health services are only a few of the specific injustices that affect daily women's lives. These are the issues we are focusing on.”

Currently CFSN is hosting the Feminist Reading Circle for women and trans* only, the FIA [girls/women/feminism in action/activism] mobile library, the SVR [vegetarian society] library, a weekly vegan cafe and “Sprijin Dupa Viol” – a rape crisis project. It is furthermore open and can offer to other feminist groups or initiatives a reading room, a screening space with the necessary equipment, a rehearsal space, a sewing workshop, a storage space and other types activities and support, if needed.

Contact: <http://centrufeminist.wordpress.com> and cfsn@riseup.net

Call for action – International solidarity with homeless people

<http://avarosmindenkie.blog.hu/>

February 2014

Poverty is not a crime!

We invite our friends all over the world to join our struggle against the criminalisation of homelessness in Hungary.

The 2010 election brought a comprehensive authoritarian and punitive turn in Hungary: constitutional democracy was essentially abolished; labour rights were curtailed; entitlement to welfare benefits was restricted and a harsh workfare regime was implemented; asylum-seekers became subject to an unjustifiable detention regime; increasingly severe penal policies were introduced with disproportionate sanctions; the surveillance of state employees was authorised on an unprecedented scale. Since the transition to capitalism in 1990, the poverty rate and the level of income inequality have never been as high as now.

Despite years of advocacy and protests, homelessness became a punishable offence in Hungary. In November 2012, the Constitutional Court struck down a law that criminalised street homelessness, arguing that the state should address homelessness as a social and not a criminal issue. In response, the governing party decided to change the Constitution itself, enabling local governments to punish “habitual residence in public spaces”. Homeless people can already be subjected to compulsory community work, monetary fine and imprisonment in most parts of Budapest, and several local authorities outside of the capital are also criminalising homelessness.

We, homeless and ally members of The City is for All are asking you to help us abolish this inhumane piece of legislation and express your solidarity with homeless people in Hungary.

If your time and resources allow, please organise a solidarity demonstration on one of the days between 13-15th of February, ideally in front of the Hungarian embassy or consulate in your country. If you do so, please send us pictures or videos so that we can publicise on our website and Facebook-page the international protest against the ongoing war on poor people in Hungary.

We hope that you will find a way to support our struggle. If you have any question regarding the event to be organised, the documentation, or the criminalisation of homelessness itself, please contact us at avarosmindenkie@gmail.com.

Thank you for all your support!

The City is for All

MIX & MATCH*

By Vicious vizsla

To write about a language on this place and time holds for me the intention to try to think about the essence of our, and other's people migration. But let me not go there all the way right now, at least not before we have some fun. So what do we see, when we slowly uplift the veil that covers this mysterious central european, flat chested, sad, sad one?

One of the first informations one obtains when in Budapest is on the uniqueness and even isolation of the Hungarian language. It is Chico Buarque's statement in *Letras as Budapeste* that Hungarian is the only language "*that is, as the evil tongues say, the one that devil itself fears*". However, this can be a motivation good enough even to start to learn the language, or to feel about it passionately. So far I don't seem to be the only one to get friendly advised, or muttered through the teeth: learn hungarian!

The fact is, as I like to tease the locals: how do you tell a Jewish person from a Hungarian? Well, the Jewish person knows some other language apart from the native hungarian.

Not to forget the other big group of hungarian language speakers, they are Roma people, of course. It is common in Hungary that Roma tend to speak only Hungarian and consider themselves as Hungarians.

In this sense the Roma need zero assimilation, as far as language assimilation goes - there is nothing more to assimilate to. But! This is not likely to be enough for Roma to prevent them from discrimination on racial and nationalist basis. In our Free shop library and archive one can find printed zines but also research reports done in Hungary on the rising violence against Roma, and multiple forms of oppression of roma which is, unfortunately, not only the hungarian speciality.

It was for quite a while that I was myself totally into buying the widespread common tune: the (sad) story of isolation of Hungarian language, until I soon came to realise more and more words that I could match with words coming from within my native language group, south slavic languages group. At the same time I am much more aware of the hungarian words "borrowed" in slovenian language. These are the words I find most easily to remember and I am amused to observe how one language in takes the word from another language. One of such nice examples is *Draga* that in many slavic languages means "dear", it is feminine (masculine: dragi, neutrum: drago), and can refer to something expensive too. In hungarian this word is used according to genderless system, so "draga" applies to men and women alike, but also to expensive items. It looks very gay to me, to see two local men call each other *dragam*, my dear...

Anyhow, coming from a native language pool of 2 million or so, I cultivated the idea before: language knowledge is a value, and if it is to learn the oppressors' or colonialists' language, make sure to have it serve you better than them for their assimilationist reasons. Language is a value even in other ways, for sure. It is a tool that is likely to be used for nationalist propaganda, therefore it makes one step from isolationist dogma to logically claim the exceptionalist mission: the island

of big hungary! A sad nation misunderstood by practically any other national force of the history. This is what I hear beneath the benign (and uncorrect) sentences of specialness of hungarian language who has only one remote neighbour on the north of the continent... (this angel gabriel has had in the recent history, to be honest, quite a few non linguistic though, but rather political friends, to name just the few: the rising mussolini's italy beetwen the two wars, and the central powers during the first war – both proved to be the “wrong” friends, at least on the “wrong” side, as national histories tend to position the war outcomes. If doing better nowadays means to have the densest McDonald's coverage per square meter in the World – there is still hope for our new homeland...

As my capacity nor intention here is to elaborate on social linguistics or similar, let me state another observation that I obtained as a non linguist on Hungarian language uniqueness. Being placed as a linguistic “island”, having no “brothers of the same group” around, this makes a handy double bind to conclude at least the following two: “no one understands us”, and: “we are so special”. Both contribute to the conclusion that at the end of the day we don't need to understand anyone, and yes, we might not be able to understand ourselves as well. To test the latter just ask yourself who composed the famous and beautiful Fekete vasárnap, the Gloomy Sunday... (bad joke, I agree).

The fact is, that I am more interested to trace the effects of such thinking than to see the possible “reasons” to it; like bad language teaching system in schools or dubbed films. In my opinion both of those are rather the reiterated effects of nationalist acquired propaganda than the cause of it. Take an example from neighbouring serbia. Due to political reasons the young people who are twenty five today, had been three years old when the first armed conflicts began on the territory of Yugoslavia, they were four when the first international and internal sanctions began (apart from economical sanction, prohibition of traveling abroad and serious visa regime), seven at the time of Dayton agreement, eleven when Serbia was bombed by NATO, and fifteen when premier of serbia was assassinated. The average of those youth is by far the lowest in europe when it comes to traveling abroad, or at least until the past few years has been like that. What I am saying is that these youth have been growing up in isolation.

Nevertheless, this doesn't prove to be a reason not to learn foreign languages, on the contrary, the youth in serbia nowadays seem to understand pretty well that any isolationist politics is profoundly harmful and that it is not always done at the expense of national integrity, or autonomy. At least one might assume this from the self reflexive humor of the wide spread traditional saying from serbia: “Speak serbian so that the whole world can understand you.”

One of the most organic features of language is its porosity; meaning that its molecules and atoms (phonems and words) are traveling through times and borderless spaces, they brush in rivers, in books, they create systems that mutually influence one another, they convey meanings while meaning doesn't necessary gets exhausted in the language, as we know well. I would like this to be the paradigm of the transnational activist exchange rather the the one we meet too often: foreigners who are better off that we are, and who are in no postion to understand this complex political reality we have in hungary.

Now, the fun part – try to check how do we understand hungarian reality and how do you understand hungarian language! On the left are some of the slogans that Rhythms of Resistance shout at the demos. Try to match them with the translations on the right side:

A kuka mindenkié

Fascists into the sea, lesbians on board

Raszismus mentes iskola

The law is for the rich

Alkotmány nem játék

The Constitution is not a toy

Fasisztákat a tengerbe, Lesbikusokat a fedélzetre -

Schools Without Racism

A város mindenkié

Voice for women

A nem az nem

No means no

Szót a nőknek

The city is for all

A törvények a gazdagoké!

The trash(bin) belongs to everyone



*This is a slogan that reads on a T shirt that I obtained in our collective's Freeshop.

Criminalizing seropositive women in Greece

During the 2012 elections campaign, a group of women were pilloried by the Greek authorities as “HIV-infected prostitutes” In November, our Infoshop screened ‘Ruins’, a documentary about these incidents.

In the last years, Greece is experiencing an unprecedented economic crisis with severe political and social Implications. The intervention of the Troika – the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund – brought about structural changes and the introduction of policies that continue to lower living standards considerably and to divide the society. At the same time, political discourse shifts and new paradigms of governance emerge. Issues such as irregular immigration and public health became prominent in the Greek political agenda and in the realm of public debate and are subject of almost everyday media attention.

Irregular immigration was a major preoccupation for the government before the May 2012 elections. Crackdowns on illegal immigrants living in the centre of Athens were and continue to be common practice. In addition, as part of the structural reforms imposed by the politics of austerity, the already inefficient social welfare programs are being crippled and sanitation services have deteriorated.

In the first days of April, the government announced (and, eventually, introduced) amendments, according to which the law foresees the right to detain indefinitely third-country nationals, if they pose a risk to public health. The decision to introduce the abovementioned amendments was preceded by alarming statements of government officials regarding the imminence of a public health disaster caused by the presence of illegal immigrants in the city centre. Passing the amendments gave the authorities the legal support to hold health checks in brothels. Sex workers were presented as a danger for public health and potential carriers of contagious ailments.

In the name of public health, health professionals and administrative staff forcibly (there was no informed consent) tested numerous women in brothels and in the streets of the city centre. The women who tested HIV positive were arrested and prosecuted for felony. Medical confidentiality was therefore cancelled through the collaboration of health professionals with the police that disclosed all of the women’s personal data accompanied with pictures to the media. Most of the women were drug users (26 out of 28), some of them were homeless, others did not even have an ID card. At the same time, the authorities set up a phone line where men who had contact with the women could call, then get tested and eventually, if necessary, get treatment. The authorities claimed to be taking precautions to protect society

from a potential future AIDS epidemic. In short, a government project initially targeting undocumented immigrants evolved into the pillorying of a group of twenty-eight seropositive women.

The women were presented by the authorities as unregistered and working in the street and were accused for “intentional gross bodily harm.” Most of the women were Greek nationals, therefore it was clear that the authorities’ rhetoric of the “criminal immigrant” was unsustainable. HIV had become the main focus of the emergency and the object of criminalization, even though the women were not aware of their illness. A couple of them that knew they were HIV positive and had their medication with them when they were detained, received the exact same treatment. Although the police was put under pressure and eventually removed the mug shots from its website (in fact, it was one of the first things the women asked for while in prison), their pictures and personal data can still be found online.

Unfortunately, public shaming is just one of the tragic aspects of this story. The seropositive women were held in prison cells, not in a hospital. As a precaution, they were held separately from the rest of the prisoners, in the basement of the prison, in highly unsanitary conditions. They did not have adequate medical care during this time. Their prosecution for prostitution was based on the information given by one police officer, who testified for all the girls -190 approximately- that were initially brought in for authentication of their data. The charges for prostitution could not be sustained, since the women were not caught on the act. It transpires that these women were controlled because of their appearance and their drug addiction, they were persecuted and imprisoned for being HIV-positive and it is hard to ignore the gender dimension in this story. By March 2013, all twenty-seven seropositive women were out of prison. Their release, however, enjoyed little or no media coverage and no statements were made on behalf of the authorities. While these women were treated like criminals, not as patients in need of care, there were no talks about client responsibility whatsoever.

The discriminatory law that allowed for the controls was cancelled, but last summer the new Minister of Health, Adonis Georgiadis, brought it back. In March 2014, a prosecutor rejected a lawsuit against the doctors and police officers who took part in their examination. The lawsuit was submitted by five of the seropositive women and four NGOs. In line with the neoliberal policies followed in Greece, justice is sending the message that the acts of the police and health experts that participated in the operation were lawful and, consequently, socially acceptable. There will soon be an appeal on this decision. It is worth to finish this brief text on a more positive note: in the first days of April, there was a court decision regarding two of the women’s request to receive compensation for their unjust imprisonment. The court ruled that the each of the women will receive €10 compensation for every day of pre-trial detention. On September 2014 and January 2015, more women will be tried on reduced misdemeanor charges, and some of them brought their case to the European Court of Human Rights, assisted by organizations that support them. Donations are being collected here: <http://ruins-documentary.com/en/donate/>

Bite back – the situation of stray/homeless dogs in romania



you might have heard of recent events starting from last autumn. Beyond all of them revealing itself again the speciesist ideology of believing that non-human animals belong to human animals, that they are ours to be used and disposed of as we wish...

In september 2013 in bucharest, a 4-year old boy who ventured too far away from his grandma and ended up on the terrain of an abandoned factory was supposedly mauled to death by some dogs. Along the euphoria of tens of thousands of people going out in the streets against the rosia Montana gold mining project, what followed was mass panic in the media and mass mobilization against all stray/homeless

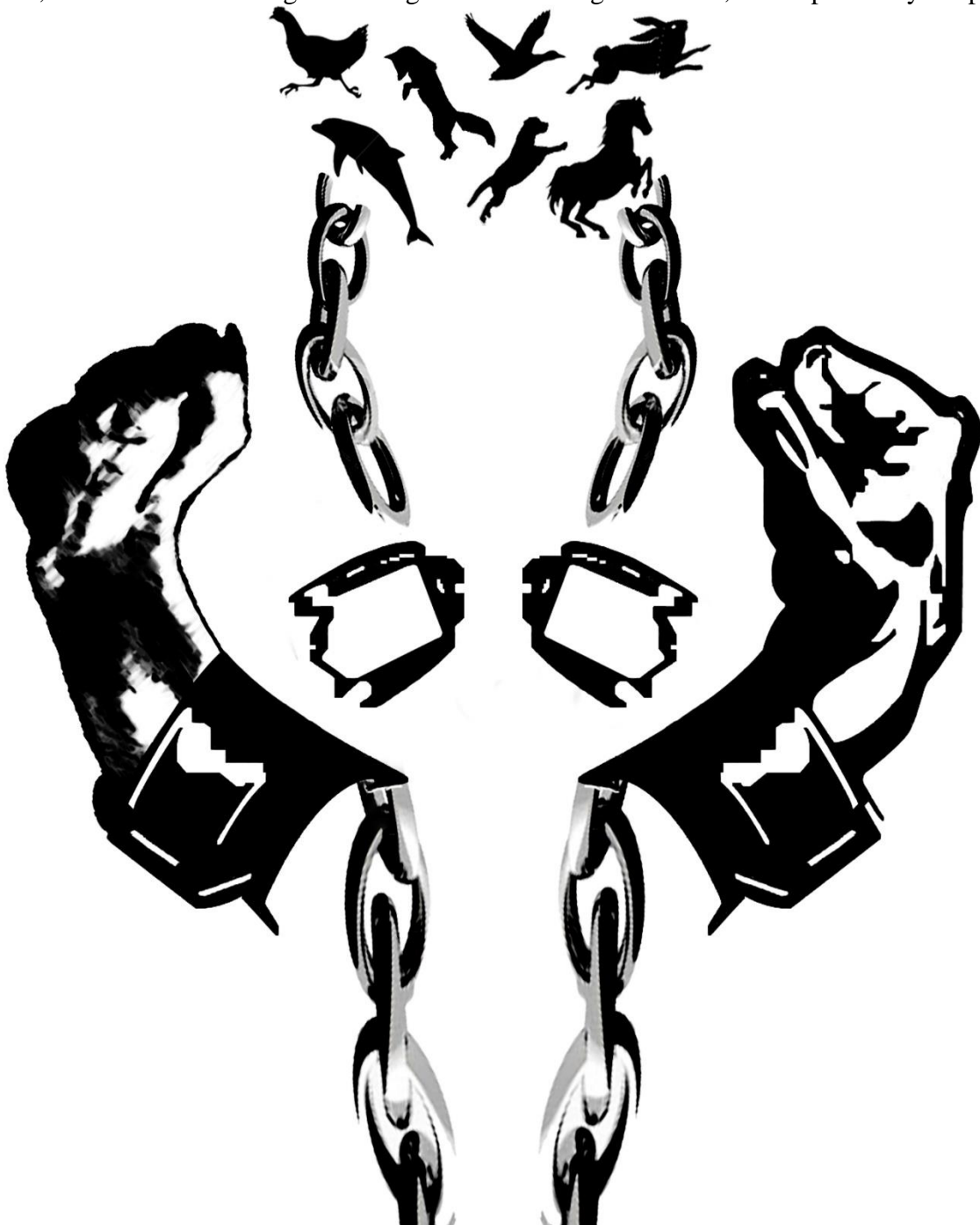
dogs of bucharest and other big cities throughout the territory of the state called romania. It is not like homeless dogs weren't persecuted at all before, but now the violence suddenly increased. Random killings of homeless dogs were undergone by some people through rudimentary methods, while most local authorities had hired dog-catching companies to “clean” the streets and public spaces.

Shelters, which look more like prisons considering the poor conditions, had become in just a few days overpopulated. Then the state got actively involved and the parliament deemed constitutional a new law allowing “euthanasia” (actually brutal killings) of all homeless animals who have been caught but not adopted within 14 days – hence the overnight flourishing of a new dog-catching dog-killing industrial complex.

Since the government approved the methodological norms for the bill in december, the murders became fully “legal” and continue even now through 2014. Not only the killing machine became fully effective, but we heard numerous horrific stories of dog-catchers entering people's own backyards in order to get the dogs they were living with, just because they looked more like mutts, and not “pure-breed”.

So in the infoshop in bp, in october 2013 we organised a screening of “Man's best friend” - a documentary from 2011 but still relevant, about the love-hate relationship between human and non-human homeless dogs communities sharing the same public space, with lots of interviews and secret footages from the dog capturing industry in romania.

We tried to co-ordonate with our comrades from iasi, cluj and bucharest, who had also organised screenings and dicusssions for mobilization in the exactly same day. Resistance is currently very hard. Currently, the dog “shelters”/prisons where the dogs are kept until they are killed are heavily guarded, and now even the dog-catchers go around raiding the streets, accompanied by the police.



We Refuse to be Servants!

Bring a pot or a pan with you, so we can create a feminist orchestra to disrupt the comfortable silence and united voice our demands!

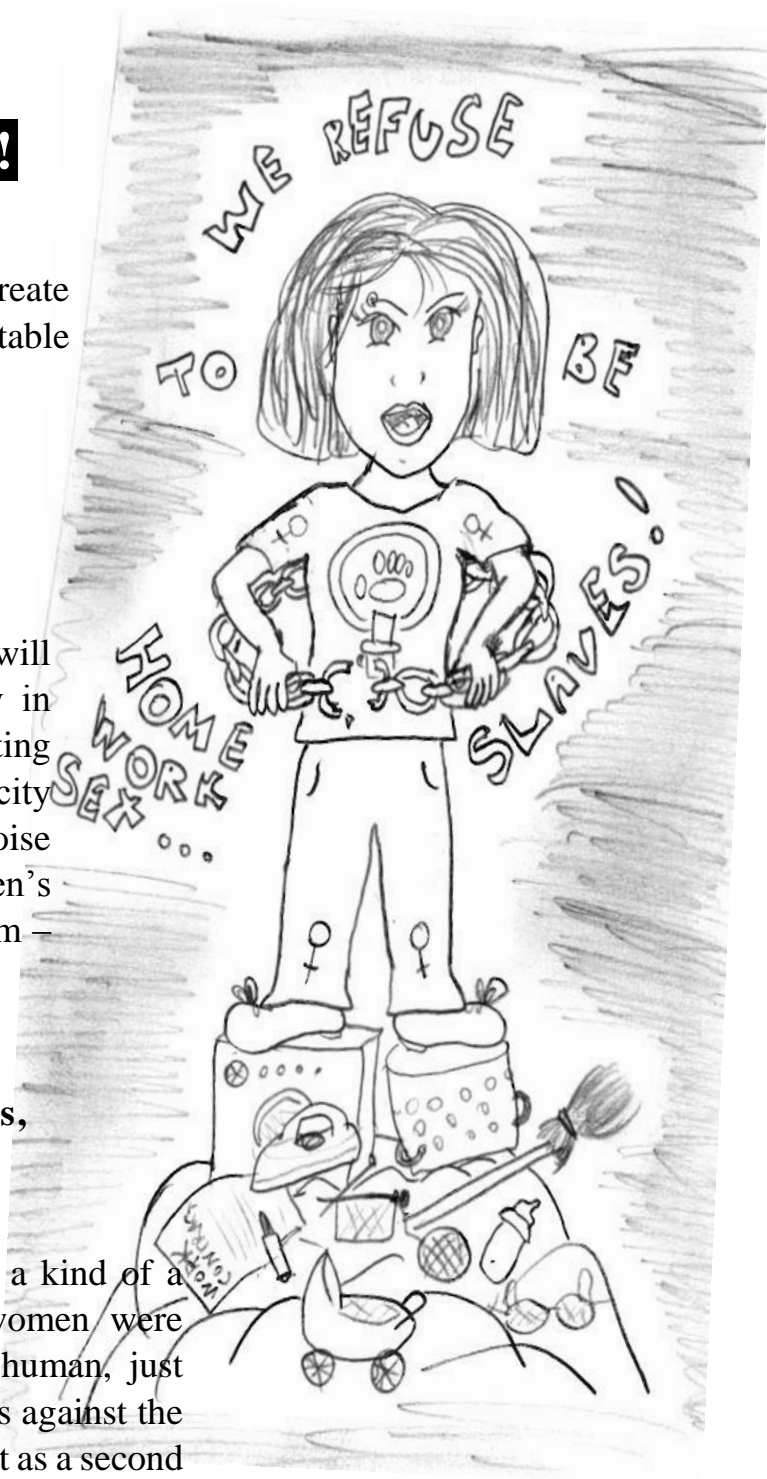
WE REFUSE TO BE SERVANTS!

This Saturday, on the 8th of March, we will celebrate the International Women's Day in Budapest with a loud feminist march. Starting at 16.00 o'clock, we will walk through the city centre, beating on pots and pans to make noise and finally break the silence about women's existence, and working conditions! Freedom – equality – feminism!

**We, women, together with our allies,
refuse to be anybody's servants!**

Woman is at first a human being and not a kind of a human, i.e. a derivative of a man. If women were primarily considered a human, universal human, just like a man is, we would consider the crimes against the women as a crimes against humanity and not as a second class offences, or as a national folklore. The average of 16 % less payment than the man earns for the same work, is a first degree crime in EU. This means that women work 59 days per year literally for free! The gender pay gap in Hungary is one of the highest in Europe. We demand equal pay for equal work!

We demand equal share of responsibilities!



None of us was born a woman. The woman is a product, the effect of a human civilisation and its history, its material productions, and is not its birthgiver. There is no essence of women, no nature of women, we refuse any such eternal biological grounds to our beings. Therefore, the feminist revolution is not simply intended for “women”, for “mothers”, “daughters” but rather against the social construction of it.

Therefore feminism is not simply a vindication of the rights of women, it is a deconstruction of exactly this production of the oppressive culture of slavery named women and womanhood. We refuse to be the second sex in any sexual contract or in any life system. We refuse to be secondary in any sense! We refuse to be a synonym for gender in general. We say “no” to the everyday sexism that surrounds us.

During the economical crisis that neoliberalist capitalists made for all of us, the women, and especially young women are extremely harmed by it. The girls from the youngest age learn to become smaller and smaller while they grow up. Did you know that only 22% of women with children return to the workplace after giving birth? We are saying “no” to the “traditional” enslavement of women as housekeepers. We say, we have had enough. Did you know that 22% of women in Europe have experienced physical and or sexual violence?

Because no woman is a tool to any imperialist, capitalist, sexist and exploitative bullshit!

My body is my property! My work is my property! Do you still want to offer me a flower today?

Call for International support with local resistance against Chevron in East Romania

December, 2nd, 2013.

Corporations cannot make the legislation!

In Pungesti, east Romania, people are resisting Chevron's fracking efforts. After facing strong opposition from local community and from a strong trans-national movement of support, Chevron had to scale down activities in Pungesti. At least until Monday night, when the assault started around 6 AM!



The riot police and Chevron joined forces to dismantle the local resistance group camped across the road from the field where Chevron plans to explore for shale gas, using hydraulic fracturing. After 2 months of resistance, 40 people were beaten, arrested and taken to the nearest town for further investigations. The Spokesperson from the riot police did not come out with a statement

until much later and denied any abuse, while the riot police officers prevented the people from filming and recording the intervention. Media representatives do not have access to the site, and the road to Pungesti is blocked by Chevron equipment and Police intervention cars.

One personal account: "we made it to Pungesti. We can't stay in the camp anymore, it's full of police and gendarmes. On our way here, close to Pungesti, we passed many vehicles full of cops. In Silistea, the road is blocked with fences and gendarmes that guard them fiercely. In order to pass the fences, we had to say that we head to a town further away from Pungesti. We did not know that we couldn't get to the camp [where people are resisting]. We have to return to Silistea, where few people support the Resistance and have banners. We're trying to find efficient solutions, it's horrible what's happening here. Chevron is setting up the installations, they have all their machines on the field. Please let's mobilise and go there! People are beaten up and scared. Share!"

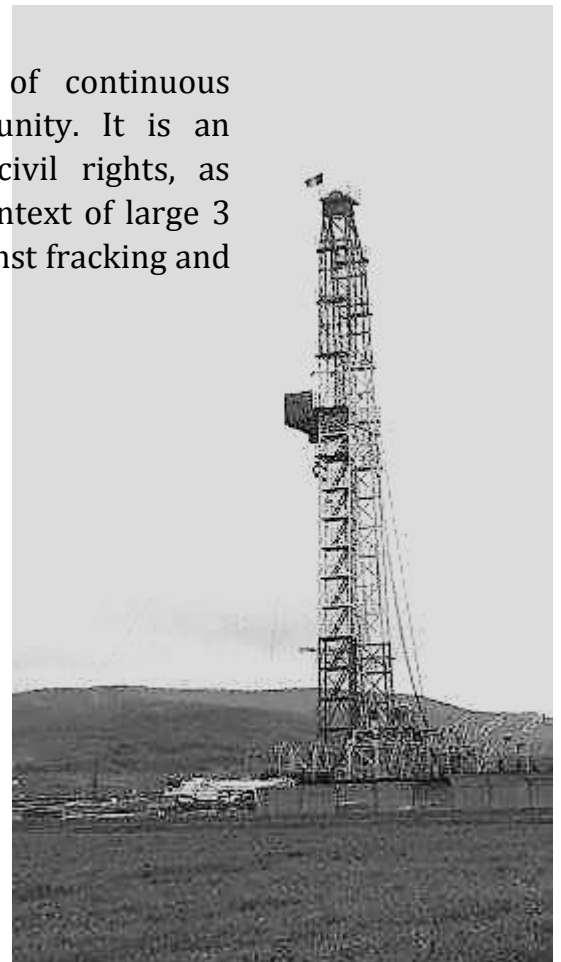
Children cannot go to school at this point. The life of the entire community has been severely disrupted. The road is also blocked for anyone else, the villagers cannot go to work and the press is kept kilometres away from Pungesti. All this was planned in detail by the local authorities, the Police and Chevron in order to help the company install its shale gas exploring equipment on the site despite prior official statement from Chevron country manager Tom Holst to halt any activity until the community agrees with the project. The same equipment will be used for the exploitation phase as well.

This abusive intervention follows two months of continuous harassment and intimidation of the local community. It is an irresponsible, dangerous attack on human and civil rights, as recognized worldwide. All this is happening in a context of large 3 months nationwide (and international) protests against fracking and cyanide use in Romania.

Please spread the news and help us rise awareness on this difficult situation in Romania. Links:

<http://www.gazedesist.ro/?sLang=en>

<http://fracking.casajurnalistului.ro/english/>



Other recent Infoshop events

Info-night on struggles from Hamburg

DIY Stencil Workshop

The Punk Singer + Vegan Sushi = benefit party for Klit

Infoshop radiating Monday: projection of 'Into Eternity'

INFOSHOP and RQAC joint event: projection of "DEGETOAICA" and "The AGGRESSIVES"

Talk about current situation in Hungary

Info-Night: recent protests in Kiev and Pungesti

Far-right in Hungary: a discussion

Film projection: 'Ungdomshuset'

Previous Infoshop Projects

The current infoshop in Klit is not the first of its kind in Budapest. For a few years already we have had different projects. We organised many events and brought a lot of people together. Some of the traces that we left can be found here:

<http://lmv.hu/budapestinfoshop>

<http://morzeinfoshop.blogspot.hu>

<http://budapestinfoshop.wix.com/infoshop>

