

## Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities, Skopje

### **"CLIMATE JUSTICE IN AN AGE OF UNBRIDLED CAPITALISM: ESTABLISHING A UNIFIED FRONT THROUGH ECO-SOCIALISM, MARXIST FEMINISM AND CRITIQUES OF AUTHORITARIANISM."**

*Lecturers: Blair Taylor, Zdravko Saveski, Ivana Dragshich, Yavor Tarinski*

/ 10-12th of September 2021, Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities – Skopje, North Macedonia /

## **CALL FOR APPLICATION**

The Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities, Skopje, with support from the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung Southeast Europe, is proud to announce the School for Politics and Critique 2021 – "Climate Justice in an Age of Unbridled Capitalism: Establishing a Unified Front Through Eco-socialism, Marxist Feminism and Critiques of Authoritarianism." The School will take place between September 10-12, 2021, and will be held in a hybrid format, both online and offline, for those attending in person, the School will be held in Skopje, North Macedonia. We are excited to announce the following keynote speakers for this year's School: Blair Taylor (from Seattle, WA) who will speak on eco-socialist movements in the wake of Covid-19, Zdravko Saveski (from Skopje, North Macedonia), who will speak about capitalism's absolute inability to handle the climate crisis, Ivana Dragshich (from Skopje, North Macedonia) who will speak on eco-feminism and micro-politics, and Yavor Tarinski (from Sofia, Bulgaria/Athens, Greece) who will speak on the topic of bureaucracy and authoritarianism as obstacles to a true eco-socialist agenda, and other related issues.

The School for Politics and Critique 2021 is dedicated to current political and activist issues in the region and abroad, focusing on new and relevant knowledge from the intersecting areas of materialism, feminism, eco-socialism, Marxism, climate science, and other forms of radical political thought. The project aims to address, in a unified and relational manner, issues directly related to climate change, including radical response toward it, the rise and persistence of authoritarianism and liberalism, especially as it exists in Southeast Europe, and women's and feminist struggles. We will take a multi-disciplinary approach to the school covering areas such as grassroots resistance, materialist philosophy, radical feminism, and climate studies. In so doing, we will seek to examine potential unified alternatives to the current socio-economic-political hegemony which renders not only life, and especially female life, but the earth, and thus matter itself, as mere material for consumption, production, and the strengthening of the neoliberal, capitalist regime, which simultaneously exploits women as surplus value for the sustaining of patriarchal oppression. In accordance with this, the school will have a strong activist approach based around unified responses to real concrete and material struggles in the region and abroad.

As such, the summer school aims to facilitate an in depth exploration of political alternatives and activism surrounding anti-authoritarian, materialist, and Marxist-feminist driven critiques. More particularly, we will be exploring the relations between feminism, materialism, radical politics, and the environment; envisioning new ways of conceiving the relations between political resistance, feminism, and climate justice. The goal of the school is to unite both theory and practice, producing new rhetoric and strategies, which can help lead to new socio-economic-political possibilities.

The School is proud to properly introduce its four illustrious Keynote Speakers, with both academic and activist expertise for this year's events: Blair Taylor, Zdravko Saveski, Ivana Dragshich and Yavor Tarinski: Blair Taylor is program director of the Institute for Social Ecology, a popular education center for ecological scholarship and advocacy founded in 1974. He holds a PhD in Political Science from the New School for Social Research, and has written on U.S. social movements, contemporary far-right politics, political ecology, and the history of the left. His work has been featured in *Les Temps Modernes*, *American Studies*, and *City: Analysis of Urban Trends, Culture, Theory, Policy, Action*; Zdravko Saveski is an anti-capitalist and eco-socialist. His recent papers dealing with the climate crisis include "Towards the Green Economy of the Future" (in Ivana Dragshich (ed.), "An Other World: Essays on Systemic Transformation of Future," 2021, in Macedonian) and "One in Seven and a Half: Local Activism against the Global Climate Crisis" (in *Identities: Journal for Politics, Gender and Culture* 2019); Ivana Dragshich is a sociologist, feminist and civil operator. Her research and work is somewhere at the meeting point of common resources, self-governance, spatial planning, feminism, institutional innovation and green politics. Ivana is also an amateur artist, radio host and dj; Finally, Yavor Tarinski was born in Sofia, Bulgaria, but contemporarily resides in Athens, Greece, where he is active in social movements. He currently participates in the editorial team of the political journal *Babylonia* and as a bibliographer at *Agora International*. Tarinski

writes for various international websites and is author of books and brochures focusing on direct democracy.

The School is calling for both academics and activists from across the region of Southeast Europe (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Croatia, Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia) as well as wider Europe. Twenty applicants from Southeast Europe will be accepted into the School. However, applicants from the region who are not from North Macedonia will participate/attend online due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the unpredictability of border crossing rules, in particular between EU and non EU states of the region. In addition to this, five applicants from the region and wider Europe will be accepted, and if possible can attend in person, but will have to fully fund and organize their entire trips themselves. Applicants should note that the school itself does not charge a fee for participation, and that food and drink will be provided to the offline participants. All applicants should include a CV in their applications, and make sure to state their motivation for attending in the designated section in the application form. Residents of North Macedonia are strongly encouraged to apply.

Application: Interested participants are encouraged to send their application (available for download on the link below or on [www.isshs.edu.mk](http://www.isshs.edu.mk)) to the following email addresses: [info@isshs.edu.mk](mailto:info@isshs.edu.mk) and [zach.d.dejong@isshs.edu.mk](mailto:zach.d.dejong@isshs.edu.mk). The deadline for applications is June 30th, 2021, and applicants will be notified of their status by July 10th, 2021.

[Link to the Application form](#)