

**International Summer School  
9-13 July 2012  
Northern College, UK**

**PROGRAMME**

<b>Monday 9 July</b>	
Morning: <b>Arrivals &amp; Registration</b>	
Afternoon Chair: Dave Spooner	
1.30 – 2.00 Welcome and introductions	Jill Westerman, Northern College Jim Mowatt, Unite the Union, UK
<b>Session 1: The Big Picture</b>	
2:00—3.15 Plenary Presentations: <i>How did we arrive here? 100 years of democratic socialism in the trade union movement and now, this.....</i> An exploration of the history and current state of democratic socialism in trade unionism.	Dan Gallin, Global Labour Institute, Geneva
<i>The new capitalism – financialisation, the banks and the state</i> An attempt to summarise the key forces at work in modern corporate capitalism, and the background to the current financial and political crises.	Peter Rossman, International Union of Foodworkers (IUF)
3:30 – 4.30 Discussion Groups: <i>The Fall &amp; Rise of Labour? – new trends in trade unionism. What will the international labour movement look like in 2020?</i> We are hoping that each group, briefly introduced by group leaders, will look at the current dynamics of change within the labour movement (demographics, gender relations, employment relationships, new international divisions of labour, relations with social movements, etc) and speculate on what the labour movement might look like in 10 or 20 years' time. The three group leaders will then be invited to reflect on those discussions in a concluding plenary.	Led by: Diana Holland, Unite the Union, UK Peter Hall-Jones – New Unionism, New Zealand *Gisela Neunhoeffer, Communication Workers of America

4:30 – 5.00 Plenary: Reflections on discussions from group leaders	
<b>Tuesday 10 July</b>	
Morning Chair: Jim Mowatt, Unite the Union, UK	
<b>Session 2: Global Unions – Global Politics</b> The second session is concerned with the politics of the international trade union movement, its institutions and its organisations.	
9:00 – 10.00 Plenary: <i>The Political Challenge for Global Unions</i> The GUFs and the ITUC now face a very different industrial and political environment than the International Trade Secretariats and the ICFTU of twenty or thirty years ago, but has the political agenda changed? What should be the political role of our international trade union organisations?	Bob Crow, National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT), UK
10:00 – 11.15 Discussion Groups	Led by: Jin Sook Lee, Building & Woodworkers International (BWI) Kirill Buketov, International Union of Foodworkers (IUF) Ommund Stokka, Industri Energi, Norway
11:30 – 12.30 Plenary: Reflections on discussions from group leaders	
Afternoon Chair: Joe Holly	
1:30 – 2.30 Plenary Discussion: <i>Prekarious &amp; Informal Work – The Politics of the “Precariat”?</i> This is one of the key political questions facing the international trade union movement: how it responds to the worldwide decline of ‘standard employment’ and the rise of ‘new’ movements of precarious and informal workers. Who speaks out for their interests? What is their political agenda?	Guy Standing, University of Bath, UK Pat Horn, StreetNet International Priscilla Gonzalez, National Domestic Workers’ Alliance, USA
2:30 – 3.45 Discussion Groups	Led by the plenary speakers

<p>4:00 – 5.00 Plenary Presentation:</p> <p><i>Internal democracy and rank &amp; file participation: Keys for strong national and international unions</i></p> <p>How can the organisations of the international trade union movement be truly democratically accountable to rank and file members? How can we build an international movement rooted in participation at the grass-roots?</p>	<p>Vasco Pedrina, Unia, Switzerland</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 11 July</b></p>	
<p>Morning:</p> <p>Chair: Karin Pape, GLI Geneva</p>	
<p><b>Session 3: Unions, Freedom and Democracy</b></p> <p>The relationship between trade unions, freedom and democracy: in Europe in the context of right-wing governments and austerity; and in those countries emerging from or struggling against dictatorship.</p>	
<p>9:00 – 10.00 Plenary Presentations:</p> <p><b><i>Trade Unions and Crises in Europe</i></b></p> <p>Keith Ewing will provide an overview and analysis on the recent attacks on trade union rights in Europe</p>	<p>Keith Ewing, Kings College London, UK</p>
<p>10:00 – 11.15 Discussion Groups:</p>	
<p><i>1. What do we do with the European Union?</i></p> <p>What should trade unions do with the European Union? European trade unions have been dominated by pro-EU policies for decades. Is it time for a change of strategy?</p>	<p>Anne Dufresne, Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique, Belgium</p>
<p><i>2. The Crisis in Greece</i></p> <p>How are the Greek trade unions reacting to the extraordinary crises in government and the imposition of unprecedented austerity policies?</p>	<p>Anda Stamati, General Confederation of Greek Labour – Labour Institute (INE/ GSEE-ADEDY)</p> <p>Lefteris Kretsos, University of Greenwich, UK</p>
<p><i>3. What should be the future of the ETUC?</i></p> <p>Is the ETUC out of touch with the political mood of European workers? Has ‘social partnership’ run out of steam? What should be the role and policies of the ETUC?</p>	<p>Dave Spooner, Global Labour Institute, UK</p> <p>Plamen Dimitrov, Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (KNSB)</p>

<p>11:30 – 12.30 Plenary Discussion</p> <p>The crises in Europe and the political counter-strategies of unions. What is being proposed? Is there a common European trade union strategy?</p>	<p>Reflections from discussion group leaders and plenary debate</p>
<p>Afternoon:</p> <p>Chair: Andy Gilchrist, RMT UK</p>	
<p>1:30 – 2.00 Plenary Presentation:</p> <p><b><i>Unions and Authoritarianism</i></b></p> <p>Reflections on the emergence of democratic unions from authoritarian regimes.</p>	<p>Krastyo Petkov, Bulgaria</p>
<p>2:00 – 3.30 Discussion Groups:</p>	
<p>1. <i>China – Has the international democratic trade union movement lost the plot?</i></p> <p>In 2011 the Chinese so-called trade union federation (ACFTU) was elected by the workers' group to the ILO Governing Body. National unions around the world continue to push friendly relations with the ACFTU. Is there an alternative strategy?</p>	<p>Elizabeth Tang, Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions</p>
<p>2. <i>Unions after the Arab Spring</i></p> <p>What is the future for democratic unions in Egypt and the Arab-speaking world? What are the implications for the international trade union movement?</p>	<p>Kamal Abbas, Centre for Trade Union &amp; Workers' Services (CTUWS), Egypt</p>
<p>3. <i>Democratic Unions in Asia</i></p> <p>After years of dictatorship, armed conflict and a splintered labour movement, what are the prospects for the development of strong democratic trade unions? – lessons from Pakistan and the Philippines.</p>	<p>Josua Mata, APL, Philippines</p> <p>Nasir Mansoor, National Trade Union Federation, Pakistan</p> <p>Khalid Mahmood, Labour Education Foundation, Pakistan</p>
<p>4. <i>Recapturing labour democracy? Unions in Central &amp; Eastern Europe</i></p> <p>More than twenty years after the Berlin wall was pulled apart, unions in former communist states are still struggling to regain their pre-communist democratic socialist heritage. What are the prospects for the future?</p>	<p>Plamen Dimitrov, Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (KNSB)</p> <p>Boris Kravchenko, Confederation of Labour, Russia</p> <p>Károly György, National Confederation of Hungarian Trade Unions (MSZOSZ)</p>

<p>3.45 – 5.00 Plenary Panel Discussion:</p> <p><b><i>Unions &amp; social movements for political and economic democracy</i></b></p> <p>The idea of trade unions forming strong alliances with ‘broader social movements’ is well-known. Reflecting on union relationships with the World Social Forum, the Occupy Movement, the Indignados etc, what is the reality?</p>	<p>Steve Early, Labor Notes, USA Patricia Horn, StreetNet International Hilary Wainwright, Red Pepper, UK</p>
<p><b>Thursday 12 July</b></p>	
<p>Morning: Chair: Josua Mata, APL Philippines</p>	
<p><b>Session 4: Emergency Exit</b></p> <p>What is the proposed trade union ‘emergency exit’ from corporate capitalism? If there is an alternative, what would it look like?</p>	
<p>9:00 – 10.00 Plenary:</p> <p><i>What do we do with the global corporations?</i></p> <p>How do we assert democratic power over global corporations? Are they uncontrollable? Unreformable?</p>	<p>Susan George, Transnational Institute</p>
<p>10:00 – 12.30 Discussion Groups:</p>	
<p><b>1. <i>Public Services – Public Ownership</i></b></p> <p>What is the alternative to deteriorating privatised public services? Re-nationalisation? Cooperatives and mutualisation?</p>	<p>David Hall, Public Services International Research Institute</p>
<p><b>2. <i>Organising in Transnational Corporations?</i></b></p> <p>How do we best organise in transnational corporations? How would we use the power of global organisation?</p>	<p>Jennie Formby, Unite the Union, UK *Fábio de Godoy, Metalworkers’ Union, Brazil</p>
<p><b>3. <i>Going Green – unions, climate change, green jobs and a post-carbon economy</i></b></p> <p>What might a post-carbon economy look like? What is the trade union vision for a green economy?</p>	<p>Sean Sweeney, Global Labor Institute, New York Alana Dave, International Transportworkers Federation (ITF)</p>

Afternoon: Chair: Alana Dave, ITF	
1:30 – 3.30 Plenary introduction, followed by workshops:  <i>Political education in trade unions – time for a new wave?</i>  How do we stimulate the development of trade union political education, locally, nationally and internationally? What practical initiatives are needed?	Facilitated by Luciole Sauviat, Global Labour University Alumni Association – workers' education group.
3:45 Plenary Discussion:  <i>Prospects for a new political agenda for the international trade union movement</i>  If there was to be a new coherent political agenda for the international trade union movement, what would be the core elements? Is there a real prospect of a radical change in direction?	Ashim Roy, New Trade Union Initiative, India  Liv Torres, The Norwegian People's Aid
<b>Friday 13 July</b>	
Morning: Chair: Dave Spooner, GLI UK	
<b>Session 5: Conclusions and Next Steps</b>	
9:00 Plenary: Workshops report-back: Recommendations for new initiatives in trade union political education	Dave Spooner, Global Labour Institute, Manchester
11:00 Plenary Discussion: <i>Reflections on the week</i>	Speakers to be nominated from school participants
Afternoon: <b>Departure</b>	

\*To be confirmed