



“A New Energy to Change Europe” Presentation of the Transform! eDossier

14 June 2016, 08:00 – 09:30

Venue: European Parliament, Members Salon

As global temperature rises, geopolitical conflict over “energy security” intensifies, energy poverty affects too many people across the world unable to meet basic energy needs, the question of a fair energy transition paving the way for another model of development is more crucial than ever.

Among genuine progressive forces it is now crystal clear that a new fundamental contradiction has arisen on top of that opposing capital and labour – the contradiction between capital and the sustainability of the planet. Everywhere, grassroots struggles around energy are gaining ground, and this shows a strong will to overcome corporate-led attempts of co-optation of some environmental claims under the label of green capitalism. Throughout Europe citizens’ groups advocate for energy democracy from production to redistribution and struggle against energy poverty.

It is obvious that a comprehensive plan for an energy transition from a radical Left perspective cannot ignore all the above-mentioned issues. Today’s ecological imperatives as well as social and political needs could possibly be met. The transform! eDossier “A New Energy to Change Europe” nourishes the necessary diversity of the on-going discussions within the European progressive political sphere, social movements and trade unions.

Welcoming words

- Host: Cornelia Ernst (Member of the European Parliament, Committee for Industry, Research and Energy, Chair of the Delegation DIE LINKE. in the EP, GUE/NGL)
- Martin Schirdewan (Director of the Brussels office of the Rosa-Luxemburg-Foundation)

Introduction

- Maxime Benatouil (transform! europe)

Interventions

- Marc Delepouve (Member of the research team Scité at Lille University, General Secretary of Attac France from 2006 to 2009)
- Jean-Claude Simon (French economist based in Denmark, active citizen in local energy projects)

Discussion with the audience