



### Conference:

#### **Education Power Future**

Education for the social-ecological transformation?

**21.-24. February 2019 in Kassel, Germany**

Submission deadline: 15.9.2018 [www.bildung-macht-zukunft.de/call](http://www.bildung-macht-zukunft.de/call)

### Why this conference?

Current educational practices often reproduce attitudes and patterns of thought that support exploitative production patterns and lifestyles: Such are competition as a guiding principle, expert knowledge as the preferred way of perception and technical solutions for social and ecological problems. Racism and sexism as societal global and local power structures are largely ignored. This criticism concerns political education and concepts like "Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)" or "Global Learning". If educational practices really are to make a contribution to a future socio-ecological society, alternative spaces of learning are needed. Those should:

- reflect and question current attitudes and patterns of thought, offering spaces for thinking and living different ones;
- have the courage to make complex and sometimes uncomfortable causes of global injustice and ecological crises a subject of discussion
- consider alternatives beyond individual consumption and encourage people to shape society concerning political and economic issues.

Our objective for the conference is to reflect and develop educational practices together according to our claim of a critical-emancipatory education. Therefore we would like to make connections: we want to connect ESD and Global Learning with critical political education; non-formal with formal learning; individual actions with societal structures as well as theory with practice.

The conference is organized by a team of scientists, freelance educational actors, teachers and civil society actors.

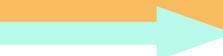
### Guiding questions for the conference are:

Through education, how can we...

- foster critical thinking and disrupt power structures instead of reproducing them
- handle the complex causes of injustice instead of offering easy explanations
- empower people for their emancipation as well as to get active in a socio-ecological transformation.

### Whom do we want to reach?

- **Education practitioners** in the context of socio-ecological transformation (teachers, practitioners and multipliers from educational institutions and projects, youth organizations, trade unions, churches and social movements)
- **Researchers** from the areas of socio-ecological transformation, political education, ESD or Global Learning
- We explicitly invite **people working with less represented approaches** in ESD/Global Learning (such as feminism, post-colonialism, theatre pedagogy or outdoor pedagogy) and **people who are currently in training or studying**.



## **We invite you to propose your workshop contributions:**

The conference consists of podium discussions, short presentations and workshops. We invite you to contribute to the conference by giving a workshop (duration: 1.5-2.5 hours) in the area of “**analysis and criticism**” (Friday) or “**New perspectives and alternatives**” (Saturday). The workshops can be given by one or more persons, in one or two parts.

We plan the following formats:

### **1. Analytical workshops**

Analytical workshops focus on what is missing or underrepresented in ESD/Global Learning from a practical or theoretical perspective. What are the challenges? Which contents and perspectives should be strengthened? Which learning formats make sense for which objective? Whom do we want to address and why?

### **2. Learning in practical projects and social movements**

Workshops within this category should give an insight into the conditions and challenges of learning in practical projects and social movements. Which attitudes and skills needed for a socio-ecological transformation and sustainable living should be addressed and fostered? What are the strengths of such learning settings? What are the challenges and how could we meet them? How can this informal and non-formal learning be connected to formalized learning in schools? Attending the presented projects is possible, the duration of the workshop can be extended in this case.

### **3. Facilitation of spaces for reflection and exchange**

We would like to encourage you to bring in your own questions or concerns and discuss and reflect them together in open and process-oriented formats: Which challenges do we currently face? Which experiences do we make in our every-day educational practice with regard to certain topics, target groups, formats and our own role? You can suggest topics which you consider relevant for other participants and which you would like to facilitate.

### **4. Training session for methods, learning formats and innovative teaching materials**

This category is designed for the training of participants in certain methods, learning formats and teaching materials with which you have made good experiences. Methods, formats and contents which address underrepresented target groups and perspectives are especially of interest .

### **5. Open contributions**

You want to make a contribution but you cannot assign your idea to one of the categories? We look forward to your contribution. Feel free to contribute through practical and unconventional exercises (e.g. mindfulness exercises or public interventions).

### **Cultural programme**

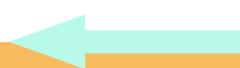
There will be a forum theatre on the questions of the conference. We also plan cultural contributions and actions in the public sphere. Further suggestions are welcome.

## **General indications for contributions**

### **Multiple perspectives - linking theory and practical experience**

To discuss and be open for multiple perspectives is a main objective of the conference. We are aware of the fact that an idealistic “open” discussion is not possible as discussions always tend to reproduce power structures and discriminations. Still, we will try to select workshops and to organize the conference and discussions according to this objective, not reproducing a culture of “experts”.

Furthermore, we would like all workshops to take into account the guiding questions of the conference and to attempt the connection of theory and practice.



## Different forms of learning

We are convinced that a critical emancipatory education benefits from interactive and experience based forms of learning overcoming the sole transfer of knowledge. Therefore, we invite you to see the conference as a place for practice. Experiments are welcome!

## Multilingualism

The conference language will be German. We are sorry that we cannot provide translations to other languages due to financial reasons. Still, contributions in other languages (also others than English) are possible. We will try to work on a solution. If you want to submit a contribution in another language, please use the English input mask.

## Framework conditions:

**Rooms:** The workshops will take place at the University of Kassel. All rooms are barrier-free. You can also suggest a different location if it fits better to your contribution.

**Fees, travel and accommodation costs:** If needed, we can pay a fee of 150 €, travel costs and the accommodation for one night (further Information in the submission document)

**Further procedure:** We will give you a feedback by the 15<sup>th</sup> of October if your contribution can be integrated in the programme.

Further information on: [www.bildung-macht-zukunft.de](http://www.bildung-macht-zukunft.de)

Kontakt: [bildungmachtzukunft@knoe.org](mailto:bildungmachtzukunft@knoe.org)

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