



A call to social movements, frontline communities and campaigning networks, and progressive NGOs, academics and parliamentarians across Asia and Europe:

Call to Co-Organize an Open Space in 11th Asia-Europe Peoples' Forum

Building New Solidarities

Working for Inclusive, Just and Equal Alternatives in Asia and Europe

Ulaan Baatar, Mongolia, 4th - 6th July 2016

On 15th -16th July 2016 the 11th Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM11) will take place in Ulaan Baatar hosted by Mongolia. Heads of State and Government from across Asia and Europe will meet to discuss their future priorities and plans.

Prior to ASEM11, the Asia-Europe People's Forum (AEPF) will hold its 11th biennial People's Forum on 4th – 6th July 2016 under the title "**Building New Solidarities: Working for Inclusive, Just and Equal Alternatives in Asia and Europe**".

AEPF11 will tackle strategies on major themes or *People's Visions*, which represent AEPF's hopes for citizens of Europe and Asia. These are:

- **Resource Justice, Land Rights, Equal Access to Water, and Participation - Going Beyond Extractivism**
- **Food Sovereignty/Food Security – Beyond Zero Hunger**
- **Climate Justice - Towards Sustainable Energy Production and Use**
- **Socially Just Trade Production and Investment**
- **Social Justice - Alternatives to Debt and Austerity:** Social Protection, Decent Work and Sustainable Livelihoods
- **Peace Building and Human Security - Responses to Migration and Fundamentalism and Terrorism.**
- **Participatory Democracy, Gender Equality and Minority Rights**

Progress towards the realisation of these People's Visions, or Alternatives, is at the heart of a way out of the multiple crises confronting people, states and institutions. The ecological, debt, financial, energy and food crises, which have been caused and compounded by the policies and practices of many governments in both rich and poor countries and their approaches to regulation of business, have caused increasing social polarization between peoples and states. In Asia the crises are exacerbating poverty and inequality, already widespread before the present crises. In Europe the crises are creating indebtedness, joblessness and insecurity. We are increasingly experiencing 'corporate capture'—multinational and national corporations structuring and determining our lives and livelihoods. The responses of citizens are often at local and national levels and to complement these, the AEPF is looking to encourage and strengthen cooperation and solidarity of people's networks regionally, inter-regionally and globally.

This is a call to social movements, frontline communities and campaigning networks, and progressive NGOs, academics and parliamentarians across Asia and Europe to come and join us, to be part of the AEPF11 Forum. You can be part of an event that is open, dynamic and inclusive and focuses on meaningful and practical discussions for change.

AEPF11 will be an exciting series of interlinked dialogues, workshops, actions, policy debates and open spaces. You can be part of this in many ways: you can **actively participate** in the discussions and building of **People's Visions, co-organize an event, and/or contribute human and financial resources.**

AEPF11 will be an exciting series of interlinked dialogues, workshops and open spaces. We are launching a **call for interest to co-organise an Open Space** as part of the Forum.

Workshops and Open Spaces at AEPF11

We have three main forums for discussion at AEPF11

- 1. Plenary sessions**
- 2. Workshops for our seven themes**
- 3. Open Spaces**

The Open Spaces will take place on Day2/July 5th 2016

We are inviting the potential co-organisers of **Open Spaces** to develop proposals for one workshop.

Call for Interest to Co-organize an Open Space – the Essentials

1. Content:

- a. It must be **relevant to AEPF and supportive of the principles** outlined in the AEPF Charter and contribute to discussions and reflections around the title of AEPF11 and the seven themes:
- b. The **focus** should contribute to increasing Asia-Europe understanding, analysis and information about an issue. It should be dealt with from an Asia-Europe angle, covering
 - A European perspective
 - An Asian perspective
 - The Asia-Europe dimension of the issue

2. Workshop/ Open Space organizing group

- a. **The co-organizers** should be at least one organisation from Asia, one from Europe and at least one from the host country, Mongolia
- b. **Composed of link persons** nominated from each of the three organisations for the preparation and organisation of the workshop.
- c. **Functions:** develop the agenda, background documents and requests for other resource people and communicate them with the AEPF Organisers.

3. Programme

- a. **Speakers:** at least one each from Europe, Asia and Mongolia.
- b. At least 3/4 of workshop/Open Space time is allotted for discussion and interaction between the panel and participants
- c. **Moderator:** to be invited by the organizing group. S/he must ensure that the speakers keep to the workshop guidelines, enable discussion and exchange between the delegates/participants attending the workshop. The chair/moderator has the responsibility to make sure that discussions are being carried out in an open and inclusive atmosphere.
- d. A **rapporteur** delivers a report to the AEPF11 coordinator for Open Space events.
- e. **Simultaneous interpretation** between English and Mongolia should be planned by the workshop organisers

4. Outputs

- a. **Concrete proposal(s)** directed at the relevant decision makers including ASEM but also the AEPF. These will be compiled by an agreed rapporteur and submitted to the AEPF People's Vision Group (to be identified), for possible inclusion in The Final Declaration, as soon after the end of the workshop/Open Space as possible, and no later than the end of the AEPF11.
- b. **A workshop/Open Space report** (minimum of an A4 sized paper in length) must be submitted to the AEPF People's Vision Group no later than the end of the AEPF11. A format or template for the report shall be provided by the AEPF11 Committee on Open Space Events.

Timetable

The final date for submission of interest is **20th May 2016**. All requests will then be considered by the AEPF Organisers at the IOC/IOG Core Group Meeting. You will be informed of the results of their discussions by **26th May 2016**.

If you would like to express an interest in co-organising a workshop/event or event please write to:

<p>Urantsooj Gombosuren gurantsooj@rocketmail.com for Mongolia or Conny van Heemstra conny.van_heimstra@asienhaus.de for Europe or Maris Dela Cruz aepf.secretariat@gmail.com for Asia</p>
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Expression of Interest format

1. Possible title
2. Focus of Workshop/Open Space/Event
3. Summary of topics for discussion
4. How does this workshop/Open Space/event contribute to discussions and reflections around the title of AEPF11 and its themes
5. How does it take forward the AEPF Charter
6. Which organisations, networks, social movements could be potential co-organisers
7. What resources will you be able to contribute to the workshop/event i.e. costs of venue, providing speakers and resource people, covering travel and accommodation costs for speakers, resource people, participants, preparing films, documentation etc. related to the workshop/Open Space/event.
8. Name and contact details for link person(s) for this expression of interest

Logistics background

1. Workshops/Open Spaces can be held in a range of appropriate venues in the centre of Ulaan Baatar. They will be in short transport and in some cases walking distance of each other.
2. Venues will range in size but able to hold between 50 and 100 people.
3. Co-organisers are expected to cover or contribute to the costs of the venue and if possible/necessary arrange for a projector.
4. Organisers are expected to discuss with AEPF organisers how they will enable Mongolian/English interpretation.
5. There will be a full AEPF11 programme which a workshop/Open Space/event will be part of. To be included in this, a short description of workshop will be needed including main speakers if wished. This will need to be shared by **June 15th 2016**.

Information

AEPF Charter <http://www.aepf.info/home/about-us/46-charter-of-the-asia-europe-peoples-forum-aepf.html>

AEPF11 Call to Participate [Link to follow](#)