



IV. Conference: 10—12 April 2020, University of Hamburg

Challenging Capitalist Modernity IV:

We want our world back!

Build Autonomous Education and Organize

Call for Building Freedom as a way of living
(these are the workshops)

Dear friends,

On behalf of the Network for an Alternative Quest, we invite you to contribute to the fourth Challenging Capitalist Modernity conference between 10-12 April 2020, Hamburg with your own experiences in the form of workshops.

For a long time, there has been a need to discuss what the Kurdish freedom movement was doing and how it related to other movements around the world with developments in ideology, philosophy, theory and practice. The paradigm shift of the Kurdish freedom movement at large and in particular its key thinker, Abdullah Öcalan was not really discussed much outside of Kurdish circles. To build bridges between the Kurds and different and alternative movements and ideas, we formed the Network for an Alternative Quest and began to organize conferences that would address key ideological and philosophical issues of our times.

Our goal is to create a platform where collective movements, communities, trade unions, activists and individuals with intellectual, academic and professional backgrounds etc could come together to discuss ideological, philosophical, aesthetic and political issues, and what they are doing. Furthermore, their successes and failures so that there could be a shared learning process as well as mutual understanding to undertake future challenges.

With this fourth conference, we want to demand an end to the destruction of our world and environment, a call to put a stop to femicide, societycide, genocide and epistemicide and we want to discuss how we can make it happen. Our world has not seen such a scale and pace of destruction before. In the last four hundred years not only are different languages and cultures becoming extinct but everyday numerous plants and animals too are becoming extinct. Capitalist modernity and its source patriarchy has brought us not only to the brink of the destruction of the human society as we know it but also our world.

However it is not all hopeless, women and peoples in Kurdistan and all around

the world are resisting and discussing and actively building free life. From our experiences, we have learned that if we take a firm collective stance against this chaos, we can begin the task to rebuild our civilization, the democratic civilization— but this is only possible, if we do something about it now. We do not need to search another world elsewhere; we want our world back!

The past three conferences brought together leading intellectuals, young activists, students and militants a chance to present their ideas. In this fourth conference we want to once again build bridges between all these and movements in Kurdistan and worldwide. So your contribution would enrich our discussions highly — in this long journey of women, the colonized and peoples, our words have ever more meaning when they intersect.

We would like to give the chance to all those who would like to join the conference with their own workshops:

Duration of workshops: at most 3 hours

Date: 11 April 2020

Method: all proposals for workshops should be sent to info@networkaq.net

Due date of proposals: 05 March 2020 with a description of the workshop in at most 200 words

Selection: 15 March 2020, those with proposals will be informed

Language: needs to be specified, and if there are possibilities can be multilingual

10 workshops out of the sent proposals will be chosen based on variety and complementing the 3 day program of the conference and its main aspects.

Within this framework this year we have also had pre-conference discussions again and thought that below are the topics that need to be discussed 2020

Challenging Capitalist Modernity IV:

We Want Our World Back—Build Autonomous Education and Organize

Day 1 and part of Day 2: Capitalist Modernity - The Multicide Regime

Session I—Ecocide

Session II—Societocide, Femicide, and Epistemicide

Part of Day II: Resist, Reclaim and Rebuild

Session III—Resistance and Change begins in Art

Session IV—Autonomous Education

Building freedom as a way of living → these are in fact workshops, held in the afternoon. Duration about 3 hours.

Day III: We want our world back - and here is how!

Session V—Organize to resist, reclaim and rebuild

Session VI—Call to Bottom up Democratic Confederation

Take a look at our website (www.networkaq.net or our youtube-channel called Network for an Alternative Quest to find out more about our last three conferences of 2012, 2015, 2017.

This conference is organized by Asta and NetworkAQ

Contact e-mail:

info@networkaq.net

Network for an Alternative Quest: International Initiative "Freedom for Abdullah Öcalan-Peace in Kurdistan" • KURD-AKAD Network of Kurdish Academics • YXK – Association of Students from Kurdistan • Kurdistan Report • ISKU - Informationsstelle Kurdistan e.V. • Cenî – Kurdish Women's Office for Peace • Civaka Azad – Kurdish Center for Public Relations