



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

on

Democratic Confederalism, Municipalism and Global Democracy

- VISION AND STRATEGIES FROM KURDISTAN -

5th and 6th of October 2019

Theater Palladium ROME, ITALY

Eight years ago in the Middle East and North Africa, popular uprisings against authoritarian regimes started as the so-called "Arab Spring"; but shortly after the ongoing civil war in Syria and beyond followed as well. After all these years, the balance of power has changed in the Middle East, new alliances have been created and supranational interests are hiding behind the war scenarios ready to redefine boundaries and areas of interest. A few months after the much-vaunted defeat of the terror organization "Islamic State" (IS; ISIS), what is happening in those territories? The withdrawal of the "global coalition against terror" and the relocation of the different armies testifies new transformations in progress.

Within this context the Kurds, in alliance with other people, are building up their own an alternative based on principles such as democratic pluralism, direct democracy, mutual respect in the coexistence of different ethnic groups and religions, gender liberation and an ecological and communal economy directly at the ground. This concept is called *Democratic Confederalism*; it shows us how even within an armed conflict it is possible to realize a new project capable of giving voice and crystallizing the will of the local people, realizing a project of peaceful coexistence which bases on peoples who inhabit those territories.

An experiment of radical and direct democracy that, overcoming the "*nation-state*" model, brings out in concrete a new peaceful and harmonious experience in those lands, applicable to the entire Middle East. All this takes place within a constantly changing global context. If in one hand new sovereignties and chauvinism emerge re-proposing the retreat of civilization, on the other hand, we see advancing movements capable of innovating the social context, from European neo-municipalism to indigenous experiences.

The conference begins with a critique of the present, then analyzes the paradigm of the Democratic Confederalism in order to discuss a new perspective and propose an alternative. It will be a discussion able to relate to most diverse and recent alternative experiences, in order to connect and build the possible "third way".

Day 1

Saturday, 5th of October 2019, 9:30 – 10:30

OPENING SESSION

Interpretation in Italian, Kurdish, English, Spanish, Turkish

OPENING SPEECHES AND SPECIAL REMARKS BY

Municipio VIII

UIKI ONLUS

short video “Öcalan’s journey to Rome”

Contribution of **Giovanni Russo Spena**, former senator, Italy

Keynote speech: Sezai Temelli, HDP co-chair

Saturday, 5th of October 2019, h. 10:30 – 13:00

Panel I “THE RISE OF NATIONALISM”

Moderator: Fabio Marcelli, CNR Research Director

Interpretation in Italian, Kurdish, English, Spanish, Turkish

NEW SOVEREIGNS, NATIONALISM AND POPULISM: A NEW REACTIONARY MOVEMENT IS GROWING UP

Massimiliano Smeriglio, MP’s in EU, Italy

FORTRESS EUROPE: THE IMMIGRATION AND THE CRISIS OF NATION STATE

Enrica Rigo, Associate Professor in Philosophy of Law, Department of Law at Roma Tre University, Italy

NEO-COLONIALISM IN AMERICA LATINA

Victoria Sandino, Senator and former FARC, Colombia

EFFECTS OF NEO-LIBERALISM IN ASIA

Glenis Balangue- Dalkiran, Researcher of IBON Europe, Philippine

THE COLLAPSE OF NATION STATE AND THE KURDISH ALTERNATIVE: DEMOCRATIC NATION

Nilufer Koç, co-chair of Kurdish National Kongress, Kurdistan

Question and Discussion with moderators and discussants

LUNCH: 13:00 – 15:00

Saturday, 5th of October 2019, h. 15:00 – 17:00

Panel II “BETWEEN POSITIVISM AND POST MODERNITY”

Moderator: **Laura Corradi**, Gender Studies and Intersectional Methodology at Università della Calabria

Interpretation in Italian, Kurdish, English, Spanish, Turkish

POWER AS A PHILOSOPHICAL PROBLEM

Nazan Üstündağ, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Boğaziçi University Istanbul, Turkey

THE CRISIS OF CAPITALISM AND THEORETICAL IMPASSES

Salvatore Malinconico, Writer and Philosopher, Italy

THE ACADEMIA, NEOLIBERALISM AND PATRIARCHY

Federica Giardini, Lecture in Political Philosophy, Department of Lecture and Philosophy at Roma Tre University, Italy

DOGMATISM AND NEO-LIBERALISM IN 21st CENTURY

Jeffrey Miley, Lecturer in Political Sociology, Department of Sociology, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

WOMAN PERSPECTIVE IN A NEW SYSTEM

Rehan Sheikmous, Kurdish Women Movement in North - East of Syria

Question and Discussion with moderators and discussants

COFFEE BREAK: 16:45 – 17:00

Saturday, 5th of October 2019, h. 17:00 – 19:00

Panel III “FOR A COMMUNAL AND ECOLOGICAL ECONOMY”

Moderator: Francesco Martone, Former member of the Italian Senate
Interpretation in Italian, Kurdish, English, Spanish, Turkish

ECOLOGY AND ECONOMY IN KURDISTAN

Ahmad Yousef, Advisor of Ecological and Economy Committee of North - East of Syria

COOPERATIVES IN A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Daniel Mancio, Professor at Federal University of Espírito Santo, Movimento Sem Terra, Brasil

TRANSNATIONAL STRUGGLE: ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL STRUGGLES

Leo Saldanha, Researcher Environment Support Group and Activist, India

THE ECOLOGICAL STRUGGLE IN NORTH-KURDISTAN AND THE CASE OF HASANKEYF/TIGRIS

Ercan Ayboga, Ecology Activist, Bakur/Turkey

ECOLOGY OF RELATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS: THE CHALLENGE OF INTERDEPENDENCE

Giuseppe Micciarelli, Professor of Political Philosophy and Sociology, University of Salerno, Italy

Question and Discussion with moderators and discussant

Day 2

Sunday, 6th October 2019, h. 09:00 – 11:00

Panel I “THE KEY TO SOCIAL REVOLUTION: THE WOMEN’S LIBERATION”

Moderator: Stefania Battistini, Italian Journalist
Interpretation in Italian, Kurdish, English, Spanish, Turkish

GLOBAL REFLECTIONS ON CAPITALISM AND PATRIARCHY

Genevieve Vaughan, Semiotician, Peace Activist, Feminist and Philanthropist

WOMEN'S STRUGGLE BETWEEN INTER-SECTIONALITY AND TRANS-NATIONALISM

Giada Bonu, NON UNA DI MENO's activist, Italy

WOMEN'S LIBERATION AND DEMOCRACY

Hanim Engizek , Kurdish Woman Movement, Kurdistan

WOMEN AND SOCIO-CULTURAL CHANGE

Francesca Chiavacci, National President of ARCI, Italy

SELF-DEFENCE, ROJAVA AND THE WOMAN REVOLUTION

Speech by North - East of Syria

JINEOLOJI AND THE SCIENCE OF WOMAN

Haskar Kirmizgul, Representative of Jineolojî in Europe, Kurdistan

Question and Discussion with moderators and discussants

COFFE BREAK: 11:00 – 11:15

Sunday, 6th October 2019, h. 11:00 – 13:00

**Panel II "DECENTRALIZATION OF THE POWER, DEMOCRATIC CONFEDERALISM
AND MUNICIPALISM"**

Moderator: Antonio Ragonesi (ANCI)
Interpretation in Italian, Kurdish, English, Spanish, Turkish

DEMOCRATIC AUTONOMY: A NEW SYSTEM IN ROJAVA

Anwar Muslem, Co-president Eufrate Region, North of Syria

MUNICIPALISM EXPERIENCE IN EUROPE ANT THE NETWORK OF REBEL CITY

Janet Sanz, Deputy Mayor of Barcellona, Catalogna – Spain

DEMOCRACY IN BASUR (NORTH KURDISTAN): THE TURKEY OCCUPATION

Mohammed Abdalla Awl, Co President Freedom Movement of Kurdistan of Iraq

**PROBLEMS OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE: WHATS GOING IN
BASQUE COUNTRY**

Oihana Etxebarrieta Legrand, MP's EH Bildu of the Basque Parliament, Basque
Country – Spain

MUNICIPALISM EXPERIENCE IN BAKUR/ TURKEY: THE DISMISSED CITIES

Leyla Imret, former Mayor of Cizre, Turkey

DEMOCRACY AND LOCAL INSTITUTIONS IN ITALY

Laura Marmorale, Councilor of the Municipality of Naples, Italy

Question and Discussion with moderators and discussants

LUNCH: 13:00 – 15:00

Sunday, 6th October 2019, h. 15:00 – 17:00

Panel III “TOWARDS INTERNATIONALISM IN 21° CENTURY”

Moderator: **Tommaso Di Francesco**, Co-director of “Il Manifesto”

Interpretation in Italian, Kurdish, English, Spanish, Turkish

THE LIBERATION OF THE INDIGENOUS STRUGGLES

Maribel Cervantes Cruz, member of Indigenous National Congress - Mexico

PRACTICES AND MUNICIPALISM EXPERIMENTS

Domenico Lucano, former Mayor of Riace

ITALIAN CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONALISM

Erasmus Palazzatto, Mediterranea Saving Humans, Italy

NECESSITY OF NETWORKING IN EUROPEAN RESISTANCE

Giuseppe Caccia, Activist and Researcher, Italy

ABDULLAH ÖCALAN STRATEGY: FROM LOCAL, THROUGH REGIONAL TO GLOBAL DEMOCRACY

Ferda Cetin, Kurdish journalist

Question and Discussion with moderators and discussants

COFFE BREAK: 17:00 – 17:15

Sunday, 6th October 2019, h. 17:00 – 19:00

Panel IV “AVANGARDES OF REVOLUTIONS”

Moderator: **Carmine Malinconico**, Lawyer

Interpretation in Italian, Kurdish, English, Spanish, Turkish

ABDULLAH ÖCALAN HISTORY AND HIS LEADERSHIP

Newroz Uysal, Öcalan's Lawyer

NELSON MANDELA, GHANDI AND ABDULLAH ÖCALAN

Kgabelo Solomon Mapaila, General Secretary of the Communist Party of South Africa

ALTERNATIVE TO NATION STATE: DEMOCRATIC CONFEDERALISM, MUNICIPALISM AND WOMAN LIBERATION

Debbie Bookchin, Investigative Journalist, Author

CAMPAIGNING FOR THE FREEDOM OF ÖCALAN

Giuseppe Casafina, secretariat of FIOM - Rome and Lazio- Italy

Simon Dubbins, Director of International and Research at Unite the Union, United Kingdom

Vincenzo Miliucci, COBAS

CLOSING SESSION

Conclusions and remarks

Final conference statement

