

Call for participation in a “Basic Income week”, from 15 to 21 September 2008

Contributions in the form of performances, workshops, creative events, panel discussions and scientific lectures are welcome.

The three Basic Income Networks in Switzerland, Austria and Germany as well as critics of globalization represented by attac, regional initiatives, round tables and some prominent representatives of the world of economy and science (like the owner of the *dm* chain of drug stores Götz Werner, Strabag-CEO Hanspeter Haselsteiner, economic philosopher Peter Ulrich, social scientists Lieselotte Wohlgenannt and Philippe Van Parijs) argue in favour of a Basic Income. **We therefore would like to announce the third German-speaking Congress on Guaranteed Basic Income, which will take place at the end of October 2008 in Berlin.**

With an international “Basic Income week” from 15 to 21 September 2008 we seek to call attention to the topic and increase public awareness of the issues surrounding Basic Income. This week will reflect the plurality of groups and individuals involved in a wide variety of activities: spontaneously organized initiatives, workshops, creative performances, panel discussions, and scientific lectures as well as other activities.

Our aim is to invite as many citizens as possible to discuss the idea and the introduction of a Guaranteed Basic Income. The “Basic Income Week” provides the framework for an open dialogue about the question of how social security could be guaranteed to everybody in the 21st century in the current context of increasingly global and flexible capitalism and national workfare policies.

Today’s society is challenged by a steadily widening gap between rich and poor, unemployment, and a dramatic rise of child poverty as well as social exclusion. Thus, we want to discuss different forms of social security that provide open access to social and natural resources, integrating every individual with its own creative potentials and protecting human dignity.

All performances and events will be published in a joint agenda on the Internet and in leaflets. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact the representatives of the different Basic Income Networks: office@grundeinkommen.at(Austria), kontakt@grundeinkommen.de (Germany), kontakt@bien-ch.ch(Switzerland)

Current plans: Conference on 13 or 20 September 2008 in Vienna in preparation for the Congress in Berlin; a panel discussion with Dieter Althaus (leader of the Federal German state of Thuringia), Katja Kipping (Member of the German Bundestag, Left party), Wolfgang Strengmann-Kuhn (Member of the German Bundestag, The Greens) and Werner Rätz (Attac Germany) on 15 September in the URANIA Berlin.

Please inform us about your propositions in terms of the type, date and location of your activities, contact information and a short description of what you are planning.