



programme workshop

Access to Energy - A Basic Social Right! How to abolish Energy Poverty?

Monday, 29 May 2017, from 9.30 to 15.00 in the European parliament

room PHS 1 C 51 and PHS 5 A 033

Languages: English and German

To enter the European parliament: We meet at 9.00 in front of the European parliament, entrance Simone Veil (vis-à-vis la place Luxembourg)

WiFi: EP-Visitors, username: visit0529, Password: GzRm82fu

9:30 - 9:45

Welcome & Objectives of workshop

- **Cornelia Ernst**, Member of European parliament, committee for industry, research and energy
- **Gabriele Zimmer**, President of the GUE/NGL, spokesperson for social policy and the European pillar for social rights
- **Martin Schirdewan**, Director, Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung Brussels
- **Maxime Benatouil**, Programme director transform!europe

9:45 - 10:15

Session 1: Energy Poverty - state of play and the situation in Bulgaria, Hungary and Spain

Facilitation: Maxime Benatouil, Programme director transform!europe

Question: How is the state of play of energy poverty in the EU?

- **Sian Jones (replaced by Magda Tancau)** Policy officer on energy poverty in the European Anti-Poverty Network (7min.)

Question: Situation in Bulgaria, Hungary and Spain? Which are the strategies and alliances to fight energy poverty? What are the demands from social movements and political parties?

- **Georgi Medarov**, Journalist, Bulgaria, (7min.)
- **Attila Vajnai**, Workers Party 2006, Hungary (7min.)
- **Maria Campuzano**, Aliança contra la pobresa energètica, Spain (7min.)

10:15 - 10:45

Discussion

10:45 - 11:00

Session 2: Energy democracy at the municipal and community level - ways out of energy poverty

Facilitation: Manuela Kropp, policy advisor to MEP Ernst, European parliament

Question: How can local initiatives (remunicipalization and self-generation of energy/community energy) contribute to the fight against energy poverty?

- **Eric Häublein**, Germany, Berliner Energietisch (Berlin Energy Roundtable) (7 min)
- **Rie Krabsen**, EBO, Denmark (7 min.)

11:00 - 11:20

Discussion

11:20 - 11:35

Session 3: Access to energy as a basic social right - electricity price regulations and rights of tenants

Facilitation: Martin Schirdewan, Director, Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung Brussels

Question: Why are regulated electricity prices important in the fight against energy poverty? How is it possible to combine regulated electricity prices and a growing share of renewable energy? And what do we need to do on the policy level?

- **Pablo Sanchez Centellas**, EPSU, European Public Service Union (7min.)

Question: What needs to be done to make sure that people do not get homeless because of non-payment of energy bills? How to fight disconnection and eviction? What are conditions for renewable energy self-generation for tenants?

- **Jan Laurier**, Vice President of International Union of Tenants (7min.)

11:35 - 12:00

Discussion

12:00 - 12:30

Lunch (in the same room, PHS 1 C 51)

12:30 - 12:50

Session 4: Energy Efficiency measures in buildings

Facilitation: Jean-Claude Simon, transform!europe working group on energy

Question: How can renovation measures be implemented ensuring that additional costs are not incurred for tenants? How can house owners get access to funding?

- **Clémence Hutin**, Friends of the Earth (Brussels) (5 min)

- **Genady Kondarev**, Friends of the Earth (Bulgaria) (5 min)

- **Karl Vogt-Nielsen**, Advisor for Climate, Energy and Environment, Enhedslisten (Denmark, Red-Green Unity List) (7 min)

Discussion

12:50 - 13:15

13:15 - 13:45

Session 5: Replies and Speeches by politicians

Facilitation: Cornelia Ernst, Member of European Parliament

- **Gabriele Zimmer**, President of the GUE/NGL, spokesperson for social policy and the European pillar for social rights (7 min)

- **Caren Lay**, Deputy Chair of the political group DIE LINKE. in the Bundestag (German national parliament), spokesperson for rents, construction and housing (7 min)

- **Alejandro García**, Izquierda Unida, Spain (7 min)

- **Christiane Maringer**, KPÖ, Austria (7 min)

Final Remarks:

Cornelia Ernst and Martin Schirdewan

14.00 to 15.00 Networking Reception in PHS 5 A 033 (different room!!), European parliament



workshop organised in cooperation with transform!europe