

European United Left • Nordic Green Left



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

**GUE/NGL**  
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**ROSA  
LUXEMBURG  
STIFTUNG**  
BRUSSELS OFFICE

## **Structural change - Tackle it together!** **Social - ecological - transboundary!**

### **Public conference**

**Date:** Saturday, 1 December 2018

**Time:** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Venue:** Gleis 1 - KulTourPunkt, Bahnhofstraße 76, 02826 Goerlitz, Saxony, Germany

**Languages:** German, Polish, English

Right before the 24th international conference on climate change (COP24) in Katowice, Poland, we would like to discuss how the structural change in the coal regions of the EU can be tackled and which impact the global pledges to reduce CO2 emissions and the phase-out of coal will have. Which alternative perspectives do exist for the citizens living in regions dominated by the coal sector? How can we achieve a just and ecological structural change for Lusatia and other coal regions? How can we develop a concept for structural change taking into account the different points of view and interests? Where do we find inspiring examples of successful projects? How is local and European politics required to ensure a fast ecological transition and socially just solutions? What kind of left ideas do we have to offer good prospects to the people while avoiding ecological setbacks?

During the conference we will exchange views with local politicians, trade unionists and climate justice activists coming from Saxony, Brandenburg and Poland.

You are kindly invited to attend our conference and contribute to our discussion.

### **Programme:**

**11.00 Welcome** by Facilitator Mirko Schultze (DIE LINKE, Goerlitz) and Janna Aljets (RLS Brussels)

**Introduction** by Cornelia Ernst, Member of European parliament, Left Group GUE/NGL

### **11.30 Panel 1 Proposals from realm of politics**

Caren Lay, Member of DIE LINKE. in the Bundestag (German national parliament), Germany

Thomas Domres, DIE LINKE., Regional parliament Brandenburg, Germany

Kathrin Kagelmann, DIE LINKE., Regional parliament, Saxony, Germany

Janusz Piechocki, Mayor Margonin, Poland

### **13.00 Lunch break** (Lunch will be provided at the venue)

### **14.00 Panel 2 Local initiatives against coal**

Adrian Rinnert, Citizen Initiative, Strukturwandel jetzt!, Saxony, Germany

Citizens' initiative from Brandenburg: Atterwasch or Proschim

Monika Sadkowska, Climate Activist, Poland

Isabell Braunger, Researcher TU Berlin, Research Group on CoalExit

### **15.00 Coffee break**

### **15.30 Panel 3 Controversies and challenges of structural change** (as fishbowl)

Urszula Kuczynska, RAZEM, Poland

Ruth Krohn, Climate Justice Activist

Member of German commission for growth, structural change and employment (Antje Grothus, tbc)

Oliver Heinrich, trade union IG BCE, Germany

### **16.30 Final discussion**

#### **Contact persons:**

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We are looking forward to welcoming you at our conference!

Please feel free to forward this invitation to your peers and colleagues.

***This conference is organised by the Left group in the European parliament GUE/NGL, the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung Brussels in cooperation with the RLS Saxony and the office of Mirko Schultze.***