

# Call for Participation –ERUA Manifesto Writing Workshop

## POST-EXTRACTIVIST UNIVERSITIES OF THE 21ST CENTURY

**When**

26 – 27 October 2023

**Where**

Paris 8 University

**Deadline for registration**

10 October 2023

### Description - PARTICIPANTS' MANUAL

Following a few months of preparatory work on various ERUA campuses, participants in the concluding meeting of the first cycle of ERUA activities, held on October 26-27, 2023 at the Université Paris 8, will be invited to formulate demands and suggestions fostering the transformation of our universities beyond the extractivist logic on which they remain established. (You can find [here](#) a previous document framing how extractivism is defined in this context and collecting previous proposals emanating from local groups.)

Participants are welcome in this workshop whether they have been involved in the preliminary stages or not, but everyone needs to be registered in order to participate in this concluding event ([registration is possible here until October 10](#)).

Our goal is to discuss and translate our various suggestions to improve university life into a series of concise punchy proposals which could be assembled into one or several manifesto(es) of a few pages (each). Participants will be divided in small (4-6 people) Writing Groups in order to produce brief statements (between 1 and 5 lines) expressing one idea/suggestion/demand to be included in the manifesto. These statements elaborated at the Writing Group level will be read and discussed in a plenary session, in order to be amended, sharpened, criticized, augmented, contradicted or supplemented in a second moment of Supplementary Group writing (expected to propose commentaries on previous propositions and/or to formulate new propositions missing from the first batch). After the workshop, this collection of statements will be polished and edited to be made available to a wider international public (in a paper publication and/or a website).

The workshop is organised within the framework of the European Reform University Alliance (ERUA), which comprises five young reform universities in France, Denmark, Germany, Greece and Bulgaria. There is no participation fee for participants from ERUA partner universities and travel and accommodation can be covered through the ERUA or Erasmus+ programme, depending on the arrangements of each institution.

### Agenda

In order to achieve this goal, we propose the following program for the two days of the Paris event:

**Thursday, October 26**

- 9-9:30am Welcoming coffee and Writing Group formation
- 9:30-10:15 Plenary introductory talks and presentations of the workshop (Sophie Wauquier, Kasper Risbjerg Eskildsen, Yves Citton)
- 10:30-12:30 Group study and speed writing (1)
- 1-2pm Lunch Break
- 2-2:30 Organizational feedback and possible group readjustments
- 2:30-3:30 Group study and speed writing (2)

4-6:30 Plenary readings, first reactions, comments  
6:30-8pm Cocktail dinner

### Friday, October 27

9-9:30am Welcoming coffee and Supplementary Group formation  
9:30-9:45 Organization of the Supplementary Groups  
9:45-11:30 Supplementary group study and speed writing (3)  
12-1pm Plenary feedbacks  
1-2pm Lunch break  
2:30-3:30 Plenary discussion with Stefano Harney, co-author of “The University and the Undercommons: Seven Theses” (2004) and “University: last words” (2020)  
3:30-5pm Final discussion

In order to participate, all you need is the availability to spend two days with us on October 26-27, a desire/need to think collectively about what should/could change in university life, an open and respectful attitude towards disagreement and minoritarian views, and an acceptance to be frustrated by how fast the proceedings will be paced.

Upon arrival on Thursday morning, you will be asked to register in one of the Writing Groups pre-set under the following categories: I. Transforming Studying and Teaching; II. Transforming Research; III. Transforming Publication, Collaboration and Outreach; IV. Beyond the Above, this latter category allowing everyone to propose a new topic around which to gather a Writing Group – so feel free to think ahead and come with the Writing Group topic you find most relevant, and good luck to attract participants around it!

More generally, the mode of organization sketched above is meant to provide our workshop with an empowering frame for the difficult task of collective writing, but it will be open to amendments at any point, if we collectively decide to redefine its means and goals.

Welcome to this event: we look forward to being surprised and elated by your participation!

## How to participate

**Students, teachers, researchers and administrative staff of the ERUA universities are invited to participate. The registration is mandatory (Deadline - 10<sup>th</sup> October)**

[Register here](#)

The registration deadline for the Manifesto Writing Workshop is planned for October 10th. However, we strongly encourage you to register as soon as possible. In the event of a high number of registrations, we may need to limit participation to ensure a balanced representation from all universities.

For information about **funding opportunities**, please contact your home institution's International Relations Office or ERUA Office. They can provide guidance on available resources and support for your participation in this workshop.

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