

Conference Programme

All participants are invited to attend the plenary keynotes and subsequent discussions. For those who urgently wish to discuss a specific topic, self-organized breakout sessions are possible on May 22 from 2:30 to 5:00 pm. However, the afternoon of May 23, from 2:30 to 5:00 pm, is the preferred time for such meetings.

All keynote talks will be web-streamed and video-recorded. Simultaneous translations will be made available only in Large Auditorium 1+2.

Tuesday, May 21

Self-Organized Side Events

Wednesday, May 22

3:00 – 4:30 pm Arrival of participants and registration

4:30 pm **Welcome**
Large Auditorium Armin Medosch, Austrian journalist
1 and 2 Video Presentation, Remix the Common

Opening Remarks

Barbara Unmüßig, President Heinrich Böll Foundation
The opening session and reception will be open to the public.

4:45 pm **Framing the Conference**
Large Auditorium *"Constituting the Commons in the Context of State, Law*
1 and 2 *and Politics"*
 Stefano Rodotà (Italy), Professor of Law, Sapienza University of Rome; four-time member of Italian Parliament; former member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe; and presidential candidate.
"Commons Beyond Development: The Strategic Value of the Commons as a Paradigm Shift"
 Maristella Svampa (Argentina) Philosopher, Sociologist and Political Analyst, Researcher at the Conicet (National Center for Scientific and Technical Research), Argentina and Professor at the Universidad Nacional de la Plata
Discussion with the audience.

6:30 – 7:00 pm	Break	<i>Ground Floor</i>
7:00 – 8:30 pm	"What Do We Mean by Economics and the Commons?" Silke Helfrich (Germany) and David Bollier (USA) What does a commons-based economy look like? What is the relationship between economics and the commons? What are the principles of the institutions we need for a commons-based and commons-creating economy? <i>General Discussion with David Bollier, Michel Bauwens and Silke Helfrich, The Commons Strategies Group</i> <i>Moderation: Armin Medosch, Journalist, (Austria)</i>	
8:30 pm	Reception and Dinner	<i>Ground Floor</i>

Thursday, May 23

9 – 9:45 am	Registration of participants	
9:45 – 12:00 am <i>Large Auditorium 1 and 2</i>	Framing Stream #1: Integrating Theory and Practice in the Management of Natural Commons "Natural Resource Governance: Between Revolution and Reform" Joshua Farley (USA) in Dialogue with Ugo Mattei (Italy) IUC, University of Turin and University of California, Hastings College of Law Framing Stream #2: Doing Away with Labor: Working and Caring in a World of Commons Daniela Gottschlich (Germany), Social Scientist, Leuphana University Lüneburg Framing Stream #3: New Infrastructures for Commoning by Design Miguel Said Vieira (Brazil), Phd Candidate on Intellectual Commons and Commodification, University of São Paulo, Brazil Preparing the Breakout Sessions Moderator, to be announced <i>Large Auditorium 1</i>	

12:00 – 2:30 am **Lunch break and “Commonopolis”** *Ground Floor*

2:30 – 5 pm **Parallel Breakout Sessions for Stream #1 (Nature),
Stream #2 (Work) and Stream #3 (Infrastructure)**
*Key questions for each group: What does it mean to
reconceptualize this domain as commons? How exactly
does needs-based production work?*

Each breakout session has its own assigned room.

Stream #1: Integrating Theory and Practice in the Management of Natural Commons

Hosted by Saki Bailey (Italy)

Large Auditorium 2

Throughout the world, neoliberal economic policies have had destructive effects, resulting both in the degradation of natural environments as well as reductions in fair access to shared resources.

This dynamic can be well seen in the aggressive privatization of water systems in large metropolitan areas like Berlin and Naples, which has resulted in price increases, lower quality water, reduced access to water and less democratic control. Although a flourishing anti-privatization movement in both Europe and the Global South has arisen, much of this advocacy does not have the analytical and theoretical tools to push for a paradigm shift in the economic organization of our natural resources as a commons. This stream will bring together legal scholars, ecological economists and commons advocates to develop commons-based policies and models for governing shared natural resources, especially water and land.

Methodology: The session will utilize a “snowball” and a “reversal snowball” method for facilitating discussion broken into three phases: First, we will break up into a land group and a water group, and if necessary, into additional sub-groups. The groups will prepare a summary of how the principles of the commons framework apply to the management of their resource. Second, the sub-groups will reconvene, present their experiences to one another and come up with a integrated presentation as well as a list of questions and suggestions for reworking the framework/model.

Finally, the groups will meet all together and again present their different findings, modify the model as needed, and synthesize a final document.

Stream #2: Doing Away with Labor: Working and Caring in a World of Commons

Hosted by Heike Löschmann (Germany)

Small Auditorium 1 and 2

While global development policies deprive commoners of use rights to natural commons, a new ecology of collaborative production is (re)emerging beyond markets, money and organizational hierarchies as we know them. The lines between production and consumption are becoming blurred by social practices of sharing and (indirect) reciprocity. These practices are providing innovative answers to the fundamental question of how to (re)produce our livelihoods. Yet, most of the time, they do neither recognize “the whole of work,” which means to overcome the structural division between productive work and care work (education, health, eldercare, household level, etc.), nor do they reduce embedded gender imbalances in the performance of these activities. And yet, the emerging new patterns bear the potential for a historical transformation toward a model that we could term “(re)prosumption.” It could provide alternatives to both globalized capital(ism) and “national-developmentalism,” and overcome structural causes of gender inequality and the markets externalization of care and nature services. While most trade unionists focus on the labor market and a fair distribution of available employment, the work of the future may no longer be a “product” that is bought and sold in the market, but one that can be managed as a commons.

Methodology: In the first breakout session, we will provide the opportunity to move between six thematic “speaker’s corners” where particular sub-issues of the framing keynote talk will be featured. Participants will be able to move from speaker to speaker as they choose. This will be followed by a reflection session and open debate. The second breakout session will provide working time to explore the idea of looking at the “capacity to work” as common pool resource and how it can essentially be managed as a commons.

Stream #3: New Infrastructures for Commoning by Design

Hosted by Miguel Said Vieira (Brazil)

GLS Bank, opposite HBS Building

One of the main challenges in advancing commons as a stable paradigm is to find ways to develop commons-friendly infrastructures. Many existing systems favor practices that tend to be commons-unfriendly (e.g. fossil fuel-based individual transportation) or generate negative social and environmental impacts (e.g., nuclear power and even “clean” energy sources). While some infrastructures have

progressive dimensions (using distributed networks, promoting local access), they may be minor parts of larger, regressive infrastructures that still depend upon individual transportation, centralized power grids and concentrated industrial structures. Yet there are important lessons to be learned from commons-based infrastructures such as Internet protocols, which have fostered the emergence of countless digital information commons. An urgent need of our time is to ensure that infrastructures can “by design” foster and protect new practices of commoning.

Methodology: This stream’s first session will focus on traditional, existing infrastructures in order to try and identify what features bias them for or against commoning. The second session will discuss ways to move forward: alternative approaches to infrastructure (new proposals and emerging practices) that are designed to favor commons, or that are commons in themselves.

**NOTE: This period is also reserved for those who urgently wish to convene self-organized sessions on topics of their own choosing (cf. programme view).*

5:00 – 5:30 pm	Break	<i>Ground Floor</i>
5:30 – 7:00 pm <i>Large Auditorium 1</i>	<p>Framing Stream #4: Money, Markets, Value and the Commons</p> <p><i>“Commoneering money, markets and value”</i></p> <p>Jem Bendell (UK), Professor of Sustainability Leadership, University of Cumbria (to be confirmed)</p> <p>Framing Stream #5: Treating Knowledge, Culture and Science as Commons</p> <p><i>“What if the Fear Changes Sides?”</i></p> <p>Carolina Botero (Colombia)</p> <p>Preparing the Breakout Sessions for the next morning</p> <p><i>Moderator, to be announced</i></p>	
7:00 – 8:30 pm	Dinner	<i>Ground Floor</i>
8:30 – 9:00 pm	Rhythm is a Commons, with Johannes Heimrath	<i>On the Staircase</i>

Friday, May 24

- 9:30 – 9:45 am **From Stocks to Flows to Commoning**
Large Auditorium 1 Recap of the principles of commons, by the Steering Committee
- 9:45 – 12:00 am **Parallel Breakout Sessions, Stream #4 (Money) and Stream #5 (Knowledge)**

Stream #4: Money, Markets, Value and the Commons

Hosted by Ludwig Schuster (Germany) *Small Auditorium 1 and 2*

The dominant economy is to a huge extent market-fundamentalist and money driven. It is built around unsustainable principles like extraction, competition, profit and exponential growth, and it is fueled by interest-bearing credit creation through a profit-oriented banking system. By contrast, a Commons Economy is driven by other motives and proposes a different mindset. Some commoners tend to follow a logical design of a Commons Economy beyond (artificial) scarcity, rendering money and markets irrelevant, which suggests that commons can function without money as we know it. Others focus on redefining the role of money or the redesign of money itself as a commons. But all agree that if a Commons Economy still has credit, money and markets, they will have a very different character than they have in our current economy.

The objective of this stream is to integrate the different “paths of imagination” towards a Commons Economy, and to get a clearer picture of the architecture and underlying design principles of commons-oriented allocation and provisioning systems.

Methodology: The session is split into two parts: In parallel working groups, we will first try to reimagine money as a commons and discuss how markets, money and value systems need to be modified. In the second part of the session, we will try to synthesize the different views into a holistic scenario of the commons’ economic framework and possible ways to get there. We will create a “collaborative mental map” that ideally includes a variety of monetary tools and accounts of their role within the scenario.

Stream 5: Treating Knowledge, Culture and Science as Commons

Hosted by Mike Linksvayer (USA) *Large Auditorium 2*

Science, and recently, free software, are paradigmatic knowledge commons; copyright and patent are paradigmatic enclosures. But our focus on paradigmatic examples and the language of “intellectual property” and “openness” may actually limit our imaginations about what might be possible. If we took the

commons seriously, for example, we might begin to see that copyright and patent are not just knowledge enclosures, but “modern” ways of enforcing privileges and inequalities in what may be known and communicated. Similarly, open access and use is not necessarily an emancipation, but rather a shift in control to those who own a given digital platform. This Stream will attempt to (re)consider and (re)conceptualize the free/libre/open/commons movements from a strategic and commons-first perspective.

Methodology: Both sessions will feature fast-paced interventions, debates and working breakouts. The first session will engage with the big picture: all commons as knowledge commons, and knowledge commons as commons, first and foremost. The second session will dive deeper on what a “commons-first” reconceptualization means for knowledge commons movements. The stream may generate more questions than answers, but we hope to identify some principles and provocations that will be useful to commoners in the years ahead.

**NOTE: For self-organized breaks, room options include GLS-bank meeting room opposite the HBF Building (max. 30); small conference room 1, large auditorium*

12:00 – 13:00 <i>Large Auditorium 1</i>	“Life, Meaning and Spirituality in the Commons: Towards a Cultural Paradigm Shift” Andreas Weber (Germany), Philosopher, Biologist and Author <i>Moderated discussion; moderator to be announced</i>
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Lunch break and “Commonopolis” <i>Ground Floor</i>
2:30 – 5 pm	Parallel Breakout Sessions – by Stream and Self-Organized Sessions will be held for each of the Streams, and for any breakout group that participants may wish to self-organize on topics of their choosing. Each session should focus on specific action steps for synthesizing knowledge, convening key players, advancing strategic goals, organizing institutions and/or the public, etc.
5:30 – 7:00 pm <i>Large Auditorium 1</i>	Towards a Commons-Based Society Panel with Stream Coordinators or Rapporteurs to share main insights. (CSG will prepare methodology and concrete questions.) General dialogue. Closing Session (followed by soup and quiche)

Saturday, May 25

Post-Conference Side Events

Post-Conference Side Events from 9 am to 5 pm at the HBF building, as announced here http://p2pfoundation.net/ECC2013#Side_Events

Conference Organizers

The **Commons Strategies Group** and **Heinrich Böll Foundation** are the joint organizers of this conference, which is an outgrowth of the landmark International Commons Conference (ICC) in Berlin in November 2010. That event brought together about 180 commons activists, academics and project leaders from 34 countries, and started a cross-disciplinary political and policy dialogue about the commons in diverse international settings.

Building on the energy from that conference, CSG in cooperation with Heinrich Böll Foundation has just completed a major book anthology of 73 essays on the commons that has been published in German and English. CSG principals have made dozens of presentations about the commons at various conferences, universities and public events. This Economics of the Commons Conference (ECC) is a logical next step in working with networks of commoners around the world to advance the commons paradigm.

The **Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation** has supported the attendance of some partners to the International Commons Conference that took place in November 2010 in Berlin and wishes now to continue its support by co-funding the ECC regional consultation process.

Both FPH and HBF consider the commons a key element for the transition toward commons-based economics and cultures. Both foundations focus their strategic support toward this end, either in cooperation with partners or through their own initiatives. This “cross-granting” partnership between two European foundations seeks to advance a new culture of collaboration among like-minded political actors and funders. Both foundations believe that a culture of dialogue, sharing and common programmatic approaches among grant makers is a necessity.

Remix the Commons is another partner in organizing and hosting the ECC. A Montreal-based project that focuses on multimedia communication about the commons, Remix the Commons is especially focused on how to improve public education and popular communications about the commons.