

4TH LABOUR TRANSFER SCHOOL

BUGGERRU, SARDINIA, ITALY 8-13TH JUNE 2025





JUNE 8TH 2025

10:00 - 13:00h	Travel to BuggerruMeal
14:00 - 17:00h	 LTS Intro Participants led sessions
17:00 - 20:00h	Buggerru Beach





JUNE 9TH 2025

10:00 - 13:00h	 Just transition and industrial reconversion – Workers' experiences and democratic planning The Cost of Creativity: Organizing Against Exploitation in Arts and Culture
14:00 - 17:00h	 Workers for a Just transition: Struggles and Alliances Health and Labour activism
17:00 - 20:00h	 Walk to Cala Domestica beach (return by boat)





JUNE 10TH 2025

10:00 - 13:00h	 Building Power through activism, learning from each others? (1)
14:00 - 17:00h	 Building power through activism: learning from each others? (2)
17:00 - 20:00h	Mine visit (Galleria Henry)





JUNE 11TH 2025

10:00 - 13:00h	 Workers education and workers led research Fighting for labour rights in India
14:00 - 17:00h	The many labour of social reproduction
17:00 - 20:00h	Walk to Portixeddu beach





JUNE 12TH 2025

10:00 - 13:00h	 Investigative Labour Journalism and radical publishing Labour law and activism
14:00 - 17:00h	Trade Union Power in a Time of Monsters
17:00 - 20:00h	• Buggerru Beach
Night	 Reggae from Sardinia: Bujumannu and Sista Namely





JUNE 13TH 2025

10:00 - 13:00h	 Labour foundations and activism Participants roundtables sessions
15:00h	• Departure





Just transition and industrial reconversion - Workers' experiences and democratic planning

Today we find ourselves at the frazzled end of the neoliberal mantle. We are at a Gramscian interregnum between what was status quo neoliberal capitalism and what is becoming, perhaps, an authoritarian, techno-feudal capitalism. For earlier critical visionaries like Marcuse, Gorz, Illich, and others – the technological inheritance, under the auspices of other non-capitalist values, could set us free to self-actualize, finally able to unleash the disposable time hoped for my Marx. Today, however, these past visions of the future seem like the quaint science fiction fantasies of a by-gone era, especially given the growing breach of inequality, the rise of oligarchies and neo-fascist authoritarianism, and the quickening transformation of our planet into a scorching and un-reparable climate catastrophe. What awaits us? Does the working class still matter in transitioning into another possible future? Can workers lead the just transition and industrial reconversion to more equitable, sustainable, and just ways of producing and consuming the things we so desperately need and that so many of us desire? Will we finally respect – once and for all – the rights of the more-than-human? What are the practices and proposals for hope been forged around the world today that prefigure and map possible pathways to just industrial and workplace reconversions to more sustainable and equitable modes and means of production?

Speakers: Aaron Niederman, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Germany; Luca Pizzuto, MP Sinistra Futura region of Sardinia; Ana Catalina Herrera, trade unions advisor in Just Transition, Colombia; Lili Vankó and Natasha Svabo, Central European University, CEU, Austria; Daniele Bigi, Universita' Roma 3, Italy; Michela Giovannini, Free University Bolzano, Italy.

Coordination: Marcelo Vieta, University of Toronto, Canada.

The Cost of Creativity: Organizing Against Exploitation in Arts and Culture

This panel and workshop will explore the systemic exploitation and normalization of unpaid labor in the cultural and creative sectors, focusing on the undervaluation of artistic labor as an overlooked form of value-generating work. Drawing on recent examples of art workers' organizing efforts, the session will examine how unpaid artistic labor contributes to capital accumulation while being ideologically framed as creativity or passion. We will also draw connections to campaigns such as Wages Against Housework, emphasizing the parallels between artistic labor and invisible domestic labor in the social reproduction sphere.

Speakers: Jaka Primorac, Institute for Development and International Relations (IRMO), Croatia; Ella Jones, visual artist, PhD candidate University of the Arts London, UK; Amanda Tobin Ripley, independent scholar; Ana Cvelfar, Class Struggle Collective, Slovenia; Nayanjyoti, IDEAS Jindal Global University, India.

Coordination: Katja Praznik, University at Buffalo, USA





Workers for a Just transition: Struggles and Alliances

In this panel we want to focus on strategies and experiences of alliances and struggles for a just transition. Struggles for a Just Transition for workers are rarely limited to the workplace alone or to unions. We want to hear about different experiences in building alliances for a Just Transition. How do workers and unions relate and connect with working class communities, agricultural workers, environmentalists, indigenous communities and other social movements? What are the difficulties they face and what are the successes in the struggles? Do unions, self-organized workers or working class communities take the lead and what can we learn from these struggles?

Speakers: Oscar Pineda, USO, oil workers union, Colombia; **Ana Catalina Herrera**, trade unions advisor in Just Transition, Colombia; **Greta Waltenberg**, Ver.di/Friday for future, Germany; **Rune Bennike**, University of Southern Denmark.

Coordination: Dario Azzellini, Cornell University, USA.

Health and Labour Activism:

This panel aims to share and reflect on experiences that highlight the role of workers' collective organizations in building a public health system grounded in human rights, ecological sustainability, and the collective well-being of communities worldwide. We will explore union and social movements led initiatives that seek to improve workplace health conditions and confront powerful corporate interests in the health sector. These experiences reflect the historical commitment of the labour movement to social justice and public health, and represent a vital contribution to the ongoing struggle for a truly democratic vision of *global health* — one rooted in solidarity and committed to achieving *health for all*.

Speakers: Julia Soul, Taller de Estudios Laborales and CEIL CONICET, Argentina; Ana Djordjevic, City University New York, Brooklyn College, USA; Jan Wintgens, People's Health Movement, Germany; Bill Muriuki, African Centre for Labour Activism and Development (AfCLAD) & KMPDU pharmaceutical union, Kenya.

Coordination: Patrizio Tonelli, Escuela de Salud Pública, Universidad de Chile.





Building power through activism: learning from each other

How can workers build power? What sort of organisational form is best suited to achieve this? These questions have always been central within the historical development of the labour movement and trade unionism. This extended all day panel aims to present organising experiences from a range of different countries and economic sectors, in view of establishing possible lines of cooperation and exchange on activism strategies. In doing this, We also aim to have room to raise more theoretical questions and insights in building workers' power and organization.

Speakers(session 1): Ziva Sketa and **Ana Cvelfar**, CEDRA, Slovenia; **Samee Ullah**, Lieferando, Germany; **Joe Durbridge**, IWGB UK; **Nao Argouse**, STJV, France; **Christian Veneri**, USB, Italy.

Coordination: Jamie Woodcock, KCL and Notes from Below, (UK).

Speakers (session 2): Rosalia Pellegrini, Asociación Mujeres de la Tierra (Argentina); Milan Skobic, Northeastern university and Worker' voice (Radnicki glas), Serbia; Jon de las Heras, GEZKI, Basque Country; John Paul Donnelly, IWGB, Scotland; Sergio Zorger, Free Workers Union, Germany/Rumania.

Coordination: Maurizio Atzeni, CEIL/CONICET (Argentina) and Universidad Alberto Hurtado (Chile).

Workers education and workers led research:

The aim of this panel is to explore the main challenges and opportunities of worker education and worker-led research, both of which are key themes across the LabourTransfer Summer School. Education and research are activities through which we can try to establish links between worker organisers/activists and labour researchers, as well as meet shared goals and objectives for each side. Through the critical presentation of case studies, the panellists will introduce the issues of how to do this in practice. Through discussions, we will collectively work through issues including (but not limited to): what distinguishes worker education from other forms of learning? what pedagogical tools/approaches are effective? how can researchers develop effective research collaborations with workers? what kinds of outputs can we produce? what are the ethical issues involved? and in what ways can we combine education and research?

Speakers: Julia Soul, Taller de Estudios Laborales and CEIL CONICET, Argentina; Adriana Yee Meyberg, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Germany; Francesco Pontarelli, Ca' Foscari University, Italy; Izzy Gibbin, Movement Research Unit, UK.

Coordination: Jamie Woodcock, KCL and Notes from Below, (UK).





Labour, Gender and the Global Economy in India: New Struggles and New Labour Rights Platforms

This session focuses on industrial and shopfloor grievances, labour mobilisations and new forms of global activism shaping 'workers-centred' corporate labour standards in India. The session explores these issues in highly feminised sectors, including garment and tea. The session reflects on practices of organising and/or campaigning adopted by workers, on strategies adopted by labour researchers and activists, and aims at indicating future challenges and ways forward in local and global organising in highly exploitative sectors.

Speakers: Rekha Chakravarty, CIVIDEP, India; **Arya Thomas**, South Asia University, India; **Pauline Jerrentrup**, SOAS, UK; **Alessandra Mezzadri**, SOAS UK.

Coordination: Nayanjyoti, IDEAS Jindal Global University, India.

The many labour of social reproduction

This panel aims at unpacking the political significance of the term 'social reproduction', both for analysing labour relations as well as for organizing across a variety of spaces. Indeed, there are many 'labours' of social reproduction, ranging from unpaid domestic labour regenerating life, its subsumption within household based forms of production, in the city as well as the countryside, intellectual labour regenerating the community more broadly, paid domestic labour in the home, paid labour in reproductive sectors of the economy, and so on. Whilst discussing different aspects and forms of socially reproductive work, including its 'life-making' qualities and connections to the land, nature, and/or society, the panel reflects on the possibilities, tensions, and contradictions of organizing reproductive workers, of organizing across reproductive domains, and of engaging in reproductive struggles.

Speakers: Rekha Chakravarty, CIVIDEP, India; **Rosalia Pellegrini**, Asociación Mujeres de la Tierra (Argentina); **Katja Praznik**, University at Buffalo (USA); **Maryuri Gonzalez**, ADL, Italy.

Coordination: Alessandra Mezzadri, SOAS UK.





Investigative Labour Journalism and radical publishing

This panel aims, on the one hand, to present the work currently carried on by investigative journalists on labour and workers related issues and, on the other hand, to explore the different range of publication outlets and strategies available for radical publishing in academia and beyond. Through these experiences and the discussion, we would like to identify possible areas of mutual interventions in knowledge diffusion and creation, establishing stronger collaboration between journalism, activism and academia.

Speakers: Sara Manissera, FADA collective, Italy; **Moritz Drumel**, freelance journalist, Germany; **Fabian Grieger**, freelance journalist, Germany; **Ziva Sketa**, Cedra.

Coordination: Jamie Woodcock, KCL and Notes from below, UK.

Labour law and activism

The aim of this panel is to discuss how the legal approach of labour lawyers can meet Unions needs and goals and which role strategic litigation could play. On the one hand strategic litigation has produced successful cases like in the digital platform work cases. But on the other hand the approach of the European Court of Human Rights seems to diverge with the traditional Union's strategies in crucial issues like the right to strike. Another issue to be discussed is how the Courts casuistic approach to legal disputes might interact with the Unions' need to produce, through strikes and collective agreements, the most expansive effects in labour relations.

Speakers: Daniel Weidmann, unions labour lawyer, (Germany); **Eleanor Kirk**, University of Glasgow, UK; **Fausto Durante**, CGIL Sarda, Italy; **Theresa Tschenke**, labour lawyer for unions, Germany.

Coordination: Piera Loi, Universita' di Cagliari (Italy).





Trade Union Power in a Time of Monsters

We are living in Antonio Gramsci's "time of monsters" again. This brings challenges and options for trade unions and labour struggles. This panel brings together trade unionists who represent oppressed and often disenfranchised workers across the world to report and reflect on recent struggles.

How are attacks on workers linked to the changing fabric of the capitalist world system? As far-right governments in the USA, Turkey, Indonesia, Argentina and elsewhere run riot across what we believed were long-standing iron truths of neoliberal super exploitation such as global tariff systems; what options do workers have for establishing new coalitions? How does the alleged rise of a non-western alliance with new multinational alliances of capital impact workers? How do workers fight back against extremist far-right and clerical-fascist religious movements?

Speakers: Satomi Rash-Zeigler, University of California San Diego, USA; **Angela Chukunzira**, Independent Researcher and Social Justice Advocate, Project ETHER, Kenya; **Ye Yint**, Asia Monitor Resource Centre, South Korea; **Ali Yalcin Göymen**, University of Potsdam, Germany; **Olivier Pira** & **Vladimir Nieddu**, Fédération des syndicats SUD santé-sociaux, France.

Coordination: Patrick Neveling, Bournemouth University (UK) & Stefano Bellucci (International Institute for Social History, NL).

Labour foundations and activism

This panel is intended as a forum for discussion on the logic underlying labour friendly foundations funding objectives and strategies and as a meeting place for exploring further opportunities for collaboration in joint socially relevant projects.

Speakers: Robin Koos (Otto Brenner-IG Metall); **Steffen Vogel** (Oxfam Germany); **Fabian Grieger** (Stiftung Umverteilen).

Coordination: Maurizio Atzeni, CEIL/CONICET (Argentina) and Universidad Alberto Hurtado (Chile).

