



2011 EUROPEAN YOUNG FEMINISTS CAMP NEWS

NEWSLETTER N° 2

MARCH 2011

EDITORIAL

Every week sees more discussions! The idea of meeting soon, have time to talk, have fun, enjoy each other's company and build together is exciting!

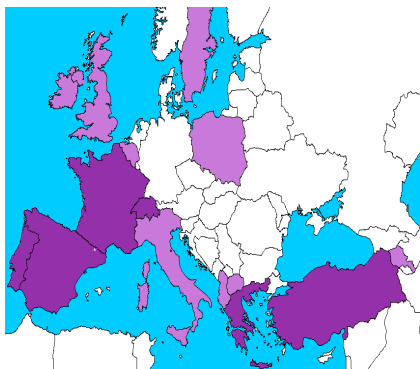
This is what has already been decided: **the camp will not be mixed and women of all ages will be welcome.** We will camp **9-17 July 2011** in a beautiful corner of South-West France.

Within the Parisian group we are striving to imagine the camp's life, to draw up the project in order to pool funding for travel expenses, hiring the site, food and also to reach out to new groups across Europe... We have started a list of what we think should be discussed: what challenges do young feminists' groups face in Europe nowadays? And we want you to tell us what YOU think! So, please do not hesitate to write to us today or to take part in the forum, in any language you want:

<http://youngfeministscamp.catchforum.fr/>

We also need your opinion about how the camp should be organised: will any young mothers need childcare? Would you prefer to walk in nature or invade public space with our claims? Who knows anything about batucada? ...

This 2nd newsletter aims at reporting on the project's progress so please circulate to all your European contacts!! See you all soon for this exciting time!



The evolution of our contacts in Europe

News Agenda :

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- 🔗 Location — Terre Blanche
- 🔗 Funding
- 🔗 Groups
- 🔗 Topics
- 🔗 Call for a Summer Camp of Young Feminists of Europe ! World March of Women

<http://youngfeministscamp.catchforum.fr/>



Location

Terre Blanche

The camp is becoming more real by the day: we now know when and where it will take place!

From 9th to 17th July 2011, we will be staying at "TERRE BLANCHE", an alternative space about 10 miles from Toulouse (see map).

This perfect location is both a nice change of scenery and eco-friendly:

- ◆ A 2 hectare area is waiting for us;
- ◆ A shared kitchen and composting toilets will be available to us;
- ◆ Multilingual discussions and workshops will take place in a room over 300 square feet, a dome over 200 square feet and a smaller 150-square-foot room.

And the icing on the cake is that this is all happening close by to a big forest and a river!

Food will be provided by local farmers, which means that all the produce we eat will be organic!

Toulouse being a big French city, it has a coach station, a train station and a European airport.

It will therefore be easy for all of you girls to come from anywhere in Europe! www.toulouse.aeroport.fr

Google map link: <http://maps.google.com/maps?q=Terre+Blanche,+31470+Saint-Lys,+Haute-Garonne,+Midi-Pyr%C3%A9n%C3%A9es,+France&oe=utf-8&client=firefox-a&ie=UTF8&hl=fr&geocode=FXnSlwIdZNoSAA&split=0&ll=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=23.875,57.630033&hq=&hnear=Terre+Blanche,+31470+Saint-Lys,+Haute-Garonne,+Midi-Pyr%C3%A9n%C3%A9es,+France&ll=43.551285,1.355438&spn=0.131131,0.308647&z=12>

Our vision of this camp is very bohemian and it is based on a spirit of freedom.

It is self-managed both for and by all of us. **Each participant will help organising it!**

Everyone will be asked to perform daily tasks (and other camp activities) and to show initiative.

We want to emphasize the European dimension of the camp, which is why we propose to celebrate each country during one meal of the week. The cooks will therefore have the opportunity to teach others to cook a typical dish, which is in line with our knowledge-sharing logic.

To this end, we invite you to think about the dish that you would like to introduce and to take with you the little something that will make the difference...



Funding

Very soon, we will submit a project to the "Youth in Action" European programme. The French group will be in charge of submitting the project with partners identified in various European countries. We will find out by mid-May if this project is accepted and if so, it will help us a lot to run the camp: it will allow us to rent out the site and to pay for some of the equipment and food for all participants... **But it will also mean that we will be able to reimburse 70% of all partners' travel expenses.** We will need an official signature as well as an estimate of the number of people who would like to come and the travel costs incurred. **However, you'll need to hurry to enjoy it: the project submission deadline is 30th March.**

Please contact us as soon as possible: mmfjeunes@gmail.com

Of course, other European girlfriends can come to the camp and participate even if they are not part of this official partnership. In the next few months, we will set up a registration system in order to make sure everyone can join. However, due to budget restrictions, we cannot guarantee financial support to non-partners...

GROUPS :

If you are interested in the camp of young feminists of Europe, we invite you to contact us as part of a group rather than individually (we can help you get in touch with people in your country). This way, groups in each country will be able to meet before hand (if they are not already activist groups) and prepare their contribution together: moderate a discussion or a workshop, teach a feminist practice... We are all interested in finding out both the challenges faced by young feminists in different countries and ways in which we organise ourselves and fight.

On the site, we will have interpretation in 3 languages (English, French and Spanish) thanks to the many activist interpreters who will come and help us. Nevertheless, we will also often have to manage by ourselves in informal moments... But if we all show open-mindedness and patience, we hope that these exchanges will be fruitful and constructive.



Topics

The Paris group wishes to discuss the following topics with you. Here they are: (and do not hesitate to comment on them);-)

Sexualities, lesbian, couple, non-couple and love issues... ?

Work and self-sufficiency issues: how to access work, receive fair wages, in acceptable working conditions... What are young feminists doing?

Instrumentalisation of feminism by various forces for racist, imperialistic purposes, etc. How can we protect ourselves against them and manage contradictions and conflicts?

Women migration issues OR international economic exploitation

Commodification of women's bodies (prostitution, surrogate mothers): aboli-

tion or regulation ?

Eradicate violence against women: how? Need for sharing practical and radical solutions!!

Contraception, abortion... Access to rights and public services; common practices within couples and families...

Feminist education: what debates exist in our different countries?

Feminism in Europe: which context – historical, cultural, geographical...

... And also suggestions for "practical" workshops:

Kick start demos? Feminist batucada!

Forum theatre: a tool to raise awareness, share and exchange.

We would like each group / country to present their concerns, main feminist debates and also the situation they faces in terms of legislation, restrictions, upcoming reforms... This could be done by creating a board for each country and will help to highlight the differences that exist through Europe. Each board can be made as we like, before or during the camp, especially for those coming from the same country but different groups. We could display all boards in a central place during the camp so it can spark off debates.

Call for a Summer Camp of Young Feminists of Europe ! World March of Women

The World March of Women is an international feminist action movement connecting grassroots groups and organizations working to eliminate the causes at the root of poverty and violence against women. We struggle against all forms of inequality and discrimination directed at women. Our values and actions are directed at making political, economic and social change. They centre on the globalization of solidarity; equality between women and men, among women themselves and between peoples; the respect and recognition of diversity among women; the multiplicity of our strategies; the appreciation of women's leadership; and the strength of alliances among women and with other progressive social movements.

In France as in Europe, we notice a neoliberal offensive, with the systematic break-in of public services to more privatization and militarization of the fortress Europe. Women are concerned firstly and their rights attacked. The growing poverty and inequalities weight mostly on women, still first responsible of families.

In view of this wave we want to get organized !

Feminist movements of the different european countries are divers, in their structures, organisation and courses of action. In all these countries, young women stand up and act to take over the feminist social movement.

We want to energize the network of young feminist in europe. We want to propose a space of meeting and political development, nice and friendly to prepare and lead together to the coming struggles.

This way, we wish to reinforce the european coordination of the World March of Women. Because the local and national struggles cannot be enough to oppose to the neoliberal global offensive, we want to reinforce the empowerment of the young feminists in Europe. We wish to be organized to be able to assume our rights, fight against injustices and build a world like us.

Women on the March Until We are all Free!



CONTACTS

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WMW Young Feminists group, Facebook profile:

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100001098814372>

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