

Father Frost against Putin 2019 - program

There might be changes. Longer descriptions of some of the sessions can be found below the full schedule.

Saturday 5th of January

11:30 AM Brunch at Happi

12:00 PM — 1:50 PM Feminist activism in Russia

2:00 PM — 3:50 PM LGBT+ movement in Russia

4:00 PM — 5:50 PM Pension reform and resistance: chronicle of the past summer

5:50 PM — 6:30 PM Cleanup in Happi, moving to Ulrika.

6:30 PM — 7:30 PM Dinner at Ulrika

7:30 PM — 9:00 PM Presentations of Finnish projects in Ulrika

9:00 PM — 2 AM Gig at Ulrika: Tekhno-Poeziya (RUS), ¥VES SAINT (FIN), Black Tile (FIN) + DJ.

Sunday 6th of January

12:00 PM — 1:50 PM

Government repression of independent print media

Presentation on antirepression projects

2:00 PM — 3:50 PM

Strategies of networking for intersectional feminist activists

Post-anarchism - a rich tendency of current libertarian thought

4:00 PM — 5:50 PM

Protests against toxic landfills in the Moscow region and the environmental movement in the North Caucasus

Local libertarian initiatives

6:00 PM Dinner at Ulrika

7:00 PM End of the event, cleanup

Detailed descriptions

Saturday 5th of January

12:00 PM — 1:50 PM

Feminist activism in Russia

In recent years women's rights have been chipped away in Russia. Several regressive laws have passed. This includes a law decriminalizing domestic violence. But feminist activism has also had successes. Tanya Kovalchuk will speak about current succesful initiatives and projects which have been happening behind the scenes.

2:00 PM — 3:50 PM

LGBT+ movement in Russia

- Current legal status of LGBT+ in Russia
- Growth in the influene of the church and right-wing forces and family values propaganda.
- Attacks against members of the community and activists.
- Main LGBT+ organisations in Russia and their activities.
- Secret prisons and persecution of LGBT+ in Chechnya.
- Passivity of the police in regards to the defence of LGBT+ rights, and police measures against activists.

4:00 PM — 5:50 PM

Pension reform and resistance: chronicle of the past summer

In mid-2018 the retirement age was raised in Russia. This was one of the largest scale anti-social reforms passed by the Russian government in the

last ten years. Even though, according to opinion polls, around 90% of the population opposed this reform, the political opposition and independent trade unions failed to organise a single massive national protest action. In this presentation, Ilya Budraistkis will discuss the social and political situation within the context of the retirement age reform, and explain why the movement opposing this reform failed.

Sunday 6th of January

12:00 PM — 1:50 PM

Moloko plus: Government repression of independent print media

Moloko plus is an independent paper, with a young audience. As of 2018, the journal and its authors have been facing increasing pressure by Russian police and the FSB and meetings and other events have been targeted by various conservative Putinist groups. In this presentation, the editors of the paper will share their experiences with repression.

Presentation on antirepression projects

Voldemar will present the international fund for defence of anarchists. This is a collective structure of support, which helps persecuted anarchists around the world, and which has ended up in difficult situations due to its political ideas and activity.

Olya will present Rupression, a solidarity structure for those campaigning for those arrested as part of the Network case. More than 10 persons are accused of joining a terrorist organisation, and threatened with prison sentences ranging from 5 to 20 years. Activists have been tortured in remand prison and during arrests. Their conditions while in remand imprisonment have been intolerable. Under pressure, the accused were forced to admit their guilt, but later due to the public campaign they were able to withdraw their testimonies.

The reason for the arrests was that they were anarchists, practiced airsoft, had legal firearms and were training survival skills. The main motive cited was that they shared an anti-fascist and anarchist worldview.

As a reaction to the criminal case, the anti-fascist community, anarchists and their supporters organised a solidarity campaign, and created various online resources to support the arrested.

2:00 PM — 3:50 PM

Strategies of networking for intersectional feminist activists

This presentation covers several strategies of cooperation amongst feminist activists online, which help to develop the movement, to react operatively in crisis situation, and also issues of feminist ethics and how communication is dealt with.

Lölja Nordik is an intersectional feminist, activist and artist from Saint Petersburg. She participates in many feminist actions, protests and meetings. She has studied in the school of participatory art "What is to be done", and authored texts on feminism, movies and culture for Wonderzine.ru Colta.ru Seance.ru TheBlueprint.ru and Interview Russia. She is the co-founder of a charity project F is for feminism, which supports women who have suffered for domestic violence. She is a member of the collective "F-letter", a horizontal collective of authors, writers, poets and theoreticians who are researching feminist letters, gender theory and feminist philosophy.

Post-anarchism - a rich tendency of current libertarian thought

The presentation will cover:

- Theoretical problems with classical anarchism, and the need for post-anarchism.
- The constructive potential of the postmodern project in terms of modern libertarian theory and practice, and what are the possibilities to resist authority in a modern, post-industrial society. How to define authority, to recognise its structure at a micro- and macro level, within oneself and so on.
- A Critique of post-anarchism: how its position on revolution (and the libertarian revolutionary project in general) could be developed further; the present outlook and historical revolutionary experiences
- Post-structuralist methodology for the reconstruction of anarchist theory, and its integration in the present, eg the intersections between anarchist theory and other theoretical approaches such as feminist, decolonialist amongst others which are also critical of authority.
- Changes in the understanding of sexuality and libertarian sexual ethics, as an alternative to classical humanism, which has resulted in a dead end in the 21st century.

The basis for this presentation are the core texts on post-anarchism written in the last 30 years, and further reading material will be provided separately.

4:00 PM — 5:50 PM

Protests against toxic landfills in the Moscow region and the environmental movement in the North Caucasus

In recent years, environmental law violations have increased in the South of Russia. Precious forests are being logged, even within the territories of national parks and nature reserves where any commercial and industrial activity is banned. In these areas, expensive and fancy mansions and cottages are being built for top Russian authorities, president Putin and prime minister Medvedev included.

In the beginning of 2018, the situation with landfills in the Moscow region became critical. Millions of tons of garbage can no longer be taken to landfills in the region. Currently Moscow trash is transported to other cities, as far as the Yaroslav, Tver and Arkhangelsk regions. Such anti-environmental and anti-social practices by the authorities is provoking protests within these regions, where new landfills have been built to contain Moscow's trash.

Local libertarian initiatives

The case of the underground cultural center SVORA in Saint Petersburg.

At the end of 2016, through collective efforts a space was founded the SVORA space in order to host various events, such as concerts and movie screenings. Members of the group have previously been involved in various DIY-initiatives: the United Help Fest and Lisi4ka festival, the Vegan kitchen projects Animals and Horizontal, as well as music projects.

Various people active in this space will talk about their initiative and the projects happening there.

AntiUniversity, Minsk

AntiUniversity is the most longstanding and general anarchist education initiative in Belarus. For over 4 years activists have attempted to find a balance between radical content and libertarian facilitation of the lessons. In this presentation, a member of the collective will discuss how the idea was born, its influence on the movement, about ambitious plans which failed and why the project has been temporarily halted.