08

Resources

How do you fit a telephone directory onto an A5 sheet of paper? We gave up, so this is a short list of the groups that are most likely to be able to direct you on to other groups and campaigns, and who publish stuff in English. If it seems a bit London biased, that's because it's where we're based. Other groups around the country will be able to tell you lots more about what's going on near them.

International Network 'Hub Points'

People's Global Action: www.agp.org

PGA - European Actions and announcements:

pga_europe_resistance-request@squat.net?subject=subscribe

PGA - European Process list:

pga_europe_process-request@squat.net?subject=subscribe

Indymedia sites: www.indymedia.org.uk

Reclaim the Streets: www.reclaimthestreets.net

A-infos int: anarchist info service www.ainfos.net

Znet: comprehensive activist resource site www.zmag.org

Anarchist Yellow Pages directory of anarchist groups worldwide http://flag.blackened.net/agony/ayp/index.html

Earth First! Journal: voices of ecological resistance PO Box 3023, Tuscon, Arizona AZ 85702, USA email: collective@earthfirstjournal.org www.earthfirstjournal.org

UK based

SchNEWS: weekly activist news sheet - c/o On-the-fiddle, PO Box 2600 Brighton BN2 OEF. email: schnews@brighton.co.uk www.schnews.org.uk

Earth First Action Update! Subscription Newsletter of actions, contacts for groups and current campaigns c/o Manchester EF! Dept 29, 22a Beswick St, Manchester M4 7HS tel: 0161 226 6814 email: efactionupdate@bigfoot.com

Social Centres Network: squatted and autonomously run social and resource centres c/o LARC, 62 Fieldgate St, London E1 IES email: londonscn@riseup.net

email list: londonscn-events-subscribe@lists.riseup.net

The Agitator! comprehensive annual booklet with contacts most radical, anarchist and direct action groups, publications and centres worldwide send £1.30 to The Agitator, c/o PO ox 2474. London N8 OHW.

Eroding Empire: gig, event, action and contact listings www.eroding.org.uk

Autonomous spaces and virtual places

56a Infoshop: 56 Crampton Street, SE17 London 56a@safetycat.org

Bridge 5 Mill (MERCi): 22a Beswick st. Mancs, M4 7RH 0161 273 1736; www.bridge-5.org

The Basement: 24 Lever St Manchester M1; 0161 237 1832; http://shortcutz.nologic.org/thebasement/

Sumac: 245 Gladstone st, Notts. NG7 6HX. 0845 458 9595; www.veggies.org.uk/sumac

Cowley Club: 12 London Rd, Brighton - 01273 696104; cowleyclub@co-op.org. www.cowleyclub.org.uk

Kebele: 14 Robertson Rd, Bristol BS5 6JY. tel: 0117 9399 469 www.kebele.org

Ace: 17 Westmontgomery Pl., Edinburgh, EH7 5HA.

www.autonomous.org.uk

Aspire: Locations around Leeds. email: info@a-spire.org.uk

www.a-spire.org.uk

1in12: 21 Albion St. Bradford. tel: 01274 734160

www.1in12.go-legend.net

Lancaster Resorce Centre: 78a Penny St. Lancs LA1 1XN. tel: 01524 383 012: www.eco-action.org/lancaster/

217 swansea: 217 High St. Swansea. tel: 01792 642404

Colchester social centre: 87 East Hill, Colchester, Essex.

tel: 0798 6565 4583

The Commonplace, (Leeds Social Centre): 23-25 wharf street, leeds. LS2 7EQ www.thecommonplace.org.uk 0113 246 8640

Groups and networks

Dissent network: www.dissent.net
Indymedia: www.indymedia.org.uk
ism-london: www.ism-london.org.uk
Risingtide: www.risingtide.org.uk
Reclaim the future: www.gn.apc.org/rts
Queeruption: www.gueeruption.org

Rhythms of resistance: www.rhythmsofresistance.org.uk Scrap the bid: www.enrager.net/features/olympics Wombles: www.wombles.org.uk (also PGA info point)

Zapatista support group: c/o LARC Noborders: www.noborders.org

This brief round-up of resistance has been put together to highlight the grassroots network Peoples' Global Action. We - a few people working from a small 'infopoint' resource centre in London - are not claiming PGA organised all or any of the actions and events listed within, only that we have been inspired by our involvement in the PGA network to listen to, and 'make visible' locally, people taking action globally...

LARC: London Action Resource Centre

PGA info point: 62 Fieldgate Street, London E1 1ES, UK **email:** info@londonarc.org **web:** http://www.londonarc.org

Worldwide resistance round-up inspired by Peoples Global Action







Global Resistance 2005: A call to action

Throughout 2005 the institutions of global capitalism will continue to meet, attempting to manage and bring stability to a system that creates war, famine and destroyed ecologies, whilst removing any sense of humanity from all of our lives.

Over recent years, meetings of these institutions have been fiercely resisted by the world's people. This resistance has also provided much-needed spaces for more localised, day-to-day struggles to converge and realise the possibilities that can be unleashed when we begin to co-operate. From these mobilisations has emerged a global 'movement of movements' that is in many ways unprecedented.

In 2005, across 4 continents, resistance to these summits will continue, attempting to learn from and build upon our collective experiences as a global movement and bring us closer to creating this other possible world that is so often talked about.

This call is a result of a meeting at the Caracol Intergalaktika, International youth camp of the 5th World Social Forum (Porto Alegre, Brazil) of people involved in building resistance to the April 2005 International Monetary Fund Meeting (Washington DC), G8 Summit (UK in July), Free Trade of the Americas Agreement (FTAA) meeting (in Argentina in November) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Ministerial (in Hong Kong in December).

It is a call for people to support and participate in these mobilisations, to show both political and practical solidarity with those actively resisting the summits, and to organise actions coinciding with these events in villages, towns and cities worldwide.

Moreover, it is a call for this resistance and these expressions of solidarity to co-ordinate and co-operate amongst themselves, to open up spaces in which we can learn from one another, from our differences as much as our commonalities.

Let 2005 be the year in which our resistance becomes truly global!

IMF/World Bank: April 16th, Washington DC USA

G8: July 2nd-8th, Scotland **FTAA:** November, Argentina **WTO:** December. Hong Kong

Dissent Network

Resist the 2005 G8 Summit

This year, the G8 will attempt to meet at Gleneagles, Scotland. Resiatance to the 2005 summit and the world system it represents is being planned by groups and networks from around the UK, Europe and beyond. Actions on issues of work, migration, war and ecology are being planned.

Here are a few of the events which have already been confirmed:

4 July: Mass Direct Action at Faslane Nuclear Submarine base - a day of action against the armed wing of Global Capitalism

6 July: Mass Blockades of the G8 Summit & much much more!

8 July: Day of action against Climate Change - Direct Action to tackle the root causes of the biggest threat to life on earth.

For more info: www.dissent.org.uk

International Call to Action vs. Root Causes of Climate Change, 8th July 2005

"Any claim to tackle climate change whilst fighting wars for control of the planet's dwindling carbon-based energy reserves is as hypocritical as it is ridiculous. We reject any market-led techno-fixes to the climate crisis by an unelected global elite. Oil fuels capitalism - there cannot be an end to global warming without an end to the system that causes it. Nuclear power is not an alternative, as it is massively wasteful and inextricably linked to the most destructive weapons on the face of the earth. We believe that anti-capitalist



environmentalists and all those committed to a sustainable, socially just world, can work together over the linked issues of oil, war, climate change, and use the G8 summit in the UK to expose the hypocrisy of the government's green rhetoric.

We are building a network of groups and individuals around the country and worldwide who can share their inspiration and ideas for concrete plans for action around energy, climate change and oil. Existing ideas for action include a Critical Mass to Scotland, a mass 'call in sick' day for those working in the oil industry and calling for synchronised mass and decentralised actions on energy profiteers in Scotland and around the globe."

(NB. On March 14th, there will be a pre-G8 climate justice counter-summit. Then on March 15th, Environment and Development Ministers meeting in London will be met by a pots & pans noise demo ('cos the climate's going to pot!)

Contact Email: q8climateaction@riseup.net

Resist the World Bank & IMF, Washington, 15th April 2005

"The April 2005 meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank will represent the 5th anniversary of major demonstrations against these institutions in the US. Again we will gather in the streets of D.C. on Ai6 to show that our resistance to these institutions and their greed only grows.

Each day people around the world people are coming together to construct a better, more just world. Not only are they demonstrating in the streets, but they are actively reclaiming their communities. In South Africa, citizens too poor to afford the privatized water have dismantled water meters and connected homes to water services. In Argentina unemployed workers are taking over the factories they used to work in and running them as a collectives. People throughout the Global South are working everyday to take back their rights to water, health, land, a clean environment and selfdetermination. Come to Washington to protest the WB/IMF and to celebrate the other, more just world that is under construction due to the daily resistance of millions of people worldwide!"

Visit www.globalizethis.org E-mail: mgj@riseup.net

Info points

The idea of PGA infopoints came from the Leiden conference of 2003. It was decided there that the most practical way to keep the European network alive and kicking was for local groups and spaces happy with the PGA hallmarks to set up points of contact where information about PGA could be propelled, with any luck, into their communities. They are currently sprinkled around the UK, Europe and - as of January 2005 - North America. For a hopefully soon-to-be-updated

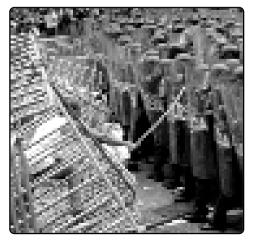
 North America. For a hopefully soon-to-be-update list, see www.nadir.org/nadir/initiativ/agp/ pgaeurope/infopoints.htm

NY joins PGA!

"We are popular educators, anti-war and Palestinian solidarity organizers, prison abolitionists, and anarchist academics - in short, we are rebels - who are working together as... Encuentro: a Peoples' Global Action infopoint in New York City.

"New York City may have Wall Street, hundreds of corporate headquarters, and the largest police force in the world, but it is also home to diverse communities, beautiful cultures of resistance, and a legacy of radical struggle. We live here in this major metropolis of the North with all of its resources (both material and cultural) and it is from here that we join PGA.

"We hope to contribute to PGA by facilitating links between local and global struggles, bringing together activists and organizations that can benefit and learn from each other's



struggles and triumphs.

"We are inspired by the principles, structures, and achievements of social movements throughout the world and through popular education hope to share these dreams, lessons, and experiences with local organizers and communities. Through salons, fundraisers, actions, and other encounters, we will open pathways of communication to strengthen our global resistance. For starters in early 2005 we are:

- * Facilitating a PGA workshop at the National Conference on Organized Resistance in Washington, D.C. <www.ncor.org> (Feb 6th).
- * Hosting a salon bringing together Palestinian and Acehnese solidarity organizers to share strategy and struggle (February 13th).
- * Throwing a benefit party for the Via Campesina Tsunami Relief Campaign <www.viacampesina.org> (March 26th)."

News from Canada

A new infopoint is being set up in Montreal PGA, Canada, to act as a support group to reinforce the links between CLAC ('Anti-Capitalist Convergence' - http://clac.taktic.org) and other regional/international movements.

'CLAC groups and their supporters already do lots of work that are within the axes of struggle of the PGA network, and also give life to a local network. Nonetheless, it doesn't seem to have links, shared between our struggles, on a larger level. The role of the support group would be to increase communication and coordination between activist actions that are in agreement with the PGA principles in North America and all over the world, but also to reinforce the presence and identity of PGA as a network of struggles; (some ideas: a radio documentary, pamphlets, articles, web page, workshops) and to participate actively in the organization of the network (new alliances, translation, fundraising, participating in organizing

Many new initiatives are taking shape in Canada over coming months, including CATAPULT in Ottawa [www.catapultcollective.org, catapult@resist.ca], and Toronto activists both wanting to reinforce their involvement.

Montreal PGA Infopoint If_gaudet@resist.ca

Snapshot of actions



Global Anti-War protests mark first Gulf War anniversary

Massive opposition to war was demonstrated in 38 countries worldwide 12 years after the Gulf war. Up to 500,000 people rallied in Washington DC on January 18 2004 to say no to war with Iraq. Speakers at the event evoked the memory of Martin Luther King in calling for a world without violence.

Protests were also held in San Francisco, with estimates of crowd size ranging from 200-350,000 people. All age groups were in attendance, and people of all colours attended the convergence. A radical anti-capitalist breakaway march militantly marched through the financial center smashing windows and graffitting the San Francisco Chronicle building, the British Consulate, CitiCorp and the Immigration & Naturalization Service building.

Love and Destroy! Protests against the G8 in Evian

The protests against the G8 Summit in Evian were strong, clear and powerful. Conferences, actions, debates and blockades took place around Lac Leman, starting from May 28 to June 3rd 2003. People converged in several alternative protest villages and took the streets in many creative and determined ways. They illustrated concerns, dissent, anger and hope, whereas the state displayed desperate efforts to silence them with a massive and often brutal police presence. More: www.indymedia.org.uk/en/actions/2003/evian/

Fluff & Spike against DSEi

"Action against DSEi started early this morning when one arms company had their doors D-locked whilst another got paintball decoration. Red paint symbolising blood was distributed over the main entrance. The CAAT march finished with speeches and before the next event "Fluffy DSEi"

blockaded the surrounding streets.

The second day activists, anti-arms organisations, students and the public, angry, both about the items on sale, the well-known human rights abusing countries invited, and the devastation caused by weapons and munitions, attempted to "Shut DSEI by any means possible". This was the day that bargaining at the DSEi arms fair began in earnest, press and public were kept out." Watch out for DSEI September 2005...

Beyond the ESF in London

The European Social Forum took place in London from October 13th-17th 2004. From the start of the organizing phase there was a clash between the so-called verticals (mainly SWP and Greater LA) and the horizontals (many antihierarchical groups). The latter eventually decided to organize their own events, under the general banner of "Autonomous Spaces", which were organized by individuals, grassroots organizations and collectives. There were discussions, workshops, films, actions and entertainment and more. For more information on the programmes, check this Indymedia archive: www.indymedia.org.uk/en/actions/2004/esf/

Within these events there was also a PGA meeting at 'Beyond ESF' on Friday 15th. In this meeting people discussed a new direct action concept of 'Chain Re-Flaction', which is based on the idea of moving beyond Global Days of Action called by the PGA network. Instead have a local action coordinated through the internet. After the action has taken place it can be discussed on the web; then another action can be organized in another country or continent in the same way. This process allows the accumulation of knowledge and experience on a global level.

PGA at World Social Forum

The PGA meeting within WSF took place in the Caracol Intergalactica space, which represented the more horizontally organized self-managed space and was held in the so-called Youthcamp. Even though the meeting was not widely publicized, it was well attended since there were representatives of PGA Latin America, PGA North America and PGA Europe.

The initial reports from different parts of the world were followed up by a realisation that there is a genuine desire to keep networking. However, further discussion concerning the more effective ways of cooperating and exchanging ideas and information. Therefore the PGA global list (globalaction@lists.riseup.net) will be revived to begin a better communication process, especially needed in the build-up to the coming global conference in Nepal.

What is PGA?

Peoples' Global Action (PGA) is a network for spreading information and coordinating actions between grassroots movements around the world who are actively fighting the destruction of humanity and the planet by capitalism, and building local alternatives to economic globalisation.

Inspired partly by the international Zapatista encuentros in 1996-97, grassroots movements from all continents gathered in Geneva in February 1998, for the first global PGA conference. This marked the launch of a worldwide network of resistance to the global market, 'free' trade and the World Trade Organisation (WTO). From Genoa to Birmingham, many of the groups and movements involved with PGA have been a driving force behind recent global 'anti-capitalist' mobilisations.

The first conference brought together over 300 activists from over 71 countries. Later that year, hundreds of coordinated demonstrations, actions and street parties took place on all five continents against the meeting of the G8 in Birmingham and

>> How is PGA organised? <<

PGA is not an organisation and has no members. However, PGA aims to be an organised network. There are info points for each region, which are responsible for disseminating information; rotating regional convenors who organise international and regional conferences; an informal support group that has been vital in the fundraising and organising of the previous conferences; a website, numerous email lists; and a secretariat.

The basis of unity and political analysis is expressed in the manifesto and hallmarks.

See www.agp.org for more background on PGA, the hallmarks and the manifesto in full.

"We do not think we can conceive of 'the movement' as a thing, as an entity which can be defined. Instead, we are thinking of the movement in terms of the moving of social relations. We are seeing examples of this everywhere,"

- Leeds MayDay group

the WTO ministerial meeting in Switzerland.

A 2nd international conference took place in Bangalore, India in 1999, and the 3rd in Cochabamba, Bolivia in 2001. There have been regional conferences in Latin America, North America, Europe and South Asia and six caravans of movements. There have also been several conferences on the issue of gender.

A network in Europe

Leiden brought together an inspiring collection of groups working on a diversity of issues, from environmental and social justice groups (ecologists of Chios Island, EF! UK and Groen Front Nederlands) to anti-military groups (CAAT UK and 12th Grade Army Refusers Israel), from workers' groups (Barcelona CGT and Sindikalisterna, a Swedish anarcho-syndicalist union) to international Solidarity groups, connecting us with Bangladesh, Colombia, West Papua, Turkey... as well as free space/autonomous zone groups, German, Dutch and French info-shops, UK and Croatian co-ops and squatting groups from all over. There were also anarchist groups like A-infos Israel, Croatian Anarchist Federation, Federation Anarchiste, "Nihilist Assault Group". AltMedia and Culture jamming groups ... Indymedia Centres, the European Newsreel, Art in Action, Adbusters group and the Tactical Media Crew.

We spent long days and sociable nights together discussing and planning upcoming actions ... the anti-NATO actions in Prague, Nov 2002; anti-WEF actions in Salzburg; anti-DSEi in London, 2003. We shared ideas about alternatives - Radical Routes (UK co-ops); Recycled Estate, a Croatian land co-op; Free Zones Europe-wide and the "European Social Consulta"; a massive outreach project. We shared information with talks on "Repression in the EU"; "Support for undocumented women"; "The war against Iraq and the US economy";

"Sustainability and the disappearing computer"; "A radical history of food"; "Using cryptography" and started strategy discussions on things like "democratic decision-making", not to mention the feared "PGA process", ie. how to structure this monster network of ours...

See over for a report from Belgrade 2004.

Resent meetings

European PGA conference, Belgrade, July 2004

The Drugaciji Svet je Moguc! (DSM!) coalition was the European convenor of the third European PGA conference. While many of the groups that made up DSM are still active, the coalition itself has now dissolved. Back then, it described itself thus:

'DSM is a group of groups, collective of collectives united under the slogan "Drugaciji Svet je Moguc!". Together, we are striving to create a new political space unaffiliated with political parties or the so-called nongovernmental sector. This new space prefers direct political action to generally accepted forms of engagement, such as lobbying or voting.'

www.pgaconference.org/call/en_call.html

Plenty of good stuff came out of the conference: there were many interesting innovations regarding PGA structures in Europe, as well as a possible reformulation of the global day of action as a 'global estafette', or 'torch of rebellion'. Also, new infopoints were created, a new collective (Wob Marley) was willing to organize a winter meeting (http://pgaconference.org/_winter2005/) we

supported enthusiastically the plan for a global PGA conference in Nepal, and we tried, with some success, the model of a spokescouncil to reach collective decisions.

On the downside, some problems of the conference were: Eastern European outreach (not so many activists from Eastern Europe, certainly less then we expected), and some weak points in the logistical preparation of the conference. Another problem was the lack of people from ethnic minorities. The constant threat from fascist groups was eased by the actions of our excellent security, who also had to deal with the defacing of the 'queer space' and 'gender day' posters. The security was renamed the "Emma team", to make it less macho and more effective.

PGA has since its inception been based around actions, and at this conference there were significant discussions about, among others, "No Borders", what to do to oppose the G8 in the UK, how to engage with the London ESF in October 2004, and how to support the Venezuelan social movements during the latest onslaught on their revolution.

Vegan and vegetarian food was provided by the local Rad collective, a cooperative kitchen which needed this work in order to survive and resist privatisation. Mixed with our own "autonomous kitchen", this meant we had a near-perfect combination of local solidarity and self-sufficiency. And Serbian beer is excellent.

Workers from 7 local factories met on the PGA site with fellow workers from Greece and elsewhere. People attended the striking electricity workers' protest. Rhythms of Resistance samba

band and the Roma combined to play music. We visited a group of 200 Kosovan Serb refugees, forgotten and ignored by the UNHCR and unvisited for two years. And there was a showing of the "Erased" ("rubbed out") from Slovenia. There was an excellent gender day with participation of a good number of post-Yugoslavian feminist and gay and lesbian groups.

As for the mainstream press..."Almost all front-pages of Serbian dailies were full of



Upcoming meetings

pictures of rioters (from Genoa and other places), saying that 'Peoples' Global Action is training the workers, giving them tips how to block roads and deal with police...." wrote a DSMer. "PGA is, according to right-wing press, 'behind all demonstrations in Serbia.' Visibility, heh? But, more seriously, this could turn out to be a very dangerous game. We'll see." Latest reports speak of an uneasy calm in Serbia, but fortunately not the repression that some predicted.

See also: A PGA Conference report, pix and comments: www.indymedia.org.uk/en/2004/08/295904.html

4th PGA International Conference: 5th-12th October 2005 Haridwar, Uttaranchal, North India

The objectives that we propose for the global conference are:

>> Contributing to the consolidation of regional PGA processes.

>> Planning in-depth exchanges between movements in different regions, in particular about the construction of decentralised and alternative livelihoods and social relations as alternatives to capitalism.

>> Define a plan of action and strategies of struggle, including Global Days of Action against Capitalism, especially before and during the upcoming WTO ministerial conference.

>>Revitalising a collective discussion about the global PGA process, alongside the consolidation of autonomous regional processes.

>>Promoting gender work within each organisation and within PGA as a whole.

>>Creating a PGA women network and introducing masculinity work at global level.

The convenors of Asia, chosen at the last regional conference in Bangladesh are:

Asian Convenor: All Nepal Peasants, Association (ANPA), Nepal South East Asian Convenor: Assembly of The Poor, Thailand South Asia Convenor: Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU), India

This conference was initially going to take place in Nepal, hosted by ANPA, but due to the outrageous coup d'état and dictatorship recently imposed by the King, the venue had to be shifted to North India, near the border with Nepal. The Indian Coordination Committee of Farmers, Movements (ICC) has taken on the task of hosting the conference.

We are holding the conference near the Nepalese border in order to make it possible for conference delegates to visit Nepalese movements after the conference, in case the conditions allow. Nepal is undergoing a very interesting pre-revolutionary situation, due to the combined efforts of many different grassroots movements. Many of these movements are eager to meet the delegates of the PGA conference. Therefore, if the security conditions allow, ANPA and other movements will organise a visit to Nepal, and if that is not possible, there could be a solidarity action at the border. We therefore advise all participants to leave some days free after the conference.

Please send applications by e-mail to:

pga-4globalconf@riseup.net before the 2nd September.

(Organisations that need help with travel costs should send before the 20th August.)

