



Another **Europe** is in the **Making**.

## #EuropeanMay concept for the European elections

### 1. What is European May?

**Another Europe is in the Making.** Under this motto, European May organises a transeuropean set of creative, disruptive, non-violent local actions online and offline in cities across Europe on symbolic dates from the 1st till the 9th of May. These aim at showing that there are people and social movements all over Europe transforming and re-creating Europe from the bottom up.

### 2. Who is behind it?

**European May is organized by a transeuropean collective of activists** who are connecting people, grassroots initiatives, social movements, and unions across the European continent.

The collective is working in alliance with **The European Moment, European Alternatives, The European Collective, Citizens for Europe**, and seeks synergies with other existing trans european networks such as the **Europe We Want alliance** (30 European NGOs supporting human rights, environmental and social justice, feminism), **Another Europe is Possible, Krytyka Polityczna** and the **Transeuropa Caravans**.

### 3. What is aimed for?

European May aims:

- **to send a strong message** to the general public, the media and politicians that Europe is not one of borders, racism, inequality, corruption and division, ruled by the few from above, but one of people, struggles and visions for a better future for all of us, fought for from the bottom-up.
- **to get out the vote for progressive candidates** and influence the outcome of the European Elections; not calling out to vote for specific parties or candidates.
- **to synergize with other local and translocal struggles** and support their actions when they are in line with the values and narrative of European May.

### 4. What makes European May different?

- National and transnational demonstrations will be planned a week before the Elections on May 19th, a classical and important way to engage people on the streets in numbers; European May feels the need to do more and offers to take part in performative and creative actions, on the first week of May around major symbolical dates.
- European May is genuinely transnational, volunteer-led and grassroots-led, working in alliance with organisations that are well connected with local initiatives as well as with larger European NGOs; we do not work alone and want to organize the days of actions in effective synergies.

## 5. What is planned?

The first week of May is the opportunity to organize transnationally coordinated actions on symbolic dates that resonate with the many. In cooperation with already existing initiatives, decentralised groups of people in cities join and organize one or more transnational actions, and choose between different action-models, depending on their context, their size, their motivation and their capabilities.

Everyone can make it, everyone can send a message of hope, get others to reflect on the Europe that was and that should be. The series of offline actions proposed emerged from discussions within the transeuropean collective and matches a series of messages we would like to push and engage with ahead of the European Elections. **Join us in making them happen!**

### OFFLINE ACTIONS

<p><b>1st May</b> <b>International Workers Day</b></p>	<p><b>The core message:</b> <i>Workers are currently trapped in a race to the bottom that creates downward pressures on wages and working conditions, both in Europe and globally. New forms of exploitation, inequality and environmental injustice are on the rise across the continent. Multinational corporations and bosses are using the division and disenfranchisement of the working class made possible by the nation state. This can only change if workers organize transnationally.</i></p> <p><b>The proposed action:</b> We are currently in touch with trade unions and grassroots groups for designing the appropriate action (in addition to the traditional labour day demonstrations) on this busy day.</p>
<p><b>4th May</b> <b>Open Borders Day</b></p>	<p><b>The core message:</b> <i>We declare free movement as a human right, a right for all. No human being chose the place where they were born. Instead, every person should be recognized as having the right to choose where to live and to stay.</i></p> <p><b>The proposed action:</b> We go to places formerly occupied by hard borders and “fake” re-introduce them. This can be done, for example, at ancient medieval city walls, at the former Iron Curtain, or at national borders recently demilitarized by the Schengen agreement. We re-erect physical borders and border controls, we ask for fake proofs for crossing them, and we apply “racial profiling” to those who never experience it (white people, men, people in expensive cars).</p>
<p><b>5th May</b> <b>Art, Science and Education Day</b></p>	<p><b>The core message:</b> <i>We declare that art, science and education across Europe must be free and oriented towards the common good. In Hungary, the Orbán government recently forced the closure of the CEU. In other places, universities, theaters and laboratories are increasingly driven by market demand rather than the common good, and cultural and educational workers are often living in or in increasing precarity.</i></p>

	<p><b>The proposed action:</b> We will symbolically close universities and cultural spaces, reminding the importance of the crucial role of art, education and science for the common good play in Europe.</p>
<p><b>8th–9th May</b> <b>End of Fascism Day</b></p>	<p><b>The core message:</b> <i>The normalization of the far-right discourse in mainstream politics opened the Pandora box for hate and violence against the “Other” in all parts of society. It is time to go draw the red line for ourselves - personally and collectively - and commit to take an active stand against all forms of oppression.</i></p> <p><b>The proposed action:</b> We organize a massive performance standing still on public spaces in multiple cities with each one of us holding a red thread – the red thread symbolises the line we draw once and for all against fascism, racism, sexism, xenophobia, nationalism, and attacks on grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and religion.</p>
<p><b>9th May</b> <b>European Democracy Day</b></p>	<p><b>The core message:</b> <i>We declare that political decisions must be made by genuinely democratic structures, owned by the people. The Sibiu summit will be the occasion to demand a real democracy that goes beyond both national borders, and that re-think representative, vertical decision-making structures to be more decentralized, deliberative and close to people in Europe.</i></p> <p><b>The proposed action(s):</b> We organise alternative summits, showing that alternatives for the renewal of democracy do exist. We cooperate with theaters and cultural actors to organise assemblies in public spaces asking for creative and systemic change in the way we govern ourselves.</p>
<p><b>19th May</b> <b>Transnational demonstrations</b></p>	<p><b>Why mobilise on that day?</b> <i>On that day, transnational demonstrations are going to be organized by Campact in Germany and OPEN and WeMove.eu in 7 other European countries.</i></p> <p><b>The proposed action:</b> We will join transnational demonstrations and hold posters with messages that promote intersectional solidarity between all people living in Europe. We will promote the demonstrations in our actions and online as well as through our networks.</p>

## ONLINE ACTIONS

Throughout the week and before, a **strong online communications campaign** will relay the messages and events that will take place throughout the week.

- Calling out to vote for progressive candidates, promoting values of solidarity and equality
- Making visible initiatives that are fighting fascism, for social and environmental justice, and for democracy across Europe: catalogue with 13 questions aiming at showing intersectional connections between struggles: economy and race, migration and climate, etc.

## 6. What are the milestones of the project?

- **February – March:** during this phase we will engage existing networks to offer them to organise the proposed actions in cities across Europe
- **February 28th:** at least 12 countries (one city per country minimum) have already groups active towards the organization of actions within the first week of May action formats are set and general public is engaged in the actions
- **March 21–24th:** European May collective meets in Warsaw for a transnational mobilising organized by European Alternatives to make final plans for the actions in May
- **March 31st:** at least 20 countries, incl. 4 non-EU (one city per country minimum) have already groups

## 7. How to join?

Join us in making those actions possible. Coordinate or organize with us on one or several of the days of action: e-mail Marius, [marius@europeanmay.eu](mailto:marius@europeanmay.eu), or Martin, [martin@europeanmay.eu](mailto:martin@europeanmay.eu).

For more information about European May, please go on our website [www.europeanmay.eu](http://www.europeanmay.eu) or on our Facebook page [facebook.com/europeanmay](https://facebook.com/europeanmay)