

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



inter alia
Inspiring social change

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I N T R O D U C T I O N

We are pleased to present our organisation's Annual Report. Inter Alia began as a recognition of shared ideas and concerns. It was founded in 2013 in Athens as an independent, non-profit organisation by Nikos Papakostas, Nikos Pasamitros and Boyka Boneva, a three-member team with a background in Political, Social and Financial Studies, striving to create spaces for citizens and communities at the local and European level to share knowledge and expertise, and to develop transformative civic action. Inter Alia's work is based on three fields:

a. [the Roots School of Critical and Explorative Learning](#); b. [the Heart Point of Civic Intervention](#); and c. [the Bloom Space for Culture and Arts](#). Under these pillars fall the organisation's activities, which are designed and implemented according to strategies developed on the axes of [Culture & Arts](#), [Education](#), [Youth](#) and [Political Engagement](#).

This report is a reflection of our efforts over the past year and an overview of the milestones we have achieved. We have had a successful and productive year, with expanding our team being one of our most important accomplishments. Our commitment to democracy, inclusiveness, pluralism and the growth of our organisation remains steadfast. This report highlights our successes over the past year, including our efforts to [inspire social change](#). We also provide an overview of our financial position and our operational progress. We are grateful for the continuing support of our [Advisory Board](#) and the [Council of Members](#), and we look forward to expanding even more in the coming year.

INTRODUCING THE THREE STREAMS OF WORK

Inter Alia's work falls under three pillars:



Roots School of Critical and Explorative Learning

The path to democracy crosses over with our ability, as community members, to make informed decisions about public affairs that affect our lives. Informed decisions depend on applying a critical perspective on the social, political and economic structures that underlie our societies. Roots School of Critical and Explorative Learning promotes transformation in education and society through the cultivation of reflective and solution-seeking thinking about political, social, economic and environmental issues. As a transnational, community-based training centre, Roots School applies learning methods which are based on participation, experimentation, inclusivity and reflexivity.



Heart Point of Civic Intervention

Effective civic participation means being able to shape decisions that affect our lives. This ability, however, is not given: it has to be built, then translated into action. Heart Point of Civic Intervention is the space where collective needs, concerns and demands are articulated and voiced in public. It is a cross-border activism and organising hub where public actions and campaigns on heartfelt issues are designed and collective capacities, as well as individual skills, are developed and tested.



Bloom Space for Culture & Art

Bloom Space constructs inclusive, community-owned spaces for cultural interaction at local and transnational level. Hosting work in the fields of arts and culture, it supports self-expression within communities' cultural life and questions authorised discourses of culture that serve exclusivist agendas. Bloom Space explores and brings to the fore fresh ideas and narratives while reflecting on the role of art and culture as spaces for cultivating individual and community agency and self-awareness.

2022 IN A FEW SENTENCES

We are proud of this Annual Report. For us, it is more than a reflection of our efforts over the past year, more than an overview of the milestones we achieved. It is proof that our organisation is increasingly autonomous, resilient to stressful conditions of competition for resources and project work. Using the abundant trust of our donors, we have managed to grow our team, financial resources, beneficiaries and audience, while experimenting with new work structures, decentralising responsibility and mainstreaming collaborative planning. By enhancing internal democracy and encouraging ownership over the organisation's development, we have continuously explored the emancipatory effects of work in the third sector.

Working patiently with colleagues, advisory bodies, and consultants, in 2022 Inter Alia rebranded. This affected our public image and communication in two ways. Firstly, our different activities started flowing into three streams of work: the Roots School of Critical and Explorative Learning; the Heart Point of Civic Intervention; and the Bloom Space for Culture and Arts. The new structure offers continuity and helps us define our ambition and aspired impact on solid ground beyond the fluidity of project work. Each action is a stepping-stone to wider transformative processes, rather than an end in itself. Secondly, we introduced a new logo and visual identity. The new Inter Alia logo aims at capturing complexity through simple and clean lines. The circle adds the feeling of wholeness and orderliness to the minimalist artichoke. The colour gives a fresh look to the logo, while it incorporates the green of the plant and the blue of the previous Inter Alia logo, thus capturing the progress made by the organisation, yet connecting it to its defining past.



2022 IN A FEW SENTENCES

At the end of 2022, Inter Alia's office buzzed with the energy of approximately 15 people. The permanent staff grew by two; Elina and Hara coordinate external and internal communications for the organisation. Moreover, our first post-COVID volunteers and interns have been contributing immensely to the outreach of our work, in creating more space and adding to the cultural diversity of the team. Finally, the two new bodies of Inter Alia, the Advisory Board and the Council of Members that were formalised in late 2021 have gained speed. A series of fruitful and rich meetings have produced new inputs on the organisation's structure, priorities, public communication, partnerships, and projects.

In 2022, we were increasingly outspoken and assertive in local and transnational struggles. As Greece and Europe slide into authoritarianism and spaces for true exchange are scarce and under attack, Inter Alia has stepped up its advocacy action and its connection to movements, civil society actors and alliances at all levels. We have taken part in campaigns, published and opined on political developments and organised grassroots actions to an unprecedented extent. In fact, it is the least we could have done in such ominous times.

We remain committed to workers' rights. We take pride in the fact that our vivid work life does not come at the expense of personal development. More than half of Inter Alia's staff were in postgraduate programmes in 2022. This new knowledge and expertise fed back to the quality of the work of the organisation.

The following report highlights our successes over the past year in line with our underlying ambition for a transnational civic space based on powerful communities and individual agency. We also provide an overview of our financial position and our operational progress.

We are grateful for the continuing support of our members, volunteers, interns and advisors. None of this is possible or relevant without you. We look forward to deepening our relationship further in the coming year.

On behalf of the Inter Alia team,

Boyka Boneva, Nikos Papakostas, Nikos Pasamitros



02

ACTIVITIES



inter alia
Inspiring social change

Workshop's Title	Discussion with primary school students on civil society and non-governmental organisations
Dates	22 February 2022 (Athens, Greece)
In the context of a project on civic education, we were invited by a teacher at the 7th Primary School of Gerakas to present to pupils in Year Six basic concepts related to civil society organisations (CSOs) and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). I answered their questions on civic engagement and the function of the third sector. They were particularly interested in the way an organisation can be financially sustainable and opportunities for mobility.	
Participants	45



Youth Pool Online Meetings	
Dates	10 March 2022, 24 March 2022, 5 April 2022, 19 April 2022, 23 May 2022 & 30 June 2022 (online)
<p>This year, Youth Pool gave participants more flexibility to explore, to decide how they wish to use Youth Pool's digital space and tools for making changes, and to become more community-active. The methods developed in the context of Youth Pool 2021 were available online for any participant to use, experiment with, and question. In this sense, although there was an initial structure based on Youth Pool 2021, participants engaged with the content and context differently. This had its challenges but also its benefits for empowering and inspiring participants taking the initiative to decide how they would like to use the Youth Pool digital space.</p>	
Participants	15



PERSE - Think about our history - POP UP LAB	
Dates	13 March 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>The lab travelled to Athens, engaging over 20 participants from diverse backgrounds to explore the concepts of identity, privilege, and otherness. Through the use of coloured paints, they created a collective canvas and held a discussion on the process of collective identity-making. Pantomime, word games, movement in the space, poem, and collage are some of the techniques used to invite the participants to interact and reflect more vividly about their condition of living together.</p>	
Participants	20



Training Course – Youth Going Live	
Dates	26 March – 5 April 2022 (Ziguinchor, Senegal)
Participants shared and compared their understanding of the main topics of the training course and developed skills and competencies in new non-formal methods by experimenting with alternative educational techniques. In addition, due to the international setting of the training, participants' inter-cultural competencies were strengthened.	
Participants	30



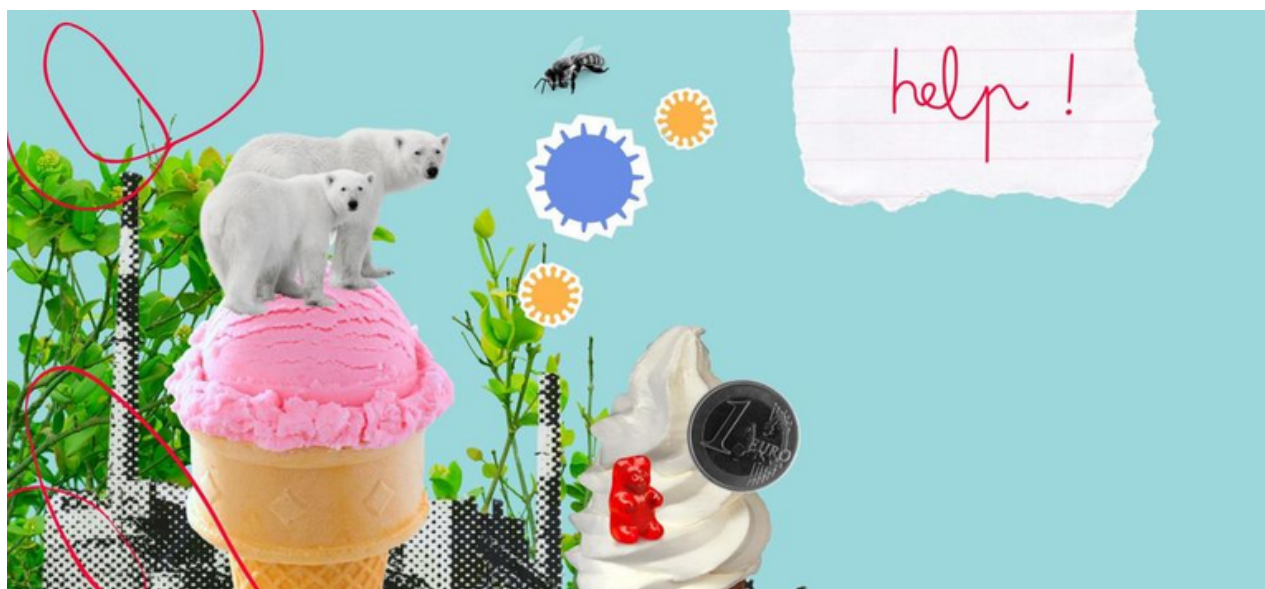
ANTYGONE TODAY	
Dates	9-18 April 2022 (Athens, Greece)
Based on the use and study of classical ancient drama as a tool for identifying problems and discovering space for solidarity and reflection on contemporary European problems, and starting from Sophocle's Antigone, participants were introduced to various theatre and improvisation techniques, body movements, and a series of non-formal learning activities in order to widen their horizons and get better acquainted with their own feelings and emotions.	
Participants	60
Audience	60



Workshop's Title	Workshop on housing and wellbeing
Dates	27 April 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>In a two-day virtual participatory workshop we used the Futures Lab method to identify current trends, deconstruct and reconstruct new narratives for nature-based and collective housing solutions. There were 14 participants in total, ranging from 18 to 70 years old. Some of us knew each other from before and others of us met for the first time. We came from different local realities and parts of Greece (Thessaloniki, Ioannina, Patra, Kalamata, Athens, Syros, Crete) having experienced different types of housing (urban apartment, single family home, eco-community, traditional eco-cabin, camping tent, squat, sailing boat, temporary dwellings after catastrophic events, snowholes). The workshop was an invitation to speak about the things that we usually keep to ourselves or that we do not even consider, and to meet new people with similar interests. It was a seed for personal and social transformation. There is an article in Greek about the event (https://interaliaproject.com/building-collective-housing-visions/). The english version of the article will be published in the Housing for Degrowth blog.</p>	
Participants	14



Workshop's Title	Socio-ecological Transformation
Dates	27 April 2022 (Online)
This online workshop invited participants to explore the connections between our socio-economic and ecological systems and to question dominant worldviews on sustainability and well-being. Participants reflected on their personal decisions and actions, as well as discovering conflicts within green policies and related political debates. The workshop intended to help us decolonise our imaginations and move beyond the imperative of growth as a means to have a good life.	
Participants	5



Youth Going Live - Art Residency	
Dates	4-18 May 2022 (Lomé, Togo)
<p>The cycle of residencies begins in Togo with dance, music and the batik technique. Artists and performers from Bulgaria, Greece, Poland and Senegal met in Lomé as guests of Acet-Togo. The participants were asked to co-create a performance capable of communicating the collective identity of the working group while showcasing the unique mix of their artistic qualities. In less than a week, the invited artists created a full show that was presented as part of the local dance festival and will travel to Greece next autumn as part of the Youth Going Live Awareness Festival Programme.</p>	
Participants	8



Youth Going Live - Theatre Residency	
Dates	12-28 May 2022 (Targovishte, Bulgaria)
<p>Artists from Europe and Africa took place in the Theatre Residency hosted by Open Space Foundation in Targovishte, Bulgaria. In the two-week period they worked, lived and created together. The final performance was titled "Youth Going Active", with guest actors from Greece, Poland, Nigeria and Rwanda taking part in its creation and presentation, along with professionals from the National Puppet Theatre Targovishte and young members of the local theatre club. A non-verbal act presenting the questions and doubts that leave contemporary youngsters sleepless, the performance was by and for young people featuring their music, dance, choreography, and hopes.</p>	
Participants	14
Audience	150



Telling Stories Together for Change - Training Course	
Dates	15-20 May 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>The second Future Narratives training course in Athens aimed to empower young people through the understanding and use of storytelling and literature as part of a community. During the training course, participants developed key competencies on how to frame and share their personal story better, using their body and voice and involving their heart. We experimented with a holistic approach and invited participants to experience the city of Athens having these aspects in mind. They independently explored how to develop community stories and use video to construct a narrative that reflects their experience together. At the end of the training course, participants were asked to think about the future and imagine themselves as members of a community. The final open event was organised at the Goethe Institute of Athens and it was one of the highlights of the training course. Participants asked to share their video stories to the public; they happily came on stage and afterwards interacted with the public. Check out the photo journey on our website.</p>	
Participants	20



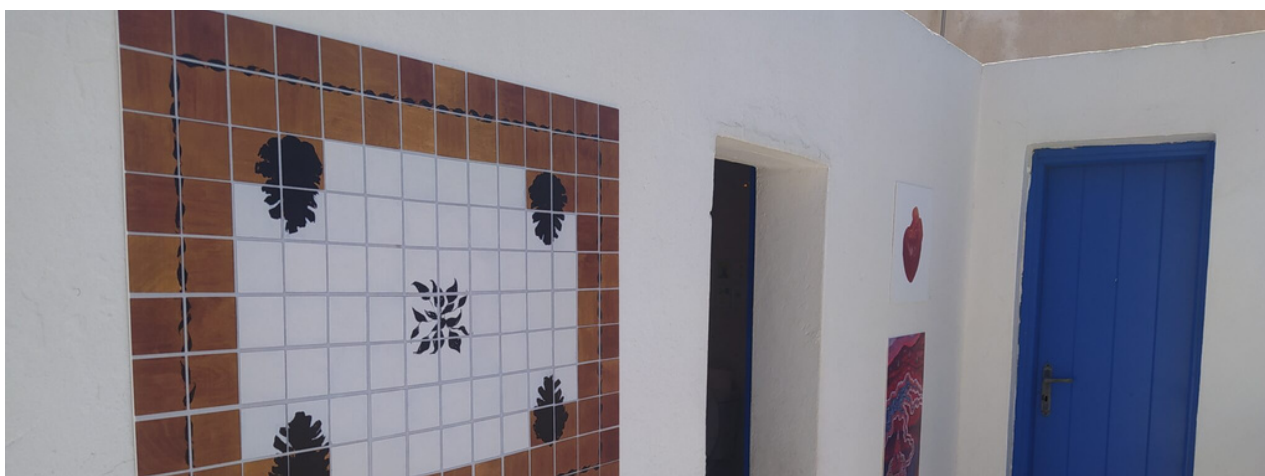
Future Narratives – Multiplier Event	
Dates	19 May 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>The Future Narratives training course in Greece ended with an open event that was organised at the Goethe Institute of Athens. We asked all participants at the event to state what community is for them and what a good life means to them. After presenting the outcomes of the Future Narratives project, the work that was done during the training course in Athens, and the participants' creations and interventions, Stratis Vogiatzis from the Caravan Project made an inspiring presentation about the importance of storytelling and how stories speak to other stories and form new realities.</p>	
Participants	40



Workshop's Title	Seeding for Future
Dates	22 May 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>Inter Alia hosted an interactive activity to raise awareness of the connection between sexism, racism and the ecological crisis, and to explain why it is important for the ecological movement to have an ecofeminist vision. We co-organised this activity with Seeding for Future, a team of seven ecologists going on a European tour facilitating workshops, raising awareness, looking for initiatives on environmental issues, exploring alternatives and inspiring people.</p>	
Participants	14



ECHO II Kythnos Island Event	
Dates	21-22 May 2022 (Kythnos Island, Greece)
<p>This May ECHO II travelled to Kythnos Island. In Kythnos' beautiful "Chora", a two-day event honouring the artistic creation of ECHO II and cultivating mindful communities took place. Prints of the artworks created during the ECHO II art residencies were presented in the primary school in Chora. Visitors had an exhibition walkthrough and got a taste of the work of ECHO II. Beyond that, Kythnos is also a place in transition and home to an impressive Drystone Walling tradition. Kythnos DryStone was presented through the eyes of a local drystone artisan, a folklorist, and an art historian. A lively conversation followed the presentation, with locals expressing their fears and intentions for the preservation of the Drystone traditional art. The programme closed on the second day with visits to the folklore museum and the healing spring baths.</p>	
Participants	50



Activity's Title	Energy Day Introducing an Alternative School Routine (Film4Energy Challenge - Winner (ACT GREEN))
Dates	22 May 2022 (Kalamata, Greece)
<p>The 5th Gymnasium of Kalamata won first prize at the Film4Energy Challenge Video Competition, a project initiated by DG ENER at the European Commission (EC). Inter Alia was invited to offer a full day of training on energy efficiency to some of the students at the school. Using as a starting point misinformation and fake news about environmental issues, students discussed greenwashing and its impacts on our perception about climate change. The training introduced ways to be more energy efficient and address energy waste in the students' everyday lives. Local policymakers were also invited to congratulate the students who won the competition. And finally, the participants designed posters to campaign for energy efficiency and sustainability.</p>	
Participants	14



Training's Title	Rethinking Migration
Dates	22-28 May 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>Is there something unprecedented about the recent refugee flows in Greece and Europe? How is migration connected to police accountability and the rule of law in the country? How have organised civil society and grassroots actors been involved in refugee reception and integration? What are the main advocacy claims on the part of civil society? Through lectures, workshops, field visits, screenings and group work, the Inter Alia team in collaboration with distinguished guest speakers placed these questions in an intersectional context. A team of 30 postgraduate students, activists and researchers inquired about the role of gender and age as crucial identity markers that define migrants' and refugees' individual experiences as well as their prospects of settlement and integration. The prevalence of politics and political will over administrative questions were flagged as a key factor for putting forward sustainable, humane and decentralised policies.</p>	
Participants	32



European Academy on Youth Work – Youth Pool presentation	
Dates	31 May – 3 June 2022
<p>The Second European Academy of Youth Work gave emphasis to learning about the mechanisms that can spark, sustain and support innovation in youth work as a response to the challenges and fast-changing realities faced by societies and young people in Europe. Youth Pool was presented during the session called "Looking at innovative practices with a focus on going digital, staying human?". Our initiative was presented together with another initiative from Sweden by Awesome People. Through our presentations, we aimed to inspire the audience to think about the culture of innovation which we wish to promote as youth workers. With the Youth Pool intervention, we focused on social innovation, with collective youth participation and community engagement as key tools for social transformations and youth wellbeing.</p>	
Participants	30



Advocacy for Youth Employment Transnational Training Course	
Dates	11-18 June (Athens, Greece)
<p>The programme offered a space to learn about community organising, campaigning and the structural problems concerning youth employment with participants coming from four European States. During the six working days, participants linked their personal experiences to the topic of the training course by assessing their own oppressions and privileges, practiced public relationship-building, and created four campaign plans.</p>	
Participants	18



Youth Going Live – Music Residency	
Dates	25 June – 11 July 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>The Summer of 2022 found us hosting six talented musicians in Athens. This was one of the art residencies organised as part of the Youth Going Live (YOUGO) project and was hosted by Inter Alia. Over the past year, performing artists and musicians travelled to Ziguinchor, Lomé, Poznan, Targovishte and, finally, Athens to co-create and produce original performances inspired by local cultures and customs. We met musicians, dancers, actors, drama coaches, choreographers and, more importantly, we created networks of people, artists and youth workers looking to make changes in their communities. We are thrilled to be welcoming all these amazing creatives to Athens this November to celebrate their journeys and get swept off our feet watching their final performances.</p>	
Participants	10
Audience	70

Over the past year, performing artists and musicians travelled to Senegal, Togo, Poland, Bulgaria and, finally, Greece to co-create and produce original performances inspired by the local cultures and customs. During 2022, we met musicians, dancers, actors, drama coaches, choreographers – but more importantly, we met the people welcoming them, taking care of them, organising the rehearsals, jamming with them, showing them their own hometowns and imagining together what their art forms would look like combined.



Youth Going Live - Art Residency	
Dates	19-24 August 2022 (Senegal)
<p>During the Art Residency in Senegal, individuals from Europe and Africa, exploited Art in its numerous guises as a medium of communication between performers and the locals. The took up many workshops, trainings and prepared for the final event.</p>	
Participants	10
Audience	60



Youth Going Live - Art Residency	
Dates	5-19 September 2022 (Poznan, Poland)
<p>During the Art Residency in Poland, with participants coming from different countries and continents, namely Europe and Africa, Art, in its numerous forms, was used as a tool of communication between performers and the local community in Poznan. The project started with participants getting familiar with the place they were to live in for the whole period of the project. Participants used Strefa Do-Wolnosci (Zone to Freedom), where the CIM Horyzonty office is located, as the meeting place; the theater room was chosen as the main place to hold meetings as it resonated with the spirit of the project</p>	
Participants	10
Audience	70



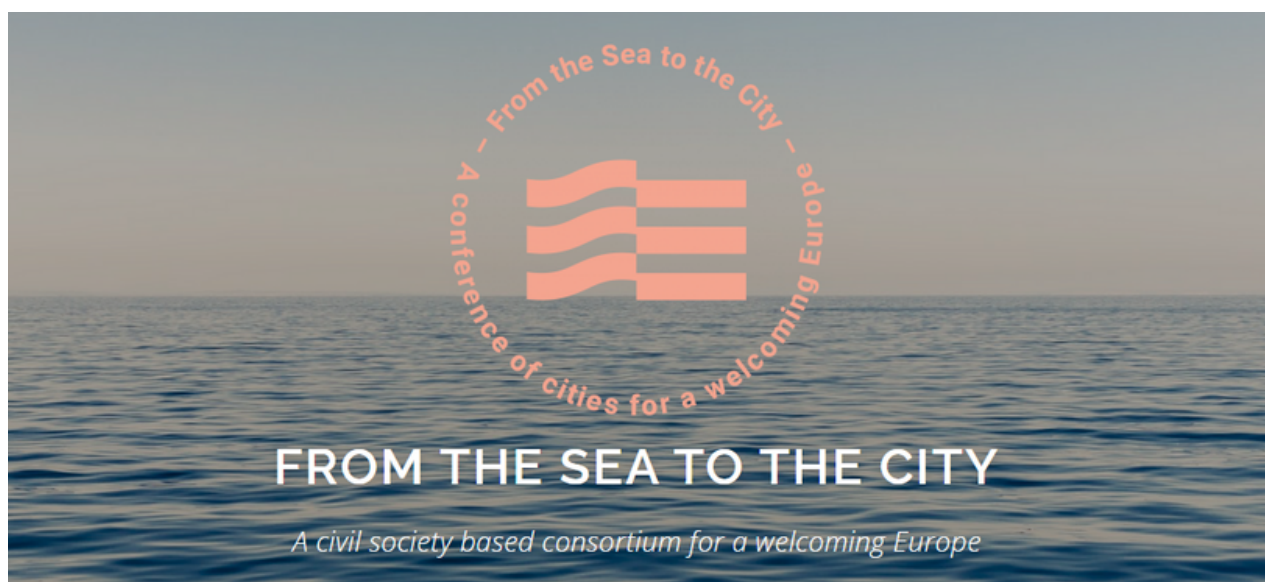
Inclusive Memory – A Common Challenge	
Dates	14-17 September (Rome, Italy)
<p>How can we speak about and work towards a new memory? One that is intended to be different, to be new and shared at the same time? Over the course of three years and as a consortium of universities, health, cultural and civic organisations, we are building a learning path that is shared and accepted. Our latest meeting brought us to Rome, where we experienced first-hand the innovative approaches to design and creation at Zetema, while at the same time strengthened the debate on the differences and similarities between the selected groups of people: all those who feel excluded from the museum-visiting experience.</p>	
Participants	16



Training's Title	Rethinking Migration
Dates	19-26 September 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>Migration and refugee movement is often perceived and portrayed as a crisis: a question of here and now that requires urgent measures. However, if we were to overlook the urgency with which the migrant question is depicted in the public discourse, it would be easier to draw parallels between contemporary social struggles including local and migrant populations and deconstruct arguments that feed otherness and conflict. Migration is an everlasting phenomenon; contemporary developments are all but unprecedented. Placing migrant and refugee integration in an intersectional, transnational, value-based framework, the Inter Alia team, participants from CSOs in Italy and the UK and guest lecturers explored the role of civil society and civil society professionals in dealing with migrants and refugees in a way that is humane and mutually empowering.</p>	
Participants	34



From the Sea to the City - Working level meeting with city representatives	
Dates	21 September 2022 (online)
<p>As a civil society co-initiator of the International Alliance of Safe Harbours (IASH), From the Sea to the City (FS2C) hosted a digital working-level meeting of city representatives with a view to advancing the IASH agenda and translating its principles into concrete policies and action. During the meeting an advocacy campaign for migrant relocation was presented to representatives of 23 municipalities from across Europe. Inter Alia, as a member of FS2C, contributed to the organisation and facilitation of the event that resulted in establishing collaboration processes between municipalities and a renewed commitment to the Palermo Charter and IASH.</p>	
Participants	32



Conference Title	Transnational Political Contention & European Integration
Dates	21-22 September 2022 (Vienna, Austria)
<p>Representative democracy, multilateralism, and the European Union (EU) are increasingly being questioned; at the same time, transnational political dynamics are growing, both for and against the liberal order. Scholars and practitioners met in Vienna to discuss possibilities and challenges of transformative initiatives across Europe. Among them, Nikos Papakostas of Inter Alia presented his paper titled "EU Funding Frameworks and the Role of Civil Society as an Agent of Social Transformation". The paper explores to what extent CSOs can talk and act radically and be funded by the EU.</p>	
Participants	40



Future Narratives Training Course – The Power of Words	
Dates	24-30 September 2022 (Krefeld, Germany)
<p>In the context of our Future Narratives project, we took part in an intense training course in Krefeld, Germany and came out of it with great experiences. This training course aimed to empower the participants to reflect on their ideas of the future. Participants were invited to reflect upon notions of power, consider the role of myths and identify grand narratives that shape our future. The training course activities started with a webinar a week before the actual meeting in Krefeld offered by Prof. Dr. Michael Müller on “Narratives of Populism”. Then, in Krefeld, we attended a workshop offered by Annette Sickert Karaman on “Grand Narratives & Myths” aiming to build our own founding myths and cultural elements in our imagined community. A large part of the week involved the implementation of an actual Futures Lab. The last part of the training involved the presentation of participants’ results as part of the multiplier event. In this event, Dr. Stefan Bergheim, the director of the non-profit think tank “ZGF – Center for Social Progress”, who is also part of the core team of the UNESCO Global Futures Literacy Network, was the guest speaker. Participants of the training week also produced a collection of video statements about the importance of thinking about the future and the creation of a storyboard on the wall of the training space using polaroid pictures.</p>	
Participants	20



Transantional progress meeting CSI	
Dates	12-13 October 2022 (Athens, Greece)
Representatives from the project's consortium met at Inter Alia's office in order to discuss the progress of the project, plan and design the next steps, take consensus decisions on the best methods to be followed and plan the project's communication strategy. Deadlines and milestones were set. On top of this, the group had the opportunity to have dinner together in the Shedia Home restaurant, which was one of the initiatives presented and included in the manual (IO1) as best practice of cultural social innovation, with a "live guide" of the initiative.	
Participants	7



Lab 4 of Future Narratives & second multiplier event for Future Narratives	
Dates	15 October 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>When we got back to Athens from the Future Narratives training course in Krefeld, we decided to organise a very special afternoon to promote the project's results and support the Erasmus Days tradition. In this activity, a group of secondary school students, as well as past and current participants in Inter Alia's activities, joined the creative process we designed for them. They shared their stories, talked about the importance of public space, identified what is important in their lives and dreamed about the future of their community. This activity also supported the implementation of the fourth Future Narratives lab where the Future Narratives working group had the opportunity to test and experience practices developed during the training course in Krefeld.</p>	
Participants	35



From the Sea to the City - Yearly Plenary Meeting	
Dates	28-30 October 2022
<p>Since June 2021 FS2C has brought together activists, civil society and sea rescue organisations and networks from across Europe with a view to promoting progressive and humane policies for migrants and refugees, placing emphasis on the role of cities and municipalities. Following weekly digital thematic meetings and plenary meetings throughout the past year, participants decided to have a yearly summit to update the strategy of FS2C, evaluating FS2C progress in terms of activities and internal function, and connecting to local initiatives with similar agenda in Barcelona. The meeting aimed: a) to take stock of the cooperation with IASH and do a deep-dive on the future strategy vis-à-vis the Alliance; and b) to cement the strategy of FS2C for engaging with welcoming municipalities in Europe. To these ends, participants concluded that FS2C needs to develop strong civil society partnerships to push their respective municipalities to take a public stance and cooperate with other European municipalities. Regarding the operational planning of the initiative, the underlying claim was to find the right balance between involving cities so that they take ownership of the process of developing the network without overwhelming city representatives. A way to create this balance is the introduction of thematic areas either by mapping specific interests and participation in other networks or by emphasising issues raised during September (primarily housing). The creation of steering groups would sell the message better about how IASH is important within the networking context, engaging cities and building up confidence with each other.</p>	
Participants	15



PERSE Hackathon	
Dates	4-6 November 2022 (online)
The PERSE Hackathon took place from the 4th through to the 6th of November with four participating teams, each of which presented a pop-up lab idea on the final day and competed for a trip to Turin with the project team.	
Participants	25



PERSE HACKATHON

4th - 6th November 2022

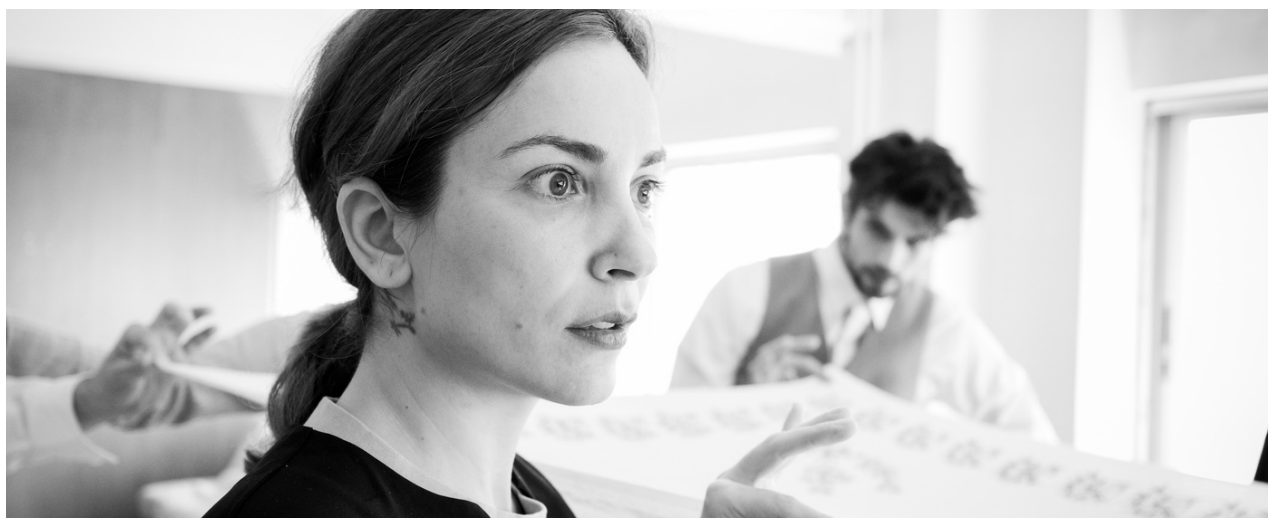
**SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION
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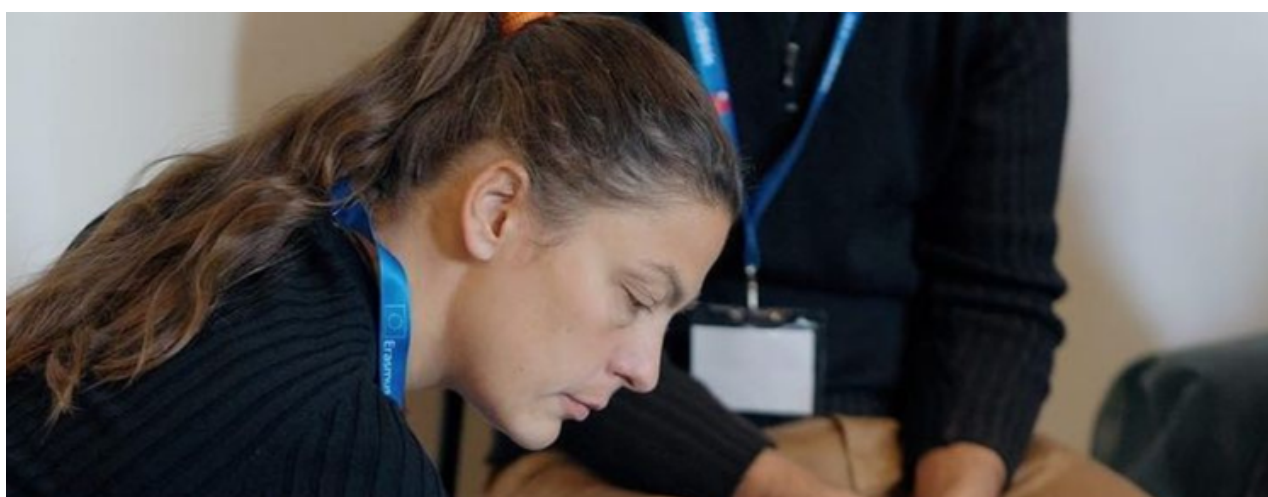
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Auditions for the ECHO III Greek Art Residency	
Dates	14-20 November 2022 (Online & in Athens)
For five days, more than 43 actors from Greece, Bulgaria, Romania and Albania auditioned for the final team of six actors (four actresses and two actors) who will work together in January 2023 on the topic of arranged marriages and will stage a devised theatre play in February 2023 based on interviews from people who had themselves experienced an arranged marriage.	
Participants	43



Workshop: Introducing a Circular Four-Step Process for Participation in Democratic Life	
Dates	14 November 2022
<p>After an invitation from the Institute for Youth and Lifelong Learning, Inter Alia facilitated a workshop that focused on methods to engage young people in democratic processes. We designed a four-step circular activity, where each of the chosen four elements appears as a prerequisite for the next and a target for the previous: Democracy → Participation → Decision-making → Emancipation. We discussed and contrasted examples of our daily lives, ideas of how different situations could be, what changes could be introduced and what improvements adopted, relying on the fact that a circle does not end, nor does it get exhausted. It can be supported, though, and this support opens new cycles of democratic and non-coercive participation.</p>	
Participants	60



Heritage in schools	
Dates	24 November 2022
<p>What is culture? Heritage? Cultural identity? How are they connected and intertwined? How do all these concepts shape our world and everyday life? Inter Alia member Nikos Pasamitros discussed these and many other issues with the secondary school students of the Othisi private school. During five sessions, students got the chance to learn and brainstorm about how we understand and use our heritage. They were also informed of the legacy of previous ECHO projects and the ongoing work of ECHO III and ECHO Academies.</p>	
Participants	60



Seminar on critical perspectives for sustainable fashion	
Dates	23 November 2022 (Athens and online)
<p>It might be difficult to think of clothing practices that are ecologically and socially responsible without being taken over by greenwashing marketing schemes and disregarding underlying power structures and socio-ecological problems. In a seminar dedicated to critical fashion sustainability, Amerissa Giannouli spoke about issues of social and environmental justice, democracy and ecological sustainability in an attempt to look for ways to challenge and transform the mainstream understanding of sustainable fashion. The seminar was organised in the context of the FABLE project and it was based on Amerissa's reflection and academic analysis published originally on Research & Degrowth, the principal academic association dedicated to research, training, awareness-raising and events organisation around degrowth.</p>	
Participants	21



Outcast Europe connecting with schools	
Date	25 November 2022
Outcast Europe visited Mesopotamia Solidarity School in Moschato and 2nd Lyceum of Kaisariani for the educational activity "Objects narrating the stories of others". We worked with students between the ages of 12 and 17 as part of their Greek and English classes, as well as with migrants and refugees of all ages studying Greek. We engaged in a silent written discussion, trying to imagine the stories behind the items in our digital collection and we talked about the temporariness of being a "local", giving the participants space to reflect on their own collective and personal experiences with migration and locality. Find the activity online here.	
Participants	80

Participants engaged in a silent discussion about Outcast Europe's educational material. They were divided into groups, provided with paper, markers and a picture of an object, and asked to imagine the story behind the object.

This activity - organised by the Outcast Europe team - had a significant impact on participants and will be repeated if given the opportunity.



The ECHO II Digital Collection of Artworks on Europeana

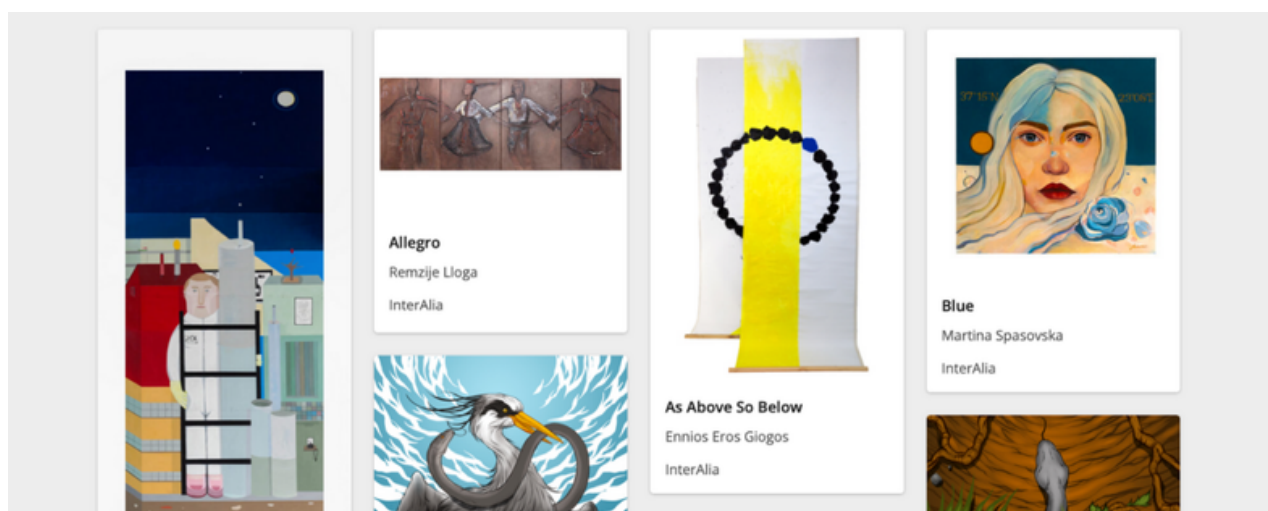
Dates

25 November 2022

What is culture? Heritage? Cultural identity? How are they connected and intertwined? How do all these concepts shape our world and everyday life? Inter Alia member Nikos Pasamitros discussed these and many other issues with the secondary school students at the Othisi private school. During five sessions, students got the chance to learn and brainstorm about how we understand and use our heritage. They were also informed of the legacy of previous ECHO projects and the ongoing work of ECHO III and ECHO Academies.

Participants

141



Sustainable Fashion through the lens of the Commons: A good practice

Dates

28 November 2022

To understand better the concept of the commons and its effect on individual and collective identities, we invited Mariangela from ANKAA Project to present the initiative and their ways of working. Commons go beyond cooperatives, clothing bazaars, exchange markets, and volunteering activities related to fashion. These are relevant, however, they represent distinct activities within the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE). Commons, on the other hand, represent processes aiming to inspire socio-economic and ecological transformations. We believe that the ANKAA Project supports and promotes such processes.

Participants

15



Transnational meeting of FABLE	
Dates	1-2 December 2022
We met with the FABLE partnership to discuss the project's developments, future steps and deadlines, as well as deal with any pending issues. We finalised the FABLE e-learning platform and discussed the administrative issues that need to be taken care of before the first official project report. We also used the time to socialise with each other.	
Participants	8



Event	Swap Bazaar
Dates	4 December
<p>We are delighted to say that on Sunday 4th December, our very first and beyond amazing Swap Bazaar took place. We enjoyed connecting with new and familiar faces and shared not only our clothes and objects but also the joy of togetherness in a space which had been closed for quite some time but which for a few hours, suddenly, filled up with people and smiles.</p>	
Participants	80



Event Title	EYY2022 - Closing Conference
Dates	5-6 December 2022 (Brussels, Belgium)
<p>Stakeholders from the field of youth met in Brussels to celebrate, evaluate and discuss the legacy of the European Year of Youth (EYY) 2022. Inter Alia representatives were there for the farewell. EYY2022 was, overall, an appropriate and timely initiative following the pandemic and the devastating impact it had, especially on youth. Were it not for the way in which it was decided and announced by the President of the EC (with no consultation with the sector), the EYY could have been an important initiative for promoting a European identity and sense of belonging among youngsters. Still, this did not happen. While the EC committed to including youngsters in activities, the community of youth did not own the process. This resulted in narrow ambition and limited impact regarding policy reform and progress. 2023 is the European Year of Skills. It seems like an interesting follow-up that could correct some of the procedural and operational mistakes of the EYY ahead of the European Parliament elections.</p>	
Participants	850



Activity's Title	Roots Winter School
Dates	8-11 December 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>It is time to celebrate, indeed! On 11th December we concluded our first Roots Winter School with success. We have no doubt that the program opened new dimensions for Inter Alia's work, and left us in high spirits and with the desire to strive for more in the coming years. We are grateful for the knowledge and perspectives our speakers and partners brought in, and for the curiosity, contributions and presence with which our participants stepped into this experimental space!</p>	
Participants	17



Event Title	The Tragedy of Heterosexuality in Global Context
Dates	10 December 2022 (Athens, Greece)
<p>We are proud that Jane Ward's debut in Greece is linked to Inter Alia's name and our Roots Winter School. Exploring the intersections and contradictions between patriarchy and modern "straight culture", as well as the tragic aspects and inner tensions of the modern heterosexual narrative with Jane among us, beautifully facilitated by Nancy Papathanasiou and Elena-Olga Christidi from Orlando LGBT, is an experience that will stay forever in our hearts and will definitely keep us contemplating.</p>	
Participants	60



FILMINTS Communication & Filmmaking Training	
Dates	3-4 and 11-18 December 2022 (Online & in Athens)
<p>Working on topics that are personal and intriguing for participants, and with the guidance of three experienced filmmakers, our diverse group of trainees learned how to use filmmaking equipment and techniques to narrate their stories. They explored ways to find the strength to tell a story that had previous been silenced. Public space and its vibration, people and their struggles, and the quest for belonging inspired three short films: This is not Reconstruction This is Politics; Crumbs for the Pigeons; and Open Windows. They were all screened to friends of Inter Alia to get feedback and celebrate the conclusion of the training.</p>	
Participants	22



THE SHORTS PRODUCED BY THE PARTICIPANTS OF FILMINTS

([Watch the movies](#))

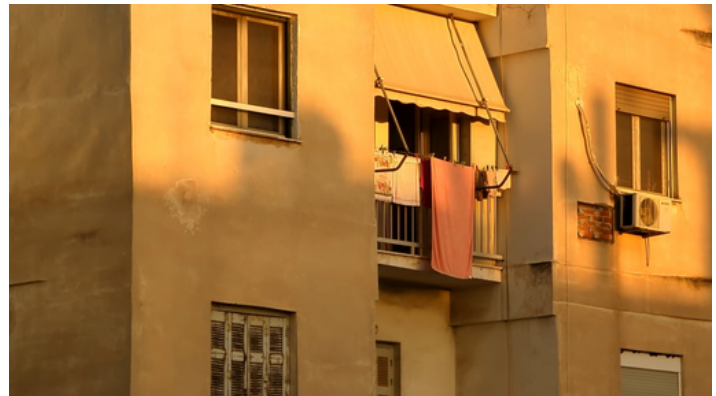
THIS IS NOT RECONSTRUCTION | THIS IS POLITICS



With the images of cardboard birds, banners, bulldozers and trees and through the voices of the residents, 'This is not Reconstruction | This is Politics' narrates the daily struggle of the locals to claim back their neighbourhood.

OPEN WINDOWS

Through interviews on the streets, intimate discussions on balconies and personal confessions, Open Windows is a portrait of the city and its people, trying to answer the question "where do you think you belong?"



CRUMBS FOR THE PIGEONS



"I thought I was like them. Am I made for this?". Crumbs for Pigeons is an abstract exploration of finding your place in a world of predetermined paths.

A Festive Handicraft Session by kookoonari	
Dates	14 December (Online)
<p>In the spirit of the holiday season, we invited kookoonari social cooperative to present their work and make special ornaments from recycled materials! This was the last local activity designed to help people network, bond and exchange ideas, as well as to test a part of the FABLE e-learning materials. What was interesting was that although we had the activity taking place online, we managed to connect and exchange ideas on how we could work with youngsters using similar techniques. Working with our hands can reduce stress and anxiety, help us concentrate and stimulate our creativity and imagination! There was also a very young participant with us who discovered new methods and materials to create similar ornaments. That was the real spirit of co-creation!</p>	
Participants	12



Workshop's Title	Sustainable Development: What it is and how we could move beyond it
Dates	16 December 2022 (Tripoli, Greece)
<p>Being a member of the Eurodesk multipliers has been very rewarding! One of these rewarding moments was for us to be invited to support the youth festival organised by another Eurodesk multiplier, Sports and Cultural Lab. Amerissa Giannouli contributed with a workshop related to Sustainable Development, offering the opportunity to 50 young students from the region of Peloponnese to critically reflect on the notion of Sustainable Development. At the end of the workshop, participants built their own awareness campaigns on socio-ecological issues that matter to them.</p>	
Participants	50



03



POSITIVELY DIFFERENT SHORT FILM FESTIVAL



inter alia
Inspiring social change

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

Gender, sexuality, race, class, ethnicity, religion, able-bodiedness are influences of our present and future, life prospects and obstructions. Shedding light on life paths of “others” – often through realism and humor and other times through abstraction and experimentation – Positively Different Short Film Festival aims to act as a reference point for raising awareness with regards to intersectionality and discrimination, providing a safe space for co-creation and networking.

After its great success in 2020 and 2021, the festival returned in 2022 with a curated catalogue of approximately 40 short films from across the globe that were screened at TRIANON cinema in Athens from 11-13 March, competing for three prizes: Best Film Award; Audience Award; and Best Greek Production. Concerts, workshops and masterclasses, special screenings, poetry-slam sessions and discussions made up an intense three-day celebration of diversity and togetherness.



**P
D
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F**

PDSFF22 – COMMUNALITIES

The curatorial team of #PDSFF22 and Inter Alia warmly thank all the people who made this event so unique – guests, creators, volunteers and, of course, all of you who attended and filled the TRIANON room for three consecutive days. Over the course of the festival, **35 shorts** were screened, competing for three cash awards. The official selection was complemented by the open discussion 'Symptoms of Masculinity' and the 'Living Library' event. Los Tre band completed Saturday's programme with a full house live jazz session. PDSFF22 wrapped with over **20** international guests, **1500 euros in cash** prizes and over **1700 visitors and attendees**. 2023 is a year of surprises and innovations for PDSFF. Stay tuned!



PDSFF22



Los Tre Live at TRIANON Adventure at intersections

Combining musical traditions from around the world with the power and freedom of improvisation, Los Tre contributed to PDSFF22's mission with additional questions about what belongs where and how. As a band that is constantly fermenting and reshaping itself through its different audiences and micro-communities, Los tre introduce new songs and invite us to re-listen to previous recordings from the band's ten-year course.



After the selection and preparation of our three books (A Tale Without A Name, Athina Lengeris; The Right to Be a Disabled Queer, Christos Skourtas; and Open Book, Ariadni Zoidi) we transformed the stage of the Trianon Cinema into a Library Space, where "reading" took place. Our visitors were writers, professionals, activists and ordinary members of the public, eager to discover the stories but also to identify with these and find their own story through the experience.

Symptoms of masculinity: An open discussion

Trianon Cinema was filled with an audience eager to reflect on gender-based violence as a symptom of dominant masculinity and alternative ways to discuss the concept and reexamine its meaning. The panel involved Anna Kouroupou, director of Red Umbrella Athens, who shared her experience of trans activism and precarity as a trans sexworker; Anna Maria Papacharalambous, an actress who is among those who inspired the explosion of the #metoo movement in Greece, coming forward to share her experience of gender-based violence in the arts sector; Dimitris Terzis, a journalist with many years of experience, discussing how gender roles have changed in this demanding sector; Aggeliki Serafeim, a lawyer who explained what could be achieved if femicides were recognised as such by the law; and Antonis Poullos, psychoanalyst, sharing his thoughts on the influence of the gender binary in the construction of the human psyche. The panel was facilitated by Mel Kalfanti, member of PDSFF's curatorial team, doctoral student in Anthropology and Gender Studies. The audience remained invested in the panel discussion and had a lively participation in the following discussion, sharing professional and personal experiences on the topic.

How does it feel to live this life? The cinema becomes a library

PDSFF22

PDSFF 2022 - ONLINE



All those who missed the chance to watch this year's finalists at TRIANON for different reasons (tickets selling out very fast, unusually cold weather, accessibility and health restrictions) had the chance to watch the shorts online. Learning from last year and aspiring to overcome geographical exclusions while providing access to PDSFF22 stories to as many people as possible, we decided to make our programme available online.

PHOTO ALBUM



PDSFF22 X ZAGORIWOOD

Dates	22 July 2022
<p>Positively Different Short Film Festival travelled to the mountains of Epirus to visit Zagoriwood for the third consecutive year. The curatorial team handpicked five shorts from the official festival selection to bring together a set that highlighted this year's core thematic, 'Communalities'. Aiming to create meaningful connections with the local community while stressing the importance of communal ties and solidarity, PDSFF22 screened the following shorts: Ain't not time for women (20') Canada/Tunisia; The Market Man (19') Italy; Bridging the Gap (6') UK; Old Man (30') Lithuania; Beauty Boys (18') France.</p>	
Participants & Audience	80



04

CAMPAIGNS



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Inspiring social change

MEET INTER ALIA THROUGH A 90" VIDEO



LIFE BEYOND EU FUNDING



LIFE BEYOND EU FUNDING

We, a partnership of over 70 CSOs across Europe, have just launched our pan-European campaign "Life beyond EU Funding: Imagining a Different Role for Youth Organisations in Europe". To achieve a more sustainable environment for youth organisations across Europe, WE WANT YOU ON BOARD!

Youth organisations are agents of change, not just service providers! This role is primarily earned through the efforts of the organisations themselves and their capacity to be resilient and faithful to their vision and mission. However, a more favourable environment, supportive of change and experimentation and, essentially, more forgiving to mistakes is also crucial.

INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THE CAMPAIGN? CHECK THIS OUT!

Q A

HOW CAN I SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN?

I am representing a youth organisation?

Youth organisations are the key players of this campaign. The more organisations get involved, the better chance we have to improve the existing oversights of EU policies. Youth organisations involved in the campaign are asked to co-sign the policy document and contribute in sharing it further by filling in this form:



I am a policy maker?

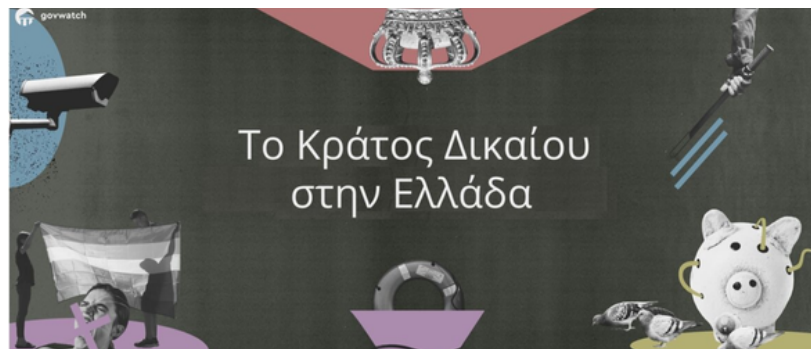
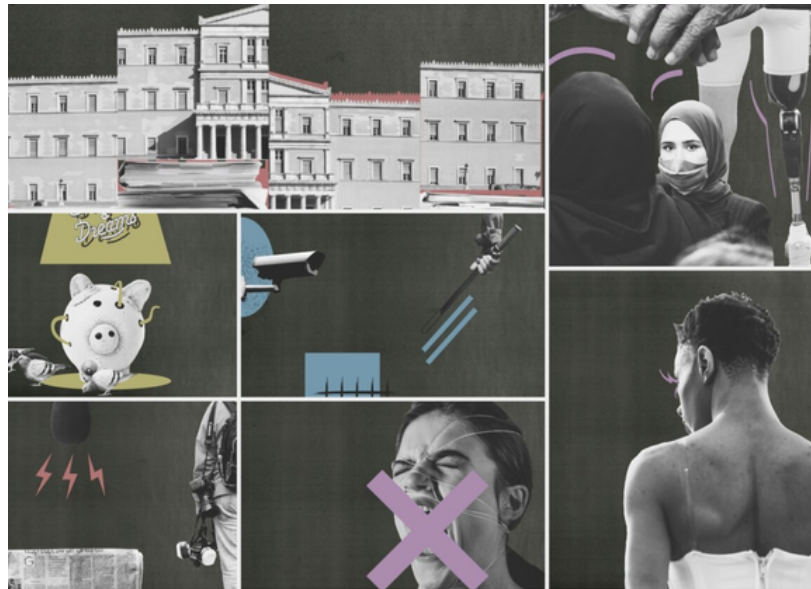
Insights of policy makers are important for controlling the sustainability of proposals included in the document and for diversifying support for our agenda. Through their involvement, we wish to utilise communication back channels that exist between local, national and EU policy making institutions in order to lay the ground for discussing policy proposals. If you wish to be involved, contact us here: papakostas@interaliaproject.com

OUR EYE ON THE EU

- MONTHLY BULLETIN



CSOS IN ACTION 2022



ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΗ της ΚτΠ για την
ΑΝΟΙΧΤΗ ΔΙΑΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗ

Open Government Partnership



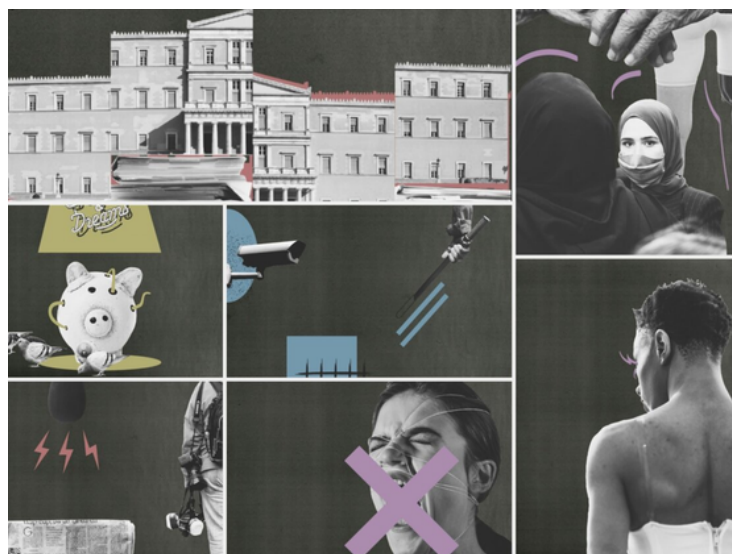
CSOS IN ACTION 2022

In 2022, Inter Alia together with more than 50 CSOs addressed open letters to authorities demanding action in the civil society sector.

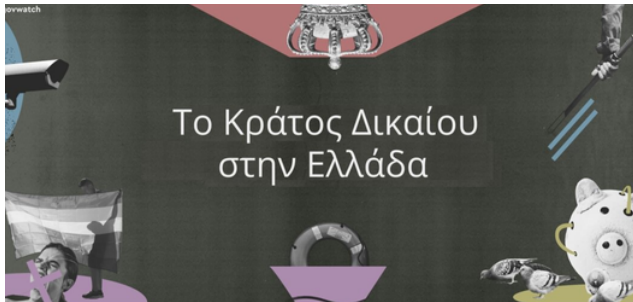
May 2022

Joint letter on the state of the rule of law in Greece

The pattern of crawling authoritarianism and systematic suppression of pluralism, rights and freedoms followed in Greece is all too familiar to the cases of Hungary and Poland and cannot be dismissed. Driven by deep concerns over the Greek Government's problematic approach to what we deem as core aspects of the rule of law, democracy and fundamental rights, Inter Alia signed a joint letter to Vera Jourova, vice-president of the EC and European Commissioner for Values and Transparency. Along with 11 organisations and independent media, at the initiative of Vouliwatch, we highlighted the repeated and internationally reported violations in the areas of freedom of the press & media independence, the right to information, the legislative process, protection of whistleblowers, the justice system, unlawful police violence, rights of refugees and asylum seekers, and rights of Third Country Nationals.



CSOS IN ACTION 2022



ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΗ της ΚτΠ για την
ΑΝΟΙΧΤΗ ΔΙΑΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗ

Open Government Partnership



July 2022

The response of the EC to NGOs and independent media on the state of the rule of law in Greece

In her response to the letter sent by Greek NGOs and independent media at the initiative of Vouliwatch about the state of the rule of law in Greece, Anna Gallego Torres, Director-General of the DG Justice and Consumers expressed the Commission's concerns about human lives lost in the Aegean sea. The EC is concerned about developments regarding the NGO register and the pressure CSOs are facing today across the Union. Finally, the Commission appears willing to examine and take measures to protect whistleblowers.

December 2022

Letter - Request for the substantial participation of CSOs in Open Governance

At the initiative of Vouliwatch and the Open Technologies Organisation EELLAK, Inter Alia and 11 other CSOs addressed an open letter to Minister of State and Digital Governance Mr. Kyriakos Pierrakakis. The letter asks the Minister to undertake specific actions to foster substantial participation of civil society in the preparation of the fifth National Action Plan for Open Government (NAP). As the consultation on the NAP progresses, we reiterate our concerns about the quality of Open Government in Greece. Our main source of concern is the persistent absence of a multilateral forum for planning and implementing the NAP with equal participation of public bodies and civil society in decision-making.

ECI AMBASSADORS



Inter Alia is officially the new Greek European Citizens Initiative Ambassador.

What does it mean?

EUROPEAN
CITIZENS'
INITIATIVE



We foster debate among EU citizens across borders

EUROPEAN
CITIZENS'
INITIATIVE



We encourage and support your / citizens' involvement in EU policy-making

EUROPEAN
CITIZENS'
INITIATIVE



We empower citizens to act on causes they care about

Migration, Youth
Employment, Gender
Equality

EUROPEAN
CITIZENS'
INITIATIVE



05

OUR POINT OF VIEW



inter alia
Inspiring social change



TEN YEARS OF EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE: IS THERE A FIGHTING CHANCE? – OP-ED

A few months ago, the European Commission invited organisations to apply to become ambassadors of the European Citizens' Initiative. As an organisation deeply engaged in deliberative democratic processes in the EU, Inter Alia decided to apply. Our first experiences as ECI Ambassadors confirm that the distance between EU institutions and civil society remains significant. Competent institutions seem to be disconnected from civic struggles and how they are organised, by whom and what kind of resources they require. The EC needs to listen to CSOs, researchers and academics who urge it to change the mindset of an institution that risks a premature and inglorious end.

[Read the Op-ed by Inter Alia's co-founder, Nikos Papakostas](#)





HOW DEGROWTH SHAPES THE WAY I THINK ABOUT ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES: THE CASE OF SUSTAINABLE CLOTHING – OP-ED

It might be difficult to think of clothing practices that are ecologically and socially responsible without being taken over by greenwashing marketing schemes and without disregarding underlying power structures and socio-ecological problems. In a seminar dedicated to critical fashion sustainability, Amerissa Giannouli spoke about issues of social and environmental justice and democracy in an attempt to challenge and transform the mainstream understanding of sustainable fashion. The seminar was organised in the context of the FABLE project and based on Amerissa's reflection and academic analysis originally published by "Research & Degrowth", the main academic association dedicated to research, training, awareness-raising and organisation of events around degrowth.

[Read the full article by Amerissa
Giannouli](#)





OUR PLAN FOR 2022

JANUARY

Welcome to 2022!

“The more a path is walked, the more a path is walked” is the critical view of Sara Ahmed, on the avalanche effect of certain social phenomena. Through our work this year, we commit to popularise the paths less walked, through the implementation of our 4 strategies and concrete actions planned:

- Education - Our principle of inclusivity was put to test in the past 2 years, establishing the online training as a practice. Naturally, people without access to the internet and computers were left behind, while those who would not be physically present due to their location, could join our activities. As simple as this statement is, it entails the contradictions that we are called to keep in mind and solve every time, when talking about inclusivity and when aspiring to act inclusively. The acknowledgement of internal contradiction is our first step on this path.
- Political Engagement - In our effort to contribute to ongoing change, we will continue our advocacy activities. Among these, we keep developing our community organising theory and practice and host a number of training activities in the framework of the “Advocacy for Youth Employment” project in the next 12 months.
- Youth - Our pilot YouthPool programme came to an end in December last year with a certain number of politicians and policymakers across the world having been approached and called to act. We remain vigilant to their actions and at the same time getting ready for the launch of the second YouthPool edition.
- Culture and Arts - We continue to make culture and arts more accessible for a wider range of users, be it creators, inspirers or audience. In the next three years in a team with 6 European Universities, we are going to explore and develop ways of building an inclusive European memory in the museums with the aim of increasing mental health.

This is only the very rough sketch of what is there to come. Read about the details below and get ready for an exciting period ahead.

Stay creative and above all safe!

The Inter Alia team





WILL IT BE THE PLANE OR THE SCREEN?

FEBRUARY

February of 2022 is the month marked by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. While “the scourge of war” falls on the citizens and people, involved parties seem to apply Realpolitik practices. Once again, the EU seems unable to provide a robust foreign policy in response to the crisis. Inter Alia stands firmly for peace and against war.

In the meantime, in Greece, although the political debate is dominated by the overwhelming rise in the prices of subsistence goods, there is a disturbing pattern of societal violence against the distinct and the vulnerable with an alarming increase in femicides, gender offences, and domestic violence. In the framework of Positively Different Short Film Festival 2022, Inter Alia explores “Symptoms of Masculinity” with artists, specialised lawyers and psychologists offering experiential and scientific insights on identifying and disturbing patriarchal structures.

On the account of shedding light on life paths of “others” PDSFF22 explores the frontiers of different communities and the commonalities of characteristics, oppressions and struggles that constitute them. From 11 to 13 March, this year's festival will feature 35 short films from 17 countries competing for three cash prizes. On Saturday 12 March, Alex Drakos Quartet will offer a jazz concert contributing to the journey of search for “communities”.

Persistent in our commitment to boost community participation and action Youth Pool 2022 virtual meetings explore community challenges, share knowledge, and foster local interventions for youth rights and change.

Lastly, we offer a bunch of training opportunities in Lyon, Palermo, Châtillon-sur-Indre and Döbling, and online.

Stay creative and above all safe!

The Inter Alia team





MEASURING REFLEXES

MARCH

As the situation in Ukraine escalates, the EU eventually shows signs of life. The fast-track procedures for receiving and accommodating refugees is in line with international law and the EU's constitutional statutes. Citizens and leaders alike need to remember and embrace this instance as a fresh start and a precedent of the mindset needed to deal with crises. A mindset oriented towards protecting humans as an absolute priority. Inter Alia applauds the mobilisation of civil society at the European and local levels with peace as its main claim. We continue offering visibility to those in need of space, support and agency. PDSFF is our spearhead of this effort. For this reason, we have created an online platform to make the programme of 2022 available until the 3rd of April.

Greek media reality comes as a disturbing reminder of the hard work still needed in the country as much as in the biggest part of the EU for fostering awareness and skills for coping with a complex reality. A media frenzy about an indeed shocking criminal case, resulted in a cell-phone yielding mob threatening to lynch civilians. This incident surfaced scary reflexes and the stagnation of a part of the Greek society to darker times. Inter Alia continues its work on the micro-level trying to educate youngsters and citizens on the importance of thinking critically, embracing responsibility and fostering solidarity. A series of trainings in the fields of advocacy, precarious labour, housing and social inclusion come to contribute in that direction. Stay creative and, above all, safe!

The Inter Alia team





CONNECTED EVERYDAY STRUGGLES

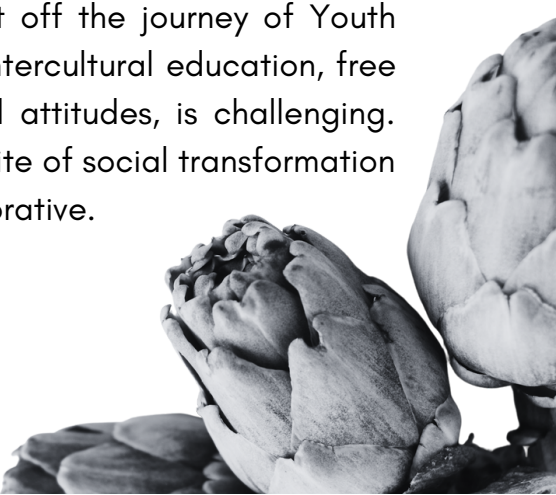
APRIL

The Russian invasion in Ukraine offers EU leaders a comforting space and an identifiable “other” against whom they feel they can safely claim: “We, are much better”. Still, this war is no more than a ruler and an elite externalising the effect of their denial to share power. Are such practices unknown to the EU? The cases of violations of the Rule of Law by Hungary and Poland heavily criticised, but not sanctioned, by the EC suggest they are not. The unapologetic stance of Orban and Kaczyński offer a smokescreen behind which veiled authoritarianism thrives, and a chance for other EU leaders to claim: “We, are much better”. Identifying a downward spiral that threatens to legitimise inhumane and undemocratic practices inside the EU, Inter Alia co-signed a letter to Vera Jourova, EC vice-president and Commissioner for Values and Transparency, on the alarming state of the Rule of Law in Greece.

It is our aspiration to be the link between transnational patterns and phenomena and their manifestations in local struggles. We view precarious housing as a menace for the global North and a root cause of inequality and exclusion. Our cities are becoming increasingly hostile to citizens and urban planning policies more and more prone to gentrification and spatial stigmatisation. A team of academics, visual artists and journalists from the laboratory of Architecture of Rapid Change and Scarce Resources (ARCSR) of the London Metropolitan University strolled the streets of central Athens to learn and report on community-based responses to centralised, top-down urban planning policies. A 2-day workshop on “Housing and Well-Being” also explored potentials to contemporary housing practices, alternatives and visions for more sustainable and socially just housing schemes.

Against the backdrop of Europe and Eurocentrism, Inter Alia keeps building on alliances and actions that can broaden perspective and foster cosmopolitanism and sustainability. In Dakar and Zhiguinchor, Senegal, we set off the journey of Youth Going Live project and came to acknowledge that true intercultural education, free to some extent from colonial perceptions, dynamics and attitudes, is challenging. Constant reflection on our relative privileges is a prerequisite of social transformation and works better when it is multilevel, comradely and explorative.

Stay creative and, above all, safe!
The Inter Alia team





A SUMMER OF UNCERTAINTY

MAY

For Greece, May has been a grim month. The country is in a free fall in terms of rights and freedom of expression. Greece is currently in the 108th place in the RSF freedom of press list of 180 countries. The government remains silent on the case of the journalist Thanasis Koukakis' wiretapping. The murderers of LGBT rights activist Zak Kostopoulos were treated with leniency, perpetuating a negative legacy of gender-motivated crimes. In the University of Thessaloniki, on two occasions, police forces fiercely attacked students protesting against policing of campuses.

In everyday life, people are left unprotected against speculative energy providers on the premise of supposed Green policies and on the excuse of the Ukrainian war. Inter Alia builds grassroots knowledge on energy efficiency and sustainability and revisits traditional, sustainable practices. On top of these, Greece approved further deployment of US forces in military premises across the country. At the same time, it fuels antagonism with Turkey over border policies and continues migrant pushbacks in the Aegean.

In Europe, the Ukrainian war goes on while the EU cannot agree on its intended embargo on Russian oil. Meanwhile, EU's symbolic and actual power gives in to NATO with Finland and Sweden stating their intention to join the organisation. At the same time, EU Frontex border agency continues migrant pushbacks in the Aegean, making us to Rethink Migration in Europe. Inter Alia remains dedicated to intercultural dialogue, by boosting exchange and creation.

Stay creative and, above all, safe!

The Inter Alia team





ORGANISING AGAINST REGRESS

JUNE

On June 24, the overruling of Roe v Wade (1973) landmark decision by a US Supreme Court shocked the world. Claiming that the right to abortion was not "deeply rooted in this Nation's history or tradition", the Court gave the community – through state governments and courts – the authority to decide on a person's choice over her own body. Overturning Roe vindicates neoconservative, reactionary forces and proves that social antagonisms go much deeper and far beyond a mere change of ruling party or president. Overruling Roe also highlights the power of lobbying and pressure groups to define the fate of political communities. Inter Alia's approach to policy making favours decentralisation and active participation. In June, we hosted a capacity building activity on advocacy and youth employment in Athens. We trained staff and volunteers at European civil society organisations, on ways they can connect individual and collective struggles highlighting that advocacy work depends on personal urgency and community organising.

In Europe, at the Spanish border with Morocco, at the infamous Melilla crossing, 23 persons died while trying to enter Europe. Hundreds were injured. Injured also was the professed symbolism of Europe as an advocate of rights and the Rule of Law. It is worrisome and at the same time bitterly predictable, how a professedly progressive government congratulated the deadly intervention by security forces on both sides of the fence. This stance indicates that in Europe, the Rule of Law is not threatened only by the usual suspects – ultra-conservative governments of Hungary and Poland – but from a general downward spiral of dismissing and downgrading. The Rule of Law, as part of a larger debate on the European Political Terrain, was discussed in the context of Inter Alia Council of Members gathering. Along with it, the organisation made plans and decisions along with its community about future projects and processes.

June marks the 35th anniversary of the Erasmus programme of the European Union. Along with appreciation for the accomplishments, the snatched opportunities, the fun times and the memories, we need to be mindful of ongoing transformation of local needs and make adjustments in a radically changing international landscape. The European Academy on Youth Work spotted Inter Alia's Youth Pool, a transnational space for youth with emphasis on local communities and no restrictions as to participation, and invited us to share our experience and practices.

Stay creative and, above all, safe!

The Inter Alia team





... AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

JULY

The Rule of Law is a common denominator and a prerequisite for representative democracy to function. Citizens' perception that they live in a lawful context enables them to trust each other and the political system. Lack of equality before the law, preferential or discretionary treatment by the judiciary, favouritism; all contribute to diminishing trust in institutions and foster social cleavages. Sadly, in one short month, all the above-mentioned phenomena coincided in Greece, confirming the country's downward spiral regarding the Rule of Law.

On April 27, on the initiative of Vouliwatch, Inter Alia and 10 other organisations and independent media co-signed a letter to the Commission and to the members of the LIBE Committee of the European Parliament on the state of the Rule of Law in Greece. The response by the EC was published on July 26 and it was generic as always (the EC's sterile responses to civil society claims is an issue that also needs to be called out). However, it raised some interesting insights on the treatment of civil society by state institutions, pushbacks in the Aegean Sea and insufficient measures to protect whistle-blowers. Following the submission of the letter, a number of judicial decisions came to reinforce our concerns and call for our attention, alertness and scrutiny.

Giannis Michailidis is an anarchist and a convicted felon. He is serving a 20-year sentence for criminal acts including armed robbery and attempt to escape prison. Michailidis has served more than 8 of his 20-year sentence and is entitled to parole. He was on a hunger strike in Malandrinos prison for 67 days risking irreparable damages to his health. In spite of widespread reactions and dramatic claims by Michailidis' doctors and lawyers' unions, the court denied making any concessions to the prisoner's requests. Shortly after, Michailidis decided to quit the hunger strike. A few days earlier, Dimitris Lignadis, former art director of the Greek National Theatre, appointed in 2019, was freed on parole by a court in Athens until his appeal is judged, despite found guilty for the rape of two underage persons.

A landmark decision concerning another group often suffering abuse and oppression - refugees and asylum seekers - was also published in July. The European Court of Human Rights convicted Greek authorities for a shipwreck at Farmakonisi island that costed the life to 11 people and vindicated the applicants who claimed to have been pushed-back by the coast-guard. As the unfavourable conditions for refugees and migrants in Europe become entrenched, we deem that actions that "humanise" incoming populations before the wider public is crucial. We are relaunching Outcast Europe and opening our platform for crowd-sourcing new stories of displacement and movement, thematic exhibitions and educational material.

Stay creative and, above all, safe!

The Inter Alia team





CRUEL SUMMER... AND AUTUMN

SEPTEMBER

This is our September newsletter. However, we cannot omit the events of August, which is supposedly a quiet month of vacation. In the middle of the summer, political debate was dominated by the scandal which was the Greek government eavesdropping on the social democratic party leader by direct order of the Prime Minister's office. In addition, the Ministry of Transport and the Municipality of Athens initiated metro works in the central square of the Exarcheia neighbourhood using brute police force, in an effort to send a neoliberal political message of aggressive gentrification.

September signalled the clash between Greek university students and the new "University Police", a body that is supposed to protect students and public property but until now has only managed to create violence, oppression, and insecurity.

On the international level, women of Iran protest against police morality and hijab law. Security forces have killed more than 70 protesters during the unrest sparked by the death of a woman in custody.

In Ukraine, the war continues and the EU is trying to find alternatives to Russian energy for the forthcoming winter.

Inter Alia continues to speak purposefully and act decisively on issues of migration, representative democracy, and gender relations. In this effort, we welcome new colleagues and our first post-COVID volunteers, from Italy and Georgia.





RECENTRING URGENTLY NEEDED

OCTOBER

October was as eventful as it was suggestive of what the winter will bring for people across Europe. National governments will individually manage the upcoming energy crisis. It appears that communities, as well as the EU, will have little say in making decisions on this topic. With fear and insecurity on one side, and introversion and shrinking democratic space on the other, electorates have either given up on politics or continue looking for solutions in the false promises and easy fixes of nationalism.

October was the month that an openly neo-fascist party came to power in Italy. Georgia Meloni, Italy's new PM, is the first female leader in the country's history; unfortunately, this is an irrelevant detail when all the features of the patriarchy co-exist in her political profile. Inter Alia claims that the attack on existing power structures must be smarter and more acute, inclusive and universal. The "Roots Winter School" that we have just announced tackles the notion of "periphery" in Europe. Our training activities this month explored different facets of privilege.

October was a devastating month for human rights in Europe, with migration once more at the forefront. The despicable statements by the head of EU diplomacy, Josep Borrell, that labelled the world outside of the EU as a jungle, proved that colonialism, Eurocentrism and ignorance can co-exist at the highest echelons of the EU. In the same period, shipwrecks near Greek and Italian shores cost tens of lives of people who were pushed into extreme situations by illegitimate and wicked institutions such as Frontex. After years of copious reporting by CSOs and independent media, the European Parliament discontinued Frontex's funding on the grounds that it assists pushbacks in the Aegean Sea. Inter Alia continued working on the levels of policy and public perceptions to recentre the debate on migration. We took part in the 7th Youth Migration Forum and launched a literary call to transcribe stories of Outcast Europe, ensuring that coexistence and mutual understanding are at the core of our interventions.





BALLS IN THE AIR

NOVEMBER

On 20 November 2022, the 22nd football world cup kicked off. The choice of Qatar as a host raised severe criticism for FIFA from the onset, adding another incident of suspected corruption and favouritism to the long dark record of the federation. A country where embedded conservatism coexists with an extreme concentration of wealth is hardly appropriate for the most well-known event in a popular sport, that symbolises the hope of a better life for millions of people around the world. However, what actually led to international outrage against the World Cup were miserable working conditions during the construction of the stadiums. Obscure subcontracting procedures, disregard for workers' rights and safety regulations, widespread irregular and uncontracted work of impoverished migrants, resulted in a death toll of over 6,500 workers.

The explosive combination of greed, favouritism, impunity and disregard for human life is at the core of the system that FIFA and the State of Qatar uphold. It breeds inequality and authoritarianism across borders and this is why we also support the boycott of the World Cup. At Inter Alia, we approach such complex socioeconomic phenomena both from the bottom, through initiatives that foster community spirit and empowerment and at the top, by monitoring and applying pressure on decision makers; November was a month for both. We organised educational activities at local schools in Athens and planned a swap bazaar to bring together our community. On the institutional side, we joined forces with other civil society actors to push the Greek government to legislate the Citizens' Legislative Initiative and launched a monthly bulletin titled "Our Eye on the EU" that monitors agencies and European Parliament committees in our areas of interest.

With the new year coming up, we will continue to raise questions that could lead to more progressive and sustainable answers to contemporary social and political questions and to organise our actions and reactions through our three streams of action:

Roots School for Critical & Explorative Learning

Heart Point of Civic Intervention

Bloom Space for Culture and Arts

Stay creative, stay safe,
the Inter Alia team





HOPES FOR A BETTER YEAR

DECEMBER

The last month of 2022 was intense in Greece and the world, closing the first year of post-pandemic life.

In Greece, on 6th December, citizens marched in crowded protests at the 14th commemoration of the murder of the 15-year-old student Alexandros Grigoropoulos by a Greek police officer. The commemoration coincided with another brutal murder of a Roma minor by a Greek police in the region of Thessaloniki on the pretence of petty theft. Meanwhile, the Greek government insists on curtailing civic freedoms in the middle of an inflationary and austerity crisis. Triggered by growing social injustices and authoritarianism across Europe, Inter Alia's "Roots Winter School" focused a critical gaze on contemporary social, economic and political affairs, placing the concept of periphery in a cross-disciplinary, intersectional context.

On the international level, the winner of the Qatar World Cup was Argentina. The event created controversy and backlash due to harmful working conditions before and during the event. However, a Qatar World Cup/EU Parliament scandal also exposed western hypocrisy and delusions of post-colonial superiority that have produced such high horse criticism. In the European Parliament, the heart of European Consociationalism, a Greek MEP and Vice President of the body as well as three more people, all attached to the European social democrats, were arrested and accused of money laundering. They were caught red-handed with huge amounts of Qatari cash in hand. In view of this fresh blow to public trust in EU institutions, our monthly bulletin "Our Eye on the EU", a new monitoring instrument providing key policy updates in connection to EU policies on Civil Rights, Education & Youth, Gender, Migration & Asylum, seems to have come at a good time.

The entire team at Inter Alia wishes you a Happy - and Better - New Year! ♥



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WHAT HAS CHANGED IN A YEAR?



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VISUAL IDENTITY

2021

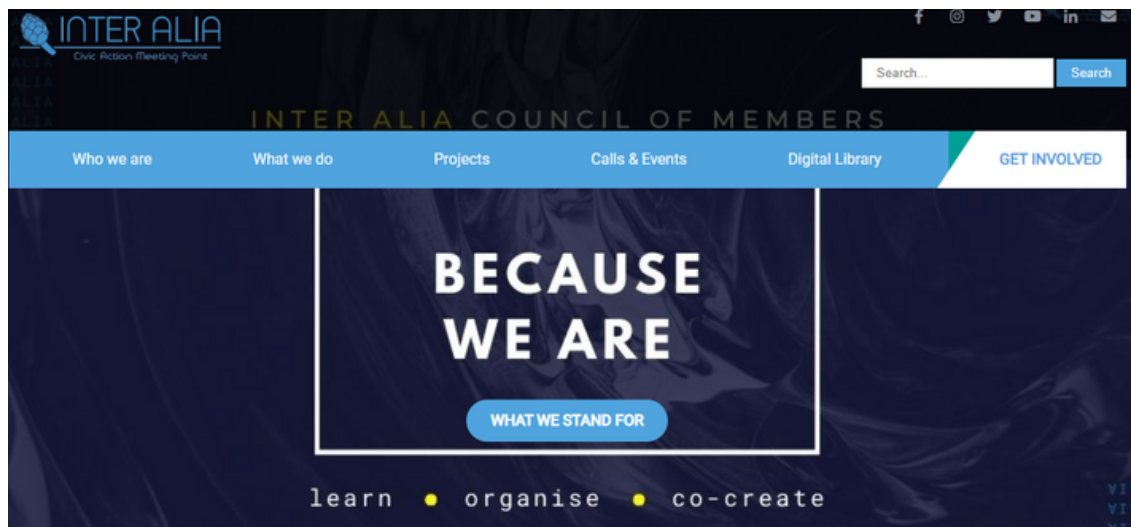


2022

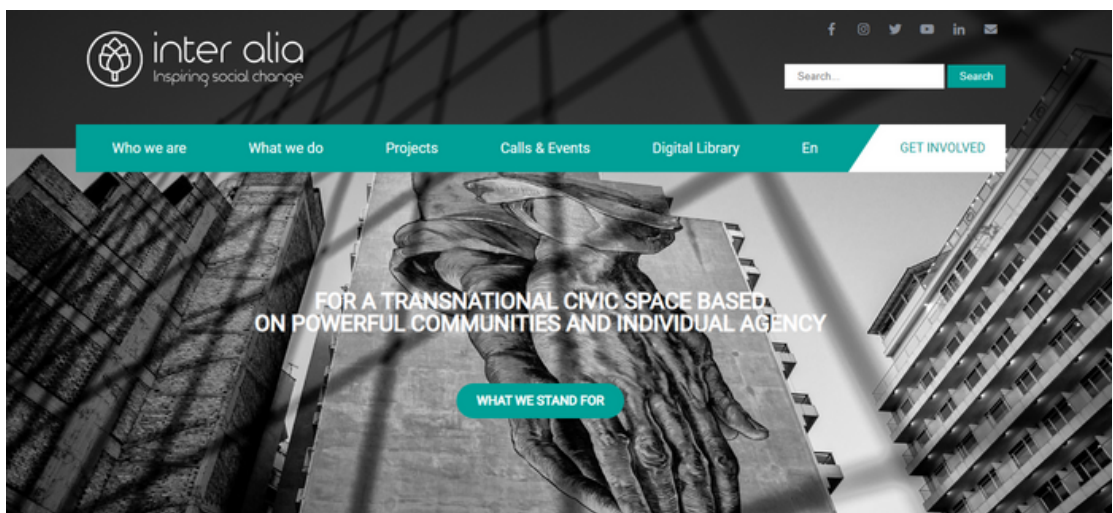


WE LAYOUT

2021



2022



The new layout of our website features a clearer presentation of our work and strategy, is stylistically upgraded and offers texts in two languages – English and Greek.

STREAMS OF WORK

Responding to an increasing need for clarity as to what we do and to how we present our work, Inter Alia has just enacted three structures: a. the Roots School of Critical and Explorative Learning, b. the Heart Civic Intervention Point and c. the Bloom Space for Culture and Arts. Under these structures fall the organisation's activities, which are designed and implemented according to strategies developed on the axes of Culture & Arts, Education, Youth and Political Engagement.



ADVISORY BOARD

Inter Alia's advisory board includes thinkers and academics, artists, activists and civil society experts from throughout Europe and beyond. They regularly advise the decision making team on the strategy of the organisation, its public discourse and advocacy agenda as well as on funding, partnerships and stakeholder engagement.



Legal scholar &
public interest advocate



Director of PICUM



Scholar & novelist



Scholar & researcher



Clinical Psychologist



Political Scientist



Community Developer



Advocacy Expert



Head of Office at IOM



COUNCIL OF MEMBERS

Because We Are

In times of constantly increasing uncertainty, isolation, and disconnectedness from each other we all want to feel that we belong. We all need, more than ever, the experience of togetherness, and the presence of strong, empowering communities in our lives. So, here we are: launching Inter Alia Council of Members to be a revitalising and enabling community we build together, and to which we can all belong.



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TRANSPARENCY



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[Here you can find out the financial report for 2021](#)

INTERALIA A.M.K.E.

ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΑΠΟΤΕΛΕΣΜΑΤΩΝ 31.12.2021 (9η ΕΤΑΙΡΙΚΗ ΧΡΗΣΗ 01.01.2021-31.12.2021)

ΑΦΜ: 997354359

ΑΠΟΤΕΛΕΣΜΑΤΑ ΠΕΡΙΟΔΟΥ	2021
ΚΥΚΛΟΣ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΩΝ (ΧΟΡΗΓΙΕΣ ΓΙΑ ΕΠΙΤΕΥΞΗ ΣΚΟΠΟΥ & ΠΡΟΚΑΤΑΒΟΛΕΣ)	152.611,20
ΛΟΙΠΑ ΣΥΝΗΘΗ ΕΣΟΔΑ	37,97
ΜΕΤΑΒΟΛΕΣ ΕΜΠΟΡΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ	0,00
ΑΓΟΡΕΣ ΕΜΠΟΡΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ & ΥΛΙΚΩΝ	0,00
ΠΑΡΟΧΕΣ ΣΕ ΕΡΓΑΖΟΜΕΝΟΥΣ	162.017,25
ΑΠΟΣΒΕΣΕΙΣ ΕΝΣΩΜΑΤΩΝ ΠΑΓΙΩΝ & ΑΥΛΩΝ ΣΤΟΙΧΕΙΩΝ	0,00
ΛΟΙΠΑ ΕΞΟΔΑ & ΖΗΜΙΕΣ	103.236,18
ΛΟΙΠΑ ΕΣΟΔΑ & ΚΕΡΔΗ	0,00
ΤΟΚΟΙ & ΣΥΝΑΦΗ ΚΟΝΔΥΛΙΑ	0,00
ΑΠΟΤΕΛΕΣΜΑΤΑ ΠΡΟ ΦΟΡΩΝ (ΔΙΑΘΕΣΙΜΑ)	-112.604,26
ΦΟΡΟΙ	8,35
ΑΠΟΤΕΛΕΣΜΑ ΠΕΡΙΟΔΟΥ ΜΕΤΑ ΦΟΡΩΝ	-112.612,61

ΑΘΗΝΑ 30.05.2022

Ο ΔΙΑΧΕΙΡΙΣΤΗΣ
ΠΑΠΑΚΩΣΤΑΣ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΣ

Ο ΛΟΓΙΣΤΗΣ





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