

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

Introduction	 1
Looking forward	 4
02	
Activities per month	7
2023 in numbers	40
03	
Acknowledgements	45

INSPIRING SOCIAL CHANGE

We are proud to present Inter Alia's Annual Report 2023!

Our organisation 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 team with a background in Political, Social and Financial Studies, striving to create spaces for citizens and communities at a local and European level to share knowledge and expertise, and to develop transformative civic action. Eleven years later, Inter Alia keeps on working towards the same goals and is much better positioned, more knowledgeable and organised to achieve them. Our core team consists of twelve persons while our network includes hundreds of like-minded partners across borders and sectors and thousands of followers and supporters of our mission.

Inter Alia's work is carried out through three streams of work:

- a. the Roots School of Critical and Explorative Learning
- b. the Heart Civic Intervention Point
- 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 <u>Culture & Arts</u>, <u>Education</u>, and <u>Political Engagement</u> as well as of <u>Youth</u>, that is an underlying target group of our activities.

This report is a reflection of our efforts over the past year and an overview of the milestones we have achieved and the ones that are upcoming. We also provide an overview of our financial position and our operational progress. We are grateful for the ongoing support of our <u>Advisory Board</u> & the <u>Council of Members</u>, and we look forward to grow our community even more in the coming year.









PURSUING SOCIAL CHANGE

NEWS OF THE TEAM



Boyka has discovered new talents and passions this year! We fully support her; we just hope she doesn't get lured away from our team.



Margarita, once again this year, brought the festival spirit and unique skills in organising and inspiring the PDSFF team, before she took a break to devote herself to completing her PhD.



Our **Boroka** left the team to follow her calling for justice! The lesson? To support our loved ones in their new beginnings. Boroka also organized the best Roots Winter School!



This year, Amerissa delivered one of the most moving and motivational lectures! Thank you, Amerissa.



This year, **Nikos** unearthed old talents, and now you know who to call if you are having a party!



As Inter Alia's advocacy officer, Martina developed a whole new section of work, the "Our Eye on the EU" monthly bulletin and broadcast. Apart from that, she became the official Italian tutor of the team!

EXPLORING SOCIAL CHANGE



Revekka was present at most of our events this year, and we are so grateful for spending more time with her.



Nikos made new friends this year, and let us tell you something; he's not as old as he thinks he is!



This year, Hara was head curator in two exhibitions in Athens and Palermo! Also, she did a fantastic job of managing her stress about "what can go wrong'!



This year, **Elina** became a painter, photographer, and learned to set up and unset the pezize.



Veroniki finally found her favorite group of participants this year.

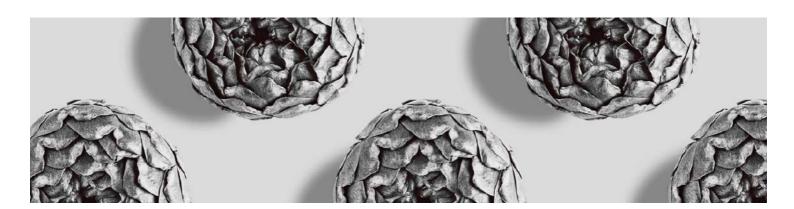
LOOKING FORWARD...





Tor Inter Alia, the transformative power of civil society rests in effective collective processes as well as the continuous reflection on and advancement towards shared values, ideas and practices. In 2023, we embarked on an organised effort to draft a series of strategic documents that will offer solid ground to pursue our mission in the public sphere at all levels. These include our three-year strategies, additions to our internal policies (code of conduct, gender equality policy, child protection policy, and environmental policy), our theory of change chart and impact assessment plan. We aspire to finalise all documents in the first trimester of 2024. In this process, we are not alone; our advisors, consults and members actively support us.

The June elections for the members of the European Parliament are set to be a turning point in the history of the European Union. The rise of extreme right wing and the prospect of anti-EU forces winning the majority of seats in the Parliament necessitates that solutions that resonate with the needs of social majorities gain ground. The European institutions need to open up to progressive and radical voices calling for global solutions and social and environmental justice rather than viewing them as adversaries. Inter Alia, from a left-side, critical Europeanist viewpoint, will continue advocating EU institutions for adopting a bold, transnational and progressive discourse before and after the elections.



EU institutions have honoured Inter Alia with great trust throughout the years. Maintaining our position as a trusted partner of EU institutions while enhancing our influence over EU policies in our fields of interest will be a priority for 2024. We will contribute to EU policy making and claim a seat at the table when important decisions affecting citizens, discriminated groups, civil society, youth workers, artists or youth are in question.

In 2024, we will continue experimenting with new work structures, decentralise responsibility and mainstream collaborative planning. Aiming to enhance internal democracy and encourage ownership over the organisation's development, we will continue exploring the emancipatory effects of work in the third sector. We will offer space and invest in specific processes for self-improvement of Inter Alia staff, volunteers and members.

In the coming year, we aspire to strengthen our connections to social movements, civil society actors and alliances at all levels. We will further engage in the "Union of small and medium size civil society organisations" in Greece, "From the Sea to the City", "Erasmus+ coalition" and other national and transnational grassroots initiatives. We will strive to broaden the common ground for different forms of civil society to act together, making compromises and synthesising different views, values and needs.

Finally, in violently gentrified Athens, free or affordable spaces are scarce. In 2023, we started offering our multi-use space in central Athens free of charge. This year, we aspire to take it one step further, and turn the second floor of the building at Valtetsiou Street into a daily operating safe space of bold ideas, co-existence and co-creation.

POSITIVELY DIFFERENT SHORT FILM FESTIVAL 2023

It was a fantastic festival! The whole team was very friendly and so cool! The program was very interesting! For...



CURVE - PROFESSIONAL TRAINING | MAY 2023

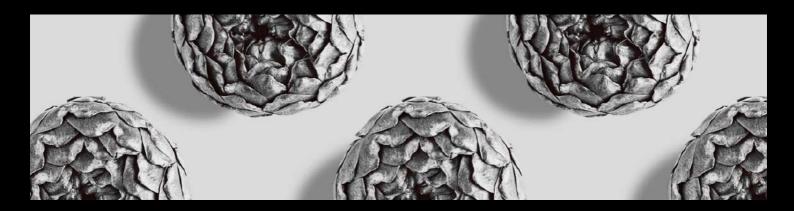
The Inter Alia staff were incredibly welcoming and hospitable as well as knowledgeable and professional. They went out of their...



ROOTS WINTER SCHOOL 2023

Inter Alia's Roots Winter School, for me is a reality check of our place in the world and how we...





JANUARY

If the first month of the year can serve as an indication of how the year will develop, we are highly enthusiastic about our work and equally concerned as citizens and civil society actors.

In Greece, the Ministry of Education presents a bill that downgrades degrees from artistic schools and equates them with secondary education diplomas. This brought mass mobilisations and a general outcry from artists and intellectuals across the country. Among affected graduates, actors are, by far, the most populous group. If theatre is the political art par excellence, as Hannah Arendt used to say, we can easily understand the reasons why power despises it and strives to undermine it. At this opportune moment, "For Memory's Shake", a play produced by Inter Alia, premieres in Athens giving young actors from the Balkans a space for expression and exploration of tradition and culture.

On 23rd January, after more than four years of waiting, some of the espionage charges against 24 aid workers who carried out search and rescue operations in Lesvos were dropped, although they still face charges of money laundering and human smuggling. While the decision opens up a crack of hope that a part of the Greek judicial system still upholds its mandate, aversion for agency on the part of citizens and civil society lays beneath these prosecutions. Setting off from concerns regarding the narrowing public space and criminalisation of solidarity, the short films shot by trainees during Inter Alia's recent training "Filming at Intersections" follow communities that are punished for reacting or striving to organise themselves against state indifference.

In the European Union, 2023 is the European Year of Skills, a good follow-up from the European Year of Youth 2022 and an important field for intervention on the part of civil society. As Inter Alia we position ourselves on the European Year of Skills, its prioritisation and its structure in our latest monthly bulletin "Our Eye on the EU". The bulletin also problematises the decision of the European Commission to cut Erasmus funds to Hungary due to failure to comply with Rule of Law directives, raises questions on the state of affairs of employment policies across the EU and provides the latest development for citizens' participation in EU affairs.

ANUARY







The ECHO III journey begins and we welcome artists from the Balkans to Inter Alia's new workshop space where they will have about a month to get to know each other and work together to put up a devised/documentary performance conceived/directed by Panagiotis Liaropoulos. "For Memory's Sake" deals with arranged marriage, marriage and the nuclear family in the Balkans. On stage will be Greek and foreign actors from Bulgaria, Romania and Albania, where they will co-create and present a collective multicultural experience based on testimonies, tradition, and the artistic perceptions of young people on love, family and duty.

Athens, Greece **Q**









Four and a half years after the first European Cultural Heritage Onstage project, the academic echo of ECHO I project is still strong. This January, a research paper titled Approaching Dark Cultural Heritage Places through Visual Arts: The ECHO (European Cultural Heritage Onstage) Project, authored by Nikos Pasamitros and Veroniki Krikoni, was published in the Critical Studies on Cultural Heritage Journal, in Greek language.



Creative workshop



Tavros is a working-class neighbourhood in the suburbs of Athens. The Solidarity School of Tavros offers free classes for high-school students of the neighbourhood and is a member of the network of solidarity schools of Athens. In an effort to diversify the teaching methods and foster students' transversal skills, such as empathy, teamwork, patience, the School invited Inter Alia for a series of sessions of the educational activity "Items narrate the stories of Others". The activity uses written discussion to questions about belonging, discrimination etc. Three classes of students between 13 and 15 years old along with their teachers took part in the activity. Athens, Greece **Q**



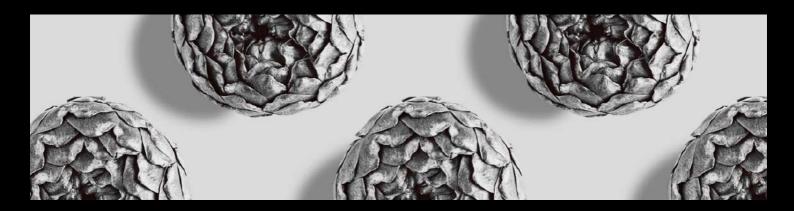
Youth exchange, Exhibition



Two years of the Future Narratives project finished with one last international experience and an installation at the Municipal Library in Sollentuna, Sweden! The week consisted of workshops and interventions on how to build alternative ideas for the future involving creative experimentation in video making, painting, photography, theatre, and creative writing. Participants were invited to build a collective exhibition of artworks inspired by their preferable futures.

Sollentuna, Sweden 💡





FEBRUARY

Reflecting on February 2023, a catastrophic earthquake strikes Turkey and Syria on the 6th, claiming nearly 50,000 lives and triggering a humanitarian crisis that left thousands without shelter and access to basic necessities. The incident exposes the inhumane consequences of unchecked growth and unbridled profitability, particularly evident in the poorly constructed buildings that neglect safety regulations. Tragedy also unfolds in Greece at the end of February 2023, where a collision between two trains results in one of the deadliest accidents in the country's recent history. In both instances, political leaders, having actively pursued power concentration through their mandates, swiftly attempt to shift responsibility by hastily attributing the tragedies to human error. Inter Alia consistently criticizes the dire state of democracy and the Rule of Law in Greece, highlighting the pervasive threats across various sectors of public life. For 2024 we promise to continue advocating for a significant overhaul of the political system, emphasizing the crucial role civil society must play in this transformative process. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the families of the victims.

In Athens and other cities around Greece, actors protest and strike against a government decision that infringes their professional and academic rights. This decision, on the one hand, attacks artistic expression, of which no conservative ruler is fond. On the other, it is part of a wider strategy to pave the way for a crooked, socially dividing, and unjust version of private university education in the country. Our team denounced the bill of the government during the performances of "For Memory's Sake", a play addressing intimate and social relationships and roles through the subject of arranged marriage that was staged in February.

February 2023 also marks one year since the start of the war in Ukraine. One year during which the Russian attacker and the Ukrainian defender have not managed to sit at the negotiating table. Meanwhile, non-combatants suffer the dire consequences of warfare. Inter Alia continues monitoring and analysing political initiatives carried out in external affairs by EU institutions and political representatives in the context of "Our Eye on the EU".

FEBRUARY







Representatives of 10 civil society organisations, who were among the cosigners of the open letter to the Minister of Digital Transformation, Kyriakos Pierrakakis, convened at the minister's initiative. The purpose was to assert the substantial role of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in both formulating and implementing the Open Government Partnership. Several years of lost opportunities had caused mistrust on behalf of civil society regarding the intentions of the ministry to share power and include other actors in policymaking.







Inter Alia presented the "For Memory's Sake" theatre play in Bellos theatre, Athens. For Memory's Sake was the result of the ECHO III project, one month-long art residency of actors in Athens, working on the subject of arranged marriage in the Balkans through original interviews with people that have experienced arranged marriage. The audience warmly welcomes the original play. For Memory's Sake next step is to tour around the Balkans (Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Albania) in September 2023 together with the artists of the rest of the ECHO III residencies.

Athens, Greece **Q**









We are grateful for the successful completion of the PERSE project in 2023. Through our collaborative efforts, we co-designed a methodology that had already transformed our approach to creative thinking and participation. core values of openness, power, intersectionality, flexibility, and responsibility were crucial in shaping the future of STEAM Education.

Torino, Italy

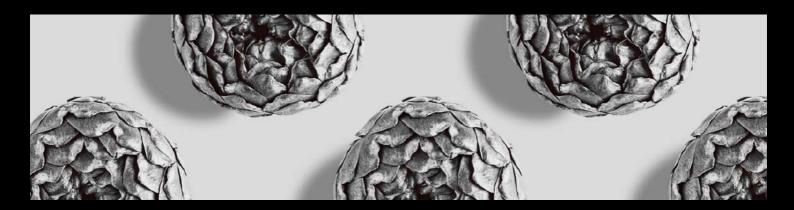




At the roundtable discussion of PERSE project, we delved into the importance of STEAM in education, exploring its potential to foster creativity and innovation among students. We introduced the PERSE Application and showcased how it can serve as a tool to ignite creativity in students, providing them with avenues to explore the synergy between science and art. Participants engaged in discussions on the current and future applications of STEAM across various sectors, including technology, education, and industry.

Athens, Greece





MARCH

In March 2023, mass protests erupt across France, signaling that tolerance for Emmanuel Macron's unapologetically neoliberal and heavy-handed rule run out. The turmoil was triggered by an unpopular reform that foresees a raise in the minimum retirement age from 62 to 64 and requires people to work for 43 years to qualify for a full pension. Despite the reform not being inherently radical, inefficiencies in checks and balances towards the presidency under the 5th Republic, shaky public finances, embedded economic inequality, and a growing dissatisfaction with President Macron fuel this wave of unrest. Inter Alia proudly stands in solidarity with people-driven, transcendent, and cross-sectoral efforts to dismantle oppressive structures. A key contribution to such processes was the Positively Different Short Film Festival. "PDSFF23 | Resistances" takes place in March 2023 in seven cities around the world, connecting struggles and building resistances across different socio-political contexts.

In Greece, general elections were announced. At last! Following massive rallies by people protesting against the State's criminal responsibilities for the terrible train crash in the northern part of the country and, given that the end of the government's four-year term is approaching, the Prime Minister called for elections on 21 May. The end of the government's term is a darker time for democracy in Greece than the beginning; recent hearings, investigations and reports in the European Parliament regarding the state of the Rule of Law in the country after the recent wiretapping scandal, reaffirm this downward spiral. You can read all major policy developments coming from Brussels and Strasbourg in the fields of civil rights, social affairs, education, youth, migration in our monthly bulletin "Our Eye on the EU".

While March is the month for Inter Alia's main event connected to cinema, a struggle with great political and cultural importance takes place in central Athens. Two historical cinemas in the heart of the city are threatened by the policies of gentrification and capitalist greed. The state-owned buildings where they are hosted is to be left unprotected, to be rented by the highest bidder - be it a supermarket, office, or hotel. As people and spaces of culture are under an escalating attack, Inter Alia supports ASTOP and IDEAL and their people as symbols of a city that remembers and honors its culture and heritage. PDSFF23 materials are made available to screen for free in support of their struggles.

MARCH







PDSFF23 commenced with the announcement of free admission screenings, open to the public, as a minimum symbolic support to the strike on Thursday, 16 March. With full-house screenings every night during the four-day event and filmmakers overcoming long delays and canceled flights to attend, we - once again - realise the importance of storytelling and coming together in times when we were expected to retreat. We wholeheartedly thank all the creators for sharing their stories, the festival workers, the subtitlers, the volunteers, curators, guest speakers, and everyone who showed up and flooded cine TRIANON with their support and enthusiasm amidst the agonising developments in the Greek political sphere.

Athens, Greece







Placing movement and displacement in a wider context of exploring belonging and alienation, Outcast Europe coorganised a collection day with Shedia Home, in Athens, titled My amulet. We met the vendors of the street magazine at Shedia's café, who brought items that hold a symbolic and/or emotional significance for them and their personal story of movement. The items "narrated" the stories of the vendors, their past professions, their hobbies, the moments and relationships that changed their lives. Navigate through the items and their stories in this digital thematic exhibition.

Athens, Greece **Q**







A side event of the Positively Different Short Film Festival was an open discussion followed by the screening of the movie 'Ongoing Dystopias' (83'). This discussion intended to think about storytelling as a strategy of resistance. Moderated by Despina Katapoti, Associate Professor of Cultural Studies and Digital Culture at the University of the Aegean, editor of the edited volume "Black Mirror: the black mirror of digitality" with the participation of Christina Voulgari, Stand Up Comedian, Founder of Snap -Athens Queer Comedy Club, Elina Roinioti, sociologist, researcher in the field of digital games and Nikos Daskalopoulos, journalist.

Athens, Greece •







Participants from Malta, Germany and Greece regathered in Athens, after December's 2022 filmmaking seminar, for a training on advocacy and fundraising and to attend the Positively Different Short Film Festival 2023, which included an official screening of their 8 films. The films tell stories of solidarity, explore belonging and connections between people and places, show struggles, satirise and subvert stereotypes, claim and create spaces. During their visit, participants learned and discussed how to fundraise for their projects and launch their own campaigns, while they also participated in an open discussion following the screening of their films on the big screen. They left with newfound excitement and motivation, as well as ideas for new films, campaigns and all kinds of actions.

Athens, Greece







Inter Alia actively participated in Employability Week at Mediterranean College, where we provided valuable information students to about opportunities and ways they could become involved. Engaging in discussions with young people is both empowering and challenging. It involves not only imparting information but also helping them their fears, reassuring them, and overcome supporting them in realising their dreams.

Athens, Greece •



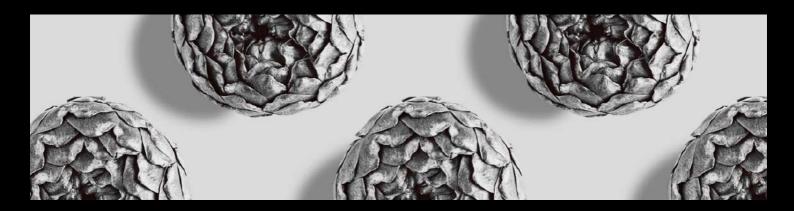


Inter Alia, in cooperation with UNED Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, organised the workshop "Using Technology for Inclusive Educational Activities in the Museum Context", which took place at the Ilias Lalaounis Jewelry Museum (Athens, Greece). The workshop familiarised the participants with new and emergent technologies that can be used in museum settings to promote health, wellbeing and inclusion; and helped them identify the competencies needed by professionals when including these technologies in the context of museum activities and experiences.

Athens, Greece **Q**







APRIL

In April 2023, Alexis Georgoulis, Member of the European Parliament (MEP) elected in 2019 with Syriza, faces accusations of sexual harassment and abuse. Unbiased penal treatment of men in power for such behaviors is deemed necessary, but it is acknowledged that radical measures to break patriarchal structures in political institutions are also essential. A starting point involves creating a solid framework for reporting on such cases and providing necessary support to survivors. Later in April, Greek MEPs are among those who press for postponing a plenary discussion to vote a resolution on the Rule of Law situation in Greece, Spain and Malta using the pretext of the upcoming national elections. If the EU is going to be a relevant, trustworthy actor, crucial matters such as the dire situation of media and civil society in Greece, should be prioritised over electoral calculations.

In April, military violence broke out in Sudan. The Northeast African country, the third-largest by area in the continent and with more than 45 million people, was at the centre of international outcry in the 2000s due to the breakdown of human rights caused by the war in the region of Darfur. Most of the fighting in this new round of violence appears to be taking place in Khartoum. The civilian death toll from the fighting has surpassed 450, with more than 4,000 injured, according to the World Health Organization. Currently, EU Member States' governments are occupied with removing their citizens from the war zone to safety. However, the threat of generalised conflict highlights the need for the EU to place itself ahead of developments and necessitates a progressive, forward-looking agenda for migrant and refugee reception and integration. The New Pact on Migration & Asylum that the main political parties in the Parliament advance is a top-down, timid and conservative document and cannot be the basis for such a policy. Inter Alia's work in the field of migration aims, on the one hand, to promote inclusive decision-making and, on the other, to upgrade the role of organisations and communities in fostering integration. In April 2023, a European Citizens Initiative titled "Ensuring" dignified reception of migrants in Europe" involving Inter Alia staff started collecting signatures. The road to one million is long and we will need all the necessary support we can get. On a different scale, Outcast Europe organised a collection day in Moschato, an Athenian neighbourhood known for its long and complex history of migrations and coexistence. Collective memory and reflection make selfaware, resilient and open communities and are an essential part of sustainable migration policies.

APRIL

Discussion, Workshop



Future Narratives was initiated as a journey of self-awareness and confidence building. Over time, it demonstrated that the power within us could emerge and be mobilised through the experiences of others. Indeed, this is how a community can be empowered, paving the way for change. The transformational potentials of stories and narratives became the basis for change towards a preferable future. Our collective Future Narratives journey encompassed personal, shared, and collective experiences intricately linked with our ups and downs, fears, and dreams. Here's a glimpse of what transpired within the two years of the project! As of April 2023, Future Narratives has come to a close. If you're interested in learning more about the process and the educational tools used in the project, the "Informal Innovation Pathways" inspirational report and manual for youth workers and other practitioners in the field of youth are now available online. Excitingly, stay tuned for Future Narratives 2, set to begin in 2024!





After 5 Art Residencies and 1 TC, a multicultural theatre-music-dance performance conceived by international artists and directed by Aphrodite Mitsopoulou & Iakovos Molybakis, marked the completion of YouGo's journey. Artists from Poland, Bulgaria, Togo, Senegal, Nigeria and Greece met for the first time on stage, and with their lived stories and experiences, they tried to create a new future, transferring to the public their cultural commonalities and differences, expressing and exploring themselves. Athens, Greece





A collection day took place in the Thessaloniki branch of Shedia magazine. We talked to vendors about their life paths that were characterised by the harshness of alienation as much as by hope and resilience for a brighter future. Vendors brought items that have accompanied them for years, that they held on to during the time they were The items "narrated" their past homeless. professions, their hobbies, the moments and relationships that changed their lives.

Thessaloniki, Greece 😧



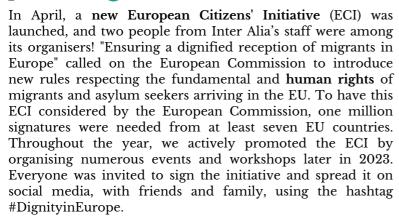




In a community space and a celebratory mood, 17 people students and teachers from the school, residents and friends of Moschato, and residents of the surrounding areas - brought items that carry a personal, familial or community story of displacement or movement. They gathered in Mesopotamia's space and narrated the stories of their items, which reached Moschato after travelling from or through Asia Minor, Romania, Jordan, Russia, Congo, Ecuador, India, Turkey, Syria and many places within Greece. After all stories were collected and all items photographed, an open celebration followed, with a lot of music, dancing and people sharing food from their traditional cuisines.









Youth exchange, Performance



The classic tragedy of Sophocles, a diachronic symbol of resilience against authoritarianism and an ode to equality and isonomy, was once again the basis of a performance prepared by young people from across Europe and presented at the central square of Rafina, a suburb of Athens. The team of Inter Alia, along with partner organisations from seven European countries, featured a multilingual version of the confrontation of Antigone and Creon as conceived by the Palermitan artists Valerio Strati (director) and Carlomauro Maggiore (choreographer). Athens, Greece **Q**



Presentation, Jury 💖 🤎 🤝





We were invited to the youth fair event of KMOP, featuring four amazing initiatives competing for the prize. Inter Alia was part of the jury committee and had the opportunity to inform the audience about our mission and activities. We had a tough time choosing the winner.

Athens, Greece





Presentation 🦣 🍘 🔘



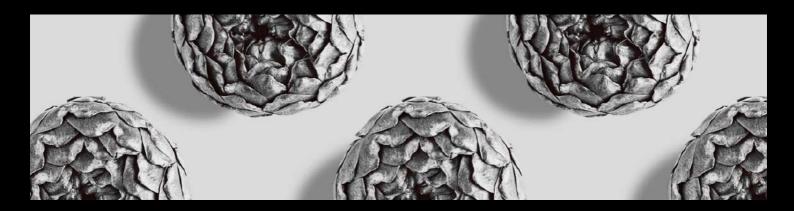




The intervention emphasised on Inter Alia's approach to advocacy and the role of power building. Advocacy concerns, necessarily, a social issue and targets to create, to promote or pursue a better society. But who defines what "a better society" means? Why should we concern ourselves with one, among many visions for a better society? Our response is that advocacy is not about specialised services or legal knowhow of a specific cause but, first and foremost, power building.

Online **Q**





MAY

On 21 May, the right-wing New Democracy party achieves a sweeping victory in the Greek national elections. Greek voters choose to vote for a programme purporting stability, growth, and security without being influenced by four years of democratic deficit, privatisation of social services and amenities, suppression of freedom of the press, and ruthless necropolitics against migrants. Inter Alia continues low-intensity work, building the capacities of civil society professionals, students and scholars to work in key policy fields for transformative politics through our "Roots School of Critical & Explorative Learning". In May, we organise another transnational training in our series on migration politics and policies.

Regretfully, the hegemony of conservative politics is not only a Greek phenomenon. The perpetuation of this hegemony only manages to hide a sackful of problems under the carpet. The Inter Alia team opposes narrow-minded notions and practices and persists in its work to address burning issues for European societies. This month, the European Commission announced the dates of the European Parliament elections. Our work on European politics intensifies and we share a call for contributions to our work plan aiming to critically discuss and foster electoral participation. As every month, you may read the main news coming from the EU institutions on our areas of interest – youth, civil rights, education, social affairs, migration - in our monthly bulletin. Along with this, Inter Alia offers its views in a new video-series of analyses on European developments.

Local micro-narratives are also under attack by homogenising nation-centred politics. As part of Outcast Europe, Inter Alia collaborated with Tavros Residents Initiative's Solidarity School, Tavros Residents' Initiative for Solidarity and Pontians Assembly of Tavros for a collection day that created a bottom-up history of the neighbourhood of Tavros, as experienced by the residents themselves. Struggle is not only local but also cross-border. Inter Alia organised two transnational learning activities built on performing arts and leading to original theatrical works and public performances in Athens. A group of 50 amateur actors from across Europe presented a version of the confrontation of Kreon and Antigone, a classic text and a tribute to disobedience and the faith in internal justice. A few days later, Youth Going Live highlighted how the language of theatre can connect cultures, alter perceptions and break stereotypes.

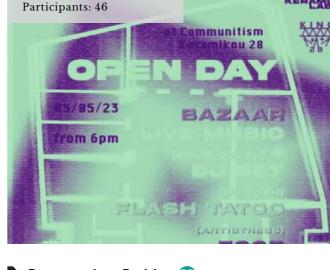
MAY





In a world where migration and refugee flows are often perceived as crises and "otherness" demanding immediate reactions, Inter Alia, fostering intersectional and transnational approaches, hosted professional training course Understanding of Refugees (Cultivating Vulnerable Environments). The programme brought together participants from CSOs, postgraduate students and scholars in the UK and Italy, along with esteemed guest lecturers. The training delved into the multifaceted issues of refugee integration, with a particular focus on the role of employment and education.

Athens, Greece **Q**



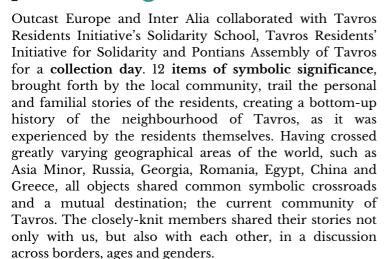
Presentation, Petition 🚫

Date: 5 May

Inter Alia participated in the final event of Communitism, supporting this significant space. Communitism, which served as a unique cultural & community landmark in the heart of Metaxourgeio, faced challenges that compelled its departure from the location at Kerameikou 28. During the last event, Inter Alia presented the European citizens' initiative "Dignity in Europe," and called people to sign it. Among other organisations we persisted in the fight for justice and solidarity, lending our voice to the vulnerable and defenseless.

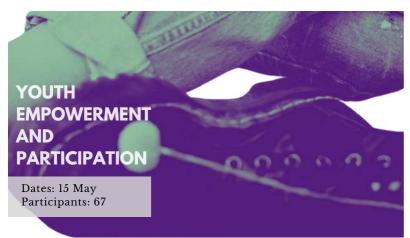
Athens, Greece 😯





Athens, Greece







Inter Alia was invited to contribute with a participatory workshop in the context of a European Youth Mobility Programmes event. The event was organised by the EPAS team of the Tropaia High School, in collaboration with the Music School of Tripoli and the Eurodesk Multiplier of Peloponnese. The event took place online and involved four classes of students of found schools in Peloponnese. Inter Alia presented a process that included personal and collective reflection on socio-economic and ecological issues motivating the students to think about their values, their role in the community and society they envision to have and their connection with the ecological world. They reflect on these individually and discussed about them collectively identifying similarities and differences.

Online **Q**







Three groups of aspiring filmmakers, based in Athens, Malta and Germany, after having taken part in a filmmaking training in Athens in December 2022, created a series of films about their spaces, the struggles they face within them and the hopes that are fostered."Connect the Dots" speaks of loneliness in a big city, while "The Others" tells a story of solidarity across borders. "Portraits" and "Papers" bring individuals of African communities to the foreground, to discuss struggles of migrants in Malta. "The Blinking Contest" satirises racial stereotypes and challenges biases. Watch the films here.

Athens, Greece









In the ever-evolving landscape of youth empowerment and societal inclusion, the "Beyond: Inclusion of young people beyond barriers" project took its first stride with a transformative Transnational Project Meeting, in the vibrant city of Milan. This pioneering initiative, spearheaded by a consortium of organizations including LaFil, Puntozero, Asociación Juvenil Teatral ON&OFF, and Inter Alia, aspires to break down barriers and create a more inclusive environment for young people facing various challenges.

Milan, Italy





JUNE

On the night of 13-14 June, 50 miles off the shore of Pylos in the Peloponnese region in Greece, a fishing boat carrying approximately 700 migrants sinks. It leads to the drowning of an estimate of 550 to 600 people; no woman or child are among the 100 rescued. The announcement by the Greek coast guard regarding the operation is littered with controversial statements which sea rescue organisations operating in the area contest with unshakeable evidence. Against the cliché practice of pushing responsibility to human smugglers, what is apparent in the case of this tragedy is the potential outcomes of the policy choice of deterrence; a choice taken consciously and publicly by the Greek government. The blame game that will follow bears little relevance. Against the dehumanising calculations of state governments, Inter Alia, along with transnational groups of activists and civil society, pursues a sustainable and humane trans-local response to the migrant question.

In June, we carried on with promoting our European Citizens Initiatives "Ensuring a Dignified Reception of Migrants in Europe", took part in advocacy campaigns concerning the Pylos tragedy and presented our positions in transnational fora such as the online event "Cities4Refugees: Cooperation for a Welcoming Europe".

In Greece, the second consequent elections that took place one month after the last confirmed several alarming trends in Greek politics. The extreme-right is back, with ultra-conservative and alt-right parties as well as the familiar thugs of Golden Dawn dressed in new clothes all entering Parliament. The left wing suffered another devastating defeat losing approximately 40% of its electoral power and MPs. The outgoing/incoming government dominated massively and universally professing stability, growth and security. Greek voters chose to disregard the country's backsliding regarding quality of democracy and the functioning of institutions. Along with increased abstention, this choice indicates fatigue and apathy on behalf of the electoral body. Notwithstanding this trend, Inter Alia's "Heart Point of Civic Intervention" continues to promote civic and political action with a view to inspire faith in just and sustainable progress and increase pressure on decision makers at all levels.

This summer, all major Serbian cities, including Belgrade, are experiencing a rebirth of civic activism and anti-government protest movements. Following two mass shootings that took place one day apart last month, Serbian people and civil society have taken to the streets to manifest their rejection of violence, power-concentration and corruption. Inter Alia was in Belgrade and experienced first-hand this rise of hope and determination of the Serbian people. We organised a special screening of PDSFF23 | Resistances in the context of KROKODIL literary festival, took part in the protest and reinforced our political connections to the region. We bring back to you pictures, opinions, reports and interviews of what seems to be a game-changing period for Serbian politics.





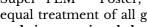
Art Residency



Dates: 12 June - 2 July Participants: 10

During the summer, Inter Alia continues to support independent artistic creation. The ECHO Academy takes place in Athens, Greece, hosting comic artists from the Western Balkans and the EU. The artists explore the Karagiozis Shadow Puppet Theater, receive masterclasses from top comic artists such as Tasmar, Thanasis Petrou, Aggeliki Salamaliki, and Dimitris Savaidis, and work on creating their original comic stories. All the creations are going to be published in a collective comic album by Jemma Press in 2024.

Athens, Greece **Q**



Super FEM - Foster, Empower, Mobilise promotes equal treatment of all genders by exploring innovative and intersectional learning approaches to achieve and collective empowerment, development and social integration of young femininities carrying intersecting identities. The beginning of the summer was marked by a meeting of the Super FEM team at Balestrand, Norway, to officially kick off the project and work on the skills, abilities and processes necessary for the forseen activities. The week was filled with activities around intersectionality as a professional, academic and practical working tool, as well as challenging established paths, building empathy and creating new connections that will inspire change, no matter how big or small!

Balestrand, Norway



Presentation 🔘



Inter Alia was in Brussels to attend the European Citizens' Initiative Day. We focused on acquiring skills to ensure the success of our Dignity In Europe ECI. Additionally, we had the chance to network with other ECI organisers, representatives from EU institutions, and civil society representatives.

Brussels, Belgium Q







Inter Alia organised "Creative Climate Praxis and Justice," an event dedicated to the topic of sustainable fashion. The event brought together individuals who are curious about the social and ecological impact of the fashion industry. Together, we explored how prevailing perceptions of sustainability affect environmental policy-making and delved into alternatives for a more sustainable world that is intricately linked to social justice. We used a twolevel approach where participants engaged with mainstream approaches sustainability and sustainable fashion, such technological as and innovations eco-modernity. Through a reflective, playful, and creative process, we also challenged the dominant assumptions of what constitutes "sustainable" and "justice."

Athens, Greece **Q**





Collection day, Exhibition



In this exhibition, we let the items of new and old residents of Hastings lead us through the paths their owners have taken. They talk about past lives, communities left and new ones found in this town in the South of England. Fragments of routines and daily rituals, symbols of home and family, emergency equipment are among the items donated by people from Chile, Sudan, Ukraine, Morocco and Iraq.

Athens, Greece





Screening (

Winning shorts of PDSFF23 were screened in the context of KROKODIL festival in front of the Museum of Yugoslavia in Belgrade. KROKODIL is one of the largest literary events of the Balkan region. They called PDSFF to diversify their channels of addressing their audience and their program with a contemporary, intersectional cinematographic view. The screening took place in the context of a **networking** meeting in Belgrade that led us to interaction with artists, activists and the intense cultural life of the city and joining the protest movement that has been sweeping the country in recent months.

Belgrade, Serbia 🔮







Demonstrations, campaigns and actions for raising awareness towards humane and sustainable migration policies, particularly in response to the recent tragedy in Pylos, came as a need and an obligation. Inter Alia co-signed the campaign "The Mediterranean sea is not a graveyard. It's a crime scene", joined demonstrations and disseminated news. Also, bringing together representatives of European cities and members of active civil society initiatives from all over Europe, the online event "Cities4Refugees: Cooperation for a Welcoming Europe" aimed to open up opportunities for practical, open-minded solutions which place human rights at the centre of future migration politics.





Inter Alia participated in the online event "Cities for Refugees -Cooperation for a welcoming Europe". The event brought together European cities representatives, and members of active civil society initiatives from all over Europe that are already working and advocating to open up opportunities for practical, openminded solutions which place human rights at the center of the future migration politics. "Cities for Refugees" project involves municipalities, activists, NGOs and other multipliers who are directly working to improve the situation for migrants arriving to Europe and within Europe. Focusing on the cooperation between municipalities from different countries and local civil society groups, the objectives of the initiative are increasing capacitybuilding for activists and cities through the dialogue around best practice examples in different fields of migration and cooperation.

Online **Q**







In June, amidst all the activities we engaged in, we also dedicated time to ourselves - our team. Often, when focused on organising activities for other people, we may overlook the significance of doing things for our wellbeing and for our friends. Therefore, in mid-June, Inter Alia dedicated a day exclusively for us! We invited Catherine from "shedia" and with her guidance, we crafted a clock using materials accumulated from past events. The clock serves as a reminder that time is flying, emphasising the importance of spending quality moments together and promoting the idea that everything can be recycled.

Athens, Greece **Q**





JULY

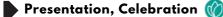
On 23 July comes the first, non-devastating news from electoral processes in Europe in a while. Spanish citizens resist the calls of nationalist and nativist VOX party and punisd the ambiguity of the conservative People's Party regarding its willingness to form a coalition government with VOX. The centrist PSOE party, the major partner in the outgoing government, does better than expected by the polls. The Left survives the polarisation of the elections and avoids further shrinking. In view of the EP elections where the dominance of conservative parties seems to be unchallenged and collaboration with the extreme right wing is openly discussed, the Spanish people draw a symbolic line. Inter Alia, in an effort to listen to and understand the needs and electoral movements of European citizens, launches a transnational campaign across projects and sectors of work on European politics. This month, together with our monthly bulletin, we present our action plan for the EP elections under the title "Voting for Myself!".

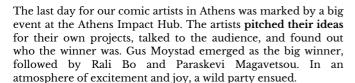
For one more year wildfires consume antural resources and forests across Southern Europe. Governments, most openly the Greek one, are almost exclusively concerned with the protection of human lives and instruct residents to evacuate their land and stand by as it turns to ashes. While seemingly reasonable, this approach that places communications at the heart of civil protection, suffers from important inconsistencies. Prevention is a matter of governance culture and strategy, it requires continuous work around the year and cannot commence when destruction hits. Besides, natural disasters in the current climate crisis are predictable while natural environment is indispensable for the well-being of humans. Finally, it is not only human lives that matter. Our climate policies have been human-centric for far too long while the ship of mild development has long sailed. In the context of our work on socio-ecological transformation, we kept on with our series of workshops this time focusing on the political ecology of food systems.

In mid-July, the European Commission signed a 100 million euro deal with Tunisia to strengthen border management with a view to address "irregular migration". The agreement is part of a more general financing plan across the sectors of migration, macro-economic stability, trade and investment, green energy transition, and people-to-people contacts aimed to ensure stability in the country. As you may view in our latest videos on EU affairs, Inter Alia strongly rejects this approach by the European Commission that gives countries with grim records in human and minority rights the authority to supervise migrant flows in Europe. We call for financing that will increase the receptiveness to and sustainable integration of new populations in Europe rather than externalising border management.

JULY



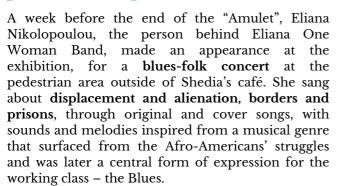




Athens, Greece **Q**



Performance 🍘



Athens, Greece **Q**





Exhibition 🍘 🌘





Outcast Europe, through oral interviews, maps the routes of items that have served as points of reference during the journeys of their owners. It explores "bottom-up histories", personal, familial and communal experiences of displacement and movement not only across, but also within borders. "My amulet", through personal items of Shedia street magazine vendors, listened to the experience of becoming a stranger to the places you once belonged to and gazed at the intersections of humane stories of loss and sorrow, patience and strength. The material items and the oral testimonies that where presented in the exhibition that was hosted at Shedia Home, and which were collected during the collection days in March and April, showcase movement and displacement as a continuous journey of people from different places and eras. The exhibition opening took place on July 3. Friends of Inter Alia and Shedia, participants of previous collection days as well as of the literary call and, of course, the vendors that lent their items to the exhibition and shared their experiences, gathered at the café, in the centre of Athens, for a guided tour of the items that became alive and that brought a piece of their owners' life at "My Amulet". In the context of the exhibition, Outcast Europe carried out the educational activity "Items narrate the stories of 'others'", this time incorporating the "Amulet's" items, with kids between the ages of 7 and 14. The activities of Outcast Europe are available online here.

Athens, Greece **Q**







We launched "I vote for myself", our one-year programme aimed at fostering vouth engagement in the 2024 EU elections. Ten activities cover EU basics, its impact, and active participation. Open to 18-30-year-olds, first-time voters, and experienced citizens. .

Online + Athens, Greece







Continuing the PDSFF23 "on tour", our festival travelled for the 4th year to Zagori. Mountains, fireflies and loved short movies; what is there not to like? PDSFF traveled once more to the mountains of Western Greece to meet friends and aspiring film makers of Zagoriwood along with the locals and visitors from nearby villages. We enjoyed films that celebrate friendship and solidarity and reminisce home and community. PDSFF24 - Love & Revolt will be back to Zagorochoria in the summer of 2024!

Zagorochoria, Greece 😯

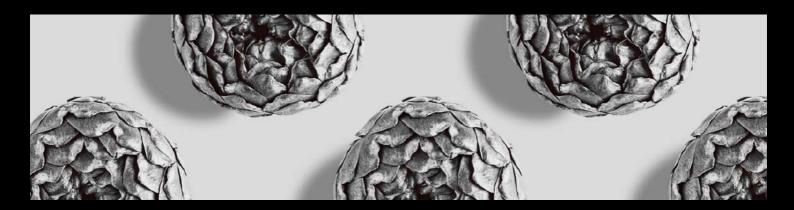




Addressing youth from all around Europe is a rare privilege that we enjoyed during the screening in Espace Agnès Sorel in Loches. The selected shorts deal with intimate relationships of youth with peers, their families - physical or created ones - the climate crisis and the digital world. The audience, aged 16 to 18, raised profound questions about the festival and the filmmaking process and explained their preferences. The screening took place in the context of the Rencontres Européennes a Buzancais et Loches organised by L'Europe en Berry Touraine for the past 13 years.

Loches, France





AUGUST

August is a month for holiday, recharge and relaxation. Sadly, in the past several years across Europe it has also been the time of the year when we mourn the loss of human lives, natural resources and wildlife due to wildfires. Greece is once again in the midst of this calamity with 20 people dead and over 160,000 hectares burnt, among which 92,000 hectares of protected forest in the Evros region. In the frenzy of the fiery inferno, a local citizen kidnapps and piles up 25 undocumented people in the closed trailer of his vehicle to bring them to justice because he judged that they were suspects for arson. Then he posts his act on social media. Although all abducted refugees are unconditionally released by the court, the Prime Minister calls on citizens to refrain from taking the law into their own hands, thus tacitly endorsing the arbitrary accusations of Evros' sociopaths and only questioning their methods. Scapegoating the weak and vulnerable is not a Greek idiom. It is a global phenomenon fed by the concentration of power, greed, and the determination of the elites to hold on to their privileges. Inter Alia invited applications in our effort to explore unseen wounds and uncover the layers of violence in our past Roots Winter School.

Spain and the rest of Europe are rocked by the scandal of the non-consensual kiss by Luis Rubiales, president of Spain's football federation, to Jenni Hermoso, a world champion with the Spanish national team. As Rubiales' refusal to resign stank of arrogance and enhanced the outcry, it becomes apparent that a culture of intolerance for abusive behaviors is taking root; at least among the rich and famous in EU states. Inter Alia's work aims to mainstream this pattern and address patriarchal structures of inequality and abuse everywhere. Super FEM invites ALL interested femininities to apply to join a working group (excluding only cis male participants) that would co-develop training materials and artworks from a feminist and intersectional perspective through their lived experience. In parallel, "PDSFF24 | Love & Revolt" is looking for the cinematographic works that would support this effort. We are looking to hire a "Communications and Outreach Coordinator" for PDSFF24, and the call for short films is open until 30 September, while an invitation to volunteers to support the film selection and festival organizing is also ongoing.

Setting off full of positive energy but also expecting this year to be ominous and confrontational in terms of politics and the economy, we remain firm in our values and continue to inspire social change through explorative learning, collective action, and creativity! August, for Inter Alia, is a month of calls to action, events and applications.





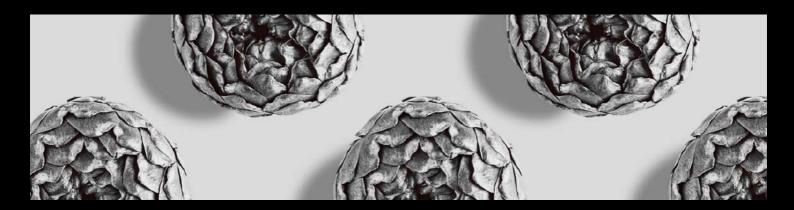
In 2024, we will explore ways of transforming stories of oppression and resilience into art and educational material with the aim of raising awareness and eventually gaining more space for the hidden and the unseen. We will focus on the experiences that bring each one of us to our current situation and experiment with representations of past narratives and future visions. During facilitated sessions, participants will share reflections about four main stages of life (childhood, adolescence, adulthood, future) but also look for connections among us. The engagement of artist(s), meanwhile, will pave the way for the transformation of these visions into a collective construction, attractive and accessible to a wider audience. "So, August was the month when we released the open call for young women (self-identified as such and only) willing to share your personal story for raising awareness on collective struggles.



Positively Different Short Film Festival (PDSFF) gears up for its fifth edition "Love & Revolt" in March 2024. The festival looks into new ways of exploring the discourse around intersectionality and intersecting identities. A week before the end of the "Amulet", Eliana Nikolopoulou, the person behind Eliana One Woman Band, made an appearance at the exhibition, for a blues-folk concert at the pedestrian area outside of Shedia's café. She sang about displacement and alienation, borders and prisons, through original and cover songs, with sounds and melodies inspired from a musical genre that surfaced from the Afro-Americans' struggles and was later a central form of expression for the working class – the Blues.



Building on the success of last year's transformative gathering, we were back for a second edition of RWS in 2023. 2023's theme was "Unseen Wounds: Uncovering the Layers of Violence" and we were looking for people over 18 and committed to tackling important political, social, and cultural issues.



SEPTEMBER

As of September 2023, Nagorno-Karabakh is added to the list of international conflicts on European soil that are concluded through an escalation of violence. The enclave in the Ural Mountains that lies within Azerbaijan's internationally recognised borders has been home to tens of thousands of ethnic Armenians since its unilateral declaration of independence in 1992. No country has officially recognised the mini-state while major powers have not risked an overt military intervention, maintaining a balance of dread. In the past few weeks, tens of thousands of inhabitants of Nagorno-Karabakh flee towards the border to Armenia, fearing ethnic "cleansing" by the advancing Azeri military. While the signs of escalation were there, the EU foreign policy faltered; primarily due to its dependence on Azeri gas. While closely monitoring EU's policies for our monthly bulletin "Our Eye on the EU" and awaiting decisions in the field of asylum as a result of the massive exodus of Armenian refugees, Inter Alia looks critically into the causes of military conflicts as part of a wrongfully built, inherently violent system.

In the EU, Commission president Ursula Von der Leyen addressed the yearly State of the Union speech to the plenary of the European Parliament (EP). In this hour-long speech, the Commissioner celebrated the Union's advances and her own personal successes. Unfortunately, there was not enough time to utter a word about citizens' participation and the role of civil society in shaping European politics. In view of the EP elections, we expected the Commissioner to try to inspire and encourage civil society to take up more space in the public sphere against the growing extreme right wing. Inter Alia continues its journey through monthly activities in the context of the "I vote for myself" series aiming to think critically about electoral participation while enhancing its engagement in EU affairs through monthly broadcasts with political comments on developments in the EU.

There has not been a month recently without a fresh debacle concerning Greece. After wildfires, naturally, came the floods. They led to the death of 17 in central Greece. The toll on agricultural production and livestock is devastating ahead of what promises to be a difficult winter due to inflation, increasing energy prices, etc. A minister of the state mentioned in a TV interview that it would be unreasonable to prepare the state mechanism for a phenomenon so intense that it is expected to occur again in 400 years. Should one emphasise the statement's naivety, ignorance, populism or arrogance? Contrary to the minister, at Inter Alia we are aware that the world has changed and that the climate crisis is here to stay. We work on highlighting connections between social and ecological transformation and the importance of examining radically different worldviews. Our series on degrowth and sustainability continues in October.

SEPTEMBER

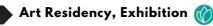




In mid September, we held our annual volunteers' training, aiming primarily at creating the team that will see this year's festival through. The curatorial team and the volunteers spent two days dedicated to knowledge sharing, team-building and creating a space where we could exchange views, experiences and thoughts regarding what brought us all together: the love of cinema and the pursuit of social justice.

Athens, Greece





The first two weeks of the ECHO Arch & Photography Academy residency consisted of online lectures on Budapest's industrial architectural heritage, followed by a week of intense artistic work in Budapest, where they were inspired by architectural history walks and consultations with professionals to further develop the projects submitted in the competition. The artists' pitches are complemented by a superb pop-up exhibition, encapsulating all the inspiration that the Budapest residency gave to the artists.

Budapest, Hungary 9









The echoes of the Wandering Arts Caravan of ECHO III - For Memory's Sake continue to resonate as we look back on an unforgettable journey that united Balkan cultures through art and exploration. This remarkable caravan, which brings together a diverse group of talented Balkan artists, embarks on a mission to delve into the heart of Balkan heritage and the concept of arranged marriages. The result is a series of six parallel performances within the inflatable installation called "Pezize", symbolising our commitment to pushing artistic boundaries. Starting in Bucharest on September 20th and making stops in Vidin, Sofia, Ioannina, Berat, and Lushnje, our caravan tour came to an end, but the memories and experiences it created will continue to live on, guiding us forward in our artistic pursuits and cultural explorations.

Bucharest, Vidin, Sofia, Ioannina, Berat, Lushnje







A journey of musical exploration and cultural immersion is underway at ECHO Academies. Following the successful Comics Academy held in Athens tlast summer, the spotlight then shines on the Music Academy in Bitola, where a deep dive into North Macedonia's rich musical heritage takes center stage. A team of exceptionally talented musicians embark on a captivating musical odyssey. They are treated to enlightening masterclasses by renowned professors, delve into the traditional musical instruments of North Macedonia, build connections through team activities, and work on their own ideas with one goal in mind: to push the boundaries of music even more and make their ideas a reality.

Bitola, North Macedonia

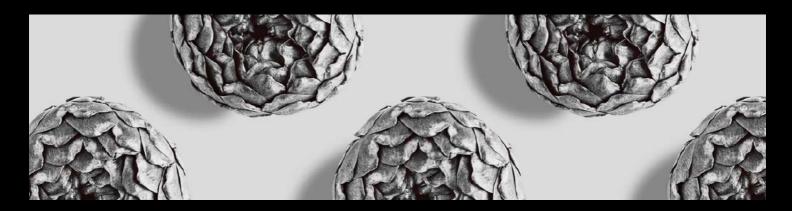




During the two-hour workshop of "Are we meant to participate in Politics?", we addressed questions such as: How politics influence our lives, What it means to be a young European citizen in our local reality today and How privilege shapes our participation in society. Through engaging discussions and interactive activities, participants collectively explored the link between privilege and opportunities, and identified existing obstacles to youth participation in civic life.

Athens, Greece **Q**





OCTOBER

October marked the beginning of the most dramatic escalation in Palestine in decades. Against the genocidal practices of Israel, each international actor is measured against history and humanism. Once again, in a major event in international politics, the European Union appeared biassed or hesitant or both. Besides, the professed abolishment of the heritage of colonialism entails political action that proves it. Embracing the "right to self-defence" narrative and insisting that the two-state solution is the only path to peace, all the while ignoring the fact that Israel has been systematically engaging in ethnic cleansing for the past 70 years, is wrongful and dehumanising. Moreover, the Commission lacks the mandate to make such a decision.

Elections in Poland brought a positive, unexpected defeat of the far-right party of "Law and Justice" (PiS) that ruled the country for the past eight years. The tense relations with the EU, and the freezing of recovery funds due to breaches of democratic order and the rule of law, most probably affected the result. These elections have shown how Poland is influential in the balances between EU leaders, having the power to isolate anti-EU, populist forces. On the other hand, predictions on how the next European Parliament will look like are still leaning towards the winning of the far-right parties. The composition of the next European Parliament will affect its capacity to act in these policy areas. Inter Alia has committed to bringing forward valid democratic concerns regarding the functioning of the EU from the bottom up and connecting them to policy work and recommendations. In October we monitored, organised workshops, networked and created another broadcast on EU affairs.

Contrary to Poland's record-high 74%, in Greece, municipal elections featured a very low voter turnout (40%). The low turnout certainly indicated citizens' distrust and discontent towards the political class. In Athens, the current mayor, the favourite in this electoral race, lost. Despite blatant media leniency, Kostas Bakoyannis' ill-founded arrogance along with his governance style featuring disregard for democratic processes and inability to deliver on highly publicised, save unnecessary and unwanted, public works, had a lot to do with his defeat. Among the many vices of Bakoyannis' administration, his disregard for public space and the implementation of unapologetically profit-centred, capitalist practices strangled the daily lives of citizens and civil society. Reflecting on the exorbitant sums of money demanded for space rentals, Inter Alia offers its own space in Exarchia to like-minded organisations in need, for free. Besides, in response to embedded top-down practices we continue to work with youngsters and pupils on participatory spatial planning.

OCTOBER





Inter Alia hosted the first activity of "I Vote for Myself", an informal discussion with Lefteris Papagiannakis at the European Parliament office in Athens. Young people from different EU countries sat together and discussed what happens before, during and after EU elections take place.

Athens. Greece **Q**





This workshop served as an initial exploration into the concept of degrowth, touching upon aspects of ecological economics, political economy, ecofeminism, and environmental justice. While we didn't unravel all the complexities in one session, we inspired thoughtful discussions and raised critical questions about our growthdependent society which led to the creation of an open educational resource - a degrowth toolkit aiming to increase critical thinking and explore with the broader public alternative paths towards sustainable futures.

Athens. Greece



Workshop (

Inter Alia hosted a creative Zines and Poster Workshop with Garance Foglizzo. Garance Foglizzo, a European Law graduate from France, is currently cycling all over Europe in her <u>Dignitour</u> to spread the voice about the European Citizens' Initiative "Dignity in Europe", which Inter Alia supports, and to collect data on migrants reception in EU countries. The goal of the initiative is to reach 1 million signatures from European citizens in order to ask the European Commission to ensure better reception standards for asylum seekers and to establish a new relocation system based on solidarity and dignity.

Athens, Greece **Q**







This month, we tried to enhance young people's meaningful participation in various decision-making processes related to school activities and the creative use of public spaces. Drawing on our experiences in youth work and academic research on participatory planning, we collaborated with organizations and institutions that are part of the Eurodesk Multipliers network to facilitate participatory planning activities and generate policy proposals based on the ideas of young people. We aimed to explore ways to further integrate such methods into their decision-making processes.

Athens, Greece









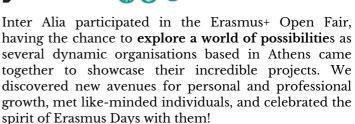
"Exarchia - Ballarò: Storie Sospese" festival brought together people's struggle for continuity in two aggressively gentrified neighbourhoods of Athens and Palermo, known for their openness and spirit of solidarity. Along with our partners at Moltivolti, we listened to the experiences, hopes and concerns of locals who arrived in Palermo from different corners of the globe. Then, we curated a temporary exhibition of items that symbolise their routes. In a special screening of the Positively Different Short Film Festival (PDSFF) we presented shorts that talked about resistance and revolt and love and community as the driving forces behind them. Through all that, we created our own moments of togetherness and claimed our space through solidarity and co-creation.

Athens, Greece •



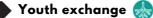






Athens, Greece **Q**







A diverse group of youth workers (from different ages) coming from 9 countries (Italy, Greece, Lithuania, Romania, Portugal, Slovakia, Turkey, Bulgaria, and Netherlands) and group leaders participated. Participants experienced a **full immersion in** performing arts and non-formal sessions, seven days of activities.

Athens. Greece •









The Italian youth organisation Europiamo co-hosted with us an online workshop where young participants shared their experiences on what annoys them of the EU, what does it mean to be citizens and what we could do to find common solutions. The European Youth Forum's Vice President, Christiana Xenofontos, also presented us two big fights that youth organisations are carrying out: lowering the vote at 16 years old and asking for a "Youth Test" when decision makers adopt new policies.

Online **Q**



Creative workshop, Performance



After the online sessions, the Fashion Design Academy met in person in Smolyan, Bulgaria. Exploring the rich world of Rhodope traditional costumes, our Fashion Design Academy participants had the privilege to delve into the cultural tapestry of the region and in a festive atmosphere on October 26, the fashion "runaway" and announcement of the winners took place.

Smolyan, Bulgaria 💽





In Kalamata, we met with representatives from schools and local grassroot organisations to share our experiences of participation in our local communities. We discussed about obstacles and motivations that push us to choose how to participate in civic life.

Kalamata, Greece 🔮







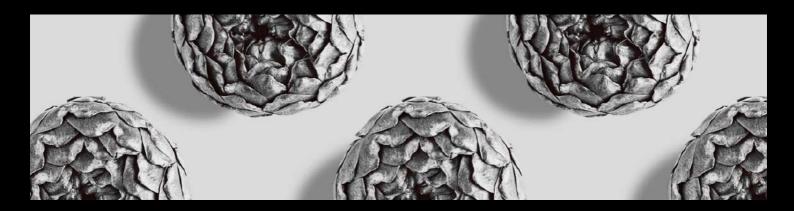




In October, Inter Alia participated in the Voluntary Action Festival 2023, organized by Skywalker, where people had the chance to pass by, get to know us, talk with us, and learn about our opportunities. It was a great networking opportunity for us, as we met other organizations and also learned about their actions.

Athens, Greece •





NOVEMBER

In the past 50 days, Israel's military forces killed 1% of the population of Gaza. Take a minute to let this information sink in. Knowing that half of Gaza's population is children, this level of violence is unprecedented. International law is a power-driven system and as such inherently unfair, inconsistent and incomplete. Its application, though, has been a tool to avert repetition of the devastation of WWII. In Palestine, international law has been disregarded for decades. At the moment, Israel is conducting ethnic cleansing with the support – either active or passive – of the international community and all major Western players, highlighting a total disdain of international law as we know it. Voices and actors that point this out are indiscriminately excluded from the public sphere, prosecuted or deprived of funding and stigmatised as antisemitic. Our yearly Roots Winter School reflected on the hidden layers of violence with a view to build the resilience and capacity of participants to organise and act collectively against oppression.

In European affairs, the victory of Geert Wilder's Party for Freedom in the Netherlands hints, once again, that pro-EU forces head towards a crushing defeat in the coming European Parliament elections. Letting the dynamics of the developments in Palestine and their portrayal in the media play out by themselves, Wilders and other far-right parties and politicians are moving to the centre. European institutions, under increasing time pressure, will need to take a strategic decision: remain with the soft, Brussels-centred discourse while the far-right is feasting on exactly this agenda; or open up space for left-side critique, no matter how severe, of critical Europeanists pushing for further political union. Inter Alia will monitor and continue exerting pressure without shying away from a direct and clear critique of the EU. This month, our monthly bulletin covers developments in the fields of migration, enlargement and civil rights while two new episodes of our broadcast carry our position on crucial developments in the EU and international sphere.

The series of problematic decisions regarding the management of migrant flows in the EU continued in November. This time, the Italian government brokered a deal with Albania on detaining migrants who try entering Italy. The European Commission (EC) has expressed concerns over this agreement, but it was the precedent set out by the EC and its deals previously signed with Turkey and Tunisia that mainstreamed the practice of externalising border controls. In search of more sustainable solutions to migrant movement, Inter Alia hosted the sixth training of civil society professionals on rethinking migration in Europe, discussing employment and education as crucial factors for integration. We also published a new thematic exhibition titled "Searching for The Bull's Horns", narrating stories of migrant and refugee movement from the Athenian neighbourhood of Tavros (which means "bull" in English).

NOVEMBER



In collaboration with HYP, Inter Alia engaged in an insightful exploration of methodologies and strategies for civic monitoring, focusing on the systematic observation and assessment of political processes and public activities. This initiative aimed to enhance our understanding of how civic monitoring can contribute to fostering transparency, accountability, and active civic participation within the broader societal context.

Athens, Greece





We were invited by the EURO DIRECT of Peloponnese and the EUROPE DIRECT of North Aegean to speak about our experiences on youth participation in the EU institutions, the current state of the civil society in the field of youth and present our stagey for the EU elections. We were happy to share our critical thoughts and present our work virtually with more than 150 students from 14 different schools in Peloponnese and the North Aegean. We advocated for the need for a national youth strategy that goes beyond youth employment and supports the meaningful political participation of young people.

Online **Q**











In May, at the PTC - CURVE, Inter Alia had the pleasure of meeting Meg Peterson, the founder of 21 Artists and the designer of the 'Theory of Change' Workshop. When she introduced herself in May, we thought that it would be really interesting for our team to take on the 'Theory of Change' Workshop, and so we did in November 2023. It was a great opportunity for us to go deep into our structure and actions and discover new ways to measure our impact, which, indeed, later on in 2023, we implemented.

Athens, Greece **Q**





Developing Youth Quality Work in Rural Contexts was an inspiring event that brought together a consortium of partner organizations from six European countries . The initiative focused on empowering and enhancing the well-being of young people residing in disadvantaged geographic areas. The event aimed to raise the capabilities of participating youth workers and partner organizations in delivering quality youth work specifically tailored to rural contexts.

Civitella del Tronto, Italy







We held for the second time the Professional Training Course - CURVE. The CURVE training offered an experience that combined education, creative expression, and meaningful interactions. By bringing together diverse perspectives, the weeklong professional training course fostered a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by refugees and vulnerable populations in the integration process, specifically in education and employment. As participants left with newly acquired knowledge and a sense of empowerment, the impact of CURVE extended far beyond the training room, contributing to a more inclusive and compassionate approach to addressing the complexities of migration.

Athens, Greece







One of the largest activities that Inter Alia runs and falls under the Roots School of Critical and Explorative learning stream of work is the Roots Winter School. In 2022, we held the first RWS with great success. The Roots Winter School 2023 provided space for discussions around the systemic injustices committed by the Global North on the Global South. Rooted in exploitative systems, these injustices depict a world defined by power imbalances and structures that reproduce colonialism, imperialism and patriarchy. Integral to the dialogue was the incorporation of degrowth, reminding us of the responsibilities of the Global North and inviting us to take systemic action. Highlighting different layers of violence, the RWS signified a common desire for radical change.

Athens, Greece **Q**





The event 'Training for Coordinators: Tools for a Successful Volunteer Team' of the Erasmus+ project Train4Coordinators was organised by Promea, focusing on volunteering and the management of volunteer groups. In the event, the Erasmus+ project Train4Coordinators was presented, and Inter Alia, as participating organisation that incorporates volunteer work into our activities, shared practices and experiences from our actions and we discussed all together the challenges we face in the field.

Athens, Greece **Q**

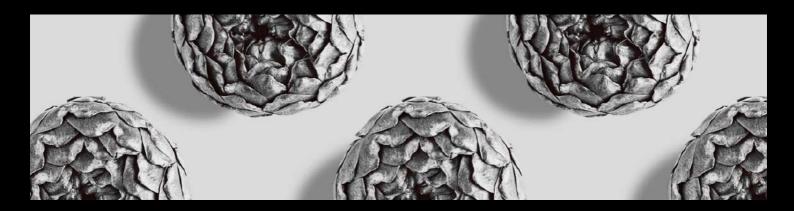




The training "Diverse Acting" commenced with a strategic focus on enhancing intercultural and management skills among diverse youth workers and facilitators. Day 1 centered on team building and understanding project dynamics, fostering a cohesive group. The morning session emphasized individual roles, laying a solid foundation. In the afternoon, attention shifted to cultural-linguistic facilitators, clarifying nuances between roles and highlighting essential competencies. The session aimed to empower participants with a comprehensive understanding, ensuring proficiency in engaging with diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds for successful youth initiatives.

Athens, Greece **Q**





DECEMBER

In our part of the world, December is a month to slow down and spend quality time with friends and family. Sadly, the crazy food waste and energy consumption that come with these meetings are not the worst vices we became complicit in this month. A genocide in Gaza continues with several national and transnational authorities going after those who speak out against it. Moreover, hypocrisy over the ongoing climate crisis is palpable. Inter Alia's position on the latter following the COP28 meeting in the Arab Emirates, is pondered on in our latest broadcast of "Our Eye on the EU" along with our views on the EU's first formal attempt to implement reparations for slavery and colonialism and the new migration pact.

In Greece, a new bill that gives same sex couples the right to marriage and, possibly, adoption is being prepared, following EU pressures. The bill disturbs the silent waters of the government with the prevailing conservative fraction flexing its muscle. All this does not really disturb the long sleep of the progressive opposition. LGBTQIA+ rights are human rights. Exceptions to this rule breach national and international law and should not be tolerated by Greek civil society. Inter Alia's recent stand up performance "Stand - up for dignity" comedy night was a good place to witness how much further ahead the public debate on rights and freedoms should have been. The performance opened this year's activities of Positively Different Short Film Festival, our yearly cinematographic event that will take place in March in Athens, Istanbul and Berlin. PDSFF returns on 7 March for four days of screenings, events and dialogue on forms of resistance and coexistence. Let us love and revolt more in 2024!

DECEMBER



Part of the RWS 2023 was one of the most honest panel talks we have ever organised. This panel discussion was a comprehensive exploration into the interconnected, overlapping, complementary aspects of violence that derive from structural properties and systemic functions of our societies. A straightforward and honest discussion reconfirmed the urgency of understanding our privilege and using the power we have to make the change that we can.

Athens, Greece **Q**







As part of RWS23, Inter Alia had the pleasure of hosting Pierre Khana. We couldn't move on without screening Pierre's movie. Thus, another separate event was created, open to the public at TRISE, a community space in Athens. With a movie degrowth, with the discussion director could have

Athens, Greece

gone on all night. It was

community spaces like

TRISE filled up with

pleasant

people.



seeing



Ten young performers spoke about the comic side of what defines and angers them, what they fight over and tolerate. The performance opened the activities of this year's Positively Different Short Film Festival – PDSFF24 | Love & Revolt, and honoured the volunteers, supporters and collaborators of this year's event. This was also a chance to spread the news about the European Citizens Initiative "Dignity in Europe", that Inter Alia promotes in Greece.

Athens, Greece







In "Youth & Politics" an exploration of the European political scene took place. Participants had the opportunity to delve into the significance of active citizenship, express their views on the EU, and explore ways to engage in European politics. Through various activities, they engaged in group discussions, personality exercises, and crafted policy proposals for the EU. Their proposals were transformed into short videos, open for public voting. The five winners of the competition will travel to Brussels for a study visit, with their expenses covered. Through taking action and collaboration, participants creatively and interactively shaped the future of Europe.

Athens, Greece



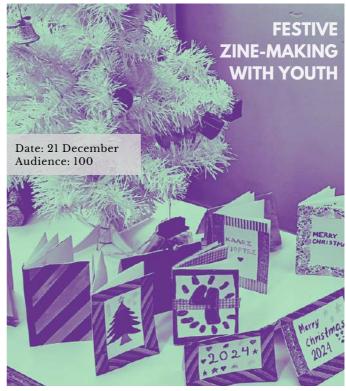




The FABLE partnership organized two online events that aimed at fostering collaboration between the participants and generating policy recommendations that responded to four selected EU Youth Goals. 40 experts in the field of youth, sustainability and fashion, joined both events and shared their thoughts and ideas after presenting their own work and Particularly, they focused how bridging Equality of All Genders, Inclusive Societies, Quality Learning, Sustainable Green Europe and fashion together. The discussions supported the general aim of FABLE project that was to co-create inclusive spaces for youth empowerment through the topic of sustainable fashion. We considered that closing those four EU Youth Goals would further inspire youth involvement towards this direction. The outcomes from these meeting were put together in an action plan leaflet and shared with relevant stakeholders, institutions, and policy makers.

Online **Q**





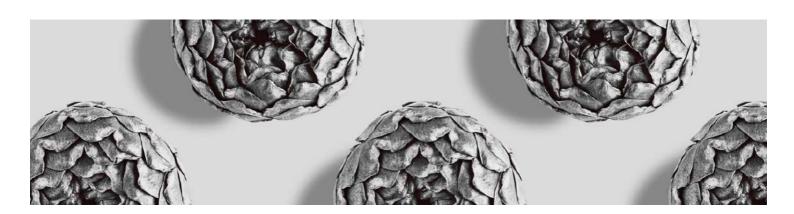
Creative workshop



In the context of our collaboration with the 3nd high school in Tripoli, we we invited to speak about youth participation and co-create festive zines with the students. Some of the students created something for their friends and family, others left their creations and holiday wishes under the Christmas trees of their class rooms. They were all excited doing something beyond the typical classwork, express their thoughts and future aspirations in these little notebooks. We also spoke about youth participation in the public space in the local contexts and reminded the young people that are eligible to vote about the upcoming EU elections. It was a wonderful festive and intense experience with almost 100 young students!

Tripoli, Greece **Q**





2023 IN NUMBERS

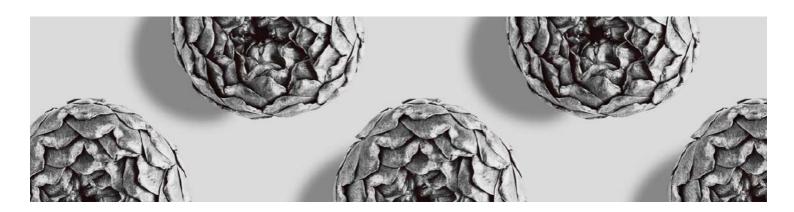
20 8 1 5 7
WORKSHOPS DISCUSSIONS FESTIVAL EXHIBITIONS PERFORMANCES

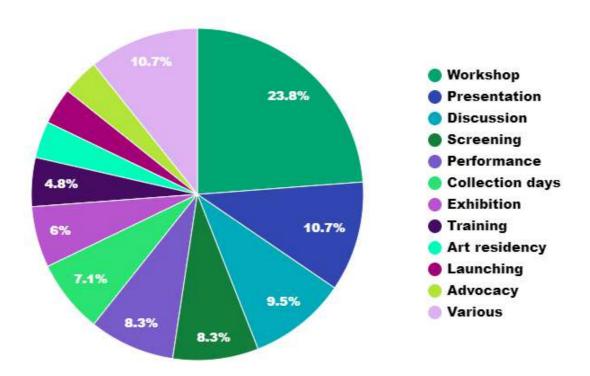
PRESENTATIONS SCREENINGS TRAININGS CELEBRATIONS

JURY

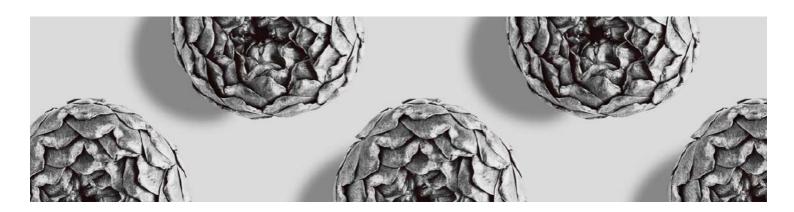
3
ART RESIDENCIES
PUBLICATIONS
RESEARCH
LAUNCHING
COLLECTION
DAYS

ADVOCACY
CONFERENCE
PETITION



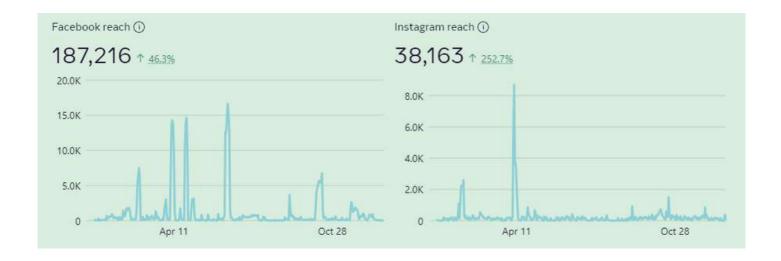






SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH

In 2023, our social media presence witnessed substantial growth, with Facebook reach reaching 187,216, a significant 46.3% increase from the previous year. Meanwhile, on Instagram, our reach touched 38,163, showcasing a remarkable 252.7% surge compared to 2022. While these numbers are a testament to our expanding digital community, at Inter Alia, we value experiences over statistics. 2023 has been a year of excitement but also disappointments for us, and let's face it, people nowadays can be reached online. We put a lot of effort into reaching them this year, so that's why we present these numbers here. For us, the real thing that counts is the connections and stories that have made this year exceptional. We wanted to share both the experiences and numbers with our community, highlighting what we have collectively achieved in 2023.



WANT TO STAY UPDATED ON OUR ACTIVITIES THIS YEAR?

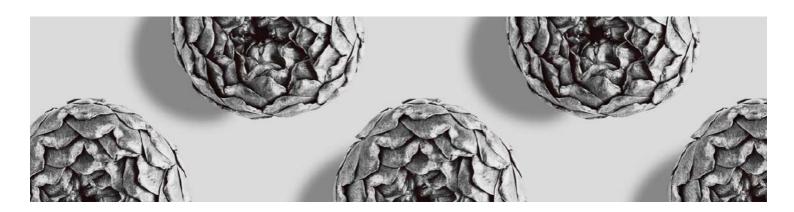












WORKSHOP SPACE

At Inter Alia, we're all about community support! Our mission is to provide a space for social change. In this direction, in 2023, we started offering our workshop space to fellow organisations for free. This was a move of solidarity to all the organisations that have faced the same problem as us - not being able to afford the rent of a space to host an event. In the past years, we have been facing the consequences of the extremely high rents in the centre of Athens due to gentrification. In 2023, we created a calendar, and organisations, actors, performers, in contact with us, book their slots for events, workshops and rehearsals. This way, not only do people find a place to continue their work, but our space is also full of ideas and good energy.

If you are an organisation searching for a space to host a workshop, a meeting, a rehearsal etc. just send us a message at elina@interaliaproject.com





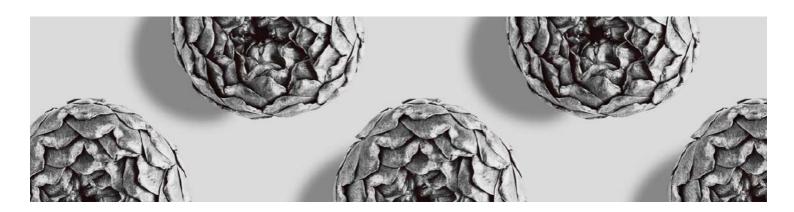












2023 would not be the same if we didn't have the institutions that financially supported our activities throughout the year.

2023 wouldn't have worked out if we didn't have external support, and we need to take a moment to thank the three major financial supporters.

- The European Union has been the greatest financial support for our initiatives. EU support has enabled us to implement projects that address crucial societal challenges in all three streams of work through Erasmus+, Creative Europe and Citizens, Equality, Rights & Values programmes.
- Starting from 2023, Inter Alia is implementing a three year Framework Partnership Agreement signed with the European Commission under Key Action 3 of the Erasmus+ programme The FPA supports civil society cooperation in the field of youth and offers operational support to all our youth-related activities.
- The Ministry of Culture in Greece, recognising the importance of cultural initiatives in societal progress, has enriched our cultural programmes.
- The Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, with its dedication to social justice and progressive ideals, has been a vital partner in our Positively Different Short Film Festival 2023.



Co-funded by the European Union





ROSA LUXEMBURG STIFTUNG OFFICE IN GREECE

Follow us: (f) (in) (X

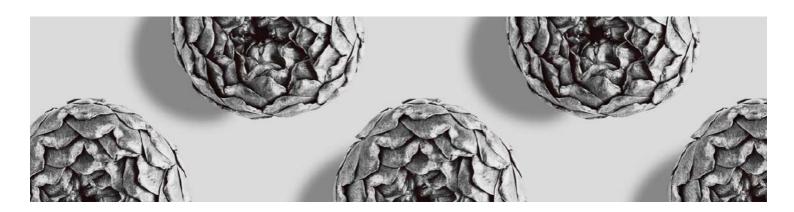












2023 would not be the same without the members of our network.

We would like to express our gratitude to our partners for their support in making 2023 a year of significant progress towards Inter Alia's mission. Our reach and impact have increased thanks to our joint efforts to expand each other's audience and network. Our efforts have made it possible for a larger audience to hear our voices, making it simpler to communicate and mobilise more effectively. Together, we have strengthened each other's organisations while creating a sense of unity in our mission of social change. Together, we have actively engaged in addressing societal gaps, working towards constructive solutions, and participating in social and political life through creative means. The exchange of experience and expertise has significantly facilitated our work, making it more streamlined and effective.



Follow us:

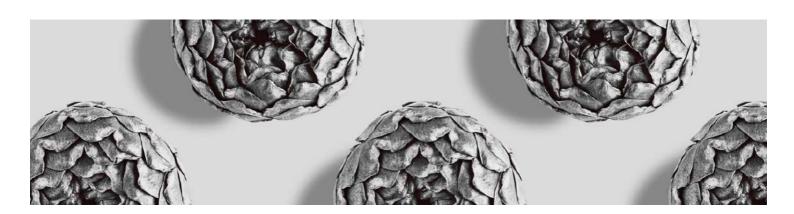












2023 would not be the same without our Media partents, who helped us in promoting our activities throughout the year.

Their commitment and cooperation were very important in helping us publicize our events and spread our message. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to these media partners for their steadfast support and crucial role in bringing attention to our initiatives.



theater*mag*.gr









PROVOGATEUR



deBóp



Follow us:













Inter Alia means among others in Latin. Based on a philosophy of cooperation and reciprocity, Inter Alia works to advance political education, social transformation and collective action. It expresses the intention to willingly and joyfully stand among others, co-create, make concessions, and enable common progress and collective intelligence.

- www.interaliaproject.com
- info@interaliaproject.com
- o interaliango
- f <u>Inter Alia</u>
- <u> InterAliaPRJ</u>
- in <u>Inter Alia</u>











