

Minutes: International Coordination Committee (ICC) Meeting

Date: 24.03.2009
Location: Strasbourg, Maison des Associations
Minute-Taker: Claire Chastain

Several points of information for 24/03:

There is a **meeting in the Parliament** at 7.30 PM, the ICC has been invited by the European Left. Tobias, Arielle, Sophie, Hannelore, Andreas, Kristian are going to attend it. Arielle and Reiner will speak.

Press conference at 6 pm in the Maison des Associations.

I

Total undemocratic behavior on both French and German side. The « **Flags** » case is the most symbolic. It shows a very tense political situation.

Our answer as ICC has to be: **MOBILISATION**. Work more to increase it.

Tobias will report all the information on that story to the European Parliament.

Rainer is preparing a letter to the German Peace Movement with the signatures of the appeal to inform.

II

a) press conferences:

- In Germany they have been very successful. All the national press is giving a lot of attention.
- In Greece, UK, Turkey, etc. NATO seems to be on the international agenda.
- In France it is more covered by the national press/TV/radio since the flags case and the demonstration on the 19th of March.
- In Strasbourg, the press is on the counter-summit side. The authorities don't communicate with the medias on the issue so it gives us an advantage.

It is necessary for our communication to be the same from everywhere (the story of the university of Strasbourg was misinterpreted in several places for example and this, wrongly communicated to the medias, could have led to a problem).

b) actions in different countries:

- Greece had a demonstration in front of the French Embassy the day of the debate in the French Parliament on the reintegration of France in the military command of NATO.
- On the 4th of April there will be demonstrations in Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, United States, cities of France, Bade-Wurtemberg.

- The mobilization is growing for instance in Poland, Canada, Japan. Only Italy appears quiet and it is highly surprising. Germany is also very mobilized in the South, not only in the North and East.

Work of mobilization is still very necessary until the 4th

III

a) There is a meeting on the 25th in Strasbourg with the local authorities. In Paris with the **National authorities (Ministry of Internal Affairs) on the 26th**.

b) The camp

The opening ceremony will be on the 1st at 6 PM.

The counter-cultural program is on a very good way with activities organized every day.

A **contract** with the authorities needs to be signed to take responsibility for the medical, technical and organizational aspects of the camp. Last meeting of the Strasbourg collective with the technical authorities takes place on the 25th of March.

⇒ **The ICC agrees to sign it.**

⇒ **The ICC asked Reiner and Arielle to sign the appeal in behalf of the ICC**

The contract includes obligations on the sides. No names will be given, only phone numbers.

c) The demonstration

- Gathering point: Jardin des deux rives at 1 PM.

- The Germans will go from Kehl to the jardin to meet the French.

- Buses can park there.

- There will be a stage with speeches until 3 PM.

- Then the demonstration will start. We still don't have an agreement on the way of the demonstration.

A clear statement to the authorities has to be made, on the fact that we don't accept the way proposed in the docks back to the camp.

We still negotiate until the last minute.

A new round of negotiations opens on the 25th

d) International conference

- All the logistic issues are solved, except the sound system but it will be taken care of soon.

- The interpretation in Fren/Eng/Ger will be done in the plenary sessions. The workshops have to organize their own. 2 can take advantage of the facilities in the plenary room.

- The printed program will be in the German press and in the French press in l'Huma on the 1st of April.

- The French organizations feel they are not well enough represented on the conference workshops. The program can still be modified, not the number of w.s., but the organizers. It has to be done before the end of the week, in order to be printed next week, March 30th

- The question of the "voluntary fee" has been raised, not the principle but the way to put it. It is contradictory to put a price on a "voluntary" contribution. It could be changed to suggestions:

"3 euros, 5 euros, 10 euros, what you can give...".

- In the meantime, we can use the provisional program we have and the one (updated) on the website.

After interventions from different organizations of the ICC, the ICC discussed the possible participation of a speaker of the Hezbollah at our international conference.

After a intensive discussion the ICC decided in the following way:

"The ICC asked the organisations from Greece and GB (Stop the war coalitions), which are preparing the workshop, to withdraw the invitation of a speaker of the Hezbollah to the Anti-NATO conference." Reiner was asked to inform the organizers of the workshop

d) civil disobedience

-Preparation by the organizations of BLOC-NATO (Germans, French, Spanish, etc...). -Website has all the info.

-Meeting on the 7th and 8th of March in Strasbourg.

-Open letter to the police to explain what is going to be done on the 4th in Strasbourg.

-Trainings are planned on the 3rd of April in the village (information on the legal consequences).

In Baden-Baden actions are planned on the 2nd and the 3rd. There will be an infopoint on the 4th.

e) accommodation

Cheap accommodation is not possible in Strasbourg and Kehl (red zones).

Therefore the camp has to be promoted.

Other options in the suburbs of the cities. There are some places in small hotels in Strasbourg and cheap accommodation in Kehl available. Please contact Julia in Reiners office.

IV

Public outreach and mobilization

- 28th of March big gathering in Germany (Berlin and Frankfurt, Arielle is speaking in Frankfurt)

- translations in English/German/French of the 4 pages with the program of the counter-summit
=> newsletters, networks...

-A letter to President Obama has been drafted.

=> ICC agrees on the letter. Arielle, Manuel and Andreas will propose a final version.

Press work

- End of March, press conference in Germany (Berlin).

-Belgium needs to know the journalists from Belgium who live abroad (France, Germany, UK) to cover the events, because the press work is more difficult in the country (no Left wing press...).

- There is a mediateam for the ICC and another one for BLOC-NATO. The two teams should meet to coordinate their work (31st March).

- Everyone must use its media contacts until the counter-summit begins.

- The question of the costs are often raised by the medias. It is useful to collect the numbers (ie: 110 million euros only for security of the summit). Tobias and Rainer will do it.

- Arielle is getting in touch with the "Club de la presse" in Strasbourg (in charge of the accreditation of the journalists for the Summit).

- A press group should be organized.

V

Organizational questions

- 27th => an email will be sent to give the addresses of i) the Anti-NATO office during the counter-summit ii) the press office.

- Who takes the responsibility to organize the buses on the 4th for the demonstration?

- ICC next meeting at the Maison des associations on the 1st of April in Strasbourg, 3-5 PM (the order of the demonstrators has to be settled then).

- We will need an updated list of our mobilephones numbers (internal use only).

=> remember that we agreed on a meeting after the counter-summit. 18th of April in Strasbourg?