



Statewatching Europe

Civil liberties, the state and the EU

European conference making Statewatch's 25th anniversary
Saturday 25 June 2016, 9:45 – 17:00
Resource for London, 356 Holloway Road, London N7 ([map](#))

Programme

9:45-10:15 Registration

10:15-11:00 Opening Plenary

Chair: **Ann Singleton** (Co-Chair of Statewatch Trustees)
Tony Bunyan (Director, Statewatch)
Gareth Peirce (lawyer)

11:30–13:00 Parallel workshops: **Session I: The EU in crisis**

Workshop 1: The crisis in legitimacy and accountability

The EU faces simultaneous crises: the refugee crisis, counter-terrorism, the rise in racism and fascism and continuing austerity. At the same time there is widespread disillusionment with EU institutions - will the EU survive and if it does what kind of EU will it be?

Deirdre Curtin (Professor of EU Law, European University Institute)
Steve Peers (Professor of Law, University of Essex)
Ralf Bendrath (Senior Policy Advisor to Jan Philipp Albrecht MEP)
Staffan Dahllöf (journalist, Denmark)

Workshop 2: The refugee crisis in the Mediterranean and the EU (morning)

There is a crisis in the Med with thousands dying and an almost complete failure of EU institutions and most EU governments to respond. What has been the response of civil society and what critiques have emerged of EU states' inaction? What problems remain and what does the future hold?

Caroline Inrand (Migreurop)
Stratos Georgoulas (Associate Professor, Director Laboratory EKNEA, University of Aegean, Greece)
Eric Kempson (Hope Centre, Lesvos)

Workshop 3: Mass surveillance, technologies of control and unaccountable states

The security and intelligence agencies have survived the "Snowden revelations" and are seeking to extend their powers. Do we face a combination of smart cities and a burgeoning and unaccountable EU security-industrial complex?

Gus Hosein (Executive Director, Privacy International)
Steve Wright (Reader in Applied Global Ethics at Leeds Beckett University)
Eric Töpfer (Editor and political scientist, Berlin)
Ben Hayes (researcher)

13.00 – 13.45 Lunch

13:45-15:15 Parallel workshops: Session II: Fighting back

Workshop 4: Racism, xenophobia and the rise of the far right

The right, the refugee crisis and the war on terror. Racists and fascists still on the streets and now in parliaments and government, with a move from multiculturalism to monoculturalism amidst a growing authoritarianism and failing democracies. Is this inevitable?

Liz Fekete (Director, Institute of Race Relations)
Amandine Bach (policy adviser to the GUE/NGL group, European Parliament)
Jean Lambert MEP (Greens/EFA group, European Parliament)
Philippe Wannesson (Passeurs d'hospitalités, Calais)

Workshop 5: Criminalising communities and policing protest

Undercover policing undermining organised dissent backed by the surveillance of social media and marginalising protest. Suspect communities and resistance.

Matthias Monroy (Research Assistant Andrej Hunko, MP in the German Bundestag)
Eveline Lubbers (Undercover Research Group)
Heiner Busch (editor, Bürgerrechte & Polizei/CILIP)
Stafford Scott (coordinator for Justice for Mark Duggan Campaign and Tottenham Rights)
Val Swain (founder, Network for Police Monitoring)
Moazzam Begg (CAGE)

Workshop 6: Defending civil liberties: strategies of resistance

Campaigns in the streets, courts and communities: anti-deportation, deaths in custody, blacklisting workers, cover-ups and state crimes. Turning defending civil liberties into resistance – what can history tell us?

Suresh Grover (Director, The Monitoring Group)
Debbie Coles (Director, Inquest)
Dave Whyte (Professor of Socio-legal Studies at the University of Liverpool)
Marie Martin (EuroMediterranean Human Rights Network)

Workshop 7: The refugee crisis in the Mediterranean and in the EU

There is a crisis in the Med with thousands dying and an almost complete failure of EU institutions and most EU governments to respond. Will we see Turkey do the EU's "dirty work" by detaining refugees seeking to flee backed by NATO, a new EU Border Force policing on land and sea? Are we going to see mass forced returns and refoulement?

Frances Webber (Vice Chair, Institute of Race Relations)
Lorenzo Trucco (Director, ASGI, Italy)
Vasileios Karydis (Deputy Ombudsman, Greece)

15.15 - 15.45 Break

15.45- 17.00 Closing plenary: The way ahead

Chair: **Ann Singleton** (Co-Chair of Statewatch Trustees)
Liz Fekete (Director, Institute of Race Relations)
Ska Keller MEP (MEP Greens/EFA group in EP)
Courtenay Griffith QC
Tony Bunyan (Director, Statewatch)