

## What future for the European Union – Stagnation and Polarisation or New Foundations?

### Context and Motivation

Almost seven years after the outbreak of the financial and economic crisis, the EU economy is on the brink of a deflationary recession. Levels of unemployment are at unacceptably high levels, inequality is soaring, poverty and social exclusion have reappeared in European societies at levels that were unimaginable a few years ago. This is particularly true for Southern European countries like Greece and Spain, which were severely hit by the economic crisis and subjected to rigorous policies of austerity and structural adjustment. It is thus no coincidence that social movements and political forces like Syriza in Greece and Podemos in Spain have appeared in these countries that fundamentally question the prevailing EU crisis approach and demand a fundamental change in economic and social policies. How can a new foundation for European integration look like and what measures are needed to enforce it? After the presentation of the EuroMemorandum 2015, which offers a critical assessment of the current state of the European Union and offers proposals for an alternative economic policy in the EU, an international panel of heterodox economists will address these issues.

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**Registration: Ingrid Pumpler, [office@oefse.at](mailto:office@oefse.at) or Phone: +43/1/317 40 10-100**

## What future for the European Union – Stagnation and Polarisation or New Foundations?

Presentation of the EuroMemorandum 2015

March 5, 2015, 18:00

C3 – Centre for International Development,  
Sensengasse 3, 1090 Vienna

## Speakers:

**Iván H. Ayala** is member of the economic team of Podemos, associated researcher at the Instituto Complutense de Estudios Internacionales (ICEI) in Madrid and a member of econoNuestra, a network of heterodox economists in Spain ([www.econonuestra.org](http://www.econonuestra.org)).

**Marica Frangakis** is a member of the Steering Committee of the EuroMemorandum Group, a founding member of ATTAC Hellas and a board member of the Nicos Poulantzas Institute in Athens, Greece.

**Werner Raza** is a member of the Steering Committee of the EuroMemorandum Group and director of ÖFSE – Austrian Foundation for Development Research.

**Elisabeth Springler** is Director of Studies “European Economy and Business Management” University of Applied Sciences bfi Vienna.

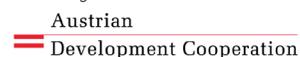
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## Programme

### 18.00 Welcome Address

Romana Brait, BEIGEWUM

### 18.10 Presentation of the EuroMemorandum 2015

Werner Raza, ÖFSE and EuroMemo Group

### 18.20 The economic situation in Greece and the political agenda of the new government

Marica Frangakis, Nicos Poulantzas Institute, Athens, and EuroMemo Group

### 18.40 The economic situation in Spain and prospects for an alternative agenda

Iván H. Ayala, ICEI, econoNuestra and Podemos, Madrid

### 19.00 Reflections on EU's crisis agenda and its receptivity to change

Elisabeth Springler, University of Applied Sciences bfi Vienna

### 19.10 General discussion

### 20.15 Wine reception

Conference language: English