

December 2020

**Youth and Climate in the Mediterranean+25
Virtual Forum:
Activism, social movements and civil society**

PROGRAMME

NOVACT – International Institute for Nonviolent Action

NOVACT

SESSION 1

09.12.2020

16h–18h

What different strategies are used by activist, social movements and civil society in the fight for climate justice? How the fight for environmental rights intersects with broader political and social claims? What forms does environmental action take in different Mediterranean contexts? What happens when activists act in a context of occupation and repression?

To answer all these questions in this first session we will count on the participation of a representative from AlHaq, a Palestinian human rights organization that has long been working on the right to access to water in Palestine; and Mahfoud B. Lamin, activist working on nonviolent action in Saharawi refugee camps in Argelia, and member of the Observatory of Human Rights and Corporations (ODHE), from which he denounces the plunder of Saharawi natural resources by multinational corporations.

How will the session be organised? What methodologies will be used?

The session will be structured through a dialogue between two activists from the Mediterranean area that will raise questions and concerns among the audience while providing, through the facilitator, an introduction to issues to be addressed during the subsequent sessions. The dialogue will take place via the zoom platform and those attending will be able to ask questions at the end, in a round of time set aside for this purpose, both by chat and by enabling their cameras and microphones to do so. This dialogue, with their questions, will last one hour.

The second hour, which will also be conducted via zoom, will be used for collective reflection on what has been heard, as well as to jointly draw up a list of topics that have opened up the dialogue. The facilitators will take advantage of this brainstorming to introduce the agenda for the next sessions.

* Zoom and a collaborative document will be used on the RiseUp PADs platform where attendees will be able to write at the same time. They will be asked to choose a colour, to put their name and to summarise in a sentence, like a newspaper headline, the dialogue they have just witnessed and if it has connected them with a personal story of their activism.

10.12.2020

SESSION 2

10h-12h

After having had a conceptual and theoretical introduction to different approaches of activism and civil society action, in this second session we will enter a much more practical realm. The session will explore different working dynamics that social movement and activists groups can use as tools to foster activists' collective self-care and wellbeing. The session will also provide participants with facilitation tools to promote engagement, something more important than ever in these times in which mobilization and face-to-face interaction are being increasingly restricted.

There will be a final part of the workshop working about fears and associated emotions.

How will the session be organised? What methodologies will be used?

Through the analysis of different struggles and movements, a theoretical section will be introduced on the good practices that make a group intelligent in its being and action. The methodology of *meaningful learning* will be used, based on the experiences of each participant as a reference, so that the learning is meaningful for each of us. In addition, practical activities will be carried out that will make us reflect on whether our group, activism and its practice is really intelligent or is leaving people behind.

* The whole session will be via zoom. However, in the final part related to fears and coping we will use mentimeter as well as ask people to have paper, pencil/pen and colours to draw in their places.

SESSION 3

16h–18h

COP26 had to take place in November, but it was postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic. However, global powers will announce a coming date for the event any time soon. Will climate activists be ready to respond and make pressure for the COP26 to provide real solutions to address climate injustice and inequality?

In this third session will present the participants with a real scenario in front of which a response by the climate justice movement is expected globally. Facilitators will accompany participants in the planning process of nonviolent direct action. The participants will have the opportunity to develop an action/campaign plan from the networking and based on their own experiences, exploring the possibilities of joint action from the different contexts.

How will the session be organised? What methodologies will be used?

Through a shared real situation, the people attending will be asked to move from theory to practice. The facilitators will explain the situation as well as provide some cards where more details will be explained. After some time of collective work, they will return to the plenary session to receive feedback from the rest of the participants and the facilitators. We will then work on the steps for designing a nonviolent action and campaign.

* Zoom will be used and a collaborative document posted on the RiseUp PADs platform where attendees can write at the same time.