

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

IMAGINATIONS

*beyond*

THE  
CRISIS

# BACKGROUND

---

## WHY DO WE SEE THE NEED FOR THIS INITIATIVE?

**The** COVID-19 pandemic and its different consequences have entailed a severe social crisis that has thrown many people around the world into intense precarity. These dangerous situations arise from an already fragile, unsustainable, and socially unjust global system which we have been living in. The current crisis highlights the urgent need for structural change more than any other event that our generation has seen. However visions of what this change may look like seem to vary from the call for profound socio-ecological transformation to the desire to “go back to normal” to an even greater emphasis on capitalist accumulation and politics of control. Yet, the latter propositions neglect that it is exactly this state of normality that has accelerated and aggravated the current crisis for many people. We then ask: What changes would we want to see and how do we support one another through these shared and diverse ideas for transformation?

To further nourish the growth of transformative seeds it is necessary to create wider public awareness of problems and their possible solutions around the world. Therefore, we want to enlarge critical analyses of the contexts in which various precarious situations evolved and push for more discussion of alternatives in the larger public debate. We also believe that a more empathetic and solidary net of humanity is necessary. Building stronger relations around the globe is central to this aim. Having grown up in an increasingly globalised and digitalised world, young people will take an important role in this initiative - both in influencing the public discourse and political decision making. We thus believe it is essential to now express our critique and perspectives on the crisis and necessary social transformations.

‘What do young people think about this’ is a common question to hear and one hard to answer as an individual. We want to bring together thoughts and perspectives on the global contexts of this crisis as well as visions for the future of young people around the world. We are looking for a variety of voices, with all kinds of backgrounds and perspectives. No voice is too small to contribute.

# GOALS

---

## WHAT DO WE HAVE IN MIND?

**We** are looking for analyses that critically engage with social phenomena, especially inequalities. For this we believe it is important for the author to be aware of the positionality they hold within global power structures. We are looking for diverse perspectives that imagine and inspire a more socially just and ecologically sustainable way of living together. Discriminating contributions of any kind are not accepted. In the first place we aim at supporting each other to edit and - for those who want - to publish the work in any kind of public newspapers, magazines, blogs, transnational initiatives or networks covering diverse themes (political, economic, ecological, cultural, artistic, etc.). The pieces should thus be made in a manner that is approachable to a diverse public. Secondly, we would like to link the contributions with each other through collecting, grouping and publishing them. We will jointly decide whether this will be an analog or digital magazine.

# ABOUT YOUR VOICE

---

# USE YOUR CREATIVITY

## GUIDING QUESTIONS

### Tools to reflect

In reflecting on any specific or broad aspect of the crisis and your imagination of necessary change, your contribution should be related to the following question:

**In light of the global issues revealed or enhanced by the COVID-19 pandemic, how do you imagine a path to a better future?**

In answering the question, we believe it is essential to encompass the bigger (global) picture of the issues you're looking at. You can begin by contextualising how the current situation came about and why specific changes are so necessary. For example, what have you seen change over the past years, what fears have emerged that were not there before, what solutions have you observed flourish? We want to hear about your personal experience as well as what is happening around you.

---

## FORMAT

### What should the contribution look like?

We want to welcome varied forms of expressions, so the main condition is for the contributions to be approachable to a diverse audience, delivered in a way that can be understandable to people from different backgrounds. You may write an essay, a reflection, a short story, a poem, etc. You may write in any language that you feel comfortable with. Your contribution should not exceed 1500 words. We also want to encourage non-written formats, so please feel free to submit artworks, cartoons or photographs / photo-essays if that is your means of expressing yourself.

We have come up with a variety of relevant aspects that can serve you as inspiration:

- *Humanity*
- *Conviviality*
- *Solidarity*
- *Collectivity & Individualism*
- *Financial crisis*
- *Debt*
- *Capitalism*
- *Degrowth*
- *(Care-)Work*
- *Global relationality*
- *Borders*
- *Nationalism*
- *Authoritarianism*
- *Social inequality*
- *Justice*
- *Education*
- *Gender*
- *Feminism*
- *Ecology & Climate Crisis*
- *Social security*
- *Health*
- *Food & Housing*
- *Mobility & Migration*
- *Imperialism*
- *Coloniality & Racism*

Beyond these, feel free to write about any topic you consider relevant.

## FORMALITIES

### What are your next steps?

Please hand in your contributions before  
**Saturday, 30.08.2020**

If you want to submit a contribution or support the initiative in any other way (editing, translating, layouting etc.), please use this form:  
<https://forms.gle/Q2Sq8HaP149rmyS8>

If you want to become part of this initiative, help edit or translate, let us know in the form. For any other queries or ideas, please write us an email:  
[imaginationbeyond@tutanota.com](mailto:imaginationbeyond@tutanota.com)

We will contact you within 10 days of your submission. If your submission fits into the initiative, it enters into the editing phase for individual and collective publications.

We are looking forward to this collective reflection process!  
**Your Imaginations beyond the crisis collective**