# Constructing the Intercontinental Youth Camp\*

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### abstract

This text is a report on my experience as a volunteer at the Fifth Intercontinental Youth Camp (IYC V). I worked with the Infrastructure Commission during the construction of the camp, which was built in Harmonia Park, before the Fifth World Social Forum (WSF V). Through this report, I intend to address the main difficulties faced by the Organizing Committee of the IYC V and the solutions found in order to solve the problems. First of all, I will provide a brief report on the first three Youth Camps that were also held in Porto Alegre, including my own view of the organization processes as a participant, observer and volunteer. I hope I am able to offer some interesting insights into how the Youth Camps were organized as well as pass on some of the spirit of companionship and friendship shared by organizers and volunteers, and the feeling of concern and responsibility to make things work at the Youth Camp.

# The First Three Youth Camps in Porto Alegre

The first Camp was organized by left-wing parties and groups of students' movement (UJS, PSTU and PT)<sup>1</sup> with the support of the City Council of Porto Alegre through its Human Rights and Citizenship Coordination (CDHC). The first Camp was autonomous of the Forum. About 2,000 people were expected to attend the Forum as listeners; they were supposed to camp on the premises of Harmonia Park. However, the Organizing Committee of the Camp was caught by surprise when 3,500 participants registered. Organization was generally poor; things were done in the last minute and decisions made in haste. The Committee begun to meet only two months before the event. Everything was unclear; even the WSF was something vague for all, including Porto Alegre residents.

The center of all events at the first WSF, located at PUC (The Catholic University) where the conferences, workshops and talks took place, was rather far from the city

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UJS is União da Juventude Socialista (Socialist Youth Union), a left-political entity of young people around Brazil. PSTU represents Partido Socialista dos Trabalhadores Unificados (Unified Workers Socialist Party) and PT stands for Partido dos Trabalhadores (Labour Party).

center and Harmonia Park. During the event, the City Council provided bus services, in the morning and afternoon, to cover the distance between the Camp and PUC. However, many people preferred to stay in the camp and enjoy their day there, instead of taking part in the activities that were being held at PUC, taking the opportunity to meet different people, cultures, and ideas that could aggregate new concepts to the ideals for which they fought.



Porto Alegre and Harmonia Park

When the Organizing Committee decided that the following year's WSF would also be held in Porto Alegre, a Youth Committee was created in order to organize the next Camp. The left wing parties' youth organizations received the support of other social movements such as the student movement, street children's movement, hip-hop movement, community radio stations, black movement, and the free sexual orientation movement. This time the City Council, through the CDHC, gave more support to the event. The WSF's local Organizing Committee, linked to the State Governor, also gave its contribution, as well as the **ABONG** (Brazilian Association Nongovernmental Associations).

The second Intercontinental Youth Camp was named Carlo Giuliani City and organized by the Youth Committee. During the Architecture Week at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) a three-day workshop was held in order to develop an environmental planning project for the Camp. The workshop counted about thirty architecture students. About one third of these students later became part of a Planning Commission of the Organization Committee. At first, this group of students made clear that they did not want to get involved with politics. They only wanted to do urbanism (Di Giovanni, 2002). However, the actual process of planning and organizing changed that: they discovered politics!

Commissions were created within the Organization Committee. Some of these commissions and their participants included:

Planning and Infrastructure: architecture students organized by the Free Metropolitan Council of Architecture Students;

Culture: street children, hip-hop, free sexual orientation and black movements; PT's Youth (the youth group of the Labor Party);

Communication: community radios, communication students of the metropolitan area, and PT's Youth;

Mobilization: PT's Youth with the support of the WSF Gaucho Committee.

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During the preparation phase many plenary sessions were held: fifteen local, a few regional and two national. Regional Organization Committees were organized throughout the country. The project was calculated for 10,000 people, but 15,000 participants from 140 different countries were welcomed at the second Camp.

Carlo Giuliani City was divided into three main axes: Residential, Conviviality, and Activity. The Residential Axis provided the campers with areas to assemble their tents, toilets, tables and barbecue places. The tents were set under the sun and covered by sombrite – a special cover used in greenhouses to reduce the incidence of sun radiation. The campers were expected to leave their tents early in the morning and head to the Conviviality and Activity Axes located near the green areas of the park. The Activity Axis comprised the following spaces: the Cultural Axon, a space built with bioconstruction techniques where the workshops took place; the Cultural Decentralizer Spaces located outside of Carlo Giuliani City in many central areas of Porto Alegre; the Contestation Cinema where movies and videos were exhibited; The Kaleidoscope Space, a place for testimonials, debates, chats, and musical shows where people of different cultures could interact; and finally, the Convergence Axis which was composed of the Communication Factory, the Administration Shed, the Recycling Shed, the Sanitation Area (with showers and chemical toilets) as well as kiosks, barbecue places, and the Central Square where a huge bonfire was kept burning throughout the event. The Food Court offered only chemical free products produced by agricultural cooperatives and the MST (the Landless Movement). The participants made clear their abomination for transgenic products. The social movements that were represented in the International Organizing Committee of the WSF, especially Via Campesina, 2 joined the Camp giving the IYC more strength at the National Organizing Committee as well as a place in the International Committee. In contrast to the first Camp, the Organization Committee of the WSF now recognized the IYC as an integrant part of the WSF.

The Youth Camp organization grew and acquired a more international status. The Argentinean Social Forum was held in August 2002 and the Uruguayan Social Forum in October of the same year. The way these two Forums were organized was strongly influenced by the organization of the second Youth Camp, which also influenced the organization of the third IYC in Porto Alegre.

The first Camp was organized without any notion of management at all; at the second Camp, on the other hand, there was clearly a need for planning, although this was not made a priority. In contrast, for the third Camp there was a management proposal approved in a National Plenary session.

The management proposal for the third Camp – named the City of Cities – involved self-management principles based on a historical context of experiences that goes back

<sup>&</sup>quot;Via Campesina is an international movement which coordinates peasant organizations of small and middle-scale producers, agricultural workers, rural women, and indigenous communities from Asia, Africa, America, and Europe. It is an autonomous, pluralistic movement, independent from all political, economic, or other denomination. It is integrated by national and regional organizations whose autonomy is respected. Via Campesina is organized in eight regions as follows: Europe, Northeast and Southeast Asia, South Asia, North America, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America and Africa" (http://www.viacampesina.org/welcome\_english.php3).

to the Paris Commune (1871) and the Barrios de Pie Movement in contemporary Argentina. Offering themselves as a laboratory of ideas and practices, the organizers of the City of Cities invited the citizens of this city to build a space where it is possible to create concepts, theories, and exercise transforming practices that, based on the everyday life, question the ways of living and the values of capitalist society.

The City of Cities was divided into structural axes – the Residential axis and the Activity axis. The Residential Axis was divided into four regions, which again were divided into 31 numbered sectors. Each region was identified by a different color. The color and number were written on the identification badge provided to each camper. The sector was thought of as the basic management nucleus. Its boundaries were signaled by natural barriers, ropes, and banners. Collective services were also provided: security, environment management, interpreters and translators, accreditation, health, monitors, facilitators, communication, as well as food courts on both axes.

Designed for seminars, plenary sections, meetings, panels, etc, the Thematic Convergence Place included five areas located in the Activity Axis, with a capacity of 1,000 people. The rooms were based on the themes of the WSF: sustainable and democratic development, principles and values; human rights, diversity and equality; media, culture and counter-hegemony; political power, civil society and democracy; global democratic order, fight against militarization combat and peace promotion. Around these topics, networks and movements could build physical structures as well as their actions.

In terms of infrastructure, the City of Cities employed the same molds of Carlo Giuliani City. The Environmental Work Group led an awareness campaign among the campers. Neutral or environmentally friendly soaps and shampoos were sold in the Camp. Leaflets on ethic consumption of water were distributed to campers. Posters indicated those showers where inorganic products were allowed. Half of the waste from the toilets was sent to the public waste disposal system in the center of Porto Alegre. The other half – from organic products – was diverted to a pool that is part of the Park's drainage system.



Shower area

Garbage cans of two different colors were placed all over the City of Cities: the green ones for solid waste and the orange ones for organic waste. There was a Recycling Shed in the Park where organized groups screened solid waste. This activity generated extra income for those people. The organic waste was sent to DMLU (the Urban Waste Municipal Department). A daily production of 24 tons of waste was expected. Approximately 60% of this waste could be recycled. In order to reduce the amount of solid waste, the Environment Working Group provided the campers with plastic mugs, avoiding, therefore, the use of disposable cups.

### These were the roles involved at the third IYC:

Facilitator: the first contact that organizes access to registration and to sectors. The facilitator also provides general information about how the camp works.

Monitor: one camper from each sector. The monitor is the person who is able to provide all information, resolve or forward problems to the local organization, help campers to organize the occupation of the lots and to find help for their local problems.

Camper: participates in the management of the Camp discussing and organizing the sector where he or she is based; manages, through his or her social movement, the spaces where collective activities happen (by the Guaiba Lake), or organizes the camp as a whole through participation in voluntary services.

Self-management implied that the campers themselves were responsible, collectively, for the organization of their sectors (neighborhoods), the collective services and other created spaces. The following gives an overview of how the management of the Camp should have occurred:

Each sector would be responsible for organizing itself in order to guarantee safety and cleanliness, create a communication/information scheme with the rest of the Camp, and organize translation, besides allocating volunteers for all collective services. The Monitor would be responsible for kick-starting the self-management process, calling the first meetings and guiding campers on the management tasks to be fulfilled via self-management. There should be one Sector Meeting per day, or differently, if so collectively agreed on the first meeting. The Meetings would be the arenas to define rules and procedures for the Sector, being sovereign to decide and execute responsibilities and functions belonging to each Sector, and to indicate volunteers. The interested parties should define how the Sector Management Group would deal with internal demands. The first Meeting would choose the Sector Group representative, who could be a temporary in order to relate to the Management Board.

Collective services would be based at a so-called Central Services. In the Central Services area there was a separate room for each service, a space where the daily Meetings of service agents should occur. The Collective Services Meeting should choose the Management Group, which should report activities and inspect the execution of collectively defined tasks. The first Meeting would be installed and coordinated by the Monitors and members of the Camp Organizing Committee. The Group of Representatives, permanent or temporary, would be at the Management Board.

When a group, network or social movement registers collectively, it has to choose a WSF thematic axis. From then on members become co-managers of their Thematic Place. Each group of people has to manage the schedule, safety and cleanliness of its space and organize activities, and try to solve problems with collective services. The Thematic Convergence Place Meeting would serve as an arena for debates on convergence themes among groups and for the organization of demands

and managerial tasks. Also, it should define a methodology related to the spaces, respecting the program organized by the Camp Organization Committee.

The Management Board would act as a convergence space for all management agents from all sectors, collective services, thematic spaces, institutional relationships and other representations. The Board would be the place for sending queries relative to internal relations or queries that need to be forwarded to other bodies. Its attributions and responsibilities include: guarantee harmony and information flow among all management levels and the camp, deliberate on proposed questions and notify the Camp on the decisions. It has an articulating role since most problems must be solved by sector management groups. The Management Board would gather at the end of every afternoon. In the first meeting a Secretariat should be chosen so that, in connection with the Camp Organizing Committee Management Group, it would be in charge of the motivation and methodological conduction of the meetings, and of transmitting information to the Camp through a sound system and through various billboards.

In order to re-state the reality of the *City of Cities* as an autonomous space of conviviality for a myriad of people, and in order to facilitate monetary exchange, mainly for foreign campers, two currency types were created in partnership with the Mosaic Monetary Movement and the Planetary Art Network. The first currency was called Sol (Sun) and used as monetary unit within the Camp. It valued one Real. The other was called Lua (Moon) and served to facilitate exchange within Culture Exchange Fairs, promoted by the Arte Planetária Network.

Overall, the third Camp achieved relative success, considering its magnitude – about 30,000 people. It suffered from problems that happened largely in the Forum as a whole and that reflect a 'perverse' integration into the life of Porto Alegre. This city, like any other, suffers from problems related to urban violence. What appears to have happened was the 'discovery' of the Camp by local thieves. This kind of problem implicated in both safety concerns and problems with the security organizations needed to attenuate it – namely, the state police and contracted security firms.

In practice the self-management proposal worked rather partially. Some activists, such as some organized Argentinean groups who had practical self-management experiences, immediately understood the situation. However, in most sectors the proposal never materialized itself. Thus, groups from the latter sectors were represented by Monitors in the Committee and in collective bodies.

# The Youth Camp in 2005

In 2005, the WSF returned to Porto Alegre and so returned my desire to participate in the process of building the IYC V. Helping to construct a different world, a world of equality of rights and opportunities for all; that was what I wanted the most in January 2005. However, how could I reconcile this willingness with a normal 8 hour a day job? The solution: work as a volunteer from 6pm to 9pm, taking advantage of the daylight saving time period.

The IYC Organizing Committee, which in previous editions ranked young members from Porto Alegre political parties and from representatives of social movements, this time had a more autonomous profile, with only 30% representing social entities or

political parties. The Organization Committee delegated missions to different commissions, such as Environment, Communications and Infrastructure, which were responsible for the organization of their spaces in the camp.



Camping area before its occupation and the 'sombrite' matterial to filter sunshine

The Infrastructure Commission was responsible for the construction of the communitarian spaces in the camp. The commission was divided into groups. Each one was responsible for the construction of a different space. One of these groups was composed of recently graduated architects and students of architecture from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS). Two members of the Unemployed Workers Movement (Movimento de Trabalhadores Desempregados, MTD) worked as carpenters with the group. Their help was crucial to complete the construction of the structures. The camp opened two days before the WSF V, so the commission needed a great number of volunteers at that moment. It was two weeks of hard work, learning and enjoyment.



Tents in the camping area

My group was responsible for the construction of the spaces destined to the dry garbage screening produced in the camp. An existing shed was reformed and walls, doors, windows and the floor were built in it. In this shed was the so-called Screening Center.

Three other buildings were built inside the park area to work as dry garbage prescreening places. The construction style chosen was meant to establish a relationship of respect towards the environment. Therefore, some recyclable materials, such as milk cartons and plastic bottles, were used to make the walls and roof of the shed, and the furniture was made of plywood. All the groups made sure to use materials that are harmless to the environment, through unconventional construction techniques, such as bio-construction.







External trashcan – Screening Center

Using recycled materials in the building of pre-screening areas was a group's idea and had full support from the Infrastructure Commission. Among the reasons that influenced the Commission were the following: show that most of the garbage we produce can be re-used, show that costs can be reduced by using recyclable materials, identify the pre-screening centers by the materials they collect, train non-conventional construction techniques that produce satisfactory results at low costs (allied to the easiness in obtaining the materials).

Of all jobs that I helped doing, my biggest challenge was to make the external trashcans of the Screening Center. In fact, after spending a long time in the construction of the first one, we learned a building method that sped up the process and reduced the effort put into it so that the trashcan was more easily made. The bottom of the trashcan was made of plywood, and the external walls of plastic bottles. We had enough time to help another group to construct a geodesic. Geodesics are structures made of treated bamboos, incased in metallic structures, forming a semi circumference. After incasing the bamboos, the structure is covered with an external canvas. In the geodesics, workshops and other types of events took place during the camp. The satisfaction of seeing the spaces ready and functioning after the persistence and energy used in this task was indescribable and very rewarding.

On my first day, two weeks before the beginning of the WSF, the primary feeling was that the camp would not be completed in time. All the process seemed to be behind schedule and the camp seemed very empty to me. A few volunteers were working on it.

Only the pre-existing structures in the park were actually active, and not more than half of the brick bathrooms placed inside the park were working.



Construction of Geodesic structure

In a house in the middle of the park the Camp Organizing Committee (COA – Comitê Organizador do Acampamento) and its basic infrastructure was located – from computers to stationery. In the adjacent shed the kitchen and the volunteer's canteen were installed. This shed became a meeting point for the volunteers, since they all used the space to mingle everyday after work, at sunset. The food was really good, natural and balanced, adequate enough to recharge the batteries after a long day's work.



Health center: the wall was built with adobe

The number of people in the camp kept growing day after day. One week before the camp's official opening, there were about five hundred campers, then eight hundred two days later, and ultimately over five thousand on the opening day. Che Guevara and Bob Marley were seen on many flags and T-shirts around the camp. Left political parties were present on many bands and flags too. Since the number of volunteers increased greatly, as well as the number of people camping, almost all structures could be finished in time.



Opening March - WSF

The first security problems in the camp came with the increase of people camping. Fights between punk groups happened on a regular basis, and one man was injured with a machete. It was then that tent robberies began. The movement of people in the camp area was intense, especially at night. The parties and shows inside the park had just begun, and locals would visit the camp. By then, my main opinion had changed: I thought that the infrastructure was indeed going to be ready in time, but it would be insufficient to serve the thirty thousand people camping and all the visitors who certainly would show up at the camp every day.

# **Self-Management at the Fifth International Youth Camp**

As it had happened to its predecessors, the IYC V was conceived by the COA to serve as a laboratory where new alternatives are constructed, concepts are created, and so are theories and practices that question the capitalist way of life from the daily conviviality among people: a laboratory that relates proposals to action but doesn't fear errors. Once again, the IYC brought self-management as a proposal for the social and territorial organization of campers at the WSF.

In the context of a laboratory, self-management refers to the management of production and social organization in line with the principles of freedom and equality in which all popular movements, groups and individuals have equal rights and equal participation. A more literal concept of self-management would postulate the complete suppression of any distinction between directors and directed, i.e. a call for humans to organize themselves collectively. Self-management is a constantly changing project, a model that is never finished. Its structure and organization, its very existence is, and will be, the fruit of the willingness, thoughts and action of group members, without prejudice or imposition.

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The target was to make the community organization horizontal, which implies all members being able to make decisions together and manage their own borough. Some groups, such as some political parties and university excursions,<sup>3</sup> already had some organization system defined prior to coming to the camp, so the self-management process was more easily acquired by them than by other groups, such as, for example, the punk movement. Those who had pre-existing organizational structures had a patrolling schedule and sent people to represent them in the meetings and commissions; others had great difficulty in understanding the meaning of the self-management process. This generated a territorial division in the camp, noticeable from day one; the craftsmen, the political parties, the punks, the hip-hop movement each occupying a different area. Due to the territorial separation, integration between these groups did not happen as expected and, as a consequence, a totally fruitful interaction between those movements did not actually occurred.

Perhaps the major problem was that, similarly to what happened in the third IYC, planning often followed hierarchical and authoritarian forms. The city was planned by few to be later occupied and managed by others. Hierarchies reproduce forms of domination through the perpetuation of control and dependence situations. This fact was among the main reasons for the low level of involvement from the campers with the management proposal. This notorious territorial separation among movements generated small neighborhoods within the park; a fact that not only imposed an obstacle to the exchange of experiences that were supposed to happen among campers but also isolated those groups which were less prone to social co-living, specially the punks. The craftsmen, concentrated in the same area, disputed the attention of passers-by, sometimes annoying and embarrassing campers and visitors. The hip-hop group, linked to cultural and social movements from shantytowns and to community radio stations, interacted better with the campers. The food courts traded only organic, non-genetically modified, and pesticide free products. Commercial relations, however, reproduced the practices of the capitalist market – selling for profit and timid usage of the 'solidarity' currency.

The relationship between some groups of campers and the COA was a little ambiguous too, concerning the self-management concept. For example, some students of UFRGS were not formally registered in the COA and did not pay the camp's joining fee. To make matters worse, they camped in a Special Protection Area, located inside the park. The COA's allegation was that the area had vestiges of native vegetation, and its occupation was prohibited. In fact, the native vegetation was actually behind the place where the tents were set up. The group camped in an intermediate area between the Special Protection Area and the open park area, but that space was not supposed to be occupied either, anyway. Even being off-limits in theory, the place where the organic garbage is treated was right beside the area where they camped, and garbage trucks would dump rubble every day on the other side of the group's camp. However, according to the group, the COA's intention was to build a communitarian kitchen in

In other cities of Brazil, students had organized bus excursions to come to Porto Alegre to participate in the WSF. These excursions were organized by the Students Representatives (Academic Directories), and almost all students stayed at the IYC. It is for this reason I call them university excursions.

the shed under which the group put its tents. If the intention was to preserve the special area, the group proved to be more efficient and organized than the formal organization, which itself was a contradiction to the self-management proposition. I spent some time with the group and was rather divided on the issue. On the one hand, as a nature activist, I believe that buffer areas between preservation and urban areas should not be inhabited. Small animals normally seek refuge there, and human presence can scare them or put them in jeopardy. On the other hand, most of the members of that group were friends of mine; therefore I could verify that their practices were not harmful to the place. Their tents were positioned below the existing shed, not in a virgin area; the log for fire did not come from the woods, but from scrap spread around the park; garbage was separated and trashed in the right place.



Compost area: place where the organic garbage was treated

## **Final Comments**

For the first time the WSF V had all its events by Guaíba Lake; many of them at Harmonia Park. This finally made the Youth Camp to become an integrated part of the Forum. For the first time the Camp occupied the whole area of the park and not only a single sector, as it happened in the previous editions. With such a large area available the number of campers increased to 35,000 people. This fact also generated some problems when a group of students, as I mentioned, occupied a Special Protection Area of the park.

My group's targets for the construction of the Camp had been reached with an almost complete success. However, the pre-screening structures had not been finished as planned. The plan was to use plastic bottles as the roof, and milk cartons below them, as a ceiling lining. During the construction of the structures, we had to opt for one solution or the other, due to the lack of time and material to make them. The people who worked in the project were very tired, mentally and physically, but also very satisfied with the results of their work. Unfortunately, the pre-screening centers did not manage to achieve their goal (since the campers did not buy the message about recycling) and were almost completely abandoned, eventually.



Pre-screening Center abandoned in camping area

The pre-screening centers were designed to stock the solid waste (such as cans and cardboard milk boxes) produced in the Camp. The amount of stocked waste would be later collected by garbage catchers. The aim was to help the garbage catchers as well as to awake environmental awareness among the campers. Unfortunately, this experienced was the perfect example of what did not work. There was more garbage spread all over the park than in the pre-screening center. Only the main shed was successful, receiving thousands of visitors per day.



Screening Center inside

During the WSF, the Camp looked very dirty, like any city with high demographic density. The garbage, though, was not the only source of visual pollution: posters, flags, garbage cans, craft stalls, food courts, tents, all contributed. A huge amount of garbage was produced but little was recycled. Many campers carefully separated their garbage (solid or organic waste) and disposed in the right place. However, a lot of people did not show the same concern. Despite all efforts of the volunteers providing information and orientation, not everyone was sensitive to the garbage issue. It is clear that the

environmental teaching-learning process cannot cease with the end of the Camp. New allies were incorporated to this struggle, and the example they will set in their cities will compensate for the lack of engagement of those who were not touched by this idea.

My expectations as a volunteer have been totally reached, though. The integration with so many people and groups different from me was very rewarding. We had a very beneficial exchange of ideas and also an experience of fellowship and brotherhood in the camp. Besides learning how to use a hammer, a level, a plummet, a brush, a measuring tape and scissors to create spaces to be used by the camp community, I had the chance to learn about different practices and customs.

The camp can be considered a great success. It had many problems like robberies, fights and confusion, as it happens in any city. After all, receiving thirty five thousand people in a reduced space and providing them with all the services they need for ten days is an arduous task. All the spaces worked well, even though not as perfectly as they had been conceived. With a little patience, though, the volunteers were able to solve almost any problem.



Volunteers preparing the adobe (clay)

The total number of volunteers reached a thousand<sup>4</sup> and everyone who wanted to take part was welcomed. Despite the large number of volunteers, all of them were willing to do their utmost to help, but the practical and technical knowledge of the Unemployed Workers Movement members was the crucial factor for the completion of the tasks in time. The architects had it all planned out, but at the moment of building, things would always turn out to be somewhat different, and this is when the MTD members really made the difference.

Despite all the problems, the process was successful, as a whole. The groups coexisted in almost complete harmony, sharing spaces, tasks and beliefs. All of them respected one another's values, creeds, races and sexual orientation, although it has to be said it

<sup>4</sup> The official record is around 1,000 volunteers. But many volunteers were unofficial or informal. So, the absolute number is unknown and hard to specify.

was not perfect. It lacked a better organization and more engagement from the campers to the self-management proposals, even though the very self-management theory encourages its followers to organize themselves and break away from traditional organization models.



Workshop in a geodesic

Working at IYC V was a unique experience! Watching and sharing activities with fellow professionals from other areas, such as journalism, architecture and biology, as well as with unemployed workers, all working together in the construction of another world, made the moment eternal. Had all worked as planned, and had all sorts of problems not happened, surely we would have been camping in the wrong Forum. The ability to improvise which organizers and volunteers showed in solving difficulties shows us that the process is on the right track. Solutions do not come to us ready as prescriptions, but as everyday problems arise and we see ourselves forced to deal with them.

And if there is something in which the IYC V was rich, it was in the will to learn and teach new ways to face difficulties, ways that differ from those normally used by the establishment. Sharing ideas and ideals to overcome difficulties: that is the major goal reached by the IYC V.

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