

# World and European Social Forums: A Bibliography\*

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# **Annotated Web Bibliography**

World Social Forum [www.forumsocialmundial.org.br]

The official World Social Forum (WSF) website is the best place to start. It describes the Forum's origins, aims and organisational structures, as well as containing accounts of all five WSFs and initial details of the 'polycentric' WSF 2006 process. The official 'memory project' for the WSF is Memoria Viva [http://www.memoria-viva.org]. Details on the 2004 World Social Forum in India are still available from its website. A number of initiatives associated with the WSF also have their own websites, including the World Social Library and the Intercontinental Youth Camp.

#### European Social Forum [www.fse-esf.org]

The official website of the European Social Forum, including archived copies of the programmes and websites of the first three ESFs. Assessments of the ESF 2004 in London are gathered in the Euromovements newsletter. Further documents and opinions can be found at the unofficial ESF activist website [www.esf2004.net].

#### Autonomous Spaces at the ESF [www.altspaces.net]

The ESF 2004 was surrounded by a variety of autonomous spaces. These included the European Forum on Communication Rights, Beyond the ESF, Life Despite Capitalism, the Laboratory of Insurrectionary Imagination, the Urban Forum and the Carnival Forum.

# Assembly of the Social Movements [www.movsoc.org]

The Social Movements Assembly is one of many spaces within the WSF that coordinates actions.

Babels [www.babels.org]

<sup>\*</sup> Online at http://www.ephemeraweb.org/journal/5-2/5-2biblio.htm

Babels is an international network of volunteer interpreters and translators whose main objective it is to cover the interpreting needs of the Social Forums and of other international events, as defined in the calendar of the 'call of the social movements'.

## Choike [www.choike.org]

A web portal disseminating the work of NGOs based in the global South. Choike contains an informative collection of reports and links about WSF in Porto Alegre [http://www.choike.org/nuevo\_eng/eventos/10.html], **WSF** [http://www.choike.org/nuevo\_eng/eventos/1.html] and WSF III in Porto Alegre [http://www.choike.org/nuevo eng/informes/738.html]. It also contains an online copy of World Social Forum Challenging **Empires** [http://www.choike.org/nuevo\_eng/informes/1557.html], which the most comprehensive book yet published about the WSF.

## Delibera [http://www.delibera.net/]

An online tool for participatory democracy used by the WSF International Council. It also contains evaluations of WSF 2005.

#### Euromovements [www.euromovements.info]

Guide for social transformation in Europe, related to the ESF and its surroundings. Includes networking tools, social movement chronologies, newsletters and a directory of all the organizations registered to the first three ESFs.

#### *Memoria-Viva* [http://www.memoria-viva.org]

Memory of World Social Forum and regional forums, including reports on seminars and database of proposals.

#### *Nomad* [http://www.nomadfkt.org/]

An international network developing alternative technologies. Developed he Nomad Interpretation Free Tool (NIFT) as an alternative to commercial translation systems in use at social forums.

#### Network Institute for Global Democratization [www.nigd.org]

A transnational research association that has been heavily involved in the WSF process. Free, downloadable materials include a 240-page working paper called 'From a Global Market Place to Political Spaces' [http://www.nigd.org/docs/Global Market Place.pdf] with several important essays on the WSF; 'We, the Peoples of the World Social Forum' [http://www.nigd.org/Discussion Papers.html], with reflections on WSF II at Porto Alegre, and a report on 'The Politics of the WSF's "Open Space" [http://www.nigd.org/WSF itself summary.html] a seminar with several key WSF organisers held at WSF IV in Mumbai. It is also a good source for keeping up with discussions within the WSF International Council.

#### Open Democracy [www.opendemocracy.net]

A global online magazine of politics and culture. The DIY World section contains informative articles on the WSF and its Davos rival the World Economic Forum.

## Open Space Forum [http://www.openspaceforum.net/]

The politics of open spaces. This website was put together by contributors to the International Social Studies Journal special issue on the World Social Forum [http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/toc/issj/56/182], and contains online versions of their articles.

Other Worlds [http://www.mundi.org.uk/otherworlds/]

Educational project inspired by the World Social Forum.

# People's Global Action [www.agp.org]

An international anti-capitalist network that pre-exists the WSF. People's Global Action became known for calling Global Action Days (J18, N30, S16, etc.) [http://www.nadir.org/nadir/initiativ/agp/mayday1.htm] to coincide with international summits. Its website also contains an excellent library of writings on globalisation and war, which includes several pieces on the World Social Forum. Useful documents on the WSF are also collected in the All 4 All Global Action Database [http://www.all4all.org/wsf/index.shtml].

# Red Pepper [http://www.redpepper.org.uk/]

Independent magazine of the green and radical left in Britain, which has a special section on European and World Social Forums (http://www.redpepper.org.uk/socialforum/socialforum.html).

# *Transform!* [www.transform.it]

Transform! is a European network of research and political education organisations. Its informative 140-page newsletter, 'World Social Forum: a Debate on the Challenges for Its Future' [http://www.transform.it/newsletter/news\_transform01.html] was produced by Transform! Italia in association with the Transnational Institute and Red Pepper.

#### Transnational Institute [www.tni.org]

The Transnational Institute has brought together activist scholars from all over the world since 1974. Its extensive coverage on the WSF can be found at [http://www.tni.org/socforum/index.htm].

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