

Global Education Lab #1: Extractivism

19-26 November 2024 in Bern, Switzerland

Background of the seminar

Switzerland, the European Union and the Global North play a fundamental role in today's global market. For centuries European colonialism exploited people, land and resources in Africa, Asia, the Americas and Oceania. Despite it being less visible, it is undeniable that the globalised marketplace mimics those colonial structures today. European governments and companies are contributing to and driving global injustices even in times of the climate crisis: Rare minerals are being mined on indigenous land all over the world, forests being deforested, resources extracted, water resources polluted. The Global North is prospering thanks to their colonial wealth, and thanks to the exploitation of resources in the Global South. At the same time, people in the Global South often have little or no say in what should happen to their land and don't see their standards of living significantly increased, while selling off their resources, their labour and land.

It is relevant to bring awareness to European citizens around this topic and to encourage them to demand a systemic change from their governments. Many young people in Europe lack basic knowledge about colonial history, neocolonial power structures and extractivism happening today. It is fundamental to highlight the role Europe played and plays in the global market of raw materials and extractivism.

Our objectives with this seminar: With this seminar we aim to facilitate a conversation and build a shared understanding around how to do global education around resource extraction and how to talk about extractivism in a youth work and educational setting. Some thoughts we have:

- We want to exchange knowledge around what extractivism and neo-extractivism mean. How they relate to colonialism, global injustice, and the climate crisis.
- We want to discuss alternative models of economic structuring such as circular economy, cooperative economy, social and solidarity economy, among others.
- We want to look at what is already being done to protest and resist this phenomenon both in the Global North and in the Global South and talk about Human Rights Defenders
- We want to develop and share educational methods that can help us do workshops on this topic in youth settings.

Outcome: as an outcome to this seminar we would like to:

- Potentially work on short videos for youth about extractivism that can be used as educational material.
- Potentially work on a small toolkit with 2-3 methods about extractivism and guidelines on how to relate global questions to young people's local realities
- Potentially work on a social media campaign on extractivism that could be coordinated and launched across organisations and participants

- Encourage participants to do local workshops as a follow-up

The participants will be awarded with certificates after participation and the practice phase.

Program: Please be aware that this is just a first draft of the program. Things might still change depending on the needs and possible contributions of the participants.

	Day 1 19 Nov Tue	Day 2 20 Nov Wed	Day 3 21 Nov Thu	Day 4 22 Nov Fri	Day 5 23 Nov Sat	Day 6 24 Nov Sun	Day 7 25 Nov Mon	Day 8 26 Nov Tue
M		Intro to programme, expectations	Resistance: Research and add to world map	Revolution: Alternative systems + utopias	Methods Exchange	Innovation Lab in parallel: 1. Creating new educational methods 2. Producing videos 3. Producing social media campaign	Open Space	Cleaning
		Group agreement	Reform: External inputs	Creative debriefing				Departure
A	Arrivals	Identities, Contexts and Terminology	Free Afternoon	What is Global Education, Critical pedagogy	Switzerland and Extractivism: a decolonial city tour	Presenting the outcomes	Planning Future Projects	Evaluation, Cleaning
		Reality: Examples of Extraction in Past and Present		How to work with youth on this topic				
E	Welcome, Introductions	Reflection of the Day					Goodbye Party	
		Optional evening activity						

About the organisers: [SCI Switzerland](#) is part of the international network Service Civil International (SCI). SCI Switzerland organizes volunteering and educational projects that contribute to peace in a broad sense: to social justice, sustainable development, equality, solidarity and non-violent conflict resolution. **Global Education Lab** is a new series of annual seminars on Global Education that SCI Switzerland intends to host.

Participant's profile

The project has space for **28 participants**. All participants selected for this project should meet the following criteria:

- Be 18 years old or older
- Live in one of the countries of our partner organisations: Austria, Brazil, Colombia, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Netherlands, Nigeria, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland
- Be able to work in English
- Have experience with doing global education OR be active in an organisation and motivated to start doing global education
- Be able to attend for the full duration of the seminar
- If somehow possible and feasible, be committed to come to the training without flying, and

to travel instead by overland route.

We explicitly encourage participants of all classes, educational backgrounds, genders, sexual orientations, abilities and ethnic backgrounds to apply.

Logistics, financial conditions and sustainability



Simple life: The seminar will take place in a scouts center with very simple living conditions. You will sleep in a room shared with other people. We will ask you to bring your own sleeping bag + pillow. Showers are shared with other people as well, we will make a shower schedule.



Money, money, money: We can cover all essential costs of the program (including food, travel costs up to a maximum amount, visa costs, accommodation and seminar) through a grant by the Swiss government agency Movetia. Your sending organisation might ask for a small participation fee.



Sustainable food: The food we provide will be vegan. This is not just a practical decision, but also an ideological one: SCI believes in the values of sustainability and climate justice – and if we want to contribute to a more peaceful planet, we need to give up on industrialized animal agriculture and its destructive effects on our planet.



Sustainable travels: This is also why we ask you to come to this training through more sustainable means of transport rather than flying (e.g. by train or bus), if somehow possible. We will give you more guidance on how you can reach the venue, once you are accepted to the seminar.

How to apply? You can apply [by filling out this application form](#). All those accepted will later receive a detailed infosheet (incl. info on how to get to the venue, how to book your travels, more info about the agenda of the project). **First deadline for applying is 30 September 2024.**

Contact: If you have any questions regarding the project and your application, don't hesitate to contact Thomas at t.schallhart@gmail.com. We are looking forward to your application :-)

The coordinating team
Sara, Thomas and the SCI Switzerland team



SCI Switzerland
Volunteering for Peace