



**decolonial
europe day**

**decolonial
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2023 results
booklet**

decolonial.eu

9 MAY 2023

decolonial europe day



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The Decolonial Europe Day is a new initiative that uses the occasion of Europe Day (9 May every year) to bring together existing decolonising initiatives, civil society organisations and other actors around the common project of decolonising Europe, understood as an ongoing process. Our intention is to create a space for exchange on how to decolonise Europe, to amplify decolonial voices in and on Europe, to support the creation of synergies and to make this type of conversation more mainstream in Europe, with the ultimate purpose of dismantling and replacing colonial power structures.

The first edition of the Decolonial Europe Day took place in online format on 9 May 2023. The organisers of the nine partner sessions were asked to submit one 'unresolved' question related to their respective sessions - you find these listed under the 'food for thought' heading in this results booklet. For more information about the first edition, please check the [Decolonising Europe booklet](#) and the [programme booklet](#).

Do you have any questions or feedback for us or ideas on how to improve this initiative? Please let us know and write to [hello\[at\]decolonial.eu](mailto:hello[at]decolonial.eu).

programme

- 09:30 - 09:45 Virtual walk-in & informal welcome
- 09:45- 10:45 Opening session: Decolonial Europe day
Official welcome, project-, programme- and booklet presentation;
conversation on what it means to decolonise Europe
- 11:00 - 12:30 Parallel sessions by partners - round 1
1. Smashing the ivory tower? A workshop on decolonising initiatives in European universities by the EUI Decolonising Initiative
 2. European Muslim women's identity - Unveiling new narratives by Understanding Europe
 3. Decolonise Europe, East and West - open space for wild imagination(s) and speculative fabulation by the Alliance for Black Justice in Poland
- 12:30 - 13:00 Lunch break
- 13:00 - 14:30 Parallel sessions by partners - round 2
4. Check your bias: how to become an anti-racism ally? by #DiasporaVote!
 5. Decolonising Europe - Contested Histories North, South, East, West by the Contested Histories Initiative
 6. Confronting Islamophobia across Europe by European Alternatives & Another Europe Is Possible
- 14:45 - 16:15 Parallel sessions by partners - round 3
7. European Union and the responsibility for repairing colonial crimes? by African Futures Lab
 8. Décoloniser = stopper le racisme ici et maintenant! by Bamko
 9. Creating Postmigrant Europe through Travelling by the Postmigrant Europe Travellers
- 16:30 - 17:30 A decolonial project for Europe w/ Gurminder K Bhambra
A conversation with Prof. Gurminder K Bhambra based on the question "What does it mean to decolonise Europe?" and questions that have come up throughout the day
- 17:30 - 18:00 Closing: how to move forward?
Closing of the Decolonial Europe Day with takeaways from the day and reflections on how to take the work forward

What does it mean to decolonise Europe?

During the opening session of the Decolonial Europe Day the participants were asked what it means to decolonise Europe. The following word cloud represents the responses of the participants according to frequency of the words they used.

Curious what the project team and our partners have to say about this question? Check the [Decolonising Europe booklet](#).



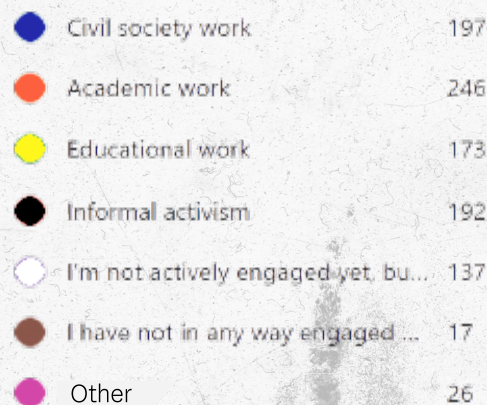
decolonial europe day in numbers

634 registrations

opening session:
114 participants

closing session:
99 participants

Participants' country of residence (i.e. those most frequently mentioned)



Participants' engagement in decolonising initiatives

How can decolonising initiatives in European universities strategically navigate and 'sabotage' the coloniality of the institutions they are part of? Is it possible to avoid reproducing precarity and structural inequalities?

Smashing the ivory tower? A workshop on decolonising initiatives in European universities

by the EUI Decolonising Initiative

How do we deal with our own discomfort when trying to be allies in fighting any kind of discrimination?

**European Muslim women's identity
Unveiling new narratives**

by Understanding Europe

How can we keep walking the path of decolonisation and not surrender to nihilism?

Decolonise Europe, East and West - open space for wild imagination(s) and speculative fabulation

by Alliance for Black Justice in Poland

How do we get past white guilt when we talk about colonialism and racism? How can we lead to change in order to create the conditions of a post-racial society?

Check your bias: how to become an anti-racism ally?

by #DiasporaVote!

Decolonising Europe - Contested Histories North, South, East, West

by the Contested Histories Initiative

How can we best engage stakeholders and the local community in how we deal with legacies of the past in the public space?

What's your assessment of the progress made in improving our understanding of empire and colonial histories in the education system? What do you see as the next steps?

Confronting Islamophobia across Europe

by European Alternatives & Another Europe Is Possible

How to relate to the project of decolonizing the EU as people from the South / global majority / people from formerly colonized countries? How do we engage the tension between investing in reform vs. retreat?

European Union and the responsibility for repairing colonial crimes?

by African Futures Lab

Comment les Blancs peuvent-ils être des alliés dans la lutte pour la justice raciale et la décolonisation, tout en ne décidant pas des stratégies et des méthodologies de notre combat ?

Décoloniser = stopper le racisme ici et maintenant!

by BAMKO

How can white people be allies in the fight for racial justice and decolonisation, while not deciding on the strategies and methodologies of our fight?

How is the term post-migrant erasing colonial migration histories, or even the debate on colonial history? Diaspora discourses - how do we as racialized persons deal with privilege of having "western" citizenship, and position ourselves in inner-migrant discourses?

Creating Postmigrant Europe through Travelling

by the Postmigrant Europe Travellers

Plenary session recording

[Decolonial Europe Day in conversation with Gurminder K Bhambra](#)

Links for further reading

(as suggested by some of our session partners)

[Connected Sociologies](#)

[GLOBAL SOCIAL THEORY – This site is intended as a free resource for students, teachers, academics, and others interested in social theory and wishing to understand it in global perspective.](#)

[Accomplices Not Allies: Abolishing the Ally Industrial Complex – Indigenous Action Media](#)

[Bloomsbury Collections - Eurafrika - The Untold History of European Integration and Colonialism](#)

[Published report on Islamophobia and the mainstreaming of the far-right in Germany and the UK - links to Brexit and migration discourse.](#)

[Published report on Islamophobia in France - the use of laicite to deny basic human rights](#)

[NEW VIDEO: Brexit & Islamophobia – how are they connected?](#)

[Workshop on Islamophobia at the European Summer University](#)

[Contested histories case studies](#)



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Thanks to our partners and collaborating organisations!



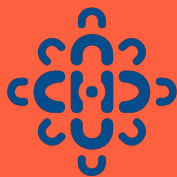
EUROPEAN
ALTERNATIVES

STIFTUNG
MERCATOR

Another Europe is Possible



understanding
europe



CONTESTED
HISTORIES



AFRICAN FUTURES
LAB

EUI Decolonising
Initiative



Schwarzkopf 
Foundation
YOUNG EUROPE 

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