Hope Recycling Station is pleased to announce a Symposium in Prague

**MAKE VOICES HEARD**

**Decolonial reflections on power and racism in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia**

December 15. and 16., 2023

Academy of Art, Architecture and Design

Technology Center, Mikulandská 134/5
110 00 Praha 1

Symposium lineup

**December 15, 17-20h**

Introduction by Noemi Smolik and Adam Vackar

Madina Tlostanova, keynote

Joanna Warsza, keynote

**December 16, 10-19h**

Alexander Etkin, keynote

FATA Collective (Jeanna Kolesova, Keto Gorgadze)

DAVRA (Saodat Ismailova, Madina Joldybek, Zumrad Mirzalieva)

Furqat Palvanzade

David Tišer

Alexandra Garmazhapova

Peter Kašpar/Denis Kozerawski

 Roundtable

For some years now, questions of colonialism, its legacy and the way how to address this legacy have been central themes of contemporary art. It is noticeable that while artists and theoreticians from North and South America, Asia, Africa, and Arab countries are represented in exhibitions, symposia and debates on this topic, representatives from countries that were subject to the sphere of influence of the Soviet Union are notably absent.

The crisis in Ukraine has not only exposed Moscow's colonial claims but also revealed an ambivalent relationship between Western countries and those in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as Central Asia. While Western countries sought to address the security concerns arising from Moscow's colonial claims, insufficient attention was given to the security, respect, and self-determination needs of these countries.

Therefore, it is necessary to ask: Why is it that in the West, little attention is paid to the experiences of these countries? A supposedly binding global knowledge about colonialism and racism is produced without the inclusion of the experiences of the people from these regions, as evidenced by the absence of representatives from these countries in the current postcolonial debate. It is time for the people of Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia to raise their voices.

The symposium in Prague, initiated by Hope Recycling Station and the working group it has launched at CCA Berlin in spring 2023, has set itself the task of making these voices heard.

Working group members

Noemi Smolik, art critic, curator, author, founder of the Hope Recycling Station platform, Prague
Adam Vačkář, artist and researcher, founder of the Hope Recycling Station platform, Prague

Fabian Schöneich, curator, director of the CCA, Berlin
Jörg Heiser, art critic, curator, musician, director of the Institute Art in Context at the UDK, Berlin
Elene Abashidze, curator, author, Georgia, lives in Tbilisi
Andrey Shental, theorist, author, Russian Federation, lives in Berlin
Marek Wolynski, curator, author, Poland, lives in London
Valentinas Klimašauskas, theorist, author, curator, Lithuania, lives in Vilnius

Mariia Vorotilina, curator, author, Ukraine, lives in Hamburg
Payam Sharifi, Slavs & Tatars, artist, lives in Berlin

Patricia Couvet, curator, Pickle Bar by Slavs & Tatars, lives in berlin

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