



During past editions of the Green Academy, in our debates we often referred to Antonio Gramsci's quote describing the sort of interregnum in which we live:

*“The old world is dying, and the new world struggles to be born: now is the time of monsters.” **

And although interpretations of this quote vary (from political philosophy debates to the Guardian articles), it is certain that our anticipation and announcements were not far from true. Today, we've reached the moment where we daily witness symptoms of monstrous times: from the emergence of Trump's authoritarian populism and technofascism, the wars in Ukraine, Iran and Yemen (to name a few), and the genocide in Palestine, to climate collapse, the dissolution of multilateral order, and the unimaginable effects of the AI resurgence on democracy.

For those joining for the first time, Green Academy has been established in 2010 as an educational and discussion platform around degrowth/post-growth, commons, ecological transition, municipalism and public services. It is an international venue and meeting point where green and left scholars, practitioners, researchers, politicians and activists from the region, Europe and the world meet to discuss, to share knowledge, experiences and practices, to identify convergences and to address tensions or contradictions that need to be resolved or lived with. We try to build it as a place where activists inspire or energize scholars, and where scholars learn from activists. For green and left politicians, it is often a mirror in which they can see how aligned – or not – they are with ideas that motivated them to enter politics. Since its establishment more than 2000 participants and speakers from all corners of Europe and the world have circulated through the Green Academy, which has not only been instrumental for many political and research projects, but has also energised movements and scholars who sometimes feel powerless or isolated. Each edition reminds you of the previous ones, but at the same time feels unique and different.

With the 10th Green Academy before us, we are marking this modest anniversary through collaboration – the key element of this edition – with foundations, think tanks, academia, movements, civil society groups and bold individuals; they are all here to share knowledge and resources to regenerate our social power. Our aim is to dive deep into a variety of topics and collectively explore and discuss how we imagine our lives and how we can build counter-power to emerging hegemonies that rely on the power of the stronger. What are the values, principles and methods of our social and political work – but also of our lived individual and collective realities – which can make a difference and offer an alternative path to the one spiralling to overall environmental and social destruction. We are not here to write a manifesto, but to turn our experiences and learnings into tomorrow's realities.

This can be the best manifesto.

Not many people know that Vis was where the “Antonio Gramsci Battalion”, composed of Italian anti-fascists and partisans from People's Liberation Struggle on the Balkans territory (part of the Dalmatian brigade), was established in 1944. They resisted Nazi rule and fascism and liberated a large area of Dalmatia. Today, with our feet on that same soil in the middle of the Adriatic, we face similar threats across the world.

In this hostile environment, imagining a different future is often painted as too naive or unrealistic. Yet, our lives are more and more determined by the impacts of the phenomena which become our new normal, constantly adjusting to the effects of the polycrisis. Our task is to explore better imaginaries and create conditions to translate them into reality, pulling all our forces together to build social power that will not tolerate imperial rule, oppression of any kind, violence and environmental collapse.

** In questo interregno si verificano i fenomeni morbosi più svariati.*