

# Hothouse: The Case for a New Political Imagination

Due to Covid-19 crisis we must postpone the face-to-face event until later. Given many inquiries we have received and a genuine interest in collectively addressing the new political imagination, we suggest starting our dialogue through a smaller scale **zoom workshop *Politics is Broken*** scheduled for July 17, 2020 (see the description below).

You are welcome to join us at <https://liu-se.zoom.us/j/3058115000>

The workshop will be convened by Tony Fry (University of Tasmania) and Madina Tlostanova (LiU). Please indicate your interest by July 1, 2020 by writing to [tonyhry@gmail.com](mailto:tonyhry@gmail.com) and/or [madina.tlostanova@liu.se](mailto:madina.tlostanova@liu.se).

## Politics is Broken: Zoom workshop (July 17, 2020, 17:00 CET)

**Speed of breaking events:** events now totally outpace the responsive speed of the global and national political institutions, political philosophy and organisational and communication practices. Yet while fast events, such as crisis, catch us by surprise, the slow ones steadily shape the worlds that we all live in, and much of our futures.

**Nature of events:** these events are diverse, complex, often critical and relationally connected. They include a reconfiguration of the global power blocs; the transformations in the mode of international and national conflicts; climate change and its graduated immediate and long-term environmental biophysical, public health, political, economic and socio-cultural impacts. These impacts unfold as environment destruction, loss of biodiversity, waste generation, and crises in food security, population growth, displacement, unsettlement and resource pressures. In turn they cause social and psycho-cognitive impacts, from rapid technological change to a growing dysfunction of international and national political systems. The sum of these events constitutes a complexity beyond our collective grasp and the capabilities our societies have created, yet our species has a bleak future unless ways to respond are found.

**Nature of the event of response:** It cannot commence with the attempt to create solutions. Rather it has to start with the establishment of a process of critical inquiry, framed and directed by a politics created out of a new political imaginary. These imperatives are the objects of address of our workshop.

**The Workshop:** its aim is twofold – first to initiate a conversation to establish common understandings of the need for, and approach to, gaining a process of critical inquiry informing and assisting the development of a new political imagination. Second, using the event to shape the agenda of future face-to-face events that take the process further.

**The event: July 17, 2020**

Pre-event reading: *Democracy in Crisis*, Tony Fry/Madina Tlostanova to be sent on July 2.

**The Event Agenda** (Note: Tasmania time is +8hrs so start time is 5.00pm and the workshop finishes at 11.30pm)

9.00 am **Introductions** of participants and the notion of 'event'.

9.30 am **Session one:** presentation – picturing the relationality of fast and slow crises as seen 'today'.

10.30 am **Session two:** responses to presentation informed by the reading Q&A

11.30 am **Break** and writing of fifty-word statement of desired-self political identity

1.00 pm **Session three:** presentation – from politics to the political and a new imagination

2.00 pm **Session four** one-line provocation comment and open discussion

Finish approx. 3.30 pm