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**Berlin, May 21, 2006**

**Invitation to the first preparatory meeting for the European congress „ Knowledge and science in Europe – a critical reflection on alternatives” (working title)**

Dear colleagues and friends,

the International Network of Scientists and Engineers for Global Responsibility (INES) and the  
Fédération Mondiale des Travailleurs Scientifiques (FMTS)

would like to invite you to the first planning meeting of the congress “Knowledge and science”.

**Date: June 17, 2006**

**12.00 - 19.00 hours**

**Paris. Office of the Syndicat National de l'Enseignement Supérieur (SNESUP),**

**78 rue du Faubourg Saint-Denis, Paris 10è**

(Walking distance from Gare du Nord and Gare de l'Est.)

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**Background**

In August 2007 the G8 summit will take place near Rostock in Germany. A significant topic at that meeting of the “Powerful of the world” is supposed to be “Knowledge, science and research and its neoliberal orientation”.

After discussions in various working groups at the European Social Forum in Athens this year and in preparation for the international INES conference “Science and Sustainability” in Mexico in 2008 we will hold a conference in Berlin in summer 2007 – just before the G8 summit – to discuss the situation of science and research policy in Europe.

We will analyse unilateral industrial focused interests, name other interests of power, and question military orientation. Furthermore we will get an overview of the science and research policy of the European Union.

We want to analyse the neoliberal orientation of science and research policy and develop alternatives.

Questions about democracy and participation within the science-system will be discussed as well as questions about the dialogue between science and society.

At the conference we want to discuss and develop alternatives to the common content and structure of the science system. Develop main requirements for a sustainable science and research policy, and open the way to common activities towards another science policy. Inseparably connected to these topics are questions regarding the responsibility and the accountability of scientists.

Content and structure for a conference that attracts scientists, engineers, students and other interested people from as many European countries as possible should be developed.

The conference should be prepared in public and with as many interested people as possible. Therefore we invite you for a first meeting to prepare the content and the structure of the conference:

### **Proposed agenda for our meeting in Paris**

0. Overview what happened since our meeting in Athens
1. General ideas, content and main lines of the conference. I will send to you the protocol of our meeting, which will be drafted by Jean-Paul Laine next week
2. Content, programme of the conference and main speakers. I will try to work out some first ideas next week
3. Organisational structure of the conference; organizers, supporters,
4. Establishing a Programme Committee and an Organisational Committee
5. Budget, fundraising strategy
6. Next steps
7. Next meeting
8. Miscellaneous

We will invite all people, which were attending our first meeting in Athens. Please feel free to invite other organisations and persons (may be from other countries in Europe) Please have in mind that at this stage we cannot cover any travelling or accommodation costs.

Looking forward to see you and your colleagues in Paris

Best regards

Reiner Braun (INES)

André Jaeglé (FMTS)