

**Complicity**, the big Berliner Gazette conference in 2013, creates meaning and orientation in the current phase of social upheaval. While conventions of coexistence are in crisis, the conference highlights *emerging forms of connectivity* – taking as a starting point the original meaning of its title: "together with" and "to assemble".

**Complicity** translates complex processes in the wake of globalization and digitalization into the language of our everyday experience: small and large, young and old, red and blue – all are thrown into complicity. People who apparently do not fit together, now come together. Not always voluntarily. Also forced forms of complicity arise – e.g. through connections based on conflict. The applicable laws of coexistence is put into question, less in a legal, rather in a philosophical sense. Hierarchies and ideologies, conventions and contracts are negotiated anew.

**Complicity** explores the opportunities of this change for emergent forms of collaboration: The conference reflects cooperation in social networks, communities and swarms. Actors from different worlds, who come together in crowds, move beyond the laws of result-oriented connectivity. They create unconventional teams and collectives. As accomplices they produce new forms of content – and thereby the commons of the digital era.

**Complicity** tests in theory and practice pioneering collective processes of collaboration in three key areas of our current social transition: the interfacing fields of (citizen) journalists and programmers, capitalists and pirates, professionals and amateurs. How do these actors collaborate? Is there a common language? Who can mediate as a translator or facilitator? What do the actors need to learn from each other in order to join forces? What lessons can be learned from best-practice cases – especially regarding the sustainability of the digital commons? Do unexpected solutions to specific problems emerge from complicity? Or even models for the whole of society and its renewal?

**Complicity** takes place in the congenial setting of the event space SUPERMARKT (Brunnenstr. 64). On November 7th and 8th there are three parallel *Workshops* around the conflicting pairs of pirates and capitalists, professionals and amateurs, programmers and (citizen) journalists. On November 9th *Public Talks* bundle the key issues of the conference with the aim to cater to a broader audience. The conference is accompanied by Berliner Gazette's editorial focus on ACCOMPLICES (KOMPLIZEN): <http://berlingazette.de/feuilleton/jahresthemen/komplizen>

**Complicity** is curated and organized by [berlingazette.de](http://berlingazette.de). It is funded by the EACEA Culture Programme and the German Federal Agency for Civic Education. This conference is part of the initiative "Aesthetic Education Expanded": a project curated by [berlingazette.de](http://berlingazette.de), [Kuda.org](http://Kuda.org), Kontrapunkt, Multimedia Institute and Mute – funded with support by the European Commission. In this context [berlingazette.de](http://berlingazette.de) already organized the conference "Digital Backyards" as well as the workshop "bottom-up & open".

