

**Workshop** | Pirates & Capitalists | Nov. 7th & 8th 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. | Nov. 9th 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Cooperation in the crowd is free of economic and governmental restraints. Here, everything is being pursued under the ideal of voluntary collaboration. In contrast to the capitalist cutthroat competition, here a win-win situation comes to the fore: the sharing of digital commons, on the basis of which new contributions to culture and society are being created in turn enabling innovation. In place of hierarchical government control such bottom-up cultures strive in the spirit of multi-polar mutual empowerment. The workshop puts this "pirate utopia" (Wilson) to the test. On the one hand there is a lack of viable business models that would enable the peer production of the crowd to be scalable or/and sustainable – this is especially problematic with regard to the digital commons that the crowd produces in the realm of self-organisation and self-governance. On the other hand the peer production is integrated in the crowd business models of 'free platforms' of global IT companies – this dispossess the crowd to permanently have access to joint works (any day, the free platform can close down); too, it dispossess the crowd from the ability to pursue cooperation by self-imposed rules (e.g. terms of service no one can change). This workshop provides a theoretical and practical framework to explore the following question: How can digital bottom-up commons cultures assert their social function under today's market conditions?

**Programme:** The workshop deals with the problem in the context of a fictional, but realistic scenario: Iceland, in recent years a popular 'projection screen' for freedom of information utopias, opens as the first country in the world, a public, digital, and thus globally accessible library. Against this backdrop invited guests (see below) as well as participants who have registered via an open call explore on two days (November 7th and 8th) the cultural-political and economic consequences of this scenario. The workshop provides the framework for a creative process by inciting to explore how the scenario of the 'universal freely accessible knowledge' of a library in Iceland 1) affects other countries / regions and 2) influences the quest for open access in other cultural fields. At the focus of the workshop are the development of ideas and the exchange among the disciplines and regions. In the end, the best idea is selected via an internal voting and presented on November 9th within a 30 minutes slot (incl. discussion) in the context of a Matinée at the Public Talks of the conference.

**Registration:** The fee for this workshop is 25 Euro. Please register until October 30th with a short letter of motivation here: [bgcon13\(at\)supermarkt-berlin.net](mailto:bgcon13(at)supermarkt-berlin.net)

**Guests:** María G. Perulero (goteo.org, Madrid), Isabel Gahren (irrepressiblevoices.org, Berlin), Spideralex (N-1.cc, Barcelona), Corinna Haas (ICI Library, Berlin), Tomislav Medak (Mi2, Zagreb), Danny Bruder (c3s.cc, Berlin), Beate Rusch (Zuse-Institut, Berlin), Adnan Tabatabai (MICT, Berlin), Elena Azzedin (Medusa, Madrid), Tanja Krone (Koalition der Freien Szene, Berlin), Sven Asmussen (hlci.de, Berlin), Iskra Geshoska (kontrapunkt.org, Skopje), Michael Krömer (Think Fabrik, Berlin), Fran Ilich (Variable Network State, New York).

**Moderation:** Chris Piallat ([berlinergazette.de](http://berlinergazette.de)), Marcel Mars ([memoryoftheworld.org](http://memoryoftheworld.org))

