

THE
RIGHT ~~TO BE~~
HUMAN
Το Δικαίωμα να είσαι Άνθρωπος

19 Ιανουαρίου – 28 Φεβρουαρίου 2017

Curated by Thalia Vrachopoulos and Harry Savvopoulos

Contemporary Art Center of Thessaloniki

Warehouse B1
Thessaloniki Port
Thessaloniki, 54110, Greece

Goethe Institute Thessaloniki

Leof. Vassilissis Olga's 66
Thessaloniki, 54642, Greece

OTE Windows

Karolou Diehl 33
Thessaloniki, 54623, Greece

Artemis Alcalay
Dimitris Ameladiotis
Angeliki Avgitidou
Lucille Bertrand
Tom Bogaert
Yiannis Christakos
Esperanza Cortés
Georgios Divaris
Laura Dodson
Christoforos Doulgeris
Yannis Fokas
Eleni Fotiadou
Sarantis Gagas
Joan Giordano
Filippos Gkoutzos
George Pol. Ioannidis
Maria Karametou
Simone Kestelman
Cyriaco Lopes
D. Dominick Lombardi
Renee Magnanti
Despo Magoni
Virginia Mastrogiannaki
Despina Meimaroglou
Yiannis Melanitis
Christina Mitrentse
Nicholas Moore
Eleni Mouzakiti
Valli Nomidou
Bill Pangburn
Giorgos Papafiggos
Antonia Papatzanaki
Eva Petrič
Artemis Potamianou
Xenophon Sachinis
Konstantinos Stamatiou
Anastasis Stratakis
Alexandros Touliopoulos
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Global Humanism and Social Justice in an Era of Crisis

Global humanism and social justice share common goals: each seeks to promote both the individual's and societies' right of fair access to opportunity and benefit; and, to embrace equality as governing principle in all areas of modern life. In our current era of crisis; wealth inequality, suppression of free speech, governmentally sanctioned discrimination, religious intolerance, political corruption all stand as blockades to the goals of humanism and social justice.

As humanists strive to promote democratic and egalitarian societies based upon ethical considerations of rationality, dignity and compassion for all beings so too do advocates of social justice. Defined as "a state or doctrine of egalitarianism, to wit, a belief in human equality especially with respect to social, political, and economic affairs; or social philosophy advocating the removal of inequalities among people." (Webster's) Social justice also encompasses "the fair and proper administration of laws conforming to the natural law that all persons, regardless of ethnic origin, gender, possessions, race, religion, etc., are to be treated equally and without prejudice." (Business Dictionary).

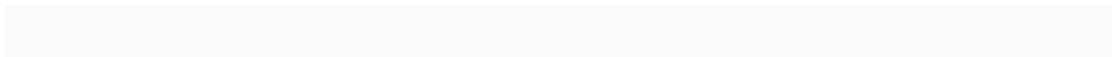
Humanism and social justice are approaches to life that seek to create and engage individuals to speak, act, organize, seek redress from the courts, create, protest and write expressively in connection with humanity's struggle for equality and achievement in community life.

Humanistic beliefs dictate that as members of this world individuals should strive to solve the global problems of poverty, hunger and engage in activities that foster social reform and motivated by compassion. Humanists seek affirmation of dignity for all people as well as individual liberty, participatory democracy open society and social justice built on ethical behaviors based on reason, unbridled inquiry achievable by human capabilities rather than divine intervention. These goals echo many of the tenets of social justice.

The ideals embraced in the theory of social justice are linked to policies that are implemented through governmental, educational, judicial and economic institutions. In theories of social justice, groups of individuals involved in criminal enforcement, adjudication, class action suits and civil protests all join together in an effort to foster fairness and equality. This is especially true for groups of individuals who historically have been denied access to opportunity because of prejudice, discriminatory behaviors including regressive taxation, restrictive marriage laws; as well as government's failure to uphold constitutional protections such as those associated with fourth amendment prohibitions against unjustified searches and seizures.

One of the most important aspects of Humanism is its inclusive nature. Humanism and social justice urge people to find new solutions to world problems rather than relying on past practices. Developing avenues of free expression in the service of equality, whether expressed in the arts, in print, online, in dialogue, by filing suit or any other legal means combine the goals of social justice and humanism.

Our exhibition and conference, seek submissions which rebut, re-examine and reject inequalities and exemplify the goals of humanism and social justice. The textual and visual submissions demonstrate how and why the shared goals of humanism and social justice in our world today combat hatred, dissension, injustice, pollution, genocides, profit rigging and governmentally subsidized wars on freedom and how these philosophies can be implemented in our economic, political, educational, correctional and judicial institutions.





Tom Bogaert
HUMAN RIGHTS LOTTERY, 2009
Banner, spray paint on nylon fabric

HUMAN RIGHTS LOTTERY proposes an amendment to the Constitution, which creates a 'Human Rights Lottery' replacing all existing Human Rights Legal Instruments.

This 28th Amendment proclaims that the holder of a winning HRL ticket shall be entitled to the rights and freedoms described in the winning human rights article(s) for seven days starting at 11:00 pm the night of the draw.

'*Human Rights Lottery*' (HRL) deals with the re-engineering of the relationship between the individual and the state. Starting point is the realization that the opportunity of enjoying personal freedom and genuine choices is a privilege accorded to a small part of the world lucky enough to be born in the right place, race, gender, religion, time, nationality, language or social group. HRL pushes the limits of the correlation between luck and human rights.

Tom Bogaert applied the New York State Lottery, Human Rights Watch's logo and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as raw materials, contorting and recombining their content and use.

Το *HUMAN RIGHTS LOTTERY* προτείνει μια τροπολογία στο Σύνταγμα που δημιουργεί μια Λοταρία Ανθρωπίνων Δικαιωμάτων αντικαθιστώντας όλα τα υπαρκτά νομοθετήματα και συνθήκες σχετικά με τα ανθρώπινα δικαιώματα.

Αυτή η 28η Τροπολογία διακηρύσσει ότι ο κάτοχος ενός νικητήριου HRL λαχνού θα δικαιούται τα δικαιώματα και τις ελευθερίες που περιγράφονται στο νικητήριο άρθρο (άρθρα) για τα ανθρώπινα δικαιώματα για επτά ημέρες αρχίζοντας από τις 11μμ της νύχτας της κλήρωσης.

Το Human Rights Lottery (HRL) πραγματεύεται τον ανασχεδιασμό της σχέσης μεταξύ ατόμου και κράτους. Αφετηρία είναι η συνειδητοποίηση ότι η δυνατότητα απόλαυσης προσωπικής ελευθερίας και αυθεντικών επιλογών είναι ένα προνόμιο που αναγνωρίζεται σε ένα μικρό μέρος του κόσμου αρκετά τυχερό ώστε να γεννηθεί στο σωστό μέρος, φυλή, φύλο, θρησκεία, χρόνο, εθνικότητα, γλώσσα ή κοινωνική ομάδα. Το HRL ωθεί στα όριά του τον συσχετισμό ανάμεσα στην τύχη και τα ανθρώπινα δικαιώματα.

Ο Tom Bogaert χρησιμοποίησε τα λογότυπα των New York State Lottery, Human Rights Watch και της Universal Declaration of Human Rights ως πρώτη ύλη παραμορφώνοντας και ανασυνδυάζοντας το περιεχόμενο και τη χρήση τους.