11.00 – 12.30: Lecture:

**A theoretical framework of alternative economic and political spaces**

with Giorgos Gritzas(Ass. Professor AUTh) and Karolos Kavoulakos(Lecturer AUTh) members of People’s UnivSSE .

**Abstract**

The lecture will try to reveal some critical points of the current debate about diverse economies and alternative economic and political spaces. Specifically the first point concerns the concept of diverse economies, coined by Gibson-Graham  (1996, 2006). This concept is a poststructuralist view of the economy that denies the existence of only one way for the economy to function, i.e via the capitalist enterprise, the wage labor, the private property, the market transactions and the market finance tools. Unearthing the several alternative ways through which the economy functions is the first step for a reframing procedure of the way the economy is considered. This leads to realizing the importance of alternative economies such as community economies. At the core of the diverse economies approach lies the concept of ‘performativity’ i.e. the acceptance that “discourse participates in constituting the reality it purports to represent” (Healy, 2009: 338). As a result the ethical values that citizens decide to follow participate in constituting alternative community economies. The lecture will also try to reveal the role of the academy in the planning and construction of community economies. Finally we will try to give an example of reframing process. Especially we will re-evaluate and examine the way that our working lives could contribute to a more comprehensive well-being and the solutions that exist in changing our lives towards this direction

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