



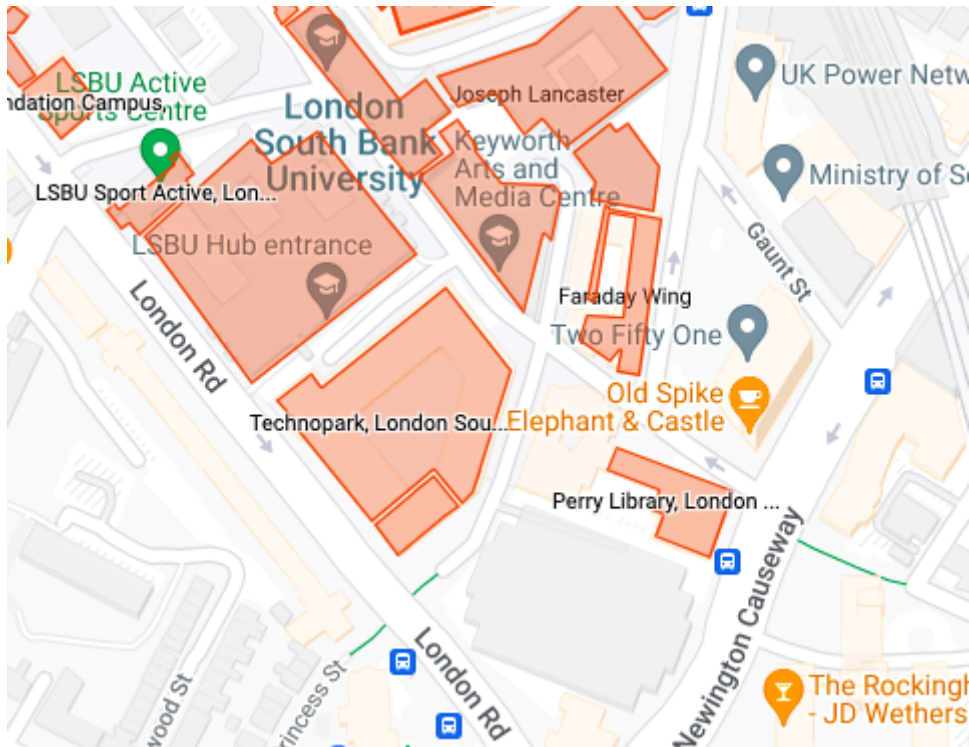
Conference pack

Welcome to Ecosocialism 2024!

Venue: The Hub, London South Bank University – 110-116 London Road, Elephant & Castle, SE1 6LN

Transport Links:

- Close to **Elephant & Castle** station, it is between London Road and Keyworth Street
- 2 stops on the **Northern Line** from **London Bridge**
- 22min on underground, **Euston** to **Elephant & Castle**



Registration

Once you arrive, please sign in at the registration table and collect your conference pass. Stewards will have red badges and will be available throughout the day if you have any questions.

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Lunch

Lunch is provided in the exhibition space between **12:40 - 13:30**.

It will be sandwiches provided by the university, with vegetarian and vegan options. This is provided on a first come, first serve basis.

Please provide a small donation to help cover our costs, thank you.

If you want to get lunch from the surrounding area there are several shops and cafes available nearby.

Tea and coffee will be provided throughout the day.

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Accessibility

The venue is fully accessible with lift access to all floors as well as accessible toilets on each floor.

Chairs in the front row are reserved for those with limited mobility and there is also space at the front and back of each lecture theatre for anyone with accessibility requirements. Chairs in the front row can be moved to make way for wheelchair access.

Please leave aisle seats free for those with limited mobility.

If you require any assistance throughout the day, please speak to one of the organisers who will be able to support you.

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COVID-19

A number of people are clinically vulnerable to COVID. If you have symptoms please do not attend in person and join online instead.

We will have masks and an HEPA filter for the main hall.

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Hybrid Facilities

Each session will have a Zoom link which will be sent out before the conference via email.

Each Zoom link will have closed captions enabled for online participants. We ask people to not speak too fast so Zoom can transcribe the comments more clearly.

The Zoom chat will **not** be enabled during the meeting as this interferes with those using screen reading software. If you have questions or comments during the discussion portion of the session, please raise your electronic hand and wait for the chair to come round to you.

Alternatively, any questions/comments can be submitted to the host directly to share in the discussion.

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How the sessions will be run

Each speaker will have **12-15 minutes** for their introductory remarks. We will then open the floor up for discussion before returning to the speakers to give their closing remarks.

Contributions from the floor will be taken by show of hands. Chairs will attempt to balance the discussion in terms of gender, ethnicity and age, a mix of in-person and online. People who haven't spoken before will be prioritised over those who have.

Please keep contributions in the discussion to **3-4 minutes** each. If you go over, the Chair will have to intervene to ensure we as many participants get to participate as possible.

We ask conference attendees to be comradely and respectful even if they disagree with what is being said. Please do not talk over other people or interrupt speakers, thank you.

Timetable

09:30 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 - 11:00	Opening Plenary - Introduction to the conference - Westminster Lecture Theatre <i>Asad Rehman, Jess Spear, Simon Hannah and Gyekye Tanoh</i>
11:05 – 12:40	<i>3 workshops available:</i> Session A - How might ecosocialist planning work? - Westminster Lecture Theatre <i>Simon Hannah, Eric Meier</i> Session B - Dismantling green colonialism - Lecture Theatre 2 <i>Hamza Hamouchene, Natalie Trevino and Gyekye Tanoh</i> Session C – Workers Solidarity and GKN documentary - Lecture Theatre 3 <i>Shaun Dey from Reel News and Em Wright</i>
12:40 - 13:30	Lunch - Available in the Exhibition Space
13:30 - 15:00	<i>2 workshops available:</i> Session D - Fighting the far right and conspiracy theories - Lecture Theatre 1 <i>Alex Heffron, Sam Moore</i> Session E - Building ecosocialist movements - Lecture Theatre 2 <i>Minhaj ul Arifeen, Clara Paillard, Bob Williams-Findlay</i>
15:00-15:20	Break - Tea & coffee will be available in the Exhibition Space
15:20 - 16:55	Session F - Revolution or reform strategy discussion - Westminster Lecture Theatre <i>Christian Zeller, Michael J Albert, Stefania Barca</i>
17:00- 17:30	Closing Plenary - Building an ecosocialist network - Westminster Lecture Theatre <i>Will McMahon and Paris Wilder will introduce proposals for next steps and organising going into 2025. Closing speech from John McDonnell MP.</i>

Organising Group Statement

The first Ecosocialism Conference held last year adopted a statement. You can read the [Final Statement from the 2023 Ecosocialism Conference](#) by clicking on this link.

The conference organising group has drafted a new statement for adoption at the 2024 conference. This is shown below.

During the conference there will be white cards available in the lecture theatres and Exhibition Space for making notes of suggestions, ideas and actions that people want to add to the 2024 Ecosocialism Conference Statement.

Please use the cards provided and hand back to stewards **before** the closing plenary, and the organising committee members will incorporate them into our final discussion. If you would like to join the organising committee after the conference to plan future work and events, please feel free to volunteer!

Draft 2024 statement

Humanity faces a planetary emergency

2024 has witnessed a further acceleration in the environmental crisis. The environment humanity shares continues to be under attack on land, sea, and air by a global capitalist economy that requires constant accumulation and growth, irrespective of the cost to the natural world.

This is signalled by:

- Earth's 13 straight months with a new average heat record to June 2024. The permanent rise in pre-industrial temperatures above 1.5C is now extremely likely.
- Peer-reviewed science confirming it is inevitable, due to the Antarctic ice melt, that rapidly warming global seas will rise by one metre by the end of this century and an additional further one metre for each of the four centuries following.
- Six of the nine planetary environmental boundaries continue to be breached, resulting in the chemical poisoning of the planet through fertilisers and 'forever chemicals' and a rapid increase in loss of both insect pollination and forests.

Capitalism cannot deliver a solution

November 2024 saw the re-election of Donald Trump as US President, a climate emergency denier, who said "drill, baby, drill" at a closing election rally. It also saw the further degeneration of the COP process in Azerbaijan, whose president described the country's natural gas as "a gift from God" to be brought to market. Petrostates tried to remove all reference to fossil fuels and the final financial agreement for poorer nations facing climate chaos was branded a 'betrayal' by many.

These events underscore that with polluting production and resource extraction as its bedrock, there is no evidence that the market economics, exploitation, and accumulation so essential to capitalism, can deliver a solution in the interests of all humanity.

As the climate crisis deepens, inefficient, ineffective, and profit-driven technological reforms will be promoted by governments and corporations. While offering some amelioration, these steps will only deepen global inequality and insecurity and fail to tackle the totality of the crisis.

Confronted by population movements and social struggles resulting from climate breakdown, governments across the globe will further strengthen borders and introduce repressive legislation to police the social turmoil.

A “just transition”

A market driven capitalist solution will harm workers and small farmers. Jobs in fossil fuel industries, agro-industries and large scale ranching will have to be drastically cut back in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Without massive state intervention, millions of workers will lose their jobs. Farming methods will have to change radically, imperilling the livelihoods of small farmers. Embittered workers and farmers will be used by the far right to undermine reforms.

Billions of people whose lives are being devastated by climate change will receive little help from capitalist governments and institutions. Most of the climate finance being offered to poor countries is in the form of loans. In the face of a global emergency, offers of loans to poor countries is little more than self serving cynicism.

We need an Ecosocialist movement and programme

There is an urgent need to build a movement with a programme to meet the climate emergency that offers an alternative to the chaos, inefficiency, inequality, and repression resulting from capitalist strategies.

At the heart of an ecosocialist programme is the democratic socialisation of industries and services and the equitable distribution of resources. This necessarily means replacing the domination of capital and its profiteering, which is directly contrary to the interest of humanity and the natural world it is part of, with ecosocialist democracies governed by the interests of the international working class and its allies. Ecosocialism is the only way we will achieve a post-scarcity world where our needs are met and we have an abundance of time, culture and human connection alongside housing, food and public amenities for all.

We urgently need emergency programmes to tackle the crisis we face. We need investment in public programmes to: replace fossil fuels with renewable energy; create cheap and reliable public transport; retrofit and renovate existing housing stock; end the supply of ultra-processed foods poisoning our bodies; radically reduce deforestation; and implement radical measures to clean the oceans, seas, and rivers.

Ensuring a just transition and investing in clean energy will require many trillions of dollars. Governments of wealthy countries are politically unwilling to find this amount of money through conventional institutions. It is clear that we need a massive redistribution of wealth and power away

from the large global corporations and the world's very wealthy individuals if we're going to finance our response to the climate catastrophe.

The Ecosocialist challenge is global

There is no national solution to this crisis. Fighting the ecocide that threatens humanity is a global task that will require the ending of the market economy and the social and economic inequalities it creates, the dismantling of imperialism and its five centuries-long exploitation of the planet, the abolition of borders, militarism, and policing, and the social transformation of the economy from the ground up.

Ecosocialism should aspire to be an international revolutionary movement that challenges the existing capitalist world order by offering a socialist, democratically planned, and egalitarian programme to meet the environmental crisis that humanity faces.

Revolutionary change means being active

Ecosocialists need to be active in the worker's movement and environmental movement. Active in the trade unions, communities, and in social movements most impacted by the climate crisis. In particular, this means solidarity with refugees and immigrants and those forced to move as climate conditions make their lives impossible.

Ecosocialists need to fight for reforms in the here and now and always point to a future better world by offering a programme that intends to lead to it, while challenging the idea that capitalism and nature can peacefully coexist.

We welcome people who want to join us to help develop this campaign and expand its activities. We want to transform the ideas and theories of ecosocialism into practical action. We might not agree on every slogan or theory but we need to build a mass movement in a spirit of unity and hope.

Our proposed plans




1. Work towards the goal of helping to develop the organising strength of ecosocialism, both locally and internationally. With Trump in the White House we face an even faster acceleration of biosphere breakdown. A focal point will be COP30 (Belém, Brazil) coming up late 2025. There are plans for big protests and we should spend the next 12 months helping to make the case for massive action around November 2025. We will promote and organise for major events like London Climate Action Week 2025 which will take place from the 21st to the 29th June 2025.
2. Work with the Climate Justice Coalition on mobilisations across Britain and the Global Ecosocialist Network to coordinate internationally. And all other organisations committed to building an inclusive ecosocialist movement.
3. Organise a regular meeting online under the Ecosocialism Conference banner with any individuals and left groups that might be interested to help coordinate ecosocialist strategy and activity.
4. Provide resources for people to organise their own local events (help produce leaflets, provide a speaker etc) to promote ecosocialism, engage new activists and form the basis for a wider network in the future.
5. Focus on trade union conferences next year, getting them committed to backing the COP30 protests, green transition (this will be a fight particularly in Unite and GMB who organise workers involved in the fossil fuel industry). We will liaise with other activists in the union, for instance the Unite Grassroots Climate network, to coordinate this.

6. Improve the website to have more regular articles and keep promoting it, encouraging well known people to write for it as well.

SPONSORS and ALLIES

The following trade union branches endorsed the conference; Lambeth Unison, Hackney NEU; Hackney and Islington Unite Community, East London Unite Community, SW London Unite Community branch

	<p>Global Ecosocialist Network The Global Ecosocialist Network is an international association of socialists formed in response to the catastrophic ecological crisis rapidly engulfing our world. http://www.globalecosocialistnetwork.net/</p>
	<p>AntiCapitalist Resistance A revolutionary ecosocialist organisation based in England and Wales which campaigns for social ownership, participatory democracy and radical abundance. https://www.anticapitalistresistance.org</p>
	<p>Green Left Groups Eco-socialists in the Green Party of England and Wales since 2006. We promote eco-socialist policies like our pamphlet 'Green Socialist New Deal' to keep the Green Party on a radical course. Buy our pamphlet at the Conference's Green Left stall, only a pound for a good read. We support the Eco-Socialist Alliance and hope you will too. https://greenleftblog.blogspot.com/</p>
	<p>Transform The Transform Party is a democratic eco-socialist party. We run candidates at elections and we help independent socialist candidates. https://transformpolitics.uk/</p>

	<p>The Ecosocialist</p> <p>Read "The EcoSocialist" for climate news and analysis from a socialist perspective.</p> <p>The EcoSocialist is an independent personal blog focusing on the global struggle for a transition away from the capitalist system which is wrecking our planet.</p> <p>https://www.ecosocialist.net/</p>
	<p>Talking about socialism... From a Marxist point of view (TAS)</p> <p>TAS aims to develop a conversation with others about how to work together to create a new mass democratic socialist/communist party that aims to abolish capitalism and bring about a society in which the world's resources are owned in common, with production planned democratically to meet the needs of all, and to protect the natural world of which we are all a part.</p> <p>https://talkingaboutsocialism.org/about/</p>
	<p>Undod Chwith Cymru/Left Unity Wales</p> <p>Undod Chwith Cymru/Left Unity Wales is the section of Left Unity active in Wales.</p> <p>https://chwithunedigcymru.blogspot.com/</p>



Please use this form for the feedback and letting us know if you want to get more involved. [Or click here to go to the form](#)

Thank you for attending Ecosocialism Conference 2024.

Please join us at The Rockingham Arms for an after conference social.