

UBI and (Re-) Distribution

On the Members' Assembly in 2007 of Netzwerk Grundeinkommen in Berlin I have presented my essay „Conditions like Paradise – Debate of Values and enforced Growth“. By this means I have pledged for an UBI as an instrument of redistribution. For this I was motivated among others by the results of a study dated in the year of 2006 which has for the first time explored the distribution of income in private households worldwide. This study was performed by the UN World Institute of Research of Distribution Household Wealth Globally – WIDER – in Helsinki. So far I argue that the overflow of products, wealth of material things is concentrated on a few peoples and is not only caused by techniques and automatic economical procedures but that this concentration and inequality is an cultural problem of redistribution. Since the release of the mentioned study this development has intensified globally. This problem of redistribution cannot be solved by individual responsibilities but only by collective solutions based upon the analysation of the given power relationships on the world.

<http://wider.uno.edu>

<http://wider.uno.edu/Publication/global-distribution-household-wealth>

I argue therefore that not only money and income should be a matter of this distribution but also working hours and volume of labor in order to succeed in the performance of the right on meaningful activity for everyone globally. I quote for more illustration the message of a member of the German Netzwerk Grundeinkommen Tobias Crefeld from the year of 2006 which makes it so clear:

“ in our society there are however two technical workers instead of a farrier and a farmer, who can maintain a potatoe planting machine and a machine for horse shoes. We need however only one of these two. In a reasonable society one of them would be on service with the machines in the morning and the other in the afternoon and in the rest of the daytime they would spend their time with activities which aren't existentially necessary, they would e.g. be active in political concerns or they would think about how to make the machines better run in terms of energetic needs.

In our present unreasonable world one of the technical persons gets every year less potatoes for his work and has no more time and leisure to think about improvements on the machines. And the other person is sitting at home and has to prove between 8 o'clock a. m. until 8 o'clock p.m that he is always ready to take over the work of the other person at a point of time when he falls death down to the ground . And for this he gets less potatoes to eat year by year.”

Based upon the experiences in the last years with projects worldwide, which operated with a UBI on a limited period, one can recognize, that UBI has had positive effects on health, community, educational issues of children and households. A less expansive way of economical performing which is more orientated on common interests has been formed during these ongoing procedures.

No matter whether it is named Co-Economy or Gemeinwohlökonomie, UBI has been supporting these ways and has strengthened and enabled such community supported economical projects.

<http://urgenci.net/new-report-european-csa-overview-released-by-the-european-csa-research-group/>

<http://urgenci.net/>

C S A means Community supported agriculture. Since 2010 I am member of such a project – its name is GartenCoop Freiburg e.V. Here we work on organic biological agriculture which is community supported. Since the year of 1971 when the first projects were founded in Japan named TeiTei the CSA projects have spread all over the world under different names. Understanding that human beings aren't created in order to consume but for being associated with someone these projects make it possible to train the ability to share by means of the harvest results and to carry out democratic procedures of decision making. Members do not buy single products but they as a community of consumers finance the whole locally based agriculture which is orientated on the needs of just this community. Especially in the phase of foundation or building up of a project the UBI can make it easier for individuals as well as groups to create together what they alone or as a nuclear family cannot manage.

<http://www.solidarische-landwirtschaft.org>

<http://www.gartencoop.org/tunsel>

Globally the CSA projects see themselves as a counter model to agricultural industry, to the Agribusiness. They have as a side effect often the effect that a regain of resources (here essentially land and machines) is performed or aspired to. Positive successful experiences are above all to mention in the common control over the production of food. Their distribution is in Freiburg however still our child of sorrow, as contribution is done by bike by the members. Learning processes are taking place on all behalves of environment and agriculture in regard to climate carefulness e.g. by innovative logistics of distribution as well as planting methods. A sensitization is taking place in regard to the monopolization of food production globally. Local and border overwhelming effects by open days, networking, workshop weekends and seeds exchange meetings are already feasible. By the distribution of the necessary work obligation on many shoulders and not only on those of the employed gardeners and farmers they are enabled to participate in political activities and for networking with similar projects. Growth criticism in debate and analyze are thus intensified. On food sovereignty there are practical reflections ongoing. To drive a tractor you don't need to be male, in our agriculture there are as many women working than men, they are all working part time.

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