

# enough with loans, enough with rents poor unemployed homeless LET'S ENTER THE EMPTY HOUSES

At 23-03-2013 we occupied the years deserted house of Sahini 3 road, near the Al-sos. Our goal is to satisfy our housing need. **The need of human for decent accommodation has always been combined with the quality of life.** But this need has also been commercialized by every kind of speculators, dealers, bankers and bosses. Without money the access to accommodation is considered forbidden.

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In our society is taken for granted the fact that there are homeless people because of their inability to pay the value for accommodation, even if the total square meters of constructed residences in the country exceed by far the needs for housing. The choice of a rented house is proved to be a very heavy choice for millions of people, because of the high rents and the other expenses involved. More than the half of a wage (if one is not unemployed of course...) is spent to rent a house, which in time has been paid two or three times as regards it's construction value. On the other hand, the people who have worked all their lives are forced- by the hallucination of property- to address to a bank in order to satisfy their need for housing, are found tied up for 30 and 40 years, with the difficulties of additional interests and the danger of confiscation, hostages of a situation that does not allow them even to protest in their work, as they might get fired and then they won't be able to pay the huge installment. As for the students, the care for housing is entirely their responsibility because the rooms of the student Houses provided by the university are very few. The cases above are exploited by construction companies, banks and owners. As a result a market is created that produces values, surplus values and enormous profits. This market is called Real Estate and is based on our basic need for sleep.

The technological growth of our society and the total constructed square meters of residences should have put an end in this story. But the bosses thirst for profit and our weakness to question private ownership allows this situation to carry on. We cannot accept that there will be homeless people (immigrants or locals), for the sole reason to protect Real Estate market's profits. We refuse to accept that someone will have 5 houses and someone a box for house. We cannot accept that we offer at least the 50% of our labor in money, in order to consume goods (houses in this case) which already have been produced by the society. We believe that is unthinkable houses to be left to rotten just to keep the prices of the Real Estate in high levels, just for the construction companies to have productivity or for the Athens stock market to make profits. Finally, is very painful for us to have to count dead people murdered by the state's or the Real Estate's mafia, forced to commit suicides with the fear of evictions or suffering a slow death due to fumes caused from a brazier.

This society –with the collective human labor- has already produced enough houses in order to satisfy our need for housing. The time has come to exploit the wealth that our collective labor has produced in benefit of the world of labor. Exploitation for us means to satisfy the needs of people for a more comfortable, qualitative and decent life, in contradiction of the capitalists prospects , who believe that exploitation is a process that makes profit , even if

that means homeless people, frozen to death from the cold. The time has come to work at least 50% less, cause the houses that we rent now already exist and they shouldn't be paid again and again. The time has come to stop wasting the sources of nature by taking from her constructional stock to build extra buildings, because the buildings that already exist are enough for all of us. The time has come to spit on the faces of the bankers and ministries who blackmail our needs and our lives. The time has come to question the "ideal" world who creates the drug of property. The time has come to question property itself and move against the laws of the capitalist world.

**The time has come to squat the houses.**

against the dealers of our needs, against owners – we won't pay to live  
let the world fill with squats  
house assembly of Antiviosi squat

Poster of house assembly of Antiviosi squat, January 2011



**B**asic fear of every authority is not to be questioned. **The rulers were always sleeping with the constant worry that their subjects might rebel against them.** To avoid that they were declaring that they are doing the best they can to provide us a life worth living. Even the same moment they steal us through taxation and wages cuts, they scream that this is done for our own good and for the good of the society. They tell us constantly how much they care for us and how difficult it is to think and put on practice solutions in order to deal with our problems and control our lives. The rulers and their followers tell us to mind our own business, to be happy for this life, to be silent and not protest, since the regulation they offer us is the best thing that could happen, that there is no other way to organize our lives and that this is as good as it gets, although -they ensure us- that they will try even more when the international relationships allow them to. At the end they tell us to think of them as our servants, who are constantly occupied to offer unselfishly to the society and of course not to be ungrateful and not to question them. Nice fairy tales, huh?

**T**he Fear of the exploiters and our oppressors is the following simple: do not challenge the framework and relations within which they have regulated our lives so as to generate the greatest benefits for them. Each attempt to organize our lives outside of and against this capitalist regulation should not-according to our bosses -have anything to do with how we dream our lives should be. That's why when there are clear examples that show they cannot or do not want to care for our lives, they rush to get relief measures (since it was them who received extermination measures ...), hoping to restrain any movement of contestation, self-organization and revolt.

**O**nly under this aspect can be understood the promises of the state to stop house auctions, to provide lower interest rates, poll taxes and the opening of Athens gymnasium for the homeless only for the nights with sub-zero temperatures (as if the other days homeless don't need shelter...). Similarly, in Ioannina, the same obstructionist tactics of the rulers in our land were put on practice by creating space to accommodate homeless in the building of former "Paidopoli". After they announced last spring -so not to be called ruthless - the construction of a hostel for homeless people that would work on winter period, the building was never transformed into a hostel, it never hosted homeless and some time ago it became ownership of the Ministry of Labour. The announces were heard, the plan of a hostel for the homeless was never done. **Who cares about the homeless anyway?** So these people, fearing that the worst might happen, like a possible death of a homeless, they created an entire illusion pretending to care for those without shelter, gained political profits, falling asleep consciousness, channeling any social reactions would be created against them and finally their dominance over our lives remained unchallenged. Or is it not true?

**"We both knew that concerning our needs, the essential ones, you don't talk but you act."**

Cesare Battisti, "The last shooting", pub."Eleftheriaki Koultoura"

**W**e dare however to challenge both their dominance over our lives, as much as their capitalist system. We do not consider anyone more suitable to care for our needs and our lives except ourselves and our communities. Armed with self-organization and horizontality, we take our lives into our own hands and create our world, a world of free satisfaction of our needs without the intervention of anyone, the world of free creation and equal pleasure. We don't beg at the offices of any political party (left or right) to solve our housing problem, despite that we act autonomously and without representatives. We don't lay our hopes in the hands of God, in a left government, in betting, in our good luck or on our family's kindness, but we depend on the variety of knowledge, skills, experiences, emotions and our intelligence to satisfy our collective needs. We do not expect the capitalist world to thrive again so that the state could tolerate us living like parasites, but we take up and create spaces of antiauthority. We don't hope the upturn of the markets or to overcome the crisis so that some space could be found for us too, but we fight to make real Kropotkin's words: **"let's demolish this world by building our own."**

For years now the proposition of squats and self-organization was spread -with big acceptance- to society as an alternative for the satisfaction of our needs and as an attack against capitalist models. The contribution of anti-authoritarian / anarchist / autonomous movement to make the alternative known was and is important. Along with the occupations and self organized projects -which were increased after the rebellion of 2008- a big part of the world of struggle and resistance came together, promoting and creating structures in order to satisfy basic needs or organizing the sabotage of the exploitative and oppressive system which we are living in. For this reason, squats and self-managed places became target of the repression. The everyday challenge and the efforts to transform society with antihierarchical and anticapitalist terms were made by the government and the bosses state a matter of "Law and Order". After this turn of events, the state's attack to squats and self organized structures of the movement was coming soon. With the expert Dendias, police -bosses favorite- invaded and evicted the squats Villa Amalia, Skaramanga, and unsuccessfully tried the same at the squat Lela Carayanni, and announced -with the well known arrogance of a tormentor- that repression continues to squats outside of Athens. **We are aware that the Sahini 3 house squat happened in a difficult period as concerns the repression towards the movement. But we cannot retreat and not realize our project.** We are determined to fight with these terms, because the struggle for housing is a struggle for life itself. We find the strength to realize our project from our comrades who tried to occupy again Villa Amalia and Scaramanga and are prosecuted for this choice.

**There is no better way to be in solidarity with squats rather than make new squats. Whether is squatting buildings, land or premises of work.**

**against the speculators of our needs**

**we take our lives in our own hands**

**10, 100, thousands  
SQUATS**

**resistance- self organization- solidarity- dignity**

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