



PRESS RELEASE

Global Games: Games and Politics

Interactive Exhibition of Video Games

March 15 – 29, 2017

www.goethe.de/washington

(Washington, DC, March 10, 2017) – The interactive exhibition **Games & Politics**, on display at the Goethe-Institut Washington **March 15 – 29, 2017**, encourages the visitor to try out sixteen significant politically-ambitious video games and examine how they each unfold their unique political potential.

Top to bottom: The Cat and the Coup; Perfect Woman; Orwell



Video games can be seen as pure entertainment, as political statements, or even as art. The political aspect of these games becomes visible to the players either directly as they make political decisions (*Democracy III*) or indirectly as they witness social injustices. For example, the games address precarious labor conditions (*Sunset*), gender issues (*Perfect Woman*), and the treatment of refugees (*Escape from Woomera*). The games lead the players into political struggles such as the revolution against a totalitarian system (*Yellow Umbrella*), and confront them with the surveillance state (*Touchtone*) and the consequences of armed conflicts (*This War of Mine*). Adopting the characters of often-marginalized people, players experience limited possibilities and negative sanctions through both the character and the game play.

The selected games cover a wide range of political topics. Visitors can also view an introductory film about political games and short documentaries about some of the games. The accompanying exhibition catalogue provides background information on the unifying concepts of these independent games.

Goethe-Institut Washington

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Opening with game developer Paolo Pedercini (Carnegie Mellon University School of Art) on Wednesday, March 15, 6 - 8 pm.

RSVP at www.goetheinstitutwashington.eventbrite.com

Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 10 am - 6:30 pm

Friday: 10 am - 3:30 pm

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Interested in scheduling a field trip? Contact Norma Broadwater at +1 (202) 847-4707 or norma.broadwater@goethe.de.

This exhibition is organized by the Goethe-Institut in cooperation with the Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe (ZKM | Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie Karlsruhe).

About the Goethe-Institut:

Mutual understanding among nations by promoting international cultural dialogue: this is the ambitious mission of the Goethe-Institut. On behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany, cultural institutes around the world provide cultural programs, language courses, support to educators, and up-to-date information on Germany in the context of Europe.

Founded in 1990, Goethe-Institut Washington, DC is a center for German culture and language. From its location downtown, the Goethe-Institut Washington reaches out to both individuals and organizations in the community, bridging the past, present, and future with a variety of high-quality events.

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