

# Open Call: Translating the Commons.



## On the Book

The Goethe-Institut Athens is calling for translators and commoners to participate in the collective translation and enrichment of the book [Free, Fair and Alive. The Insurgent Power of the Commons](#) by Silke Helfrich and David Bollier.

The book has been published [in German](#) and English, translations are under way in Spanish and French, and we are eager to facilitate the translation into Greek. The Greek version will also be available under a [Creative Commons License](#).

Free, Fair and Alive provides a fresh, non-academic, yet challenging synthesis of contemporary commons written for a popular, activist-minded audience. It presents a compelling narrative: that we can be free and creative people, govern ourselves through fair and accountable institutions, and experience the aliveness of authentic human presence and co-existence.

## Who We Are Looking For

We are looking for six motivated people to form the translation team, preferably based in Athens, and committed to stay engaged until the manuscript is finished (anticipated: August 2021). Ideally, we are looking for individuals who are engaged in commoning activities or just very curious about the commons, and who have experience in translating from English and/or German to Greek. Translators who are familiar with all three languages are especially encouraged to participate.

As the book “Free, Fair and Alive” is about the commons, our goal is for the translation process to be based on commoning and peer to peer practices informed by self-organization, horizontalist decision-making, and solidarity, amongst others. Moreover, as the book is conceived of as a “recipe for commoning”, we would like to enrich it with content like Greek cases and narratives.

If you are interested in joining this translation collective, tell us who you are, what motivates you to take part, and how this relates your experiences and expectations (max. 350 words). Send your expression of interest to Dimitris Soudias, [bibliothek-athen@goethe.de](mailto:bibliothek-athen@goethe.de), by June 15 2020.

Below you will find a tentative schedule with important dates.

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## Important Dates

June 15 2020	Deadline Expression of Interest for Open Call
June 22 2020	Announcement of Results
Late September 2020	Kick-Off Meeting at the Goethe-Institut Athens, mutually agreeing upon timetable, coordinating workloads and future meetings, as well as first ideas about dissemination etc.
Early October 2020 (consecutive events)	Lecture and discussion at the Goethe-Institut Athens on the commons with Silke Helfrich
	First Translation Workshop at the Goethe-Institut Athens, together with Silke Helfrich and Alexandros Schismenos
June 30 2021	Completion of the final individual translations in order to proceed to the final editing of the manuscript
August 31 2021	Submission of Final Manuscript

## What We Offer

A hard copy of the book, the opportunity to enrich the book with Greek cases, as well as the experience of collective translation in the preface of the translated manuscript, the possibility of future cooperation, and, if needed, accommodation and travel expenses for the events in Athens.

*Please bear in mind that, depending on how the COVID-19 pandemic develops, the events may take place online.*