"Housing is a human rights issue" Leilani Farha, UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing

Inspired by the Panama and the Paradise Papers—13.4 million confidential documents leaked to Süddeutsche Zeitung in 2017 charting offshore investments and global tax evasions by the super-wealthy—Evicted by Greed is an intensified investigation into corruption’s specific role in the global housing crisis. Speakers will blueprint how speculators and real estate investors are taking advantage of strategic loopholes to cause monumental housing disruptions in Germany and worldwide.

In recent years, investors from the international capital market have been overwhelming Berlin’s residential and commercial property trade at an alarming rate. A new study to be presented at the conference shows that nearly half of these investors and the origins of their wealth and assets remain anonymous, exonerating them from accountability for concurrent damages done to the human populace through their dealings. As pointed out by keynote speaker Christoph Trautvetter: “Because … registers don’t contain any information on beneficial owners and there is no good and reliable tool to link legal and beneficial owners, both the city and its tenants know very little about who (actually) owns their homes.”

In cooperation with Transparency International, Disruptive Network Lab invites investigative journalists, activists, experts, and researchers to present their data and diverse perspectives on how to establish popular literacy and action on housing eviction and wealth asymmetries. We will discuss best practice, workable concrete solutions, and effective countermeasures which can be taken by civilians to keep their homes safe in the face of investors’ exploitative practices.

Disruption Network Lab e. V., a non-profit organization based in Berlin, has been organising participatory, interdisciplinary, international events at the intersection of human rights and technology since 2014. Advocating for the globally marginalised, our objectives include strengthening freedom of speech and exposing the misconduct and wrongdoing of the powerful.

curated by Tatiana Bazzichelli | Conference Speakers: Leilani Farha (former UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing, PS/CA), Christoph Trautvetter (Public Policy Expert, Netzwerk Steuergerechtigkeit / Wem gehört Berlin?, DE), Manuel Gabarre de Sus (Lawyer and Activist, Observatory Against Economical Crime, ES), Eka Rostomashvili (Advocacy and Campaigns Coordinator at Transparency International, GE/DE), Justus von Daniels (CORRECTIV / Wem gehört Berlin?, DE), Sam Leon (Data Investigations Lead at Global Witness, UK), Karina Shedorfsky (Dubai’s Golden Sands investigation, Head of OCCRP’s research team, BIH), Rima Sghaier (Outreach & Research Fellow, Hermes Center for Transparency and Digital Human Rights, TUN/IT), Marco Clausen (Prinzessinnengarten, DE), Yonatan Miller (Tech Workers Coalition / Berlin vs. Amazon, US/DE), Iva Čukić (Co-founder and Coordinator of the collective Ministry of Space in Belgrade, SRB), Volkan Sayman (Sociologist / Deutsche Wohnen & Co Enteignen, DE) and others.

#HousingActionDay 2020 | Details and registration at https://www.disruptionlab.org/evicted-by-greed
press images and information at https://www.disruptionlab.org/press

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