

FREDOOM COOP. The FairCoop legal tool for the integral revolution.

SUMMARY

As was seen in this year's referendum held in Greece, in relation to the Troika neither the people nor the states are sovereign. Economic Rescue is being exchanged for popular sovereignty. Neoliberal control, wage and pension cuts, tax increases, layoffs and all kinds of privatization, are the exchange currency of the alleged "rescues".

Greece has also shown that the European Central Bank is not independent and apolitical, is at the service of the bankers and their political agents, and is ready to kill any democracy at the push of a button. And governments, rather than give in to demands for democracy from citizens, use brutality to end their resistance. These are policies that sacrifice the interests of the majority to benefit the interests of a tiny minority.

In this context, we as Faircoop propose to create the FREEDOM COOP, an European Cooperative society as a tool for extending economic autonomy and banking disobedience around Europe and abroad, fighting the austerity measures and using the avoided taxes funds for building postcapitalist alternatives with social aims.

[European Cooperative society](#) is a legal form at European scale. It means that FREEDOM COOP can work in all the European countries without registering in each country - in fact in all the European Economic Area (EEA).

WHO WE ARE

[Faircoop](#), the earth cooperative for a fair economy, is an open global cooperative self-organized via Internet that remains outside nation-state control. Its aim is to make the transition to a new world by minimizing the economic and social inequalities among human beings., At the same time, it will gradually contribute to a new global wealth accessible to all humankind as commons. It is all inspired on the degrowth philosophy, therefore it is based on respectful principles towards the planet Earth.

FairCoop was created in September 2014 and has progressively included members and local groups around the world, especially in Europe, as you can see in this [map](#). Its members are social movements, activists, NGOs, local shops and producers, and neighbors councils.

FairCoop is already supporting tools for economic autonomy like Faircoin, the peer to peer currency for a fair economy, and also helping to extend the interconnections between regional autonomous processes such as integral cooperatives and initiatives alike within the European framework.

In November 2015, the FairCoop assembly approved the creation of the FREEDOM COOP. Our application to the "Self-Sustaining Creative Economy Award" is aimed at receiving the financial support required for creating of the above mentioned cooperative.

THE PROJECT

The FREEDOM COOP is an innovative European legal tool that will provide citizens with freedom of operation from the economic and financial controls. Thus enabling all of us to construct fairer social relationships and a more sustainable development, through disobedience and self-management.

The FREDOOM COOP project will create social impact through three different areas of intervention:

1.- A LEGAL TOOL TO EUROPEAN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND COMUNNITIES - FREEDOM COOP's VAT number:

- To scale up the integral cooperatives economic disobedience practices (like tax disobedience and legal protection of personal insolvency) to the European level. Economical disobedience creates funding that will be converted to faircoin, making possible to distribute funds to postcapitalist social projects.
- All European Integral Cooperatives that aren't legally constituted, will be able to use the FREEDOM COOP's VAT number, and reduce their expenses to implement projects in their region. Furthermore, it will serve as a backup coop for those cooperatives that could have a legal emergency.

- Individuals and collectives located in regions with no presence of integral cooperatives, and who agree with the faircoop principles, will also be able to use that legal identity, Their reduced fees, will fund the faircoop structure and/or specific European projects.

- Avoid taxes in exchanges between faircoop members (ex. Fairmarket, the online marketplace which faircoop is building)

- Refugees and migrants without documentation around Europe will have the possibility to become self employed through the FREEDOM COOP without control of neither governments nor banks.

It will create an alternative banking network. Members who aren't legally constituted or want to operate outside the control of the official banking system will be able to make all kind of financial transactions through the FREEDOM COOP's bank accounts. In this way, these members could afford being declared insolvent without risk of getting their funds frozen.

2.-EXTENDING ECONOMIC DISOBEDIENCE ACROSS EUROPE

- To make collective purchases at a regional/ European level that require invoices with a reduced VAT.

- To give a legal coverage to any European inhabitant who cannot or do not want to do economic activity as an employee, in order to make invoices and access to better personal freedom as a member of the cooperative.

- To disobey to the VAT and profit taxes, with the aim of funding social alternatives in a way that countries where the activity is being done cannot control it

- It will help also to extend the use of faircoin. The Freedom Coop only will accept payment fees of their members in Faircoins, therefore it will boost the use of faircoin in practical basis, supporting also the undergoing cooperative hacking of the traditional monetary markets.

3.-ALTERNATIVE BANKING FOR A FULL AUTONOMY

Combining different technologies and services that are already provided separately by different collaborators and contacts from faircoop, we are going to offer a toolkit of banking services to any individual or group - with no need of any specific legal documentation, but the trust based as commonly accepted among alternative social movements. The access and use of this toolkit won't be controllable by any financial institution.

Amongst that toolkit:

- To create bank accounts that can receive payments from the current system (banks transfers, credit/debit cards...), which at the same time can be converted directly to faircoin.

-Moreover, through these bank accounts it will be possible to manage autonomously economic projects -i.e.pay providers, be paid by clients- creating a haven for international/european/local relations beyond the control of the current financial system.

- Additionally, these bank accounts will make possible for any group to execute an specific crowdfunding campaign for their funding needs without any state control.

- Apps for accessing to the system with any mobile or desktop device will be created.

SOCIAL IMPACT

That kind of strategies has been deployed successfully in Catalonia, creating social impact in the lives of thousands of peoples. With the FREEDOM COOP, the impact can be extended to all Europe, it means one hundred times bigger territory and potentially one hundred times bigger impact.

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

The following budget explain how FairCoop will use the prize for setting up, the initial costs of the creation of the European Cooperative. Therefore the costs of sustainability will be covered with the incomes of fees and tax disobedience. In fact beyond that as has been explained, the project will create incomes for funding further initiatives.

BUDGET

Hereafter we detail the expenses for constituting the legal identity of the FREEDOM COOP.

* Research for choosing the country with the best legal framework for constituting the FREEDOM COOP:
2000 €

* Travel to and from selected country and lodging expenses for 5 people in the country of creation doing the actions:
3500 €

* Legal advise:
2000 €.

* Administrative expenses of creation of the FREEDOM COOP:	1000 €
* Extras:	1000 €
TOTAL:	9500 €

*For the constitution of the coop, we would choose the most friendly country for getting lower taxes, lower constitution cost, and better privacy about the members data.

FairCoop

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