

A space in which you can participate

After the liberation of an old company store, El Eko was born as an open, multidisciplinary and self managed space for all the neighbours in Carabanchel, in the south part of Madrid. A sociocultural, free and self managed space (E.S.L.A. = espacio sociocultural liberado autogestionado).

After 14 years unoccupied, we found a careless space full of garbage. We have restored, cleaned and prepared it and now it is a big space with 6 floors and thousands of square meters that it is used for all the activities that you always wanted to have in your neighborhood. The lack by institutions regarding culture and critical spaces is latent in our district, so we decided to open the Eko to everyone.

So many activities in little time

The activities and areas held include readings, lectures, screenings, children's area, workshops, art, library, Office of Social Rights (ODS), theater, cinema, debates, language classes, and concerts, more than in a cultural center of public administration or a library, spaces that every day are increasingly scarce and where we are just mere spectators.

These activities, which fill the space of life, are performed with the commitment, involvement and participation of different groups, people living in the neighborhood and the Popular Assembly of Carabanchel - 15M. We are convinced that another world is possible, and only up to us built. All the activities are implemented through collective intelligence, consensus and horizontal participation. All of them are created to meet the demands, needs and concerns of the neighborhood.

The list of activities is wide and varied, and every week it brings more and more initiatives, demands and surprises.

Visit the websites of El Eko <http://eslaeko.net> and the Popular Assembly of Carabanchel <http://carabanchel.tomalosbarrios.net>, so you don't miss any of our events. Follow us on twitter: @EKO_Carabanchel and @asamcarabanchel

We count on you. Count on us.

El Eko is not owned by anyone and can be used by everyone. It is an open space that we all can enjoy attending some basic ideas that we agree assamblearily. A space in which the individual development is got by the commons and the collective thinking and development. We want to change our society from every point of view. That's why we don't use fixed prices for anything and we don't sell meat or big enterprises products. We try to promote a new culture.

In El Eko we interact people with different political ideas, creating a place to share and learn, to define a different way to understand life, society and the neighborhood. All of it away from the devastating capitalism. We are people who are leaving behind an obsolete mentality, to build a new one in which everybody can take place to contribute and add to,

participate in and benefit the community and the ones around us. And always respecting the others above all.

We don't want to push aside what we already have, but make it evolve so everyone can have a place: the change is inside us and it only depends on us. We take control of our own time.

How does El Eko work?

Using three concepts in the decision making process: assemblies, horizontality and self-management.

We manage the space and plan the activities in two assemblies:

- Assembly of Coordination of Activities and "Welcome" process, which creates events and workshops and receives the demands of new activities.
- Assembly of management, which coordinates everyday needs.

If you want to propose an activity, send an email to bienvenida.eko@gmail.com. For more information, email to eleko@eslaeko.net.

We are not a political party, nor an association. We are an open collective, inclusive, no violent, with a social consciousness, that struggles to pursue people's rights and against the dictatorial, repressive or capitalist institutions.

We operate through assemblies and horizontal decision making. No hierarchy, no boss. We try to create something new and nonexistent until now in Carabanchel, and also in this consumer society we live in. This is why we occupy this building, so as everyone can use and enjoy it.

It is an open space to any proposals and necessities of the people in Carabanchel and Madrid. You are welcome to come and propose ideas, give support, offer part of your time or share your knowledge.

Take part of it, let's change everything!