

# THE PANDEMIC IS A BATTLEFIELD.

*Social movements, the global pandemic  
and social change.*

SPEAKER:

**Geoffrey  
Pleyers**

the Catholic University  
of Louvain (Belgium)

CO-DISCUSSANT:

**Ciprian Bogdan**

Babeş-Bolyai University  
(Cluj-Napoca)

 **5<sup>th</sup>  
FEBRUARY  
2021**

 **10:00 AM**

## Invitation

Far from disappearing, social movements have adapted to unexpected circumstances and been particularly active during this challenging period. The intensity of social justice movements' initiatives during the lockdown may show the outlines of a global wave of movements, embodied in countless decentralized reactions to a global event that has shaken billions of human lives

**Friedrich Ebert Romania** and the **Institute for Social Solidarity** invite you to an online discussion with **Geoffrey Pleyers**, who will provide an updated overview of grassroots movements initiatives to face the pandemic and to push for social justice during the lockdown. He will also discuss the avenues the pandemic may open for social change, and that require to grasp the ongoing debates between progressive, reactionary and capitalist actors about the meanings of the crisis and the way they frame the opportunities for change it may open.


About **GEOFFREY PLEYERS**:

**GEOFFREY PLEYERS** is **FNRS researcher** and **professor** at the **Catholic University of Louvain** (Belgium). He is the current **ISA vice-president for research, the past president of ISA Research Committee 47 "Social movements"**. His main book is **"Alter-Globalization. Becoming Actors in the Global Age"** (Polity, 2011). Among his recent articles: **"The reconfiguration of social movements in post-2011 Romania"** (with Raluca Abăseacă, *Social Movement Studies*, 2019); **"The pandemic is a battlefield. Social movements in the COVID-19 lockdown"** (*Journal of Civil Society*, 2020).

CO-DISCUSSANT: **CIPRIAN BOGDAN**

**CIPRIAN BOGDAN** is Lecturer of Political Science at the Faculty of European Studies, **BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY IN CLUJ-NAPOCA** (Romania). He is mostly interested in the theoretical and political legacy of the Frankfurt School and has recently published a book on Theodor W. Adorno's approach to the critique of ideology.

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THE WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE  
EVENT IS **ENGLISH**.

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