

# transformative social innovation theory

**TRANSIT final conference -  
Learning for change:  
*A Journey through  
the Theory & Practice of  
Transformative Social Innovation***

## A new wave of basic income realization: the co-production of transformative knowings

### **Panelists:**

- **Alexander de Roo, VBI & BIEN**
- **Sjir Hoeijmakers, effective altruism**
- **Ronald Mulder, MIES**
- **Steven Strehl, Mein Grundeinkommen**

**Julia Backhaus (ICIS) & Bonno Pel (ULB)**  
**Thursday, 14 September 2017**

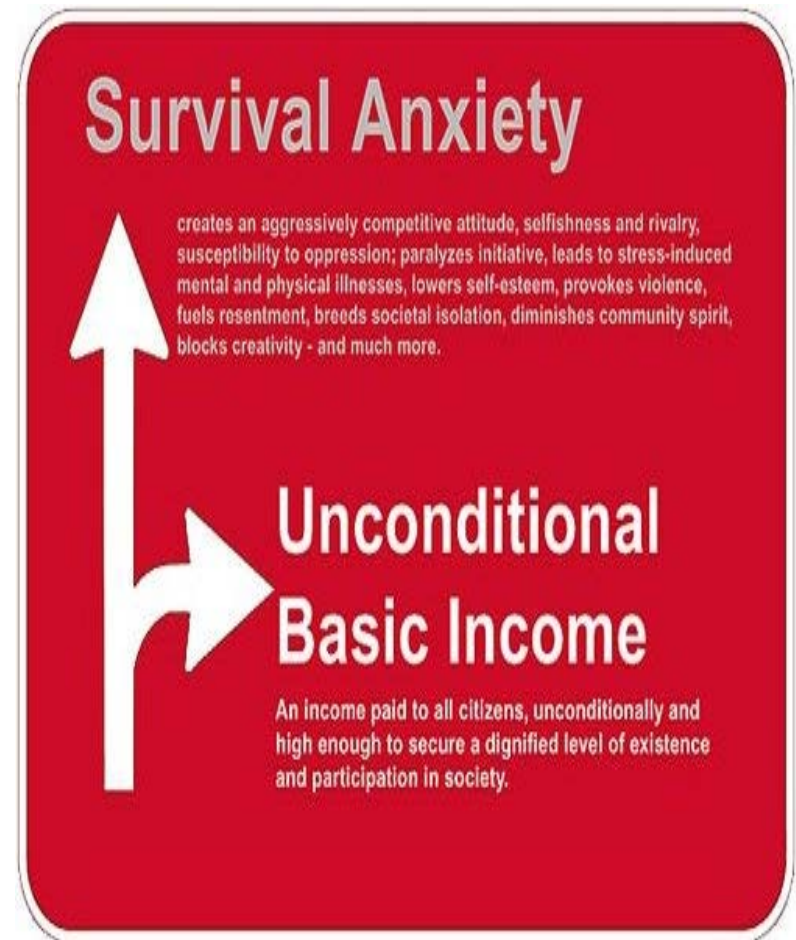


## Session set-up

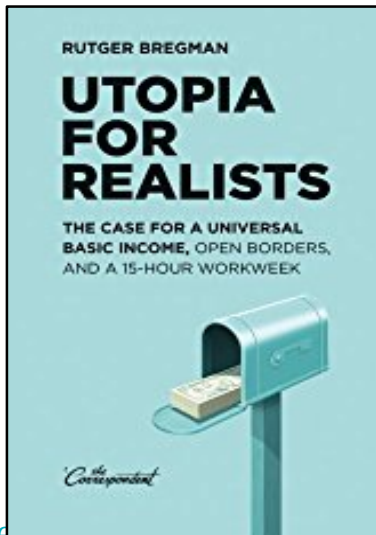
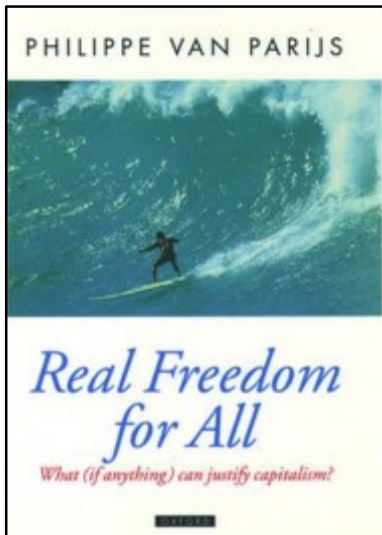
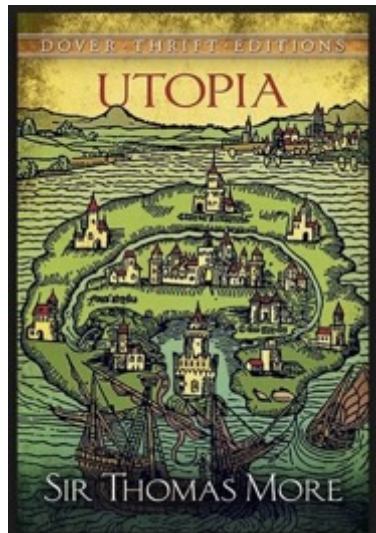
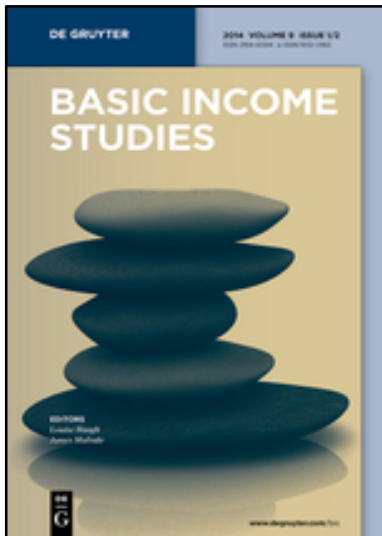
- Introduction: ‘Realizing’ the Basic Income (10’)
- Panel discussion (60’):
  1. Evidence & political/scientific authority
  2. Communication & framing
  3. Fragmentation & convergence
- Plenary discussion (fish bowl, 20’)

# What is a Basic Income?

- ***Individual*** income entitlement...
- **To all citizens... (*universal*)**
- **Unconditionally...**
- **And more or less *sufficient* for subsistence**



# What is basic income?



# Introduction: 'Realizing' the Basic Income

Basic Income, an odd case of TSI:

*How to convince government to make it real/implement?*



Pel & Backhaus (under review): Analysis of BI 'realization' as gaining (mutually reinforcing) **political & scientific authority** for BI as transformative knowing.

# Four 'waves' of realisation strategies

Waves realization strategies:

1. social critique
2. scientific underpinning
3. policy entrepreneurship
4. 'New wave' in realization strategies:

- Crowdfunding
- Internet activism
- Petitions & referenda
- Experimentation initiatives



BI debate, A **discursive 'peat-fire'**: Difficult to extinguish, little transformative impact.  
**4<sup>th</sup> wave: adding different fuels to feed the fire**



## Questions inspiring us – and this session

- *How are the transformative knowings of social innovation realized?*
- *Which claims to and contestations of expertise are involved in the apparent ‘waves’ of Basic Income activism - and how do they co-produce the realization of transformative knowings?*
- *What are the broader implications of the observed tensions in expertise for TSI?*
- *Relevance for other TSI initiatives: claims to expertise and communication of new knowings and framings.*



## Panel debate – 3 themes

*How can BI be ‘realized’, i.e. gain mutually reinforcing political/scientific authority?*

*3 discussion themes:*

- 1) Evidence & political/scientific authority
- 2) Communication & framing
- 3) Fragmentation & convergence



# 1. Evidence: political/scientific authority

- *What kind of evidence is needed?*
- *Who crucially needs to become convinced of BI feasibility, and what counts as evidence for them?*
- *What kind of evidence do experiments (fail to) deliver? (& do we need more of them)?*



## 2. Communication & framing

- *What means/ways of communication are currently needed to gain political/scientific authority?*
- *Which persistent inappropriate framings should be avoided?*
- *What are the stories untold?*



### 3. Fragmentation & convergence

- *What is 'healthy disagreement', or: Along which 'fault lines' is fragmentation fruitful?*
- *In what ways may fragmentation pose a threat to the 'common cause' of BI realization?*
- *How to achieve a desirable interplay of 'realization' strategies?*



**UNCONDITIONAL  
BASIC INCOME  
IS NOT LEFT OR RIGHT.**

**IT'S FORWARD.**  
[www.basicIncome-europe.org](http://www.basicIncome-europe.org)

# Fish Bowl discussion



# More on the Basic Income



- <http://basicincome.org/>
- <https://basisinkomen.nl/>
- <https://www.mein-grundeinkommen.de/>
- <https://onsbasisinkomen.nl/>
- <http://basicincome.org/research/basic-income-studies/>
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