

Learning from Underground

The Spalax species, masters at digging underground tunnels, live in the border region between Serbia and Hungary. When the angry leaders erected border fences with razor wire to stop people on the move, these seemed to be an insurmountable blockade. Driven by militant optimism, however, it turned out that digging tunnels deep under the border fence was a viable strategy.

The tunnels were soon discovered and destroyed. Nevertheless, digging became a survival strategy in the minds of the species. In the darkness of the cave system, they created a safe and cozy place for themselves. When the Spalax's eyes disappeared, they began to feel the signals of gravity throughout their body and their only desire was to burrow deeper and deeper.

With the story of the underground species of Spalax, we want to start a conversation about why the Spalax digging dialectic seems so attractive to the inhabitants of the enlightened cities. Because we see them follow the signals of the magnetic field and dig deeper and deeper trenches. They are sealing off their systems and closing their networks. They withdraw into their institutions. Is it an act of sabotage or subversion? Are they doing it out of fear? Are they seeking freedom in the darkness of the underground? Are we part of this spalax dialectic?

The Emergency Project Room invites you to the opening of a newly commissioned Signal Window titled 'Learning from Underground' and the discussion surrounding the questions raised by this work. The project was created by Rena Rädle & Vladan Jeremić.

The opening and discussion will take place on Friday, 29th March at 7PM.

The window intervention will run from 29th March until 30st April 2024.