



# Preparations (2019)

**Kristof Trakal**

(84 min, Germany)

Original Title:	Vorbereitungen
Running Time:	84' 36"
Language:	German / English
Subtitles Available:	English
Shooting Format:	HD video
Preview Format:	streamable link
Exhibition Format:	HD video file (16:9)

## TRAILER

[HTTPS://VIMEO.COM/415924203](https://vimeo.com/415924203)





## SYNOPSIS

Preparations is a browser film. A cursor leads the viewer through the internet presence of a group of tutorial makers from Berlin – their websites, their home videos and social media profiles. For their survival video channel they document themselves for an experiment – how to leave the surveilled space of post-socialist society. A make-believe game as preparation for resistance. As they occupy a gated former GDR military area they try to involve a cyber activist who was part of a leftist terror cell in the 1990s but this causes complications.

Many of Germany's contemporary surveillance policies are formulated in the context of East Germany's post-revolution, haunted by fascist terrorism and Prepper networks, conspiring for a right-wing take over. Preparations is a film about a generational gap and the desire of millennials for the political urgency of the 1990s, it's a film about East German imaginaries, DIY culture, YouTube genres and anti-surveillance.



## CAST AND CREW

Performers:	Mohammed Sahardid, Cornelia Herfurnter, Elda Sorra, Petja Ivanova, Nicolas Mayer, Clarisse Destailleur
Kamera:	Cary Cronenwett
Sound:	Shen Sum-Sum
Production Design:	Elisabeth Kozerski, Lysander Rohringer
Costumes:	Leonie Börger
Music:	Anna Luisa Petrikso
Post Production:	Esteban Rivera, Ana Gzirishvili
Director, Editor:	Kristof Trakal
Production Assistance:	Phillip Fröhlich



## DIRECTOR'S BIO

Trakal (\*1988, Dresden) is a filmmaker, writer and participatory artist based in Berlin. Through collaborative process, historical interrogation and inter-personal research Trakal develops films, texts and installations that deal with questions of authority, resistance and dissidence. Invested in practices of role-playing, collective action and group psychology Trakal's works put emphasis on the impact that neoliberal subject production, post-socialist processes and surveillance technology have on the formation of communities. Trakal's work has been shown among others at Museum for Photography Berlin, Museum Folkwang Essen, Cinemateca Distrital Bogotá, Savvy Contemporary Berlin, Julia Stoschek Collection Düsseldorf. Most recently Trakal was participant at the Whitney Independent Study Program in New York.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Born in East-Germany in the late 1980's, I feel as if I am standing between two generations, and two political systems that constantly face ideological differences. The angry, charged, and for better or worse politically activated generation born in the 1970's meets the quirky, sold-out, cynical performing generation born in the 1990's. I grew up with the effects of social media in IRL socialization and psychology and feel probably no less alienated from it then most - yet I crave the political radicality of the 1990s, one that seems hard to emulate today, in an environment in which the political pressure of police state, surveillance and market economy widely inhibits autonomous platforms such as the squat, the commune or independent media. The political action of the group portrayed in "Preparations" seems small in comparison - to try to become invisible, to occupy a piece of forest - yet their paranoia around its illegality is perhaps more real than we think.

## Contact Information

email: Kristof@Trakal.net  
phone: +49 1783328456  
  
address: Kristof Trakal  
Perleberger Str. 62a, 10559 Berlin, Germany

[www.trakal.net](http://www.trakal.net)  
[www.vimeo.com/trakal](http://www.vimeo.com/trakal)

