



**AYN  
RAND  
CON** MARCH 8-10, 2024  
AMSTERDAM



## **Breakout Reading Groups: “What Is Capitalism?” and “Global Balkanization” HOMEWORK**

Enrich and deepen your experience at AynRandCon by completing homework in advance for the opportunity to discuss your ideas with Objectivist experts during the sessions. If you submit your work by the listed deadline, your assignment might be selected for discussion during the conference!

**Important:** You must submit your homework assignment **by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time on March 4** in order to guarantee that it can be reviewed before the event. Send your homework in the body of an email (not as an attachment) to [university@aynrand.org](mailto:university@aynrand.org) with the subject line: ARC-Europe Reading Groups Homework Assignment.

You may request free ebooks at: [aynrand.org/students/free-books](https://aynrand.org/students/free-books).

### **Reading #1: “What Is Capitalism?” (in *Capitalism: The Unknown Ideal*)**

Assignment: Answer the following questions (keep your response to each question 400 words or less):

1. Why does Rand argue that the objective theory of values is necessary to defend capitalism, and that the intrinsic and the subjective theories are incompatible with capitalism?
2. Name one or two significant points Rand makes in the essay that you are not sure you understand. Explain what (if anything) you think you understand about each point and what you are uncertain of. What questions would you ask to get clarity on this issue?

**Reading #2: “Global Balkanization” (in *Return of the Primitive*)**

**Supplementary Reading: “The Missing Link” (in *Philosophy: Who Needs It*)**

Assignment: Answer the following questions (keep your response to each question 400 words or less):

1. Where do you see tribalism in Europe today? And why do you classify it as tribalism? What is Rand’s view of the essence of tribalism?
2. Name one or two significant points Rand makes in the essay that you are not sure you understand. Explain what (if anything) you think you understand about each point and what you are uncertain of. What questions would you ask to get clarity on this issue?