

**Under the auspices of the
Austrian Commission for UNESCO**

Unter der Schirmherrschaft



Österreichische UNESCO-Kommission
Austrian Commission for UNESCO

**ACPC – Austrian Center of Philosophy with Children and Youth
organizes the
International Conference on Philosophy for Children**

“Cosmopolitanism and Identity”

October 13 – 16, 2016

Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz/Austria
Meerscheinschlössl, Mozartgasse 3, 8010 Graz

Cosmopolitanism has a long history dating back to antiquity. The emphasis is placed on what humanity has in common. This aspect of cosmopolitanism blossomed during the Enlightenment, taking the form of universalism, including the 1789 “Declaration of Human Rights” and Kant’s idea of a “league of Nations”. “... that we take seriously the value not just of human life but of particular human lives.” *Kwame Anthony Appiah*

Over this long period of history, leading up to today, different versions of cosmopolitanism have differentiated between the mere recognition of human differences and our moral obligation toward ‘The Other’ in various ways.

The global world has become reality and poses a great challenge to us. We must orient ourselves in a world of different value systems; deal with the processes of globalisation and phenomena such as flight, displacement, migration, mobility and diversity; think about the ecological and social consequences of our behaviour as consumers; reassess our traditional concepts of identity, culture and homeland; respond in a flexible way to the requirements imposed by a rapidly-changing, working world; and make responsible political decisions as well as assess the consequences of our actions.

The context of a globalised world also requires us to think in new ways in order to respond to changes in society and fulfil the important educational tasks of our time. Innovative, sustainable and educational strategies are required, which respond to the continually

increasing rate of economic, political and cultural globalisation processes, and enable us to construct our own identities.

How can we prepare young people for the globalised world? What knowledge, competencies, skills and strategies are necessary to ensure a peaceful society where justice prevails?

An effective educational approach develops within the framework of a philosophical community of inquiry enabling children and young people to use critical, creative and caring frames of reasoning to understand cultural differences, value systems and processes. The aim is to support young people from diverse cultures to be open to new ideas, help them construct their own identities, and encourage them to become aware of and learn to appreciate their own potential and that of 'The Other'.

This year's conference represents an intercultural, transdisciplinary forum that provides a supportive venue for philosophical discussions about the current global phenomena. An important objective at this conference is to instigate the exchange of different approaches and, in this way, additional basic knowledge explicit both for concepts as well as initiatives in educational practices and policy.

The topics of the conference essentially focus on the following subjects:

- Philosophy and Human Rights
- Understanding Democracy – Global Conceptions of Justice
- Community of Inquiry
- Philosophy as Form of Life
- Inter- and Transdisciplinarity
- Plurality and the Hermeneutical Understanding of the Other
- Cosmopolitanism and Education
- Cosmopolitanism as Political Philosophy
- Philosophy and Educational Processes
- Relationships between Migration and Globalisation
- Transnationality – 'Multiple Identities'
- New Forms of Global Culture and Transnational Processes

**Information hotline
and registration:**

ACPC – Austrian Center of Philosophy with Children and Youth
Phone: +43 (0) 316 90 370 201
Email: kinderphilosophie@aon.at

Venue:

Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz,
Meerscheinschlössl, Mozartgasse 3, A-8010 Graz

Conference fee:

€ 60,-
Members: € 30.-
Students: free entry

Organizer:

ACPC – Austrian Center of Philosophy with Children and Youth
Schmiedgasse 12, A-8010 Graz
Phone: +43 (0) 316 90 370 201
Email: kinderphilosophie@aon.at
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Conference languages:

English and German (simultaneous translation)

Deadline for abstract:

August 15th, 2016 (abstract about 300-500 words)
Papers and/or posters are accepted for presentation

Deadline for final paper:

September 10th, 2016