

## Secularism and world citizenship

2011, in Norway a single person broke himself off from mutual living together of human beings and cultures in their diversity in the most brutal manner. It is terrifying that such could be possible in a liberal Scandinavian country. How does the integration of different cultures in the global village succeed while respecting the differences and knowing, that we all share the same world? It is most important to reach a dialogue, in which we do not act from the assumption of absolutisms, of unconditional values, but from what lies before, the knowledge how we understand and speak to each other. The conditions for this are: respect of each other, same rights – human rights – and tolerance.

Without these there is the danger of becoming obsessed with demands for absolute power and monopoly of definition. Since 1789, when the French national assembly announced the human rights and the equality of all, these rights became the incentive for many to strive for freedom and democracy.

We postulate: these preconditions for human rights are best realized with a secular politic, when the state is neutral towards religions and beliefs.

At the same time the question arises, how in education the awareness of these preconditions can be made much stronger and consolidated.

The project “world citizenship” as educational project addresses these preconditions and wants to put them to practice. Therefore the seminar will deal with the topic of secularism as well as the question of the praxis of the advancement of tolerance and reciprocity.

We cordially invite you to this seminar.

Renate Bauer

Horst Prem

## Program

### Friday, January 27, 2012

18:00 arrival/snack

19:00 opening round

19:30 Eike Möller **Education to world citizenship**  
Discussion

### Saturday, January 28, 2012

8:00 breakfast

9:00 Elzelien van der Steen  
**European Parliament Platform for Secularism in Politics**  
Discussion  
Translation into German will be provided

10:30 coffee break

11:00 Stephan-Mögge-Stadel  
**Educational projects to the topic world citizenship**  
Discussion

12:30 lunch

14:00 Hans Göttel  
**The cosmopolitan view and global learning**  
Discussion

15:30 coffee break

16:00 **working groups**

1. Ines John: **world citizen in educational practice**
2. Inga Brandes: **impressions of a Unitarian-cosmopolitan study trip to the USA**
3. Renate Bauer: **secularism as challenge**

18:00 supper

19:00 social hour

### Sunday, January 29, 2012

8:00 breakfast

9:00 Peter Kriesel  
**Implementation within the professional association Ethics**  
Discussion

10:30 coffee break

11:00 summary of results

12:30 lunch

**13:30 end of seminar**

### Lecturers

**Eike Möller**, retired teacher, consultant for education in the DFW, Hamburg.

**Stephan-Mögge-Stadel**, educator, journalist, author, vice-president of the foundation of world citizen New York, Stuttgart, [www.weltdemokratie.de](http://www.weltdemokratie.de).

**Elzelien van der Steen**, Political Advisor to Sophie in't Veld (MEP), Women's and Gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, Straßburg, [www.politicsreligion.eu](http://www.politicsreligion.eu).

**Hans Göttel**, director of the Europahaus Burgenland, editor of the magazine “Weltgewissen” Eisenstadt, Austria [www.europahausbibliothek.org](http://www.europahausbibliothek.org).

**Ines John**, political and social scientist, momentarily independent educational consultant, Berlin.

**Inga Brandes**, historian, research consultant on the open university Hagen, coeditor of “ub” (Unitarian magazine), Hagen.

**Renate Bauer**, president of the DFW, speaker of the Freireligiöse Landesgemeinde Pfalz, Ludwigshafen.

**Peter Kriesel**, chair of the professional association Ethics, Brandenburg, [www.fachverband-ethik.de](http://www.fachverband-ethik.de).

**Meeting place and overnight:**

Franken-Akademie Schloß Schney,  
Schloßplatz 8  
D-96215 Lichtenfels  
Tel: 0049 9571 97500

**Registration please in writing to**

Horst Prem  
Prinz-Otto-Str. 9  
85521 Ottobrunn  
Tel. 089/6096255 Fax 089/6090177 or  
horst.prem@gmx.net  
By 12. Januar 2012

**Seminar costs incl. Room and board  
per person:**

Old federal German states and other European

Countries:

Two-bed room 130,00 Euro

One-bed room 140,00 Euro

New federal German states

Two-bed room 105,00 Euro

One-bed room 115,00 Euro

The number of single rooms is limited.

**Please transfer the seminar costs to**

Deutsche Unitarier München

Code "Schney"

Freisinger Bank e.G.

Account # 4159799

BLZ 70169614

BIC: GENODEF1FSR

IBAN: DE 06 7016 9614 0004 1597 99

In case of need of financial support please turn to  
your organization.

**How to get to Lichtenfels****Via train:**

in Lichtenfels stop IC trains, take a local train to  
Schney or a taxi

**Via car:**

Autobahn Frankfurt-Nürnberg,  
exit Bamberg, then via B505 and B173 to  
Lichtenfels, from there 2 kms to direction Coburg  
or  
BAB Berlin-München  
Exit at cross Bayreuth/Kulmbach direction  
Kulmbach and Lichtenfels, from there 2 kms to  
direction Coburg

Information also at

[www.dfw-dachverband.de](http://www.dfw-dachverband.de)



Schloß Schney

**27<sup>th</sup> DFW-Seminar**

**Secularism and world  
citizenship**

**27 – 29 January 2012**

**Franken-Akademie Schloß  
Schey bei Lichtenfels**

Eine Veranstaltung des Dachverbandes  
Freier Weltanschauungsgemeinschaften e.V.  
(DFW)

in Zusammenarbeit mit  
Bund für Geistesfreiheit (BfG) Bayern  
Deutsche Unitarier und dem  
Humanistischen Bildungswerk Bayern