

REPORT
Networking Meeting of August 30, 2020
22 Federweg, 3008 Bern

- Participation: **Mrs G. BERNEGGER**, President SPG
Mrs O. BRÜCKER, Philopraxis
Mr M. CHRISTEN, Bieler Philosophietage
Mrs S. DEIG, SWIP
Mr G. DORTHE, Projet Socrate
Mr S. FRANCESCHINI
Mr M. GÖTZ, Volkshochschule Zürich
Mr M. HOFER, Lange Nacht der Philosophie, Zürich
Mrs I. HOFMANN, ELENCHOS - Philosophische Praxis
Mr S. JOLLER, Il colore dei margini - filosofia in movimento
Mrs I. KAESLIN, UniFR
Mr C. MAMIN, UniLuzern
Mr S. MUDERS, Universität Zürich
Mrs C. PERI, President of the association RATIO
Mrs E. RITTMAYER, Prophilo
Mr D. STAUDE, Philocom - Philosophische Praxis
Mrs M-J. STONBOROUGH EISINGER, Prophilo
Mrs N. TOBLER, ThiK Theater
Mr M. WUTHRICH, UniGE
- Attending : **Mrs I. FORNACCIARI**, Member of Philosophie.ch - Italian speaking
sektion
Mrs G. BLUMM, Member of Philosophie.ch
Mrs E. BRETTON, Member of Philosophie.ch - French speaking sektion
Mrs A. LESER, Director of Philosophie.ch

1. Introduction by Anja LESER

Anja LESER opens the meeting. The project of a joint event was very well received during the meetings that took place at the beginning of the summer, bringing together once the institutions of Ticino and Swiss-Germany and once the actors of philosophy in French-speaking Switzerland. The motivation to organise something on a national scale is certain. Today, the uncertainties linked to COVID pushes Philosophie.ch to propose the date of 2022 for the event.

Philosophie.ch has prepared an overall concept for the event, available for consultation on its platform. The main objective of the event is to promote philosophy and philosophers in Switzerland. The planned programme is intended to encompass the different colours that the practice of philosophy can take. It would also provide an opportunity to advertise for member institutions. It is a pleasure to see the different institutions gathered together today!

The objectives of this meeting are to answer the following questions :

- [Do we really want to do a Philosophy week ?
- [If yes, wenn ?
- [If yes, what about (theme) ?

2. Votes and discussion

The overall concept is generally approved

21/21 yes

Our organisation will participate

21/21 yes

About the time

For some associations, participation depends on the exact dates as well as on the theme. Several of them could not hold their general assembly because of COVID. The large institutions prefer to plan a significant amount of preparation time and therefore hold the event in 2022. Ideally, the event should be scheduled for a week when no canton is on holiday. The last week of September, proposed in the global concept, falls on the holidays of the canton of Bern. It is also on this date that the Lange Nacht der Philosophie - Zurich takes place. Ideally, the festival should take place over two weekends, so as not to limit the event to school hours.

G. BERNEGGER notes that organising the event in 2022 will allow a more relaxed fundraising. In addition, in September 2021 the Swiss Philosophical Congress will take place. It is necessary to be prepared for all COVID-scenarios and therefore to take the digital dimension into consideration.

M. WUTHRICH thinks that planning the event for 2022 gives more time to think about its structure, to carry out fundraising and to set up the general organisation. To do this in 2021, we would have to start now. This is not impossible but it is a great challenge. COVID is an additional risk, especially as a digital event does not seem to be feasible.

M-J. STONBOROUGH EISINGER, notes that if the event takes place in 2022, it will be necessary to make sure not to lose motivation. A consensus could be to organise the event in the spring of 2022.

M. CHRISTEN notes that the age group of teenagers is very important: they should not be left out of the event. It is important not to put the event on the holidays.

A. LESER notes that whatever the timing, there will certainly be overlaps with other events.

M. GÖTZ argues that a year of organisation is not enough for large organisations, whose schedules are made more than a year in advance. The longer the preparation phase, the more publicity can be worked on and the more participants there will be, both in philosophical institutions and in the public.

<i>The event should take place in 2022</i>	18/21 yes	3/21 no
<i>The event should take place in spring 2022</i>	21/21 yes	
<i>The event should take place between May 6. And 15., 2022</i>	21/21 yes	

About the theme

M. GÖTZ thinks that the "Taboo" theme is too weak. The event needs a stronger theme ! He proposes to target the ethical issues of our society and encourage public opinion to debate. It is the role of philosophers to frame, lead and encourage debate. Philosophy must be presented as something useful.

C. MAMIN thinks that it is necessary to take current themes that are sufficiently general to allow links to be made between the different fields of philosophy.

I. FORNIACCIARI thinks that a general theme will really allow a dialogue and the participation of the different practices of philosophy. The theme is intended to be the glue, to show that the different initiatives have the same goal. Why not define several words to form the theme?

G. DORTHE thinks that the aim of the theme is to convince the public. An interesting concept will attract the public, because people know that philosophy can bring something to the world. The important thing is to give priority to good communication around the event.

A. LESER emphasises that a theme is necessary to give direction to the event, but also to facilitate publicity and fundraising.

S. DEIG notes that having a more precise theme is also an opportunity to show how the philosophy works in a roundabout and indirect way.

Decision - Organisation of a discussion group responsible for reflecting on a theme and setting it. Those interested can come to Anja LESER until the end of September at the latest.

About the role of Philosophy.ch

Philo.ch is highly motivated to be the coordinator, but as it is a small institution, it needs the supporting institutions !

Philosophie.ch takes care of the communication and coordination of the event

21/21 yes

Thank you very much for your participation and your commitment !