On the occasion of World Philosophy Day 2020

The UNESCO Office in Beirut, The Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO, the Arab Council for the Social Sciences the International Center for Human Sciences – Byblos under the auspices of UNESCO have the pleasure to invite you to participate in the celebrations

Beirut, Thursday 19/11/2020

First Session – Panel Discussion on “Temporality in the Midst of Crises in the Arab region”. Time: 1-3pm Beirut time
https://unesco-org.zoom.us/j/91404692339?pwd=VG9tVzRZV0lOMWFPS2VVUzVQOPENnQT09
Passcode: 676151

On the occasion of the World Philosophy Day, the International Centre for the Human Sciences (CISH), UNESCO Beirut office and the Arab Council for Social Sciences (ACSS) are partnering up to hold the webinar entitled: “Temporality in the midst of crises in the Arab region” on Thursday 19 November 2020 from 1 to 3pm Beirut time.

The Arab region is at an important juncture in its contemporary history. Waves of protests and revolutions have rocked the region and serious socio-economic and environmental challenges are increasing the precarity and fragility of its societies and communities. COVID_19 has added to these challenges and highlighted the existing inequalities and deteriorating infrastructures in the region.

In this context “time” has taken on new qualities – it has become slower through lockdowns and restrictions on mobility and faster through increased electronic communications. The nature of work, domestic practices, education and leisure are all affected. How can approaches from Philosophy help us understand the new quality of life? How do revolutions and pandemics intersect to reshape the Arab region?

Second Session- Dialogue on “The new practices of philosophy for social change: Educational approaches to learning to live together in all circumstances” 4-6pm Beirut time
https://unesco-org.zoom.us/j/99132053446?pwd=M0RCQ1dadElmaHR1UFBlby9XQjIPZz09
Passcode: 468564

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day 2020, the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO Office Beirut and the International Center for Human Sciences – Byblos under the auspices of UNESCO are jointly organizing a Virtual Dialogue entitled: “The new practices of philosophy for social change: Educational approaches to learning to live together in all circumstances” on Thursday 19 November 2020 from 4 to 6pm Beirut time.

This year, Philosophy Day is special with the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), founded on a philosophical basis “Since wars begin in the minds of men and women, it is in the minds of men and women that the defences of peace must be constructed”. This peace is now threatened all over the world by the exacerbation of extreme violence, the rejection of the different other, the rise of fanaticism, conflicts at all levels in addition to the pandemic.

In this context, the celebration of World Philosophy Day aims to highlight the role of the university and the school in sensitizing young people to critical, independent and free thinking, to achieve social change based on intercultural dialogue, respect for diversity and human dignity.
## World Philosophy Day 2020 Celebration

**Beirut, 19 November 2020**

### Agenda

#### First Session – Panel Discussion on “Temporality in the Midst of Crises in the Arab region”

**https://unesco-org.zoom.us/j/91404692339?pwd=VG9tVzRZV0lOMWFPS2VWUzVQQnQT09**

Passcode: 676151

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 13:05</td>
<td>Welcome remarks, Dr. Darina Saliba Abi Chedid, Director, International Center for Human Sciences – Byblos</td>
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| 13:05 - 15:00 | **Moderator: Dr. Darina Saliba Abi Chedid, Director, CISH**  
- Temporality in modern Arab thought amidst the temporality of the Arab region” Dr. Elisabeth Suzanne Kassab, Professor at the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, Qatar  
Dr. Mohammad Noureddine Affaya, Professor of Philosophy, Morocco  
-“The problematic of now from a heritage perspective”, Dr. Hala Fouad, Professor of Philosophy, Cairo University, Egypt |
| 16:00 - 16:20 | Address by Dr. Tala Zein, Secretary General, the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO  
**Introduction to the dialogue: Learning to think and dialogue, is to learn to live together in all circumstances**  
**Moderator: Dr. Claudia Chamoun Abi Nader – Member of the executive bureau of the Lebanese National Commission and University Professor** |
| 16:20 - 17:10 | **Dialogue I: How can teaching or practicing philosophy with young academics contribute to social change:** Challenges of teaching philosophy at university level  
- Philosophy as a Game-Changer: Dr. Nadim Mohsen – Lecturer, Philosophy and Cultural Studies at the Lebanese American University (LAU)  
-The ignorant philosopher and the aporetic paths to freedom: Prof. Patrice Vermeren – Emeritus professor of Philosophy at University of Paris 8, Doctor honoris causa at the University of Buenos Aires and the University of Chile  
-Philosophical education is a bulwark against Islamic extremism in Mali: Dr. Belko Ouologuem- Teacher-Researcher at the Philosophy Department Director of the Confucius Institute at the University of Letters and Human Sciences of Bamako (ULSHB)  
**Discussion** |
| 17:10 - 17:50 | **Dialogue II: The teaching or practice of Philosophy with children: New educational approaches**  
Philosophy from an early age: Skills and values – Mr. Bassam Abou Ghoush – Head of the Philosophy department at the Center for Educational Research and Development – Ministry of Education and Higher Education (Lebanon)  
From myth to written, a practice of philosophy with children in Lebanon, for an argumented and personalized conceptualization – Mrs. Sandra Saccal – Researcher and Head of philosophical workshops with youth – Champville College (Lebanon)  
**Discussion** |
| 17:50 - 18:00 | **Recommendations**  
Dr Seiko Sugita, Programme Specialist for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO Beirut  
Dr. Darina Saliba Abi Chedid, Director, CISH |

*Simultaneous translation will be provided in 3 languages (Arabic, English and French).*