



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE PHILOSOPHIE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETIES

www.fisp.org

MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Bahia de São Salvador, Bahia, Brazil

November 26-27, 2025.

DRAFT AGENDA / ORDRE DU JOUR PROVISOIRE

- 1) Welcome Speeches
Discours de Bienvenue
- 2) Verification of proxies
Verification des procurations de vote
- 3) Minutes of the Fujairah meeting (Feb 22-23, 2025)
Procès-verbal de la réunion du 22-23 février 2025 à Fujairah
- 4) Report of the President
Rapport du President
- 5) Report of the Secretary-General
Rapport du Secrétaire général
- 6) Report of the Treasurer
Rapport du Trésorier
- 7) Report of the WCP 2028 Programme committee
Rapport du Comité du programme, Congrès mondial de 2028
 - i. Dates, titles, and logo of the Congress
Dates, titres et logo du Congrès
 - ii. Plenaries, Symposia and Endowed Lectures
Séances plénières, symposium et conférences sponsorisées
 - iii. List of the thematic sections of the Congress
Liste des sections thématiques du Congrès
 - iv. Rules for Invited Sessions, Round Tables, Workshops,
Student Sessions, and Societies Sessions
Séances sur invitation, tables rondes, ateliers, séances
d'étudiants et séances des sociétés membres
 - v. Proposals for other kinds of sessions, including dialogue
sessions and professional development workshops

Propositions pour d'autres types de séances, y compris des séances de dialogue et des ateliers de développement professionnel.

- vi. AI Policy of the world congress, including the use of AI in papers and submissions and AI control of submissions

Politique en matière d'IA du congrès mondial, y compris l'utilisation de l'IA dans les articles et les soumissions et le contrôle des soumissions par l'IA

- vii. Registration fees

Frais d'inscription

- viii. Draft of the first Circular

Texte de la première circulaire du Congrès

- 8) Preparation of the FISP Philosophy Forum, Fujairah, Nov. 2026

Préparation du FISP Forum philosophique, Fujairah, Nov. 2026

- 9) Reports by FISP Committees
Rapports de comités de travail de la FISP

- 10) Membership applications
Demandes d'adhésion à la FISP

- 11) IPO 2026 (Warsaw, May 14-17, 2026)
IPO 2026 (Varsovie, 14-17 mai 2026)

- 12) Next Steering Committee meetings
Prochaines réunions du Comité Directeur

- 13) Varia
Questions diverses



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MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

, Federal University of Bahia (Portuguese: Universidade Federal da Bahia, UFBA)

Nov. 26-27, 2025

PARTICIPANTS:

CD-Members:

Heisook KIM hkim@ewha.ac.kr

Wolfgang KALTENBACHER w.kaltenbacher@iisf.it

Jacob Dahl RENDTORFF jacrendt@ruc.dk

Gerhard SEEL, gerhardjseel@gmail.com

納富信留 Noburu NOTOMI noburunotomi@gmail.com

Cholpon ALIEVA alievach@yahoo.com

Maria BAGHRAMIAN mbaghramian@aua.am

Eduardo BERMUDEZ BARRERA eduardobermudez@mail.uniatlantico.edu.co

Anat BILETZKI Anat.Biletzki@quinnipiac.edu

Wilhelm DANCA wilhelm.danca@gmail.com

Mario DE CARO mario.decaro@gmail.com

Balaganapathi DEVARAKONDA balaganapathid@gmail.com

Miguel GIUSTI mgiusti@pucp.edu.pe

Anke GRANESS graness@uni-hildesheim.de

Noriko HASHIMOTO noriko.ecoethica@gmail.com

Peter JONKERS P.H.A.I. Jonkers@tilburguniversity.edu

Vassilis KARASMANIS vasmar3@gmail.com

Ivan KOLEV ivangkolev@gmail.com

Asha MUKHERJEE ashamukh@gmail.com

Emmanuel PICALET emmanuel.picavet@univ-paris1.fr

Gail PRESBEY presbeg@udmercy.edu

João Carlos SALLES jcsalles@gmail.com

Luca Maria SCARANTINO lucamaria.scarantino@gmail.com

Xiangchen SUN xiangchen.sun@fudan.edu.cn

João J. VILA-CHA j.vila-cha@unigre.it

Stella VILLARMEA svillarm@ucm.es

Adriano FABRIS adriano.fabris@unipi.it

Members Excused:

Mogobe Bernard Ramose (Proxy: Jacob Rendtorff)

Zovko (Proxy: Jacob Rendtorff)

Sami Philström (Proxy: Sigridur Thorgeisdottir)

Sigridur Thorgeisdottir (No Proxy indicated)

Suwanna (Proxy: Luca-Maria Scarantino)

Emidio Spinelli (Proxy:Mario de Caro)

Seon-Wook Kim (Proxy: Heisook Kim)

Robin Wang (No Proxy indicated)

Fabrizia Giuliani (No Proxy indicated)

Wang Bo (No Proxy indicated)

Malika Bendouda (Proxy indicated)

Administrary Secretary:

Helena SEEL helena.seel.constantin@gmail.com

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS / RELEVÉ DE DECISIONS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME COMMITTEE In FUJAIRAH (Feb 22nd,23rd 2024)

The Minutes were approved without changes.

REPORTS OF THE PRESIDENT, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, AND THE TREASURER

All reports were unanimously approved

General and Administrative Decisions (Day 1)

- Professor Kolev was assigned to be responsible to add a **Communication Website** as an addition and link to the current website.
- Professor Villarmea has agreed to preside over the **Gender Committee**.
- There is an updated list of the members societies.
- A **Newsletter** is being worked on to collect relevant information from member societies.
- The next **Olympiad** will be held in Warsaw.
- The next **CD meeting** will take place in Yerevan, Armenia.
- A vivid discussion following the reports regarding the website, communication, and allocation of funds ended with the conclusion that the President and the Secretariat will continue to search for options for development of the website and other communication channels of FISP.

The 26th World Congress of Philosophy – Tokyo 2028

Theme: "Philosophy: A Place for Open Dialogue"

The Steering committee discussed the proposals from the Program Committee, that were finalized at the Program Committee meeting in Tokyo, Japan in September

Titles and Topics

- **Voted in favor** of changing the Plenary/Symposium title from "Academic Freedom, Science and democracy" to "**Knowledge, Science and Democracy**".
- After discussion, the committee decided to **stick to the same list of Thematics** they previously had, rejecting the two new proposals for "Arabic philosophy (in addition to Islamic)" and "Pacific Philosophy".
- **Voted in favor** of the title "**Philosophies in Russian**" for the session on Russian Philosophy (18/29 votes).

Endowed Lectures

- An additional endowed lecture was proposed: **Nishida Kitaro** (proposed by Japanese Philosophical Association). (The six existing lectures remain settled).

Rules and Sessions

- The existing **Rules** for the Congress are to be kept.
- **Workshops** will have methodological freedom, allowing people to organize them as they like.
- **Registration Fees** were accepted/approved, with a question remaining for children.

Financial Decisions (Day 2)

The treasurer informs the CD about the following rules for the payment of travel-subsidies:

- . All members of the CD and the board are entitled to partial travel subsidies.
 - . To this effect, application forms will be sent to each member before the meeting and have to be filled in and send back to the treasurer before the meeting.
 - Subsidies will be paid after the event, not before.
 - To this effect, the treasurer needs copies of travel invoices and boarding passes.
 - The treasurer demands to confirm the payments as soon as they are received.
-

Consultative Committees (Day 2)

Committee on Communication

- It was concluded to continue with updating **fisp.org** and add a **new website link as a communication tool**.

Bio Ethics and the Ethics of Science

- The committee has decided to organize a **monthly online meeting** to discuss emergent problems, in order to pave the way for collective work (e.g., for the AI meeting in Fujairah).
- An **in-person meeting** will be held in Yerevan; 1-2 void hours in the schedule should be set aside for this.

Committee on Human Rights

- The committee agreed to work on a **down-to-earth agenda** that includes a calendar and practical work on the ground.

Committee on Intercultural research in philosophy

- The committee proposed a round table in Armenia with the flexible title:
 - **“Challenges of cultural identity”**.
 - The committee has fixed a **calendar of meetings**.
-

Next Meetings and Varia

- **FISP Forum philosophique:** Preparation for the meeting in Fujairah, Nov. 2026, was addressed.
- **Next CD meetings (2027):** Professor Graness proposed either Germany or Ethiopia.
- **Yerevan Meeting:** The date is fixed from **June 21st to 26th**. Professor Baghranian will communicate regarding flights and visas.
- **Reduction of time between World Congresses:** Professor Eduardo Bermudesz Barrera proposed reducing the amount of years between each World Congress, noting that while 5 years were necessary for Rome, 4 years should be feasible going forward.



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Meeting of the FISP-CD, Bahia, Salvador, November 26-27, 2025.

Report from the President

Nov. 24, 2025

Good morning, everyone.

I would like to welcome you all to the in-person CD meeting in Bahia. It is the 2nd CD meeting under my leadership in FISP.

Now I officially declare CD meeting open.

It is wonderful to see all of you again in good health. Some of you have traveled from far away, while others have come from nearby. I am grateful that we are able to gather here in beautiful Bahia for this meeting. As we begin, I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude to our hosts. I extend my sincere thanks to Prof. Salles, who has devoted much time and effort over a long period to prepare for this meeting, working in an extremely efficient and meticulous manner. I can only imagine how hard it must have been. My gratitude also goes to the members of the Brazilian Philosophical Society for their warm hospitality. I hope that the Brazilian Philosophical Society will have a wonderful time and experience through its Philosophers' Congress held together with this CD meeting. I also hope that vibrant philosophical dialogue will continue between FISP and other national philosophical societies. As an Asian philosopher, this has also been an opportunity for me to reflect on the lack of exchange we have had thus far with philosophers in South America.

Today, my president's report will cover the situation since the Fujairah meeting in February and the plans ahead.

1. First, regarding the Gender Committee, whose decision we were unable to confirm last February: Prof. Stella has agreed to serve as Director of the Gender Committee. Prof. Sigríður Þorgeirsdóttir, who has served with dedication until now, attended the Tokyo meeting as a member of the Program Committee. I would like to welcome both members to their new positions.
2. I will briefly report on the "Working Group on Communication." First, I would like to thank Prof. Vila-Chã for taking responsibility for this committee and working hard.

As mentioned last February, the current official website provides only the most basic information about FISP's activities. As we all know, revising it cannot be accomplished by the working group alone; it requires professional assistance and continuous content management. Regarding the website issue, the Board has determined that, given FISP's current organizational structure, human resources, and financial situation, we are unable to fulfill these requirements. At present, the Philosophy Documentation Center officially manages the site. The Board considers this the only viable option for ensuring necessary sustainability, especially since the current site, though simple, has a timeless structure. I hope discussion on this issue will continue and that we will eventually develop a concrete plan addressing financial matters and the administrative and personnel needs for website management.

3. At present, we have one auditor. However, since the auditor has not been attending, Prof. Seel has been carrying this difficult responsibility alone. I would therefore like to ask the CD to appoint one additional auditor during this meeting. Usually, an organization appoints 2 auditors.
4. FISP continues to support the activities of the IPO. Each year, three members participate as judges, and this year's event was successfully held in Bari, Italy, in May. The President, the Secretary-General, and Prof. Xiangchen Sun attended on behalf of FISP.
5. The first Program Committee meeting was held at the University of Tokyo from September 12 to 15. Prof. Kaltenberg, the chair of the committee, will report on this in detail for our discussion.
6. For this year's World Day of Philosophy, as in the previous year, the President sent letters to member societies and associations, as well as to UNESCO and CIPSH.
7. The CIPSH Steering Committee meeting overlapped with the Tokyo Program Committee meeting, and thus none of the FISP leadership was able to attend. Former President Prof. McBride, who serves as a Board member, provided a report on FISP activities. At FISP Academy Meeting held in Paris in October, the Secretary-General attended and exchanged updates on matters of mutual interest.
8. Finally, I will conclude with the schedule for FISP in 2026:
 - March 25–27: Program Committee meeting in Kyoto.
 - May 14–17: IPO in Warsaw.
 - June 21–26: CD meeting in Yerevan. The theme is *"Trust & Hope in a Time of Crisis,"* supported by Maria's research fund. The call for papers has already been emailed to members.
 - November 17–21: FISP–Fujairah Philosophy House Forum on AI and Philosophy. The Secretary-General will report on this in detail.



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Meeting of the FISP-CD, Bahia, Salvador, November 26-27, 2025.

Report from the Secretary General

Following up on the Meeting of the FISP-CD, Fujairah, 22-23.2.2024, although the meeting was only half a year ago, I would like to mention the most important activities of the Secretary General since the last meeting of the FISP-CD.

Together with the president of FISP, Professor Heisook Kim and the board of FISP, we have had an excellent collaboration. The board and president and secretary general have had several online meetings, making important decisions.

I continued the secretarial work to update the list of the CD of members of the FISP together with Susanne Mueller-Grote from the Philosophy documentation Center. Now, list of CVs and the webpage of FISP is updated. See <https://www.fisp.org/board-and-steering-committee>

A further task was to prepare the FISP-philosophy conference in Brazil. This was a very easy job since Professor João Carlos Salles was in continuous contact with all of you and organized this wonderful conference and meeting. We can be grateful for this memorable event in Bahia. https://www.ufba.br/ufba_em_pauta/primeiro-encontro-brasileiro-do-comite-diretivo-da-fisp-acontece-de-24-28-de-novembro

After the meeting in Fujairah, we also prepared the topics for the international Philosophy Olympiad in Bari, Italy, May 15-18, 2025. This included quotations by Wollstonecraft, Arendt, Polanyi and Sartori. See https://www.philosophy-olympiad.org/?page_id=72 The essays of the students were at a very high level with good essays.

The preparation of the Programme Committee Meeting in Tokyo, Japan 13-14 September 2025. We had a very good Programme Committee Meeting, and we signed the Memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the FISP-CD and the Japanese Organizing committee (JOC). The papers from the Programme Committee meeting with decisions have been distributed to the FISP-CD to discuss at this meeting in Salvador.

During the last half year, Heisook and I had also several meetings with the CIPSH, (Conseil

international de philosophie et sciences humaines) <https://cipsh.one/> in particular President Luiz Oosterbeek. We discussed the future of the English version of the journal of *Diogenes*, and we tried to support a new agreement with Cambridge University Press. However, CUP did not want to continue the collaboration, so CIPSH is still seeking for a publisher of the English version of *Diogenes*. I also participated in the CIPSH academy meeting in Paris 6-10 October on Water and water Management in East and West. During that time, we discussed potential cooperation in relation to the World Philosophy Day in 2027.

Further work has been the administration and management of the list of the member societies of FISP. We have updated the list of member societies of FISP <https://www.fisp.org/> We will in the future continue to work to make an update on the website of FISP of the most important information of the philosophical societies that are members of FISP. In this context, there is still the open question of establishing a new version of the FISP Newsletter. I will try to work on a comprehensive edition of this Newsletter in 2026, giving an update of the activities of the member societies.

Concerning the collaboration with the Philosophy Forum in Fujairah, we have received more than 20 expressions of interests and suggestions of important philosophers. We work on preparing the conference at the Philosophy House in Fujairah around the Philosophy Day in November 2026 (Normally the third Thursday of November). We propose the speakers for the conference, and the Philosophy Hou

Moreover, we are expecting to have the next Programme Committee Meeting in Koyto, Japan, March 26-27, so I will help to prepare this.

In addition, for 2026, as mentioned by Heisook, we will be working on preparing the Philosophy Olympiad in Warshaw, Poland, <https://www.fisp.org/olympiad> between 14 and 17 of May 2026.

And we will help to prepare the FISP-conference and CD-meeting on trust and hope in Yerevan, Armenia, organized by Maria Baghramian, June 21-28, 2026. In connection with this meeting, there will also be a CD-meeting

Jacob Dahl Rendtorff
Secretary General of FISP.



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REPORT OF THE TREASURER

to the Steering Committee of FISP
during its meeting in Bahia 2025
covering the period 1.02.2025 – 1.11.25

For the details see the following items appended to this report:

- Member Societies of FISP 1.11.2025
- Excerpt of UBS banking account 1.11.2025

1 EUR (Euro) = 0.93 CHF (Swiss Franc)
1 USD (US-Dollar) = 0.80 CHF (Swiss Franc)
on the third of Nov. 2025

Preliminary Remark

My report covers the short period from February to November 2025. Our financial operations during this period can be characterized as 'business as usual'. The only exceptional events were the payments of **23'307.- CHF** and **69'014.- CHF** made by the Philosophy House of Fujairah to our 'Donations'-account. The use of this money is bound to expenditures for the preparation of the world congress and branding. It cannot be used for our normal expenditures. Concerning the world-congress in Rome we are entitled to receive a final financial report. This report will determine whether we will receive a part of the income earned by the congress organization. However, notwithstanding my repeated reminders, we have not received this report until today.

1. The Financial Situation

1.1 Overview

On February 1st 2025 the **GENERAL ASSETS OF FISP** amounted to **302'015 CHF**. On November 1st 2025 they amounted to **356'062.- CHF**. This amount is composed of **288'336.- CHF** kept on our accounts and **67'725.- CHF** kept in the two investment-fonds. This corresponds to an overall gain of **54'046.- CHF**. This gain is largely due to the payments by the Philosophy House mentioned above. However, I call to your attention that we lost **9'388.- CHF** in our investments.

1.2 Income

As I already emphasized, the most important income of FISP in this period went from the payments made by the Philosophy House. They amount to **94'321.- CHF**. We also received **10'636.- CHF** as fees paid by our member societies. Together with **596.- CHF** dividends from our investments this amounts to a total income of **105'553.-CHF**.

1.3 Expenditures

On the side of expenditures, we have to report the following amounts: a) travel subsidies **17'792.- CHF**; b) Diogenes extraordinary budget **6'157.- CHF**; c) secretary **1'400.- CHF** and d) membership fees CIPSH **1'400.- CHF**. Together with **994.- CHF** banking costs, this makes a total amount of **27'703.-CHF**. However, I must notice important losses as well. They result from the negative development of our investment-fonds, as already mentioned, and from the development of the currency -rates (EUR – CHF) which has a negative impact when we change currencies.

2. The journal *Diogenes*

After the end of our management of the journal *Diogenes* at the end of 2024 I wrote a final financial report. Nonetheless during the year 2025 some still unpaid invoices appeared and I had to establish an extraordinary budget in order to cover them. This extraordinary budget amounts to **6'157.-CHF**. I am sure that with these payments the chapter *Diogenes* is definitely closed.

3. Donations

To manage the financial contributions made by the Philosophy House in Fujairah I opened a special account with UBS called 'Donations'. Thus, the financial transactions we make in cooperation with the Philosophy House are kept separate from the rest of our transactions. On demand of the Philosophy House, in August 2025 I established an intermediate financial report showing all the financial transactions made on this account until then. Currently, this account shows an amount of **188'364.-CHF**.

4. The Funds for the endowed lectures

The situation of our funds for endowed lectures has not changed since my last report. We only registered minor losses due to banking costs.

5.Member Societies of FISP; payment of fees

As usual during spring and early summer we have send the invoices concerning the payment of fees to our member societies. The payments we received so far correspond to what we expected in a normal year (see the overview). Last month we have sent reminders to the societies that did not pay so far. For the current situation see the overview below.

STATISTICS

Total number of members	151
Fully paid memberships	33
Members 1 year behind	70
Members 2 years behind	5
Members 3 years behind	5
Members 4 years behind	7
Members 5-10 years behind	15
Members Over 10 years behind	16
	151

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Our contact with the member societies should be improved. For this the web-page www.fisp.org will be helpful. We ask that address changes and changes in the board of a society be communicated quickly to the treasurer (gseel@net2000.ch) and the secretary (fisptreasury@gmail.com).

Neuchâtel, 1st of November 2025

Prof.em. Gerhard Seel
Treasurer

WCP 2028: Plenary Sessions & Symposia

(Structure and titles, by the Programme Committee, 14 September 2025, modified
by the CD, 16 November 2025)

Group

Plenary

Symposium

Philosophy

Ways of philosophizing

Philosophical canon and education

Methods of philosophy

Place

Fudo (風土) and life

Beauty and the sublime

Nature, sustainability, and responsiveness

Openness

Inclusion and exclusion

Listening in an age of polarization

Knowledge, science and democracy

Dialogue

Peace and conflict

Respect and disregard

Silence and silencing

World

Universality and cultural particularities

Women and Gender in philosophical traditions

Language, translation, and ineffability

Some related ideas

Philosophy

Ways of philosophizing: theory and practice, orality and literacy

Philosophical canon and education: curricula, university

Methods of philosophy: disciplines

Place

Fudo (風土) and life: *basho*, nothing, temporality, contingency, trace,
relationship

Beauty and the sublime: aesthetics

Nature, sustainability, and responsiveness

Openness

Inclusion and exclusion: uncertainty

Listening in an age of polarization

Academic freedom, science, and democracy

Dialogue

Peace and conflict: power

Respect and disregard

Silence and silencing: methods of dialogue, self and other, intersubjectivity

World

Universality and cultural particularities: histories of philosophy

Gender in philosophical traditions: women philosophers, Asian women

Language, translation, and ineffability

SEC. N.	SECTION
1	aesthetics and philosophy of art
2	african philosophy
3	africana philosophy
4	asian philosophies
5	bioethics and medical ethics
6	buddhist philosophy
7	chinese philosophy
8	christian philosophy
9	comparative, intercultural, and cross-cultural philosophy
10	confucian philosophy
11	contemporary philosophy
12	daoist philosophy
13	environmental philosophy
14	ethics
15	experimental philosophy
16	feminist philosophy
17	gender, queer, and intersectionality
18	greek, roman, and byzantine philosophy
19	hermeneutics
20	history of philosophy
21	human rights and dignity
22	indian philosophies
23	indigenous philosophies and oral traditions
24	islamic philosophy
25	japanese philosophy, thought, and religion
26	jewish philosophy
27	latin-american philosophy
28	logic and philosophy of logic
29	marxist philosophy
30	medical humanities and philosophy of medicine
31	medieval philosophy
32	metaethics
33	metaphilosophy
34	metaphysics and ontology
35	moral psychology
36	north-american philosophy and pragmatism
37	phenomenology and existential philosophy
38	philosophical anthropology
39	philosophical counseling and practices
40	philosophy and literature
41	philosophy and psychoanalysis
42	philosophy of action
43	philosophy of aging
44	philosophy of animals and plants
45	philosophy of artificial intelligence
46	philosophy of biology and the life sciences
47	philosophy of birth
48	philosophy of culture
49	philosophy of death
50	philosophy of dwelling
51	philosophy of economics and business ethics
52	philosophy of education
53	philosophy of film, TV, and comics

Blue
Yellow
Green

54	philosophy of food
55	philosophy of history
56	philosophy of information and digital culture
57	philosophy of language and linguistics
58	philosophy of law
59	philosophy of liberation
60	philosophy of mathematics
61	philosophy of mind
62	philosophy of music and the performing arts
63	philosophy of neuroscience
64	philosophy of physics
65	philosophy of race
66	philosophy of religion
67	philosophy of science
68	philosophy of sport
69	philosophy of technology
70	philosophy of the human and social sciences
71	philosophy of values
72	philosophy with children
73	political philosophy
74	poststructuralism, deconstruction, and critical theory
75	renaissance and early modern philosophy
76	Philosophies in Russian
77	social epistemology and virtue epistemology
78	social philosophy
79	spirituality and mystical traditions
80	teaching philosophy
81	theories of knowledge and epistemology

subdivision of philosophy
specific topics
regional, age group divisions

26th World Congress of Philosophy

“Philosophy: A Place for Open Dialogue”

Tokyo University
August 16-23, 2028



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Dates of the 26th WCP

Proposed dates

Aug 16—23, 2028

Tentative WCP Timetable

Wed 16	Thu 17	Fri 18	Sat 19	Sun 20	Mon 21	Tue 22	Wed 23
Registration	Plenary 1	Plenary 2	Plenary 3	FISP GA? Students' Sessions	Plenary 4	Plenary 5	(Endowed Lecture 7)
Endowed Lecture 1	Symposium 2	Symposium 4	Symposium 6		Symposium 8	Symposium 10	
Symposium 1	Symposium 3	Symposium 5	Symposium 7		Symposium 9		
Opening Ceremony Cultural Event	Endowed Lecture 2	Endowed Lecture 3	Endowed Lecture 4		Endowed Lecture 5	Endowed Lecture 6	Closing Ceremony

Endowed Lectures Tokyo 2028

1	Ibn RUSHD LECTURE Turkish Philosophical Society		
2	KANT LECTURE Kant-Gesellschaft		
3	KIERKEGAARD LECTURE The Søren Kierkegaard Research Center at the University of Copenhagen		
4	DASAN LECTURE Korean Philosophical Society		
5	WANG YANGMING LECTURE Peking University		
6	SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR LECTURE Fisp Committee on Gender		

WCP 2028 Preparation Schedule

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Jan	IOC formed	Website online WCP 1 st circular	PC3, Tokyo	Ex Com 2 Tokyo
Feb				
Mar				
Apr	MoA signed	PC2, Tokyo <i>Speakers & chairs</i>	CD meeting	
May		CD meeting [Armenia]		
Jun		June (to be confirmed)		
Jul		Online registration open		
Aug	PC completed			CD meeting, Tokyo WPC
Sep	PC1, Tokyo <i>Design WCP</i>	CD meeting (?) WCP 2 nd Circular	Ex Com 1 Tokyo	
Oct				
Nov	CD Meeting Salvador			
Dec				

Congress Registration Fees

- EARLY RATE prior to October 1st, 2027 – 40,000 JPY (€225). (Rome € 200)
- STANDARD RATE until January 31st, 2028 – 44,000 JPY (€250). (Rome € 225)
- LATE RATE from February 1st, 2028 – 49,000 JPY (€275). (Rome € 250)
- Exhibitors – 18,000 JPY (€ 100)
- Accompanying Person - – 18,000 JPY (€ 100)
- For Students - 9,000 JPY (€ 50)

Currency rate: 1 euro = 178 JPY (10 November 2025)

Translations of the WCP title

English	Philosophy: A Place for Open Dialogue
French	La philosophie: Un espace pour le dialogue ouvert
Spanish	La filosofía: Un espacio abierto para el diálogo
Russian	Философия: пространство для открытого диалога
German	Philosophie: Ein Ort für offene Dialoge
Chinese	哲学：开放对话之场所
Arabic	الفلسفة الفضاء العقلي للحوار
Japanese	哲学：開かれた対話の場所

Endowed Lectures

Proposal of Nishida Kitarō Lecture

I would like to propose to the FISP steering committee that we establish a lecture series on the philosophy of modern Japanese philosopher Nishida Kitarō (1870-1945) at the 26th World Congress of Philosophy in Tokyo.

Nishida taught at Kyoto University from 1910 until the end of the 1920s. His thought was the first to be called “philosophy” in Japan, and his philosophical efforts to establish a truly original Japanese logic and systematization were recognized, making him worthy of the title of one of Japan's leading philosophers. He remains highly regarded not only by scholars in Japan but also by scholars overseas to this day.

In the early 1930s, when Nishida's disciples were active as up-and-coming philosophers, the thought of the Kyoto School, a free and creative academic community based on Nishida's philosophy, bloomed. The philosophies of his successors were born, inheriting Nishida's philosophy while also developing it in new ways.

What are the characteristics of Nishida's philosophy? In his first philosophical work, *A Study of the Good* (1911), he radically questioned the Western intellectual framework of subjectivity versus objectivity that Japan had quickly adopted as it advanced toward modernization, and advocated “pure experience” without a distinction between subject and object. This could be seen as a way to discover one's true self, rather than the self constructed according to prescribed knowledge. His idea of “pure experience” was further developed into the logic of “place” (*basho*), which took into account absolute nothing rather than relative nothing, in the 1920s, and the philosophy of the body and the philosophy of technology, as well as the principle of poiesis known as “acting intuition” (*koitekichokkan*), in the 1930s. His philosophy, as such, can be said to be quite innovative, even compared to the cutting-edge European philosophy of the time.

A Study of the Good is a widely read philosophical book that has sold over one million copies to date, and has been translated into English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and so on, making it a book that is read worldwide.

Furthermore, Nishida's philosophy has influenced scholars in fields other than philosophy, and was one of the sources of original thinking for Yukawa Hideki, a Nobel Prize winner in physics, and Imanishi Kinji, the founder of Japanese primatology research.

Nishida's philosophy holds the potential to generate many rich research topics and ways in the future. At each lecture, several experts will deliver highly engaging talks.

This lecture will be supported by Kyoto University (the Nishida Philosophy-Senmoto Fund*), established for education and research in the Department of Japanese Philosophy at the Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University.

*This fund was established in 2024 through a donation to the Department of Japanese Philosophy by serial entrepreneur Senmoto Sachio, who co-founded KDDI with Inamori Kazuo and others.

UEHARA Mayuko
Professor
Department of Japanese Philosophy
Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University
Yoshida-Honmachi, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, 606-8501
Telephone: 075. 753. 2801.
E-mail: mayuko@kub.biglobe.ne.jp
uehara.mayuko.6e@kyoto-u.ac.jp

Philosophical Dialogues about Critical Societal Questions.

Since the time of Plato, a prominent method of philosophical inquiry has been to engage in dialogue with others on fundamental matters, including the nature of human beings, the tension between appearance and reality, the relationship between ideology and truth, human behavior and its connection to the good, the best approaches to societal governance, and other such topics. Philosophers have often chosen a dialogic approach because they recognize that genuine insight is not a static, complete entity that can be possessed by a single individual. Instead, it emerges gradually as an “in-between” through the exchange of ideas between individuals who are genuinely interested in pursuing true insight and are willing to abandon their initial opinions in favor of better ones. Furthermore, the professionalization and specialization of philosophy as an academic discipline has led to a perception that philosophers are reluctant to address the fundamental questions and concerns of individuals and societies. This is perceived by many philosophers as a loss. In particular, in these times of turbulence, when societies around the globe are grappling with unprecedented challenges, there is a pressing need for impartial and critical reflection on these matters. However, the increasing sociocultural diversity and the awareness of the global repercussions of local decisions demonstrate that this reflection cannot be derived from a singular perspective. Therefore, in the present era, it is imperative that individuals from different philosophical and sociocultural backgrounds engage in dialogues about these matters and learn from one another’s insights, ideally culminating in enhanced mutual understanding.

In response to this challenge, the World Congress of Philosophy is organizing dialogic sessions to facilitate discourse on five critical societal questions. Following a short introductory presentation by an expert in the field, participants (up to ten per session) are invited to share their views on these questions. The inaugural session will address theme of *trust*, with Maria Baghramian serving as the introductory speaker. The concept of trust is often regarded as a fundamental prerequisite for all personal, societal, and political relationships. However, the precise nature of trust remains a subject of considerable debate. What are the factors that influence the exercise and recognition of trust? Who should we trust and how do we decide who is trustworthy? Does the concept of public trust diverge from the notion of personal trust? The second session will address the topic of *republicanism*, with Chrys Mantzavinos serving as the presenter. In the context of the contemporary rise of populism and authoritarian governance, a key question is how institutions can best serve the cause of freedom. Is freedom the most important value? What forms of institutions should be established to ensure that neither governmental nor private economic power becomes excessive? The third session will address *the role of women in emerging countries*, with Asha Mukherjee serving as the introductory presenter. Since the past century, women have played an increasingly prominent role in societal life and the global economy. This development raises the question of how the excesses of capitalism are related to the struggles of women. Should women be regarded as a source of social wealth with the potential to emancipate humanity? The fourth session addresses the topic of *hospitality in a global world*, with William Sweet serving as the session’s introductory speaker. The phenomenon of voluntary and forced migration is affecting societies across the globe in unprecedented ways. This gives rise to troubling questions, such as whether hospitality is a moral obligation. In the context of welcoming refugees, can

hospitality be considered a duty or an act of virtue? Is everyone entitled to hospitality, or only members of some groups? Does the concept of hospitality have any bearing on the issue of the arrival and subsequent presence (of descendants) of “colonizers”? The final session will address the theme of *tolerance in a multicultural world*, with introductory remarks by Peter Jonkers. The capacity to tolerate the convictions and practices of others has consistently been a crucial aspect of human coexistence. Over time, this principle has been progressively enshrined in the constitutions of numerous countries. Nevertheless, it may be queried whether this has rendered tolerance an anachronistic virtue. How might we distinguish tolerance from indifference in a reasonable manner? Are there any limits to tolerance? If so, in the name of who or what are we entitled to grant or limit it?

The organizers of this World Congress of Philosophy are confident that the dialogic sessions will invigorate philosophical discourse and aspire for them to augment philosophy’s capacity to answer critical societal questions.

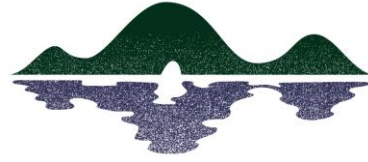
Peter Jonkers,
Member of the Steering Committee of FISP and coordinator of the dialogic sessions.

The proposal I want to suggest isn't of personal interest; it stems from questions my students have asked me, given my continuous participation in six World Philosophy Congresses, from Boston 1998 to the recent one in Rome 2024. They ask why World Philosophy Congresses are held every five years and not every two, three, or four.

I've tried to gather arguments for this. Their point is that it seems like a long time in our times, when communication is far more fluid than in the mid-20th century. Academic exchange has grown to levels unimaginable a century ago. Air travel, so important today for these and similar meetings, has increased exponentially. And today it's easier to share ideas than when the FISP (International Philosophy Congress) began with five-year cycles.

The exchanges and academic learning facilitated by these congresses are very fruitful. Based on the recent experience of Rome 2024, it seems feasible to organize a congress every three or four years. Thinking about the benefits for new generations of philosophers, I propose that we study and debate this proposal.

THE XXVI
WORLD CONGRESS OF
PHILOSOPHY
TOKYO 2028



XXVI WORLD CONGRESS OF PHILOSOPHY TOKYO 2028

Philosophy: A Place for Open Dialogue

August 16-23, 2028

Venue: The Hongo Campus of the University of Tokyo

第二十六回世界哲学会議

哲学：開かれた対話の場所

XXVI. WELTKONGRESS FÜR PHILOSOPHIE

Philosophie: Ein Ort für offene Dialoge

XXVI^E CONGRÈS MONDIAL DE PHILOSOPHIE

La philosophie: Un espace pour le dialogue ouvert

XXVI CONGRESO MUNDIALE DE FILOSOFIA

La filosofía: Un espacio abierto para el diálogo

XXVI ВСЕМИРНЫЙ ФИЛОСОФСКИЙ КОНГРЕСС

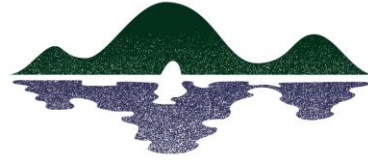
Ф И Л О С О Ф И Я : П Р О С Т Р А Н С Т В О Д Л Я О Т К Р Ы Т О Г О Д И А Л О Г А

第二十六届世界哲学大会

哲学：开放对话之所

المؤتمر العالمي السادس والعشرون للفلسفة

الفلسفة الفضاء العقلي للحوار



The 26th World Congress, organized collaboratively by the International Federation of Philosophical Societies, Japan Federation of Philosophical Societies, Science Council of Japan, and the University of Tokyo, aims to promote scholarly inquiry and public discourse regarding the future trajectory of our societies.

Philosophy: A Place for Open Dialogue is the general theme of the 26th World Congress of Philosophy that will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from August 16th to August 23rd, 2028.

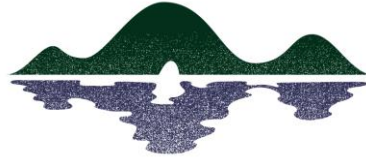
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Today's world faces many difficult challenges: environmental change, conflict and war, cultural clashes, social inequality, and so forth. It is precisely in such circumstances that philosophy is both expected and needed. However, how to practice philosophy is not self-evident. We must seek a new way, or indeed new sets of methods, of philosophy.

One core element of philosophical activity is dialogue. Engaging in dialogue is by no means easy. We ought to consider the possibility of dialogue both within and beyond philosophy. While being conscious of the difficulties and limitations of dialogue, we must ensure an open space for dialogue based on difference and diversity and conducted on an equal footing.

Japan has long been a place where different cultures, religions, and thoughts meet and interact. Therefore, we believe that conducting dialogue within this multicultural context is ideal. As a crossroads of philosophical traditions, Japan enables philosophy through dialogue and translation.

The 26th World Congress particularly welcomes the participation of young researchers and students from around the world and strongly encourages the establishment of mutual relationships during the conference period. We hope this will foster continued dialogue across generations and contribute to our shared futures. By engaging in dialogue that



transcends differences and reaches beyond them, we shall gain an unprecedented experience of philosophy practiced in the open. Therefore, we intend to conduct the entire conference in person face-to-face.

The program will be centered around five keywords related to our general theme: namely, Philosophy, Place, Openness, Dialogue, and World. Each keyword will be treated in one Plenary Session and two Symposia. In addition, the Congress will include eighty-one Sections dedicated to Contributed Papers, as well as Endowed Lectures, Special Lectures, Round Tables, Invited Sessions, Society Sessions, and Student Sessions.

The Organizing Committee welcomes the organization of preparatory events, meetings, and conferences leading up to the Congress. To request the organization of a cultural event under the auspices of the 26th World Congress of Philosophy, please contact: secretariat@wcptokyo2028.com

PHILOSOPHY: A PLACE FOR OPEN DIALOGUE

Philosophy

Plenary Session	Ways of philosophizing
Symposia	Philosophical canon and education Methods of philosophy

Place

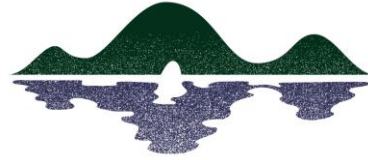
Plenary Session	<i>Fudo</i> (風土) and life
Symposia	Beauty and the sublime Nature, sustainability, and responsiveness

Openness

Plenary Session	Inclusion and exclusion
Symposia	Listening in an age of polarization Academic freedom, science, and democracy

Dialogue

Plenary Session	Peace and conflict
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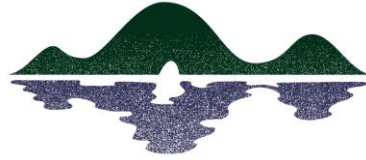
Symposia Respect and disregard
 Silence and silencing

World

Plenary Session Universality and cultural particularities
Symposia Gender in philosophical traditions
 Language, translation, and ineffability

SECTIONS FOR CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

1. Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art
2. African Philosophy
3. Africana Philosophy
4. Asian Philosophies
5. Bioethics and Medical Ethics
6. Buddhist Philosophy
7. Chinese Philosophy
8. Christian Philosophy
9. Comparative, Intercultural, and Cross-Cultural Philosophy
10. Confucian Philosophy
11. Contemporary Philosophy
12. Daoist Philosophy
13. Environmental Philosophy
14. Ethics
15. Experimental Philosophy
16. Feminist Philosophy
17. Gender, Queer, and Intersectionality
18. Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Philosophy
19. Hermeneutics
20. History of Philosophy
21. Human Rights and Dignity
22. Indian Philosophies
23. Indigenous Philosophies and Oral Traditions
24. Islamic Philosophy
25. Japanese Philosophy, Thought, and Religion
26. Jewish Philosophy
27. Latin-American Philosophy
28. Logic and Philosophy of Logic
29. Marxist Philosophy
30. Medical Humanities and Philosophy of Medicine
31. Medieval Philosophy
32. Metaethics
33. Metaphilosophy
34. Metaphysics and Ontology
35. Moral Psychology
36. North-American Philosophy and Pragmatism
37. Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy
38. Philosophical Anthropology
39. Philosophical Counseling and Practices
40. Philosophy and Literature
41. Philosophy and Psychoanalysis
42. Philosophy of Action
43. Philosophy of Aging
44. Philosophy of Animals and Plants
45. Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence
46. Philosophy of Biology and the Life Sciences
47. Philosophy of Birth
48. Philosophy of Culture
49. Philosophy of Death
50. Philosophy of Dwelling
51. Philosophy of Economics and Business Ethics
52. Philosophy of Education
53. Philosophy of Film, TV, and Comics
54. Philosophy of Food
55. Philosophy of History
56. Philosophy of Information and Digital Culture
57. Philosophy of Language and Linguistics
58. Philosophy of Law
59. Philosophy of Liberation
60. Philosophy of Mathematics
61. Philosophy of Mind
62. Philosophy of Music and the Performing Arts
63. Philosophy of Neuroscience
64. Philosophy of Physics
65. Philosophy of Race
66. Philosophy of Religion
67. Philosophy of Science
68. Philosophy of Sport
69. Philosophy of Technology
70. Philosophy of the Human and Social Sciences



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| 71. Philosophy of Values | 78. Social Philosophy |
| 72. Philosophy with Children | 79. Spirituality and Mystical Traditions |
| 73. Political Philosophy | 80. Teaching Philosophy |
| 74. Poststructuralism, Deconstruction, and Critical Theory | 81. Theories of Knowledge and Epistemology |
| 75. Renaissance and Early Modern Philosophy | |
| 76. Russian Philosophy | |
| 77. Social Epistemology and Virtue Epistemology | |

ENDOWED LECTURES

The Ibn RUSHD lecture, sponsored by Turkish Philosophical Society

The KANT lecture, sponsored by Kant-Gesellschaft

The KIERKEGAARD lecture, sponsored by The Søren Kierkegaard Research Center at the University of Copenhagen

The DASAN lecture, sponsored by Korean Philosophical Society

The WANG YANGMING lecture, sponsored by Peking University

The SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR lecture, sponsored by FISP Committee on Gender

The KITARO NISHIDA lecture, sponsored by Kyoto University

SUBMISSION OF PAPERS

Paper may be submitted through the website of the Congress using the form soon available.

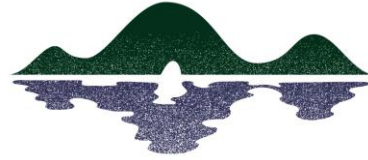
Only in exceptional circumstances can papers be submitted as an electronic version by attachment to an e-mail message addressed to the Japanese Organizing Committee. The submission address will be provided later.

Submissions should not exceed 1,800 words (or 3,000 characters for papers submitted in Chinese, or 4,000 characters for papers submitted in Japanese) and be accompanied by a max 200-word abstract (500 characters in Chinese, or 600 characters in Japanese), and max 5 keywords (in alphabetical order).

Submissions should clearly indicate the thematic section for which the paper is intended and shall be written in one of the official languages of the Congress:

English, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, and Japanese

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to accept or reject papers on the basis of scholarly quality. Only papers of a philosophical nature will be considered for inclusion



in the program.

PROPOSALS FOR WORKSHOPS AND ROUND TABLES

Proposals are invited for round tables and panels on specific topics. The submission address will be provided later. Round tables would usually include speakers from at least three different countries and are subject to the approval of the Steering Committee of FISP.

All panelists shall be registered for the Congress.

Specific panels may be considered as Invited Sessions upon proposals by Steering Committee members.

STUDENT SESSIONS

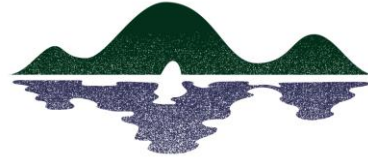
The Steering Committee of FISP, the Japanese Organizing Committee, and the International Programme Committee are encouraging the participation of students by inviting proposals for student sessions, panels, and workshops. Student sessions and panels will be chaired by senior philosophers from all continents. To submit proposals, please email: secretariat@wcptokyo2028.com

SESSIONS OF MEMBER SOCIETIES OF FISP

Member societies of FISP that wish to hold meetings during the Congress are kindly requested to apply to the President of FISP no later than February 1st, 2028. The number of sessions organized by each member society may be subject to limitations.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 1st, 2027 is the deadline for submitting contributed papers and for proposals



for round tables, workshops, and student sessions. Papers and proposals received after this deadline, but before February 1st, 2028, may be accepted depending on availability.

REGISTRATION

40,000 JPY for early registration prior to October 1st, 2027.

44,000 JPY for registration until January 31st, 2028.

49,000 JPY for registration from February 1st, 2028.

18,000 JPY for accompanying persons

9,000 JPY for students

For details about registration and the cancellation policy, they will be announced on the conference web later.



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE PHILOSOPHIE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETIES

www.fisp.org

**DEMANDE D'ADHESION A LA FISP
FISP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

A. APPLICATION FORM / FORMULAIRE DE DEMANDE D'ADHESION

NAME OF THE SOCIETY *The Association of Laozi Studies*

PRIMARY WEB SITE *none*

TIME FOUNDED *12/09/2016*

CURRENT BOARD / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Current president Zhongjiang Wang

Current secretary Cao Feng

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

GOALS OF THE SOCIETY

This association is a non-profit academic service platform voluntarily initiated and established by scholars and institutions dedicated to research in such fields as Laozi culture, Daoist philosophy, and Eastern philosophy. It aims to build an international exchange platform for Daoist studies and facilitate international collaboration in Laozi research.

NUMBER OF MEETINGS EACH YEAR 1

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS

The association organizes regular academic seminars annually, mainly in the forms of distinguished academic forums and academic symposia. Specifically, each distinguished academic forum accommodates approximately 30 participants, while the number of attendees for academic symposia ranges from 80 to 100. The specific information of the conferences organized by the Committee over the past five years is listed below:

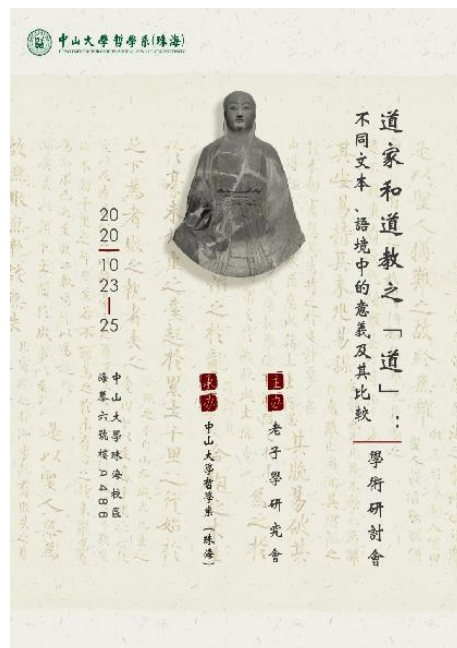
1.The Dao 道 in Taoism and Religious Taoism: Meanings in Different Texts and Contexts and Their Comparisons

Time: Oct. 23-25, 2020

Location: Zhuhai, Guangzhou Province, China

Sponsored: the Committee of Laozi Inquiry

Undertaken: the Department of Philosophy (Zhuhai), Sun Yat-sen University



2.The Wisdom of Life in Taoism: Body, Spirit, and Dual Cultivation

Time:Oct. 16-17,2021

Location:Luyi, Henan Province, China

Sponsored: the Committee of Laozi Inquiry and the Academy of Laozi Studies, Zhengzhou University

Undertaken: the Luyi Academy of Laozi Studies

3.From the Pre-Zi Xue Era to the Zi Xue Era: Marginal Figures, Texts, Thoughts, and the Yellow River Civilization

Time:August 9 -11, 2022

Location: Luyi, Henan Province, China

Sponsored:the Committee of Laozi Inquiry, the School of Philosophy and Academy of Laozi Studies of Zhengzhou University, the Research Center for Lao-Zhuang Culture of Hebei Academy of Fine Arts, the Luoyang Laozi Society, and the Zhang Dainian Academic Research Association

*4.The Ideological Connotations, Historical Evolution, and Contemporary Value
of Taoist Theory of Principle 理*

Time: July 8-9, 2023

Location: Xi'an, Shanxi Province, China

Sponsored: the Committee of Laozi Inquiry

Undertaken: Xi'an International University

5.Unearthed Documents: Multiple Perspectives on Texts, Literature, and Thought(International Academic Symposium)

Time:August 25-29, 2023

Location: Zhenzhou, Henan Province, China

Sponsored: the Committee of Laozi Inquiry

Undertaken: Zhengzhou University

6.The Fusion and Creation of Civilizations: The Development and Diversity of Classical Studies on the Laozi in Eastern and Western Worlds

Time:June 22-23, 2024

Location: , Luoyang, Henan Province, China

Sponsored: the Committee of Laozi Inquiry

Undertaken: Peking University, Tsinghua University

7.Individuals, Knowledge and Language:the Boundary Consciousness in Daoism

Time:August 8,2024

Location: Rome,Italy

8.The Traditional Taoist Political Philosophy and Its New Contemporary Development

Time: July 5-6, 2025

Location: Jilin, Jinlin Province, China

Sponsored: the Committee of Laozi Inquiry

Undertaken: Northeast Normal University



The Committee publishes an academic journal titled Collected Papers of Laozi Studies, with two issues per year. Each issue focuses on a specific theme. By 2025, a total of 11 issues have been published, exerting a significant influence in academic circles.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT YEAR

We plan to collaborate with Shanxi University to jointly organize an international academic conference. The conference theme will be determined through discussions at both the Board of Directors meeting and the Secretary-General's meeting.

RECENT SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS/ PROJECTS FOR FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

*The Committee publishes an academic journal titled *Collected Papers of Laozi Studies*, with two issues per year. Each issue focuses on a specific theme. By 2025, a total of 11 issues have been published, exerting a significant influence in academic circles.*

We are currently engaged in the editing work of the 12th issue and striving to publish it as soon as possible.

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B. STATUTES

PLEASE ENCLOSE A COPY OF YOUR STATUTES OR PROVIDE A URL WHERE THEY ARE LISTED.

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C. LIST OF MEMBERS

PLEASE ENCLOSE A COMPLETE LIST OF YOUR MEMBERS OR PROVIDE A URL WHERE THEY ARE LISTED.

Statutes of The Association of Laozi Studies

Chapter I General Provisions

Article 1 The name of this organization is the 老子学研究委员会, with the English name as **The Association of Laozi Studies** .

Article 2 This Association is an academic, non-profit social organization voluntarily formed by enterprises, institutions, social organizations, and individuals dedicated to the research of Laozi's thought and Taoist doctrines.

Article 3 The purpose of this Association is to conduct in-depth research on Laozi's thought and Taoist doctrines with the methodology of comprehensive cultural innovation.

Article 4 The domicile of this Association is located in Beijing.

Chapter II Scope of Business

Article 5 The scope of business of this Association includes:

- (1) Organizing academic activities related to the research of Laozi's thought and Taoist doctrines, and conducting academic exchanges at home and abroad;
- (2) Providing academic consulting services on Laozi and Taoist studies to the society, and carrying out popularization, education, and publicity activities to promote fine traditional Chinese culture;
- (3) Editing and publishing scientific research achievements on Laozi's thought and Taoist doctrines in accordance with relevant regulations;
- (4) Matters within the scope of business that require approval in accordance with laws, regulations, and rules shall be carried out only after obtaining official approval in accordance with the law.

Chapter III Membership

Article 6 Members of this Association are divided into two categories: Individual Members and Organizational Members.

Article 7 Applicants for membership must meet the following conditions:

- (1) Uphold the Statutes of this Association;
- (2) Have the willingness to join this Association;

(3) Individuals dedicated to the research of Laozi's thought and Taoist doctrines, and enterprises, institutions, and social organizations engaged in other academic research fields.

Article 8 The procedures for admission to membership are:

- (1) Be recommended by a member of this Association and complete the membership application form;
- (2) Be discussed and approved by the Council or the Standing Council of this Association;
- (3) Be issued a membership certificate by the Council or an institution authorized by the Council.

Article 9 Members shall enjoy the following rights:

- (1) The right to vote, be elected, and exercise voting rights within this Association;
- (2) The right to participate in various academic activities organized by this Association;
- (3) Priority in obtaining convenience and support provided by this Association in scientific research and publication;
- (4) The right to criticize, make suggestions, and supervise the work of this Association;
- (5) The freedom to join voluntarily and withdraw from the Association freely.

Article 10 Members shall perform the following obligations:

- (1) Abide by the Statutes of this Association and implement its resolutions;
- (2) Safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of this Association;
- (3) Complete the work assigned by this Association;
- (4) Actively engage in academic research related to Laozi's thought and Taoist doctrines;
- (5) Timely reflect relevant situations to this Association, voluntarily provide research materials, and support the development of the Association in various ways.

Article 11 A member who intends to withdraw from the Association shall notify the Association in writing stating the reasons. A member who fails to participate in the Association's activities without just cause for two consecutive years shall be deemed to have withdrawn automatically.

Article 12 A member who violates laws or these Statutes may be expelled upon a vote of the Council or the Standing Council.

Chapter IV Organizational Structure, and Election and Recall of Responsible Persons

Article 13 The highest authority of this Association is the General Assembly of Members. The functions and powers of the General Assembly of Members are:

- (1) Formulate and amend the Statutes of this Association;
- (2) Elect and recall members of the Council;
- (3) Deliberate on the work report and financial report of the Council;
- (4) Decide on other major matters of this Association.

Article 14 The General Assembly of Members may be convened only if more than two-thirds of the members are present, and its resolutions shall take effect only if approved by more than half of the attending members.

Article 15 The General Assembly of Members shall be held once every five years.

Article 16 The Council is the executive body of the General Assembly of Members. When the General Assembly is not in session, the Council leads the daily work of the Association and is accountable to the General Assembly.

Article 17 The functions and powers of the Council are:

- (1) Implement the resolutions of the General Assembly of Members;
- (2) Elect the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary-General, and the Standing Council;
- (3) Organize the preparation for the General Assembly of Members;
- (4) Report on its work and financial status to the General Assembly of Members;
- (5) Decide on the admission and expulsion of members;
- (6) Decide on the appointment of the Deputy Secretary-General and the principal persons-in-charge of various institutions;
- (7) Formulate internal management systems;
- (8) Decide on the establishment of honorary positions and their holders;
- (9) Decide on other major matters of this Association.

Article 18 Each term of the Council is five years. In case of special circumstances requiring an early or delayed election, the decision must be voted on by the Council, reviewed by the competent business unit, and approved by the social organization registration and administration authority. The maximum delay for the election shall not exceed one year. The Council may be convened only if more than two-thirds of the council members are present, and its resolutions shall take effect only if approved by more than two-thirds of the attending council members.

Article 19 The Council shall hold at least one meeting every year; under special circumstances, it may be convened in the form of correspondence.

Article 20 Before the end of each term, the Council must carefully consult and recommend a list of candidates for the next Council, which shall be submitted to the General Assembly of Members for voting to elect the next Council. To ensure the continuity of the Association's work, the renewal of members of each Council shall not exceed one-third of the total number of council members.

Article 21 This Association shall establish a Standing Council. The Standing Council is elected by the Council, with the number of members not exceeding one-third of the total number of council members. When the Council is not in session, the Standing Council exercises the functions and powers specified in Items (1), (3), (5), (6), (7), (8), and (9) of Article 17 and is accountable to the Council.

Article 22 The Standing Council may be convened only if more than two-thirds of the standing council members are present, and its resolutions shall take effect only if approved by more than two-thirds of the attending standing council members.

Article 23 The Standing Council shall hold at least one meeting every six months; under special circumstances, it may be convened in the form of correspondence.

Article 24 This Association shall have one Chairman, several Vice-Chairmen, and one Secretary-General, who shall provide support and assistance to the Association.

Article 25 The Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, and Secretary-General of this Association must meet the following conditions:

- (1) Have significant influence in the academic community and the field of Laozi and Taoist studies;
- (2) The maximum age for holding office shall not exceed 70 years old;
- (3) Be in good health and able to perform normal work;
- (4) Have not been subjected to criminal punishment involving deprivation of political rights;
- (5) Possess full capacity for civil conduct.

Article 26 If the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, or Secretary-General exceed the maximum age for holding office, they may take office only after being voted on by the Council, reviewed by the competent business unit, and approved by the social organization registration and administration authority.

Article 27 The term of office of the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, and Secretary-General is five years, and they shall not hold consecutive terms for more than two terms. In case of special circumstances requiring an extension of the term of office, it must be approved by more than two-thirds of the members of the General Assembly of Members, reviewed by the competent business unit, and approved by the social organization registration and administration authority before taking office.

Article 28 The Chairman shall be the legal representative of this Association. Under special circumstances, upon the entrustment of the Chairman, approval by the Council, review and consent by the competent business unit, and approval by the registration and administration authority, the Vice-Chairman or Secretary-General may serve as the legal representative. The legal representative shall sign important documents on behalf of this Association.

The legal representative of this Association shall not concurrently serve as the legal representative of other social organizations.

Article 29 The Chairman of this Association shall exercise the following functions and powers:

- (1) Convene and preside over meetings of the Council and the Standing Council;
- (2) Inspect the implementation of resolutions of the General Assembly of Members, the Council, and the Standing Council;
- (3) Handle other matters that must be personally dealt with.

Article 30 The Secretary-General of this Association shall exercise the following functions and powers:

- (1) Preside over the daily work of the administrative office and organize the implementation of the annual work plan;
- (2) Coordinate the work of various institutions under the Association;
- (3) Nominate candidates for the Deputy Secretary-General and the principal persons-in-charge of various institutions, and submit them to the Council or the Standing Council for decision;
- (4) Handle other daily affairs.

Chapter V Principles for Asset Management and Use

Article 31 The sources of funds of this Association are:

- (1) Donations;

- (2) Income from activities and services carried out within the approved scope of business;
- (3) Interest income;
- (4) Other legitimate income.

Article 32 This Association shall not collect membership dues.

Article 33 The funds of this Association must be used for the scope of business and the development of the cause specified in these Statutes, and shall not be distributed among members.

Article 34 This Association shall establish a strict financial management system to ensure that accounting materials are legal, true, accurate, and complete.

Article 35 This Association shall be equipped with professional and qualified accounting personnel. Accountants shall not concurrently serve as cashiers. Accounting personnel must conduct accounting activities and exercise accounting supervision. When accounting personnel are transferred or resign, they must complete the handover procedures with the succeeding personnel.

Article 36 The asset management of this Association must implement the national financial management system and be subject to the supervision of the General Assembly of Members and the financial department. If the source of assets is state appropriations, social donations, or subsidies, the Association must accept the supervision of audit authorities and publicly disclose the relevant information in an appropriate manner.

Article 37 No unit or individual may occupy, privately divide, or misappropriate the assets of this Association.

Chapter VI Procedures for Amending the Statutes

Article 38 Amendments to these Statutes must be voted on by the Council and then submitted to the General Assembly of Members for deliberation and approval.

Article 39 The amended Statutes of this Association shall take effect only after being approved by the General Assembly of Members, reviewed and consented to by the competent business unit, and verified and approved by the social organization registration and administration authority within 15 days of their adoption by the General Assembly.

Chapter VII Supplementary Provisions

Article 40 If any content of these Statutes conflicts with laws, regulations, administrative rules, or national policies, the provisions of laws, regulations, administrative rules, and national policies shall prevail.

Article 41 The power of interpretation of these Statutes shall belong to the Council. These Statutes shall take effect on the date of their adoption by the Council.