

## ISACCL founded to promote peace in the Levant



*ISACCL Head Office, Bucharest*

In 2017, the World Academy of Art & Science (WAAS) entered a new phase in its long-term plan to establish a virtual 'world university', as originally envisioned by its founders in 1960. In May 2017, the Parliament of Romania enacted new legislation establishing The Institute for Advanced Studies in Levant Culture and Civilization (ISACCL) in Bucharest as a permanent government-funded research institution in partnership with WAAS, World University Consortium (WUC) and the Romanian Academy of Sciences. This is the first time the Academy is formally partnering with a national government to establish a new scientific institution.

ISACCL was formally inaugurated at a two-day international conference conducted in the plenary hall of the Romanian Parliament on November 21-22, 2017, presided over by **Călin Popescu-Tăriceanu**, President of the Romanian Senate. The founding of ISACCL has been the result of a six year Levant for Global Peace



Initiative launched by **Emil Constantinescu**, former President of Romania and founding President of ISACCL, to establish a permanent research institute to promote peace in the Levant through cultural diplomacy.



*Emil Constantinescu*

According to the Romanian law establishing ISACCL, the Scientific Board is headed by its president, Emil Constantinescu, who also currently serves as a Trustee of WAAS and Director of WUC. The Board of Trustees of WAAS has also appointed five members to the Scientific Board of the Institute—**Heitor Gurgulino de Souza**, **Garry Jacobs**, **Ivo Šlaus**, **Tibor Tóth** and **Alberto Zucconi**. Other WAAS Fellows serving on the Board include the current and past presidents of the Romanian Academy, **Ionel Valentin Vlad** and **Ionel Haiduc**; the Governor of the National Bank of Romania, **Mugur Isărescu**; two former Ministers of Education, **Remus Pricopie** and **Adrian Curaj**; and the distinguished WAAS Fellow and Romanian Academician **Mircea Malița**. ISACCL's Advisory Board includes WAAS Fellows **Federico Mayor Zaragoza**, former Director General of UNESCO, and **Ismail Serageldin**, founding Director of the Library of Alexandria.



*From Left: G. Jacobs, A. Zucconi, E. Constantinescu, I. Šlaus & H. Gurgulino de Souza*

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## The Levant Initiative for Global Peace



*From Left: R. Pricopie, H. Gurgulino de Souza, E. Constantinescu, C. Popescu-Tăriceanu & S. Mesic*

Social institutions constitute the hardware of civilization. Culture is the software. Culture is not merely concerned with preservation of traditions and works of art. It is the language of human relationships which constitute the bedrock foundation for development and social evolution. Fostering a culture of peace is the essential requirement for the progressive realization of human aspirations and human unity.

These were the core themes of the international conference on The Levant Initiative for Global Peace: Through Cultural Diplomacy towards Sustainable Peace conducted in the Parliament of Romania on November 20-21, 2017. This was the seventh international conference conducted since the inception of the Levant Initiative by Emil Constantinescu in 2011 at Berlin. Subsequent conferences were conducted in Bucharest (2013), Council of Europe and UNESCO Paris (2014), United Nations in New

York and UNESCO Paris (2016), and again at the UN in September 2017.

The objective of this initiative is to promote a new type of relation between nations and states. Its activities are supported by WAAS in collaboration with the Romanian Academy of Science, the Romanian Parliament, the Academy for Cultural Diplomacy (Berlin), the Inter-Parliamentary Coalition of Global Ethics (IPCGE), and representatives of leading religious organizations.

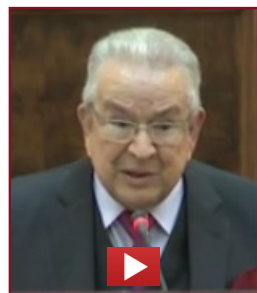
The conference examined the challenges and opportunities for promoting peace and development in the region through cultural diplomacy. It included a special session on the effort spearheaded by China to reestablish the original Silk Road across Central Asia to promote trade and cultural relationships in a broad area stretching from the Far East to the Mediterranean.



*A. Curaj*



*G. Jacobs*



*H. Gurgulino de Souza*



*I. Šlaus*



*A. Zucconi*



## WAAS Supports New International Research Initiative in South East Europe (SEE)



The World Academy of Art & Science is a global network of eminent scientists and diplomats established in 1960 to address global challenges confronting humanity. The power of a network is defined by the number and quality of its members, their interrelationships

and commitment to a common cause. The Academy's potential power to make a difference is illustrated by events initiated in November 2016, when the Board of Trustees unanimously approved a proposal by WAAS Trustee **Herwig Schopper**, former Director of CERN, to explore the feasibility of establishing a new International Institute for Sustainable Technologies (IIST) in South East Europe (SEE) and authorized steps to examine potential interest among the countries of the Balkan region.

The objective of the project is to promote scientific development and cooperation among the nations of the region in state of the art fields of research with the potential to generate employment, stimulate commercial enterprises and serve the public of the region. The project is modelled after [SESAME](#), Synchrotron-Light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East, the first major international research institute in the region which commenced operations in May 2017. SESAME is an autonomous intergovernmental organization at the service of its member countries, who are cooperating scientifically in spite of the political differences between their governments.

Over the past one year numerous meetings have been conducted at CERN and in the region in collaboration with governments and leading research institutes to determine the level of interest in the project, identify potential

technologies and collaborating partners. In September 2017, nine partners in the region met at CERN and agreed to collaborate on the project.

Two promising large projects are under consideration which have been identified by groups of international experts that could be of particular benefit to the region. They are based on the most modern technological developments enabling cutting edge research in many domains relevant to society. One is a synchrotron light source providing radiation research possibilities in many domains from physics to biology, material science, environmental science and even archaeology and medicine. The user community would come mainly from university faculties and also industry. The second project is a facility for cancer research and treatment with heavy particles (protons and carbon nuclei) which would also enable biomolecular research including experiments with small animals.

On January 25-26 this year, representatives of these nations and potential users and partner organizations will meet at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste to examine these proposals and provide indications as to which choices would be most interesting for the region. The organizing committee is chaired by Herwig Schopper. WAAS Honorary President **Ivo Šlaus** will deliver keynote address.

Those interested in participating can register for the meeting on the ICTP website. There is no registration fee. Requests for contributions to the session "Forum on New International Research Facilities for South East Europe" should be made through an online form (comment section) indicating also the title of the contribution. Applications to participate can be made [online](#) until January 14, 2018.



*From left: **Blaženka Divjak**, Minister of Science and Education, Croatia; **Vladimir Popović**, State Secretary, Serbia—Ministry of Education, Science & Technological Development; **Tomaz Boh**, State Secretary, Republic of Slovenia—Ministry of Education, Science and Sport; **Ervin Demo**, Vice Minister of Education and Sports, Republic of Albania; **Shyqiri Bytyqi**, Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Kosovo; **Sanja Damjanović**, Minister of Science, Montenegro; **Herwig Schopper**, Former Director of CERN and Trustee of WAAS; **Renata Deskoska**, Minister of Education and Science, The FYR of Macedonia; **Andrija Pejović**, Minister of European Affairs, Montenegro; **Adil Osmanović**, Minister of Civil Affairs, Bosnia and Herzegovina; **Kostadin Kostadinov**, Advisor to the Minister of Education and Science, Bulgaria; **Costas Fountas**, Representative, Hellenic Republic.*



# ECOSOC grants Consultative Status to WAAS



In July 2017, WAAS was granted special consultative status to the ECOSOC to participate in the work of the United Nations. Achieving special consultative status will enable WAAS to conduct meetings at the UN and to submit reports and recommendations

directly to the Council on issues of vital concern to the UN system. The significance of this recognition has been emphasized in a recent *Cadmus* article on "[WAAS-UN: A Special Consultative Status and its Inspirational Value](#)" by WAAS Fellow **Donato Kiniger-Passigli**.

The UN Charter established The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1945 as one of the six main organs of the United Nations. ECOSOC is at the heart of the United Nations system to advance the three dimensions

of sustainable development—economic, social and environmental. It is the United Nations' central platform for fostering reflection, debate and innovative thinking on sustainable development. The council facilitates forging consensus on ways forward and coordinating efforts to achieve internationally agreed goals. It is also responsible for the follow-up to major UN conferences and summits.

ECOSOC engages a wide variety of stakeholders—policymakers, parliamentarians, academics, major groups, foundations, business sector representatives and 3,200+ registered non-governmental organizations—in a productive dialogue on sustainable development through a programmatic cycle of meetings. The work of the Council is guided by an issue-based approach, and there is an annual theme that accompanies each programmatic cycle, ensuring a sustained and focused discussion among multiple stakeholders.

[Click here](#) to read the **Report on the 2017 Rome Conference published in the WUC Newsletter**



**WORLD UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM**  
*Creative Solutions for Global Higher Education*

December 2017

**2<sup>nd</sup> Intl. Conference  
on Future Education**

**FUTURE  
EDUCATION**  
ROME 2017

**Effective Learning in an Age of  
Increasing Speed, Complexity  
and Uncertainty**

A new paradigm is urgently needed to shift emphasis to student-centered, active, collaborative learning, critical and original thinking and creativity, and knowledge that is value-based, multidisciplinary, contextual and integrated.



– **Heitor Gurgulino de Souza**  
**WUC & WAAS President**

Rome, Italy | November 16-18, 2017

# Upcoming Events

## Future Education Conference

January 28, 2018 – 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM, Pondicherry, India



Organized by the Mother's Service Society (MSS) in collaboration with the World Academy of Art & Science (WAAS) and the World University Consortium (WUC), the one day conference on Future Education is a follow-up to the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conferences on Future Education held at the University of California at Berkeley on October 2-3, 2013 and at the University of Rome III on November 16-18, 2017.

Please [click here](#) to register online and for more details.

For inquiries, please contact [education@primroseschool.org](mailto:education@primroseschool.org).

**Last date for submission of abstracts: January 16, 2018**

## CALL FOR PAPERS

**XV International Colloquium, Paris, France – May 2-4, 2018**



Universidade de Brasília



## The Role and Impact of International Institutions on Economic Theory and Policy

International institutions have for decades influenced national policies and the developing processes of internationalization in trade, financial transactions and other areas, with varying impact depending on the region and issues involved. They play an important role in promoting structural change and socioeconomic dynamics in different stages of the development process. Their role in the coordination of climate actions policies was an important determinant leading to the COP21 in Paris and the calendar of conferences established to monitor the implementation of increasingly ambitious climate actions. Their influence has been less in some other fields, especially the regulation of financial globalization. At a time when some countries are trying to reduce the influence of international institutions, it is relevant to assess how these institutions function, formulate policies, arbitrate and reconcile the interests of nation-states with those of global civil society, and exert influence at the national and international level.

The 2018 Colloquium will focus on the role international institutions have played in recent decades and can play in the near future in the reformulation of both economic theory and policy to promote the economic security, welfare and well-being of all nations and all people.

The organizing institutions of the Colloquium are Université PARIS 13, Nord, University of Brasília, World Academy of Art & Science and the World University Consortium.

Abstracts (maximum 400 words) should be sent to [support@worldacademy.org](mailto:support@worldacademy.org).

The last date for submission of abstracts is January 16, 2018. Abstracts will be evaluated by February 1, 2018.

Paper submission, if required, must be made by February 28, 2018.

Please [click here](#) for more details.

# Insights on Creativity

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Roundtable on Mind, Thinking & Creativity



Everyone acknowledges the importance of creative thinking skills, but few truly understand the process of creativity. The roundtable on Mind, Thinking & Creativity examined the characteristics of mind and mental development, and listed valuable recommendations for the educational system. The meeting was organized by WAAS and World University Consortium in collaboration with Inter-University Centre (IUC), Dag Hammarskjöld University College for International Relations and Diplomacy (Croatia), Mother's Service Society (India), and Person-Centered Approach Institute (Italy) at IUC, Dubrovnik from November 6-8, 2017.

According to the 2016 Workforce-Skills Preparedness Report by PayScale Inc., 60% of employers complained that the college graduates they hire are not ready for the workplace, as they lack critical thinking and problem

solving skills. A recent article in the *Wall Street Journal* points out that average college graduates show no improvement in critical thinking skills after four years of college. A vital skill that marks the employability of a person is not taught in school, as the concept of creativity remains a mystery to many.

The Dubrovnik roundtable confirmed the self-evident truth that creativity is not merely an act of genius or luck. It is a process, a process that can be learned. The meeting explored many of the mental processes that lead to the discovery of new relationships, unperceived opportunities and untapped potentials. It concluded with a core set of recommendations on how these insights can be applied in classrooms and findings were presented the following week at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Future Education at Rome.

### Creativity is a Social Act

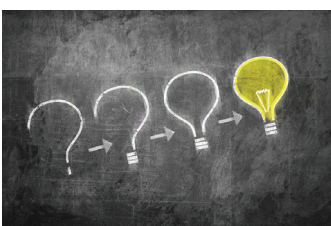
Conventional wisdom attributes great mental discoveries to acts of insight or genius by unique individuals. But creativity is never the act of a single individual. All human endowments and capacities are the cumulative product of the long evolution of humanity over millennia. It is impossible to think a thought or use a word without borrowing from the treasure chest of humanity's past discoveries. Moreover, it is the interaction and confrontation with other points of view that serve as the creative catalyst to help us escape from the limitations of our implicit assumptions, subconscious prejudices and

cultural biases. ***'The growth of knowledge depends entirely upon disagreement,' said Karl Popper.*** The capacity to embrace opposite and even contradictory points of view is a powerful source of individual and social creativity. Taking the other person's point of view opens up new vistas of discovery, even when that viewpoint appears obviously flawed.



G. Jacobs

### Power of Questions



From the time of Socrates, it has been known that asking questions is one of the effective ways to stimulate creativity, original thinking and fresh discovery. It is also true that any question, no matter how silly, unrelated or apparently meaningless it may seem, can lead an open mind to greater insights and discoveries.

*The answers you get depend upon the questions you ask.*

– Thomas Kuhn



## Imitating Nature

### Why did it take human beings 190,000 years to invent agriculture?



S. Inbarajan

Agriculture is arguably the greatest human invention of all time. Nothing else has so radically transformed life on earth. It is the foundation on which civilization and social evolution are built. Nature's method is transparent and observable, yet it remained a mystery for countless millennia. Deciphering the process required human beings to make millions of observations about what grows when, where and how under what conditions. The relationship between the tree and seed, seed and soil type, sprouting and sunshine, temperature and season, rainfall and plant growth is self-evident to every child today, but none of

them are obvious or easily discernible to anyone who has not been the beneficiary of thousands of years of collective knowledge. Acute observation needed to be coupled with the capacity to relate and correlate each condition and factor of production with countless others to identify critical determinants and weed out those that were irrelevant or purely circumstantial. Correlating the color, smell, texture, consistency and moisture of soil to the growth of different crops was the work of centuries of investigation. Rediscovering agriculture through acts of imagination is itself a great act of creativity that reveals profound insights into the creative processes for new discoveries today.



## Conscious Creativity Abridges Time

Creativity is not confined to discovering new knowledge. It also expresses in the application of mind to consciously conceive, plan, organize and perform new types of activity. Between 1966 and 1975 India doubled its foodgrain production by consciously and creatively applying the knowledge about agriculture which humanity had acquired by trial and error during thousands of years of discovery. This creative conscious application of knowledge known as Green Revolution was soon applied by countries around the world to eliminate famine from large areas of the world. **Conscious creativity radically abridges time.**



S. Sreejith

## Unraveling Complexity



R. Pachauri

There was a time when geography textbooks taught about the unchanging characteristics of climate in each particular region of the world, because they did not understand the relationship between climate and the growth of forests, agriculture, sunspots, human settlements, industrial activity, energy production, consumption and pollution. Today we know that climate is changing as a result of all these factors. The evolution of science to tackle

the challenge of climate change represents an unprecedented collective act of creativity by the global scientific community involving tens of thousands of researchers.



**The capacity to relate distinct, apparently unrelated phenomena and fields of knowledge is one of the hallmarks of mental creativity.**



## Organizational Creativity

**What do language, agriculture, manufacturing, markets, money, cities, science and internet have in common?**

They are all examples of the creative capacity of the human mind to fashion new types of social organizations out of thin air. Social advancement has been the result of this remarkable capacity of human beings to invent social organizations that enhance and multiply cooperative relationships between people. **Social organizations are pure acts of creativity.** The discovery of agriculture led to the development of trade, money, market, rural towns and urban centers of civilized life. Banking, governments, standing armies, police, law, courts, artisan crafts, education and entertainment were some of the creative products of organizational invention. Creation of new organizations requires higher faculties of mind to divide, classify, categorize, plan, communicate, coordinate and systematize activities for greater speed, quality and efficiency.



M. Nešković

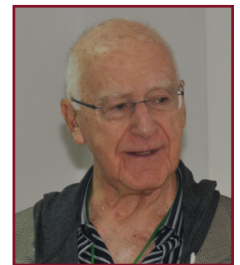
## Who Done It?



The story of a stolen race horse and his murdered trainer offers rich insights into mind, thinking and creativity. Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes tale "Silver Blaze" reveals the typical pitfalls of linear rational thinking tainted with egoistic ambition. Intuition is born of an integral perspective. Profound knowledge can be gained by pursuing comprehensive creative solutions that account for even the smallest particle of information. A dish of mutton curry trashed Scotland Yard's simplistic theory that the gambler did it. Sometimes the most important facts are those that did not occur. They also overlooked the simple fact that the dog did not bark. As Holmes reminds, never come to conclusions until all the evidence is before you and when all plausible explanations have been exhausted, look to the implausible for the answer.

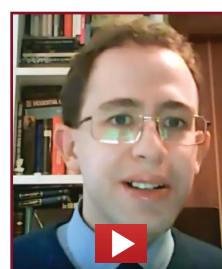
## Superstition, Reason & Logic as Creative Association

Thinking comes from relating two or more observations, ideas or sensations. When early man observed that the appearance of lightning in the sky was invariably followed by a clap of thunder, his mind linked the two phenomena in thought and tried to discover their causal relationship. But observation and association can also lead to erroneous conclusions, which form the basis for superstitions.



I. Šlaus

**Identifying the real relationship between causes and effects is a creative act of human mentality that gave birth to rational thought.** The effort to formulate a set of rules to test the validity of mental conclusions gave birth to logic—another great act of mental creativity. Thousands of years ago, science discovered that the rules of logic valid for observable physical phenomena are not always true. Quantum physicists have discovered that something can be both a wave and a particle, that an electron can be in more than one place at the same time, and that objects can influence other objects instantaneously over infinite distances. Mothers often tell their children that they cannot have their cake and eat it too. But this truism does not apply for knowledge, as **Harlan Cleveland** observed: **"Knowledge grows the more you share it. It grows by giving"**. These examples show that the rules of logic are themselves creative.



C. Blanco

Intuition creates, rationality validates. Intuition is the gateway to creativity that connects elements which have previously been unconnected. Rationality is a structured way of thinking and organizing information by human mind, with a minimal number of presuppositions. Logic is the formalization of thinking based on rules and premises, so that its elements are constructed in a consistent way. Reason and logic formalize that which intuition discovers and converts into propositions that can be effectively communicated. Intuition and logic are essential instruments in the creative quest for knowledge.





## Chance & Causality



**J. Ramanathan**

Creativity arises from the capacity to look beyond the confines of existing concepts and premises, to think outside the proverbial box. Our creativity is severely constrained by the fact that we accept as given and incontrovertible many things that may ultimately prove to be erroneous or only partially true. The concept of the geocentric universe prevailed for 15 centuries or more simply because it was supported by the visual evidence of our senses that the sun rises and sets and the Biblical notion that the earth and human beings lie at the center of the universe.

Our notions of chance and causality are based on the premises of materialism developed by modern science which have proven of great value in explaining a great

many purely physical phenomena such as the motion of objects described by Newton. Much of what passes for chance in science is simply phenomena of which we do not know the causal factors or do not have the capacity to measure their impact. These same conceptions are grossly inadequate to explain historical, biographical, literary and personal experiences which are extremely improbable yet remarkably common. Take the example of Jacqueline Novogratz of Virginia who gifted her blue sweater to charity at age 15 and then met a boy wearing the very same sweater with her name on it 10 years later while visiting Africa. Or Maxwell Morrison, the high school student in Chicago who saved the life of a Thai student who swore to repay the debt. Maxwell was mistakenly accused and arrested for drug smuggling 20 years later while visiting Thailand only to be saved by the very same Thai boy who had grown up and become the judge trying his case.

## Creative Modelling



**R. Hoffman**

The act of model making is mental creativity, and we strive to create models that are closer to reflecting the world as it is. Computers create dynamic models through simulations that portray and test conflicting theories. The process of creating a model leads to rigorous thought, and exposes fallacies in mental models.

***We cannot regulate our interaction with any aspect of reality that our model of reality does not include—whether as to its theoretical range or as to its observational facilities and resolution—because we cannot by definition be conscious of it.***

**– Stafford Beer**

## Art of Creative Communication



**R. Fiorini**

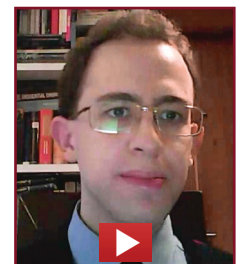
Communication is a creative process. All forms of communication including written or verbal expression, conceptualization, symbol-making, abstraction, and analogy involve the condensation and transformation of personal insights and experience in a form that can be passed on to other people. Each stage in the process involves a loss of information, a further generalization and abstraction of reality. This loss is inevitable. The problem comes when we mistake communication for the reality it seeks to represent. The capacity to evoke the original experience in another person is the point at which communication becomes a creative form of art.

## Integration and Unification



**D. Raković**

The greatest scientific discoveries have led to the unification of apparently unconnected phenomena. Newton's laws unified motion and inertia. Maxwell discovered that by unifying magnetism and electricity both could be explained according to the principles of electromagnetism. Einstein unified space and time, gravity and acceleration, matter and energy. Knowledge involves connecting, unifying, and integrating that which appears different or unrelated within a wider conceptual framework.



**C. Blanco**



***We explored ways to promote integrated forms of thinking that will foster original thinking, creativity and intuitive ways of knowing.***

**Drenka Dobrosavljević,**  
Editor of Scientific Broadcasts, Radio Televizija Vojvodine (Serbia)

## Inter-disciplinary Creativity in Renaissance Italy and Contemporary Silicon Valley



the ability to combine ideas from disparate disciplines.

Florence was a triumph of both art and engineering combining technology, design, chemistry and commerce. This mixing of ideas from different disciplines became the norm as people of diverse talents intermingled, as Walter Isaacson describes in his book on Leonardo da Vinci. Creativity arises from

The same quality is at the root of the astonishing functional creativity that characterizes Silicon Valley today where technology, design, materials and neuroscience,

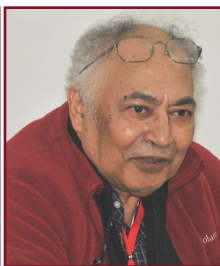
science, and commerce are integrated with human needs and aspirations to an extent unimagined in the past.



## Law as Evolutionary Creativity



H. Gordilho



W. Nagan



S. Bahia

Law is commonly regarded as the most staid and uncreative of fields encumbered by centuries of accumulated principles, precedents, rules and procedures. In reality, the creation of the law has been the driving force for the transformation of human relations from the battlefield to the conference table, marketplace and the courtroom; from rule of might to rule of rights, contracts, treaties and higher expressions of civilization.

The foundations of law are continuously evolving. Though jurists strive to emphasize continuity with the past as the mark of legitimacy, in fact the evolution of law has progressed through markedly different stages—from the rights of the most powerful leaders and countries to seize whatever they can—be it property or entire countries—to the divine right of kings, the feudal privileges of aristocracy and the sovereignty of nations to finally establish a foundation on universal human rights. In fact all these levels of law persist and co-exist and their relative contribution is constantly evolving.

Moreover, every act of interpreting and applying law to specific situations by the legal system constitutes a creative act involving the conversion of a general principle into a specific judgement based on the unique peculiarities of each case.

## Creative Leadership



E. Valencia

**Creativity proves the adage that the invisible and intangible is more powerful than the visible and tangible.** Great leadership involves acts of social creativity. Mahatma Gandhi transformed the act of producing salt on the seashore into a national symbol of defiance by the Indian people against colonial rule. His famous Salt March in 1930

shook the foundations of British rule in India. Twenty years after Apple was founded and launched the first commercially viable personal computer in 1976, Steve Jobs returned for a second time as its CEO at a time when most people regarded the PC as a commodity product that could only compete on the basis of the best quality for lowest price. In spite of predictions that both he and Apple were doomed to oblivion, Jobs soon transformed Apple into the most valuable company in the history of the world.



Apple from a commodity PC maker into a music company with the launch of the iPod, and then into the world's most profitable maker of smartphones and tablet PCs. Jobs' success arose because he creatively conceived of Apple as a company that utilizes technology to empower individuals to better meet their needs.

He accomplished this tremendous feat of creative leadership by looking at the PC business from a fresh perspective to discover people's unmet needs and aspirations. And quickly transformed



M.S.R. Dev

## Creativity in Science

*New facts, collected in old ways under the guidance of old theories, rarely lead to any substantial revision of thought. Facts do not "speak for themselves"; they are read in the light of theory. Creative thought, in science as much as in the arts, is the motor of changing opinion.* —Stephen J. Gould



## Man and Machine



**M. Hytten**

Machines are a wonderful product of human creativity in matter. The debate still rages as to whether the marvelous machines human beings create can themselves be truly creative and perhaps even excel the creativity of their own creator. Can algorithms create new algorithms that transcend the assumptions, premises and

boundaries of reality on which they themselves are founded? Regardless of the answer, it is evident that the capacity to think outside the box, to question and transcend the boundaries of an existing conceptual system is a hallmark of human creativity.

Artificial intelligence can mimic certain mental capacities like memory, recreate the mechanistic aspects of human mind and excel at the high volume tasks. Human intelligence is unique by the understanding of fundamental processes of conscious awareness and knowing, self-consciousness, insight and creativity.



*The most impressive part was the active engagement of the participants in reevaluating historical events and real life situations for the purpose of understanding how the*

*human mind functions.*

**– Marta Neškovic**

**Doctoral Student, Ethnology and Anthropology, University of Belgrade; Junior Fellow, WAAS (Serbia)**

## Creative Healthcare Solutions



**M. Chandrasekaran**

The power of mind over matter is dramatically illustrated by what is known as the placebo effect. A placebo is something that is not a real medicine, but it has the effect of a real medicine. Placebo effect is the authority of ignorance. Right information provides the authority of knowledge. Information is still a kind of conditioning. A mind that

is not closed is not superstitious. It is more powerful than a closed and superstitious mind. A mind that is not conditioned even by knowledge, is an open mind.

Research on the placebo effect has focused on the relationship between mind and body. Even the

relationship between patient and doctor, and the faith that the patient places on the doctor improve the outcome of treatment.

Professor Ted Kaptchuk, director of the Harvard-wide Program in Placebo Studies, says, “The placebo effect is more than positive thinking—believing a treatment or procedure will work. It is about creating a stronger connection between the mind and body and how they work together.”

How placebos work is still not fully understood. If the role of the functioning of mind is carefully studied and fully understood, creative healthcare solutions can be developed, and dependence on real medicines can be reduced.



## Roundtable Recommendations on Education for Creativity

The findings of the Roundtable were presented and discussed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Future Education in Rome on Nov 16-18, 2017.

### Active, student-centered learning:



V. Senthil

Creativity of mind occurs in an atmosphere of freedom, engagement and interaction. Activities in the classroom should be structured around the students, rather than subjects, giving them freedom to raise questions, voice their ideas and interact with one another in pursuit of knowledge. This will develop students'

capacity to see beyond what exists and open their minds to new ideas. An interactive classroom fosters active, experiential learning, whereas the current system of education encourages rote memorization and regurgitation of facts. Teaching strategies should develop and exercise the students' mental faculties for conceptualization, judgment, analysis, discrimination, organization, problem-solving, value-based decision-making, integration of knowledge and imagination. The focus should be on learning how to learn by learning about the validity of different ways of thinking and viewing reality.

### Understanding complexity, reconciling and integrating differences:

It is difficult for mind to perceive relations of cause and effect when the causes are complex. Creativity is needed to integrate knowledge of complex phenomena and to evolve effective solutions that embrace all contributing factors, avenues and opportunities. From early childhood, the emphasis should be to develop in the child an understanding of the complex interrelationships and interconnections that govern the way the world works and to look for underlying principles and factors that relate and unite things that appear unconnected, opposite or even contradictory.

### Seeing the whole picture in context:

The key to comprehending complexity is to view phenomena in context rather than merely understand them in abstraction. Specialization divides, focuses,

narrows and limits understanding to its individual component parts, fragmenting knowledge in the process and separating it from the contextual reality to which it applies. Discovering how to derive abstract generalizations from myriad diverse facts should be balanced by the capacity to apply abstract principles appropriately to fit the complexity of the real world, rather than reducing action to simplistic formulas. Transdisciplinary education helps us become aware of the limitations and traps of compartmentalized knowledge.

### Independent thinking:



Real creativity requires the capacity to question established beliefs, prevailing theories and conventional wisdom. Learning is a social activity which is too often constrained by the authority of those who teach and the social acceptance of that which has already been discovered. At its heart science is a process of endless discovery of greater knowledge, rather than a set of orthodox truths to be passed on and accepted religiously. Students should be encouraged to question, explore, challenge, debate and rediscover for themselves rather than to memorize, accept, repeat and regurgitate what they are taught. Students must develop the capacity to acquire skills that can be applied to many fields and be flexible. The ultimate aim of education is not transfer of knowledge but rather development of an independent mind and individual personality capable of making conscious value-judgments and acting on deeper convictions. Rather than merely a means to a job, education is the process of learning how to live successfully, happily and harmoniously as an individual and responsible contributor to the progress of society.



inner belief.

*Improvement of living conditions and human welfare is not limited by bounds or rules. Remarkable upsurge is carried out by individuals with firm vision and*

– Davor Bernardić  
President, Social Democratic Party, Croatia;  
Associate Fellow of WAAS



passionate about.

*It was a great occasion to exchange ideas and to make contacts with colleagues who are passionately engaged in researching questions I am also*

– Francis Brassard  
Associate Dean, Professor of Philosophy, Rochester  
Institute of Technology, Croatia



# Globalism vs Nationalism

## Global Challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



An International Conference on 'Globalism vs. Nationalism' was conducted in Podgorica on November 2-3, 2017, organized by Montenegrin Academy of Sciences & Arts (MASA), World Academy of Art & Science, European Academy of Sciences & Arts and the Global Round Table from Brussels. This is the sixth annual conference organized by MASA and WAAS in joint collaboration. Participants included 60 speakers from 23 countries.

Rapid strides in technology, communication, international trade, opening of borders and economically interdependent economies have been achieved since the end of the Cold War. However, the persistence of outdated nationalistic concepts and attitudes has resulted in increasing tensions and conflicts at the political and the cultural levels. Nationalism is a system that politically, socially and economically promotes the interests of a particular nation, which is the fundamental unit of human social life. Globalism and Nationalism has been a subject debated among learned scholars for years.

WAAS Trustee **Alexander Likhotal** argued that the process of globalisation is inevitable and irreversible.

The rise of populism and polarization that are undermining democracy today can be traced back to the disenfranchisement of the working and middle class who have lost faith in their economic future and succumb to populist leaders who blame globalization and foreigners for their problems.

**Garry Jacobs**, Chief Executive Officer of WAAS, attributed the decline in democracy to the assertion of neoliberal economic theory and policies that ignore the aspirations and welfare of the population at large. He called for reversal of the growing concentration of monetary and social power in a small elite minority as essential for the preservation and restoration of democracy.

Other presentations covered a wide range of problems including Sustainable Development through Open science and Innovation, Global Social Transformation, Time and Space in the social-cultural field of globalization, Extremism and Safety challenges, Globalization and national differences in Education, Competencies and Innovation, Geopolitics of Resistance, The Political Economy of Neoliberalism, Rule of Law, Social integration and ethno-cultural diversity, Integration and Multiculturalism, National identity...

## Publications



# Cadmus

*Promoting Leadership in Thought that Leads to Action*

### Contents of the recent Cadmus Issue – October 2017

#### WAAS-UN: A Special Consultative Status and its Inspirational Value

by **Donato Kiniger-Passigli**

#### Challenges are Opportunities for Korea & the World

by **Garry Jacobs**

#### The Ethics of Time in the Face of Global Challenges

by **Federico Mayor**

#### Transforming Education for a Transition into Human-centered Economy and Post-normal Times

by **Elif Çepni**

#### Building that Bridge over the Skills Gap

by **Janani Harish**

#### Social Democratic Constitutionalism, New Economic Theory, and the Dangers of Neoliberalism's Attacks on Rational Government Regulation

by **Winston P. Nagan & Craig Hammer**

#### Revisiting our Evolutionary Path: The Search for Holistic Education in a Fragmented World

by **Gerald Gutenschwager**

#### High-Level System Change: Protecting Business and Society

by **Frank Dixon**

#### Foresight's FOUR Frames

by **David Harries**

#### The Political Economy of Neoliberalism and Illiberal Democracy

by **Garry Jacobs**

#### Economy and Society: Strategies for a More Equal Distribution of Societal Power

by **Erich Hoedl**

#### Original Minds: Sri Aurobindo – Integral Scientist

by **Walton Stinson**

#### Human Attitudes that Prevent the Advance of Human Progress and Civilization

by **Ashok Natarajan**

#### Book Reviews – Global Systems Change: Six Linked Perspectives

by **Michael Marien**

## New Economic Theory meets the Mainstream



*From Left: Erich Hoedl, Rodolfo Fiorini, Davor Bernardić, Garry Jacobs & Winston Nagan*



The vast distance to be travelled by mainstream economic theory in order to address the social, political and ecological challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century was examined at an international scientific conference entitled 'Agenda 2030: Economics in a Changing World' at Umag, Croatia conducted in collaboration with Experimental Economic Lab (eXEL) and the Adriatic Economic Association. The conference brought together scholars from Europe and North America to discuss mainstream and alternative perspectives on issues related to unemployment, inequality, health, human welfare, and related issues. Participants debated the relevance of mainstream theory and models to real world problems and its reluctance to integrate conceptions and knowledge from other fields of social science.



Princeton University Professor **Alan B. Krueger**, who served as Chief Economic Adviser to US President Obama, delivered a keynote address. As a reminder that economics cannot be effectively separated

from wider issues of human welfare, Krueger presented data that suggest a possible causal relationship between the declining power of labor unions and living standards among the working class in USA with rising levels of opiate drug consumption that have recently been characterized as the 'opiate revolution'.

WAAS CEO **Garry Jacobs** presented an overview of the conclusions of the New Economic Theory Working Group on Human-Centered Economics and argued that the resurgence of neoliberal theory and policies after 1990 was a direct and principal cause for the observable deterioration of democratic institutions, polarization of politics and rise of populism in the US, UK, Turkey, Hungary and elsewhere.

**Winston Nagan**, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, WAAS, reinforced this perspective with observations on the relationship between social democratic constitutionalism, new economic theory and the dangers of neoliberalism's attack on rational government regulation.

**Erich Hoedl**, Fellow of WAAS, examined the relationship between economy and societal power and argued for strategies to foster a more equitable distribution of income and social power as essential conditions for preserving the gains of global development and social stability.

WAAS Fellow **Rodolfo Fiorini** examined the impact of the new economy on human well-being with emphasis on the anticipated consequences of the Fourth Industrial Revolution on employment and living standards and the increasing interconnectedness of the global network society.

WAAS and eXEL are exploring plans for on-going collaboration in future. WAAS Honorary President **Ivo Šlaus** is the chairman of eXEL and **Davor Bernardić** is the president of the Social Democratic Party of Croatia (SDP) and Leader of the Parliamentary Opposition in Croatia, an honorary member of eXEL and an Associate Fellow of WAAS.

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# WAAS Collaborates

*The Academy continues its open door, open network strategy of encouraging collaboration with a wide range of organizations thinking and working on parallel lines.*

## FUTURE OF UNIVERSITIES



The Intrepid research group on the future of universities and the role of inter- and transdisciplinary knowledge held two thought-provoking workshops at ITD Conference 2017: Transdisciplinary Research and Education held on September 11-15, 2017 at

Leuphana University, Lüneburg, Germany. WAAS Fellows **Garry Jacobs** and **Roberto Poli** were invited by Olivia Bina, who heads the Intrepid team, to deliver keynotes intended to stimulate discussion among this highly informed, creative group. It was encouraging to discover that the two-year old Intrepid project team is thinking and working along lines very similar to that of WAAS and WUC on the need to rethink the role of the university and formulate a new paradigm in higher education. WAAS and WUC are in discussion with Intrepid regarding opportunities for on-going collaboration.

## GLOBALISTICS 2017



The work of the Academy's New Economic Theory Working Group on economics, political economy and globalization was presented at a major international scientific congress in Moscow titled "Global Ecology and Sustainable Development" on September 27-29, 2017

organized by the Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow State Institute of International Relations, and the National Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Sciences. **Garry Jacobs** presented a paper on the political economy of neoliberalism and illiberal democracy.

## NEW PARADIGM IN EDUCATION

Ukraine has an opportunity to define and develop a new paradigm in higher education drawing on its highly education-prone young population as a human-capital intensive strategy for accelerated transition to a modern democratic market economy. This was the thrust of a special presentation by WAAS CEO Garry Jacobs to a committee of the Ukrainian Parliament. He argued that a radical shift in direction is needed to reorient education

from the existing information-intensive, standardized, mass production model now in force to one that shifts the focus to promoting the critical thinking, innovation, creativity, interpersonal and leadership skills the nation and the world urgently need to address the challenges of economic transition and those arising from the onslaught of the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution. Similar themes were also discussed at meetings organized by Aspen Institute of Ukraine, the Kiev International Economic Forum 2017, and the Bohdan Hawrylyshyn Family Foundation.



## VALUES IN BUSINESS: NEW ECONOMY, OLD TRADITIONS



Modern enterprise meets ancient religion. The Coller School of Management, University of Tel Aviv, and the European SPES Institute (Spirituality in Economics and Society) conducted a two day conference with the participation of business leaders, management experts and religious leaders chaired by WAAS Fellow **Yehuda Kahane** on September 4-6, 2017.

The conference brought together a diverse group from all over Europe to examine the social responsibility of business, the role of ethics and values in economy, and emerging ideas on creativity and conscious capitalism.

**Garry Jacobs** called for efforts to reunite the subjective and objective dimensions of human life by integrating human, economic and social welfare with psychological and spiritual well-being. He argued that rather than being mutually exclusive they represent two critical dimensions of life which can only continue to develop in harmony with one another. The exclusive preoccupation with financialization and shareholder value is a temporary distortion consequent to the demise of communism which threatens to undermine decades of real progress on economic security and human welfare. Advances in economic and management theory and practice are needed to reverse the lopsided approach that is undermining social welfare, human well-being and democratic governance.

### Editorial Staff

Vasugi Balaji, Latha Chandrasekaran, Janani Ramanathan, Ranjani Ravi, Vani Senthil and Ranganayaki Somaskandan



**U. Thant**

I feel that the present generation has a great responsibility to educate itself, not only to ensure its own survival, but the survival of mankind itself.

The primary task of the educationist is to dispel certain age-old assumptions. It seems to be assumed, for example, that there are no more than two sides

to a problem. As a matter of fact, almost every problem has more than two sides. It is also fallacious to paint human beliefs and human societies in terms of pure black and white. There are various shades in between. There are very few international issues today which can be settled on the basis of a clear-cut judgement that one side is right and the other is wrong. International problems have become so complicated, and so many different elements enter into them, that a simple clear-cut judgement in terms of black and white is no longer possible. I believe that the prime need today is this need for better understanding, especially the better understanding of the other man's problems and of his point of view. We live in an age of technological miracles. In a world which is thus shrinking, it is essential that the human mind must open out, and that we must realize that we all have a common interest in survival and that this interest binds us together. I believe that one of the major tasks of education in our changing times is to create in the young the willingness to tolerate differences of opinion and the desire to try to understand different points of view.

The main aim of education in the West is the development of the intellect. The massive progress of science and technology has tended to stress the intellectual rather than the moral and spiritual values. In Asia the traditional

aim of education is to impress on the young the importance of the mind rather than the body, and the importance of the spirit rather than the mind. Education thus becomes inward looking, and the aim of education is the discovery of one's self rather than the discovery of things external to us. Today I feel that both approaches are inadequate, and that it is not enough to stress in education either purely moral and spiritual or purely mental and intellectual values. Education cannot mean merely the development of our intellect or of all our potentialities. Nor can it mean mere preparation for life, but rather to make the world a better place to live in. Our educators should realize as clearly as possible what kind of potentialities they are to develop in students; what kind of life they are to educate young people for. The ideals and values which constitute the essential elements of culture must first be clearly understood and appreciated. What we therefore need is a synthesis of these values—spiritual and moral as well as intellectual—with the aim of producing a fully integrated human being who is inward looking as well as outward looking, who searches his own mind in order that his nobler self may prevail at all times, and at the same time recognizes his obligations to his fellow men and the world around him; because while the world is shrinking, humanity is multiplying, and each of us has to recognize his essential kinship to every other member of the human race.

— **U. Thant**, Secretary-General of the United Nations "Education in our Changing Times," in Conflict Resolution and World Education, Ed. **Stuard Mudd**, 1967



**S. Mudd**

## Upcoming Event

### Meeting on Charter of Human Responsibilities at WEF

"Creating a shared future in a fractured world"—the theme of this year's World Economic Forum—can be met if we develop models for cooperation that are not based on narrow interests but on the destiny of humanity as a whole.

In honour of **Bohdan Hawrylyshyn**, a WAAS Trustee who developed the Charter of Human Obligations, a panel discussion will be held in Davos to encourage global leaders to question how co-design, co-creation and collaboration can be realized if they commit to a values-based approach and a shared Charter of Human Responsibilities.

A values-based approach to business needs to be defined and a Charter of Human Responsibilities needs to be drafted and adopted in order to meet the global agenda of good governance, improving multilateral processes, and achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr. Hawrylyshyn's Charter of Human Obligations was ratified by the WAAS Board of Directors in 2014 and presented by WAAS Junior Fellow **Alexandra Telychko** at the Human Rights Almaty Conference in November 2014 and will be part of the discussion in Davos.

The panel discussion is being hosted by Ukraine House and organized and moderated by **Kadie Ward**, Founder of Build Strong Cities, and Senior Governance Advisor to international development programs financed by the Canadian Government. The panel will be held on Friday January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 between 11 AM and 12 PM at Ukraine House, Khreschatyk vul. 2, Kiev 01001, Ukraine.

WAAS Fellows are invited to join and contribute to a global discussion of good governance, improving multilateral processes, facilitating public-private collaboration.



# Book Listing

## History of Peace in the West by *Miguel Bosé and David Fernández Puyana*

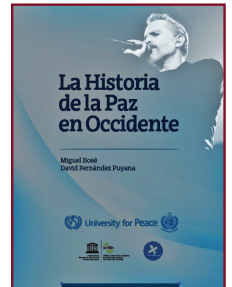


On 19 December 2016, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the Declaration on the Right to Peace, which is the result of three intense sessions of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Peace of the Human Rights Council led by Ambassador Christian Guillermet with the legal support of **Dr. David Fernández Puyana**, Associate Fellow of WAAS. The Declaration on the Right to Peace is the first declarative instrument on peace adopted by the UN General Assembly in the New Millennium. In addition, this text has become an important milestone in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as it contains a clearly victim-oriented approach of armed conflicts by declaring the following:

“Everyone has the right to enjoy peace such that all human rights are promoted and protected, and development is fully realized”.

On the first anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Right to Peace, the United Nations mandated University for Peace and the UNESCO Chair on Peace, Solidarity and Intercultural Dialogue of the Abat Oliba University CEU, with the support of the foundation for Peace without Borders, released the book “History of Peace in the West”.

This publication aims to make a historical peace journey from the Ancient Greece and Rome to the modern times, through the living testimony of some well-known thinkers, artists and philosophers. In this way, this book promotes a broader exchange of knowledge and a better understanding of the cultural heritage of our humankind.



The Declaration on the Right to Peace finds its roots in the Hittite–Egyptian Treaty, which marked the end of the long war between the two empires for the control of Syria in 1276 BC. The treaty, whose bronze replica is located at the entrance of the United Nations Security Council, contains more than 20 principles and obligations for both parties, including an emerging right to peace, by declaring that “... the country of Egypt and Hatti live forever in peace and fraternity”.

The book was released by Peace without Borders and University for Peace (UPEACE). [Click here](#) for further information and free access to these publications.

[Click here](#) to watch the videos of the 2017 Rome Conference in the WAAS website

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