

Call for Papers

6th International INASTE-Congress:

Chances and Challenges of Global Education

April 21-23, 2027
Vienna

The 21st century is marked by various crises and challenges that can only be addressed and overcome on a global scale. Global thinking and globally conscientious action is becoming increasingly important. This poses new challenges for the field of education. The 6th INASTE Congress will explore these challenges and examine and discuss global and universal educational tasks and approaches from different perspectives.

As an internationally widespread educational approach, Waldorf education sees itself as a global pedagogy and is therefore challenged to continually ask itself whether and how its concepts and practices can be universally applied – and where these need to be individualized in dialogue with local, regional, and cultural influences, and become enriched through dialogue with other scientifically founded educational approaches.

Philosophical perspectives on global education:

What conceptual foundations can a “global pedagogy” be based upon? Which epistemological, anthropological, philosophical, and ethical approaches and perspectives are relevant and helpful?

How can global crises (climate crisis, loss of democracy, wealth gap, etc.) be reflected upon and addressed from the perspective of educational philosophy?

Which anthropological and dynamic-development concepts can rightly be considered universal, and which are contingent upon particular circumstances? What impact do current debates on universalism and relativism have on education?

Social perspectives on global education:

What social, economic, and technological changes and differences is global education increasingly confronted with in the 21st century? How can this be empirically measured?

How can education contribute to overcoming social inequalities and injustices? What specific challenges arise in different contexts? What influence does the political rise of authoritarian tendencies have on schools and education? How does a global perspective change the role and self-image of educators?

Ethical perspectives on global education:

How can the ecological crises of our time be addressed pedagogically? What changes are necessary in education in light of the climate and environmental crisis? How can sustainability become the goal and content of pedagogical action?

What challenges does the cultural and religious diversity of modern societies pose for education? What influence do colonial structures still have in the field of education and how can they be overcome?

Didactic perspectives on global education:

What (new) didactic and methodological approaches does a global pedagogy that recognizes the current ecological and social crises call for? What specific approaches and practical examples can be inspiring in this regard?

How can intercultural and interreligious understanding be achieved in the classroom? How can education for ecological sustainability be realized? How can global responsibility be developed? What is multidimensional peace education?

Information:

Short lectures (approx. 20 minutes) can be held in the context of working groups on the perspectives outlined above, followed by discussion.

Lectures can be carried out either in German or in English.

Submissions for lectures can be sent before September 27, 2026, to congress@inaste.net.

Abstracts should present content, goal, and methods of the planned lecture, taking account of the theoretical and/or empirical background of the research presented. The maximum length is 400 words. The selection of contributions is the exclusive responsibility of the organizational committee.

Location:

The Congress will be held on the premises of the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna (Favoritenstrasse 15a, 1040 Vienna), and the Zentrum für Kultur und Pädagogik (Tilgnerstraße 3, 1040 Vienna).

Congress Committee:

- Prof. Dr. Carlo Willmann (Chairman), Alanus Hochschule für Kunst und Gesellschaft:
Zentrum für Kultur und Pädagogik, Austria
- Prof. Dr. Leonhard Weiss (Chairman), Alanus Hochschule für Kunst und Gesellschaft:
Zentrum für Kultur und Pädagogik, Austria
- Paul Hougham, Bath Spa University, England
- Prof. Dr. Peter Lutzker, Freie Hochschule Stuttgart, Germany
- Dr. Ida Oberman, Community School for Creative Education, Oakland, CA, USA
- Prof. Dr. Jost Schieren, Alanus Hochschule für Kunst und Gesellschaft, Germany



Organized by:

Zentrum für Kultur und Pädagogik, Affiliate of Alanus University for Arts and Social Sciences, on behalf of: **INASTE**, International Network of Academic Steiner Teacher Education

The following institutions are currently members of the INASTE network:

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