



THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE
PHILOSOPHY OF
EDITH STEIN

*Call for Papers
and
Provisional Programme
for the next
IASPES Conference
Vienna, 23 – 25 October 2014*

‘The created spirit [embraces] itself in knowledge, bliss and self-acceptance.’

Edith Stein’s challenge to contemporary anthropology

International Conference

The Faculty of Catholic Theology, University of Vienna,
the Edith Stein Society of Austria
and the Philosophical and Theological Institute Benedict XVI,
Heiligenkreuz (EUPHRat)

in collaboration with IASPES and ESGD

23-25 October 2015 in Vienna and Heiligenkreuz



Call for Papers

It is difficult to bring contemporary anthropology under one heading. A malleable identity seems to have become the motto of a many-gendered culture, in which the total projection of oneself has gained currency as a utopian ideal.

Many contemplate the proximate integration of nano-computers into the human body in order that we might be programmed at will. Such new technologies entail that the border between self-construction and external manipulation has become blurred. More than ever, therefore, we need a meaningful engagement with the question: **‘What is the human being?’**

This question was thought through by the philosopher Edith Stein (1891 Breslau – 1942 Auschwitz). Existence reveals itself ascending towards an ever fuller realisation of itself: from the non-living to the living, over plant and animal to the being who disposes of freedom and self-consciousness: the human being. This still more living, still freer and still more open existence is not without value: there is nothing in Creation without value. Being itself is already meaningful. It is still more meaningful in its relation to the human and spiritual self-consciousness that opens itself to it. The human being does not give things their value subsequent to their being: they themselves communicate their fullness of value to it. In human reason the light of creation is lit as beauty, truth and goodness. From there the human being can accede to the creative origin, to the original light. This is Edith Stein’s answer to the auto-construction of an “I”, which regards its own existence only as a play on a meaningless stage.

‘[Love] is entirely turned towards God, but the created spirit embraces also itself in knowledge, bliss and self-acceptance. The surrender to God is at the same time surrender to one’s own self as loved by God and to the whole of creation.’

Proposals (theme and ½ page abstracts) should be sent to
hanna-barbara.gerl-falkovitz@tu-dresden.de
or mette.lebech@nuim.ie
by **1 May 2015**.

Provisional Programme of the Conference

Friday, 23 October 2015:

Morning:	Gathering of the international participants, collection from Wien-Schwechat Airport
13.00 -15.30	Visit to Vienna
16.00	Opening of the Conference at the University of Vienna Greeting by the Dean of the Theological Faculty Opening words from ESGO, ESGD, IASPES, EUPHrat
16.30 -18.00	Young researchers (ca. 6 talks of 15 min) or workshops
19.00	Keynote Paper open to the public: NN
20.30	Agape with bread and wine
21.30	Transfer to the Cistercian Abbey, Heiligenkreuz

Saturday, 24 October 2015:

7.30	Mass
8.15	Breakfast
9.00	Greetings by the Abbott Dr. Maximilian Heim, OCist. Greetings by the Rector of the Benedict XVI College, Prof. Dr. Karl Wallner, OCist.
9.30	Presentation of Papers
12.00	Sext / None Liturgy
12.30	Lunch
14.30	Presentation of Papers
18.00	Vesper Liturgy
18.30	Supper
19.30	Keynote Paper

Sunday, 25 October 2015:

9.00	Mass
10.30	NN
11.30	Final Words
12.00	Sext / None Liturgy
12.30	Lunch and end of the Conference
15.00	IASPES General Assembly
19.30	Meeting of the Academic Advisory Board to the CWES

*In principle ETCS can be accorded for students.
Catering for breaks through Heiligenkreuz Klostergasthof.*