

A Spiritual-scientific Work of Art Comes About

Three Conferences

The Constitution of the (General) Anthroposophical Society

3rd. Conference: What Might Arise? February 23–25, 2024

To the third conference:

After we looked back at the founding of the Anthroposophical Society in the first conference and looked at its development since then in the second conference, we want to focus on the pressing questions today in this third conference:

- How can Rudolf Steiner's founding and forming impulse be adequately understood, implemented and further developed today?
- How can a meaningful constitution arise from Society, School of Spiritual Science and our legal–economic responsibilities?
- What kind of society does the Anthroposophical Movement need and do we all need today – and what kind of society are future generations looking for?
- How can a space for the meaningful development of these future impulses be created within the Anthroposophical Society right now?
- What does our time demand?

On behalf of the preparatory team, I would like to warmly invite you to a joint, open and trusting reflection and discussion about these questions.

Gerald Häfner

About this series of conferences:

At Christmas 2023, the Anthroposophical Society entered its second century.

To facilitate self-knowledge and further development as a society, as well as in preparing our next steps, it is necessary to transform what has so far been neglected and unresolved. In this way, the path into the future may become unencumbered and powerful. This applies above all to the tragic events surrounding the constitution of the Anthroposophical Society, which continue to have an impact to the present day.

At Christmas 1923/24, Rudolf Steiner re-founded the Anthroposophical Society. Through his preparation and guidance, a unique process of incarnation took place, which transformed the spiritual as well as the earthly (social) world in a hitherto unknown way.

This is the foundation on which we stand today as members of the Anthroposophical Society. That is our common understanding. But the reality is different. During the Christmas conference, Rudolf Steiner pointed out that the constitution had not yet been completed. In particular, his attempts to "form the appropriate relationship with the Association of the Goetheanum" (the so-called Bauverein; GA 260, p. 110), were not fully completed during his lifetime.

The decisions taken after his death to implement this appropriate relationship resulted in the Society founded at Christmas 1923 being absorbed by the (legal) body of the former Association of the Goetheanum from 1925 onwards, within which it continued to live henceforth. The statutes passed at the Christmas conference together with Rudolf Steiner were thus replaced by the Goetheanum Association statutes. The sad history of subsequent general meetings expresses this unresolved situation year after year. And what does this mean for today's Anthroposophical Society? How can we comprehend such a wound – and how can we heal it?

The open working group on the constitution question, initiated by the Section for Social Sciences under the auspices of the board of the General Anthroposophical Society (AAG) and the Anthroposophical Society in Germany (AGiD), has largely completed the work it began in 2019. In its report are documented the events that have been suppressed for such a long time.

Now we invite all members interested in an earnest striving for knowledge to an open, common exchange: What does this outcome mean for our society – today and tomorrow? How can we come to terms with what

happened? How might it be healed? And how can we, commensurate with Rudolf Steiner's original intentions, make our society fit for the future from a spiritual, legal and economic point of view?

Gerald Häfner

Key questions for the conference and discussion on 23rd-to 25th of February:

- 1) What kind of society was intended?
Plenum, bring things together
(Type, extract essential elements from previous work and the Christmas Conference foundation itself)
- 2) What kind of society does the world need?
Work in groups, then gathering outcomes
(Requirements of our time. What is its task and contribution from the perspective of the world? What makes the AG attractive? What role can/should it fulfil?)
- 3) What kind of society does Anthroposophy need today?
- 4) How can the cultivation of the spiritual and soul life within the AG, together with an interest for the awakening to the soul and spirit of others be increased?
- 5) How could the overall concept of the School of Spiritual Science, of the Society, the administration of the society and the Goetheanum, as well as our responsibility for the associated institutions and property, be resolved in an appropriate and contemporary manner?

Programme

Link to watch the livestream in English (in-person meeting is in German!):

<https://goetheanum-ch.zoom.us/j/84699625260?pwd=T0xVXVBxYVN1eCt1VlFCangyUDY5QT09>

23 February 2024 Hall of the Schreinerei, Goetheanum

- 6.00–7.00 pm: Welcome and orientation (livestream)
- 7.00–8.30 pm: Looking at what has been achieved so far: "What was intended and what has come about?"
Contribution and plenum discussion (livestream)

24 February 2024 Schreinerei, Goetheanum

- 9.00–10.30 am: What kind of society does the world need?
Start as a plenum, then work in small groups
- 10.30–11.00 am: Coffee break
- 11.00–12.30 am: What kind of society does anthroposophy need today?
Start as a plenum, then work in small groups
- 12.30–2.30 pm: Lunch
- 2.30–4.00 pm: What kind of society does the world need today?
What inner constitution does the Anthroposophical Society need?
Reports from the groups, creating an image in the plenum.
Which of the ideas touched me? What ideas am I missing?
- 4.00–4.30 pm: Coffee break
- 4.30–6.00 pm: How could the overall concept of the School of Spiritual Science, Society, administration and Goetheanum building look?
Contribution followed by discussion (livestream)
- 6.00–7.30 pm: Dinner

7.30–9.00 pm: Forging ideas in the plenum: what guiding principles do we perceive?
What can we give it along its way? (livestream)

25 February 2024 Schreinerei, Goetheanum

9.00–10.30 pm: From the past forwards – The path from the Association of the Goetheanum to the Anthroposophical Society
Where are the obstacles? Are there legal or other hurdles? What difficulties should we keep in mind?

10.30–11.00 pm: Coffee break

11.00–12.15 pm: Further procedures and next steps
Plenary discussion (livestream)

12.15–1.00 pm: Closing and vision for the future (livestream)

Application and tickets: www.goetheanum.ch/de/veranstaltungen

Contributions by:

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