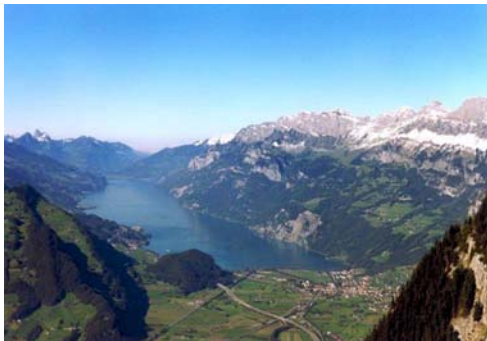


Organisers of the International Peace Seminar:

- ◆ International Academy
for Human Sciences and Culture
- ◆ Institute of Psychology for Peace Research
and Peace Education
- ◆ Psychology Research and Counselling Institute
for Sexuality, Marriage and the Family

in cooperation with the following institutions and organisations:

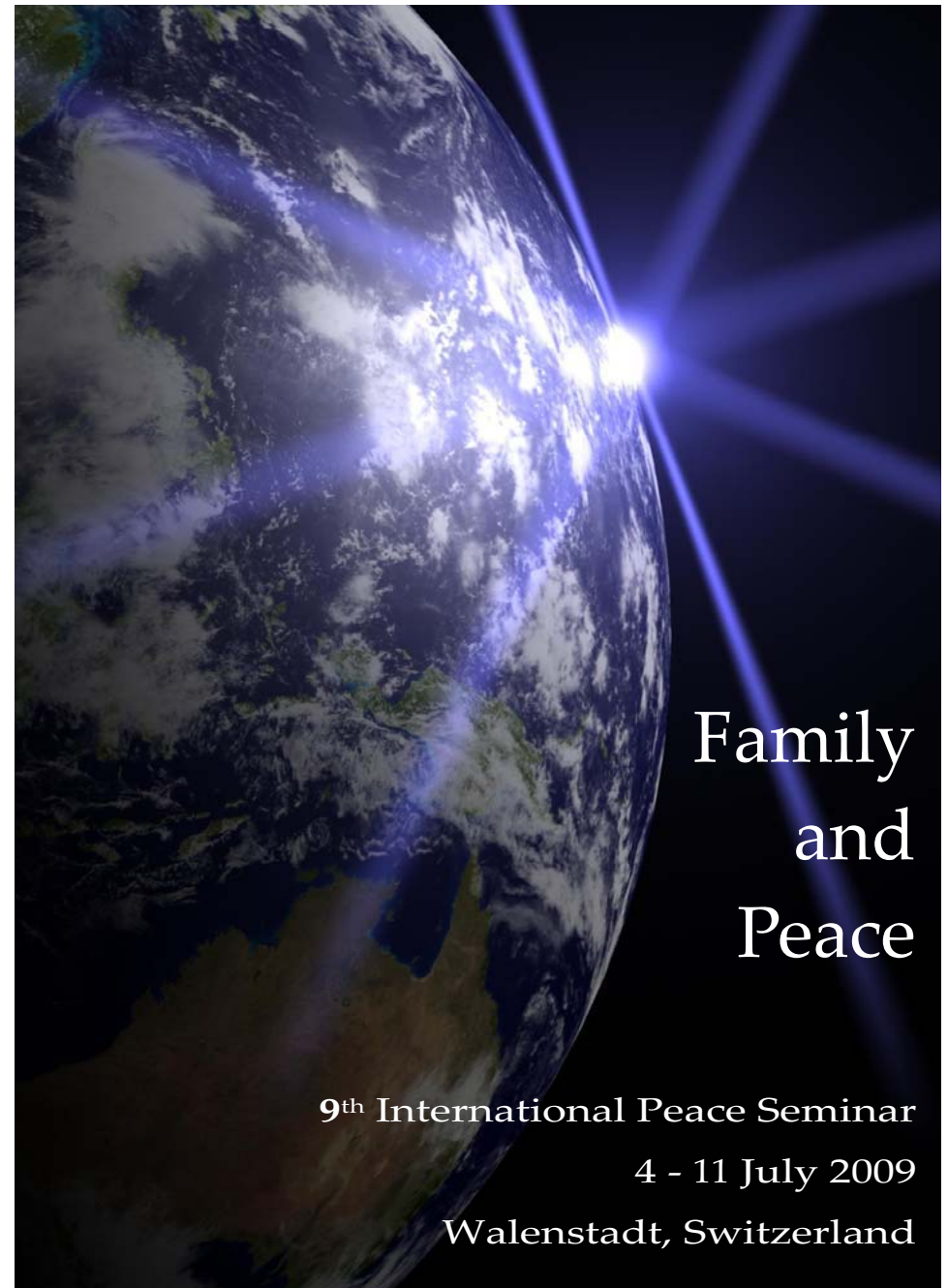
- ◆ Center for Heritage Resource Studies
and Center for International Development
and Conflict Management at the University of Maryland, USA
- ◆ Support Association for the International Academy
for Human Sciences and Culture
in Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein
- ◆ International Association for Parent Training
and Professionally Trained Parent Councils
in Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein



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www.peace-academy-society.org/international_seminar.htm



Family and Peace

Fifteen years after the International Year of the Family the subject has in no way lost its relevance and it is now more than ever necessary to take a careful look at *Family and Peace*.

The United Nations has always viewed the family as the nucleus of society and has devoted efforts to its protection and progress. A United Nations publication from 2005 states: *“With the proclamation of 1994 as the International Year of the Family under the motto, ‘Family—Resources and Responsibility in a Changing World’, the General Assembly aided the introduction of the theme of the family into an international development dialogue. As a result governments developed national plans of action for the family, set up family ministries and strengthened their family laws.”* Furthermore the two most important goals of the United Nations Family Program were specified as giving the family stronger emphasis in integrated development policy and its programs, and the successful commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at all levels. Likewise, the United Nations has committed itself to implementing the worldwide commemoration of the 15th of May as the annual International Day of the Family.

In spite of these efforts the global trend in which the family is troubled and weakened could not be stopped. The situation is even more dramatic than before. A growing divorce rate, increasing mother-child separation, a rise in the number of single parent families, an increasing loss of fundamental social values, the weakening of family bonds and family solidarity all contribute to a general destabilisation. Worldwide migration trends coupled with a worldwide lack of solidarity, poverty and hunger, natural catastrophes and the Aids-pandemic have produced a lasting impact on the family, as the United Nations reports. The results are appalling.

Children not only grow up without role models, but also without reliable human values. The fulfilment of essential social responsibilities by the family such as the socialisation of children, imparting a sense of security and meaning in life, and the care of the young and elderly members of the family is clearly endangered.

The general lack of true relationships, an inability to bond, and addictive behaviour are epidemic. Increasingly people waive human friendship and closeness, or view themselves as incapable of

this, and try to fill the resulting vacuum with material goods, addictive drugs, television, internet, etc. Clearly people are increasingly disillusioned with people. In this general atmosphere of unconnectedness egotism and self-centeredness abound.

In 2004, ten years after the International Year of the Family, the United Nations declared: *“The family has a continuing and crucial role in social and human development as well as in provision of care and support of individuals. Strong family bonds have always been part of most societies, and families in most places continue to make important contributions to social and economic well-being. Indeed, families have major, albeit often untapped potential to contribute to national development and to the achievement of major objectives of every society and of the United Nations, including the eradication of poverty and the creation of just, stable and secure societies. ... With increasing social and economic change, globalization and pressures from HIV/AIDS, migration and urbanization, families have faced increasing pressures and family structures have experienced changes. The tendency has been to have smaller families with fewer children, with a weakening of extended family relationships based on mutual obligation and shared responsibility. These changes have sometimes led to social problems as families have become less able—or willing—to provide for the needs of all their members.”*

It is a fact that the family both mirrors social reality and creates it. According to research findings of the International Academy for Human Sciences and Culture, the family must be regarded as the primary place for peace education and preventive education. It is here that basic attitudes of a child are formed, character qualities are developed and behaviour patterns are learned. Therefore, a lasting peace in the world without peace in the family is not possible.

The International Peace Seminar 2009 is devoted to this important subject and to investigating among other things the answers to the two vital questions:

- ◆ How can we counter the negative developments and tendencies that weaken the family?
- ◆ How can we fortify families and develop them into effective schools for peace?

Speakers

Professor Suheil Bushrui

Professor Suheil Bushrui is a distinguished author, poet, critic, translator and media personality, well known in the United States, Europe, and the Arab world. Widely recognized for his seminal studies in English of the works of W. B. Yeats and for his translations of Yeats' poetry into Arabic, Professor Bushrui is also the foremost authority on the works of Kahlil Gibran. In his capacity as an eminent Gibran scholar and as Chairman of the International Association for the Study of the Life and Works of Kahlil Gibran, Professor Bushrui actively works with a network of researchers and enthusiasts located throughout the world, including Asia, Africa, North America, and Europe. At present, Professor Bushrui—who also holds the title of Research Professor Emeritus—is the Director of the Kahlil Gibran Chair for Values and Peace in the Center for Heritage Resource Studies at the University of Maryland. The Chair is the first academic forum in the world devoted to the preservation of Gibran's legacy and the promotion of East-West intercultural relations.

Dr. Ursula Germann-Müller

Dr. Ursula Germann-Müller grew up in St. Gallen and completed the Latin Grammar School. After acquiring her teacher's certificate and training in therapeutic pedagogy she taught for two years at a school for children with special needs. Afterwards she studied psychology at the University of Geneva and majored in developmental psychology under Jean Piaget. At the University of Zurich she studied education, philosophy, psychology, German language and literature. She earned her doctoral degree with a dissertation on therapeutic pedagogy. During a later sabbatical at Stanford University Dr. Germann did research on depression and aggression.

Dr. Germann had a significant responsibility in establishing and developing the Teachers Seminar at the Cantonal Grammar School in Sargans in the Swiss Canton of St. Gallen where she was its director for many years and taught psychology in the formation and further education of teachers and therapeutic teachers. She is a member of several cantonal and national administrative bodies concerned with school development, education research and education policy. She has contributed to the subjects of psychology and education in a number of publications. Her book *Mutter! Mittlerin zwischen deinem Kind und der Welt! (Mother! Intermediary between Your Child and the World!)*, which was published in the Year of Pestalozzi, stands out as a scholarly and sensitive study of Heinrich Pestalozzi's mother image.

Dr. Germann has a psychotherapy practice in Sargans. She is married and has two sons. In her many valued activities she strives to give voice to humaneness and compassion.

The Hon. Balz Manhart

The Hon. Balz Manhart is the Mayor of Quarten, a lovely community on Lake Walensee in the Canton of St. Gallen, Switzerland and geographically one of the largest communities of St. Gallen. He is a distinguished and respected public figure and was the Cantonal Representative of his home region for many years. In 1997/1998 he served as the President of the Cantonal Parliament. Balz Manhart is actively involved in furthering the quality of life and development in the area. He is well known for his efficiency, for his personal leadership, as well as for his commitment to community well-being. Balz Manhart is married and has three grown daughters.

Dr. Gerhard Müller

Dr. Gerhard Müller is a professor of physics at the University of Rhode Island, in Kingston, USA. He was born in Switzerland and studied physics at the University of Basel, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1980. Prof. Müller did postdoctoral research work at the Institute for Theoretical Physics of the State University of New York at Stony Brook for two years before he joined the faculty at the University of Rhode Island. Prof. Müller has published over a hundred research articles and one book in the areas of magnetism, statistical mechanics, and quantum chaos. He has presented numerous papers at international conferences and held talks at universities and research laboratories in North America, Europe and Asia. Prof. Müller served as Chairman of the URI Physics Department for three years. For some fourteen years Prof. Müller and his wife, Christine Müller, a pianist and music teacher, were hosts, editors, and producers of a weekly radio interview show, "Many People—One Planet", on WRIU Kingston 30.3FM. Prof. Müller's website can be found at www.phys.uri.edu/people/muller.html.

Professor Vladimír Smékal

Vladimír Smékal is a professor of psychology at Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. He was born in Czechoslovakia and studied psychology at the University of Brno, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1967. Between 1964 and 1969 Prof. Smékal worked two years at the Child Guidance Clinic and four years at the Research Institute of Child Psychology and Patopsychology, where he led the Department for Psychodiagnostics. Between 1980 and 1985 he did postdoctoral research at the Department of Psychology at the University of Brno. From the 1st of January 1990 he served as the elected Chairman of the Institute of Psychology at Masaryk University. In 1997 he participated in founding the new School for Social Studies at Masaryk University, where he was Director of the Research Center for Personality Development and Ethnicity. The Center is mainly oriented to the longitudinal study of children (ELSPAC-European Longitudinal Study of Pregnancy and Childhood). Professor Smékal is still working at the Center teaching Personality Psychology and Psychology of Religion. He has published almost 300 articles (most of them based on the analysis of research data) and was editor of four monographic collective studies. Professor Smékal has

published an important book entitled “Invitation to Personality Psychology—Man in the Mirror of Consciousness and Behaviour”, and two popular books, “About Human Natur—Short Essays about Mind and Spiritual Culture of Personality” and “Do You Know How to Live”. Professor Smékal is an adherent of Viktor Frankl’s logotherapy. He often lectures at national and international conferences in Italy, the United Kingdom, Russia, etc. and is a frequent speaker on radio and television.

The Hon. Dr. Rolf Widmer

The Hon. Dr. Rolf Widmer is a State Councillor of the Canton of Glarus, Switzerland and Director of the Department of Finances and Health. He studied economics at the University of St. Gallen with several semesters abroad at the University of California and Oxford University. In 1999 he received his PhD and subsequently founded the SWC SA, a consulting enterprise that specialised in administration, social insurance and empiricism. He is a lecturer in economics at the University of St. Gallen, President of the communal branch of the Swiss Christian Peoples Party and a board member of the Glarus Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Widmer is among the most popular politicians in his canton, especially because of his commitment to honesty, reliability, integrity and mutual respect. He is married and father of a son.

Dr. Assad Ghaemmaghani

Dr. Assad Ghaemmaghani is the founder and director of the International Academy for Human Sciences and Culture in Walenstadt, Switzerland, which incorporates the Institute of Psychology for Peace Research and Peace Education and the Psychology Counselling and Research Institute for Sexuality, Marriage and the Family. He studied psychology and education and received the doctoral degree at the University of Zurich. His dissertation, which he wrote under Professor Konrad Widmer, was titled *A Holistic Model for Drug Therapy and Preventive Education*. The study was based on six years of research on addiction and received the mention: “Based on wide practical experience and presented with emphatic educational and therapeutic ability”. Assad Ghaemmaghani is a psychotherapist and training analyst. He is also the founder of a new therapeutic and educational concept of psychology, the Psychology of the Capacity to Know and to Love, which he has developed in over twenty years of research and therapeutic practice.

Catherine Ghaemmaghani

Catherine Ghaemmaghani has helped to found and develop the International Academy for Human Sciences and Culture. She manages the administrative organisation and plays an essential role in the programme development. She enjoys creating educational material for the Academy and expressing the theory of the Psychology of the Capacity to Know and to Love through different art mediums, often in cooperation with her children. Catherine Ghaemmaghani has a strong interest in furthering intercultural understanding and peace education. She is the mother of three grown children.

About the International Academy for Human Sciences and Culture



The logo of the Academy depicts the earth globe held aloft within an all encompassing protecting heart, which, through the vision and hope of a child is hoisted into the skies. It symbolizes the reality of the world as one in body and spirit. The meridians represent a connective net of relationships which embrace the globe.

The vision of the Academy is that this reality may be raised in the interests of the children of the world, that they may live, learn and develop in a secure environment of peace.

The aspiration of the Academy is to promote the ability to think with love and to love with intelligence, to relate to others sincerely, and to contribute to a society that is just and humane.

The Goals The Academy represents the principle of the unity in diversity of mankind and advocates interdisciplinary, intercultural and interreligious cooperation. It is politically neutral and independent. The Theory of the Psychology of the Capacity to Know and to Love, which has been studied and developed at the Academy since 1988, is based on a well-defined model of the soul and the knowledge that man is a being of infinite positive potential, subject to education and training. Main activities of the Academy and its twin institutes are:

- Counselling and Therapy
- Further Education
- Psychological Management Consulting
- Training Analysis, Coaching, Supervision and Practice Guidance
- Research
- Projects and Interorganisational Cooperation



Family and Peace



	Saturday 4 July 09	Sunday 5 July 09	Monday 6 July 09	Tuesday 7 July 09	Wednesday 8 July 09	Thursday 9 July 09	Friday 10 July 09	Intercultural Summer Celebration
09:45 – 12:00	Arrival	Cosmos and Ethos — In Search of Outer and Inner Compass Professor Gerhard Müller	The Family in Literature and Art Professor Suheil Bushrui	Couple Therapy Contributions to Fulfilled Relationships Dr. Assad Ghaemmaghani	free morning	free morning	The Family as the Concept of Divine Love Professor Suheil Bushrui	
	13:15 - 14:00 Registration	Lunch Break			12:00 - 14:00			
14:00 - 16:30	Welcoming Address The Hon. Balz Manhart Mayor of Quarten	The Father in the Family Professor Suheil Bushrui	Unconscious Motives — Unrecognised Pitfalls on the Path to Peace Catherine and Assad Ghaemmaghani	Nobility of Spirit Professor Gerhard Müller	The Family and Laying the Foundation of Justice, Unity and Peace Professor Suheil Bushrui	free afternoon	Family and Peace — Reflections and Facts from a Political Point of View Dr. Rolf Widmer State Councillor of the Canton of Glarus	
19:00- 20:30	The Mother in the Family Professor Suheil Bushrui	The Right Choice of Partner as an Essential Contribution to Peace Dr. Assad Ghaemmaghani	Cosmos and Ethos — In Search of Outer and Inner Compass Professor Gerhard Müller	Forming Civic Maturity in the Family Professor Vladimir Smékal	Couple Therapy Contributions to Fulfilled Relationships Dr. Assad Ghaemmaghani	20:30 - 21:30 Sad and Discouraged Children and Youth — On Helpful Ways of Dealing with Negative Feelings Dr. Ursula Germann	Closing Words Professor Suheil Bushrui, Professor Gerhard Müller and Dr. Assad Ghaemmaghani	

Saturday, 11 July 2009
14:00 - 18:00

*Patron Committee of the International Academy
for Human Sciences and Culture*

The Hon. Arnold Bühler

Former Mayor of Walenstadt
President of the Vocational and Further Education Centre of Sargans, Switzerland

The Hon. Eugen David

Member of the Council of States of Switzerland
Dr. iur., Attorney at Law

The Hon. Armin Eugster

Cantonal Representative, St. Gallen, Switzerland
lic. iur., Attorney at Law

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lic. iur., Attorney at Law

Peter Kaiser

lic. iur., LL.M., Attorney at Law

Yolanda Kappeler

Scientific Associate at the Federal Department of Justice
lic. iur, HSG, Jurist

The Hon. Balz Manhart

Mayor of Quarten
Former President of the Cantonal Parliament of St. Gallen, Switzerland

The Hon. François Rieder

Judge of the Cantonal Court of Bern, Switzerland
lic. iur., Attorney at Law

The Hon. Paul Widmer

Former Mayor of Bilten, Switzerland
Accountant/Controller

The Hon. Rolf Widmer

State Councillor of the Canton of Glarus, Switzerland
Director of the Department of Finance and Health
Dr. oec. HSG, Economist

Registration:

For registration please fill out the enclosed form and return it to the Academy secretariat at International Academy for Human Sciences and Culture, Stadweg 3, Postfach 57, 8880 Walenstadt, Switzerland . For online registration please see: www.peace-academy-society.org/registration.htm

Seminar Fee:

Full Seminar:

Per person: CHF 580.- / Students, Support Society members and retirees: CHF 480.-

Individual Sessions:

Per person: CHF 50.- / Students, Support Society members and retirees: CHF 40.-

Remittance must be paid in advance to the following bank for definite registration.

UBS AG SARGANS, Switzerland, Account No.: 208-934468.M1N;

Swift code: UBSWCHZH80A, IBAN: CH9200208208934468M1N

Made payable to: International Academy for Human Sciences and Culture, Stadweg 3, Postfach 57, 8880 Walenstadt, Switzerland

Accommodation:

Hotels in the village of Walenstadt are listed below. Prices are subject to change and reservations should be made directly with the respective hotel. For information about bed and breakfast please visit our website at:

www.peace-academy-society.org/accommodation.htm .

Hotel Seehof *** Tel +41 (0)81 735 12 45, www.seehof-walenstadt.ch

- Single/double room with breakfast: CHF 85.- / CHF 150.-
- Three bed room: CHF 190.-
- Half/full board from three days on: + CHF 30.- / + CHF 50.-

Hotel Post Tel +41 (0)81 735 12 28, www.hotelpost-walenstadt.ch

- Single/double room with breakfast: CHF 70.- / CHF 120.-
- Half/full board from three days on: + CHF 20.- / + CHF 40.-

Hotel Churfürsten *** Tel +41 (0)81 736 44 44, www.hotelchurfürsten.ch

- Single/double room with breakfast: CHF 80.- / CHF 140.-
- Three/four bed room with breakfast: CHF 160.- / CHF 180.-
- Half/full board from three days on: + CHF 25.- / + CHF 40.-

Hotel Löwen Tel +41 (0)81 735 11 80

- Single/double room with breakfast: per person: CHF 42.- / CHF 52.-

Hotel Krone Tel +41 (0)81 735 11 70, www.krone-walenstadt.ch

- Single/double room with breakfast: CHF 38.-
- Half/full board from three days on: + CHF 19.- / + CHF 36.-

Camping at the lake: www.see-camping.ch

- Tel +41 (0)81 735 12 12/+41 (0)81 735 18 96, Fax: +41 (0)81 735 18 41