



Media Release 02/06

**The 3rd WSF World Spirit Forum has commenced
120 participants have gathered to initiate a global project**

The 4 day conference of the WSF World Spirit Forum has gotten off to a promising start on Sunday, January 22nd in Arosa with participants from more than 40 countries. Most of the foreign guests arrived in the morning aboard the historical Orient Express from Zurich, where the headquarters of the WSF is located.

Zurich, January 23rd, 2006 – The 3rd WSF World Spirit Forum is being held from January 22nd through 25th in Arosa, Switzerland prior to the WEF World Economic Forum in Davos. Time and place have been intentionally chosen so as to complement the WEF in Consciousness, Entirety and Sustainability.

The collective project of this years' WSF Forum is the initiation of a **World Parliament of Spirituality**, which will be created by all the participants in an open working process and end with the signing of the **"Arosa Declaration"** on the last day of the conference.

The beginning of this global project was marked by a 20-minute flag ceremony after which a timetable for mutual activities for the 4 work groups was revealed. In the spirit of the the WSF motto: "Collaboration in Consciousness", the **World Wisdom Council**, initiated by the **Club of Budapest**, youth leaders form the **World Spirit Youth Council** and delegates from spiritually oriented organizations will work together with individuals from business and society until Wednesday in creating the **"Arosa Declaration"**.

Sesto Giovanni Castagnoli, president and initiator of the WSF on the implication of this years Forum for the further development of the WSF: "In its third year the WSF is in the process of setting further stones for a stable foundation based on a creative and flexible network and a strong. cooperative and integral platform for its sustainable future".

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The following contains some background information:

WSF World Spirit Forum

The annual World Congress WSF World Spirit Forum is a neutral platform for visions, projects and concrete solutions for a healthy overall system for our planet earth and the universe. Thereby, WSF is committed to consciousness, holistic and sustainability. Visionaries and pragmatists from the fields of sociology, economics, politics, science and religion are active in a growing cooperative and integral network.

Venue

The WSF shall take place for the 2nd time from January 22nd thru 25th 2006 in Arosa, Switzerland and for the 1st time in the Tschuggen Grand Hotel: www.tschuggen.ch.

Why Arosa?

A place of reflection and consciousness. Switzerland has a long tradition of humanitarian help and neutrality and offers a chance to eliminate polarization – a challenge to go in new directions. Its proximity to Davos has symbolic character. It is an ongoing aim of the WSF to enrich the WEF World Economic Forum (and other forums) with elements of consciousness, sustainability and a sense of total responsibility. And nonetheless: Arosa is just a beautiful place! www.arosa.ch.

Motto of the Forum:

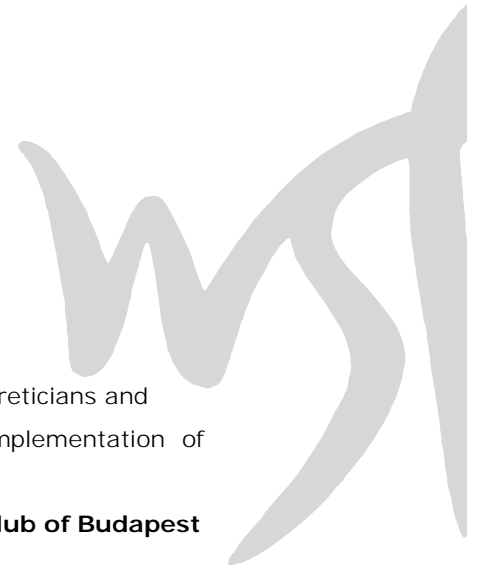
Collaboration in Consciousness

Definition of Consciousness:

“Consciousness is a process of expanding personal and universal awareness and allows people to understand multiple layers of relationship within themselves, to others and in the natural world” (excerpt from „Conscious Education“, Dagaz Press, Vermont USA. The co-author of this book, Nina Lynn Meyerhof, Ed.D. is vice president of the WSF World Spirit Forum)

Philosophy:

Consciousness and the activation of the creative energy embedded in each human being in going in new directions has become an essential instrument of survival. Not only for Philosophies and Religions but increasingly also for organizations, institutions and the general public. The WSF World Spirit Forum is committed to consciousness, holistic and sustainability.

**Participants:**

The WSF World Spirit Forum offers a platform for encounters between theoreticians and practitioners for the exchange of visions and experiences in planning and implementation of projects and programs. There are 4 groups of participants:

- Members of the **World Wisdom Council** (WWC) initiated by the **Club of Budapest**
- Youth leaders from the **World Spirit Youth Council** (WSYC)
- Delegates from spiritually oriented **Organizations**
- Individuals from business and society

Information and Newsletter:

www.worldspiritforum.org

Cultural Projects from the WSF World Spirit Forum:

Within the scope of the WSF World Spirit Forum as of 2006 there will be a cultural project not only to document the processes emanating from the forum but to interpret and enrich them with own and individual comments.

WSF Culture Project 2006:

Sven Nieder, photographer from Bielefeld, Germany will kick off the WSF Culture Project. Together with his camera "Obscura" Nieder walked the "The pilgrim's Road to Santiago" and captured his impressions in a fascinating picture documentary. The young photographer has developed a photo concept especially for the World Spirit Forum which is flexible enough to allow integration into the processes taking place in Arosa and permits an exciting documentation of the results emanating there from.

<http://sven-nieder.de>

World Spirit Youth Council:

In January 2005 15 youth leaders met during the 2nd World Spirit Forum in Arosa. They came from all corners of the earth to enhance the future of Spirituality. They unanimously agreed that there is a strong demand for a youth movement which has discovered and lives in inner peace and that realizes that only the change within manifests itself in exterior peace. It is this issue that has resulted in the formation of the World Spirit Youth Council.

www.worldspirityouthcouncil.org