World Goetheanum Forum 2024

Working for freedom and the common good Bringing a new life into the economy 100 years after the first World Power Conference

WORLD GOETHEANUM FORUM 19.-21. September

A cooperation between the Youth Section at the Goetheanum and the World Goetheanum Association





«The key to unlocking the forces still dormant in matter lies in the human heart. If man wills the good, then the storms of national and international quarrels will calm down, and the order of the starry heavens will once again find its reflection on earth." Daniel Nicol Dunlop; Basel, 30 August 1926, Address at the World Power Conference (Thomas Meyer, D. N. Dunlop. Ein Zeit- und Lebensbild, Dornach 1987, p. 262).

"What will the middle of the 21st Century be like if thinking is not enlivened and the seeds of voluntary cooperation that are very plainly in sight, are not tended?"

(Nathaniel Williams, Youth Section at the Goetheanum, CH)

"Today, we know more than ever how crucial a transformation of the economy is for a social and ecological balance on earth. It depends on each and every one of us if we want to make a difference and change something, and also on our growing ability to co-operate with each other. "

(Andrea Valdinoci, World Goetheanum Association, CH)



"... a marvellous forum... " (Burkhard Hellermann-Heinz, CH)

"I had encounters with the elder generation, where they were open and interested in what we young people thought...And for me it's important to know that we, together are taking the task of doing something about the current state of world economy and society. "

(Ani Jibgashvili, Youth Society Parzival, GE)



"Thank you very much for arranging such a splendid conference.... I particularly enjoyed the contribution from the Youth Section; this was a very creative idea that worked very well... The lectures regarding Daniel Dunlop were outstanding..."





"'The key to the world's happiness lies not in a return to the standard of living of a previous decade, but in our ability to learn from one another and to act in such a way that trust can be built from person to person.' (D.N. Dunlop) This trust is also trust in the good will that man can reveal and that is only born from an authentic freedom. "

(Salvatore Lavecchia, University of Udine, IT)

Key Takeaways

Decommodifying Land

Understanding how we treat land/planet. Imagining what we want to achieve and then make sure there exist things to support that vision (like legal forms, etc.) not vice versa.

We can learn from the examples of Community Land Trusts; even going back to the way indigenous people treated land.

The goal is not to "scale up" a single model or organization but to awaken and broaden a new consciousness in relation to land in all communities around the world, one that is entirely inconsistent with the idea of private ownership.

Rethinking Ownership, Power and Capital

A great value lies in the process: in order to understand property and ones relationship to property where stewardship might not be the structure you seek but the process you need.

First the purpose then the structure, means also clarifying preconditions, important to pay attention to the details to align among cofounders.

The how is very individual.

Nuturing pluralist economies - How can we cultivate the diversity we need for a sustainable economy?

Freedom in intellectual life must exist so that a plural economy can also be taught. Development of the concept of association. When I associate, my freedom grows. More translation between threefolding concepts and academic language is needed.

True Price:

Experiences and Insights with special focus on agriculture

What is needed: natural capital economy -> connects ecosystem services; Exchange economy must end -> true price -> go public! => this is the key question! Restructure the possessing's of land, companies, etc. -> discuss ownership; Establish Demeter brand outside of DACH-region! Study QR Codes to see what the certifications mean.

Network with companies that share their values. The true costs can lead out of exchange economy -> shape economy!

Liberated Gift Money

Liberating Gift Money: Creating consciousness for the potential of real free gifts, as base for the future. Building the bridge to create the change and transforming globally, community level as well inner work is necessary.

From lighthouse to movement

How to finance the change we need? Listening to the future: Transforming the existing or creating the new. Transition: out of pain or love? Freedom in the awakening. Adapting the language for the other.

Bring youth and the older generation together. Starting small, then upscaling.



We thank all those who contributed to this conference; the co-creation of this Forum between the World Goetheanum Association and the Youthsection of the Goetheanum turned out to be a real intergenerational happening which led to insights, new encounters and in all a glance of beauty!

