
Письмо генерального секретаря Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP)
Dr. L.M.Scarantino

(Message en français envoyé séparément.)

To all Member societies, associations, and institutes of FISP.



Dear Colleagues,
I hope this message finds you well...

As you know, the 24th World Congress of Philosophy is rapidly approaching. The Executive Committee held its second meeting last week in Beijing, PR China, and I am pleased to share some relevant academic, logistic, and administrative information with you. 1. **Participation.** As of today, our colleagues in Beijing have recorded the following figures: 5,549 individual registrations; 3,129 submitted papers, plus 917 student papers; 2,800 participants having already paid the registration fees. The Executive Committee of the Congress has also approved 110 roundtables, submitted by individual scholars as well as academic institutions, as well as 65 invited sessions endorsed by members of the Steering committee of FISP. At this stage, international participation is very satisfactory, covering a large majority of overall registrations. 2. **Society sessions.** Besides the aforementioned figures, it is most significant that over 90 Society sessions have been requested and approved so far. Over the last months, I have been in touch with most of our constituency in order to answer specific queries and provide relevant information and assistance. In consideration of the unprecedented level of interest in the Congress, Prof. Dermot Moran, the President of FISP, and I agreed that further requests for Society sessions of FISP members should still be accepted; hence, please feel free to contact me at your best convenience for any particular query, assistance, or information you might need in relation to the participation of your society, association, or institute in the Congress. 3. **Main sessions.** The opening ceremony of the Congress will take place in the morning of Monday, August 13th at the Great Hall of the People on Tienanmen square. All plenary sessions, symposia, and endowed lectures, as well as the closing ceremony, will be organized at the Olympic Games stadium on Peking University campus. All information will soon be posted on the website of the Congress. 4. **Assembly and elections.** May I remind you that the General assembly of FISP will take place on Thursday, Aug 16 in the main room of the Yingue Overseas Exchange Center of Peking University. Detailed maps of the campus will be provided in the registration bag at the beginning of the Congress. May I now ask you to consider the following items in particular: Delegates. All member societies, associations, and institutes of FISP are kindly invited to designate their delegate(s) to the Assembly. May I kindly ask you to use the attached form, taking into account that the number of voting delegates of each member depends on the particular membership status of your society, association, or institute; Agenda. By mid-June, a draft agenda of the Assembly will be circulated among FISP constituency. Please feel free to contact me at your best convenience for any particular suggestion or proposal you might wish to be discussed during the Assembly. I will be glad to take them into consideration in preparing the agenda. In advance, many thanks for your contribution; Renewal of the Steering Committee. As usual, the Assembly shall elect a new Steering committee. Following our tradition, and by decision of the current Committee, all re-eligible CD members who have attended at least one CD meeting since January 2014 were nominated for a new term. May I encourage all of our constituency to nominate prominent scholars for the next term of the Steering Committee. In particular, increased

disciplinary, cultural, geographic, and gender diversity would be welcome in the composition of the CD. Further nominations, as well as endorsements for re-eligible members of the Steering Committee, can be submitted on behalf of any member society, association, or institute of FISP. A simple letter or e-mail message will suffice; it should be accompanied or followed by brief blurbs of the candidates, along with a statement expressing their views about the future of FISP and their envisaged contribution to it: please fit both texts within one page, or 2,500 characters altogether, to ensure equal standing to all candidates and to not overload the documents that will be circulated among the delegates. Please note that nominations should be sent to me, preferably by e-mail, by Sunday, July 15 at the latest. For any particular query or clarification, feel free to write to me or to Prof. Moran, the President of FISP — or to both; Presidency. The Assembly shall also elect a new President. Alike for Steering Committee, nominations and/or endorsements can be sent to me by a simple letter or e-mail message. For the sake of transparency, I should mention here that, following suggestions voiced during the last meetings of Steering Committee and in order to ensure an institutional continuity, I have myself accepted to be a candidate for the next Presidency. WCP 2023. A presentation of the invitations for the 25th World Congress of Philosophy will take place during the Assembly. As of today, three bids have been received or officially announced — one from the Australasian Association of Philosophy, one from the Academia Brasileira de Filosofia, and one from the Philosophical Association of Japan. You will receive all relevant information and details about these invitations, as well as about any additional ones, as soon as they will be made available. 5. **Travel, visas and insurance.** Air China. The Chinese organizing committee has signed an agreement with Air China to provide international flights into China at a reduced fare. Were you interested in using this offer, please consult the website of the Congress (wcp2018.pku.edu.cn/yw/index.htm) for information about details and steps to follow. Visas. Our colleagues have informed us that they have now received the final agreement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to issue invitation letters. They will rapidly start sending out invitations to all participants who would need them. Please note that participants booking their own travel and accommodation may be entitled to apply for tourist visas, especially if you travel with a partner or are planning to overstay the duration of the Congress. Travel and health insurance. An on-campus medical service will be available during the Congress. It is nonetheless recommended that all participants subscribe to a health insurance before traveling to China, as generally advisable when traveling abroad. 6. **Food and beverages.** Several food courts and restaurants will be available on campus during the Congress. Specific vegetarian and vegan menus will be available, along with menus specific to different religious requirements. Please note that alcohol consumption and smoking are not allowed on PKU campus. * **Dear Colleagues,** I hope this set of information is of some help to you. This Congress is exceeding all previous gatherings in size as well as, we hope, in scholarly interest and academic achievements. You may find additional information on the website of the Congress. In any case, please feel free to write to me at any time and for any particular need, query, or information. I will be pleased to assist you in view of your participation in the Congress. **With my warmest regards as ever, Luca** — Prof. Dr. Luca M. Scarantino Chair of the Executive Committee 24th World Congress of Philosophy Beijing, Aug 13-20, 2018 Secretary-general of FISP General Editor, Diogenes Libera Università di Lingue e Comunicazione — IULM Via Carlo Bo 1 — I-20143 Milano