

Methodologies for Inclusive Social Development Working Towards Awareness – Feeling – Action

Dear Colleagues

We would like to warmly invite you to this year's annual conference of the International Training Circle from April 23-26, 2025, at the [Anthroposophical Center](#) in Kassel, Germany. This is the first time that we will be meeting as a working group of the new Section for Inclusive Social Development!

With this year's program, we will be embarking on a three-year cycle of work that builds on the [ERASMUS+ project Peer2Peer-CET](#), which we completed from 2021-2023, and on last year's meeting in Buenos Aires, which launched us into a new phase of Training Circle work. For this coming three-year cycle, we have set ourselves the following goals:

- Deepen our methodical-didactic work, by sharing good practice in the form of **three-year Peer-to-Peer Professional Development Seminars**. The Seminars that have resulted from our call for contributions are described below, and you will be able to register as you sign up for this year's conference (see the green strand in the program).
- Develop a common **Reference Framework** for training curriculum in our field, which will serve as a resource for instructional design and curriculum development, as well as an articulation of shared principles for our peer-review recognition process. We will begin this process by gathering input on the Competencies that we see as the foundations for professional practice in supportive education and inclusive social development (see the blue strand in the program).
- Continue to work with the theme of **Inclusive Practices in Professional Education**, which we opened last year in Buenos Aires. We will hear contributions towards this exploration in the orange strand of the program.
- Strengthen our own network practices and infrastructure, including by introducing an **Online Networking and LMS Platform** for collaboration, networking and sharing resources. We will introduce and launch this collaboration platform during the purple strand of the program, together with other network and organizational updates.

Since we no longer have the support of an ERASMUS+ grant, as we did from 2021-2023, we are working with the same solidarity-based funding model as prior to 2021. That means: There is a **standard conference fee of EUR 450 (or CHF 450)**, which will cover the expenses for the conference facilities and technology, all meals during the conference, and German-English interpretation and will allow us to offer some solidarity-based support to participants from economically weaker situations. You are also warmly invited to offer an additional solidarity contribution, if you can do so! If you are unable to pay the standard fee, you may choose the **reduced fee of EUR 350 (or CHF 350)**.

If you require **financial assistance**, you may also indicate this on the form and submit a request. Please note that our capacity to offer financial support is very limited. Therefore, we ask that you only request the level of funding absolutely required to permit you to participate. We cannot guarantee funding, so please do not make any travel arrangements that cannot be canceled and refunded, until you have received confirmation from us!

If you need a letter of invitation to apply for a Schengen visa, you may also request this in the registration form. Please additionally follow up with Karin Gaiser (inclusivesocial@goetheanum.ch) as soon as you have submitted your registration.

Please submit your registration by February 28, 2025, to help us in our planning, and receive priority consideration for financial assistance if needed! (The final deadline for registration is April 7, 2025.)

REGISTRATION FORM: <https://forms.gle/Bm2nenHrgaLQCSAw9>

Payments may be made via any of the payment options available on this page: <https://inclusivesocial.org/en/impressum-kontakt/>

On the registration form, you will also be able to indicate whether you have a brief report from your training center, initiative or region that you would like to share during the Friday evening session. As always, reports will need to be brief (usually a max. of 5 minutes), but visuals are welcome! We will be in touch with more details once we know how many contributions are lined up.

We look forward to our time together in Kassel!

Warm greetings

Jan Göschel for the Training Council: Annette Pichler (outgoing), Christoph Rosenkranz, Ralf Giese, Rim Mouawad, Vera Simakova, Elizabeth Sanders

Getting there and booking accommodation: The Anthroposophic Center is a 5min walk from **Kassel-Wilhelmshöhe Train Station**. There are frequent train connections to and from Frankfurt Airport. Stay at any hotel, Airbnb or guest house near the train station.

Projected Future Dates

- Training Circle Conference 2026: tentatively scheduled for Georgia, approx. 29 April – 2 May 2026 (place and dates to be confirmed)
- Training Circle Conference 2027: 28 April – 1 May 2027 in Kassel, Germany

(Dates and locations are still subject to change.)

Webpage of the International Training Circle: <https://inclusivesocial.org/en/project/professional-education/>

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Time (CET)	Wednesday, April 23	Thursday, April 24	Friday, April 25	Saturday, April 26
9:00-9:30		Musical opening (VS)	Musical opening (VS)	Musical opening (VS)
9:30-10:30		World Café (RM & ES facilitate) Introducing the Reference Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying Competencies - Clustering 	Lecture [Practical approaches to inclusive prof. education] Sonja Zausch & Daniela Steinel (RG facilitates)	Some format: Demonstrations of competencies, images, exercises from working groups (CR & JG facilitate)
10:30-11:00		Break	Break	Break
11:00-12:30		Curriculum Reference Framework Working process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continued 	Curriculum Reference Framework Fishbowl Professional Conversation Competencies	Concluding conversation Review, preview & closing (RM facilitates)
	Registration from 14:00 (RG)	Lunch	Lunch	
14:30-16:00	Welcome (RG) Opening presentations: Inclusive transformation & 3 Horizons [working title] (ES & JG)	Methodological seminars II	Methodological seminars III	
16:00-16:30	Break	Break	Break	
16:30-18:00	Methodological seminars I (CR & JG facilitate)	Training Council report (JG agenda) Recognition processes (BK)	Training Council future ways of working, intro to platform (JG agenda)	
18:00-19:00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
19:00-20:30	Open for individual arrangements	International folk dancing (RG)	Reports from centers and initiatives (RG)	

3-Year Peer-to-Peer Professional Development Seminars:

Methods and Tools to Develop Competencies in Awareness, Feelings and Action for Inclusive Social Development

This year's Methodological Workshops will lead into a three-year cycle of work, which includes the annual conferences of the International Training Circle in April/May of 2025, 2026 and 2027. Each of them is designed as the first module of a continuous three-year professional development seminar. Each seminar consists of a series of three Methodological Workshops at these three successive annual conferences. Each seminar will also include some low intensity additional remote/virtual engagement with the group of participants in the two intervening years (between the 2025 and 2026 conference, and between the 2026 and 2027 conference).

The seminars add to participants' practical toolkits as professional/adult educators by teaching a concrete educational method, didactic approach and/or instructional design for a topic that is relevant to professional training in our field of work. The tools and methods introduced during the seminar are aimed at building competencies for work in inclusive social development.

When completing your registration, **please select a first and second choice** for a Seminar that you want to commit to for the coming three-year cycle of annual conferences. Of course, we are aware that there will be some degree of discontinuity, but our intention is to form stable cohorts for each Seminar, to work on learning and deepening skills with each other throughout this sequence of annual conferences.

The following 3-Year Professional Development Seminars have been offered:

Seminar 1: **Intervening in Life – Ethical Perspectives on Professional Action in Supportive Education and Social Therapy** (Volker Thon & colleagues – Languages: DE & EN)

This seminar will examine ethical perspectives on professional action in supportive education and social therapy against the backdrop of different cultural assumptions and starting points.

Objectives

- Participants expand their knowledge of how trainees can be sensitized to aspects of the exercise of power and empowered to exercise freedom in responsibility against the background of ethical guiding principles.
- The participants provide each other with ideas, methods and concepts, which are then summarized as a collection of materials.

Seminar 2: Being a Dancer Between Polarities
(Leticia Santagata & Doris Unger – Languages: EN & ES)

To reach the center, we need to experience polar processes. We want to experience the polarities of the earth and the cosmos, and those that are described to us in the Curative education course of RS. There we learn to read phenomena at their extremes, and in that way, we can experience the point and the circle.

Through art, movement and group dynamics, we will “dance between polarities”.

Objectives

- Ability to be receptive to the outside world, and at the same time to listen to oneself.
- Willingness to experience different emotions, sensations, and be able to sense and record them.
- Be able to express oneself in an artistic/corporal way and in group work.
- Ability to make personal talent available in the social sphere.
- Availability for contemplative work.
- Ability to intertwine theoretical and practical learning through dialogue and reflection.

Seminar 3: Inclusive practices in crisis management Education: A Participatory Journey
(Rim Mouawad, Samar Boulos, Sandra Rouhana – Language: EN)

This three-year workshop series focuses on inclusive education in crisis management, blending theory, practical skills, and artistic therapies. Participants will develop and implement trauma-informed strategies, progressing from foundational understanding to sustainable practices. The program fosters empathy, creativity, and resilience, equipping participants to address crises and integrate effective interventions into their work

Objectives

- Equip participants with foundational knowledge and practical skills in inclusive education and crisis management to address physical, emotional, and spiritual dimensions of crises.
- Foster the ability to observe, intervene, and adapt effectively in crisis scenarios, while cultivating empathy and trauma-informed practices through artistic therapies and structured routines.
- Empower participants to develop, implement, and sustain impactful strategies for crisis recovery, evaluate their effectiveness, and integrate findings into broader organizational practices

Seminar 4: Introduction to and deepening of the work with perceptual vignettes.

(Ulrike Barth – Languages: DE & EN)

In an introductory course I present (again) the methodology and work with perceptual vignettes. Various research projects by students and the participatory project by Charlotte Henning will play an important role.

Objectives

- Use and reflection of perceptual vignettes.
- A particular focus could also be the question of its use in diagnosis: That could also be a joint project for the group!

Seminar 5: Methods of Inclusion, Participation and Empowerment in Organizations and in the Local Community

(Sonja Zausch & Daniela Steinel – Languages: DE & EN)

How can we develop inclusive ways of working in our organizations? In our associations?

How can inclusion and participation be initiated through the empowerment of people with support needs in the wider social context? In the local community, town or village? And how can it become sustainable long-term?

The workshop is based on the methods and experiences of the colleagues from Anthropoi Bundesverband Deutschland in relation to the projects and formats that have been implemented over the past five years. We share our methods of participatory, inclusive work and develop new ideas for inclusive, anthroposophical social services together.

Objectives

- Participants will gain courage to develop methods and ideas for the implementation of inclusive formats in their own contexts.

Seminar 6: Experiencing the Hidden Mysteries of Platonic Solids as a Path of Self-Observation

(Igor Shelike & Aida Moldokmatova – Languages: RU & DE)

We will experience the characteristics of the Platonic solids and their relationships to one another by creating them step by step out of straws and observing our own actions.

Objectives

- Finding access to a lived experience of geometry and of one's own thinking – for everyone, disabled or not!

Seminar 7: Using Folk Fairy Tales as a Means for Understanding Human Development and Problems of Development
(Zinaida Levina & Yulia Zulina – Languages: EN & RU)

Specially chosen fairy tales can give an image of development, of its structure and problems in human beings. This way of presenting the study material is exciting, touching deeply everyone's souls and inspires personal research in students. It also makes the study of human development inclusive, allowing people with support needs to participate.

Objectives

- Better understanding of some themes in developmental psychology.
- Expanded possibility to understand challenges of persons with disabilities, and to discover ways to support.

Seminar 8: Fostering Self-Awareness and Community Awareness through Dance Lessons
(Zaruhi Manukian – Languages: EN & RU)

The seminar will include practicing different kinds of dances (using Armenian dances as examples), observing them and discussing their effects. The results of the seminar may be presented at the end of the training.

Objectives

- Dancing movement as a way to develop competencies in self-awareness and community awareness for professionals
- Use dancing as a tool for further practicing of these competencies with others (beneficiaries or team members).