

## **World Philosophy Day 2006 16 November 2006**

### **Events organized in the world**

#### 1. Bangladesh

World Philosophy Day in Bangladesh was marked with two articles published by Golam Dastagir, Philosophy Professor at Jahangirnagar University. One was published on 16 November in the English-language daily *The Daily Star*, on the topic “Why Philosophy Today” (<http://www.thedailystar.net/2006/11/16/d61116020532.htm>), and a second one, entitled “World Philosophy Day: Its relevance to Society”, was published on 17 November 2006 in *The Independent*.

#### 2. Benin

##### □ *Benin Society of Philosophy*

The Benin Society of Philosophy celebrated this fifth World Philosophy Day on the theme “*Philosophy and Pedagogic Innovations*”, with events took place on 25 November 2006 in Cotonou. In front of a diverse audience composed of civil servants from the Ministry in charge of education, representatives of associations, philosophy teachers and professors, philosophy inspectors, students, journalists and others interested in philosophy, this celebration was composed of an opening ceremony, lectures followed by discussions, as well as a closing ceremony.

During the opening ceremony, welcome speeches were made by the President of the Benin Society of Philosophy, the representative of the Minister of Higher Education and Professional Training, Dean of the Faculty of Letters, Arts and Human Sciences (FLASH) of the University of Abomey Calavi, Mr Mamoudou Igue, and by the representative of the Minister of Primary and Secondary teaching and President of the Benin National Commission for UNESCO, the Deputy Director of the Cabinet, Mr Chabi Ganni Orou Wianso.

Participants could also attend three public lectures. The first, given by Professor Mansourou Moudachirou, Director of the Benin Centre for Scientific and Technical Research (CBRST), focused on “Scientific research in Benin: State of the art and perspectives”. The second lecturer, Professor Vincent Ayena, spoke on the topic « Meaning and responsibility of the philosophy teaching of in Benin today”. The last lecture, on the topic “Philosophy and instruction through competence”, was jointly presented by Professors Zachari Amidou and Francis Maxime Okounde.

A resolution for the introduction of philosophy in the written baccalaureate exam for the scientific and technical branches (session of June 2007) was adopted on the occasion of the closing ceremony of this celebration of World philosophy Day.

#### 3. Belgium

##### □ *Communauté française de Belgique*

The Community organized a debate on the Palestinian question and its impact on the Israeli economy.

##### □ *VEFO (Flemish Network for Contemporary Philosophy Education)*

The Network organized on 18 November 2006 in Antwerp, a philosophical meeting on the topic "Philosophizing = Creating Chances".

□ *Centre for Peace Research and Strategic Studies at University of Leuven and UNESCO Flemish Commission*

The Centre marked World Philosophy Day on 16 November 2006 by organizing a lunchtime seminar by Dr. M C Patricia Morales on “Tolerance, Intellectual and Moral Solidarity, and Peace”, which took place at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Leuven.

4. Bolivia

□ *Nueva Acrópolis – Bolivia*

The association organized activities to promote the importance of philosophy in Santa Cruz and La Paz.

5. Brazil

□ *Associação Paulista de Medicina – Indaiatuba section and the Municipality of Indaiatuba*

An event was organized on 17 November in Indaiatuba (Sao Paulo) by the Association, a union of teachers in private institutions, and by the Municipality of Indaiatuba, for the celebration of World Philosophy Day.

6. Burundi

□ *UNESCO Bujumbura*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

7. Cameroon

□ *Cercle Camerounais de Philosophie (CERCAPHI), Ambassade de France au Cameroun et UNESCO Yaoundé*

In the framework of celebrations of World Philosophy Day, a Conference was organized on the occasion of the promotion of the publication « *Philosophes du Cameroun* ». The Conference was the result of a cooperation between the Cameroon Circle of Philosophy (CERCAPHI), the French Embassy in Cameroon and the UNESCO Office in Yaoundé.

8. Canada

□ *Philosophical Society, University College of Saint-Boniface, Winnipeg*

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day, the Philosophical Society organized its Second Congress, which took place at the University of Winnipeg.

□ *UNESCO Chair in Philosophy (University of Quebec in Montreal), Canadian Chair of Research in Quebec and Canada Studies and Hector-Fabre Chair in History of Quebec*

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day 2006, the UNESCO Chair in Philosophy in collaboration with the Canada Chair of Research in Quebec and Canada Studies and the Hector-Fabre Chair in History of Quebec, organized on 15 November 2006 the 7th CREQC Symposium on the topic “History facing cultural diversity: new forms of cosmopolitanism?”, with sessions on “Cosmopolitanism, cultural diversity and post-nationalism”, “Writing history today”, “A teaching program on: History and education to citizenship» and « Time, memory and democracy».

New publications were presented in conclusion of the Day’s events, including: Frédéric Bastien, *Le poids de la coopération: le rapport France-Québec* (Quebec America); Stéphane Paquin in collaboration with Louise Beaudoin, *Histoire des relations internationales du Québec* (VLB); Josiane Boulad-Ayoub and Paule-Monique Vernes, *La Révolution cartésienne* (PUL); and the first publications of the Verbatim collection (PUL).

□ *Philosophy Department, Cegep of Lévis-Lauzon*

On 16 November, on the occasion of World Philosophy Day, the Philosophy Department of Cegep in Lévis-Lauzon organized several round tables and lectures around the issue of dialogue, and more specifically on the following topics: "Will the globalization of communications cause the disappearance of cultural differences?"; "Does communication through Internet dehumanize dialogue?"; "Job opportunities for philosophy students"; "Can dialogue regulate all conflicts?"; and "Dialogue: thinking with the Other". A musical show was also organized on this occasion.

9. Central African Republic

□ *Central African Philosophy Association*

In the Central African Republic World Philosophy Day was inaugurated on 16 November 2006 by a message from the Minister of National Education. The 17 November, a series of radio and TV debates took place on the topic "Philosophy and the culture of peace".

10. China

□ *Shandong University, Jinan*

The celebration of World Philosophy Day 2006 at Shandong University consisted in the following events:

1. A brief introductory lecture by Professor Nader N. Chokr on the theme "*Clash of Civilizations and Respect for Cultural Diversity*", followed by a round of discussions involving faculty members, students, as well as distinguished guests. These focused essentially on three lines of questioning: (a) Clash of Civilization vs. Inter-Cultural Dialogue: Underlying Logics?; How (Not) to Conceive of Cultural Diversity?; Respect for the Other(s)?; and were followed by a pointed criticism of the underlying and explicit philosophical message of the UNESCO itself on these questions.

2. A brief lecture by Professor Kurt Torrell, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Marywood University (Pennsylvania, USA), on the topic "*The End of Final Causes, Metaphysical Dead-ends, and the Rise of Modern Science*". His presentation was followed by a wide-ranging discussion on metaphysics, religion, science, and philosophy.

3. An informal, open discussion entitled "*Face-to-Face with Philosophers*".

11. Columbia

Events were organized in Barranquilla on the topic "Philosophy, Marginality and Development in Barranquilla", including conferences, an inter-collegiate forum and a young artists' exhibition.

12. Congo – Brazzaville

□ *UNESCO Brazzaville*

Activities to celebrate the Day were organized on 16 November 2006, at the University Marien Ngouabi in Brazzaville.

13. Ethiopia

□ *Department of Philosophy, Addis Ababa University*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

□ *UNESCO Addis Ababa*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

14. Fiji

□ *Fiji National Commission for UNESCO*

Activities were organized on 3 October 2006, involving twenty schools from the Suva-Nasouri area.

15. Finland

□ *AIIPh Baltic Sea net, Finnish UNESCO ASPnet, Finnish Association for Teachers of Philosophy and Philosophy of life, Societas Philosophica Fennica*

The associations cited above organized on the occasion of World Philosophy Day a philosophical essay event for secondary school students in countries around the Baltic Sea. In Finland the essay event also functioned as a selection for the Philosophy Olympics in 2007. The most philosophically illuminating papers were awarded with material from the field of philosophy and world heritage. The names of the awarded participants were announced on Philosophy Day, and the best essays have been published on the Internet on the following addresses: [www.unescokoulu.fi](http://www.unescokoulu.fi) and [www.feto.fi](http://www.feto.fi).

2. France

□ *Cercle philosophique réunionnais (CPR)*

On the occasion of the Day, the CPR published a communiqué in order to spread the information for the celebration of World Philosophy Day 2006.

16. Germany

□ *German department of the UNESCO Chair in Philosophy (Paris), Bremen University*

On 1<sup>st</sup> December on the occasion of the World Philosophy Day 2006, an event on “Human dignity as basis for fundamental and human rights” took place at the House of Sciences in Bremen. The invited participants presented and exchanged with the audience on the following topics: “...A value without price - Foundations on human dignity in the history of philosophy: Kant and Fichte” (Professor Georg Mohr, Bremen University); “The human dignity idea from a Christian theological perspective” (Professor Konrad Hilpert, Munich University); “Human dignity as a juridical principle” (Professor Karl-E. Hain, Mayence University); “Human dignity and the total interdiction of torture?” (Professor Reinhard Merkel, Hamburg University); and “Does human dignity resist to any discussion? The recourse to the argument of human dignity in applied ethics” (Professor Dagmar Borchers, Bremen University).

17. Ghana

□ *UNESCO Accra*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

18. Guatemala

Activities were organized on the theme of Maya philosophy.

19. Italy

□ *Centre for Philosophy Research and Didactic, Savona*

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day on 16 November 2006, a conference-debate on the topic “Ethics and politics: What relation?” took place in Savona, with the participation of Judge Giancarlo Caselli. The event was organized by the Centre for Philosophical Research and Didactic, in collaboration with the Italian Philosophical Society (*SFI*), the International Association for Philosophy teachers (*AIPPh*) and the *Società Filosofia Ligure*.

□ *Italian Philosophical Society*

In the framework of World Philosophy Day, the Extraordinary Congress of the Italian Philosophical Society took place on 19 and 20 October 2006 in Rome. The event was organized to celebrate the centenary of the Society's foundation, with the aim of creating a valuable occasion for the meeting of Italian and international philosophy and for a unique exchange between professors, philosophers and students.

The inaugural day was opened by Mauro Di Giandomenico, President of the Italian Philosophical Society, together with Peter Kemp, President of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP) and Giovanni Puglisi, President of the Italian National Commission for UNESCO.

After the opening of the event with a message by the President of the Republic, Enrico Berti from Padua University spoke on the topic "A Hundred Years of the Italian Philosophical Society". A series of interventions followed on "Italian Philosophy in a Knowledge Society", "Italian Philosophy and Inter-culturality", "Italian Philosophy and Women", "Italian Philosophy in Europe".

Two round tables concluded the event, on "Philosophy Teaching in Italian Universities after the Reform" (moderated by Giuseppe Cosentino, Director-General of the Ministry of Public Instruction) and "The Role of Philosophy between School and Society" (moderated by Vincenzo Cappelletti, President of the Italian Society of History of Science).

#### 20. Kenya

##### □ *UNESCO Nairobi*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

##### □ *Institute for African Ecology and Philosophy, Nairobi*

World Philosophy Day 2006 was celebrated in Kenya on 15 November 2006 by the Institute for African Ecology and Philosophy, with a seminar on the topic "Philosophy and the Condition of Modern Man". The seminar took place at the Kenyatta International Conference Center and was chaired by Dr H. Boaz Adhengo of the Institute for African Ecology and Philosophy and Mr Salim Ongwae of Project Nabuur. Celebrated for the fifth time since 2002, World Philosophy Day in Kenya provided a space for reflection on various topics of particular importance, such as "Cultural Philosophy, Diversity and Communication", "Modernity and the Condition of Women", "Philosophy and Obstacles to the Alliance of Cultures", "Philosophy: Teaching, Discussing and Translating", or "Philosophy and North-South Dialogue: What Difficulties? What Future?".

#### 21. Lao People's Democratic Republic

##### □ *Faculty of Social Sciences (FSS), National University of Laos (NUOL)*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

#### 22. Latvia

##### □ *Association of Students of Philosophy of the University of Latvia, Latvian National Commission for UNESCO, Institute for Philosophy and Sociology of the University of Latvia, Student's Council of the University of Latvia, and Philosophy Assistance Fund of Latvia*

Latvia celebrated World Philosophy Day on 16 and 17 November 2006, with different activities organized by students and professors of the University of Latvia, with the support of several non-governmental and governmental institutions. The Association of Students of Philosophy of the University of Latvia, the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO, the Institute for Philosophy and Sociology of the University of Latvia, the Student's Council of the

University of Latvia and the Philosophy Assistance Fund in Latvia, were all involved in the preparation of Philosophy Day events.

The Association of Students of Philosophy presented at the Faculty of the History and Philosophy of the University of Latvia a philosophy portal ([www.fsb.org.lv](http://www.fsb.org.lv)), which has been created for the communication and creative expressions of intellectuals and students. The presentation was followed by discussions about the philosophical activities of students.

The Faculty of History and Philosophy organized a screening of the film "Tuvalu" by Veit Helmer (2000), which was followed by a live discussion between philosophers on art and its interpretations, language, utopia, freedom, etc.

On 17 November, a conference took place on the work of the Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard, organized on the occasion of the launching of the publication "Existence and Communication". This publication is the first in the series "Philosophical Library".

The events were concluded in the evening of 17 November by a costume ball on the theme "Philosophy and erotic", with a staged conversation about love and the love of wisdom.

### 23. Lebanon

#### □ *Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO*

The Commission celebrated World Philosophy Day 2006 by organizing a seminar on "Philosophy and Sufism", under the patronage of Minister of Culture Mr Tarek Mitri. The seminar took place on 16 November 2006, and comprised two themes: "Thinking and life", addressed Waddah Nasr, Saad Hakim, Victor Al Kik and moderated by Radwan Al Saeyd; and "Accepting the other", tackled by Gérard Jihami, Sami Makarem, Adib Saab and moderated by Archbishop Georges Khodr. An overall synthesis of the discussions was given by Sheikh Chafik Jaradi.

### 24. Madagascar

#### □ *Philosophy Department, Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences, Antananarivo University*

The Philosophy Department celebrated World Philosophy Day for the first time, in collaboration with the National Commission for UNESCO, with the following activities:

- Participation at the 31st Congress of the Association of Francophone Philosophy Societies (*ASPLP*) in Budapest, Hungary. On this occasion, Lala Rarivomanantsoa spoke on "The rational facing diversity" and Michel Razafimbola on the topic "The alter ego...ist".

- Participation at the celebration of the World Science Day for Peace and Development at the Academy of Madagascar. Jacqueline Raelina Andriambololona gave a lecture on "The 21st century will or will not be ethical", pleading for a larger recognition of human sciences and particularly of philosophy.

- Organization of two public lectures, by Isabelle Koch from the University of Provence, who spoke on "Passing from physics to metaphysics in Aristotle's thought", and by Pascal Taranto from the University of Nantes, on the topic "The importance of language in the philosophy of J. Locke";

- Institution of a « forum of ideas » from 16 to 30 November 2006, allowing reflections on the topic "For me philosophy is...".

The activities were all largely covered by local media, including the press, radio and television.

25. Mali

- *UNESCO Bamako*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

26. Mexico

- *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), Universidad Autónoma de Sinaloa, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana – Unidad Iztapalapa*

Activities to mark World Philosophy Day 2006 were prepared in the three above-mentioned universities.

- *University of Guadalajara*

The Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities of the University of Guadalajara organized on 2 December 2006 a Second International Banquet of Philosophy, which took place also in the framework of the International Book Fair in Guadalajara. The theme of the banquet was the dialogue between Andalusian and Mexican philosophers, with participants reflecting on the topic “Philosophy and Religion: Fundamentalism in Hispanic America and Spain?”. The event included a debate on the thought of María Zambrano and a presentation of a Foundation carrying her name, as well as a presentation of the publications “*Esbozo histórico de la filosofía en México (Siglo XX)*” by Gabriel Vargas Lozano and “*El imaginario. Civilización y cultura del Siglo XXI*” by Miguel Rojas Mix.

- *Faculty of Letters, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, Monterrey*

The Faculty of Letters organized on 10 November 2006 and jointly with the Itinerant UNESCO Chair "Edgar Morin" (*CIUEM*), a conference on “The challenges for the teaching of philosophy today”. The conference was presided over by the director of the Chair, Mr Raúl D. Motta.

27. Morocco

- *Association Philosophique Tétouanaise (AFT)*

On the occasion of World Philosophy Day 2006, the Association imagined a programme for the month of November under the motto “Philosophy in Our Days”. On this occasion, conferences in the high schools of Tétouan as well as a round table on the past and the future of philosophy in Morocco, France and Spain, were envisaged.

28. Namibia

- *UNESCO Windhoek*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

- *University of Windhoek*

Activities were organized by the University on 23 October 2006.

29. Nepal

*Little Moon Secondary School, Faika, Kapan*

Activities were organized at the Little Moon Secondary School in Faika, Kapan.

30. Nigeria

- *UNESCO Abuja*

The UNESCO Office in Abuja organised a seminar on "Reflections on Indigenous Philosophical Thought and its Contribution to Tolerance in Society ", chaired by Mr Abhimanyu Singh, Director and Country Representative, UNESCO Abuja. Scholars presented papers on the subject, followed by a discussion based on the

Nigerian context. The papers and a summary of the discussion will be published by UNESCO.

□ *Nnamdi Azikiwe University*

World Philosophy Day was celebrated at the Nnamdi Azikiwe University on 15 and 16 November 2006. On 15 November, after the reading of the message of the Director-General of UNESCO for this occasion, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Ilochi Okafor, and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts addressed the public. Awards were also distributed on this occasion, to individuals and associations having instituted scholarships and awards for philosophy students. The Day was concluded with a speech by Professor Maduabuchi Dukor, Chairman of the Organizing Committee.

On 16 November, a conference took place with the presentation of papers on different philosophical topics and with a lecture by the special guest, Prof. Msgr. Theophilous Okere, who delivered a paper on democracy in Nigeria.

31. Panama

□ *Nueva Acrópolis Panamá*

Nueva Acrópolis Panamá celebrated Philosophy Day with a conference on “Plato for the XXI Century”.

32. Philippines

□ *De La Salle University, Manila*

The Students of Philosophy in Action (SoPhiA) - a professional student organization of De La Salle University, Manila - organized a number of activities to celebrate the World Philosophy Day 2006.

□ *Saint Louis University (SLU)*

On 24 November 2006, the Department of Philosophy of SLU, Baguio City, held a conference on philosophy of law. Students and professors of philosophy, law, and other social sciences from various colleges and universities in Northern Philippines were present on this occasion.

33. Poland

□ *Polish National Commission for UNESCO, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Collegium Civitas*

On 16 November 2006, a panel discussion entitled “*Philosophical Improvisation*” was organised in Warsaw by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences and *Collegium Civitas* in Warsaw (a school of social sciences under the auspices of the Polish Academy of Sciences) to celebrate World Philosophy Day. The theme of the *Improvisation* was “What does it mean to understand?”. The philosophers who took part in the discussion reflected upon the concept of understanding in contemporary thought. About a hundred university and secondary school students attended the meeting. World Philosophy Day and the *Improvisation* was advertised on the Polish radio (Channel 1).

34. Portugal

□ *Associação Portuguesa de Aconselhamento Etico e Filosófico (APAEF)*

The Association organized, with the support of the Portuguese National Commission for UNESCO, the IPJ – Regional delegation for Coimbra, Regional Direction for Education for the Centre and the Association of Professors of Philosophy a series of conferences on the general theme of “New Philosophical Practices in Portugal”, which took place on 16 November 2006 at the Portuguese Institute for Childhood, Coimbra. Participants working on philosophy for



children and youth, on ethical and philosophical warning and on the promotion of *cafés philosophiques*, as well as professors from different fields of teaching, educators and students, took part in this event.

□ *University of Evora*

The University of Evora organized, with the support of the Portuguese National Commission for UNESCO, an International Symposium dedicated to Heidegger and Freud, which took place on 16 and 17 November 2006.

35. Russian Federation

□ *Commission Russian Federation for UNESCO*

To celebrate World Philosophy Day 2006, Saint-Petersburg University brought together philosophers from various parts of the country for a three-day gathering, with the participation of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO. The event included conferences on "Semiotics of Willing. Philosophical Anthropology", "Harmony and Chaos: Ethics and Aesthetics", "Philosophy as a Science and a Taught Subject", "Metaphysics of Art", as well as an international seminar on "Drugs and Death". In addition, 25 discussions and round tables were organized on different philosophical topics. Underlining the importance of the meetings of philosophers and the significant role they may and should play in politics, the Chairman of the Federation Council – upper house of the Russian Parliament – Mr Sergey Mironov addressed the audience of philosophers and students of the Faculty of Philosophy and Political Science, Saint-Petersburg University, with a speech on "Politics Face-to-face with Society". An award ceremony also took place, with young scholars honored by the Prize of Saint-Petersburg Philosophic Society. A book fair that took place at the same time attracted visitors with recent publications in the field of philosophy. On the last day of the gathering, participants attended a remembrance ceremony at the Memorial Stone, where they paid tribute to prominent Russian non-conformist philosophers who had to leave the country after the October Revolution of 1917.

In addition, on 16 November 2006 in Moscow, the Institute of Philosophy – Russian Academy of Science – in cooperation with the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, organized a symposium on "Philosophy in Russia and in the World". Mr Grigory Ordzhonikidze, Secretary General of the Commission, delivered an opening speech. The symposium was concluded by a concert of opera singers.

The Faculty of Philosophy of the Moscow State University also has marked the date by organizing a conference on the topic of "Conscience".

Finally, philosophers in many universities in all parts of Russia celebrated the Day with fora, symposia, colloquia, etc.

□ *"New Acropolis" Cultural Centre*

The "New Acropolis" Cultural Centre timed the organisation of a round-table on "Eternal Values Lead the Way towards Agreement and Mutual Understanding" with World Philosophy Day 2006. The purpose of the discussion was to demonstrate the possibility and necessity of a dialogue between religions, science and arts based on the one and indivisible foundation of values common to all humanity. On 16 November, a DVD containing the speeches of participants at the round-table discussion was presented. A final resolution was also adopted, in which the necessity was emphasized "to search for any opportunity to overcome [...] the internal boundaries between people, which separate a person from himself, from other people and from nature." The idea of establishing a centre "Man without Borders" was also put forward during the discussions.

36. Senegal

□ *UNESCO Dakar*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

37. South Africa

□ *Department of Philosophy, University of South Africa (UNISA)*

UNISA celebrated World Philosophy Day with a series of public lectures that took place from 13 to 21 November 2006 on the general theme "Philosophy and Africa's 159 years of independence". The speakers invited were Professor M.O. Hinz (University of Namibia), who spoke on the themes "Revisiting Antony Allot's Limits of Law", "The World Trade Organization in jurisprudential perspective", and "The making of customary law. Legal pluralism in practice"; and Prof J.O. Oguejiofor (Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria), who prepared lectures on "Theophilus Okere and the possibility of a history of African philosophy", "Negritude as hermeneutics: A reinterpretation of Leopold Senghor's philosophy" and "In search of elusive humanity. Philosophy and Africa's 159 years of independence".

□ *University of Johannesburg*

The Department of Semitic Languages and the Centre for Islamic studies of the University of Johannesburg organized on 17 November 2006 a conference dedicated to Heidegger and to political philosophy.

38. Sri Lanka

□ *National Science Foundation*

An event to celebrate World Philosophy Day 2006 took place in Colombo on 21 and 22 November 2006.

39. Switzerland

□ *Swiss Commission for UNESCO*

In the framework of World Philosophy Day, the Swiss Commission for UNESCO supported the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Francophone Festival of Philosophy, which took place in Fribourg, from 14 to 17 September 2007, on the topic "*La cité et le pouvoir*". This Festival is an initiative of Guy Mettan, member of the Communications Section of the Commission, and led to a great interest among the public and the media.

40. Tanzania

□ *UNESCO Dar-es-Salaam*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

41. Turkey

□ *Bilkent University*

The Department of Philosophy of the Faculty of Humanities and Letters organized a conference on 17 November 2006.

□ *University of Dicle*

The Department of Philosophy of the Faculty of Sciences and Letters hosted a philosophical event on 16 November 2006.

□ *Gazi University, Ankara*

To celebrate World Philosophy Day, the Department of Philosophy of the Faculty of Sciences and Letters organized a week-long series of activities for students and the wider public, notably conference-debates on the topics « Philosophy, Education and Media » and « Facing Life and Death: Philosophy, Art and Science ».

□ *Hacettepe University*

The Department of Philosophy of the Faculty of Letters hosted on 16 November a panel entitled “Philosophy in the New Century”. The speakers of the panel were Prof. Dr. Sabri Büyükdüvenci, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Levent Aysever and Assistant Prof. Dr. Ertuğrul Turan.

□ *Istanbul High Schools Philosophy Clubs Platform*

In celebration of World Philosophy Day 2006, the Platform organized events that took place on 16 November.

□ *Maltepe University*

The Faculty of Science and Letters celebrated World Philosophy Day last 12 November with a panel discussion followed by a philosophical café. The participants of the panel were Prof. Ioanna Kuçuradi, Prof. Betül Cotuksöken, Prof. Dr. Serji İyi and Dr. Kan Özkan. The launching of the co-edited book by the faculty of the Maltepe University Department of Philosophy entitled “Philosophy for whom?”, also took place on the same day.

□ *Pamukkale University*

On 13 November 2006, the Faculty of Sciences and Letters of Pamukkale University organized a conference around the theme “On Man” with the participation of Prof. Dr. Ali Osman Gündoğan.

42. United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates celebrated World Philosophy Day 2006 by organizing on 12 November 2006 in Abu Dhabi a debate on « Critic of Arab reason, Critic of Occidental Reason ? », with the participation of Mohammad Abid Al-Jabri and Motareh Safadi.

43. United State of America

□ *St. John Fisher College, Rochester, NY*

Two conferences took place on 15 November, with lectures by Mary McHale-Woodruff on the topic “Existential Therapy in Action”, based on the teachings of Frankl, May, and Yalom; and by Father Leo Hetzler CSB on “Max Brand: The Poet/Philosopher and Writer of Western Novels”. The Day’s celebrations continued on 16 November with seven rounds tables during which were discussed the relation between philosophy on one hand and education, science fiction, popular culture, communication, creative arts, emotions and the 21st century, on the other.

44. Uruguay

□ *Association Nueva Acrópolis*

The Association organized a conference in Montevideo on the topic “Why Philosophy?”.

□ *National Commission for UNESCO, Ministry of Education and Culture (MEC), ANEP-CODICEN*

To celebrate World Philosophy Day, the Uruguay National Commission for UNESCO, the Ministry of Education and Culture and ANEP-CODICEN organized an interactive video conference on the topic « The young, knowledge and the function of philosophy », with the participation of the *Inspección de filosofía*, the Philosophical Association of Uruguay (*AFU*) and the Bioethics Program “*Acá-bioética*”. Chaired by Fernando Lema (Uruguay National Commission for UNESCO), the conference panel was composed of Mauricio Langon (Bioethics Project Coordinator), Marisa Bertolini (philosophy researcher), Ricardo Viscardi (Professor, Philosophy Institute, UDELAR), Stella Cerruti (President of the Commission for Sexual Education, CODICEN) and

Carolina Macedo (President of AFU). The video conference was transmitted in 20 rooms of ANTEL, the National Telecommunications Administration, across the country.

45. Viet Nam

□ *Faculty of Philosophy, University of Social Sciences and Humanities, (Hanoi National University)*

The University of Social Sciences and Humanities of the Hanoi National University commemorated World Philosophy Day on 16 and 17 November 2006 with a conference on the topic "Problems of Western Philosophy in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century"; and the publication of "Vietnamese Philosophical Thoughts in the Context of the Introduction of Eastern - Western Thoughts into Vietnam in the First Half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century" - proceedings of the conference organized on the occasion of World Philosophy Day 2005. The events, organized also in the context of commemorations of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Faculty of Philosophy of the Hanoi University of Social Sciences and Humanities and of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Martin Heidegger, were open to researchers, professors, teachers and representatives from institutes, colleges, institutions, ministries and agencies, to overseas scholars and to students of the University.

46. Yemen

□ *Sana'a University*

The University organized events on 20 December for the celebration of World Philosophy Day 2006. On this occasion, the Director-General of UNESCO addressed local dignitaries and participants.

47. Zimbabwe

□ *UNESCO Harare*

Organized activities to celebrate the Day.

14.03.2007

**Member States that have expressed interest in the Day  
(requesting information, materials, posters, etc.)**

27. Dominican Republic

- *Permanent Delegation to UNESCO*