

First International Symposium "Ethics in knowledge" ¹

As coordinator of the Center for Humanist Studies Mendoza, I warmly welcome to all the assistants from the academic, political, social, cultural fields and of spirituality present today, to the First International Symposium "Ethics in Knowledge", hoping that all the works to be displayed in the course of this event will serve for using knowledge only in terms and in favor of overcoming human pain and suffering.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo and the Universidad de Ciencias Políticas y Sociales (*Political and Social Sciences University*) for their sponsorship, to the Ministry of Education that had appointed this event as of Educational Interest, to the Ministry for Welfare Development, Department for Childhood, Adolescence and Family, that announced its support, to the Mendoza's Culture Secretary and to the Legislature of the Province. Also, we would like to acknowledge Mendoza and Las Heras Town Halls, who have wholeheartedly supported the realization of this event. In the same way, we would like to point up the invaluable cooperation of the several enterprises, business and friends of Humanism in general, that assured the concrete implementation of this First Symposium.

In furtherance of our aim of improving the close relationship settled with the aforementioned governmental, academic, social and cultural organizations and of spirituality, we will hold collaboration commitments for deepening the topics to be discussed in these days.

This First Symposium has been also possible due to the continuous work and collaboration of the Centers for Humanist Studies from other latitudes namely Buenos Aires (Argentina), Moscow (Russia), Santiago de Chile (Chile), Madrid (Spain), Barcelona (Spain), Paris (France), Rome (Italy), London (U.K), Sao Paulo (Brazil), La Paz (Bolivia), Lima (Peru), Rosario (Argentina), Concordia (Argentina), Bogotá (Colombia), and the recent incorporation of the Tokarev Institute. All these Centers will constitute the "World Center for Humanist Studies Federation" tomorrow in Punta de Vacas Park.

In the frame of this Symposium, it will be shown some productions and actions performed in the fields of methodology, politics, historiology, science, health, education, culture and spirituality, that being inspired on the Universalist Humanism doctrine generated by Silo, tend to the development of knowledge beyond the imposed limitations set by the prejudices on knowledge accepted as absolute and immutable truths, promoting the structural, dynamic and critical way of thinking, contributing to the humanization of the relations in

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each and every field , that is to say, placing the Human being as the central value and concern.

It is far from the intention of this Symposium to review all the knowledge acquired through study and research, but to discuss the new ethical challenges set out in the present evolutionary crossroads. For this reason, it is essential to give a matter thought to the relation between knowledge and ethics.

In this Symposium we propose a "Declaration for Ethical Commitment", able to reach all the places where research is taking place, to the universities and to the society as a whole. This is a calling to generate awareness about the actual need of eradicating violence not only in the scholars but also in all the people who "share" this planet

That's all, thank you very much.