

Education for Sustainable Development – Spiritual Dimensions



13th Nuremberg Forum 2024 30 Sept – 2 Oct 2024 in Nuremberg

The ecological crisis is also a spiritual crisis! And it is a widely shared insight that **sustainability implies spiritual dimensions**. This is so, because issues of sustainability touch on the fundamental questions of who we are as human beings, how our relationship with nature can be understood, how we want to live, what makes life worth living and how a life worth living can be achieved for all humans on our planet. Recently, religious and spiritual traditions have increasingly been discussed as such valuable sources. To put it in another way, the global ecological crises that we are facing today are so dramatic that they require in-depth transformations of individual and collective mind-sets. Not least, they require a sense of hope, confidence and solidarity that can support the motivation and endurance in addressing the huge challenges. In this situation, it makes sense to use **all cultural sources** available that could facilitate such transformations and such motivation.

Education has repeatedly emerged as a **major aspect and important approach**, especially concerning the question of how the widely deplored mind-behavior gap can be overcome. The major aim of the Nuremberg Forum 2024 therefore is **to explore possible intersections between spirituality, sustainability and education**.

The conference offers a combination of invited keynotes as well as papers and workshops that have been submitted on the basis of a **call for papers** (<https://www.evrel.phil.fau.de/?p=6814>). **Deadline is 30 April 2024.**

The **subject focus** of the conference is on **ESD with emphasis on ecological, environmental issues and its intersection with spiritual, religious or world-view perspectives**. For this conference, ESD stands for Education for Sustainable Development, but also includes similar educational approaches such as Climate Change Education, Ecological Education, Environmental Education, Human Rights Education and Global Learning. The **focus area of action** of the conference is on **public education at schools and institutions of higher education**.

The conference wants to promote the **integration of spiritual dimensions into ESD** as well as the **integration of sustainability perspectives into diverse forms of religious education or instruction**. In order to achieve this aim, theoretical perspectives and academic research shall be brought into conversation with concepts and experiences from good educational practice.

We cordially invite you to a fruitful exchange!

Prof. Dr. Manfred Pirner & team

Keynote speakers & your host

Prof. Dr. h.c. Bhai Sahib Mohinder Singh, Dr. Mary Evelyn Tucker, Prof. Dr. Pascal Frank, Grandmother Marie-Josée Rankin-Tardif & Grandfather Dominique Rankin, Prof. Mallory McDuff (requested) & Prof. Dr. Manfred L. Pirner

Target Groups

Scholars, researchers, teachers, teacher trainers religious leaders, politicians, stakeholders and members of NGOs, civil society as well as state organizations that are – directly or indirectly – involved in ESD.

