

**ECNAIS SEMINAR
Vienna, Austria**

Hotel Regina, Rooseveltplatz 15, A-1090 Vienna

Thursday 20 November till Saturday 22 November 2014

How to avoid the unification of diversity?

How to avoid the unification of diversity?

Taking the Oxford dictionary on-line and looking at the origin of the word unify:

early 16th century: from French unifier or late Latin unificare 'make into a whole'

Back then, as now, one of the consequences of unification is to eliminate the individual differences and force all the variations into one single common whole.

In opposite terms, the independent educational sector is characterized in its own essence by diversity. A wide range of differentiated ethos, pedagogies and theoretical approaches are the essence of our schools, at local, regional, national or European level.

The goal of ECNAIS is to provide examples of diversity of schools in each member country, and to identify the situation concerning the political acceptance of independent schools and freedom of choice.

Thursday 20 November 2014

- 09.00– 09.15 ECNAIS registration
- 09.15 – 10.00 Opening of the seminar
- Beatrice Lukas**, chairwomen Förderverband Freier Schulen, Austria
- Simon Steen**, chairman of ECNAIS
- Gabriele Heinisch- Hosek**, Federal Minister of Education and for Women (invited)
- 10.00 – 11.00 **Dr. Matthias Strolz**, chairman and education-spokesman of NEOS
Cooperation and Competition Parenting Social Innovation
Dialogue with the audience included
- 11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30 – 13.00 **Austria, Christoph Chorherr and Josef Kreitmayer**
How independent schools organize themselves in Austria –and try to find their way as different and unique at one hand – and at the other the way to unify?
Dialogue with the audience included
- 13.00 – 14.30 Lunch
- 14.30 – 15.15 **Switzerland, Pia Amacher**
How parents struggle for parent right to free school choice?
Dialogue with the audience included
- 15.15 – 15.45 Coffee break
- 15.45 – 16.30 **France, Anne Coffinier**
How do we keep unity in an organization based on different school values?
Dialogue with the audience included
- 16.30- 18.00 Open forum where the present national positions are put into perspective in relation to today's presentations
- 19.00 Dinner at Hotel Regina

Friday 21 November 2014

- 9.00 Leaving hotel for school visits
- 13.00 – 14.00 Lunch at Hotel Regina
- 14.00 – 15.30 **Turkey, Prof. Dr. Ipek Gürkaynak**
Enabling and Restricting Potentials: Diversity of and in schools, and diversity in general in Turkey
Dialogue with the audience included
- 15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break
- 16.00 – 18.00 Open forum where participants exchange ideas on future cooperation with the aim of finding a way towards a common voice and preserve our diversity
- 19.00 leaving for the official ECNAIS dinner at Weingut Fuhrgassl-Huber, Neustift am Walde

Saturday 22 November 2014

- 09.00 – 12.00 Management Committee Meeting (open for members only)
The agenda follows separately
- End of meeting