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International Workshop EINSTEIN and PEACE (education) LESSONS for TODAY

Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Institut d'Etudes européennes, Seminarroom III
39 avenue FD Roosevelt, B 1050 Brussels, Belgium

To think about Einstein is not just praising one of the most important and acknowledged scientists of Contemporary times. He is in some respects the one person whose discoveries managed the change between two Ages of Humankind. He was much more than that as a man of Modern times, immersed in the worst carnages the World had to confront due to fight and prejudice.

Albert Einstein was a complex and enlightened character. A musician, a fighter for civil rights and a life-long pacifist. He was, as any human, not always right. And the situations he lived forged his personality and modified his views and actions. However, and that is the fact we intend to underline with this activity within the *Einstein Year 2005*, he was a committed citizen. His life would have been much easier and less dangerous had he chosen the walls of the ivory tower, as many others preferred - and still prefer today, his intellectual and scientific legacy would still be enormous. But he did not lock himself up. He witnessed and pointed out the Emperor's nakedness. He went beyond that. Campaigning, writing to statesmen, lecturing, publishing his dissent in newspapers and taking active part in so many causes he felt an ethical commitment for. The very last action of his public life, days before his death, was the ratification of the *Russell - Einstein - Manifesto (Pugwash Manifesto)*.

To go through his many activities and to try to understand why he did and did not so many things is the reason why we have organized this workshop. Younger generations may easily forget what happened in the near past. And new threats to Humankind can be based upon that ignorance and the half-truths we are forced to believe in, in so many cases. Like George Orwell brightly expressed "Who controls the past, controls the future; who controls the present, controls the past". Einstein's generation has mostly disappeared, and the living legacy of those who lived two World Wars and the different authoritarianisms of the 20th Century will soon be completely abstract for most of us. If today we understand Einstein and his views, we wish to understand better his historical times, the cultural, political, economic and scientific environment of the age. We hope to get a better view, to learn from his legacy and even from his contradictions. But overall, we hope to promote a commitment as citizens, to realize the power of an individual and the hope his courage may give us in our times.

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Friday, 11 March 2005

14.30 – 15.00

Participants registration and coffee welcome

15.00 - 17.00

Einstein, a world citizen in context

Opening and introduction

Prof. Claus Montonen, INES chair, Finland

Prof. Eric Remacle, Director of Pole Bernheim, ULB, Belgium

Einstein, international cooperation and peace – historical overview

Prof. Verdiana Grossi, Université de Genève

Einstein's relations to power - speaking the truth about power

Ekkehard Sieker, Max-Planck-Institute (MPI), Germany

17.00 - 17.15

Coffee Break

17.15 - 18.30

Special forum: Questions to Einstein, a controversial life of a great man

Answers by Experts: Dr. David Krieger (INES), Ekkehard Sieker (MPI), Gerd Greune (IFIAS)

Moderator: Prof. Armin Tenner (INES), Netherlands

Saturday, 12 March 2005

09.30 – 11.00

Einstein and peace - His pacifism

Prof. Nadine Lubelski-Bernard, ULB, Belgium (tbc)

Russell - Einstein - Manifesto and nuclear (dis)armament today

Dr. Gert Harigel, CERN & GIPRI, Geneva

Moderator: Prof. Eric Remacle, Pole Bernheim, ULB, Belgium

11.00 – 11.15

Coffee Break

11.15 – 12.45

Linus Pauling - the next generation

Prof. Mohamed Larbi Bouguerra, American Univ. Cairo / Tunis Univ.

Einstein for the young generation

Dr. Tom Borsen Hansen, Pugwash and INES, Denmark

12.00 – 14.00

Lunch Break

14.00 - 17.00

Einstein and peace for today and tomorrow

Introduction: Lessons from Einstein for the peace research, peace education and peace movement today

Dr. David Krieger/ Prof. Maurice Errera, ULB, Belgium

Moderator: Prof. Gordana Jovanovic, Serbia and Montenegro

Round table talk: Lessons from Einstein for today

Dr. David Krieger, NAPF, USA; Prof. Eric Remacle, Pole Bernheim, ULB, Belgium; Dr. Hugo Estrella, INES, Argentina; Dr. Venance Journé, France; Reiner Braun, Einstein Committee, Germany

Closing remarks: Reiner Braun, Max-Planck-Institute for historical Science (MPI) and INES, Germany.