

## IASWECE Council meeting in Ireland in October 2018

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At the beginning of October, the meeting of the Council members took place in "An Grianan" near Dublin. Coming from many member countries of the IASWECE, it is always necessary to connect anew with the spiritual stream of Waldorf Education that connects us all. The opening words given by Rudolf Steiner at the beginning of the Study of Man are helpful for us. In this way we can be aware that our common work is supported and accompanied.

This can also be experienced in the daily study work, which dealt with the social questions of our time in preparation for the great conference in April 2019. How do we go into the future, which abilities should we develop in our social / international contexts? We celebrate 100 years of Waldorf Education as a gift, which has been named as a "cultural act, a ceremonial act of the world order" by Rudolf Steiner.

To follow on from this is an invitation to us to work into the future with new impulses.

Three ideals are clearly described in the lecture "How to meet the spiritual needs of the times". Means and ways are shown to us concretely, which qualities and abilities we have to train in order to alleviate the "needs".

Social human understanding

Freedom of thought

Spirit knowledge

It sounds so simple, because everyone assumes that they have already trained these skills well, but unfortunately their colleagues, fellow human beings have not yet done so.

To what extent are our actions, our social interaction in everyday life affected by "non-understanding"?

How strongly are our thoughts influenced by framework conditions, religions, how often do we seem to be "unfree" in the different areas of our life contexts? There are many resistances to overcome.

On what basis do we form judgements, do we come to insights? Spiritual science must be the central recognition, it enables us to become capable of judgement.

Under these three "lights", social human understanding, freedom of thought and spiritual knowledge, we will have to "shine" into the future, then we can confidently grasp and shape the future tasks with the support of the hierarchies.

With this confidence and the joint impulse to participate in the tasks of the future, the first "stars" of international encounters have shone forth.