

# *Bildung*

## The Untimely Actuality of a Modern Idea

In classical German philosophy, the concept of *Bildung* (translated variably as self-cultivation, education, formation, culture, or edification) plays a prominent role and remains at the center of a series of interpretative conflicts. For most representatives of German Idealism, *Bildung* should not be thought of only as a theory of education in the strict sense, but more generally as an original conceptual complex in which "formation" is considered an ethical operator of self-cultivation, a constitutive function of social relations, and a political lever for the reversal of power relations. The pedagogical and political dimensions are so intimately interlinked that one can see in the concept of *Bildung* the generic idea of the reciprocal determination of these two domains, the very place of the political-educational interface of the realization of freedom.

Posing itself as both an ethical-cultural project and a political-educational paradigm, the concept of *Bildung* indicates the process of transformation of societies through the free formation of the individual.

With the participation of specialists of Classical German Philosophy, the conference seeks to highlight the posterity and the as yet untapped resources of this concept for contemporary thought through the twin aim of historical-systematic reconstruction of the modern philosophy of *Bildung* and of testing its contemporary relevance.

## Saint-Louis University, Brussels

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International Conference  
Brussels, 7-9 June 2023

Wednesday, 7 June | P61

- 9:45 - 10:15 **Opening remarks**  
Quentin Landenne  
Saint-Louis University, Brussels (BE)
- 10:15 - 11:15 **Éducation du regard et éducation du jugement dans les recherches empiriques de Goethe**  
Anastasia Klug  
Humboldt University of Berlin (DE)

 11:15 - 11:30

- 11:30 - 12:30 **Petrified Understanding? Bias, Anthropology, and *Bildung* in Schleiermacher's Hermeneutics**  
Kristin Gjesdal  
Temple University (USA)

 12:30 - 14:00

- 14:00 - 15:00 **La *Bildung* à l'épreuve de la nature : discours hégélien**  
Madéni Claudel  
Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne (FR)

- 15:00 - 16:00 **L'équivocité du concept de *Bildung* dans l'*Esthétique* de Hegel : le cas de la technique**  
Jean-Baptiste Vuillerod  
University of Namur (BE)

 16:00 - 16:15

- 16:15-17:15 ***Bildung* as Conceptual Self-Transformation in Hegel's Philosophy**  
Krassimir Stojanov  
Catholic University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt (DE)

Thursday, 8 June | P61

- 9:15 - 10:15 **Realer Geist – Gestalten einer Welt. Hölderlin und Hegel im (virtuellen) Dialog über Bildung als unbewusster, selbstbewusster, sich selbst ergreifender Prozess**  
Violetta Waibel  
University of Vienna (AT)

- 10:15 - 11:15 ***Bildung*, Freedom and Ideology in Fichte and Schiller's Views on the Human Condition**

Emiliano Acosta  
Vrije Universiteit Brussels and Ghent University (BE)

 11:15 - 11:30

- 11:30 - 12:30 **La *Bildung* comme processus dialogique. Perspectives sur Schlegel et Novalis**

Guillaume Lejeune  
University of Liège (BE)

 12:30 - 14:00

- 14:00 - 15:00 **Critique et crise de la *Bildung*. La politique inactuelle de la culture chez le jeune Nietzsche**

Nicolas Quérini and Quentin Landenne  
Saint-Louis University, Brussels (BE)

- 15:00 - 16:00 **La notion de *Zucht* dans les conférences de Nietzsche *Sur l'avenir de nos établissements d'enseignement***

Emmanuel Salanskis  
University of Strasbourg (FR)

 16:00 - 16:15

- 16:15-17:15 **Force formatrice et énergie de l'esprit. Les usages cassirériens du concept de *Bildung***

Guillemette Leblanc  
University of Strasbourg (FR)

Friday, 9 June | P61 (a.m.) P02 (p.m.)

- 9:15-10:15 **How the idea of *Bildung* has transformed liberalism: from John Stuart Mill and TH Green to John Rawls and Amartya Sen**  
Catherine Audard  
London School of Economics (GB)

- 10:15-11:15 **Une *Bildung* industrielle ? Karl Marx et l'éducation de l'avenir**  
Jean Quétier  
University of Strasbourg (FR)

 11:15 - 11:30

- 11:30 - 12:30 ***Bildung* as an Emancipating Concept Today: an Investigation of the Poststructuralist Approach**

Theo Hickfang  
University of Oxford (GB)

 12:30 - 14:00

- 14:00 - 15:00 **From *Bildung* to *Halbbildung*: Adorno and the Collapse of Cultivation**

Eric-John Russell  
University of Potsdam (DE)

- 15:00 - 16:00 **Rethinking Academic Freedom: the Actuality of Adorno and Horkheimer's Theory of *Bildung***

Susanna Zellini  
University of Padua (IT)

- 16:00 - 16:30 **Closing remarks**