

Dialogue

An exchange between persons.

Diversity

The characteristic of being varied, even opposed or contradictory, yet non-conflictual.

Humanity

All those characteristics that together make up human nature. A human entity sometimes considered a collective being. An active feeling of understanding and benevolence towards all Men.

Metting

Finding oneself in the presence of others.

Definitions elaborated from several different dictionaries.

International politics and large institutions

Marcel Boisard (UN), Stéphane Hessel (former French ambassador), Jean Fabre (United Nations Development Programme), Annick Thébia-Melsan (Dialogue Among Civilizations, UN), Adama Samassékou (Mali), Godfrey Nzamudjo (Benin), Vivian Labrie (Poverty-Free Quebec), Chico Whitaker (Conference for Permanent Development, Right Livelihood Award 2006, Nobel Peace Prize winner, Brazil), Monique Barbut (UNEP), Abdou Diouf (Organisation Internationale pour la Francophonie), Enzo Fazzino (UNESCO), Aminata Traoré (Mali), Denise Bombardier (Canada), Georges Corm (Lebanon), Théo Klein (France-Israel), Haïle-Mickaël-Tadelech (Éthiopie, ambassador)...

Academics, researchers, intellectuals, artists

Patrick Viveret (philosopher), Axel Kahn (geneticist), Kathleen Modrowski (New York), Catherine Dolto (touch therapist), Abd Al Malik (artist), Joël de Rosnay (futurologist), Max Armanet (journalist), Philippe Merlant (La Vie), Gérard Wormser and Wafaa Fawzi (ENS), Yu Shuo (University of Beijing), Yves Soudan (Institut pour les Droits de l'Homme), Edgar Morin (philosopher), Fazette Bordage (Mains-d'Œuvre), Nathalie Veuillet (Là Hors De), Sandra Martinez (Kiwat Co.), Boris Kagarlitsky (Moscow), Faouzi Skali (anthropologist, Sufi, Morocco), Siddhartha (Pipal Tree, India), Sossé Sossou (writer, Benin), Albert Jacquard (geneticist), Joseph Ki-Zerbo (intellectual, Burkina

Faso), Jordi Borja (Barcelona), Rokia Traoré (artist), Lama Demys Rinpoché (Karma Ling), Zhang Lun (sociologist, China), Guy Walter (Assises Internationales du Roman), Daniel Kambéré (artist, DRC), Christel Hartmann-Fritsch (Berlin), Gaston Kelman (writer), Eugène Ebodé (France/Cameroun), John Ralston Saul (Canada), José Mpundu (DRC, Marche de l'Espoir), Pascal Picq (palaeoanthropologist), Coline Serreau and Boubacar Diallo (film makers)...

Associations

Arnaud Apoteker (Greenpeace), Bertrand Charrier (Green Cross), Olivier Brachet (Forum Réfugiés), Bernard Bolze (Trop, c'est trop), Jean-Baptiste Richardier (Handicap International), Guy Kastler (Confédération Paysanne), Lionel Roche (APPEL), Claude Lardy (Bioforce), Mireille Mendès France (Mouvement pour la Paix), Henryane de Chaponnay (CEDAL, Latin America), Bernard Dréano (CEDETIM), Michel Mousel (4D), Pierre Calame (FPH), Nadine Outin (Organisation des Droits de l'Enfant), Shoki Ali Said (Association d'Amitié Franco-Ethiopienne), Pierre Rhabi (Terre et Humanisme), Ryadh Sallem (European wheelchair-basketball champion), Wanda Munoz (Handicap International, Mexico), Edgar Laloum (Beit Ham, Palestine - Israel), Hugues Puel (Economie & Humanisme), Serge Orru (WWF), Georges Képénékian and Jean-Pierre Claveranne (Bullukian Fondation), JB de Foucauld (Solidarités Nouvelles Face au Chomage), Fernanda Leite (CCO Villeurbanne - Jean-Pierre Lachaize)...

The private sector

Hugue Sibille (Crédit Coopératif), Philippe Marcel (Adecco, IMS), Martin Robin and Rodo Tisnado (Architecture studio), Alain Godard, Bernard Saincy (CGT), Pierre Souchaud (Artension magazine), Bruno Lebuhotel (URSCOP), Daniel Gouffé (ERAI), Sylvie Fourn (Pollutec), Thierry Vandeveldé and Antoine Frérot (Veolia), Philippe Aigrain (Sopinspace), Sylvie Benard (Orée, LVMH), Philippe Desmarescaux (Biovision), Dominique Cherblanc (EDF), Jacky Blanc (La Nef), Arnab Chowdury (India, Puducherry)...

Elected officials and the political world

Gérard Collomb (President of the Greater Lyon Metropolitan Area, Senator-Mayor of Lyon), Corine Lepage (Cap 21), Jacky Darne, Gérard Claisse, Thérèse Rabatel, Gilles Vesco, Jean-Michel Daclin (Vice Presidents of the Greater Lyon Metropolitan Area), Maurice Charrier (Mayor of Vaulx-en-Velin), Yves Fournel, Henri Jacot (Deputy Mayors of Lyon), Pascale Crozon, Pierre-Alain Muet, Jean-Louis Touraine (Deputies), Simon Compaoré (Mayor of Ouagadougou), Catherine Trautmann (European Deputy), Jean-Pierre Worms (Observatoire de la Démocratie, Paris), Bernard Dossou (Mayor of Porto Novo, Benin), Didier Jouve (Vice President of the Rhône-Alpes Regional Council), Klaus Wowereit (Mayor of Berlin), Nicolas Baverez (Economist), Zoubida Nali...

Dialogues en humanité

<http://dialoguesenhumanite.free.fr>

This website is a wiki, a collective-intelligence site, developed by its visitors who enter into dialogues on and for humanity. Their contributions further the sharing of knowledge and the construction of a collective report on the human question.

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«In the end, humanity is responsible for most of its greatest problems.»

**DIALOGUES
EN HUMANITÉ**

Between philosophy and politics, a hope for change

In 2002, during the Johannesburg Earth Summit, the philosopher Patrick Viveret and Gérard Collomb, Senator-Mayor of Lyon and President of the Greater Lyon Metropolitan Area, observed that no international event dealt with the «human question» in and of itself. This observation inspired them to create the Dialogues en Humanité, a forum on Man.

Why Lyon?

As the writer Marc Lambron explains in the preface to the book *Lyon, l'humaniste* («Lyon, the Humanist», edited by Claude Royon of the association Economie et Humanisme and published in France by Autrement), there exists a tradition of humanism in Lyon. «The sandals of Saint Blandina, the antique collections of Pierre Sala, the dome of the Hôtel-Dieu, the treatises on tea by Jacob Spon, the smile of Guignol, the retorts of Claude Bernard, the voice of Lucie Aubrac, and the beard of Abbé Pierre could all be considered symbols [of this tradition]». The Dialogues en Humanité are a continuation of this two-thousand-year-old humanism.

From one year to the next, an increasingly popular event

In the beginning, the Dialogues en Humanité supported and complemented another event – for example, a scientific, economic or educational event – for which it supplied a more «sensitive», human-based point of view. Over time, however, the Dialogues became a popular event in their own right, taking place in early summer.

Freedom of expression, showing kindness to others, equality of everyone before the «human question»

- such are the basic principles of the Dialogues en Humanité (Greater Lyon, France): a time for exchanges, allowing citizens – with their own history, knowledge and experiences, whatever makes them who they are – to freely mix and discuss. These witnesses of the modern age reflect upon the difficulties and hopes of today's world. They compare their points of view. And during these open exchanges, as men and women from every continent who are free to express themselves, together they find reasons to act. They find the courage and room for manoeuvre which are lacking when one is all alone.

Because, for the first time in its history, humanity is in danger. By its excesses, its short-term projects and its arrogance, not only has humanity become its own worst enemy and victim (as illustrated by the terrible wars and genocides of the 20th century), it is also threatening the planet's natural equilibrium like never before.

While the Dialogues en Humanité were born from this observation, they refuse to give in to fatalism. On the contrary, they are based on the idea that man can, if he so chooses, choose the best when faced with the worst. These dialogues want to provide reasons for hope: the participants not only denounce inequality, war and the suffering imposed by man on nature, his fellow man and himself, they also increase awareness, they search for a new way of living, and they encourage humanity to respect itself and hold itself in higher esteem.

So that thousands of dialogues spring up

The objective of the Dialogues en Humanité is to inspire other regions, other groups, while being nourished and inspired by other initiatives. In this manner, the dialogue beneath the cedar tree, transposed to other countries, gives birth to councils beneath the holm oak or the banyan tree.

The cedar at the Tête d'Or Park, the roots of speech

This magnificent tree is located in the heart of the Tête d'Or Park, created in the 19th century and emblematic of Lyon life. Families, athletes, children, animal-lovers and amateur botanists all meet there. The Dialogues are held beneath this cedar, in reference to the «council tree» and the African oral tradition.

Beyond dialogue

While the Dialogues en Humanité are, of course, a time for speaking and listening, they also represent a special opportunity for meeting and exchanging. Picnics, workshops for discovering the living world and others (including their differences), workshops for expression, as well as games, exhibitions, story telling, theatre, and more - alternating with the agoras and the «life stories».

From reflection to action

Imagine we were to create a «Ministry for the Human Question», whose goal would be to make Man the cause, the centre and the objective of all decisions! Utopian? The Dialogues en Humanité want to make this question a political issue: what means will humanity make use of to improve its condition, while at the same time respecting the entire living world and, more broadly speaking, the entire planet?

Seven challenges, seven questions

to build another world

SOLIDARITY

How to share the wealth and combat poverty?

PEACE

Faced with the logics of violence and war, how to build logics of peace?

A MEETING OF CULTURES

How to move from the logic of confrontation to the logic of knowledge and understanding?

ECOLOGY

Faced with the ecological challenge, how can we change the way we live?

THE LIFE-SCIENCES REVOLUTION

How to reconcile science, conscience and responsibility?

DEMOCRACY

Faced with the fact that evil and the authoritarian logics are becoming increasingly commonplace, how to construct healthy, «living» democracies?

HUMANIZING HUMANITY

How to accept our own inhumanity? What are the reasons for hope?