



7th IAFIT International Congress Paris, 21, 22, 23, 24 September 2017

Invitation letter from the Spokespersons of the International Association of Freethought

Ladies and gentlemen,
Dear friends, dear comrades,

We are pleased to inform you of the 7th IAFIT Congress to be held in Paris from 22 to 24 September 2017 in symbolic locations (Bourse du Travail, Paris 10th district Town Hall, Paris University). It will be preceded by an international conference of IREL (Institute for Research and Studies of Freethought) and by a gathering in Garibaldi square.

**International Conference of IREL (Institute for Research and Studies of Freethought)
21 September 2017**

Salle Léon Jouhaux – Annexe de la Bourse du Travail
67 rue Turbigo – 75003 Paris

“Freethought and Freethinkers, yesterday and nowadays”

Chaired by Jean-Marc Schiappa, IREL President

Morning:

Welcome: 8.30

Session opening: 9.00

Co-chair Mrs Faouzia Farida Charfi, Physics Teacher in Tunis University (Tunisia), and former Minister.

- *“Greek sources of Freethought”* by Jean-Marc Narbonne of the Cercle Ernest Renan (Paris)
- *“Sylvain Maréchal, a freethinker during the French Revolution”* by Serge Bianchi (Professor emeritus, University Rennes II)
- *“The Paris Commune spreads Freethought worldwide”* by Pierre Roy (Historian, IREL)

- Open debate

Afternoon:

Session opening: 14.30

Co-chair Babacar Diop Buuba, Teacher in the Faculty of Humanities (FLSH), Cheikh Anta Diop University (Dakar, Senegal).

- "Freethought and Labor" by Serge Sebban (Historian, CERMTRI Paris)
- "Freethought and the Liberation Theology" by Fernando Lozada (Argentina)
- "Current issues in French secularity" by Philippe Portier (Teacher in Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris)
- "The Catholic Winning Back in Eastern Europe" by Nina Sankari (Kazimir Leszczynski Association, Poland)

- Open debate

Conclusion: "Organized movement of Freethought in the XXIst century" by David Gozlan, General Secretary of Libre Pensée, France.



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7th IAFI International Congress

Paris, 21, 22, 23, 24 September 2017

Thursday 21 September: International Day of Freethought

18h30: gathering in Garibaldi square – Paris (Métro: Cambronne)

Speeches: Maria Mantello (Italy), Elbio Laxalte (Uruguay), Pierre Gueguen (France)

Friday 22 September:

Salle Croizat – Bourse du Travail – 3 rue du Château d'Eau Paris X^e – Metro: République

Morning: Opening plenary session

Welcome: 8.45

Chair: Christian Eyschen (France), Antonio Vergara (Chile), Jean-Sebastien Pierre (France).

9 h 15 : Welcoming speeches Jean-Sébastien Pierre, chairman of Libre Pensée Française
Speeches from IHEU, AAI, EHF, CFI, Americans United for the Separation of Church and State (USA), CLIPSAS, Rationalist International

Alain de Keghel - The strength of revolutionary Libre Pensée message in Latin America

10 h 30 : Introductory reports on the IALP campaigns

- Max Wallace (Rationalist Society, Australia),
- Keith Porteous Wood (National Secular Society, UK),
- David Gozlan (Libre Pensée, France).

Afternoon: General Session on women's rights

Chair: Keith Porteous Wood (United Kingdom), Monica Rodriguez (Chile), Maria Montello (Italy).

14.30: Speeches:

- *Maria Mantello (Italian free thinkers federation):* The Machismo Syndrome and the “femicide”
 - *Monica Rodriguez (Chile, Cultural Center Valentin Letelier)*
 - *Nina Sankari (Poland, Kazimierz Lyszczyński Foundation)*
 - *Babu Gogineni (India) – Women in India- Deity or Human?*
 - *Hansi Bremond (Libre Pensée, France):* Issues about women clothes.
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- Open debate

Or **TOUR IN PARIS - WALKING THE WAY OF THOMAS PAINE**
With Margaret Downey and the Thomas Paine Memorial Committee (USA)
(Meeting at 3 PM in the Congress)

Saturday 23 September:

Paris 10th district Town Hall, 72 rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, Paris X^e

Morning: Discussions following the three introductory reports.

Welcome: 8.45

Chair: *David Rand (Canada), David Silverman (USA), Elbio Laxalte (Uruguay)*

9.00: Introductions to discussion:

- *David Rand (Atheist Freethinkers, Canada) –* Communitarianism, main threat for secularism in Canada
 - *Michael Nugent (Atheists Ireland, Ireland) –* Discriminations and violations of Human Rights in Ireland
 - *Paco Delgado (Europa Laica, Spain) -* Public funding of religions
 - *Léo Igwe (Nigeria) –* Public funding of pilgrimage in Nigeria
 - *Attila Jakab (Hungary) –* Breach in secularism in Hungary
 - *Elbio Laxalte (Freethought, Uruguay) –* Democracy and attacks against secularism in Uruguay
 - *Georges Saad (Lebanon) –* Law and confessionalism in Lebanon: is it possible to have a correct functioning of Law in a confessional context
 - *Carsten Frerk (IBKA, Germany) -* Separation of Churches and State
 - *Cornelie Mathys (Belgium) -* Anticlericalism in Belgium today (2013-2017): what is the link with secularism? Inventory
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- Open debate

Noon and 1 PM : Projection of a movie “Secularism in Argentina”

Afternoon: General Session on the right to die with dignity

Chair: *Nina Sankari (Poland), Albert Riba (Spain), Fernando Lozada (Argentina)*

14.30: Speeches

- *Jean-Luc Romero (ADMD, France)*
 - *Andreas Kyriakou (Swiss Freethought Association Freidenker-Vereinigung der Schweiz)*
 - *Jacqueline Herremans (ADMD, Belgium)*
 - *Michael Nugent (ADMD, Ireland)*
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- Open debate

Or :

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| Visit of secular Montmartre |
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| Meeting point at 2.30 PM – Metro: Anvers) |
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Evening:

6 PM: Outing in river boat

Boarding at: square du Vert Galant) – Vedettes du Pont Neuf

8 PM: Banquet for the participants – Restaurant “La Bouteille d’Or” – 9 quai de Montebello, Paris V^e (in front of Notre-Dame)

Sunday 24 September:

Paris University, Ecole Normale Supérieure, 45 rue d’Ulm, amphithéâtre Dussane

Chair: *Pierre Galand (FHE), Fernando Lozada (Argentina), Paco Delgado (Spain)*

Welcome: 8.45

9.00 : Speeches :

- *Léo Igwe (Nigeria) : The public financing of the pilgrimages in Nigeria*

Morning: Plenary Session on the Defense of Science

9.20 : Speeches

- *Jean-Sebastien Pierre (Libre Pensée, France)*
 - *Charles Suzanne (Belgium)*
 - *Julien Musolino (USA) – The American War on Science*
 - *Gauthier N’Gumbu – Creationist myths and Theory of Evolution in Africa*
 - *Pierre Galand – Liberty without borders against blasphemy and religious bans*
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- Open debate

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| 12.30: Meeting of the International Committee , in the Headquarters of Libre Pensée, salle Marc Blondel, 12 rue des Fossés Saint-Jacques, Paris. |
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Afternoon: Closing of the Congress

Chair: *Christian Eyschen (France), Roger Lepeix (France), Antonio Vergara (Chile)*

14.30: Summaries of the discussions on the three IAFT campaigns, report on the International Committee meeting, resolutions and final declaration of the congress, closing.

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-REGISTRATION FORM -

I will attend the 7th Congress of the IAFT - Paris

LAST NAME : FIRST NAME :

ADDRESS :

.....

COUNTRY: ASSOCIATION :

Mail :

1/ Registration to IRELP Conference (subject to availability, compulsory preliminary registration) : 10 € per person. Number of participants:

2/ Registration to AILP Congress (including registration fee, bag with useful documents, translations of the speeches and outing in river boat)

2 options:

- Registration **including banquet:** 100 € per person. Number of participants :
- Registration **without banquet:** 65 € per person. Number of participants :

3/ Registration for the cultural activities:

- Secular Montmartre visit (free)
- Walking the way of Thomas Paine, with Margaret Downey (USA) and a costume presentation with actors from Thomas Paine Memorial Committee (**Registration: 10 €**)

4/ Accommodations: Rooms are available in a very nice facility with a staff at your disposal. Breakfast is included. You can also have dinner but you need to make a reservation

beforehand. Nights before and after the Congress can be booked but in that case you need to contact us.

Résidence Internationale de Paris, 44 rue Louis Lumière – Paris XX^e

Single room : 75 €/per night Double room : 110 €/per night

Indicate the number of participants:

| | 09/20/2017- 09/21/2017 | 09/21/2017- 09/22/2017 | 09/22/2017- 09/23/2017 | 09/23/2017- 09/24/2017 | 09/24/2017- 09/25/2017 |
|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Nights | | | | | |
| Dinner | | | | | |

The dinners at the Résidence Internationale must be booked, but paid on the spot.

Registration by email: ailpcongres2017@orange.fr

Registration by mail : Libre Pensée – Congrès AILP 2017 - 10/12 rue des Fossés-Saint-Jacques - 75005 Paris – France

Payment by transfer: IBAN: 76 1820 6002 0665 0276 5558 592 BIC: AGRIFRPP882

Payment by cheque: FNLP AILP 2017

You can book a transport pass to the RATP public transport:

http://www.ratp.fr/fr/ratp/r_94834/paris-visite/

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To support the International Congress of Freethought in Paris in 2017:

Last name:

First Name:.....

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Personal Support:

I am paying : _____ €

For a 66% tax deduction, you can claim a tax receipt.

- I would like to receive an tax receipt at the congress.
- I wish to receive a tax receipt by mail (minimum donation of 10 €).

Subscription to send to: Libre Pensée - 10/12 rue des Fossés St Jacques - 75005 Paris

IMPORTANT: For donations by cheque, indicate on the back «Don Congrès AILP 2017»

It is also possible to subscribe online: www.fnlp.fr - section "faire un don"