

Einladung

EARTH SOCIETY FOUNDATION



EARTHDAY 2009

am Freitag, 20. März

- 11.55 Treffpunkt Gate 1, UNO (2 Sicherheitskontrollen, bitte rechtzeitig kommen)
- 12.30 Friedenszeremonie bei der japanischen Glocke
- 13.30 Irdischkulinarischer Ausklang beim „Vogelbauer“, Wagramerstrasse

Die Idee, einen Tag der Erde zu feiern, hat in vielen Teilen der Welt in den siebziger Jahren die Umweltbewegungen zusammengeführt. Ursprünglich sollte aber mit dem Tag der Erde noch mehr erreicht werden. Der Gründer des [Earth Days](#), John McConnell, hat diesen Tag auch als interkulturellen Feiertag für die "Bürger der einen Erde" verstanden. Der Schutz der Umwelt ist mit der Frage der Gerechtigkeit im Zugang zu den Ressourcen sowie mit der Frage des Friedens und einer gewaltfreien Kultur untrennbar verbunden. Das eine ist ohne das andere nicht zu erreichen und erfordert neue und kreative Lösungen und Allianzen. Als rund um den Globus alle Kulturen übergreifendes Ereignis gibt die Tag- und Nachtgleiche zum Frühjahrsbeginn Anlass, an diese Verbundenheit aller Kulturen mit ihrer Lebensbasis: „Mutter Erde“ zu erinnern und über Handeln in globaler Verantwortung als "Treuhänder der Erde" nachzudenken, es in den Mittelpunkt unserer Aufmerksamkeit zu stellen.

Anmeldung wegen des Eincheckens in den Sicherheitsbereich bis 18. März, 10:00
erbeten: f.nahrada@reflex.at

Mit herzlichen Grüßen
Mag. Franz Nahrada
UN Liaison – Earth Society Foundation in Vienna
f.nahrada@reflex.at

Guests are welcome!

A ground pass is required to enter Vienna International Centre (VIC).
If you do not have a permanent pass, please mail your name to f.nahrada@reflex.at
not later than March 18th 10:00. A list of participants will then be at the main gate of
the VIC and upon showing a **personal document** you will be issued a **ground pass**.

Recipients of this invitation who would like to attend the meeting are requested
to present this invitation and their identity document at Gate 1 of the VIC.

The VIC, 1220 Wien, Wagramerstrasse 5, is best reached by U 1 (Kaisermühlen)

Reflections of Franz Nahrada on Earth Day 2009

I want to thank you all for coming here. Still this is a gathering of a few friends, not even any more listed in the UN Calendar of events. So why are you here, why am I here every year to ring the peace bell?

I think we are here because we feel that there is an importance of space and time in everything we do, and we have learned that this is a very special moment that allows us a meditation on the powerful reality that holds all our lives.

We can feel that there is something really to celebrate, which seem so mundane and quotidian that we take it for granted. But it is not. Our existence cannot be take for granted, it is all based on one wonderful reality: the cosmic incident that there is a star on one side which produces immense energy, in one second as much as mankind would use in a million years – and there is a planet on the other side which captures and transforms a tiny fraction of this energy into a colorful and beautiful miracle of life.

Mankind has always been captured by images of magnificence and beauty, giving us the feeling that there is something meaningful bigger than ourselves. Now here is the absolute beauty and meaningfulness, allowing us to be not only part of it, but the conscient part, the active part, the formative part.

And here is one of the two special moments where the position of this star, our sun, is exactly in the celestial equator, in the cosmic projection of the dance of our planet, showing us a cycle that is the mother for all cycles of life.

We believe as Earth Society Foundation, that the shere idea, the pure feeling, the true perception of this powerful alignment has the power to transform our thoughts, words and actions. That is why we are celebrating Earth Day.

Sometimes we do it with words, with music, with images, with dances, with imagery, from artists or from children, sometimes we do it without program like today.

Sometimes it is enough just to hear the sound of the peace bell, allowing our thoughts to leave the narrow perspective of our here and now, enjoying the feeling of becoming one with this wonderful fundamental reality and being grateful for its very existence, no matter if there is a creator or not.

This is the reason why I am here, and most likely also why you are here. We believe that the reality that we are celebrating has the power to bring us together in thoughts, words and actions, connect us even across the most striking cultural barriers and leave us in the state of what we ought to be to live on this one earth: friends.

Lets ring the bell.