

18 June 2026

at Schloss Genshagen
and on the castle grounds

Stiftung
Genshagen

Dialogues
en humanité

Disconnected?

INDIVIDUALISATION
LONELINESS AND
SOCIAL COHESION
IN TIMES OF
TRANSFORMATION

Disconnected?

European Conference

Programme

Thursday, 18 June 2026

Simultaneous interpreting will be provided in German and English.

Moderation: [Axel Rahmlow](#), Deutschlandfunk Kultur and [Linda Weichlein](#), Cultural Manager

Audio feature: [Schokofeh Kamiz](#), Artist and Journalist

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| 11:00 | Official Welcome Susanne Keuchel , Director, Genshagen Foundation | |
| 11:05 | Opening Greeting Noémie Kaufman , Project Leader, Genshagen Foundation | |
| 11:15 | Introductory Talk <i>All for One and One for All – Which Kinds of Social Cohesion Do We Need?</i> Christopher Swader , Department of Sociology, Lund University | |
| 11:55 | Agoras under the arbres à palabres Two moderated discussion forums will take place in parallel. | |
| | Agora 1 – Moderation: Axel Rahmlow | Agora 2 – Moderation: Linda Weichlein |
| 12:00 | Solidarity in a Transforming Society. <i>Paths to a New Social Responsibility</i> Juri Viehoff , Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Utrecht University Blanche de Lestrangle , Art Explora, Paris | Loneliness in an Individualised Society <i>Alone among many? Loneliness as a Societal Challenge</i> Mirjam Dierkes , Institute for Social Work and Social Pedagogy, Frankfurt am Main Marcel Foster , Performance Hypothesis, Atlanta / Oxford University |
| 13:00 | Lunch Break | |
| 14:00 | Digitalisation: Connection or Division? <i>Always Connected – Never Together? Digital Spaces and Social Cohesion</i> Václav Štětka , European New School of Digital Studies, European University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder) Karolina Tabak , Polish History Museum, Warsaw | Art and Culture as Spaces for Social Cohesion <i>Experiencing Together: How Art and Culture Foster Connections</i> Micaela Casalboni , Teatro dell'Argine, Bologna Ștefan Teișanu , Cluj Cultural Center, Cluj |
| 15:00 | Coffee Break/ Networking | |

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| 16:00 | Dialogue under Trees |
| 16:00 | Dialogue Session 1 – Moderation: Axel Rahmlow <i>The Limits of Freedom or How Much Individualisation Can our Societies Handle?</i> Micaela Casalboni , Teatro dell'Argine, Bologna Marcel Foster , Performance Hypothesis / Oxford University |
| 16:25 | Short Break |
| 16:35 | Dialogue Session 2 – Moderation: Linda Weichlein <i>Reconnecting – How Can We Foster Social Cohesion?</i> Ştefan Teişanu , Cluj Cultural Center, Cluj Juri Viehoff , Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Utrecht University |
| 17:00 | Short Break |
| 17:15 | Panel discussion – Moderation: Axel Rahmlow <i>Between Personal Fulfilment and Social Responsibility: Seeking a New Balance in Europe</i> Anna Lob , More in Common, Berlin Robert Piaskowski , National Centre for Culture, Warsaw Christopher Swader , Department of Sociology, Lund University |
| 18:15 | On the exhibition Ulrike Kremeier , Brandenburg State Museum of Modern Art, Cottbus |
| 18:25 | Closing Comment Alexandre Navarro , French National Commission for UNESCO, Paris |
| 18:35 | Sensitive Echo of the Day Lydia Böhmert and Cyril Limousin Direction of the Artistic Performance: Sam Khebizi , Les Têtes de l'Art, Marseille |
| 19:00 | Dinner |
| 20:00 | Bus transfer to Berlin-Südkreuz station |

Please register [here](#) by 15 June 2026.

Venue: Schloss Genshagen, Am Schloss 1, 14974 Genshagen (near Berlin)

www.stiftung-genshagen.de

We provide a direct bus transfer from Berlin-Südkreuz station to Genshagen Castle and back.

Contact: Noémie Kaufman, +49-3378-805935, kaufman@stiftung-genshagen.de

Funded by:



As part of the Genshagen Foundation's focus topic:



Our Founders:



Short biographies

Speakers

Micaela Casalboni

is an actress, director, and theatre teacher responsible for international and intercultural projects. She is the co-artistic director of Teatro dell'Argine, the theatre company she helped found in San Lazzaro di Savena, Bologna, in 1994. Through various activities, including creating and directing shows, running workshops and artistic venues, Teatro dell'Argine seeks to promote the idea of theatre as an open, safe and third space, and as a tool for dialogue and relationships between generations, cultures, communities, genders, disciplines, and sectors, both locally and internationally.

www.itcteatro.it

Marcel Foster

(they/them) is the CEO and co-founder of Performance Hypothesis, an internationally recognised consulting firm focusing on arts and health initiatives. Projects include dance for Parkinson's initiatives with Emory University, engagements with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as policy changes that resulted in the first US nation legislation to address how the arts can be leveraged to improve mental health outcomes. Foster serves as the Chair of the Arts Group for the American Evaluation Association and will begin doctoral studies at Oxford University in autumn 2026, having completed a Master of Public Health from the Emory University Rollins School of Public Health in 2017.

www.performhy.com

Anna Lob

works at the international, non-profit organisation More in Common at the intersection of media, public debate, and social cohesion. Her work focuses on how journalism and digital platforms influence social polarisation, as well as the role the media can play in fostering a constructive culture of debate. From 2024 to 2025, she was a Fellow for International Digital Policy at the Federal Ministry of Digital Affairs and Transport. Since 2022, she has been a volunteer board member at D64—Centre for Digital Progress. She studied psychology, communication sciences and public policy in Freiburg, Berlin, and Austin (Texas).

www.moreincommon.de

Robert Piaskowski

is a sociologist, Polish studies scholar, cultural manager, and animator, and currently Director of the National Centre for Culture in Warsaw. This key Polish cultural institution is responsible for shaping cultural policies, developing the skills of cultural professionals, conducting research, and running multi-year programs in fields such as music education, promoting reading, and studies of all branches of the cultural sector. He was formerly Programme Director of the Krakow Festival Office (2007–2019) and Plenipotentiary of the Mayor of Krakow for Culture.

www.nck.pl

Mirjam Dierkes

studied Modern German Literature, Media Studies and Political Science. Following various research and teaching roles at several universities, she joined the Institute for Social Work and Social Pedagogy (ISS) in Frankfurt am Main in 2020. Initially working there as a research collaborator at the secretariat for the German Government's Third Gender Equality Report, she later became its director. Since 2022, she has been a divisional head at the ISS, responsible for equality and loneliness. She is the project manager of the Competence Network on Loneliness, funded by the Federal Ministry of Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth.

www.iss-ffm.de

Blanche de Lestrangle

is artistic director of the Art Explora Foundation in Paris, founded in 2019 by Frédéric Jousset. Her primary role is to oversee the artistic programming and ensure the overall coherence of the foundation's projects. She is also responsible for developing artist residencies and fostering synergies with partner cultural institutions. De Lestrangle has extensive experience in the arts, having previously directed the off-site programming for FIAC, the International Contemporary Art Fair in Paris, and co-founded the Thanks for Nothing organisation. She graduated from Sciences Po Paris and holds a bachelor's degree in history of art from the Sorbonne University.

www.artexplora.org

Alexandre Navarro

is Secretary-General of the French National Commission for UNESCO and holds a doctorate in Cultural History from Sorbonne Nouvelle University. He develops and coordinates numerous international cultural, scientific and educational cooperation projects, while representing France within UNESCO's governing bodies. His long-standing work with cultural policy actors, international cultural networks and embassy cultural centres has helped strengthen France's voice in global cultural diplomacy. He also oversees UNESCO networks and programmes in France, as well as international cooperation between national commissions.

<https://unesco.delegfrance.org>

Václav Štětko

is Professor of Digital Political Communication at the European New School of Digital Studies at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder). He completed his PhD at Masaryk University in Brno, and held academic posts at the University of Oxford, Charles University in Prague, and Loughborough University, where he has been based for the last ten years. His research focuses on digital media, democratic erosion, illiberalism, and disinformation, especially in Central and Eastern Europe. His most recent book *The Illiberal Public Sphere: Media in Polarized Societies* (2024, with S. Mihelj) received the 2025 APSA Best Book Award.

www.europeannewschool.eu

Christopher Swader

is an associate professor in the Department of Sociology at Lund University. His previous academic appointments were at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow and the University of Bremen; he is currently a visiting researcher at Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich. He completed his dissertation in sociology at the Graduate School of Social Sciences in Bremen, examining the transformation of values in post-socialist societies in relation to economic change. His current research focuses on a multi-method investigation of loneliness in modern societies.

www.soc.lu.se

Karolina Tabak

is head of the Digital Projects Department at the Polish History Museum, where she is responsible for developing digital asset management systems and their online dissemination. She has over 15 years' experience working with museum data, ranging from database administration to leading digital projects. From 2007 to 2022, she was affiliated with the National Museum in Warsaw. She specialises in metadata, information architecture, and resource accessibility, including in the context of AI applications. She is a speaker and expert at industry events focusing on open cultural resources and digital technologies.

www.muzhp.pl

Ştefan Teişanu

is a cultural manager and entrepreneur. He is co-founder and director of the Cluj Cultural Centre, a NGO dedicated to culture and sustainable development with 146 member organisations. He is also a member of the Plenary of the Economic and Social Council of Romania and secretary general of the European network Culture Next. He founded the Fapte Association, which organises the "Jazz in the Park" festival, and the Nord Association which promotes community development through culture in Darabani, his hometown in Moldova.

www.cccluj.ro

Juri Viehoff

is an Associate Professor of Philosophy at Utrecht University. His research lies at the intersection of political philosophy, social philosophy, and the ethics of new technologies, with a particular focus on solidarity and social cohesion. Viehoff studied at the London School of Economics and the University of Oxford, where he obtained his PhD. Following his doctorate, he worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the European University Institute in Florence and at the University of Zurich. He has been teaching in Utrecht since 2023.

www.uu.nl

Moderation**Axel Rahmlow**

is a journalist and has been presenting news programmes and discussion shows on Berlin-based radio station *Deutschlandfunk Kultur* since 2013. He studied journalism in Leipzig and has also worked for the news magazine *Der Spiegel*, *tageschau.de* and *Westdeutscher Rundfunk* as a podcast host and producer.

www.deutschlandfunkkultur.de

Linda Weichlein

is a cultural manager with an MA in Arts Administration and Cultural Policy from London's Goldsmiths University and a human geographer with a MA in Urban Geographies from Berlin's Humboldt University. She has a keen interest in fostering positive collaboration and a sense of belonging in the workplace. As a facilitator, she supports teams by leading participatory workshops and training sessions. She has worked as a project manager for non-profit organisations, international foundations, and the public sector, most recently at the intersection of culture and urban development in the context of asylum, exile, and migration.

www.lindaweichlein.com

Artistic interventions

Lydia Böhmert

co-founded the multilingual theatre company “Thallia compagnie théâtrale” in 2022 and has created various Franco-German and plurilingual productions, including *Bulles de langues*, *Nina & Daniel*, and the first interactive German-French theatre project *Miteinander statt übereinander: Parle-moi de toi*. Working in German-French contexts since 2008, her plays and workshops explore how people are excluded and categorised in European societies. Böhmert is also a theatre actress, director, and educator. From 2012 to 2018, she taught German for the DAAD at the University of Lyon 2.

www.compagniehallia.eu

Schokofeh Kamiz

works between image and narrative. Shaped by photography, film, and journalistic experience, her practice follows a research-based approach. Often grounded in autobiographical context, she explores the tension between socio-political narratives and personal experience. At the wearedoingit association, she is the artistic director of „Pipe Up! – Die Wortwerkstatt,” a creative writing and critical thinking project for schoolchildren.

<https://wirmachendas.jetzt/pipe-up-die-wortwerkstatt>

Sam Khebizi

has combined artistic expertise with socio-cultural management since 1991. Trained in dramatic arts and holding a master’s degree in social management, he founded *Les Têtes de l’Art* in 1996, a organisation dedicated to mediation and participatory artistic practices. Recognised as a Euro-Mediterranean expert, he works as an artistic director, consultant, and trainer on youth, democracy, and citizenship issues. He also co-directs the French network of the Anna Lindh Foundation.

www.lestetesdelart.fr

Cyril Limousin

is a multidisciplinary artist with over 20 years of international experience, working at the intersection of contemporary dance, street arts, and audiovisual creation. He has danced for renowned companies such as Grenade, Artonik, Dancemakers, and Oxypu, and holds a state diploma in contemporary dance teaching. He also works behind the scenes, as a videographer, director, and technical director, bringing hybrid projects to life, including productions by the Wrong Time collective and the podcast *Et vous, vous en êtes où?*

www.wrong-time.com