

GERMANY

Deutsche Montessori Gesellschaft (DMG)

Highlights

DMG is proud of its affiliation to AMI, which goes back to 1954. Also our founding date reveals a long history, as we were established in Berlin in 1925 with the assistance of Maria Montessori.

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The DMG hosted an international conference on the theme "90 Years of German Montessori Society," as the DMG celebrated its 90th anniversary. This Montessori conference took place from 6 to 8 November 2015 in Frankfurt. More than 250 guests attended the opening ceremony and enjoyed a speech from AMI's former President André Roberfroid. As he was prevented from attending the inauguration in person due to industrial action, his presentation was delivered via Skype. A number of international speakers attended the convention: Jenny Marie Höglund and Lennart Höglund from Sweden, Saskia Haspel from Austria and Professor Vandana Shiva from India. Professor Harald Ludwig, in his function as Chief Editor, gave a presentation of the complete works of Maria Montessori, which are currently published in German. Thirty workshops were held, which explored various aspects of the work with children reaching from birth to adulthood.

The event attracted many visitors and informed them of the international dimensions of Montessori pedagogy. André Roberfroid's keynote speech with the title "How can we support children and adolescents to shape the future?" underscored the message to the congress.

In our view, this is the one and most paramount ambition if we want to create the right conditions for a peaceful society and collaboration between communities across all social borders and national frontiers. We need to support minors on this path. This was the situation some 90 years ago and continues to be the goal for all Montessori educators, including the German Montessori Society.

All speeches delivered will be printed in the DMG's Montessori journal *Das KIND*, No. 58.

The Cosmic Tales in the Montessori Pedagogy

In its efforts to bring AMI international Montessori training courses and other activities to the attention of a wider audience the DMG publishes The Cosmic Tales in German. The publication includes original texts from Maria and Mario Montessori, additional comments and recommendations for Montessori schooling by renowned authors like Baiba Krumins-Grazzini, Camillo Grazzini, Greg McDonald and Peter Gebhardt-Seele.

Great demand and advances in generally accepted scientific knowledge about cosmic development have led us to reprint The Cosmic Tales since its first publication in 2006 and to add supplementary other key stories and charts in our new and updated

publication which appeared in 2015 and was first shown to the public on the Montessori congress.

Cooperation between DMG and AMI

As there are several affiliated AMI partners in our country, we would like to reiterate our commitment to strengthening the Montessori movement in Germany and its struggle for the rights of children in our country.

Rainer Völkel
Chair DMG