European Congress 2014

Bridging Science and Spirituality

30 July to 3 August Paris, France

(Opening: 30 July morning – Closing: 3 August before lunch)

Working languages of the Congress are English and French

Organised by

The European Federation of the Theosophical Society and the Theosophical Society in France

Short history of the Congresses in Europe

The first Congress in Europe took place in 1903 in London, England, with the guest speaker Colonel Henry S. Olcott. In the beginning of the 20th century, Congresses were organised almost annually; this established a firm foundation for theosophists to come together regularly, so that even during the war years Congresses still took place.

In the second half of the 20th century, Congresses were organised after every three or four years. In the 21st century, there have been four Congresses by now: in 2003 in Naarden, The Netherlands (Centenary of the EFTS); in 2004 in Porto, Portugal; in 2007 in Helsinki, Finland; and in 2010 in Rome, Italy (World Congress).

Since the beginning of the 20th century, there have been six Congresses in France. The latest Congress in Paris, which was World Congress, took place in 1971. The latest Congress in France took place in 1984 in Poitiers, which means that exactly after 30 years, in the year of 2014, which is also 111th anniversary of the European Federation of the Theosophical Society, the 37th European Congress takes place again in France, and this time in Paris.

37th European Congress in 2014

The aim of the 37th European Congress is to bring together members and sympathizers from Europe and the world, and furthermore to investigate together the connection between science and spirituality today. Special guests are expected and will be announced.

Venue

The European Congress 2014 will take place in Adyar Theatre [www.theatre-adyar.fr] next to the premises of the TS in France (4 Square Rapp, 75007), in the centre of Paris, 650 metres from Eiffel Tower.



Programme

The programme of the Congress includes lectures and symposium talks. Also a classical music concert and light programmes by the sections are scheduled. On two days the programme ends early in the afternoon.

Detailed programme of the Congress will be published in due time.

The programme of the Congress will be partly broadcast online.

Registration

Registration will begin in mid-September via the website of the EFTS [<u>www.ts-efts.org</u>] and other channels. The last date to register for the European Congress is 15 May 2014.

Registration fees for the Congress are:

- for members 20 euros,
- for non-members 30 euros.

Meals/Drinks

Vegetarian lunch (lacto-ovo-vegetarian) will be served daily (from 30 July till 2 August included) by a special caterer either in the premises of the TS France or nearby. On special request vegan lunch is also served. The price of meals is 60 Euros for all four days or 17 Euros for a meal.

During breaks **drinks** (coffee-tea) are served in the premises of the TS France with the price of **20 Euros for the whole Congress**. In addition to this, a bottle of mineral water (0.5 l) will be offered daily.

Accommodation

Participants should take care of their accommodation by their own means. Although there are many hotels and hostels near Adyar Theatre, it is advisable to book the hotel/hostel soonest possible, as the time of the European Congress is high tourist season in Paris and as the headquarters is situated in the centre of Paris.

For finding a hotel/hostel near Adyar Theatre, Eiffel Tower can be used as a landmark, as the distance between these two places is 650 metres. To make choosing and booking easier, few options are suggested.



Hotels

Among other possible online booking systems, <u>www.booking.com</u> offers a wide number of accommodation possibilities with various price levels.

Hostel / Bed and Breakfast

For budget-friendly accommodation possibilities near Adyar Theatre, see: www.budgetplaces.com/5564/eiffel-tower-accommodation-paris-sort-by-distance-114-9.html

Transport

Charles de Gaulle Airport

Distance between CDG airport and Adyar Theatre: ~34 km

Arriving to the Paris Charles de Gaulle airport, two options for reaching a hotel near Adyar Theatre are advised.

1. Air France shuttle plus taxi

Time of journey: around one and a half an hour, depending on the traffic

Approximate price: 17 Euros for the shuttle + 13 Euros for the taxi

Details: Air France shuttles [www.lescarsairfrance.com/en.html] depart on line number two after every 30 minutes. The journey should be continued until the terminus – Etoile (Arc of Triumph). Opposite the shuttle terminus and two streets clockwise around the Arc of Triumph, is a taxi station.

2. Taxi

Time of journey: around one hour, depending on the traffic

Approximate price: 50-70 Euros

Details: official taxi stations are well indicated in every terminal (avoid freelance drivers)

For more transport possibilities from Charles de Gaulle airport, see:

www.aeroportsdeparis.fr/ADP/en-GB/Passagers/Access-maps-car-parks/Paris-CDG/Access/public-transport/public-transport.htm

Orly Airport

Distance between Orly airport and Adyar Theatre: ~20 km

Arriving to the Paris Orly airport, two options for reaching a hotel near Adyar Theatre are advised.

1. Air France shuttle plus taxi

Time of journey: around one hour 15 minutes, depending on the traffic

Approximate price: 12 Euros for the shuttle + 13 Euros for the taxi

Details: Air France shuttles [www.lescarsairfrance.com/en.html] depart on line number one after every 30 minutes. The journey should be continued until the terminus – Etoile (Arc of Triumph). Opposite the shuttle terminus and two streets clockwise around the Arc of Triumph, is a taxi station.

2. Taxi

Time of journey: around 45 minutes, depending on the traffic

Approximate price: 40-50 Euros

Details: official taxi stations are well indicated in every terminal (avoid freelance drivers)

For more transport possibilities from Orly Airport, see: www.aeroportsdeparis.fr/ADP/en-

GB/Passagers/Access-maps-car-parks/Paris-Orly/Access/public-transport/

More Information

Detailed information about the Congress will be published on the website of the European Federation of the Theosophical Society [www.ts-efts.org] in mid-September. In due time a mailing list for news about the European Congress will be created. While waiting, if any urgent information needed, you can contact us via email at congress@ts-efts.org.