Invitation

The International Symposium on Homeopathy

Thursday 8 April 2010 from 17:00 to 19:00 TR3 Conference Hall, Trg republike 3, Ljubljana

The Slovenian Homeopathic Society, Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis and the European Committee for Homeopathy are organising the International Symposium on Homeopathy to celebrate the International Homeopathy Day and promote public awareness of homeopathy in Slovenia.

During the last 200 years homeopathy proved itself as a safe and effective medical method. In addition to that, homeopathy is less expensive than conventional medicine treatment.

In 1997, the European Commission established that more than 100 million, representing more than 22 per cent European citizens had recourse to homeopathy. The World Health Organisation placed homeopathy among five most often used non-conventional medical methods in the world. In a majority of EU Member States (with the exception of Slovenia and Sweden) homeopathy is part of regular medical practice carried out by physicians.

Speakers:

Dr Zdenka Čebašek - Travnik, Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia Dr Ulrich D Fischer, President, Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis Dr Ton Nicolai, President, European Committee for Homeopathy Dr Erwin Kubesch, Ambassador of Austria to Slovenia Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri, Ambassador of India to Slovenia Dr Ivan Eržen, State Secretary, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Slovenia Irena Gorišek, MD, President, Slovenian Homeopathic Society

Working languages: Slovene and English, simultaneous interpretation will be provided. Moderator: **Dr Milan Jazbec**

No admission fee. We look forward to welcoming you on 8 April.

Additional information at www.shd.si or by e-mail: info@shd.si

International Symposium on Homeopathy Mednarodni simpozij o homeopatiji

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17.00 Welcome Remarks

Irena Gorišek, MD, President of the Slovenian Homeopathic Society

17.05 Opening Remarks

Dr Zdenka Čebašek - Travnik, Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia

17.15 Keynote Speeches

Dr Ulrich D Fischer, President of the Liga Medicorum Homeopathica Internationalis **Dr Ton Nicolai**, President of the European Committee for Homeopathy

17.55 Presentations

Homeopathy in Austria H.E. Dr Erwin Kubesch, Ambassador of Austria to Slovenia

Homeopathy in India H.E. Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri, Ambassador of India to Slovenia

Homeopathy in Switzerland Dr Barbara Bichsel, National Vice President for Switzerland to LMHI and ECH

Legal status of homeopathy in Slovenia Dr Ivan Eržen, State Secretary, Ministry of Health, Slovenia

18.40 Discussion

Closing Remarks

19.00 Reception

The Slovenian Homeopathic Society (SHD) was established in 1992 to research, develop and promote homeopathy as a medical practice in Slovenia. Full membership is only awarded to physicians, dentists and pharmacists who express interest in homeopathy, and wish to deepen and further their knowledge on homeopathic treatment.

Since the beginning, the SHD has been in charge of three-year postgraduate education and training of physicians, dentists and pharmacists in compliance with the European Committee for Homeopathy standards. Lecturers are homeopathic physicians from Austria, Germany, Slovenia, and other European countries.

The SHD is striving for homeopathy in Slovenia to become a part of general medical care, and for physicians and patients to be able to freely choose the most appropriate method of treatment. By law, only medical doctors are allowed to practise homeopathy in Slovenia, however, the practices of conventional and homeopathic medicine are not compatible as medical doctors who wish to practise homeopathy lose their licence to practise conventional medicine.

The Slovenian Homeopathic Society is an institutional member of the LMHI and the ECH. Website: www.shd.si

The Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis (LMHI) was founded 1925. The objectives of the association comprise the development and securing of homeopathy worldwide, and the creation of links between licensed homeopaths with medical diplomas and the societies and persons interested in homeopathy. The LMHI currently represents 70 countries worldwide, and includes various working areas, such as education, research, public relations, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary, newsletters, and archives.

The goals of the LMHI have international scope, including contacts and common working projects with international health organisations (WHO, UNICEF, the Red Cross), contacts and common working projects with other international homeopathic organisations (the European Committee for Homeopathy, GIRI, and others).

The LMHI provides political support, assistance and educational help with regard to political and legal challenges to homeopathy in those countries where the LMHI's aid is solicited by the representatives of national homeopathic organisations. Educational help is offered via an LMHI speakers list, providing names of speakers, topics available, languages spoken, and the LMHI Curriculum.

Furthermore, the LMHI is acting as a coordinator for the international dissemination of homeopathically pertinent media items and for international communication among homeopathic and allied researchers and research projects.

The LMHI unites physicians, veterinarians, dentists and pharmacists with full medical, veterinary, dental or pharmaceutical qualification of a state university (or any other licensing authority duly recognised by the government of the country in which they practice) and who have obtained special education in homeopathy. Website: liga.iwmh.net

The European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH) is the one and only European association of medical doctors specialised in homeopathic medicine. It represents 40 homeopathic doctor associations in 25 European countries as well as many homeopathic veterinarians, dentists and pharmacists in Europe.

The ECH aims to promote and defend the quality of the science and medical practice of homeopathy, promote harmonisation of the medical practice of homeopathy in Europe, and represent both individuals and organisations throughout Europe that share the same aims. The final objective of the ECH is full integration of homeopathy within the European healthcare system, which will meet the growing demand among European citizens for homeopathic care within a professional medical context. Website: www.homeopathyeurope.org

Dr Ulrich D Fischer started studying medicine at the Medical Faculty in Hamburg, Germany and continued at the Universidad Metropolitana in Mexico City. In the same period, he studied several years at the postgraduate school "Homeopatía de México" of Dr Proceso Sánchez Ortega. Later he continued to work as a teacher at "Homeopatía de México", while balancing private family practice with work in several slum projects mainly oriented towards women's self-help health projects, in and around Mexico City.

After his return from Mexico in 1983, he established a homeopathic practice in Freiburg. Since 1984, he has been a teacher in the 3-year programme in homeopathy for medical doctors. More than 10 years he held the official teaching position for homeopathy at the Pharmaceutical Institute at the University of Freiburg.

In 1991, he was elected LMHI Vice President for Germany and represented Germany for 7 years in the Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis. In 1998, he was elected General Secretary, in 2004 Prime Vice President, and in 2007 President of the LMHI.

In 1990, Dr Fischer was one of the founders of the European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH). Since then he has been working in several ECH subcommittees. For many years he represented Germany in the Educational subcommittee, participating in the development of the "Basic Teaching Guidelines" of the ECH. Afterwards, Dr Fischer represented Germany in the Political subcommittee. He was elected ECH Vice President in October 2006.

Between 1997 and 2004, he was a member of the Board of the German Association of Homeopathic Physicians (DZVhÄ), responsible for international affairs.

Dr Fischer was in charge of teaching activities for medical doctors on different subjects of homeopathy in many countries of the world, the translation of several homeopathic books from Spanish to German, and contributed numerous articles in well-known homeopathic magazines worldwide.

Dr Ton Nicolai is the President of the European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH), the European association of medical doctors specialised in homeopathic medicine. He graduated in medicine from Leiden University and practised as a general practitioner for more than 10 years. Confronted with the limitations of conventional medicine, he studied several non-conventional therapies and eventually specialised in homeopathy. He has run a homeopathic medical practice in Rotterdam for more than 25 years.

He was on the Board of the Dutch Homeopathic Medical Association (VHAN) and the Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis (LMHI). As an ECH executive he has been active in the EU political arena in Brussels since many years. He is the author of several publications on homeopathy, its professional practice and its position in European healthcare.

He was honoured as Companion of the Order of Orange-Nassau on behalf of the Queen of the Netherlands for his work for homeopathy in the Netherlands and abroad. He is Honorary Member of the LMHI, Honorary Fellow of the Faculty of Homeopathy in the United Kingdom, and he received the Globular Politics Award from the German Association of Homeopathic Physicians.