



The INF-FNI Congress 2018 in Lisbon

There are some impressions I may offer you, while the detailed protocol is being developed: By Volkmar Ellmauthaler



Prior to the Congress, some pending matter was discussed in a CC-meeting. Gregers, then, would present his point-of-view and suggest solutions on a – preferably new – payment system. His presentation was repeated and widened in the Congress. Some issues, however, remain subject to an on-going debate.

Elderly members, who might not achieve corresponding technical standards (or would refuse to run) the respective applications, were seen as a minority, responsible for their own standards. Priority was given to the acquisition of young, future members. The costs were not finally calculated, nor agreed to. Fact is, however, the youth, if not familiar with Naturism, might hardly feel attracted by common technical standards only; rather should be offered individual contact with genuine Naturists instead, who need to be friendly and cooperative: in other words, an attractive, “naturist” role model ought to be communicated.

At the congress, another workshop was held its subject was “Encounter in a Group process”. The respective analysis lead to the following conclusion: Special efficacy lay in the permanent relativization of one’s own location in relation to two other individuals. Minimal movements of one turned out to cause permanent motion in relation to others, as the goal for each one was to keep equidistance to two other group members each, who would not necessarily know, whose “target” they were.

This physical experience made some people relax and enjoy.

Apart from that, the voting behavior on certain agenda items seemed to have been previously agreed. The corresponding discussions appeared

tiringly difficult to me. Some delegates tended to monologize on their own, and particular, position.

The congress was highlighted by a Gala Dinner with piano music. Herewith, the Hotel Caparica Mar was presenting proficiency at its best. After all, the emotions in transition to everyday work seem to stay relaxed. I have the impression that, with goodwill, new, creative cooperation between all federations will now be-come practicable again.

For detailed information, kindly contact your delegates who, before long, will receive the protocol.

My special desire is to thank all those who helped organize the Congress and contributed to its successful outcome: Sieglinde, the EC, Filipa and her husband in particular, and all those working “backstage”, who gave the event special charm.

Charming are references to the “Galo de Barcelos”.





„Not Only in Fairy Tales“

Once upon a time in a faraway land people call India lived a very good man. He was kind, gentle, smart, curious, educated. He had a good job and he was blessed with a wonderful family. He was always taking care of others and taking life as it was coming to him. But, deep down inside he had a feeling that life is going to offer him more than what he has already achieved. He always knew that something was waiting for him to discover, to unveil, to experience... He needed to uncover what will it be and started with looking at inner-self, understanding his own strength and weaknesses and started self-evaluating in finding his own personal space and peace he needed. We shall call him Mr. S.

All his life Mr. S. was feeling closeness with the nature and one day he came across with a story of Adam and Eve who lived in harmony with it. After doing more research, he realized that it is very important to accept yourself "as is" and to live in harmony with nature, as God has created us by his own will, so we would need to remove artificial barriers (liberate from clothes) to get to know our real true of inner-self.

With advancement of social media, he managed to get some knowledge about naturism, but for him this wasn't enough. Then, one day Mr. S. met a lady from Serbia (Fairy), who was nice, humble, and generous to mentor him on his journey to the world called Naturism.

Mr. S. had lots of apprehensions and questions, but she was quite considerate and very much focused in guiding him to a new world (Naturism). Two years have passed. The two were in touch and exchanged lots of thoughts on Naturism when one day Fairy informed him about the important event – INF-FNI World Congress happening in Lisbon, Portugal, where people from all over the world will meet and take forward a common objective of living in harmony with nature, clothes free.

After lots of deliberation Mr. S. decided to embrace this chance and started preparations for his travel to Lisbon. Apart from applying with the organizer INF-FNI International Naturist Federation and getting his hotel reservations, his next move was to travel 1200 kilometres from Mumbai to Goa and back in order to attend an interview at the Portuguese Consulate and to get a visa for visiting Portugal. Finally, he travelled from Mumbai to Lisbon and back more than 18.000 kilometres to meet this new world. At the Congress everyone treated him with respect and care and he never, not even for a moment, felt that he is new to world of naturism. For To his delight, he was warmly welcomed in many ways – he was offered comfortable accommodation and vegan food that he cherished, but the most important that he was offered were friendly smiles on the faces of the people that he was meeting along the way. Mr. S. was offered knowledge, acceptance and human understanding.

In there Mr. S. met top of the top in world naturism – from presidents and officials of the federations all the way to the Board of INF-FNI and the President herself, he found out all he wanted to know about naturism, and at the end, he felt on his own skin what are we all talking about, first hand. He even met "naked wanderings", a Belgium couple that took their own journey long time ago to meet new destinations of naturism and tell that told stories about magical places and people from all over the world.

Mr. S. left Lisbon with lots of new insights, great memories, a whole lot of friends and self-confidence he was searching for, followed with the motto: Not Only in Fairy Tales Dreams Can Come True. If there is a will, there is a way – and in this case Mr. S. possessed both the will and the determination to persuade his dream. The rest is history.

Written and experienced by
Mr. S & Tanya, Picture taken by Tanya



„Naturally clothed“

By Volkmar Ellmauthaler, Vienna, 2nd August 2013 / 25th January 2018

About the right to ask and the duty to honestly answer.

Nude on the K2

Nikolaus Gruber defeats an eight thousand meters high mountain and is always joking. The citizen of Ulten (AT) also says. „The summit will no be yours till you return back home.“



Source: <https://www.barfuss.it/leute/nackt-auf-dem-k2>

Climbing in Upper Austria:

Nude climber on the mountain - this is the "Limit"!

A streaker on the "Drachenwand" in upper Austria causes high excitement. More and more people are annoyed about the Alpine Nudists.

Source: www.heute.at/oesterreich/oberoesterreich/story/Nackt-Kletterer-am-Berg---das-ist-der-Gipfel-17511916

In the editorial text:

„Not everything that has two cheeks is a face.

And a man can dangle more than the soul.“ –

In the same issue the photo of a then current campaigners: „Strache ... naked“ - of course in swimming trunks.

„H.R. likes nature and textile-free camping. The 60 year old poses 'naturally clothed' for the TT.“

Quote: "Tiroler Tageszeitung" (TT), picture: U. (N.B. Nr. 231 / 3-2013, S. 10.)

"Naturally" comes from "nature" and as term it is ambiguous: between as a simple word "(Naturally we were late again.") and the hermeneutic construct of the living ("essentially similar or related to nature" the colourful arc spans between adjective and adverb.

And also to the zero statement. And up to the 'Contradictio in Adiectum': to a contradiction-in-itself.

Now we find ourselves at the core of the citation: it is not what it is, but what the rogue thinks it is.

What is here "natural" - so in one way or other connectable with the term of "nature" - with the procedure of "posing" (of playfully presenting oneself) and with the state of being dressed here - except: this strangely multipurpose complementary word: nature-natural, of course - understandable- clear -logical - anyhow - anyway - normal?

The association with a never questioned normality should probably be brought in this way, the association with the educational - no: with the poorly educated! - sentence with "One-You".

You shall put on a pair of trousers (Kindergarden teacher at 35 ° in the shadow to a nude three-year-old). You first shower warm, then cold (a rule). You shall not speak a foreign language (a liberally leaned „Neo-Nazi“).

One hates "the terror" (a swot trying to emotionally disintegrate an abstractum). One despises "the lazy Hartz IV people" (receiving social

subventions) (elder model pupil, already closer to humans). You have to be successful (general statement). You participate at the social networks (because everybody who does not have a social network may perish in this society).

But the primary motive of this is: BECAUSE I TELL YOU: an ultimate-normative imperative in the semantic form of justification that, however, is by no means an honest argument of a hypothesis, but pure psychic violence. No comment. Point.

With such "One-You" sentences a child is intellectually nourished as with cotton candy three times a day. After that, it usually stops the innate mechanism of inquiring or even critical questioning.

Wherever questioning is stunted, the intellect will be easy to care for, but will be deprived of his/her personality, the individual person thus becomes interchangeable. Despite his/her uniqueness the individual becomes a part of the drilled mass, a number among the many also imperatively manipulated persons.

A leader is needed, desired - made. Do we want to "gender"? A leader. Male. Female. Recently - albeit in tolerant democracies only - Intersexual. New-right people ("right", as "law, breeding, order" welcome it. Singing songs and bawling "Gas for the 7th Million".ⁱ Does it matter?

Where in the individual case of single parents, of the patchwork-families in the existential crisis the often desperate surge of "Stop it! Shut up!" can be forgiven, the principle of non-questioning

must be opposed. With full clarity. With full determination.

With? - Questions.

Questions must be allowed, replies must be recognized again as a humanitarian and ethical duty.

So, let's ask:

What may have seduced Mr H.R. and the photographer U. to the absurdity to take a picture of a certain "pose", where Mr H.R is being described as an unclothed, "textile-free" camper, in a matter of course, actually not undressed, therefore shown as non-free - and this not even in any form artistically or at least aesthetic as a person?

What may have led the subtext writer to designate this obvious contradiction as "natural", where the nature of contradiction rather exists as a conflict between the perception and the description or between the argument of one person with the argument of another person?

Natural: is this word being used as a complementary word, as an association crystal, which should suggest the normality instead of a conflict? Does the subtext writer want to express: Don't ask, take it as is, that being dressed is "natural", says "normal"? Don't ask either why this dressed figure talked about being nude - being freed-from textiles - and about camping instead of living?

Or do ask - and you may end up in the reddish circle of the usual morality, which equates lascivious fantasies about the (insufficiently experienced) sexuality with nudity, whilst wanting to highlight one's own innocence like the thief his alibi:

I am innocent, I am thinking correctly, one can see it because I follow the "mainstream". Intensified: "...that in case of need I grab the cudgel of "public nuisance", I activate the state power, when I get such a figure, such a dirty, unattractive, instinctive, sexual, and at the same time a piece of perverted, as aging, piece of flesh, fat, breast or genital in front of my thoroughly respectable inner lens".

It is the bad and power exercising education - because suffocating by questions with the "One, You" sentences - which generates such absurdities: You (also a nude person) "poses" - naturally - dressed.

Behind this there are further concepts: the one of arbitrary (or being controlled by sensitivities)

limited tolerance of nudity under the condition of aesthetic gain: especially the old people shall duly cover their increasing ugliness, this memento mori. The successful person refuses most violently to be confronted with something that could evoke the own transience, future dementia, approaching incontinence, future weakness. At the wrong moment. At the moment of perfect repression, at the time of absolute functioning at any cost - at the risk of one's life. In future, cultures will also clash: Burqa versus naturism. Sin.

Another killer-argument "Faith" - whichever - will soon and probably turn: militant.

But those who recognize nudity being connected with ties to nature, erotic thin-skinness, caution, gentleness, cheerfulness, empathic affection, relationship und mutual support, will notice posing as well as the contradiction between being dressed and talking about kneeling nude.

They will not talk much, but do what is good. They will not pose. Nature does not pose either, is not designed to be an object for the lenses. Whether dressed people in a naturist club can be an exception or normality??

But as long as nude people in the fun pools or in the wood are greeted neither as "normal" nor as "exception" in their sub/objective naturality, as long as a simple undressed person - without sexually stimulating (him/herself) - can, due to some carefully hidden inner hatred or arbitrariness, be made a "public nuisance" of the inhibited, of the private secret policemen and neosnoopers, this will not be possible. The day may come when inhibited normal people in groups may grab women - and find this being very horny.

The communicative law must apply: Nude people in the indoor-pool and dressed people in the naturist club must remain exchangeable, only then one may demand?, expect?, no: request and gladly grant something like a "tolerance" b the respective majority.

Questions must be permitted! Thinking must be learned again! Independently, not representatively! And no medium may juggle again with "more and more angry people". Excite. Threaten.

Wherever a dressed person is natural, then we have an imbalance of perception. Where a nude athlete can become a "public nuisance", an "exceptional situation", through a primitive opinion of mediocre printed works, against which "something has to be done", there is a need for thought, need for action, obligation to speak, duty of protection against the non-adapted, the

“pure fools”. In a blackmailing society pure folly becomes an obligation. Like nudity among the normal people. Without immediately demanding “Parsival for everybody”.

Without the folly and the fools to take a word at face value. Without forgetting that each (sexual) desire does not simply disappear under the pants or behind the outer skeleton, called “decency”, but that it first starts in the head. At any moment. Very atavistic: completely “natural”. That exactly that motive degenerates to the slipperiness, because today nobody wants to stand for it?! Normality has indeed become a sour auxiliary expression for the arithmetic term between swamp and sun, figuratively: between life, nature and questions on the one hand, but sexual envy and prohibition on the other hand (yes something like that).

Normality has degenerated into a verdict of last instance, into the unquestioned subordination of the, said to be free, individual (of the indivisible, the unique in the human being), under a collection of indifferent mud of assumptions, projections, habits, never questioned inner mental pictures, never questioned “norms.

No: The author does not want to be mentioned as “normal” in this context, he understands this rather as an insult.

“Authentic” - as such consistent, that would be a desirable objective. Then Mr H.R and all the other would not need to pose dressed neither in the TT nor in the N.B., nor report on the preference of “textile-free camping”: they would do it, no ifs, no buts, as long as the essential questions about the meaning of what is being lived, would find appropriate answers. - Otherwise, only just paradoxical.

Comments and references:

ⁱ „Then the Jew Ben Gurion came into their midst: “Accelerate, you old Germans, we will reach the seventh million”. Source: https://derstandard.at/2000072861626/Nazi-Lieder-bei-Burschenschaft-von-FPOe-Kandidat-Landbauer-(S) Songbook of „Germania”, Wiener Neustadt, 2018.

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The Parable of the earthly life is just like the water, which We send down from the clouds; [...] So We clear the signs for those people who are thinking. And Allah invites all to the house of piece and leads whom He wills to the right path. Those who do good things should be given the best and even more. Neither sadness nor shame should cover their faces. They are the inhabitants of Paradise; they will stay there forever. (Qurʼān, Sūra 10 Yūnus, Vv. 24-26)

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The wisdom of this world is folly for God. Because it is written: “He catches the wise men in their intelligence.” (the Bible, Pauline Letters: 1. Corinthians 3.19) And both were naked, the Man and the Woman, and they were not ashamed.

(The Jewish Torá: 1. Moses 2.25 – quotation from the Luther translation)

The Lord said: As my servant Isaiah goes naked and barefoot, for the sign and the miracle of the three years over Egypt and the Land of the Moors,... (the Bible, Testament: Isaiah 20.3) I came naked from my mother’s body, and I will return naked again. The LORD has given it, the LORD has taken it; the name of the LORD shall be praised. (The Bible, 1st Testament, Job 1:21)

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Info Focus April

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„Christiane Lecocq, the activist in the shadow“

Since 1932 the life of Christiane Lecocq was closely linked to that of Albert Lecocq. In fact it was in 1932 when Christiane “started” with naturism. In a very fortuitous and ingenuous way.

Christiane, aged 23, born on 6th April 1911 at Tourcoing as a girl of the North, loves to dance and to go to the dancing halls. Invited by her cousin to spend a Saturday evening in what we would call today a “disco”, the two young ladies share a table with a couple, which during the evening invites them to join the next day Sunday to do sports at the “Club Gymnique du Nord”, established at the “Fort de Seclin”, near Lille. At those days the sports activities and the trips to the countryside are reserved for the rich.

When arriving at the Fort the next day the two girls do not believe their eyes: everybody is doing sports completely naked! Christiane and her female cousin do not lose their composure and do the same as all other people. “For me it was easy”, Christiane will say later, “ I did not have much, only a little dress and panties and I love sports!”

This is where Christiane meets Albert Lecocq, during these days of naturist sports days. The humanist visionary of Arras, who has already established links with Marcel Kienné de Mongeot for 3 years, has created this club in Lille a year ago. Albert and Christiane click the moment they meet. She joins the club. With the result that she receives the naturist magazine at her parents’ place. Her mother is outraged: “These are all sins!”. Her father, after having a look at the paper, thinks it is quite good! This being said, Christiane becomes naturist with the fatherly blessing!

Christiane and Albert both begin a tour of the cities where Albert seeks to establish clubs. That is how in 1933 they create the CNGN (Club Naturiste et Gymnique de Normandie-Naturist and Gymnastic Club of Normandy).

In October of the same year Christiane und Albert definitely unite their destinies. They marry on 28th October 1933.

In 1936, the “Front Populaire” (popular front), with its social reforms and enthusiasm for the outdoors, inspires the two newlyweds, who see the basics of a “popular naturism”, resuming the principles of regeneration by Kienné de Mongeot, based upon the natural laws of Drs André and Gaston Durville, founders of the “Cité d’Héliopolis” on the island “Île du Levant” in



1931. In that same year 1936 Léo Lagrange, at that time the 1st Assistant Secretary for Youth and Leisure, sees the official recognition of naturism as a popular utility.

But the Second World War starts disrupting the enthusiasm of the two young people. However, their passion for the development of a family and popular naturism remains the strongest. During occupation, Albert Lecocq publishes his famous “Manifesto”, which more than 70 years later remains a reference document. In the wake of this manifesto, which defines to what naturism shall develop, Christiane and Albert clandestinely create the first “Club du Soleil” in 1944. In 1945 they move to Carrières-sur-Seine and create the Club de Soleil of Carrières, which becomes the key location for national and international meetings and events, which profoundly will mark the global naturist movement.

In 1949, in order to provide the naturist movement with a means of dissemination of its goals, the Lecocqs create the information magazine destined for the general public “La Vie au Soleil”. For 65 years this media is the emblematic organization of the naturist movement.

The year 1950 constitutes a historical pivot of the action of Christiane and Albert. The events follow one another at an incredible pace: on 19th February Christiane and Albert found the “Fédération française de Naturisme” (French Naturist Federation) and set the concepts of naturism, its objectives, its rules of conduct and its statutes. The unity is erected in a fundamental principle, all the clubs regrouping within one same federation.

Anxious to find an area where to create a club by the sea in the South, the Lecocqs solicit several of their friends to find this rare pearl. It is a naturist lifeguard, Mr Poulain, who tells them about Montalivet which he regularly visits. A railway friend who could move at no cost, was commissioned to inspect the place, and comes back immediately.

When Christiane and Albert arrive at Montalivet, they find a place ravaged by forest fires. "It was a lost dump! You had to be crazy to choose this place", Christiane will say later. Be it, they decide to create a naturist site at this place, in spite of many reservations heard in the municipality. With the kind help of the general secretary of the City Administration of Vendays-Montalivet, André Lambert and the Club du Soleil de Bordeaux, the first "Hélio-Marin Naturist Centre" opens its doors on 23rd July 1950. Modestly, with three or four bungalows and with comfort more than rustic.

In 1953 Christiane and Albert found the International Naturist Federation at Montalivet, so to group under one same banner the federations, which have developed in several European countries. The following year they create "Socnat" (Société de financement des Centres de Nature - Nature Centre Financing Company), intended to ensure the economic development of the naturist holiday centres.



In 1957 the couple create "Arena" in order to link art and naturism. In 1961 the Lecocqs create the first naturist centre of the "Île de France": "Héliomonde" at Saint-Chéron in the "Département de l'Essonne", in the old sandstone quarry from which the pavements of Paris were extracted. Members of the French Volleyball team train there, under the leadership of Christiane Lecocq, who practices competitive volleyball. At that time sport in nudity holds a big place. The "Cortey-Cup" sends the best clubs to tournaments for meetings in France and abroad (swimming, archery, table tennis, volleyball).



Christiane and Albert, sensing the interest of boaters for naturism, create "Nauténa" in 1964 (Nautisme et Naturisme- Boating and Naturism). In the same year they also found the "Sports Naturist Union".

The couple could stop there and enjoy the success of developing the naturist ideal. But that is not counting on their determinism. In 1967 they establish a Naturist Development Plan that aims to transform a closed society into a dynamic movement, integrated and socially accepted.

Albert Lecocq will not see the complete results of the work, which he built up with his wife Christiane. He dies on 31st October 1969 in Carrières-sur-Seine.

Christiane will "take over the torch", namely the management of the magazine "La Vie au Soleil" and will remain attentive to the orientations of the Federation, of which she became the Honorary President. By the way, since that date Christiane never has missed one Congress or a General Assembly. Her convictions remained intact, as does her enthusiasm. Christiane was also inexhaustible on that subject!

When during the celebration of her centenary Christiane looked at this century that had just passed, she certainly noted evolutions in the naturist philosophy that she and her husband Albert sought to develop. But the result is there: if today France is the first naturist destination worldwide, with 3,5 million practicing people, whereof more than 1,5 million French people, she could not deny that this was thanks to her!

Christiane Lecocq, who founded the French Federation of Naturism together with her husband 65 years ago, died on 24th December 2014 at the age of 103. She was buried at the cemetery of Carrières-sur-Seine, where her husband rests.

Yves Leclerc