



## Activities of Giorgio Schultze European spokesperson for New Humanism 2008

January 2008

## Support to the Mapuche people of Chile



The spokespersons for New Humanism in Latin America and Europe, Tomas Hirsch and Giorgio Schultze, call international attention to **denounce the mistreat that the Mapuche people are suffering from the Chilean Government** and to show solidarity with Patricia Troncoso, a Mapuche woman, and prisoner in a Chilean jail who has spent more than 100 days on hunger strike and whose life is at serious risk.

March 2008

## Giorgio Schultze denounces Colombian military incursion into Ecuador

Vigorously condemning the military incursion by the Colombian Government into Ecuadorian territory, Schultze **calls for projects of political, economic and cultural union of Latin America**, praising the government of Evo Morales for the decision to include the rejection of war as a form of conflict resolution in the new Constitution.

March 2008

## Solidarity with the Tibetan people

Faced with the recent events in Tibet, the Spokespersons for New Humanism in Europe, Asia, Latin America and North America **condemn the bloody violence and repression by the regime of the People's Republic of China against the demonstrators in Lhasa and in many other Tibetan cities**, comparing the events to the violent repression of the Burmese government against the Buddhist Monks and an unarmed population.



*“As humanists we ask governments and leaders of opposing factions to sit down and listen to the different needs and proposals and to go beyond their centralist and nationalist visions, advancing towards a different solution through a humanist vision.”*

March 28th, 2008 – Rome, Italy

## Visit to the Italian Parliament



Giorgio Schultze visits the Italian Parliament in Rome to hand in the 70'000 signatures gathered, together with other associations, against Italian nuclear bases.

Schultze also meets **Fausto Bertinotti, President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies.**

May 4th, 2008 - Attigliano, Italy

## Humanist Agora in Attigliano

Coinciding with the celebrations to inaugurate Attigliano Park in Umbria, a **meeting of different Humanist spokespersons with numerous militants and sympathisers from across Europe takes place.**

Besides the spokespersons for New Humanism in Europe and Latin America Giorgio Schultze and Tomás Hirsch, there is Jan Tamas, spokesperson of the opposition Movement to the radar bases in the Czech Republic and Fabrizio Ferrandelli, town councillor in Palermo.

The spokespersons talk of their experience and answer questions from the public, confirming their **position of simple spokespersons of a broad social movement** committed to non-violent action, made up of many people who are working actively and daily in the humanisation of the Earth.



May 2008

## Europe says no to the “Star Wars” project

Giorgio Schultze calls for European **solidarity with Jan Tamas and Jan Bednar, the two Czech activists on hunger strike to denounce the installation of a US radar base in the Czech Republic,** as part of the American NMD (Nation Missile Defence) project.

*“We ask every Government and the European Parliament to take a clear and decisive position, denying support for the Missile Shield project because it puts the peace and co-existence of our peoples in danger.*

*We strongly object to establishment of new military bases of foreign powers on European territory or to the expansion of those already existing. We demand the elimination of all nuclear arsenals.”*

June 2008

## No to the “Outrageous Directive”

Giorgio Schultze adheres to a the Campaign No to the Outrageous Directive , that is **calling on MEPs to not approve the Directive on the detention and expulsion of foreigners presented in the European Parliament.**

The project foresees detention to be extended up to 18 months for people whose only offence is to want to live in Europe and establishing a five-year ban from Europe for all people who are expelled, **stigmatising the illegal immigrants and transforming them into delinquents who must be deported.**

June 1st, 2008

## Giorgio Schultze starts hunger strike



Giorgio Schultze continues the protest of Jan Tamas and Jan Bednar, who interrupted their hunger strike after 18 days due to the deterioration of their health.

In the meantime the **protest against the US Missile Shield broadens across the world**, with activists from all over Europe, US and Australia joining the hunger strike.

*“This is a nonviolent protest to denounce one of the greatest situations of violence of the present moment”* explains Schultze. *“The silent threat of a new Cold War, a crazy arms race unleashed by the United States’s plan to install anti-missile bases in the heart of Europe – Czech Republic and Poland – which constitutes in reality, **an attack weapon and the first step to control and militarise space.** All of this with the complicit silence of governments that require secret agreements and continue negotiations with the United States despite the **opposition of the vast majority of the population** as is happening in the Czech Republic.”*

June 11th, 2008 – Brussels, Belgium

## Meeting with Members of the European Parliament

On day 11 of his hunger strike, **Giorgio Schultze meets the MEPs Giulietto Chiesa and Roberto Musacchio.** Besides receiving full support for the protest against the Missile Shield project, a meeting with MEPs to produce a joint declaration against the shield is scheduled for the 9th July.

The meetings continue the following day, when Giorgio Schultze receives a **commitment from a number of Members of the European Parliament, including Vice-president of the European Parliament Luisa Morgantini, to stop US military advances in Europe.**

The meetings clearly show that the European Parliament never expressed its position about the Space Shield, and this is the first time that two countries (Poland and the Czech Republic) are deciding about a project that is of interest to the whole of Europe without consulting the European Parliament.

June 12th, 2008 – Brussels, Belgium

## European Parliament Citizen's Agora

Giorgio Schultze and Jan Tamas participate in the **plenary session of the European Parliament Citizen's Agora on Climate Change**. In his speech Giorgio Schultze addresses the **unacceptable delays in the implementation of the Kyoto agreement**, calling for a profound change in the use of energy, the development of renewable energy.



*"If Europe and the European Parliament, that is its most direct expression, will not respect the Kyoto Protocol, will not respect the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty, will not respect the Declaration of Human Rights, it will not be the reference and the model to which so many people aspire and will be responsible, to the world and to history, for not having taken the urgent and necessary step to give a different direction to the course of humanity."*

June 13th, 2008

## Giorgio Schultze suspends his hunger strike

After 13 days and in consideration of the good results obtained in his meetings at the European Parliament, Giorgio Schultze suspends his hunger strike.

June 13th, 2008 – Brussels, Belgium

## Visit to immigrants in hunger strike



During his visit to Brussels, Giorgio Schultze, accompanied by a European Humanist delegation, visits the Beguinage Church, where 140 immigrants without official documents have locked themselves in and have been on hunger strike for more than a month in order to request their regularisation.

The delegation is strongly hit by the indignation of knowing that, apart from Humanists in Brussels, there was no support forthcoming from other political and social forces, and very little press coverage.

June 22, 2008 – Milan, Italy



## World day of hunger strike against the Space Shield

Giorgio Schultze takes part in the world event, part of the Europe for Peace's campaign "Europe says no to the Star Wars", in Milan. **Hundreds of hunger strikers marche very slowly** from Piazza del Duomo to Piazza Cordusio with banners and umbrellas forming the statement "No to the Space Shield". Similar initiatives of protest take place the same day in: Amsterdam, Athens, Barcelona, Bergamo, Berlin, Bologna, Brunswick, Brussels, Budapest, Buenos Aires, Byron Bay, České Budejovice, České Krumlov, Copenhagen, Düsseldorf, Ferrol, Florence, Guadalajara, La Coruña, London, Madrid, Malaga, Milan, New York, Porto, Paris, Quito, Reykjavik, Roma, Santiago, Scauri, Tolosa, Turin, Trieste, Valencia, Vienna and Zurich.



July 9th, 2008 – Strasbourg, France



## MEPs against the Space Shield



On the 9th of July a **session about the US Star Shield project takes place in the European Parliament headquarters in Strasbourg** during which Giorgio Schultze and Jan Tamas, leader of the protests in the Czech Republic, speak together with various MEPs. At the end of the meeting a **common declaration is signed by all the participants**.

During his visit to the European Parliament, Giorgio Schultze also participates in the **protest initiative against the ethnic registration of immigrants** by gathering the signatures and fingerprints of MEPs.

July 17th, 2008 – Prague, Czech Republic



## Star Wars, myth or reality?

Giorgio Schultze participates in the International conference organised by Europe for Peace, titled: "**Star Wars, myth or reality? The US space shield and European Security**". The conference takes place in a hall of the Czech Parliament and counts on the presence of numerous Czech deputies and senators. Among the speakers is **Luisa Morgantini, Vice-president of the European parliament**.



September 2008



## Support to Evo Morales and the Bolivian people



A press release is issued by the spokespersons for New Humanism in Latin America, Europe, North America, Asia-Pacific and Africa **supporting the legitimate government of Evo Morales in Bolivia and calling for nonviolent struggle** after the US ambassador in Bolivia is expelled and the government of Evo Morales is threatened by the opposition.

*“We are calling on the Bolivian people, that are with Evo and the process of transformation, to resist non-violently all provocation, to resist all offence and continue the Nonviolent struggle, to unite in this moment around the figurehead of Evo Morales because this is not a moment for discussions or divisions; it is the moment to resist through nonviolence, to unite and advance towards the constitutional plebiscite.”*

October 4th, 2008 – Rome, Italy



## Demonstration against racism

Giorgio Schultze participates in the **Demonstration against all racism and for the free circulation of people** that takes place in Rome with the participation of more than 15,000 people from various organisations of the left and in the field of human rights. The demonstration finishes with a multi-ethnic concert and speeches from various groups.



*“After more than twelve years of anti-racist demonstrations and demonstrations against the Expulsion Decree of the 4th February 1996, nothing has changed either in Italy or in Europe” declares Giorgio Schultze “The European “Return” Directive and new waves of racism are pushing foreigners towards secrecy and to live and work in conditions of new slavery”.*

October 17th, 18th, 19th 2008 – Milan, Italy



## European Humanist Forum – The strenght of nonviolence



Giorgio Schultze opens the 2nd European Humanist Forum in Milan, in which **more than 2000 people from 63 countries and 187 organisations participate in 3 days of activities, working tables and conferences.**

*“We know that nonviolent action will need a lot of courage and persistent patience. A leap in consciousness is necessary, a historical change in our conception of ourselves and the world around us as a single structure, an invisible web that unites us. An invisible web that unites us to those living, those who came before us and who had the courage to open the way and the patience to wait for us in this crossroads of history.”*

November 4th, 2008



## Regarding the US presidential elections

After the election of Barack Obama as the new President of the United States, Giorgio Schultze **congratulates him and the broad social movement who supported him**, calling him to address a number of important issues.

*“The people of the world and of the USA aspire to go in a new direction. The global challenges that the USA and President Obama need to respond to, together with the leaders of other nations, are:*

- *The removal of invading troops from occupied territories*
- *The return of these occupied territories to the hands of their inhabitants*
- *The dismantling of all nuclear arsenals*
- *The creation of a new global economic system based on human values, eradicating usury and speculation*
- *The protection of the planet’s resources to ensure that the Earth can support life for all the future generations that will follow the ones alive today”*

November 6th, 7th, 8th 2008 – Buenos Aires, Chile



## Latin American Humanist Forum



Giorgio Schultze participates as an invited guest at the 3rd Latin American Humanist Forum that takes place in Buenos Aires University, Argentina under the slogan **“United for a Future without Violence”**

*“We are about to start the long March for Peace and Nonviolence! Many are already waiting for us: Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Henry David Thoreau, León Tolstoy, Albert Einstein, Betty Williams and Mairead Corrigan, Patrice Lumumba, Nelson Mandela, Aung San Suu Kyi, Rigoberta Menchú.*

*Many others, like Evo Morales, Barack Obama are reaching us with their banners of hope, moved by the gentle breath of Freedom.*

*And now we, the few or the many that we are, will build the bridges to divert the mistaken course of history.”*



November 14th, 2008 – Punta de Vacas, Argentina



## Ethic in political action



Giorgio Schultze participates in the 1st International Symposium, with the theme “**Ethics in Knowledge**”, organised by the World Centre of Humanist Studies” that takes place in Punta de Vacas Park, Argentina. In his speech in the round table discussion “Ethics in Political Action”, he speaks about political responsibility.

*“Politics without Ethics”, he reads in his speech, “leads us to dictatorships of specific interests, formally disguised as democracy Ethics without clear rules of responsibility between the elected and the electorate leads us to declarations of principle with the exclusion in the fundamental decisions that jeopardise our lives. Ethics in political action means, to start, Laws of Political Responsibility and participation in decision-making.”*

Giorgio Schultze also takes part in the **ceremony of ethical commitment ratified by the participants**, that concludes the symposium, defining the occasion “*an opportunity to continue speaking about the enormous capacity that the human being has to change its destiny and change the future*”.

November 24th, 2008



## Letter to Barack Obama

Together with the spokespersons of New Humanism for North America, Latin America, Asia and Africa, Giorgio Schultze writes an open letter to US president elect Barack Obama, **inviting him to support the World March for Peace and Nonviolence**.

*“We call on you to use the power of your new office, the mandate you have received from the citizens of the United States and the support of people around the planet, to decisively signal a new direction for US foreign policy. In our view, the priorities in such a direction should be the withdrawal of US troops from all occupied territories, including Iraq and Afghanistan, and a clear and immediate initiative toward progressive and proportional global nuclear disarmament.”*

December 2008



## Mistreatment of Mapuche children

The European Spokesperson, together with representatives of other associations, **denounces to the President of Chile, the situation of violence against the Mapuche people**, especially children, and insists on the urgency to fulfil as soon as possible the recommendations proposed by Amnesty International.

January 2009



## Israeli and Palestinian pacifists are examples for the whole world

*“Thousands of young Israelis are on the streets demanding that their government halts the invasion of Gaza. Many have been imprisoned, just like the conscientious objectors, soldiers or conscripts that refuse to cross the border into Palestinian territory.*

*Palestinian youth are protesting against Israeli violence but also to demand that Hamas halts the attacks with missiles or anything else.*

*We repudiate the violence of the State of Israel and we repudiate the violence of the armed Palestinian groups. Only a non-violent consciousness will be able to halt the violence and if, today, this consciousness is small we will have to make it grow.*

*The World March is a cause, in which all races will converge, all peoples, all cultures, all religions, surpassing the suffering that we cause to other peoples and the suffering that others have caused us. We are uniting to achieve the non-violent future that is already emerging in the depths of Human Beings.”*

Patricia Arriagada Feliú  
World March – Palestine

Roberto Kohanoff  
World March – Israel

Giorgio Schultze  
European Spokesperson  
for New Humanism