



The Walls Project

Symposium and debates on «Walls»

« *Men build too many walls and not enough bridges* » Isaac Newton

The Walls project has its origin, context and inspiration in the « **Murs** » photographic exhibition. Organised by the Imaginaid association, with the patronage of the City of Geneva, the exhibition will take place on the Pont de la Machine, Geneva from 9th November 2009 to 31st January 2010 and will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

20 years ago, on the 9th November 1989 the Berlin Wall fell. “Never again” we said. Yet the temptation to give into walls and *hyper security* to protect against an “otherness” which is threatening, disturbing or simply different has never been greater than today; omnipresent and on many minds. With the support of the City of Geneva, the exhibition brings together works of great photographers, past and present, who have documented frontier walls around the world, from Berlin to Arizona to Jerusalem to Ceuta and others.

The exhibition reflects social and human realities, raises the disturbing finding of an increased tendency to build walls, while emphasising the symbolic and metaphorical representation of frontier walls and their roots in their landscape. The exhibition does not seek to be a comprehensive review of our world’s dividing walls and it is neither partisan nor proselytising.

In this context, and to go further in considering this issue of Walls, two debates will be held one on 24th **March** 2010, for students of aged 12 to 15 years (**Secondaire I**) and the other on **3rd May** 2010 for students aged 15 to 18 years (**Secondaire II**), in both public and private schools.

The March 24th debate will take place in the broader context of the annual and international GIN (Global Issues Network) Conference held in Geneva.

The reflection will bring everyone (students and teachers) to consider the question of walls from a philosophical, ethical or social point of view. A core consideration will be the investigation of the possible isolation of the individual accentuated by our lifestyle choices and our current political systems. The aims of the conferences are to define an action plan or identify concrete proposals that students could implement to move towards more democracy and away from an increased tendency to build walls.

Both debates will take place as follows:

- ✓ Preparation workshops for students participating actively in the debate
- ✓ Lunch (free on registration)
- ✓ Caption competition awards ceremony
- ✓ Introduction of the topic by 2 experts following by a discussion
- ✓ Role playing debate between participating students

The guided visits and the caption competition which form part of the Wall Project will contribute to the students preparation for the debates.



Sign-up form - **24th of March 2010** debate

« *Men build too many walls and not enough bridges* » Isaac Newton

(Secondaire I) (Students of 12 - 15 years of age)

Languages : Bilingual – English and French

Place : ICCG – 17, rue Varembe – 1202 Geneva **Time** : 9am – noon and 1pm – 4pm

Morning (9am-noon) : Workshops' preparation working with experts.

Afternoon (1pm-4pm) : Captions competition awards, introduction of the topic by 2 experts, then role playing and debates between various groups of students.

Sign up before **10th March 2010**

Teacher's name : _____

School : _____

Class : /_____/ Number of students participating : /_____/

Contacts (phone number or e-mail address) : _____

wish to take part in the debate and in the morning's preparation (9am-4pm, lunch offered)

Would like to observe the debate (1pm – 4pm)



and also to take part to the lunch (noon – 1pm)

For information or questions on this event, please contact:

Earth Focus Foundation
Nicola Spafford Furey
Chemin Sous Cherre, 6 - 1245 Collonges Bellerive
Tel : 022 704 35 14 - 079 202 17 65 – Fax : 022 704 35 01
nicola@earthfocus.org

Mme. Sandra Brazzini-Mourier
Tel : +41 (78) 834 58 03
E-mail: sandra@earthfocus.org



Sign-up form - **3rd of May 2010** debate

« *Men build too many walls and not enough bridges* » Isaac Newton

(Secondaire II) (Students of 16 - 19 years of age)

Languages : Bilingual – English and French

Place : ICCG – 17, rue Varembé – 1202 Geneva **Time** : 9am – noon and 1pm – 4pm

Morning (9am-noon) : Workshops' preparation working with experts.

Afternoon (1pm-4pm) : Captions competition awards, introduction of the topic by 2 experts, then role playing and debates between various groups of students.

Sign up before **16th of April 2010**

Teacher's name : _____

School : _____

Class : / _____ / Number of students participating : / _____ /

Contacts (phone number or e-mail address) : _____

wish to take part in the debate and in the morning's preparation (9am-4pm, lunch offered)

Would like to observe the debate (1pm – 4pm)



and also to take part to the lunch (noon – 1pm)

For information or questions on this event, please contact:

Earth Focus Foundation
Nicola Spafford Furey
Chemin Sous Cherre, 6 - 1245 Collonges Bellerive
Tel : 022 704 35 14 - 079 202 17 65 – Fax : 022 704 35 01
nicola@earthfocus.org

Mme. Sandra Brazzini-Mourier
Tel : +41 (78) 834 58 03
E-mail: sandra@earthfocus.org