

International Conference
on the occasion of Edith Stein's Week in Wroclaw

Edith Stein:
Heritage, Actuality, Inspiration

(18th-19th October 2011)

Part I, 18th October 2011
Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wroclaw

Edith Stein and European Values

Edith Stein was born 120 years ago. According to W.Herbstrith she was one of the victims of history. Ruthless verdicts of 20th century history decided to destroy her life and work. As a result of this she could not teach philosophy at a university, but was murdered in Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. The uniqueness of her life and work was always highly appreciated by Catholic Church: Pope John Paul II decreed Edith Stein, sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, beatified and then, on the outset of the third millennium she was proclaimed a saint and Co-Patroness of Europe. Together with the knowledge about her life, her intellectual legacy became wider recognized by people. Currently a twenty seven volume edition of Edith Stein's complete works (ESGA) has been published, giving those who are interested in Stein's phenomenon an opportunity to meet with her life and work.

First day of the conference at Pontifical Faculty of Theology, under the auspices of Chair of Systematic Philosophy and Chair of History of Philosophy, focuses around values which define Europe's identity – the same values to which Edith Stein, St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross dedicated her life and work.

Outline of Part I

Edith Stein and European Values

- I. *European Values in Focus* – main session,
- II. Thematic sessions:

- 1) *European values in the context of law*
- 2) *Edith Stein's contribution to 20th century philosophy*
- 3) *Edith Stein's involvement in public and social life*
- 4) *The testimony of Edith Stein's life: theology and faith*

Part II, 19th October 2011

Wroclaw University of Technology, Department of Humanities

Edith Stein in Dialogue

Europe has undergone a process of great changes: political, economical, social, and cultural ones. Those changes would not be possible without a vision of Europe as one union of many countries. People who developed this vision played a very important role in preparing this transformation. It gave a chance for Europe's better future, but at the same time it did not become free from risks or dangers.

The example of Edith Stein's life and work can be very helpful in finding a good answer to questions about Europe's identity. The creed of her philosophy is based on her dialogue with other great thinkers: Aristotle, St. Augustine, St. Thomas, E. Husserl, M.Heidegger, H. Conrad-Martius. After being proclaimed Co-Patroness of Europe, Edith Stein has thus become a great example for many European men and women. By showing how to live in accordance with true values, she can guide not only our individual lives, but also our societies.

The conference *Edith Stein in Dialogue*, organized by Department of Humanities at Wroclaw University of Technology gives the opportunity to relate the philosophy of Edith Stein to concepts of other thinkers and point at her seminal contribution to the history of human thought. The aim of the conference is to determine and stress the importance of Edith Stein, sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross's work in the intellectual life of contemporary Europe.

Outline of Part II

Edith Stein in Dialogue

- I. *Edith Stein's thought in the context of philosophy in the 20th century* – main session
- II. Thematic sessions:
 - 1) *Edith Stein in dialogue with classical philosophy*
 - 2) *Edith Stein in dialogue with phenomenology*
 - 3) *Social and political philosophy in Germany after 1933*

Deadline for Submission of Abstracts (200 words): 31st May 2011

Abstracts or further questions should be directed to:

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