



ruth cohn
institute for **TCI**
international

The art of leading

RCI-NEWS

RCI-international

No. 1/2024

Dear members and friends of the Ruth Cohn Institute for TCI-international,

the new year is from now three months old. The conflicts and unsettling events in the world have remained, but we are also noticing that spring is slowly arriving. We are enjoying the warm rays of sunshine outside in nature and delighting in the first colourful flowers and blossoms on the balcony or in the garden. The days are getting longer and our minds are tuning in to bright light and positive thoughts.

With the change of season, there are also some changes and reorganisations at RCI international. Internally, the office in Berlin is working on a new database to simplify day-to-day handling.

RCI München, RCI Württemberg and RCI Österreich are working on a fusion of the three regions. More information will follow soon. And preparations for the International General Assembly from 8-11 May in Frankfurt in May 2024 are in full swing.

Prof. Dr. Matthias Scharer travelled to India at the beginning of the year and brought back some wonderful pictures and impressions for us, including the dedication of Ruth Cohn Avenue and around 50 Indian students from Mahatma Gandhi University in Kerala who want to become members of the TCI Community of Planetary Citizens.



Spring Photocredit Kathrin Giogoli

Our graduates and member associations are once again offering a range of seminars and workshops this year. Online, but also in presence and we will present some of them here in the newsletter. For anyone interested in TCI there are always taster courses, which as always can be viewed in our event calendar.

[TCI - Events - RCI International \(ruth-cohn-institute.org\)](https://ruth-cohn-institute.org/TCI-Events)

We wish you a pleasant read, informative seminars, interesting events and a wonderful start to spring.

Warmest regards from Berlin
from the main office of RCI international
Kathrin Giogoli und Jasmin Lütz

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1. Prof. Dr. Matthias Scharer visit Kerala in January 2024, RCI India

Prof. Matthias Scharer from Austria in his recent visit to Kerala facilitated a workshop on the Legacy of Ruth C. Cohn. Dr. C Thomas Abraham and Ms. Anna Marie Nainan were co-leaders for the workshop which was attended by 22 senior TCI learners of the Mahatma Gandhi University.

The venue was Directorate for Applied Short-term Programmes (DASP) at Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. The international TCI workshop had 18 sessions through 12th – 15th January 2024.



Workshop at the Mahatma Gandhi University, Photocredit: RCI India

Prof. Matthias Scharer, a Professor of Theology from Innsbruck University and TCI graduate (1993) has been researching on the inherited legacy of Ruth Cohn for the past 6 years. His research lead him to understand Ruth Cohn in a new light which in turn deepens his understanding of TCI.

He shared some of his learning and experiences through this TCI Method Workshop. The workshop theme was "All-Connected Into A Planetary Future, Lets Deepen Our Understanding And Practice Of Living Learning (TCI) With Insights From The Legacy of Ruth Cohn"

Matthias Scharer started the session by commenting on the plurality of India. He mentioned it is imperative to acknowledge and respect our plurality and multiplicity to remain in a healthy situation.

As a demonstration of being inclusive, Matthias placed a free chair in plenum and named it "The Other" and it continued to be there through the workshop.



Workshop in Kerala, Photo-credit: RCI India

He said 'the other' could be a person with whom we are not comfortable with or someone we have a difference of opinion with. It could even be a part of us which we are not familiar with but resides in our own multiplicities.

He said our communication would be incomplete if we excluded "the other" in our midst. And that changed the way we understand the axioms of TCI.

On day two we explored the legacy of Ruth Cohn through the peepholes and presented a role play from the scenes of Ruth's life. The third day we conversed with a tree in silence aligning with Ruth Cohn's eco spirituality and painted each one's religious biography. On fourth day we practiced Mandala Meditation to come up with our own idea of eco-spirituality.

Throughout the workshop we were sensitized to understand and uphold our individuality in heterogeneous multi-religious groups while getting our tasks done. In our final round of fish bowl with doubling method we all came together and found concordance in Ruth Cohn's eco-spirituality and Indian wisdom.

Prepared by
Raj R S

***"All-Connected Into A Planetary Future:
Let's Deepen Our Understanding And Practice Of Living Learning (TCI),
With Insights From The Legacy Of Ruth Cohn"***

Theme Centered Interaction Workshop



Prof. Dr. Matthias Scharer



Dr. C. Thomas Abraham



Ms. Anna Marie Nainan

Mahatma Gandhi University

in Kerala State has come forward to offer short term training courses in TCI under the mentorship of Graduate Facilitator Thomas Abraham.

As part of the Learning by Doing component of these courses, the learners organize small groups of senior citizens above the age of 55.

One hundred and four such units, covering 2500 seniors, have been formed and are thus introduced to TCI. This is part of a world-wide movement known as U3A, University of the Third Age.

Matthias Schafer met 400 hundred of these seniors in a TCI seminar in the University Auditorium on 21st January 2024.



*Big event at Mahatma Gandhi University in the context of »University for Third Age (U3A)
Photocredit: RCI India*



Synergy TCI Forum for Senior Citizens, Photocredit: RCI India



Community centre in the new village, Photocredit RCI India

Opening Ruth Cohn Avenue

Synergy TCI Forum for Senior Citizens was established in India in 2014. After completion of five years, we thought of living together in one place as one family with one kitchen and other common facilities.

15 families decided to stay together and the project which we have named "Synergy Homes" is nearing completion.

It is TCI that brought us together and we are obliged to Ruth Cohn for this. As a tribute to her we decided to name the main road of "Synergy Homes" as "Ruth Cohn Avenue". This was inaugurated by Professor Matthias Scharer, international TCI facilitator on 23 January 2024.

The President of RCI international, Wolfgang Schneider-Pannewick was kind enough to send a complimentary message on the occasion, which was read out to the audience during the inaugural meeting.

Col Mathew Muricken
Secretary
Synergy Home



Ceremonial opening of Ruth Cohn Avenue, Photocredit: RCI India



Applause for Ruth Cohn Avenue at the inauguration on 23 January 2024. Photocredit: RCI India



Please, this way. Photocredit: RCI India

And here are some more pictures and impressions from India

*Study day with lecturers and students at Marian College
"Theme-Centered Interaction (TCI) as a Pedagogic
Approach for Holistic Learning in Higher Education,
Photocredit: RCI India*



*Lunch break with delicious Indian food,
Photocredit RCI India*



Festival in Butterfly Village Photocredit: RCI India



*Workshop and interfaith meeting on "All-Connected into a
Planetary Future" Photocredit: RCI India*

2. News from TCI Community of Planetary Citizens

On March 16th, 2024 we are happy to gather online for our second General Assembly.



**TCI community of
planetary citizens**

We start with an interesting theme about the relationship between being a planetary citizen and eating and baking bread. By sharing what we have in common and at the same time what is culturally different, we get to know each other better.

Warmed up by this informal part, we move on to discussing and deciding on issues related to the further building of a lively and internationally oriented online community.



*Photocredit TCI Community of
Planetary Citizens*

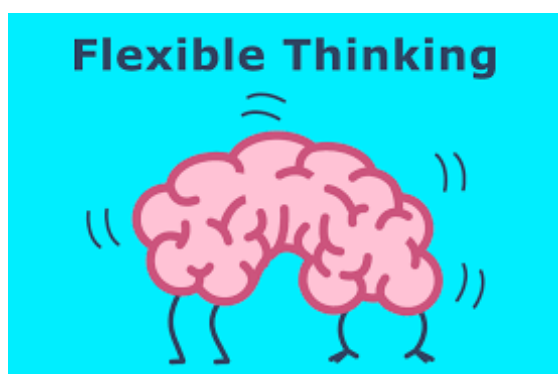


*Photocredit TCI Community
of Planetary Citizens*

Slow growing

The community is slowly growing and will soon take off as more than 50 Indian students from the Mahatma Gandhi University in Kerala want to become members. We are busy finding a way to easily introduce them and give them a soft landing in the community.

Welcome to join our meetup "A flexible mind is a joy forever".



We are organizing an online meetup on the theme "A flexible mind is a joy forever. Pushing the boundaries of our thinking and acting"

on May 25 from 10am - 1pm CET.

Whether you are a member of our community or not, feel free and welcome to join this meeting! For more information click [here](#).

3. Next dates for virtual meetings of the RCI-BDO

The virtual TCI exchange meetings of the RCI-BDO have also picked up speed in 2024. After an inspiring session led by Gerlinde Geffers on 22 February entitled "Being creative with the pen - We try out whether and how writing inspires and enriches us", on 21 March we will discuss what can be experienced and learned with TCI in unusual places - beyond seminar rooms and chair circles ... and what makes TCI so special there.



Virtual exchange. Photocredit: RCI Berlin-Deutschland/Ost

Below you will find all the dates for the first half of 2024.

We look forward to seeing you again and exchanging ideas with you!

Please contact Julia Arnold
j.c.arnold@web.de,
 who will send you the relevant Zoom links.

Dates:

Date: 21 March 2024, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Topic: In a boat, on a bike, while hiking... TCI in unusual places - we exchange our experiences about our experiences, longings and fears.

Leader: Dr Julika Bake, Gisela Kordges, Annemarie Schweighofer-Brauer

Date: 18 April 2024, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Topic: What do we mean by "Future Skills" and how can we bring them to life through TCI?

Leader: Dr Jochen Spielmann

Date: 30 May 2024, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Topic: Don't put on every shoe, it's so good to go barefoot (Herbert Grönemeyer) - How we can talk to our inner drivers and lovingly put them in their place.

Leader: Andrea Simon, Julia Arnold

Date: 20 June 2024, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Topic: Asking into the depths - With a structured interview, we get to the bottom of our deepest longings in a protected space.

Leader: Dr Claudia König

4. Open training counselling, online from RCI Rhein-Main-Lahn

Everyone is welcome to come with their own concerns and questions.

Of course, the training committee is also available for individual consultations at any time.

Online event

Dates 2024:

19.04.2024 from 05:00–07:00 pm

25.09.2024 from 07:00–09:00 pm

Registration by email to the secretariat (sekretariat@rci-rhein-main-lahn.de) or the training committee (aa@rci-rhein-main-lahn.de)

5. Inspiration day on 17 May 2024 of the School voor TGI, in Gent

Theme of the Inspiration Day:

“The joyfull Resistance - Leading yourself through challenging times”.

In the morning, 2 guest speakers will give their views on the theme and there will be interaction with the audience: Peter Venmans (philosopher) and Katrien Boone (TCI-graduate).

In the afternoon, we provide workshops within the theme in small groups.

During this day, we provide no translation, only Dutch will be spoken.



Location: Library 'De Krook', Miriam Makebaplein 1, 9000 Gent, Belgium.

Registration will be possible soon. The registration link can be requested via info@schoolvoortgi.be

6. Get a taste of TCI, online-seminar on 5 June 2024, RCI Rhein-Main-Lahn

Get a taste of TCI, orient yourself and inform yourself.

Working, learning and living in groups in a task-oriented and respectful way ... professionally, privately or wherever.

Are you curious about how you can work even more effectively? Then it's worth getting in touch with theme-centered interaction according to Ruth C. Cohn.

Date: Wednesday, June 05, 2024, from 06:00 – 08:30 pm

Location: Online (ZOOM)

Number of participants: max. 16

Leader: Ulrike Rietz and Jürgen Bedel

In these two and a half hours, TCI can be experienced online to whet your appetite for more. No prior knowledge is required. Curiosity and the desire to invest two and a half hours of your life as well as functioning technology (video and microphone) are sufficient.

Registration informally by e-mail by **May 31, 2024** to sekretariat@rci-rhein-main-lahn.de

Participation is free of charge.

The ZOOM access link will be sent 1 to 3 days before the start.
Forwarding this invitation is expressly desired!

We look forward to your participation

Ulrike and Jürgen

7. Awarding of the science prize of the Ruth Cohn Foundation for the Support of Young Adults

Felix Oberst was awarded the science prize for his Master's thesis.

The thesis is entitled: "Theme-centred resonance pedagogy - The theme-centred interaction (TCI) as a systematic extension of resonance pedagogy."

From the review: "In his Master's thesis, Felix Oberst develops innovative links between Hartmut Rosa's resonance theory and Ruth C. Cohn's theme-centred interaction (TCI). A "theme-centred resonance pedagogy" outlined in this way has the potential to contribute to social transformations."

A panel of experts (Brigitte Mazohl, Matthias Scharer, Margit Ostertag) selected this work as the best out of five submissions.

The prize will be awarded to Felix Oberst at the end of the International General Assembly on 11 May 2024 in Frankfurt.

Ernst Schrade

8. Film exhibition: Ruth Cohn in the mirror of her time, 15 June 2024, RCI Luxembourg

Ruth Cohn in the mirror of the [film exhibition of German film from 1895 - today](#)

Organizer: RCI Luxembourg

Location: Start at the entrance to the Völklinger Hütte, Rathausstraße 75-79, 66333 Völklingen. The Völklinger Hütte is barrier-free.

Date: 15.06.2024 We meet at 10:30 a.m., approx. 12:30 p.m. Lunch break, approx. 3:00 p.m. Coffee break. From approx. 6:00 p.m. we turn to the **Restaurant Alter Bahnhof**, Rathausstr. 57, 66333 Völklingen.

Trevelling: By train: The Völklinger Hütte is a five-minute walk from Völklingen station. By car: It may be possible to form carpools. Once it is clear who is taking part, we will be happy to connect those who wish to do so.

Admission: costs 17 € additional travel and meals.

Registration: until Friday, 31.05.2024 Please register only via Elfriede: wollmann-koethe@web.de.

We will register the total number of participants at the restaurant.

Leader: Elfriede Wollmann-Köthe, Monika Blumenstein-Mazur, Anke Stephan

In the Völklinger Hütte, a World Heritage Site, you can visit the much-praised film exhibition of German film from 1895 to the present day. We would like to invite you to take a look together at the time in which Ruth Cohn grew up in Berlin. Filmclips from this early period will allow us to get closer to her experience. Likewise the time of her return to Europe, which many of us already consciously perceived. Filmclips from "Berlin. Symphonie der Großstadt" from 1927 or "Hitlerjunge Quex" in 1933, through to "Angst essen Seele auf" from 1974, the year of Ruth Cohn's return to Europe. Limiting the exhibition to two epochs is one way of approaching it.



Cinema room, Photocredit: Anna Sulencka on Pixabay

It is up to each visitor to decide which film from the 128 years of film art they would like to be inspired by and at what pace they would like to view the exhibition. This time too, the focus is on encounters, exchange and togetherness. The breaks are designed for this purpose. Self-catering is possible, but there is also a cafeteria.

We will end the event together in the attractive "Alter Bahnhof" restaurant. If you are unable to attend the film exhibition, you are welcome to join us in the restaurant from around 6 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you! Anke, Elfriede and Monika

9. Election call for the RCI international Board from 2024

At the IGA in May 2024, elections to the Board will be held as scheduled.

We urgently need candidates to spread the tasks on the Executive Board over several shoulders and to ensure good transitions for the future. In three years at the latest, no one from the current Board will be available for a further term of office.

Please think again and check whether you can decide to stand as a candidate!

And look around your member association and speak to people to get them interested in joining the board.

You are welcome to contact us on the Executive Board if you have any specific questions or refer interested parties to us.

We are happy to provide information and are available for discussions.

For the Board

Wolfgang Schneider-Pannewick, Klaus-Gerd Eich, Ute Schmitz und Brigitte Mazohl

10. Science section: Current bibliography and research papers online

The literature lists and research papers have been updated by the Science department (Matthias and Michaela Scharer, Brigitte Mazohl) and are now available on the website under the Research section:

<https://www.ruth-cohn-institute.org/forschung.html>

11. Call for contributions TCI-Issue 1/2025

TCI and the Written Word

In issue 1/2025 we wish to address the significance of the written word for TCI. What and how much is read in TCI training courses? How important is reading texts about TCI for how we communicate with each other about TCI, for how we understand the world? How do those of us who find reading and writing difficult go through life? What happens when I write? What are the differences between writing a personal account, for instance writing a diary, and writing an academic text? Understanding of and access to knowledge, experiences and contexts of meaning are not acquired by virtue of experience alone, but also through discussions based on theory.

We are looking forward to reports on your experience, reflections, practical examples and theoretical contributions.

The **deadline for the submission of proposals** to agnes.christ-fiala@t-online.de is **28.08.2024.**

12. Congratulations...

We would like to congratulate all members who have or had a birthday in January, February and March with this bouquet of flowers!

We wish you good health and all the best! 🎁 🌸



Colourful tulips for the day of honour. Photocredit: Ralph on Pixabay

13. Event calendar – Upcoming dates 2024

Virtual meetings of RBDO:

21 March 2024, 06:00 – 08:00 pm Led by: Dr Julika Bake, Gisela Kordges, Annemarie Schweighofer-Brauer

18 April 2024, 06:00 – 08:00 pm Led by: Dr Jochen Spielmann

23 May 2024, 06:00 – 08:00 pm Led by: Andrea Simon and Julia Arnold

20 June 2024, 06:00 – 08:00 pm Led by Dr Claudia König

16 March 2024, 09:00 am–05:30 Uhr pm Exchange workshop (ATW) in Gelsenkirchen, RCI Rheinland-Westfalen

21 March 2024, 07:00–09:00 pm Jour fixe, Professional Group for School

Open training counselling, online, Rhein Main Lahn

19 April 2024, 05:00 – 07:00 pm

25 September 2024, 07:00 – 09:00 pm

Inspiration day in Ghent, RCI Flanders

17 May 2024, registration: info@schoolvoortgi.be

Online meeting: "A flexible mind is a joy forever". Pushing the boundaries of our thoughts and actions" by TCI Community of Planetary Citizens (PLC)

25 May 2024, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm.

The TCI events of our member associations can also be found on our website:

[TCI - Events - RCI International \(ruth-cohn-institute.org\)](https://ruth-cohn-institute.org/TCI-Events)

14. Call for Papers & Release Date RCI-NEWS 2/2024

The next issue of the RCI-NEWS (2/2024) will be published on **May 31, 2024**. As always, we welcome your submissions of dates, events and meetings in the member associations.

The **deadline** for contributions is latest **17 May 2024**.

Please note when sending the texts:

- 1,500 characters maximum incl. spaces, Microsoft Word format, font Verdana 11
- Write in mother tongue **and in English** please.
- Images only as jpg files

The RCI-NEWS 2/2024 will be published on 31 May 2024.

We wish you all warm spring days, confidence and stay healthy.

With best regards from Berlin
Kathrin Giogoli and Jasmin Lütz



*Greeting from the balcony.
Photocredit Jasmin Lütz*

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