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International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies

*Proposal of a topic for the World Logic Day 2021 with a perspective of global history of ideas.*

As a member of the Board of the Union Académique Internationale I hereby take the liberty of proposing a topic for the World Logic Day, that of the Indian and Chinese logic traditions, as below.

Formal logic as a tool to establish consistent expressions is of course not dependent on historical or cultural conditions. However, the study of the employment of logic in various contexts, philosophical, mathematical or legal, may enrich our understanding of the relation of logic to epistemology, rhetoric, litigation and other disciplines. We naturally connect the discipline of logic to the European heritage, in particular that going back to Aristotle, but the World Logic Day should not fail to acknowledge other traditions of logic, among them the Indian traditions, which through its Buddhist formulation also had great influence in China. Indian logic was most of all a tool to establish philosophical and religious truths, but its legal context is also present. Discussions of the limitations of logic and syllogism in establishing absolute truth is also a topic in Indian and Buddhist traditions of logic, as it is in the Western philosophical traditions, as well as the theme of the relation between logic and rhetoric.

I would be delighted to contribute to a dialogue with the aim of defining a suitable topic along these line for WLD. The undersigned think that a global perspective is very important today for humanistic studies, for comparative reasons, but indeed also for understanding history in the broadest sense possible as the common heritage of man.

Sincerely yours



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