

13th World Congress of Semiotics CROSS-INTER-MULTI-TRANS-

Session proposal

Humanism and Humanists without Borders Concepts, Modalities, and Metaphors of *cross, inter, multi, and trans* in the World of Signs

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Our symposium in 2012, *Humanists without Borders – Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Language of Peace: Concepts, Modalities, and Metaphors*, dealt with the interdisciplinary interpretations of the concept of peace within such fields as language, arts, music, culture, history, and translation (see Hartama-Heinonen & Kukkonen (eds.), 2015, *Acta Translatologica Helsingiensia, PAX*, <https://helda.helsinki.fi/handle/10138/158703>). The goal of the present session is to continue our project, this time with a discussion on the fundamental features and issues of humanism, humanity, and a good life: freedom, harmony, silence, courage, patience, prudence, love, beauty, curiosity, truth, wisdom..., a renaissance of virtues and values (cf. Aronsson et al., 2012) as well as reflections of understanding, self-understanding, but also misunderstanding and conflicts. In this session, the focus is on: What can semiotics, as a true discipline without boundaries, as a method of transcending disciplinary borders, and as the common language of semioticians, offer to this discussion on humanism, humanity, and humanities research; a discussion that is utmost current today (cf. Nussbaum 1997, 2010; Heikkilä & Niiniluoto 2016, *The Value of Humanities Research in Finland*, <http://irfrome.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/humanistisentutkimuksenarvo.pdf>, Institutum Romanum Finlandiae)?

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