



10th WCSA WORLDWIDE CONFERENCE
SEXY TRENDS for an Emerging Global Governance System
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Picture by Rosângela Fidelis

HYPERCOMPLEXITY AND SYSTEMIC CHANGE

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After millions of years of evolution on this planet, human society has reached an *overturn*, in which cultural evolution has begun to determine biological evolution. The traditional borders and limits between the natural and the artificial have been completely done away with, and both the ecosystem and human civilization are going through a process of systemic change, an anthropological transformation as well as an environmental watershed, whose consequences will be unavoidable. The characteristics of this transformation are destined to either be the results of human choice and efforts, or else to be the involuntary consequences of massive environmental and economic catastrophes. That nature and humankind, that all dimensions of social and political life are increasingly interdependent and interconnected has never been clearer than today, as the recent global and systemic emergency has been unequivocally driving home to us.

The attempt to govern these dynamics, so chaotic and complex, cannot be founded on anything less than on a truly *systemic vision* and *approach to complexity*. A systemic change demands systemic strategies and actions, which must be based on a multi/inter/trans-disciplinary method

and a radical reformulation of education and training, at the core of any kind of social transformation. True systemic change, it must be clear, like all emergent properties arising in complex systems, must hail from grassroots communities, and can never be applied through top-down impositions. We should also keep in mind the futility of believing that we can eliminate uncertainty and unpredictability from social systems (or any other complex system) and realize that setting objectives of control and of the elimination of error (which is intrinsic to all living things) are based on a great illusion. This implicates a necessary rethinking of our educational institutions themselves.

Without rethinking education and training, without raising the qualitative standards of educational processes, this phase of such radical transition and change is destined to remain an extraordinary opportunity solely for elites and for the few. The progress society has made so far is essentially technological in nature, whereas a similar progress in social, cultural and moral awareness has not been reached. We must also be aware that new levels of inequality and asymmetry have emerged, despite (and sometimes owing to) this very technological progress.

The challenge facing us, in every disciplinary field, is to realize a substantial and fruitful dialogue among all members of society. This is the main objective of the 2021 WCSA conference. With this aim, the panel we are proposing will be inviting scholars and experts from both the so-called hard sciences and from the social sciences, representing prestigious universities, institutions, and organizations in every part of the world: among them, WAAS (World Academy of Art and Science), the U.N. Working group on Systemic Change, and many others.