



ruth cohn  
institute for **TCI**  
international

*The art of leading*

## **RCI-NEWS**

**RCI-international**  
**No. 4/2024**

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

a lot is happening in the RCI at the moment.

The new joint association RCI - Network for Living Learning and Leadership from the former RCI Munich, RCI Württemberg and RCI Austria has started the work. RCI Luxembourg is relocating its headquarters to Germany.

In India, a movement of TCI-interested and active people (without formal training) is growing. In addition, there is a growing number of people who are completing the TCI certificate according to the usual standards. Both are important pillars of RCI India.

The TCI Community of Planetary Citizens sees itself as an international movement for networking interested parties, without a regional focus.

The number of instructors who no longer renew their teaching contract is significantly higher than the number of new instructors. The total number of members is declining. Older people are leaving the associations and young people are joining only sparingly.

We are facing the challenge of developing new ideas for our organisational structure. How can we ensure that interest in TCI grows and that the associations have enough members to carry out the important tasks well?

In the early summer of this year, many RCI committees received a letter from young people for whom TCI has become important and valuable in courses. They criticised the fact that we do not have a protection concept. They state that they have experienced how discriminatory situations were not handled well in training contexts. They call for greater awareness of power mechanisms. The Board has taken up this concern and decided to develop a protection and awareness concept. We want to involve various groups and experts and start working on this as soon as possible. The study day at the International Instructors Conference (IIC) in November was dedicated to this topic. The instructors set out to deal with situations of discrimination and how to deal with them appropriately. These concerns are an important issue for the RCI as a whole. That is why we as the Board see it as our responsibility.

These are just a few examples. There are other lively activities in many member associations. This RCI News is also an expression of this.

These days, many people are still busy getting everything done that they have planned before the "winter rest" can begin. I wish everyone a blessed break between the years and all the best for the New Year.

Wolfgang Schneider-Pannewick (for the Board of RCI international)

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## **1. New foundation of the TCI Region Mosel-Saar-Sauer, RCI Luxembourg**

On 27 October 2024, ten people from the RCI Luxembourg regional association met to complete the long-prepared founding of the TCI Moselle-Saar-Sûre region.

It has been clear for some time that the RCI LUX no longer meets the requirements for an association under Luxembourg law and will not be able to do so in the foreseeable future following changes to Luxembourg association law. Therefore, after 2 years of preparatory work, it was decided at the 2024 IGA to found a "new" association under German law and then dissolve the RCI Luxembourg.

The new foundation of the TCI Moselle-Saar-Sûre region has been completed and the board and cash auditor have already been elected. It is currently still formally an "independent association", and the application for entry in the register of associations (as an "e.V.") is on its way. Another milestone is the admission to RCI-international, a corresponding application is planned for IGA 2025.

The aim of these structural changes is both to fulfil the current legal requirements and to establish an association that is fit for the future.

Anyone who would like to continue to be a member of a regional TCI association, even after the forthcoming dissolution of RCI LUX, is invited to join the new association "TCI Region Mosel-Saar-Sauer". Memberships cannot be transferred. We hope to win many current members of RCI Luxembourg for this step.

For the Board of RCI Luxembourg and the Board of TCI Region Mosel-Saar-Sauer,  
Rahel Roseland

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## **2. "School without racism - school with courage", RCI Dreyeckland**

The school community at the Ruth Cohn School in Denzlingen, not far from Freiburg, has decided by a large majority to take a stand against discrimination, exclusion and racism, to join the nationwide network "Schools without Racism - Schools with Courage" and to organise projects, campaigns and workshops on the topic of racism and exclusion.

At a moving kick-off event at the school, a football team, a drag queen and the RCI Dreyeckland appeared as patrons.

We are looking forward to the projects that the school plans to organise with us in the coming year.

Hermann Krieger for RCI Dreyeckland



*Colourful event at the school. Photo credit: Michael Löffler*

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### 3. Report from CWS II in Neustadt by Rebekka Neander & Marina Scheidle

#### Departing from the monastery garden - concept workshop in Neustadt an der Weinstraße

What is my goal? What do I want to work on? And what is the point of it all?

If you want to start your diploma training, you have to know where you want to go. During The concept workshop (CWS) by Ulrike Rietz and Dorit Kesse at the end of July, nine new diploma students set out on this path - a quite winding and sometimes strenuous project, which was not only due to the high-altitude conference monastery in Neustadt a.d. Weinstraße.

Setting personal goals, prioritising them and pouring them into a condensed curriculum on a DIN A4 page requires a high degree of self-reflection and a prophetic gift at the same time. Especially since it is flanked by extensive training and examination guidelines. Many a digression in these days was more about the global view of TCI and its future than about one's own diploma. This self-centred focus sometimes had an irritating effect, as the becoming of the "we" otherwise plays such a central role in TCI modules. However, the group successfully helped itself with seminar-tested games - and a very pleasant evening together on the market square with tarte flambée and wine spritzers.



*CWS in Neustadt an der Weinstraße*



*Cheers to the Palatinate. Photo credit: Ulrike Rietz*



*Workshop with spritzer. Photo credit: Dorit Kesse*

An encore that was challenging at the beginning, but ultimately very enriching was the participation of a diploma student from Belgium. The fact that the exchange within TCI can also work on the basis of solid school English was a encouraging surprise.

Rebekka Neander, Marina Scheidler

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#### **4. Report from the symposium "Enduring diversity - shaping dialogue", RCI Rhein-Main-Lahn**

Enduring diversity - shaping dialogue - a symposium of the RCI Rhein-Main-Lahn on the topic of "Understanding" on 3 November 2024 in Frankfurt am Main.



### **Murmelgruppen**



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*"Enduring diversity - shaping dialogue". Photo credit: RCI Rhein-Main Lahn*

We invited people to use TCI to examine the question of whether and how understanding is possible in a world characterised by ambivalence.

We welcomed a total of 36 guests to Haus am Dom, including a number of people who came into contact with RCI Rhein-Main-Lahn for the first time.

Keynote speeches and in-depth workshops offered three approaches to the topic. Interested parties can watch the presentations as video recordings here:

- Dr Margit Ostertag: "Beyond black and white - ways of understanding in a world characterised by ambivalence" <https://youtu.be/PQQkpdIQNZ8>
- Dr Michael Bayer: "Finding common ground in diversity. - The challenges of living together in a society characterised by diversity and inequality" <https://youtu.be/Dsip5Ni6ags>
- Dr Walter Zitterbarth: "Is TCI a social therapy?" <https://youtu.be/2nvoN0MjG14>

All in all, we were able to experience a lively, inspiring, varied and insightful Sunday in the middle of Frankfurt, surrounded by good food and nice people.





At the lecture: Dr Margit Ostertag, Dr Michael Bayer and Dr Walter Zitterbarth. Photo credit: RCI Rhein Main Lahn

As someone wrote on the farewell poster at the end of the day? "Happy people, gathered around a theme - in the middle of the city." And another voice reported: "Encouraged! Because once again my partial power has been recognised!"

Jürgen Bedel

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## 5. Have a look at the RCI Rheinland/Westphalia TCI forum

### We cordially invite you to join our TCI Forum

The TCI Forum has been existence since November 2020 and more and more people are meeting here, so it continues to grow up. There are currently 205 participants listed.

As there is a search function that also allows us to filter: There are 82 registrants from our association RCI Rheinland-Westfalen, 53 have not indicated RCI membership; 19 stated that they had completed the training course for young adults.

The possibilities of the TCI forum are manifold: networking, sharing information, calendar, creating groups etc., book and magazine market. Participants can find TCI-affine people from their field of work or from their region.

This is particularly important when we have topics and concerns that we would like to initiate and develop with the support of others.

At the moment, a small group around Aljoscha Novak is busy streamlining the TCI forum structure.

So here is an appeal to all newsletter readers:

Use the forum! Sign up! Find opportunities and opportunities! Give feedback!

<https://www.tzi-forum.com/>

Many thanks  
from RCI Rheinland/Westfalen



## **6. Josefstal closes..., report by Wolfgang Schneider-Pannewick**

The Josefstal Study Centre at Schliersee is closing its seminar house at the end of the year. The Evangelical Church of Bavaria is now only subsidising the content work there, but not the maintenance of the buildings. This is why the association no longer sees itself in a position to maintain the seminar house.

TCI courses have been held in Josefstal since 1982, in particular with Angelika and Eike Rubner, Mina Schneider-Landolf and Janny Wolf-Hollander.

So far, eight basic training courses and 16 courses for young adults have taken place there, as well as regular 5-day courses.

Hagen Fried, who had led many TCI courses and who had taken over the connection between the study centre and the RCI from Janny (as a "permanent freelancer" in the Josefstal team) has played a major role in ensuring that TCI has such a good place in Josefstal. Brigitta Bogner has taken on this role since 2023.

The location of the seminar house has a very special charm. Right at the foot of the mountain, between Schliersee and Spitzingsee with a view of the nearest mountain peaks, covered in snow for long time each year. A house with people who were happy when we came, who made many things possible and with a really good kitchen.

It's such a pity that this place is no longer going ahead.

Many thanks to everyone who has made this collaboration possible, supported it and lived it over the years!

It will continue, with TCI and the study centre, at other locations and in other seminar houses, for further basic training and for further courses for young adults.

Wolfgang Schneider-Pannewick



*Josefstal Study Centre with a view. Photo credit: Wolfgang Schneider-Pannewick*

## **7. RCI India and TCI in India, an attempt at clarification by Christa Reppel**

In the RCI News issue No.3/24 an article is published under the headline "News from India, including office space for TCI, RCI India". I would like to comment on this:

### **"RCI India" and the teaching staff**

As a graduate, I was part of the "Teaching Staff for RCI India" from 2008 to 2020, which during this period included around 10 RCI graduates who taught mainly in Kerala, and initially also in Mumbai. At the end of this period, there were 7 Indian graduates who had been trained by European graduates. TCI training workshops were held continuously over the 12 years, so that there are now over 80 certificate holders and 12 diploma holders. In 2020, the European graduates handed over the baton for the management of the "Teaching Staff for RCI India" to five Indian accredited instructors in Kerala and two in Mumbai with Hafiz and Motti as the coordinators. Motti Zacharia from Kottayam is still responsible for the TCI training as the coordinator of Indian training committee (INTRAC). He organizes the official training courses, which was made considerably more difficult at times by Corona. Furthermore RCI India is supported by European graduates.

### **TCI in India**

At the end of the 1990s, Thomas Abraham organized - out of enthusiasm for Ruth Cohn's concept - the first TCI workshops in Kerala, where he lives. Later he became the first Indian graduate. From the outset, it was extremely important to him to implement Cohn's concept within Indian village communities and families, because he recognized that this could significantly improve the living conditions of many people. Thus, he turned more and more to this issue and his interest in an "official" TCI training decreased. Over the years, these activities gave rise to a movement that, using the "TCI triangle in a sphere" as a basic instrument, is trying to change the traditional social structures in groups in Kerala society. By practicing and living with the TCI axioms the participants' awareness for the importance of the balance between the four factors has a positive effect on people's quality of life. Only with knowledge of these facts one can understand that the term TCI is also used in Kerala by people who probably have never attended "real" official training workshops.

Neither RCI India office bearers, Training committee nor I and some other former members of the "Teaching Staff for RCI India" know the names of the authors of the articles in RCI News 3/24. This means that they most likely are neither TCI certified nor TCI diploma holders, but they probably are related to Thomas Abraham, who is the driving force behind the groups mentioned in the articles: "Butterfly Foundation for TCI International is a registered Organization of TCI practitioners in India", as Jayasree Javakumar writes in her article "TCI goes to the masses". Accamma Mathew P reports in her article that "TCI training programmes" are to take place in the new TCI centre. These may be training programmes, but none that comply with the guidelines of RCI International. Therefore, the three authors of the articles should actually refrain from speaking of "RCI India" - as they do in the heading. The mentioned term "TCI International" is also inappropriate, since all of these meetings are about a form of "lived TCI" that is specifically found in Kerala, without international connections. The members call themselves "TCI practitioners in India".



## Two TCI areas

I hope I have approximately succeeded in describing **the differences between the two fields within Ruth Cohn's concept, practiced in India**. They exist simultaneously and both considerably extend the horizon of the participants. Only **"RCI India" in Kerala**, however, is connected to **Ruth Cohn Institute for TCI-International**.

Christa Reppel, Bonn, September 2024

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## 8. Two ways of developing TCI in India, Karin Fritzsche and Ulrike Rietz

One of the Indian graduates, Prof. Motti Zachariah, took part in the last graduates' conference in Bonn from November 7-10, 2024. He is the coordinator of the training committee INTRAC (=Indian Training Committee) in RCI India together with Prof. Muhammad Hafiz. Among other topics he wanted to clarify specific questions regarding the administration of RCI India's membership in RCI international.

In addition, in a separate meeting attended by colleagues who had themselves worked in India, topics were also discussed relating to the development and organization of TCI in India, as described by Christa Reppel above. For the European graduates, it was important to learn how TCI has developed in India in the meantime.

We learned from Motti what added value a TCI workshop has for those interested in TCI in India if it is led by a Graduate from Europe: When he, Motti, announces this, he immediately has about 10 registrations. If he announces that it will be led by local Graduates, he is not sure whether there will be enough registrations (just like here!). Hence the request of INTRAC, that European Graduates come to India as often as possible, as Wim Stevens and Marleen Vandenberghe are currently doing.

On the other hand "TCI goes to the masses", as Jayasree Jayakumar writes in her article in the previous RCI News. The change in society is the great concern of Thomas Abraham (role of women with a corresponding change in the behavior of men / reduction of hierarchies / importance of the individual, respect on the one hand and taking responsibility on the other; simply "knowing that I count" and drawing the consequences from this, etc.)

*This is a vision that Ruth Cohn would probably have imagined.*

Thomas sums it up as follows: "TCI for India has to be adapted, not adopted". The participants in the "Butterfly/Synergy" events, for example, call themselves "TCI practitioners in India". This is how people describe their every day life with TCI, which is entirely in the spirit of Ruth (not "social therapy", but certainly social change in the sense of humanization).

*This is what we Europeans can learn from TCI in India.*

The majority of these people have not undergone training courses in the sense of the RCI international guidelines, but have attended TCI-based application courses and integrated into their lives what they have learned there.

Concerning TCI formation, Indian graduates, above all the coordinator Motti with the support of Hafiz, are endeavoring to advance formal TCI training in accordance with the guidelines of RCI international.

And they have succeeded to such an extent that they currently have over 80 certificate holders, 12 diploma holders and more than 19 diploma aspirants (the number of

which cannot be clearly determined at present, as the last advanced training has not been finished because of Karin's cancellation due to illness, followed by Corona and the associated interruptions of contacts).

Insofar we agree with Thomas about "adapted", but at the same time we support INTRAC in "adopted" so that there will be more and more people in India who are trained according to RCI international standards and can ensure that they are maintained.

Karin Fritzsche and Ulrike Rietz, November 2024

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### **9. Save the Date! Advance notice from Matthias Scharer**

Dr. Thomas Abraham, the first RCI teacher in India, will probably come to Germany in May 2025.

Thomas Abraham's endeavor has always been to build up an India-specific TCI movement in addition to training in TCI according to RCI standards and to bring Ruth C. Cohn's approach to as many people as possible 'at the grassroots'. He was and is very successful in this, as reports in the last News and also in this issue show.

If Thomas comes, we are planning a workshop with him from May 27, 2025 at noon to May 29, 2025 (9 sessions) at noon in or near Frankfurt, where the International General Assembly of RCI will take place. More detailed information will be provided in due course.

Karin Fritzsche, Urike Rietz, Matthias Scharer, Wim Stevens

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### **10 News from India by Motti Thomas, RCI India**

RCI India gained momentum after the corona period in 2023 and it continued in 2024 too.



*Workshop in Tamil Nadu with Wim Stevens and Marleen Vandenberghe. Photo credit: RCI India*

We were able to organize five international workshops, a symposium and three seminars in this year till now.

The year opened with one workshop at Tamil Nadu state lead by Marleen Vandenberghe and Wim Stevens from 5<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> January. It was their first visit together to India and we use this occasion to thank both of them with gratitude.

At the same time, Prof Matthias Scharer conducted a two-day symposium on "The Life and Work of Ruth Cohn" at Marian College, Kuttikanam, Kerala. It was illuminated by poster presentations, biographical pictures, insightful texts and excerpts from Ruth's letters. A cultural programme organised by students of Marian College based on the poems of Ruth C. Cohn added a unique and artistic dimension to the exploration.

[Title out 1.mp4 - Google Drive](#)



*Cultural programme by students of Marian College Photo credit: RCI India*

This was followed by a one-day seminar cum workshop on "Higher Education" for teachers. The workshop, which was organised in collaboration with the Kerala State Higher Education Council, welcomed Dr Rajan Vargheese, member of the KSHEC Secretariat and former Pro-Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University Kottayam, as guest of honour. Matthias Scharer enriched the event with valuable insights. The participation of students, teachers and TCI learners created a diverse and stimulating atmosphere for discussion.



*Presentation of diplomas in Neustadt with Karin Fritzsche, Rosary Mary, Ulrike Rietz*

Two method workshops were conducted by Motti Thomas, one in June at Calicut for the closed batch and one in October at Nilambur.

We are thankful to Ulrike Rietz and Karin G Fritzsche for conducting a special diploma workshop for Rosary Mary from India in Neustadt in June.

NP Hafiz Muhammed and Joby Cyriac conducted one workshop each, Hafiz at Seaba International School, Punjab in September and Joby at Nilambur in July.

We were able to conduct a one day seminar at Trivandrum on the occasion of the opening of a training centre by Trivandrum chapter of RCI India under the leadership of Matius Vengal, former president of RCI India. The sessions were lead by Hafiz and Joby.

We are expecting Wim Stevens and Marleen Vandenberghe to lead a workshop in Punjab in December.

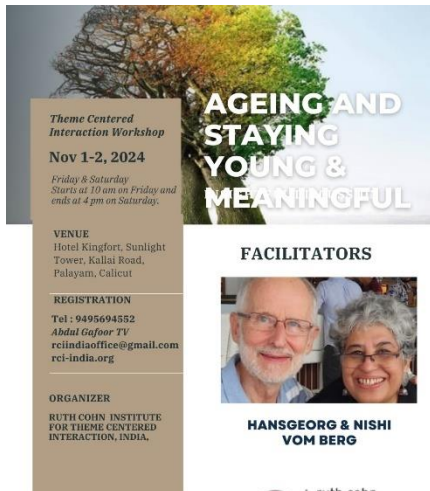
A two day workshop with the Theme "ageing and staying young and meaningful" was lead by Hans Georg and Nishi Mitra at Calicut from 2-4 November in

connection with the celebration of the 80<sup>th</sup> birth day of Hans Georg.

Motti Thomas, Training Coordinator, RCI India



## 11. TCI workshop in Kerala: Ageing and Staying Young and Meaningful



**Theme Centered Interaction Workshop**  
Nov 1-2, 2024  
Friday & Saturday  
Starts at 10 am on Friday and ends at 4 pm on Saturday.

**VENUE**  
Hotel Kingfort, Sunlight Tower, Kallai Road, Palyam, Calicut

**REGISTRATION**  
Tel : 9495694552  
Abdul Gafoor TV  
rciindiaoffice@gmail.com  
rci-india.org

**ORGANIZER**  
RUTH COHN INSTITUTE FOR THEME CENTERED INTERACTION, INDIA.

**AGEING AND STAYING YOUNG & MEANINGFUL**

**FACILITATORS**

**HANSGEORG & NISHI VOM BERG**

**ruth cohn institute for TCI international**

### About the program

Ageing is evolving. This workshop is about inspiring each other to age honestly and gracefully. Never put an age limit to your dreams. Facilitators are accredited trainers from RCI International and are an international couple residing in India & Switzerland. Both are also members of RCI for TCI India.

Workshop on ageing with TCI. Hans Georg and Nishi Mitra vom Berg. Photo credit: RCI India

This workshop was organised by RCI for TCI, India, at Kozhikode, Kerala. Hans Georg vom Berg and Prof Dr Nishi Mitra vom Berg jointly facilitated the workshop.

27 people attended. 13 participants who enrolled were 60 plus, 1 was 70. A few family members attended the workshop, so all generations were represented. 6 Graduates participated. This made it a very rich and one of a kind experience.

Kerala is India's aging state. The State's sizable ageing population is due to a number of factors including declining fertility & development interventions. The workshop was planned by Nishi in relation to Hans Georg's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday and his long years of work in Kerala, as a fitting way to celebrate. It had social and personal relevance.

Aging scares and challenges us with restricted mobility and compromised autonomy due to chronic issues, illnesses, and handicaps.

It may put strain on caregivers. It requires careful planning, resources and resilience. Our connections and relationships are challenged and retirement brings a loss of fulfilling work and relationships.

Yet with appreciation and acceptance of one's own biography, it is possible to overcome these hardships and see aging as evolving.

This workshop was about inspiring each other to age honestly and gracefully. The participants were energized with work on the above themes and were inspired to never put an age limit on their dreams.

Motti Thomas



Hans Georg and Nishi Mitra in the circle of their participants. Photo credit: RCI India



Delicious cake for your birthday. Happy birthday, Hans Georg. Photo credit: RCI India

## **12. Reports from India, including a workshop in Tamil Nadu and a presentation on the "Ruth Cohn Avenue Model Synergy Homes", RCI India**

### **A TCI Pep Talk Everyday**

Butterfly Foundation for Theme Centered Interaction in India started a new program called TCI Pep Talk. It is a brief (average 5 minutes) sharing of TCI insight related to a life-experience. I had the good fortune to start it on 1st September 2024. Till today 75 such pep talks were delivered. I did it for 31days (August) in Malayalam language at 8 AM every day. Sharafunnisa P. did it for 30 days (September). Gireesh P did it for 31 days (October) and now Uma K is continuing it. The platform is whatsapp. On an average 100 people hear it out of which about 15 to 20 post their response.

K. Haridasan, school teacher, TCI Advanced Certificate

### **Ruth Cohn Avenue - model for communal living**

Fifteen families of "synergy TCI forum for senior citizens" (started in Kottayam, India, 2015) decided to live together in 15 cottages with a common kitchen, common living hall and common yoga hall. The small river (Lalam River) which forms the natural boundary of Synergy Homes is one of the attractions. Roshie Augustine, dedicated the new model of community living to the nation on 02 November. Prof. C.T. Aravind Kumar, the Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University (MGU) gave the keynote address.

Earlier on 22nd January 2024 Matthias Schärer inaugurated the Ruth Cohn Avenue, the road in the middle of Synergy Homes.

The Ruth Cohn Avenue model has attracted a lot of public attention already. Therefore MGU is hosting a seminar on this theme on 28th November. Dr. C. Thomas Abraham who initiated this model will present the concept paper.

Report from Adv. Gita Saras

### **TCI goes to the grass roots in India**

In 2018 an organization has been formed to promote TCI education and to take it to the ordinary people at the grassroots. The organization is called Butterfly Foundation For Theme Centered Interaction. The inspiration for this organization is Ruth Cohn who wrote "from couch to circle to community" and Norie Huddle who asked, "If a caterpillar can become a butterfly, why can't mankind itself become a butterfly."

In collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi University we are offering short TCI courses. The trained TCI teachers are forming people's groups in villages and towns to inculcate TCI as a way of life. MGU has an extension program called U3A, University of the Third Age. 150 units of 15 to 20 senior citizens have been formed in a period of 18 months. TCI trained Butterfly Facilitators are providing leadership for U3A in all the 14 districts of Kerala. Similarly children, youth, women and teachers are also being organized towards TCI for human metamorphosis. We welcome TCI graduates and Diploma holders all over the world to come to Kerala to join hands with Butterfly Foundation by offering short workshops for our field workers.

Dr C. Thomas Abraham

### **8-day TCI training in Rural Leadership**

In view of the rising need for TCI leaders at grassroot level the Butterfly Foundation is offering 8-days training programs in different districts. This helps as an introduction to TCI. Two such courses have been completed in Trissur and Ernakulam districts. On

13th November a new batch has been started in Kottayam District. The average number of participants is 20. Most of those who go through this program are showing interest to join full-fledged TCI workshops and later the TCI certificate Course in MGU.

Report by K.S.Sreenathan, coordinator at state level

### **Festival of Living Learning**

Under the auspices of Butterfly Foundation for TCI we organize two festivals every year. The fifth such festival took place at Trivandrum in the month of July 2024.

TCI learners, U3A members and others who are interested in the TCI philosophy came together for three days to share their dream of a "brave new world" and to have a great time dancing and singing.

As a member of the 6th TCI Festival I welcome members of the TCI International Community to visit India and participate in our festival.

Dates: 10-12 January 2025

Venue: Anugraha Renewal Centre, 17th mile, Vazhoor, Kottayam, Kerala-682022

The expected number of participants is 200.

Accamma Mathew. P, Butterfly Foundation for TCI

### **TCI Community of Planetary Citizens in India**

There are 62 members enrolled so far in this hybrid community. More members are expected to join in January. The following decisions were taken in a meeting with Carolien, Thea and Linde.

1. Monthly online sessions will be held on themes related to TCI and the planetary vision. These sessions will be led by European and Indian facilitators alternately.
2. Two offline workshops will be held in 2025 on the theme of "Ruth the planetary citizen and D Pankajakshan the earth man: Convergence for a brave new world".

Reported by C. Thomas Abraham



### **Presentation on the theme "Ruth Cohn Avenue Model Synergy Homes"**

Dr. C. Thomas Abraham made a presentation in Mahatma Gandhi University on the theme "Ruth Cohn Avenue Model Synergy Homes" on 28/11/2024.

The program was inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi University

Vice Chancellor Dr. C.T. Aravind kumar and presided over by Dr. Beena Mathew, Director, DASP (MGU). Dr. Tony K. Thomas, Director, (MGU3A) gave introduction. It was attended by TCI learners and Synergy team members.

Dr C. Thomas Abraham



### **13. "SaturdaySeminars" on TCI again in 2025, RCI Dreyeckland**

Due to their continued success, we will be continuing our "SaturdaySeminars" series in the coming year. From January to October 2025, we will be offering five Saturday seminars in Karlsruhe and Freiburg. This will give interested parties the opportunity to get to know TCI, take it up again and deal with a topic.

#### **5 Saturdays - 5 topics**

- Understanding myself and others better - communication and relationship models of transactional analysis (TA)
- Leading effectively - the four factors of TCI as a compass for leading and teaching in groups and teams
- Using methods effectively - We work with ideas from Theme-Centred Interaction (TCI)
- The TCI chairperson - Who decides when I decide?
- The art of dynamic balance - a tightrope act

You can find further information on our homepage [www.rci-dreyeckland.de](http://www.rci-dreyeckland.de)

### **Strengthening solidarity - especially now**

**Our general meeting on 13 April 2024 with Michaela and Matthias Scharer is online as a video.**



*General Meeting RCI Dreyeckland Photo credit: MoritzBross Medien*

At our general meeting on 13 April 2024, Michaela and Matthias Scharer gave us an insight into their work archiving the estate of Ruth C. Cohn and we explored the question "Strengthening solidarity ... Which WE is meant?".

You can find a detailed report on this in News 2/2024. You can relive this interesting and lively event in a video:

<https://youtu.be/mV7WKC8V5es?si=ze7rmurquSsW3Mfj>

**14. Exchange workshop - ATW in Cologne from 14 to 15 March 2025,  
RCI Rhineland/Westphalia**

TCI exchange in Cologne - Image credit: Gerd Altmann on Pixabay

**Topic: "Human dignity is inviolable"  
- how do I live my values every day?**

All interested parties will have the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas in a cosy atmosphere on the evening before, 14 March 2025.

The ATW 2025 starts on Saturday, 15 March 2025 from 10:00 am.

The current problems are manifold and political issues are omnipresent:

- The history of TCI is political, but how political is TCI today?
- "Reverence is due to all living things" - How do we create the necessary structures to implement this TCI axiom?
- What do I need in order not to lose sight of myself?
- How do I strengthen my chairperson to counteract this?

We want to deal with all these questions and look forward to exchanging ideas with you!

Location: Cologne Deutz Youth Hostel

Registration via the [KBW Recklinghausen](#)  
with overnight stay until 08.12.2024 (please enquire if interested)  
Registration without overnight stay until 09.02.2025.



Please note the small print when registering.

Only one price can be given (145 euros), but of course there are different price categories, as described, which will be taken into account when invoicing will be taken into account:

*When booking, please indicate in the "Additional information" field which conference costs we can charge you (75€/90€/145€/160€)*

Further information can be found at [www.ruth-cohn-institut-rw.de/termine.html](http://www.ruth-cohn-institut-rw.de/termine.html)

With best regards from the RCI Rhineland/Westphalia Executive Board  
and organisation team

**15. TCI taster Workshop, online on 20 March 2025, RCI Rheinland/Westfalen**

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

Work, learn and live in groups in a task-oriented and respectful way ... professionally, privately or wherever.

Are you curious about how you can (co-)work even more effectively?

Then it's worth getting to know theme-centred interaction according to Ruth C. Cohn.

*Ein Projekt des*



ruth cohn  
institut für **TZI**  
rheinland/westfalen

**Date: Thursday, 20 March 2025**

**from 6 - 8 p.m.**

Location: Online at ZOOM

Participants: max. 20

Steffi Adam-Bott, Karin Gante and Dorit Keese (team of moderators) make TCI tangible online to whet your appetite for more.

No prior knowledge is required. Curiosity and a desire to invest two hours of your life as well as functioning technology (video and microphone) are all you need.

Participation is free of charge.

Forwarding this invitation is expressly desired!

**Please register by 17 March 2025** at [Steffi.Adam-Bott@online.de](mailto:Steffi.Adam-Bott@online.de)

The ZOOM access link will be sent shortly.

You are welcome to visit the TCI exchange forum beforehand

[www.tzi-forum.com](http://www.tzi-forum.com)

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**16. Inspiration day: 21 March 2025, School voor TGI, Ghent, RCI Vlaanderen**

**Topic: "More authority again! Listen, see and connect."**

In the morning, two speakers will present their views on the topic and there will be interaction with the audience:

[Paul Verhaeghe](#) (Prof. Dr Em. Psychology - Psychoanalyst - Author) and Wim Stevens (TCI graduate) will guide you through the day.

In the afternoon, we offer five workshops on the topic in small groups.

There will be no translation on this day, only Dutch will be spoken.

*Image credit: School voor TGI*

Registration will be possible in January.

The registration link can be requested via [info@schoolvoortgi.be](mailto:info@schoolvoortgi.be)

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**17. Spring workshop: "Digital.alive", Austria: 04-05 April 2025**

Spring Workshop 2025 of the RCI Network for Living Learning and Leadership e.V.

**Digital.alive: Workshop for a new work culture**

Digital collaboration is an art that we are still a long way from mastering. A space full of challenges and opportunities is unfolding between technical possibilities and human connection. How can we design online meetings in such a way that they become lively, participative and truly collaborative?

The first study in the German-speaking world on interaction in virtual meetings - COME-Cooperative Meetings - shows that virtual communication needs more than functional technology. It requires conscious design, mindfulness and the willingness to break old patterns. We are still at the beginning of learning how real encounters in the digital space - beyond monologues, distractions and fatigue.



*Digital.alive. Photo credit: Irene Kernthaler-Moser*

In this workshop, we combine scientific findings with the concept of themecentred interaction (TCI). Together we will work on our skills for a new, digital communication culture: How do we create spaces in which all participants can contribute? How do we cultivate attention, respect and productive energy in virtual encounters?

We invite you to share your experiences and jointly develop tools that make cooperation and participation effective online. It is time, to rethink digital communication - in a lively, inclusive and meaningful way.

**Leader: Ingrid Ambrozy** (teacher of German as a second language, on her way to a TCI diploma)

**Irene Kernthaler-Moser** (team developer, TCI graduate, co-author of COME, [www.mehrenergie-consulting.com](http://www.mehrenergie-consulting.com))

**Tamina Lenz** (psychologist)

**Date: Friday, 04.04.2025, 04:00 pm to Saturday, 05.04.2025, 06:00 pm**

The event is free of charge. If you value our work, donations are very welcome as a sign of solidarity.

**Please register at** [ingrid.ambrozy@ambrozy.priv.at](mailto:ingrid.ambrozy@ambrozy.priv.at)

**Location: Federal Institute for Adult Education (bifeb)** [www.bifeb.at](http://www.bifeb.at)  
**Bürglstein 1-7 - A-5360 St. Wolfgang im Salzkammergut**

For room reservations, please book a room via the homepage:

<https://www.bifeb.at/bildungszentrum/programmbereiche/reservierung-zimmer> .

If you do not need a room, please fill in the form and do not tick any accommodation.

The COME study is available at the following link: <https://genos.univie.ac.at/come/>

## 18. Announcement of the 2nd Science Prize 2025, Ruth Cohn Foundation

The prize is awarded to the best submitted scientific thesis that deals centrally with Theme-Centered Interaction (TCI) according to Ruth C. Cohn. The thesis can come from different scientific fields. It reinforces the place of TCI in scientific discourse and - if possible - provides impetus for further research and the further development of the TCI concept. As a matter of principle, submitted papers meet scientific standards.

### Who can apply?

Scientists who are involved in TCI and are generally under 40 years of age at the time of submission.

### How much is the prize endowed with?

The prize is € 1,000 for the award-winning work. If necessary the prize can be split. In addition the scientific publication is supported with supported with up to € 1,000.

Further important information:

### Next deadline for submission:

**30.09.2025**

### at the following e-mail address:

[ernst.schrade.@stiftung-ruth-cohn.de](mailto:ernst.schrade.@stiftung-ruth-cohn.de)

Legal recourse is excluded.

The review panel:

Prof Dr Brigitte Mazohl, Vienna  
Prof Dr Margit Ostertag, Nuremberg  
Prof Dr Matthias Scharer, Innsbruck

The papers are submitted digitally to the management of the Ruth Cohn Foundation for the Promotion of Young Adults.

By submitting the work, authors agree that the Foundation may archive the work and make it available for research if necessary.

Ernst Schrade



Ernst Schrade, left, and Felix Oberst, winner 2024.  
Photo credit Kathrin Giogoli

**19. Call for contributions to issue 1/2026 on "Narcissism"****How we tell the story of what we do - TCI and the written word**

Narcissism is one of those terms which originated in psychological and psychoanalytical discourse and has now made its way into everyday language. So to most people, the word 'narcissist' has become something of an insult, a synonym for unbridled selfishness, toxic relationships and a danger to any kind of social cohesion.

We would like to invite you to take a more discerning look at this term and the phenomena it describes, from different perspectives. What exactly does "narcissism" mean in individual disciplines? Which range and forms of "narcissistic" behavior do we encounter in our private and professional lives? What interactions do we perceive? How do we deal with our own "narcissistic" tendencies? Where and how do we draw the line between an acceptable degree of self-assertion, ambition and dominance and less acceptable "narcissism"?

To what extent do we live in a world that rewards or even demands narcissism, and how do we deal with this?

We welcome a wide range of different and even controversial articles from the areas of theory and practice.

Please send your drafts to [agnes.christ-fiala@t-online.de](mailto:agnes.christ-fiala@t-online.de) by 20.08.2025

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*Image credit: Ylanite Koppens on Pixabay*

**20 . We congratulate...**

We would like to congrats all members who had birthday in September, October, November and December!

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

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**21. calendar of events - 2025****Festival of Living Learning, Kerala, India**

10 to 12 January 2025, RCI India

**TZI-Punkt / Symposium of the RCI Network Living Learning and Leadership e.V.**

Saturday, 25 January 2025, 9:30-16:30 in Stuttgart

**Exchange workshop of RCI Rhineland/Westphalia**

14 to 15 March 2025, in Cologne

**TCI taster course, online, from RCI Rhineland/Westphalia**

Thursday, 20 March 2025, 18:00-20:00

**Inspiration day, School voor TGI, RCI Vlaanderen**

21 March 2025 in Ghent

**Spring workshop: Digital.alive**

04 April 2025, 16:00 to 05 April 2025, 18:00 in St. Wolfgang, Austria

Further TCI events organised by the member associations can also be found on our Website: [TCI - Events - RCI International \(ruth-cohn-institute.org\)](https://ruth-cohn-institute.org/TCI-Events)

**22. On our own behalf - Christmas holidays at the Berlin office**

The office is taking a Christmas break and will be closed from 23 December 2024 to 6 January 2025.

**23. Call For Papers & Publication Date RCI-NEWS 1/2025**

For the next issue of RCI-NEWS 1/2025 **on 14 March 2025**

As always, we look forward to receiving your mailings, especially about dates, events and meetings in the member associations.

**The deadline** for submitting entries **is 28 February 2025 at the latest.**

Please note when sending the contributions:

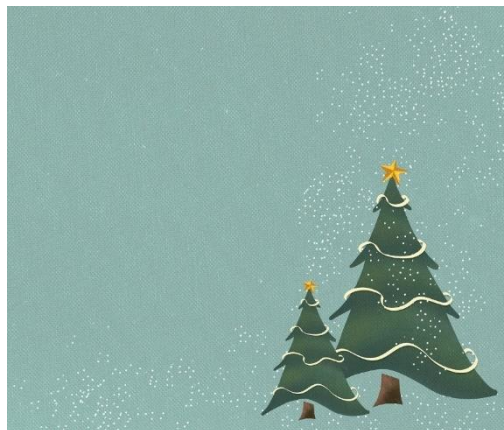
- maximum 1,500 characters, including spaces, in Microsoft Word format
- Font Verdana 11
- in native language **and please in English** compose
- Images only as jpg files

**The RCI-NEWS 1/2025 will be published on 14 March 2025.**

We wish all our readers a pleasant holidays with lots of confidence and harmony. Stay healthy and have a good start to the New Year!

**Best regards from Berlin**

**Kathrin Giogoli and Jasmin Lütz**



*Image credit: Ylanite Koppens on Pixabay*