




## The wisdom of presence and NVR

*Building bridges in uncertain times*

-  From parental presence to a new understanding of authority
-  Twenty years of development in Europe
-  **18.-20. May 2023**
-  Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences (Northern Germany)
-  Bruno Körner, Martin Lemme, Arist von Schlippe and others





**SyNA**

Systemisches Institut für Neue Autorität\*

[www.neueautoritaet.de](http://www.neueautoritaet.de)

# Registration

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**Possible in digital and analogue (on site) form**

We are very excited to be on our way to the 7<sup>th</sup> international conference, which is taking place in Osnabrück again 20 years after the first conference in Osnabrück with Haim Omer.

A special anniversary!

At this conference we will deal with the topic of "bridge building".

Twenty years after New Authority and Nonviolent Resistance were popularized in systemic parenting coaching in Germany, we want to address questions such as:

- How can at risk and broken relationships be revived instead of further compromised by practices of power?
- What obligations arise for the people who feel committed to this approach not only personally but also professionally?

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- What bridges do we need ourselves in order to implement the NVR Charter together and then build bridges on our part that are based on trust and joint development?
- In which fields can nonviolent thinking and acting develop beyond parent coaching, which topics, contents and perspectives animate us?
- And looking back on the developments of the last 20 years, how can the potential of this approach in the future be assessed?

We appreciate everyone who wants to deal with mediated experiences and their own joy in innovation and inspiration with creative ideas and potentially contribute and expand their own knowledge. It is possible to register in digital as well as analogue (on site) form.

**Costs:**            early bird discount    355€ (until December 31<sup>th</sup> 2022)  
                          Normal price                    415€

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In preparation we focus on the following aspects:

- we organize the conference in a joint network of [project partners](#) (see footnote)
- we appreciate the participation in different processes and projects before and during the conference (through offers of opportunities that will gradually appear on [www.nvr2023.com](http://www.nvr2023.com))
- we call for participation in the organization of the conference (see [www.nvr2023.com](http://www.nvr2023.com))
- we open to related subject areas
- we face up to (self-) reflection and (self-) criticism in dealing with the concept as a commitment and invitation
- we express ourselves verbally, visibly and in the implementation politically, socially, sustainably, and ecologically
- we combine sociopolitical issues with the perspective of the concept of systemic (new, transformative) authority
- we already have humor and joy in the preparation and will bring this to the conference with energy

and we remain open to everything that may come spontaneously too.



**The selection at the conference** (in each case analogue, digital or hybrid):

- Presentations (keynotes) – translated simultaneously (hybrid)
- Parallel presentations – translated simultaneously (hybrid)
- Forums (Exchange of experts with inclusion of the plenum) – partially translated simultaneously (partially hybrid).
- Workshops in German or English (digital or analogue)
- Exhibition and Posters (analogue)
- Possibly a few events as well, depending on incoming offers

After the selection by the preparation team in November of 2023 the full program will be set.

>>> [subject areas](#) <<<



The offers are divided into the following **subject areas**:

**Subject areas:**

Thematically we have distinguished ten plus one areas at the conference, all of which focus on the implementation of the New Authority concept:

- [Coaching of parents](#)
- [School and education](#)
- [Professional education responsibility](#)
- [Special help](#)
- [Organization and leadership](#)
- [Science Area](#)
- [Society, democracy and ecology](#)
- [Spirituality: Mindfulness, dignity and presence](#)
- [Profound life experiences](#)
- [Humor and ease](#)
- [Plus 1: Complementary or completely different](#)

There are a total of 4 blocks of offers (105-120 minutes) during the conference, in which at least one offer takes place for each area. Each area is organized by its own team. These present the possibilities for each area separately here:



### Coaching of parents

The frame conditions of parenting are constantly changing. The place of the parents as the center of the family, which provides security and orientation, can be shaken by challenging upbringing and special life situations. Systemic parent coaching with presence and non-violent resistance enables goal-oriented and needs-based work with parents in different fields of work (in daycare centers, early intervention, schools, in the youth welfare office, in outreach work, in outpatient practices, in educational counseling centers...). The aim of the procedure is to (re)establish the presence of the acting persons in order to improve the relationship/cooperation between those involved. The participation and autonomy of the children and adolescents play a central role here. We look forward to offers that report on experiences, projects and implementations that have been made in the context of systemic parent coaching, NVR therapy and the systemic (new) authority approach in the contexts described above. Group processes and projects that integrate other concepts are also welcome.

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### School and education

The educational sector has shown increasing interest in the implementation of non-violent resistance and in the concept of systemic (new) authority for some years now. While some educational institutions are already working intensively with the concept of attitude and action, we are observing that the need for information events and internal training is growing, starting with elementary schools and secondary schools through to vocational colleges and universities. We are currently noticing an increasing need for individual coaching specifically in the school landscape. We also experience colleges and teams that have set out to implement the concept. The challenge seems to be particularly great in the school context. Consequently our request is aimed at speakers who want to make an offer for the implementation of the concept and/or their own experiences at the conference. We are particularly interested in innovative and creative ideas, offers and (further) developments – especially in specific contexts and relations.

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### Professional education responsibility

In modern education, professional educators understand education as a mutual cooperative process. Nevertheless, challenging behavior and violations of limits by children and adolescents present socially and emotionally stressful situations. Not least because of this, an increasing interest in the attitude of the concept of systemic (new) authority with the measures of non-violent resistance can be observed. Based on the attitude that successful networking can already be helpful as a preventive measure, we invite interested and committed educators to help organize the conference with an appropriate contribution.

Possible focal points could be:

- Vigilant concern in child and youth welfare institutions
- Cooperation with parents, alliances with parents with the attitude of NA
- Successful educational planning – How do we design education?
- Compensation instead of punishment



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- Participation in action and the factors that influence successful participation: "Who is involved, when and how?"
- New Authority and attachment, design of safe places in child and youth welfare
- And beyond...

We look forward to lively participation with interesting, innovative and participatory contributions.

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### Special help

In recent years, the approach of non-violent resistance and the concept of systemic (new) authority have increasingly established themselves in institutions that deal with curative education and the promotion of mental development. This applies to schools and other educational as well as residential facilities. It has been shown that the implementation requires an adjustment of language and understanding. The personal non-verbal presence is particularly of central importance. We look forward to contributions from these contexts, which present and demonstrate the implementation of this approach in an experience-oriented, innovative and vivid manner.

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### Organization and leadership

This area deals with the transfer of the concept of New Authority and its further development, such as the Systemic Authority and Transformative Authority approaches for the context organization and leadership.

The implementation and the associated experiences have led to intensive creative processes and research. Offers from theory and practice can therefore include the following content:

- Presentation of approaches to further development in the context of organization and leadership, such as systemic authority/ transformative authority.
- Presentation of approaches, methods and ideas that are compatible with the concept of the New Authority in terms of content and attitude and how they can be best combined.
- Presentation of projects in which the New Authority concept and its further developments were implemented in an organization.
- Presentation of examples in which leadership has aligned its own actions in relation to the organization, employees and clientele to the concept of New Authority and its further developments.
- Mediation of individual interventions and instruments for organizational, team and personnel development from the New Authority concept and its further developments or based on it.

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## Science Area

We invite anyone to submit a paper on the topic of NVR/ NA-research who is doing research on the topic himself or is interested in the research.

In the science section of the conference, we want to look at what scientific approaches there are to describe and/ or prove various aspects of NVR/ NA. This does not only mean to present concrete research projects, theses, or results. But also, research topics that can be promoted together. As well as ideas of practitioners from the counseling/ therapy practice, where scientific research is needed to enhance NVR/ NA.

Finally, this area should also offer a space to bring together the currently rather fragmented researchers and those interested in science, with the wish to establish an active, international scientific community.

Therefore, we welcome, for example, paper on ...

- Research in the field of treatment or counseling
- Research related to NVR/ NA principles
- A study that sheds light on the theory of NVR/ NA
- Ideas, approaches or formats that promote future research and research collaboration in the NVR/ NA fields
- Exchanging methods and knowledge in the fields of NVR/ NA research
- Discussion about research theses

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## Society, democracy and ecology

Various times the current ecological, political and social situation has been described as being without leadership or with weak leadership. Or political leaders have exploited their positions of power to the point of warfare. The loudest voices have been shaped by exclusion, hatred and rejection. In contrast, constructive voices that promote social values only rarely seem to get through. Presence and non-violence are based on values that are characterized by non-violence, responsibility, cooperation, and connection, as well as transparency and autonomy. Especially, but not only, in situations and contexts that escalate violently, it has been shown that bridge building can be carried out in this way, which can create new areas of opportunity even in seemingly hopeless conflicts. The voice of presence and non-violence of presence and non-violence is supposed to be loud and unmistakable at this conference.

The participants in the international network NVR have committed themselves to the NVR charter of 2012. For us, this means that we express ourselves politically and in society as a whole, where we see oppression and the violent pursuit of power. We express this through our statements and at our conferences by inviting people who can make constructive and innovative contributions to current issues of social, societal and ecological responsibility. For that reason, we would like to invite all those who think in the same way and want to make a corresponding contribution. We look forward to interesting and creative contributions that courageously take a stand in the sense mentioned before.

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## Spirituality: Mindfulness, dignity and presence



Spirituality is described in various places as the search, turning to or subjective experience of a transcendent reality that is not sensuously comprehensible and cannot be explained rationally and that underlies the material world. Thus, spiritual questions and insights relate to questions of meaning and value of existence, with the integration of what is ethically valuable into one's own life. The non-violent resistance according to Gandhi and King is strongly marked by spirituality, developed, and lived out of spiritual conviction. It is therefore less about intellectual insights, logic, or communication and more so about personal (emotional as well as psychological) going through experiences and states that have a direct impact on one's own lifestyle. Spirituality shows itself in mutual and personal mindfulness, in the design of spaces and encounters with dignity as well as in presence. We look forward to creative suggestions that make the experience of that perceptible.  
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### Profound life experiences

Experiences like trauma, deep-rooted physical shock and the like lead to lasting and therefore profound consequences for many people. These show up as fears, avoidance, anger and feelings of powerlessness and more. In practical work, pedagogical and counseling people experience the effects both in their clients and in themselves. Strengthening the presence of those affected has shown itself to be a highly effective way of overcoming the lasting consequences of those profound life experiences. Based on these experiences, some were even able to represent the conviction that the commitment to dealing with people with dignity, a life of non-violence, is perceived as particularly empowering. We look forward to reports on your experiences, presentations of possibilities and creative designs.  
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### Humor and ease

Joy & ease offer a beneficial balance in crises and challenging times. With a good balance of humor, dignity, and acknowledgment of what makes it difficult, the ups and downs of life can be taken a little easier. At the conference we want to offer space in this area for the play between pressure and ease and promote the ability to face the inadequacies of the world, the people, the everyday difficulties, and mishaps with a cheerful composure. The aspects of Systemic Authority "taking and giving time", "listening" and "being conscious" can be combined with for example letting go, gratitude, quick-wittedness, happiness competence, fun and mindfulness. We look forward to merry and creative suggestions.  
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### Plus 1: Complementary or completely different?

Have we forgotten a subject area? Or does something not fit into the other subject areas at all? Perhaps an offer also connects different areas with each other. Then it is in good hands in this area.

Have we caught your interest? Then register quickly. We look forward to a meeting (analogue or digital) in Osnabrück!  
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