

Memorandum

R. Merkel, G. Boer, J. Fegert, T. Galert, D. Hartmann,
B. Nuttin, S. Rosahl:
Intervening in the Brain. Changing Psyche and Society
Springer-Verlag, Berlin 2007
ISBN-10 3-540-46476-X

Contact / Registration

Europäische Akademie GmbH
Friederike Wütscher

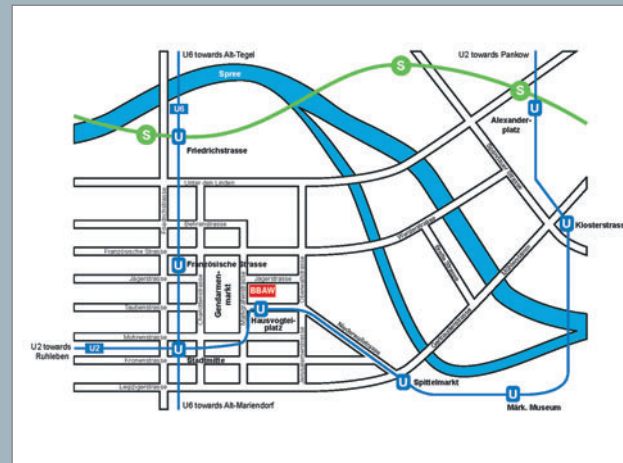
Phone: +49 (0) 2641 973-300
Fax: +49 (0) 2641 973-320
e-mail: friederike.wuetscher@ea-aw.de

Wilhelmstr. 56
53474 Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler
Germany

<http://www.ea-aw.de>

Venue

**Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie
der Wissenschaften (BBAW), Leibnizsaal**
Jägerstr. 22/23
10117 Berlin



Venue

Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der
Wissenschaften (BBAW), Leibnizsaal
Jägerstr. 22/23
10117 Berlin
Germany

For more information see:

http://veranstaltungszentrum.bbaw.de/en/directions/map_bbaw.pdf

Book Presentation

Intervening in the Brain
Changing Psyche and Society

May 2nd, 2007, 19hrs

Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der
Wissenschaften (BBAW), Berlin

Intervening in the Brain

Changing Psyche and Society

The preceding decade has witnessed tremendous progress in clinical as well as theoretical neuroscience. In its wake, powerful new instruments of neuromodulation acting directly on the brain have been developed: potent neuropharmaceuticals, deep brain stimulation, transcranial magnetic stimulation, various methods of neurotransplantation, central neural prostheses, and others. However, few areas of scientific development seem to exhibit as close a connection between dreams of progress and nightmares of disaster as contemporary neuroscience. This Janus-faced character relates to the core function of the brain as the “organ of the mind”. Methods of intervening in the brain easily draw the suspicion of possibly altering fundamental features of persons, thus posing a threat to preconditions of human dignity and to the normative structure of our societies. This suspicion has been fuelled by the discovery that most of the newly developed neurotherapeutic instruments might also be used for purposes of enhancement of certain mental features. “Mind doping” is a populist slogan at hand, suggesting a deprecatory parallel to the practice of doping in sports.

“Intervening in the Brain” subjects the whole range of questions associated with these problems to a thorough exploration. Extensive state-of-the-art accounts of the relevant clinical and theoretical neurosciences are followed by an in-depth philosophical analysis of the problems of personal identity and a comprehensive disquisition on legal and ethical questions posed by present and foreseeable future practices of neuro-enhancement. A concluding chapter presents the study’s main results as recommendations, addressing clinical practitioners and researchers in the field as well as politicians, legislators, law courts, philosophers, lawyers, and anybody fascinated by or concerned about the dawning era of intervening in the brain.

Report Presentation

Wednesday, May 2nd, 2007

19.00 Welcoming Address

Professor Dr. phil. Dr. phil. h.c. Carl Friedrich Gethmann
Europäische Akademie GmbH

Word of Greeting

Dr. phil. Karl-Heinz Klär
State Secretary of Rhineland-Palatinate

Report Presentation

Professor Dr. med. Jörg Fegert
Professor Bart Nuttin, M.D.
Professor Dr. jur. Reinhard Merkel

20.00 Discussion

20.30 Reception

The presentation will be partly in German.

Project Members

Chair: Professor Dr. jur. Reinhard Merkel
Lehrstuhl für Strafrecht und Rechtsphilosophie
Fachbereich Rechtswissenschaft
Universität Hamburg

Dr. Gerhard Boer
Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience
Department of Neuroregeneration
Universiteit van Amsterdam

Professor Dr. med. Jörg Fegert
Universitätsklinik für Kinder- und Jugendpsychiatrie/
Psychotherapie
Universität Ulm

Professor Dr. phil. Dirk Hartmann
Fachbereich 1 - Philosophie
Universität Duisburg-Essen

Professor Bart Nuttin, M.D.
Department of Neurosurgery
University Hospital Gasthuisberg
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Professor Dr. med. Steffen Rosahl
Klinik für Neurochirurgie
HELIOS Klinikum Erfurt

Project Coordination

Dr. phil. Thorsten Galert (Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler)
Europäische Akademie GmbH, Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler