CALL FOR PAPERS
IIAS - 2004

The 3rd Orwellian Symposium
to be held August 2-4, 2004 in Baden-Baden, Germany

Chaired by
Prof. George E. Lasker
The International Institute for advanced Studies in Systems Research and Cybernetics

Papers are invited for presentation at the 3rd Orwellian Symposium. This Symposium will be a part of the 24th Annual Meeting of the International Institute for Advanced Studies in Systems Research & Cybernetics, and the 16th International Conference on Systems Research, Informatics and Cybernetics to be held July 29 – August 5, 2004 in Baden-Baden, Germany.

The Symposium will compare the technological and social advances in modern life to the totalitarian world envisioned half a Century ago by George Orwell in his classic work “1984”. It will study the systems of socio-political and economic control, which are currently being used by the various powers, agencies, spin-doctors, and manipulators of our lives to further restrict our freedom in their effort to establish a global hegemony and ultimately, a global dictatorship.

It will study pertinent models, tools, techniques, policies and laws, as well as relevant strategies and tactics that are used by certain special-interest groups and powerful institutions and agencies to control various aspects of our lives, eclipse our sovereignty and suppress our freedom and liberties. It will examine how these methods, policies and tools are used against us, how our lives are being manipulated, and how our freedom, liberties and human rights are gradually taken from us and destroyed.

The Symposium will explore what can be practically done to change and rectify this alarming situation, to reclaim our sovereignty, restore our freedom, and re-establish human decency, dignity, justice and peace, rather than waging a perpetual war.

The 3rd Orwellian Symposium will also discuss how to unmask, identify and expose those who are responsible for curtailing, suppressing and destroying our freedom and liberty at the local, national, international and global level. The Symposium also aims to examine the developments of socio-political and economic controls from the historical perspective and assess the potential consequences, ramification and the impact of such developments on our future life and on the life of future generations.

The Symposium will address growing tendency in the world to criminalize legitimate protest, and to silence the voices of dissent and criticism. It will also address the growing tendency in the world to suppress, distort and hide important information and knowledge from us about various factual events, and to intimidate, persecute and even kill the journalists and those who dare to communicate and report on such events.
The 3rd Orwellian Symposium will also discuss the increasing intolerance towards dissenting, unpopular or controversial opinions of others. It will study emerging and growing threats to freedom of speech and expression, and will search for innovative approaches and strategies that would curtail and eliminate these threats.

The Symposium will study the controversial relation between economic-political interests and the principles set out by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It will examine why today the former often prevails over the latter. The Symposium will also discuss the paradox of certain international human rights instruments that are being used to limit the very same rights they are meant to protect.

Papers are welcome that would also examine the emerging and growing attempts to control the Internet, and various ethical, legal and societal aspects of cyberspace.

Of particular interest are papers that would illuminate the ways and means that are being used to implant and sustain various psychological constraints in the individual human being; i.e. constraints whose internalization facilitates the manipulation of such an individual by external controllers, and even makes such an individual a willing participant in the self-destructive rituals and activities that are sponsored and perpetuated by Big Brother.

In addition to the themes outlined above, papers are invited that would also address the issues listed below under the following headings:

A. SocioPolitical/Economic Control, Power & Domination in a Changing World

- Cybernetics of power, domination & sociopolitical & economic control (SPEC)
- Relevance of George Orwell’s work to the current sociopolitical developments
- Using language to control, shape and manipulate the sociopolitical and economic behavior
- Taboos and tabooization as instruments of totalitarian thought control
- Paradigms and mechanisms of sociopolitical and economic control & domination
- Logic of domination, power, and sociopolitical and economic control
- Tools, techniques, policies, strategies & tactics used in sociopolitical & economic control
- Hidden, covert and invisible centers and sources of sociopolitical/economic control & power
- Modalities, forms and patterns of sociopolitical and economic control, power & domination
- Psychopathology and sociopathology of power and domination
- Concentration, diffusion, distribution & globalization of sociopolitical/economic power/control
- The sociopolitical & economic powers and domination by the national, international, supranational and multinational corporations, organizations, institutions and special-interest groups
- Education and enlightenment of populace on issues of totalitarian, dictatorial powers & control
B. Sociopolitical/Economic Control, Personal Environment and Society

- Thought crimes, freedom of speech/expression & freedom of communication
- Orwellian invasion of psyche and human mind
- SPEC-controls, invasion of privacy and covert penetration of private residence
- Intrusion into personal life, intimidation, harassment, bullying and persecution
- Suspension of human rights and suppression of individual freedoms and liberties
- Using mind control technology to shape sociopolitical behavior
- Deception and misinformation as instruments of sociopolitical & economic control
- Inducing economic dependency as a tool of sociopolitical control
- The role of laws & legislature in establishing and sustaining the SPE-control
- Disarming the populace and criminalizing the legitimate protest and dissent
- The use of security issues as a pretext and decoy to curb our freedom and liberties
- The use of economic controls and domination to attain political power
- Polarization, fragmentation, disintegration and destabilization of society as a tool of SPEC
- SPECs - impact of universalization & globalization of norms, values & behaviors
- Debasing human values as an instrument of societal control
- The role of culture and religion in sociopolitical and economic control
- Issues of individual and societal apathy and complacency
- Education and enlightenment of populace on issues of totalitarian/dictatorial powers & control
- How to replace the totalitarian culture of war, belligerency and violence by democratic culture of peace, cooperation and harmony

C. TV, Film, Mass Communication Media, Information Technology and Internet

- The sociopolitical control of discourse and communication
- Media dominance in sociopolitical control and societal manipulation
- The role of Television in sociopolitical control and behavior manipulation
- Curtailment of news & omission/distortion of facts in communication/broadcasting/reporting
- Who are the controllers of Television and other mass communication media?
- Linguistic distortions in mass communication media: newspeak and doublethink
- Attempts to control Internet and Cyberspace
- Technology of records keeping, records changing and surveillance

D. Systems Methodology for Assessment of Sociopolitical & Economic Controls

- Monitoring, tracking, mapping and evaluating the sociopolitical and economic control
- Assessment of Freedom Erosion
- Measuring the degree & extent of sociopolitical/economic control and domination
- Measuring the influence of laws & legislature on establishing and sustaining the SPE-control
- Measuring the SPEC-impact of TV and mass communication media on individual and society
- SPEC-analysis and evaluation of impact of governmental policies and actions
- SPEC-analysis of impact of sociopolitical/economic institutions and special interest groups
E. General Issues of Sociopolitical Control and Domination

- The use of security issues as pretext and decoy to curb and suppress our freedom and liberties
- Synergetics and synergism of sociopolitical control
- History of sociopolitical and economic controls and domination
- Reality of sociopolitical/economic control and its perceptions and misperceptions
- Tools, approaches, methods, strategies & tactics to counteract totalitarian controls
- Consequences, ramification and implications of sociopolitical/economic control & domination
- The visible and invisible effects of sociopolitical/economic control and domination
- Attention diversion as instrument of sociopolitical thought control and behavior manipulation
- The role of art, music and literature in promoting sociopolitical dictatorial control
- Transition of Government from the servant of the people to the oppressive controller of the people

The Paper Submission Guidelines, the Copyright Transfer Form and the Conference Registration Form are available at the Home page of the IIAS at: [http://www.iias.edu](http://www.iias.edu)

Paper Proposals should be submitted as soon as possible but not later than April 30th, 2004. All submitted papers will be refereed. Those selected will be scheduled for presentation and published in Conference Proceedings. Notification of Acceptance will be sent to authors by May 9th, 2004. The camera-ready full papers, not exceeding 6 single-spaced typed pages should be mailed with photo-ready copies of artwork and with relevant diskettes to Prof. George E. Lasker, the Symposium Chairman, at the address indicated below. The full papers should also be transmitted electronically in MS Word format to

Prof. George E. Lasker  
Conference Chairman  
International Institute for Advanced Studies in Systems Research & Cybernetics  
C/O University of Windsor  
Windsor, Ontario N9B 3P4, Canada  
at: [lasker@uwindsor.ca](mailto:lasker@uwindsor.ca)