

US, France and Great Britain Debate in Brazil Paulo Freire's Literacy Method

Contributed by Márcia Wonghon
Monday, 19 September 2005

Experts from Brazil, United States, Angola, Portugal, Colombia, Belgium, France, Germany, and England are debating the relevance in today's society of the literacy instruction method disseminated by the Brazilian educator, Paulo Freire.

From Monday, September 19, through Thursday, September 22, they will be participating in an international conference on the ideas of this educator from the northeastern state of Pernambuco, who won various awards for his concept of using education, notably innovative methods of adult instruction, as a foundation for the construction of a just society.

During the meeting, which is sponsored by the Paulo Freire Center of Studies and Research and is being held on the campus of the Federal University of Pernambuco (UFPE), in the Northeast Brazilian city of Recife, topics such as literacy instruction, educational policies, and solidary economy will be discussed. The intention is to establish guidelines for the use of socio-pedagogical practices to create a multicultural society.

The Paulo Freire Center, which was founded in 1998, holds conferences, talks, and training courses for literacy instructors and offers advisory and consultancy services to institutions, among other activities. Freire's literary opus has been translated into 37 languages.

ABr