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Bildung in science education – implications for teaching and knowing

Bildung is an old and complex concept with at least five historical elements. A socio-political dimension is the most recent. As an educational concept it emerged in Germany in the mid eighteenth century. Especially in Germany and Scandinavia conceptions of Bildung became the general philosophical framework to guide both formal and informal education. How is the concept of Bildung used in the international science education literature? At least five versions/traditions of Bildung can be identified and will be described in the lecture. These will be related to different worldviews and philosophies of science education, such as different visions of scientific literacy. Especially the potential of eco-critical-reflexive Bildung, emphasizing the socio-political dimension, will be elaborated on as an educational meta-theory for science education in our Anthropocene epoch.