On December 5<sup>th</sup> 1960 General de Gaulle gave a speech on the Declaration of Independence of Senegal from French colonialism. In this historical night I was born in the Senegalese former capital city Saint-Louis. With a smile, I think that my strong need for autonomy might be due to this eventful night. Just as my constant striving for cooperative behavior may reflect the referendum that expresses the will of Senegalese people to choose cooperation with the French government instead of breaking political relations. I spent the first 18 years of my life in West Africa (Senegal and Ivory Coast) in an environment which, in a natural way, tolerated very different value systems - from tribal awareness and widespread animism to scientific rational Western Europe thinking. Probably my interest in the transcultural was born here. After High School I left Africa, almost 18 years old, to start my Education in German language in the cold French Central Massif. As a Germanophile I visited Germany as often as I could.

As the profession of translator seemed to me dull, and I wanted to work with people rather than texts, I continued my studies with a postgraduate degree, and studied in Paris "Sciences and Technics of Information and Documentation" at the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers. I moved to my German husband directly after my studies to Munich, and shortly thereafter I became a member of the Central Educational and Human Resources Department at the BMW Group Headquarters, where I worked as an education consultant, trainer and coach for the next 15 years. After an exciting and fulfilling time in the context of a large organization, I chose 1998 self-employment as a working form. My passion during this first part of my life was focused on "potential development", both personally and professionally. Through a conscious way of life, I always gave myself the opportunity to cultivate and express all my potentials in various dimensions of being. Even though this diversity as a mother, wife, trainer/coach and artist demanded tremendous efforts of integration, it brought me deep joy and fulfillment. I feel that it is a fundamental right of human beings to live out their gifts, talents and creativity, and in my work and interactions with my fellow human beings I open spaces so that this can happen. In this way, we get in touch with what is ESSENCIAL, with our true nature as co-creators of our world.

Because of my living conditions, which meant a daily integration of many different facets of my person and my actions, I began to explore intensively the integral philosophy of Ken Wilber, which generated a lot of resonance within me. It was followed by my study of Spiral Dynamics integral (SDi) by Clare Graves and Don Beck, a development theory, a map of our being that explores the deep codes and value systems that underlie what we believe, think, experience, and do. The uniqueness of SDi is that it integrates all other proven concepts and provides clarity about the next development stages.

It also shows fresh, value-oriented and multidimensional forms of connections between different, often competing political, economic and social approaches and models. In 2006 I became authorized lecturer for Spiral Dynamics integral by Dr. Don Beck and co-founded the Center for Human Emergence.

The further study of Conscious Evolution, a perspective developed by the famous futurist and author Barbara Marx Hubbard, teaches us to look at our universal history in an evolutionary perspective, to recognize the meaning and significance of our collective development, and to provide a clear orientation for our future development. I am moved and inspired by the idea that we are now on the threshold of a new world order and the conviction that we are facing a unique global paradigm shift. For the first time in our human history, we recognize that we are authors and co-creators and no longer subjects of the evolutionary process and have the choice, together with NATURE and SPIRIT, to consciously shape our future. My mission is to prepare the way for the global paradigm shift through the choice of conscious evolution; to open up this powerful, life-affirming perspective to our fellow human beings and the organizations and to help them to integrate it into their personal, professional life and their structures.