

**Speaker: Mrs. Claudine Shinoda**

**From: President of European Buddhist Union, France**

**Main Topic: Ethics and Assisting the Government**

**Summary:**

*Europeans are late-comers to Buddhism. The Buddha teaches us not to blindly believe in the teachings but to practice for themselves – this is necessary to rid the human spirit of intolerance and give wisdom and compassion to humans - enabling them to see how powerful they really are. Each person co-exists with good and bad qualities – the reality of existence. However, Buddhism advocates action through commitment with others to understand the truth. We should realize that all beings can attain enlightenment – from the most humble to the most venerable.*

*If everyone was granted equal access to education – each young man and woman can develop their consciousness and goodness to reach their spiritual potential. Buddhism advocates the education for solidarity for everyone to develop their personal autonomy. By respecting diversity and circumstances whatever the values or ethics of power - everyone wants peace in the world.*