

- Chapters -

The Zeitgeist Movement

1. What is a Chapter?

A chapter is defined as a group of active members of the Zeitgeist Movement in a particular region that serves and functions as an accurate representation of the Movement in their respective region.

The Zeitgeist Movement has an organized structure built upon chapters to facilitate collective activism in an organized manner as well as the flow of information relating to a vast range of members.

The function of a chapter is to create and sustain a work-oriented environment from which activism can then be performed in accordance with the understandings supported by the movement. It is also part of a global chapter structure for information purposes and larger order activism.

Organized in Tiers from "Top to Bottom", the current Chapter Tiers are:

- 1) National - National chapters - Organized by country [*eg: Portugal, Italy, France*]
- 2) Regional/State - Organized by region / district / state / province
- 3) City/Town - Organized by city

2. How can i start one?

To create a chapter you must first seek to get in contact with the "higher tier" coordination.

For national chapters, contact chapters@thezeitgeistmovement.com

For regional/state chapters, try to get in contact with the chapter coordination through their respective website. Same applies for city chapters.

After you initiate contact, you should then receive questions, important information and support from the respective coordination.

[New chapters guide pending release]

3. What are the general tips to organize events and chapters effectively?

In Organization:

- Always make sure someone has a responsibility to get something done or make sure something gets done, the worst enemy of effective action is the diffusion of responsibility, if no one has the task of making sure something gets done (which does not imply that person will do it him/herself) then losing good ideas and having tasks and projects not progressing is going to be common.
- Never expect a new member to magically find his way and to handle fully himself with big tasks, its best to provide support while such member gets acquainted and acquires experience.
- Aim for the simplification of tasks, but avoid sacrificing important functionality
- Always seek to define objectives, priorities, tasks and needed resources in a objective manner.
- Be open for constructive feedback.

In motivation/attitude:

- Never give up, dont stop trying but dont overdo it.
- Always try to be mentally prepared for a worst case scenario. High expectations can easily damage the morale.

- Try to be comprehensive at all times, see where people's perspectives come from. Not everyone has been exposed to the same information you may have been.

In priority:

- Informing is more important than recruiting help. A well informed member will prove to be a much more effective resource in the long term.
- Do not focus all human and material resources in one aspect.

4. I want to help with my local chapter development, how should i proceed?

Before the explanation of how a person can help with their chapter organization is described, first the term local chapter has to be more specifically considered.

The term "Local chapter" may have 3 possible meanings, ranging from my national chapter to my city chapter, it all depends in which area and type of activism we want to address. Initially all chapters start as national and as they grown in size [active members] they will start to develop in increasingly more local denominations.

Depending on the specific chapter you want to help [national, regional or city] you must then seek to get in contact with the respective chapter coordination or administration and by letting that person or group of persons know that you are volunteering to do so. After such contact is initiated, you should then wait for instructions or further information.

In case you are unable to find such contact, send an email to chapters@thezeitgeistmovement.com

5. My chapter is inactive, what do i do?

At first glance, If you find your chapter inactive, you must first seek all information and clarification you can get to make sure you can assess accurately how inactive it is and why. After such assesement, a rational course of action must be devised.

For such process of assessing the chapter activity, there are 2 very simple steps:

1. Check the activity in the chapter website and other communication mediums that may be linked to it
2. Get in contact the site administrator or the chapter coordinator

If you manage to get a response or spot some activity in the process, then you should seek to query further with those contacts. Please not that this process has to be considered in a per case basis.

If however you don't manage to get a response or spot any activity, you should seek to contact the global chapters administration: chapters@thezeitgeistmovement.com

You will then receive a response as soon as possible with possible questions or suggestions on how to proceed with the situation.

6. What does the term an "Official Chapter" mean?

The term "official" used in the context of chapters means that a given chapter of the Zeitgeist Movement is verified and approved in order to ensure an accurate representation of the Movement in their respective area.

Please be wary of chapters that do not have any endorsement from thezeitgeistmovement.com or by any other site that is endorsed by the before mentioned. Example, the Los Angeles chapter could be considered an official one because it is being endorsed in the California State [regional/state chapter] which in turn is endorsed by tzm.com.

Endorsement means that the website/virtual representation is linked in a chapters information table or list of some sorts

The reason why this mechanism is in place, it is not because of some ego or power issue... It is just simply because the movement has an history of being sometimes hijacked and misrepresented by individuals or groups of individuals for promotion of various different agendas (political, profit/capitalist, religious, etc), The only way to keep the integrity of information of the movement, is by having an endorsement/officiality mechanism in place.