LIVING TOGETHER PEACEFULLY IN A DIVERSE WORLD
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Introduction

2nd World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue
29 May-01 June 2013, Baku, Azerbaijan
Living together peacefully in a diverse world

Intercultural dialogue is one of the most pressing challenges of the contemporary world and, indeed, one that increasingly manifests itself on a global scale. In this regard we should understand that global development must be based on the diversity of cultures, which is the basic code of human life’s understanding, an open, progressive repository of wisdom, experience, knowledge, exchange, solidarity and ways of living together by widening the range of options open to everyone.

Azerbaijan is one of the unique places where different cultures and civilizations meet at the crossroad between the East and the West, the North and the South. At the same time, being a member of both Islamic and European organizations Azerbaijan absorbs the values of both civilizations, thus enabling it to assume a role of genuine bridge. The World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue has taken responsibility for delivering the global agenda on the Dialogue among Civilizations adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (November 2001), the UNESCO Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005), the Islamic Declaration on Cultural Diversity, which was adopted by ISESCO in 2004, Declaration and Action Plan of the Third Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe member states, the Council of Europe White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue (May 2008), as well as the Baku Declaration for the Promotion of Intercultural Dialogue Azerbaijan hosted the 1st World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue on 7-9 April, 2011 in Baku under patronage of H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan that had been declared by the President at the 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (23 September 2010, New-York).

The Baku Forum addressed challenges of intercultural dialogue in its various aspects regarding conceptual frameworks, governance, policy and practice. It has tackled the barriers to dialogue and faced concretely how dialogue can best be pursued in diverse contexts. It provided an opportunity for sharing of good practices and the launch of new
initiatives within this intercultural platform. 500 representatives from 102 countries from all continents, many international organization, NGOs, media representatives, scholars, experts and etc. participated in the Forum organized under the motto - “United Through Common Values, Enriched by Cultural Diversity”.

2nd WORLD FORUM ON INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE is held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, under patronage of H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan in cooperation with UNESCO, UN Alliance of Civilizations, UN World Tourism Organization, Council of Europe, ISESCO, North-South Center of the Council of Europe.
Programme

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

“How to build the world future together?”, Page 29
30 May, 10:30 – 12:00, Heydar Aliyev Center

Official Opening Speech by:
H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Speakers:
1. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, UN High Representative for the UNAOC
2. Ms. Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO
3. Mr. Abdulaziz Ottoman Altwaijri, Director General of ISESCO

PLENARY SESSIONS

Plenary Session 1
“Cultural corridors in Southeast Europe, Black Sea and Caucasus regions – shared heritage, common responsibilities, sustainable future”, Page 30
30 May, 15:00-16:30, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Sharg Hall 1

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Sc. Vasil Prodanov, University of National and World Economy, Sofia

Speakers:
1. Mr. Georgi Parvanov, President of the Republic of Bulgaria (2002-2012)
2. Mr. Stjepan Mesić, President of Croatia (2000 - 2010)
3. Ms. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO
4. Mr. Elmar Mammadyarov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan
5. Ms. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, Assistant to the Secretary General for Public Diplomacy, NATO
6. Mr. Branislav Micunovic, Minister of Culture of Montenegro
7. Ms. Penelope Denu, Director, European Institute of Cultural Routes
8. Ms. Rumyana Miheeva, Historian and Cultural Landscape Protection Expert
9. Ms. Donika Georgieva, University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy, Sofia, Bulgaria
Plenary Session 2
“The New Era of Globalisation: hybridity in culture in a changing world”, Page 31
30 May, 16:30-18:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Sharg Hall 1

Moderator: Mr. Edward Mortimar, Senior Vice President of The Salzburg Global Seminar,

Speakers:
1. Mr. Alistair Macdonald-Radcliff, Director General: The World Dialogue Council
2. Mr. Mikhael Shvidkoy, Adviser of the President of Russia
3. Mr. Shamit Saggar, Professor of Political Science at the University of Sussex. Director of Doctoral Studies, UK
4. Mr. Lamberto Dini, Former Prime minister, Italy
5. Mr. Yilmaz Hakan, Professor at the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Bogazici University, Turkey
6. Mr. Frederik Stjernfelt, University of Aarhus, Denmark
7. Mr. Jorge Sanin, Director of the Department of International Affairs, OAS
8. Mr. Ilham Mammadzade, Director of the ANAS Institute of Philosophy, Sociology and Law, Azerbaijan

Plenary Session 3
How to build public support for cultural diversity, Page 33
31 May, 14:30-16:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Sharg Hall 1

Moderator: Prof. Alp Ozerdem, Director, Centre for Peace & Reconciliation Studies, Coventry University, UK

Speakers:
1. Mr. Jean-Christophe Bas, Deputy director for Strategic Development and Partnerships of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
2. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Saglam, Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Turkey
3. Mr. Hafiz Pashayev, Rector of Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy
4. Ms. Mari Skare, Secretary General’s Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security, NATO
5. Ms. Samia Bibars, Ambassador, Director of Culture & Dialogue among Civilizations Department, League of Arab States
6. Mr. Jonathan Shen, CEO Shinework, China
7. Mr. Francesco SPANO, Segretario Generale del MAXXI, Italy
WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Workshop Session 1
“Intercultural Dialogue through History Teaching: Best Practices and Challenges”,
Page 35
30 May, 15:00-16:30, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Khojasan Hall

Organizer: Azerbaijan, CoE North-South Center

Moderator: Mr. Roman Chlapak, Deputy Executive director, North-South Center of the Council of Europe

Rapporteur: Mr. Steven Stegers, European Association of History Educators

Speakers:
1. Mr. Joke van der Leeuw-Roord, EUROCLIO- European Association of History Educators
2. Mr. Halit Eren, General Director, IRCICA, Turkey
3. Mr. Mikayil Jabbarov, Minister of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan
4. Ms. Brian Carvell, expert, Council of Europe
5. Mr. Fadi DAOU, Chairman and CEO, Adyan Foundation

Respondents:
1. Mr. Sami Adwan, Bethlehem University, Professor, Palestine
2. Mr. Matthias Klingenberg, DVV-International
3. Mr. Polina Verbytska, Nova Doba – All Ukrainian Association for History and Social Studies, Ukraine
4. Mr. Dr. Azmi OZCAN, Historian, Rector, Bilecik University, Turkey
5. Mr. Mostafa Hassani Idrissi, Professor of the University Muhammed V-Souissi, Morocco
Workshop Session 2
“Western-Muslim Relations: from Polarization to Partnership”, Page 37
30 May, 16:30-18:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Khojasan Hall

Organizers: Azerbaijan, UNAOC

Moderator: Mr. Jean-Christophe Bas, Deputy director for Strategic Development and Partnerships of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

Emerging leaders:
1. Mr. Mohsin Mohi-Ud-Din, Full bright Scholar, DPI Communications Officer and Huffington Post Blogger
2. Mr. Cédric Baecher, Co-founder (2002) and Managing Director of Nomadéïs, an independent consulting agency focusing on sustainability and international cooperation issues
3. Mr. Farhad Mammadov, Chair of the Strategic Research Center under President of the Republic of Azerbaijan
4. Mr. Wadia Ait Hamza, Public Affairs Manager Rabat School of Governance & Economics (EgE Rabat) and the Vice President of the Mediterranean Forum for Youth (FOMEJE)
5. Ms. Annika Kiessler, Head of the Energy Policy division at 50Hertz, a major European electricity grid operator involved in the German transition from carbon-based to renewable energy sources, former German Parliament staff
6. Ms. Dala Ghandour, Lawyer specializing in family law with particularly interested in Chariaa and is a certified mediator

Respondents:
1. Mr. Rabah Ghezali, Managing Director of European Government Affairs & Head of Government Affairs, France at NYSE Euronext, former Economist at IMF
2. Mr. Elisabeth Ryan, Lawyer for Patton Boggs LL, advising foreign and domestic companies and government entities on international business, legal, and public policy matters in the United States, the Middle East etc., former US Congress Staff
3. Ms. Emna Ben Yedder, Financial and Administrative Director at Medico Consult and the General Secretary and a founding member of a local NGO “ACT – Think & Decide”
4. Mr. Muaz Abudalo, Member of the Free Assembly, an emerging political group in Jordan that advocates for social democratic thought in the country
Workshop Session 3
“Building intercultural competences for 21st Century”, Page 39
30 May, 16:30-18:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Hovsan Hall

Organizers: UNESCO, Azerbaijan

Moderator: Mrs Katérina Stenou, Director, Coordinator, Intersectoral platform for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence (UNESCO)

1. Ms. Felisa Lynn Tibbitts, Founder and Senior Advisor, Human Rights Education Associates (HREA)
2. Ms. Feriel Ait-Ouyahia Herlaut, Consultant (UNESCO)
3. Mr. Konstantinos Tararas, Programme Specialist (UNESCO)
4. Ms. Souria Saad Zoi, Programme Specialist (UNESCO)
5. Ms. Amina Hamshari, Assistant Programme Specialist (UNESCO)
6. Mr. Abdelbasset Ben Hassan, Director, Arab Institute for Human Rights (AIHR)
7. Mr. Ahmad Zaouche, Consultant, UNESCO Rabat
8. Mr. Jahangir Selimkhanov, Expert on culture, Azerbaijan

Workshop Session 4
“Tourism as a key driver of mutual understanding and tolerance among peoples and cultures”, Page 40
31 May, 09:30-11:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Khojasan Hall

Organizers: Azerbaijan, UNWTO

Moderator: Mr. Francesco Frangialli, President of the ST-EP Foundation and former Secretary-General of UNWTO

Speakers:
1. Mr. Tijani Haddad, President of the International Federation of Journalists and Travel Writers (FIJET) and former Minister of Tourism of Tunisia
2. Mr. Peter Keller, Professor for International Economics in Tourism, Head of the Unit for Research in Tourism, Ecole des HEC, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
3. Mr. Jafar Jafari, Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, USA, Founding Editor of Annals of Tourism Research, and Chief Editor of the Tourism Social Sciences
4. **Ms. Penelope Denu**, Director, European Institute of Cultural Routes and Executive Secretary, Council of Europe Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes

5. **Ms. Katérina Stenou**, Director, Intersectoral Platform for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence, UNESCO

6. **Mr. Jafar Jafarov**, Rector of the Azerbaijan Tourism Institute

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**Workshop Session 5**

“Urban policies for diversity in 21st century: the Intercultural cities paradigm”, Page 41

31 May, 09:30-11:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Hovsan Hall

**Organizers:** Azerbaijan, Council of Europe

**Speakers:**

1. **Ms. Christina Baglai**, Intercultural cities (ICC) Assistant Programme Manager, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France

2. **Mr. Daniel de Torres Barderi**, ICC expert, IMACITY SL, Barcelona, Spain

3. **Ms. Helena Rojas**, Director of Division for Democracy, Human rights and Intercultural Development, Botkyrka Municipal Council, Sweden

4. **Mr. Olexandre Butsenko**, Director, Development Centre “Democracy through Culture”, Kyiv, Ukraine

5. **Mr. Oliver Freeman**, Consultant in intercultural management, Lausanne, Switzerland

6. **Mr. Francisco Empis**, Coordinator of the Portuguese ICC network, Lisbon, Portugal

7. **Mr. Bruno Cianco**, ICC expert, ICC Coordinator at Castelvetro, Head of the Transcultural Master Programme at the University of Modena Modena, Italy

8. **Mr. Enping Zhuang**, Associate Dean, School of Foreign Languages, Shanghai University, Shanghai, China

9. **Mr. Mathias Malmberg**, ICC expert, Voorschoten consultancy, the Netherlands

10. **Ms. Phyllis Brunson**, Associate director, Center for the Study of Social Policy, Washington, D.C. Washington, USA
Workshop Session 6
“The Role of Corporate Sector in Promoting intercultural dialogue and diversity”,
Page 43
31 May, 09:30-11:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Amirjan Boardroom

Organizers: Azerbaijan, UN Alliance of Civilizations

1. Mr. Effenus Henderson, Chief Diversity Officer and Director, Workforce Representation and Diversity for Weyerhaeuser Company, USA
2. Mr. Carl Westring, Vice President Partnerships Education First

Workshop Session 7
“Global citizenship: towards intercultural actions”, Page 43
31 May, 11:30-13:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Khojasan Hall

Organizer: Government of Azerbaijan

Moderator: Dr Darla Deardorff, Executive Director of the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA)

Speakers:
1. Mr. Stephen Shashoua, Director of the Three Faiths Forum, UK
2. Mr. Jose Cordeiro, Founder and president emeritus of the World Future Society, Venezuela Chapter, Sociedad Mundial del Futuro Venezuela
3. Ms. Sirkka Heinonen, University of Turku, Finland Futures Research Centre (FFRC), Director of Helsinki Office (tbc)
4. Mr. Fiyaz Mugal, the Founder and Director of a not for profit organization called Faith Matters
5. Ms. Sanja Vlahovic, Minister of Science, Montenegro
6. Mr. Hans Köchler, President International Progress Organization, Germany
7. Mr. Taleh Heydarov, Chairman of European Azerbaijan Society, Azerbaijan
**Workshop Session 8**
“Intercultural dialogue: Faith and Science”, Page 45
31 May, 11:30-13:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Hovsan Hall

**Organizers:** Azerbaijan, ISESCO

**Moderator:** Dr. Bruno Abd-al-Haqq Guiderdoni, Astrophysicist, University of Lyon, France

**Speakers:**
1. **Mr. Abdelilah Benarafa,** Expert in charge of cultural policies and cultural diversity, ISESCO, Rabat, Morocco
2. **Mr. Elshad Iskandarov,** Chair of the State Committee for Religious Affairs
3. **Mr. Mohamed Tahar Bensaada,** Philosopher, Haute Ecole Ilya Prigogine, Brussels, Belgium
4. **Ms. Inès Safi,** Physicist, University of Paris, France
5. **Ms. Nabila Aghanim,** Astrophysicist, University of Paris, France
6. **Mr. Nidhal Guessoum,** Astrophysicist, American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
7. **Mr. Claudio La Jacono,** President of the Institute for Oriental studies, Italy

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**Workshop Session 9**
“Strengthening the role of civil society to promote intercultural dialogue, diversity and inclusion”, Page 46
31 May, 11:30-13:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Amirjan Boardroom

**Organizers:** Azerbaijan, UNAOC, Global Dialogue Foundation

**Speakers:**
1. **Mr. Peter (Pece) Gorgievski,** Chief Executive Officer of Global Dialogue Foundation, Unity in Diversity, Australia
2. **Mr. Fuad Muradov,** Member of Parliament, Azerbaijan
World Forum 1st Ministerial Meeting

31 May, 10:00-13:00, JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel, Sharg Hall 2

Organizer: Azerbaijan

Moderator: Mr. Abulfas Garayev, Minister of Culture and Tourism, Republic of Azerbaijan

Participants: ministers and delegation of the ministries responsible for culture and tourism

1st session
“How can culture and creativity build intercultural confidence?”

2nd session
“Common ground for intercultural dialogue: heritage and cultural tourism”

UNAOC Fellowship 1st Alumni Meeting, Page 47

31 May, 09:00-16:30, Park Inn Hotel, Dan Ulduzu Hall

Organizers: Azerbaijan, UN Alliance of Civilizations

Note: Only for UNAOC Fellowship programme participants

SIDE EVENTS

Ceremony of celebration of the World Day of Diversity and Do One Thing for Diversity and Inclusion, Page 47

29 May 21:00-22:30 Baku Boulevard

Organizers: Azerbaijan, UNAOC

UNESCO Exhibition “Writing Peace”, Page 47

30-31 May JW Marriott Absheron Hotel
Living together peacefully in a diverse world
Concept Note

2nd Baku World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue
Baku 2013

“Living together peacefully in a diverse world”

Two of the most pressing challenges of the contemporary world and, indeed, challenges that increasingly manifest on a global scale are those of living together peacefully and the intercultural dialogue that helps make that happen.

This second high-level international meeting devoted to various aspects of living together with mutual respect and understanding between all cultures of the world has been declared by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan at the 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly and is supported by a roster of international organisations. The first Baku Forum in 2011 addressed challenges of intercultural dialogue in its various aspects regarding conceptual frameworks, governance, policy and practice. It tackled the barriers to dialogue and faced concretely how dialogue can best be pursued in diverse context. The Baku Forum is establishing itself as a powerful convenor for sharing good practices and launching new initiatives.

At the first Baku Forum two key commitments were made:

• To turn the World Forum into a regular event;
• To use appropriate means to place cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue higher on the international agenda.

The distinctive role and purpose of the World Forum for Intercultural Dialogue at Baku (WIFD) will be to continue to raise global awareness about the importance of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue as well as to reflect the rising strategic weight of Azerbaijan and its near neighbours as both a geo-political crossroads and as an emerging geographical corridor in which a convergence of interests between global actors abounds, serving a common interest and addressing strategic needs of all countries involved.

In an unprecedentedly interconnected world both corridors through which encounter and exchange take place and other more virtual connections are required. The Baku World’ forum is fully inclusive and has ensured sufficient and full engagement from a truly global community. WIFD will continue to enable Azerbaijan and its close region to make a distinctive contribution to global understanding. A more local, regional component within the Forum reflects long
traditions of acceptance of cultural diversity in and between communities and nation states. WFID is focusing on the challenge of living together peacefully in a diverse world. It has taken as a starting point acceptance that global communities are diverse, some super-diverse; this demographic fact sets an important agenda for people worldwide.

The 2013 Forum combines national governments, international agencies, business and civil society in intense and practical conversation about building a peaceful world together, about the particular challenges of multicultural societies and about the responsibilities of global citizens for intercultural action.

The Forum will use plenary sessions, parallel roundtables and workshops as well as hosting a Ministerial Conference. Session formats are described in Annex 1.

**Introduction: a distinctive approach to WFID**

The approach to the 2nd WFID will retain the strong commitment to intercultural dialogue as a tool, a process and as a ‘destination’. A key component of this Forum will be the building of support among people. This is predicated on the concept accepted at the first Forum, and elsewhere, that intercultural dialogue has become both a necessary and desirable characteristic of the contemporary world—the unavoidable consequence of globalisation and super-diversity.

**Organising for WFID 2013**

An organising theme for the WFID 2013 will be to take stock of where we are, taking a critical view about how well we have used intercultural dialogue in various challenging contexts over the past few years. The participants will bring essential insights drawn from experience and best practice; the strategic partners to the Forum combine agencies and organisations whose commitment to successful dialogues is unambiguous. WFID provides a unique opportunity for convergence and collaboration for this important agenda.
Each session of the Forum will highlight insight-looking broadly at what has been successful, and why? And will respond with foresight-together taking a positive and practical forward-look to where we might be in, say, ten years’ time. What are the goals that we would set against this understanding? So, where might we be, and how might we have used intercultural dialogue to get there? WFID 2013 gives structure to this foresight by choice of three contemporary themes for dialogue:

1. Working together to build a shared future;
2. The emergence of new hybridity in culture as a consequence of globalisation
3. The role of global citizenship for intercultural action.

Taking the Insight-Foresight approach to our work at the WFID will help develop a sense of distinctiveness for the continuing conversations at the Baku Fora over time.

An overarching agenda
Globalisation has brought the world closer together; distances between places have seemingly become shorter. As a result, people interact with cultural difference on a daily basis. In order to address some of the pressing issues of modern day life, it is vital to be able to navigate global networks. Intercultural dialogue is important in meeting these challenges. It helps recognition that difference exists, and addresses the need to encourage mutual trust and understanding between diverse people. The environment in which intercultural dialogue takes place is marked by difference, proximity and interconnectedness.

Placing cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue higher on the international agenda is critical for human security and a prime responsibility for the 21st Century. Human security is a people-centred concept that focuses on the most critical and pervasive threats below which the survival, livelihood and dignity of individuals are seriously threatened.

Multiple influences, complex identities, growing inequality and almost-complete interdependence characterise a world where success and peace depend on peoples’ ability to share space, resources and understanding. In this regard, 21st Century change is unprecedented and demand a new sense of priority for understanding cultural difference in a connected world in which threats to peaceful coexistence challenge individuals, local communities and spill over into regional and international security threats.

The high level ambition of the WFID 2013 is to promote agreement and international commitment that cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue is elevated to a position alongside the war on poverty and climate change as prime global priorities for human development and security, and the particular role that cultural exchange and diplomacy can have to these agendas.
The first ten years of the 21st Century was characterised by an urgency to understand each other better. The second ten years will be more about learning to live together in ways that promote security, prosperity and environmental sustainability. Cultural relationships and intercultural dialogue in particular, make a significant contribution to this challenging agenda through earning intercultural trust. This stands at the beginning and at the end of development and yet it is also a resource along the way.

**What and why culture and cultural identity?**

WFID seeks to examine the importance of culture as a source of difference and demarcation, through the lens of perceptions of culture. The Forum will seek to take as a starting point an imperfect reflection of culture that can create the opportunity to operationalise cultural exchange, rather than to focus on the myriad of definitions of culture that exist and how people continue to discuss semantics. Culture and cultural identity are symbolic, a system, applied to groups, to a large extent learned phenomenon as well as being both process and product.

For WFID, culture is defined as a system of shared beliefs, values, customs, behaviours, and artefacts that members of society use to cope with their world and with one another, and that are transmitted from generation to generation through learning. Culture, then, in its broadest sense is cultivated behavior; that is the totality of a person’s learned, accumulated experience which is socially transmitted, or more briefly, behaviour through social learning.
The “Baku Process”

Azerbaijan is one of the unique places where different cultures and civilizations meet and a significant corridor between the East and the West, the North and the South. At the same time, being a member of both Islamic and European organizations Azerbaijan absorbs the values of both civilizations, thus enabling it to assume a role of a genuine connector.

The Baku Process is a challenge for the promotion of intercultural dialogue to move from ideas to practice and to establish a platform in which today’s challenges can be discussed in the spirit of intercultural dialogue and universal values.

The Baku Process is understood as a process that comprises an open and respectful exchange of views between individuals and groups with different ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic backgrounds and heritage living on different continents, on the basis of mutual understanding and respect.

The Baku Forum has taken responsibility for delivering the global agenda on the Dialogue among Civilisations adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (November 2001), the UNESCO Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005), the Islamic Declaration on Cultural Diversity, which was adopted by ISESCO in 2004, Declaration and Action Plan of the Third Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe member states, the Council of Europe White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue (May 2008), as well as the Baku Declaration for the Promotion of Intercultural Dialogue Azerbaijan hosted the World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue on 7-9 April, 2011 in Baku under patronage of H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan that had been declared by the President at the 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (23 September 2010, New-York).

WFID 2011, supported by prestigious international organizations such as UNESCO, UN Alliance of Civilizations, Council of Europe, North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, ISESCO, convened 500 representatives from 102 countries from all continents of the World; Cultural Ministers from 20 countries, deputy ministers of numerous states, leading international organizations including the ISESCO Director General, the Assistant Director General of UNESCO, the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, mayors of various world cities, diplomats, media organizations, international NGOs, scientists, scholars, distinguished cultural experts, practitioners, intellectuals and activists. Together pursuing the theme “United Through Common Values, Enriched by Cultural Diversity” they worked to advance the initiatives, realized by Azerbaijan in the sphere of intercultural dialogue, from regional context onto the global level, and to establish a fully-functioning International Forum in the country.
The 5 A - Intercultural Cooperation Platform was established at the Forum to promote wider attention to cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue. Bearing in mind the Azerbaijani language acronym of the first letters of the five continents, represented with huge delegations at the event - “Avropa, Asiya, Amerika, Afrika, Australiya”, the new platform was symbolically named the “5 A’s”.

**Contemporary influences of the Baku Forum**

WFID 2013 will reflect how global awareness about the importance of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue is growing. This concept note describes how it is proposed to ensure that the 2nd Baku Forum (and those that follow) has a clear and distinctive role and purpose. This might set it apart from other important forums, such as the Alliance of Civilisation Forum in Vienna held in February 2013.

The emergence of a distinctive and sustaining role for the Baku Forum will help turn it into a regular event.

At the First World Forum in 2011, Intercultural Dialogue was acknowledged for its power and as a ‘pressing need’. The preparatory concept note for that Forum argued importance of such dialogue “by pointing to dramatic transformations in the world system in recent decades which fostered renewed intolerance of the ‘self’ for the ‘other” (Wilson 2011), and showed how it can engage in the broad cultural arena where acute manifestations of intolerance appear.

Little has changed.

Since that time there has been more questioning about the likely global order of the future in which any and all forms of dialogue might take place to promote positive cultural relationships. For some time, and particularly since discussion about the decline of the ‘West’ started in earnest, the move from a bi-polar to a multi-polar world has created significant changes for dialogue. What is now referred to as the ‘Western World Order’, together with the West’s capacity to define modernity, has created generation of commentators unsure whether there was a difference between modernisation and Westernisation. These are big issues for the context of Intercultural Dialogue – particularly the foresight that we may be about to experience a world with competing narratives (rather than a convergence towards a Western narrative).

Some have argued that a future world order may look rather different from our current thoughts. The West may have to embrace political diversity rather than insist that liberal diversity is the only legitimate form of government. The World may well be headed towards a “global dissensus” (Kupchan, 2012).
There may be some resonance with this for the contribution that Azerbaijan and its close region can make to global understanding, where long traditions of acceptance of multi-faith communities and moderation are in evidence. A regional component that examined this and drew in relationships with central Asia as well as central Europe might bring distinctive outcomes.

Finally, WFID 2013 will retain the strong commitment to Intercultural Dialogue as a tool, a process and as a ‘destination’. This is predicated on the concept accepted at the first Forum, and elsewhere, that intercultural dialogue has become both a necessary and desirable characteristic of the contemporary world – the unavoidable consequence of globalisation and super-diversity.

Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue (ICD) as a prime responsibility of our time

Successful intercultural dialogue is essential to help us navigate the unprecedented challenges of the 21st century world. Cultural relationships that are involved help provide the means, opportunities and skills required by people, organisations and communities to work successfully together. Through working together, we can better understand and share approaches to the challenges confronting us during this age of globalisation and super diversity.

‘The exchange of knowledge and ideas generates opportunities and responds to aspirations. This builds understanding and co-operation and enables people to have more secured and fulfilling lives. This is a people-to-people endeavour; these cultural relationships are essentially dialogue between human beings, not between cultural entities.” (Anna Lindh Foundation).

Intercultural dialogue is important as it allows long-term and intensive engagement with people from another culture. This can help people see their own culture from a different perspective, which leads to re-evaluating their own views and ideas. On the other hand, intercultural dialogue also re-introduces some of the detail – the diversity – into our perception of others.

Successful intercultural dialogue is based on purposeful long-term interactions. These allow the development of individuals’ confidence and competences to move towards bridging cultures through a two-way process of open, honest and critical engagement. Intercultural dialogue explores difference, insisting not on agreement but on listening with respect.

Intercultural dialogue is a particularly sensitive area of cultural relations, inherently contentious and open to different, contradictory interpretations. Mutual respect - not the same as mutual approval - is crucial. Reasoned disagreement builds stronger, more authentic and lasting relationships. Avoiding difficult questions (such as political conflict or differences in values) is counterproductive: addressing them directly and with respect builds trust.
WFID is looking at both religion and science in the context of intercultural action.

Religion, faith and belief play form the backdrop to the day-to-day lives of the majority of the world’s population. Without approaching some of the key current intercultural debates of global significance through the lens of belief, we are unable to effectively engage with the concerns or interests of a significant section of global societies.

The role of faith in public affairs can be a highly contentious issue in international and cultural relations. It could be argued that the role of faith in society it is central to some of the most pressing international political and security issues/debates of the day. However, in an increasingly pluralist and globalised world, building a more nuanced and cross cultural picture of the role that faith plays in our societies will help to tackle some of the preconceptions that drive these clashes at home and internationally –particularly in a multi-polar world where assumptions about the global order are challenged.

Whilst, there have been some very successful international initiatives that seek to engage effectively across different religious or faith communities. These tend to deal with some of the complexities of relations between world religions and their leaders or internally to those groups (Intra and Inter faith initiatives).

These conversations between ‘religions’ clearly play a central role in inter-cultural dialogue. However, the differing cultural contexts of faith does not simply come down to understanding differing cultural practices, values or doctrinal stances within communities – it is actually a far bigger picture of the changing nature of the role of faith in the private and public sphere and individual, community, national or trans-national identity.

The role of intercultural dialogue in this sphere should seek to move on from simply bringing together faith leaders and move to seriously engaging with misconceptions and polarizing narratives concerning the nature of secular governance and the role of belief, faith and religion in society.
BAKU WFID SESSION FORMATS

Further to high level opening sessions, associated closed group ministerial/senior official round table sessions and the cultural programme, the Forum will consist of the following session formats:

PLENARY SESSIONS

Audience: All Attendees

The Plenary sessions will be framed around the two core themes of the forum: INSIGHT and FORESIGHT. These sessions will feature high profile speakers and world leaders, who can provide an overview of the broad range of issues and debates covered within the forum as a whole. It is intended that there will be opportunity for participation by all through moderated questions and comments.

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Audience: Attendees can select sessions to attend between 30 -100 per session

These sessions will be designed to provide a more interactive space to explore the core issues within the forum in more depth.

Each session will be lead by a discussant chair with a panel of expert speakers.

Each speaker will speak for a maximum of 5-7 minutes on the session topic. The audience will then be invited to engage in a discussion around the session content. The Chair will end the session by summing up the whole discussion for 5 -10 minutes. The sessions are designed to enable the group to encounter and explore differing perspectives to their own. They will also be framed around the plenary session on INSIGHT and FORESIGHT.

This format will provide an opportunity to both showcase groups work and to discuss some of the relevant thematic issues. Following the overarching themes of INSIGHT and FORESIGHT, the first day’s capacity building workshops will focus on SKILLS SHARING and the second day’s session will focus on OPPORTUNITIES.
In the 21st century intercultural dialogue cannot have the same boundaries as it did in the past, where bridging differences were the main aim. Now it is about human security, about the necessity to find creative solutions for problems that all diverse societies face (climate, economics, urbanisation, etc).

The approach to the 2nd WFID will retain the strong commitment to intercultural dialogue as a tool, a process and as a ‘destination’. A key component of this Forum will be the building of support among people. This is predicated on the concept accepted at the first Forum, and elsewhere, that intercultural dialogue has become both a necessary and desirable characteristic of the contemporary world –the unavoidable consequence of globalisation and super-diversity.

The boundaries of intercultural dialogue vary depending on whether we see such dialogue as a process, a tool or a destination. But do we need to see them differently or could we try and find an approach to dialogue that combines all of these?

If the first decade of the 21st Century was about mutual understanding, getting to know each other in complex and multicultural communities, then the second decade is more likely to be about learning to live with each other –learning to live in diverse communities with people that are different. ‘Understanding’ and ‘living together’ both require and use dialogue, but in very different ways. So this 2nd Forum will promote the importance of ‘living the dialogue’ as well as ‘having the dialogue’.

We understand that not all dialogue is successful –indeed not all instances or opportunities of dialogue help people to cope with the cultural diversity commonplace in contemporary communities.

The clear role and contribution from regular discussion at WFID will be about how to facilitate and enable effective intercultural dialogue through sharing experience of what works, has worked or might work!

Key questions:
How can business, civil society and government work together to strengthen the prospects for living peacefully?
What are we doing well now? And what should we change?
Official Opening Speech by:
H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Speakers:
1. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, UN High Representative for the UNAOC
2. Ms. Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO
3. Mr. Abdulaziz Ottoman Altwaijri, Director General of ISESCO

Plenary Session 1
“Cultural corridors in Southeast Europe, Black Sea and Caucasus regions – shared heritage, common responsibilities, sustainable future”

The first summit of the Regional Forum on Cultural Corridors of South East Forum was held in Varna, Bulgaria in 2005 on the initiative of Bulgaria.

Until now, there have been ten editions of the forum where participants have discussed issues such as common past and shared heritage - a key to future partnership; contemporary art and reconciliation in South East Europe; cultural diversity as a bridge between cultural heritage and the culture of the future; intercultural encounters on marine, river and lake routes of South East Europe; management of heritage diversity and its promotion for tourism; music as a metaphor for cultural dialogue, etc.

In the framework of the forum the participants have on many occasions discussed and supported the idea to expand the initiative to cover the Black Sea and Caucasus region. In the autumn of 2012 the idea was made public at the Baku International Humanitarian Forum and presented as a concrete proposal to Mr. Ilham Aliev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, who welcomed the idea. Following the agreement between the two presidents, it has been decided a special session dedicated to the Cultural Corridors in our regions to be held within the framework of the 2nd World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue.

The session is aimed at debating the possibility to expand the initiative to the East as an instrument for development of the cultural relations and dialogue between Europe and the countries from the Black sea and Caucasus region.

The session will look into issues such as current dimensions of cultural corridors West-East; cultural corridors as a platform for sustainable development through shared responsibilities and active partnerships in South East Europe and the Black Sea and Caucasian regions; cultural tourism; cultural heritage in multiethnic environment and the role of the young generation etc.
Organizers: Azerbaijan, Office of the President of Bulgaria, Mr. Georgi Parvanov (2002-2012)

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Sc. Vasil Prodanov, University of National and World Economy, Sofia

Speakers:
1. Mr. Georgi Parvanov, President of the Republic of Bulgaria (2002-2012)
2. Mr. Stjepan Mesić, President of Croatia (2000 - 2010)
3. Ms. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO
4. Mr. Elmar Mammadyarov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan
5. Ms. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, Assistant to the Secretary General for Public Diplomacy, NATO
6. Mr. Branislav Micunovic, Minister of Culture of Montenegro
7. Ms. Penelope Denu, Director, European Institute of Cultural Routes
8. Ms. Rumyana Mihneva, Historian and Cultural Landscape Protection Expert
9. Ms. Donika Georgieva, University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy, Sofia, Bulgaria

Plenary Session 2
“The New Era of Globalisation: hybridity in culture in a changing world”

The contemporary dilemma: cultural diversity has to be protected and promoted, but cannot be used to support segregation nor to sanctify differences that run counter to the respect for the dignity of the individual and his human rights and fundamental freedoms.

We live in an interconnected world that transports social issues across and between people, sectors, communities and societies. Tackling some of the drivers and misconceptions that underpin the most pressing problems for societies today – ethnicity, the environment, or socio-economics – requires continued multi-disciplinary dialogue between, governments, practitioners and publics.

The context of contemporary people-to-people relationships and the consequences of differences are both an opportunity and challenge for human security agendas. In learning to understand how our social relations play out in communities both locally and globally, we can begin to address how to live together in peaceful relationships in a world of difference.

In recent years policies and practices for multicultural contexts have been challenged policies have been traded on the currency of cultural difference, reinforcing the assumption that our
identities were deposited in us in self-contained discrete unalterable forms. Now as we enter an era of super-diversity, driven by globalisation and seismic shifts in the political, cultural and technological landscape, we are driven to question the underlying assumptions in this approach to social relations.

Because in the modernised world, the notion of identity has become both a complex and a contested issue, based on how people actually live, how they actually relate to each other, how they actually are. We may now live with hybrid personal identities, essentially fragmented, and having multiple forms dependent on context and situation.

**Key questions:**

Multi-cultural communities are a demographic fact, but can they work?  
Many European leaders and others have joined to claim that state-led or promoted multiculturalism has failed. Is integration possible through multiculturalism?  
How can we promote actively plural communities and counter the forces of prejudice that threaten social cohesion?

**Organizer:** Government of Azerbaijan

**Moderator:** Mr. Edward Mortimar, Senior Vice President of The Salzburg Global Seminar,

**Speakers:**

1. **Mr. Alistair Macdonald-Radcliff,** Director General: The World Dialogue Council  
2. **Mr. Mikhael Shvidkoy,** Adviser of the President of Russia  
3. **Mr. Shamit Saggar,** Professor of Political Science at the University of Sussex. Director of Doctoral Studies, UK  
4. **Mr. Lamberto Dini,** Former Prime minister, Italy  
5. **Mr. Yilmaz Hakan,** Professor at the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Bogazici University, Turkey  
6. **Mr. Frederik Stjernfelt,** University of Aarhus, Denmark  
7. **Mr. Jorge Sanin,** Director of the Department of International Affairs, OAS  
8. **Mr. Ilham Mammadzade,** Director of the ANAS Institute of Philosophy, Sociology and Law, Azerbaijan
Plenary Session 3
How to build public support for cultural diversity

The high level ambition of the WFID 2013 is to promote agreement and international commitment that cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue is elevated to a position alongside the war on poverty and climate change as prime global priorities for human development and security, and the particular role that cultural exchange and diplomacy can have to these agendas, and this Plenary has the specific objective of proposing how the support of ordinary peoples can be mobilised.

Globalisation has brought the world closer together; distances between places have seemingly become shorter. As a result, people interact with cultural difference on a daily basis. But cultural diversity is not universally welcomed or appreciated. Sometimes, with little reason, it creates fear and anxiety in communities, where new incomers present all-too-rapid change, or where the ‘new’ is presented as the ‘other’ by those who challenge the positives and benefits of diversity.

Placing cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue higher on the international agenda as a critical factor for human security and a prime responsibility for the 21st Century- is a shared vision and agenda among international organisations, governments, civil society and most in the private sector. Human security is a people-centred concept that focuses on the most critical and pervasive threats below which the survival, livelihood and dignity of individuals are seriously threatened. But many argue that the key to real progress is winning the support of the many ordinary people, and mobilising their active engagement. The key challenge for leaders is how to do this –and how to counter the widely presented narratives that propose diversity as a threat or in negative terms.

Multiple influences, complex identities, growing inequality and almost-complete interdependence characterise a world where success and peace depend on peoples’ ability to share space, resources and understanding. In this regard, 21st Century change is unprecedented and demand a new sense of priority for understanding cultural difference in a connected world in which threats to peaceful coexistence challenge individuals, local communities and spill over into regional and international security threats.

Key questions:
How can leaders create and communicate narratives that promote the positives and benefits of diversity in contemporary communities?
Winning the support of ordinary people will mean strengthening their confidence that their traditions and heritage can be protected. How can we achieve this without creating separate communities?

What is the role of the press and media in building public support for cultural diversity?

How can we help people develop and promote their personal and social identities in ways that strengthen their senses of belonging while protecting their needs to be different?

Organizer: Government of Azerbaijan

Moderator: Prof. Alp Ozerdem, Director, Centre for Peace & Reconciliation Studies, Coventry University, UK

Speakers:

1. **Mr. Jean-Christophe Bas**, Deputy director for Strategic Development and Partnerships of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
2. **Prof. Dr. Mehmet Saglam**, Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Turkey
3. **Mr. Hafiz Pashayev**, Rector of Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy
4. **Ms. Mari Skare**, Secretary General’s Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security, NATO
5. **Ms. Samia Bibars**, Ambassador, Director of Culture & Dialogue among Civilizations Department, League of Arab States
6. **Mr. Jonathan Shen**, CEO Shinework, China
7. **Mr. Francesco SPANO**, Segretario Generale del MAXXI, Italy
WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Workshop Session 1
“Intercultural Dialogue through History Teaching: Best Practices and Challenges”

The global context of today, influenced by the globalisation, migrations flows, and the development of information technologies and social networks, needs tools for dealing with the existence of tensions between the past and the present of different cultures in order to ensure a better future for all. Political and social environment makes it more significant than ever to focus efforts on history and history teaching as the “dialogue between cultures is also fostered by accurate understanding of history”.

History and history teaching have been a focus for the Council of Europe’s work on education since its inception, being specifically mentioned in the European Cultural Convention of 1954 as well as in the Committee of Ministers Recommendation (2001)15 to Member States on history teaching in twenty-first-century Europe. Likewise, the Declaration on the Council of Europe’s Strategy for Developing Intercultural Dialogue stresses the need for further developing knowledge and awareness of history, cultures, arts and religions and to highlight elements illustrating both the historical and the contemporary influence of cultures and civilisations on each other, as well as cultural cross-fertilisation. Moreover, the White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue “Living Together as Equals in Dignity” constitutes a general framework of all activities and programmes of the Council of Europe within this domain.

Following these recommendations, the Council of Europe developed within the European context two projects on the “The Image of the Other in History Teaching (2006-2009)” and “Interactions, convergences, conflicts: European lessons in shared histories” as a cohesive overall effort involving all the Council’s activities in the field of history teaching and intercultural dialogue. In other hand, taking stock of this backdrop, the North South Centre launched different initiatives with the aim to provide a space for networking among historians, history teachers, history teaching institutes and universities in partnership with various national and international partners as the CoE’s Division, the Alliance of Civilisations (UNAOC), IRCICA and EUROCLIO. The main work in this field of history teaching revolved around three major and complementary results: the establishment of a Global Network to promote dialogue between historians and educators; the identification of complementary history teaching material in the Mediterranean region; as well as the promotion of history teaching methods and pedagogical tools of history teaching at the South-Eastern European level.
Against this backdrop and following the recommendations made by the Group of Eminent Persons on the need of incorporating different perspectives and “the image of the Other” in history teaching, as well as to adopt a multi-perspective approach by encouraging cooperation with education authorities in Europe’s neighbouring regions, the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe will coordinate a workshop on “Intercultural Dialogue through History Teaching: Best Practices and Challenges”, which will take place on 30 May 2013 in the framework of the World Forum for Intercultural Dialogue organised by the Government of Azerbaijan.

The workshop will serve as a platform for sharing best practices on the implementation of existing recommendations and strategies on history teaching, as well as challenges and obstacles to their implementation. The discussions should embrace the concept of inclusive/responsible history, which entails to not only deal with men’s history but also women’s history and the history of the people. The workshop will mainly focus on Southeast Europe as well as Caucasus, the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

In other hand, the Global Network developed within the framework of the partnership between the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, the Council of Europe Division on History Teaching and EUROCLIO, together with other partners, will meet in the context of the World Forum for Intercultural Dialogue with the aim of re-build on the work developed and identify common approaches and competences to teach “the Image of the Other” and intercultural dialogue through history teaching.

With this purpose, the workshop will bring together experts, representatives of institutions and countries, as well as members of the Global Network of historians and history educators with the aim of hearing different points of views and encouraging discussions based on practical case studies. International organisations working in the field of education, intercultural dialogue and history teaching will be also invited to participated and share the main results of the experiences developed.

**Expected Results:**

1. Best practices as well as obstacles in the reform of history teaching, in formal and non-formal education, are recognised to have better knowledge and understanding of how to successfully implement history teaching strategies and recommendations;

2. The Global Network of historians and history educators meets and develop a concrete action plan for encouraging intercultural dialogue among historians and develop awareness on the “History of Self and the Other” and global history through history teaching and learning;
3. Initiatives and tools developed on set of intercultural competences for history teaching at global level are identified and an action plan for its dissemination and awareness is proposed;

Organizers: Azerbaijan, UNAOC

Moderator: Mr. Roman Chlapak, Deputy Executive director, North-South Center of the Council of Europe

Rapporteur: Mr. Steven Stegers, European Association of History Educators

Speakers:
1. Mr. Joke van der Leeuw-Roord, EUROCLIO- European Association of History Educators
2. Mr. Halit Eren, General Director, IRCICA, Turkey
3. Mr. Mikayil Jabbarov, Minister of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan
4. Ms. Brian Carvell, expert, Council of Europe
5. Mr. Fadi DAOU, Chairman and CEO, Adyan Foundation

Respondents:
1. Mr. Sami Adwan, Bethlehem University, Professor, Palestine
2. Mr. Matthias Klingenberg, DVV-International
3. Mr. Polina Verbytska, Nova Doba – All Ukrainian Association for History and Social Studies, Ukrain
4. Mr. Dr. Azmi OZCAN, Historian, Rector, Bilecik University, Turkey
5. Mr. Mostafa Hassani Idrissi, Professor of the University Muhammed V-Souissi, Morocco

Workshop Session 2
“Western-Muslim Relations: from Polarization to Partnership”

In the aftermath of 9/11 and over the past decade, the relations between the Western and the Muslim world have been characterized by growing distrust, polarization, misunderstanding and mutual suspicion. Numerous Governments, policy makers, religious authorities, civil society organization on both sides have been committed to mitigate the risk of tensions and intolerance and to promote constructive mutual engagement.

By creating an opportunity for emerging leaders from both sides to see by themselves the reality of “the other” society, the Fellowship program constitutes a unique platform for learning, understanding and deconstructing stereotypes and to overcome the clash of mutual
ignorance. Developed by the UN Alliance of Civilizations in partnership with organizations from the Arab and the Muslim world, from Europe and the US, the aim of the Fellowship program is to generate the emergence of a new generation of leaders from the Western and the Muslim worlds who know each other, who have learned about the other society, its culture and its people, and respect it, and have developed mutual trust and further collaboration.

The first Summit of the alumni of the Fellowship program will be held at the occasion of the Baku Forum. This session will be an opportunity for the fellows to share with participants in the Forum their unique experience and their journey and to present their views on how to enhance the relations between people in the Western and the Muslim world and moving from polarization to partnership.

Organizers: Azerbaijan, UNAOC

Moderator: Mr. Jean-Christophe Bas, Deputy director for Strategic Development and Partnerships of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

Emerging leaders:

1. Mr. Mohsin Mohi-Ud-Din, Full bright Scholar, DPI Communications Officer and Huffington Post Blogger
2. Mr. Cédric Baecher, Co-founder (2002) and Managing Director of Nomadéis, an independent consulting agency focusing on sustainability and international cooperation issues
3. Mr. Farhad Mammadov, Chair of the Strategic Research Center under President of the Republic of Azerbaijan
4. Mr. Wadia Ait Hamza, Public Affairs Manager Rabat School of Governance & Economics (EgE Rabat) and the Vice President of the Mediterranean Forum for Youth (FOMEJE)
5. Ms. Annika Kiessler, Head of the Energy Policy division at 50Hertz, a major European electricity grid operator involved in the German transition from carbon-based to renewable energy sources, former German Parliament staff
6. Ms. Dala Ghandour, Lawyer specializing in family law with particularly interested in Chariaa and is a certified mediator.

Respondents:

1. Mr. Rabah Ghezali, Managing Director of European Government Affairs & Head of Government Affairs, France at NYSE Euronext, former Economist at IMF
2. Mr. Elisabeth Ryan, Lawyer for Patton Boggs LL, advising foreign and domestic companies and government entities on international business, legal, and public policy matters in the United States, the Middle East etc., former US Congress Staff
3. **Ms. Emna Ben Yedder**, Financial and Administrative Director at Medico Consult and the General Secretary and a founding member of a local NGO “ACT – Think & Decide”

4. **Mr. Muaz Abudalo**, Member of the Free Assembly, an emerging political group in Jordan that advocates for social democratic thought in the country

**Workshop Session 3**

“Building intercultural competences for 21st Century”

All living cultures are outcomes of intercultural communication. Intercultural encounters have generated much positive change in society, but have also given rise to a new struggle for identity and tensions between identities, sometimes taking the form of racism, xenophobia and intolerance. Public policy and institutions have a major role to play in governing our increasingly multicultural societies and accompanying societal transformation. Therefore, there is an urgent need to develop new kinds of knowledge, skills and competencies, not only at the level of decision-makers, planners and social actors, but also with a view to reach each individual citizen. Such policies have to be designed based upon universally agreed values and practices within larger human rights frameworks, promoting tolerance, non-violence, peace and mutual respect, and should generate a positive impact on people’s attitudes, thanks to the virtues of a sustainable dialogue.

UNESCO is building on its longstanding experience in promoting intercultural sensitivity and solidarity with a view to fighting intolerance, stereotyping, discrimination and violence through its fields of competence, formal and non-formal education, culture, sciences and communication. In this context, the Organization started designing a general framework for addressing the new global challenges and threats that are undermining humankind’s cohesion. This is undertaken through the mobilization of relevant expertise to elaborate new guidelines and training manuals for a global humanistic curriculum and building intercultural competences conducive to a practice of “cardinal virtues” of temperance, courage, wisdom and justice, as well as of empathy, hospitality, harmonious coexistence and appreciation of diversity, respectful of equal rights of men and women, in order to instil critical and creative thinking, namely in youth.

This workshop will provide the appropriate framework for assessing the work carried out in this framework by UNESCO and its partners a further gather a group of experts for consolidating and validating the guidelines and training manual developed. This will also serve as a framework for the launching of pilot training sessions that will take place in selected countries.
Workshop Session 4
“Tourism as a key driver of mutual understanding and tolerance among peoples and cultures”

The values of tolerance, understanding and inclusion, treasured by innumerable cultures and civilizations across the globe, lie at the very heart of responsible and sustainable tourism. The cultural exchange brought about by tourism encounters is remarkable for prompting dialogue between peoples of all walks of life. It is such dialogue which builds cross-cultural understanding, fosters a regard for diversity, inspires the celebration of human creativity, and encourages solidarity with host communities. For all these reasons, tourism is an irreplaceable factor of self-education and fulfillment when practiced with an open mind.

The objective of this session is to highlight tourism’s importance as a cornerstone of pluralism, underscoring its role as an effective means of bridging divides and countering instances of inter-cultural tension.

Organizers: Azerbaijan, UNWTO

Moderator: Mr. Francesco Frangialli, President of the ST-EP Foundation and former Secretary-General of UNWTO

Speakers:
1. Mr. Tijani Haddad, President of the International Federation of Journalists and Travel Writers (FIJET) and former Minister of Tourism of Tunisia
2. Mr. Peter Keller, Professor for International Economics in Tourism, Head of the Unit for Research in Tourism, Ecole des HEC, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

3. Mr. Jafar Jafari, Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, USA, Founding Editor of Annals of Tourism Research, and Chief Editor of the Tourism Social Sciences

4. Ms. Penelope Denu, Director, European Institute of Cultural Routes and Executive Secretary, Council of Europe Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes

5. Ms. Katérina Stenou, Director, Intersectoral Platform for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence, UNESCO

6. Mr. Jafar Jafarov, Rector of the Azerbaijan Tourism Institute

Workshop Session 5
“Urban policies for diversity in 21st century: the Intercultural cities paradigm”

There is a growing awareness that migrant/minority integration strategies are not sustainable without effective diversity strategies. In the past, the importance of diversity has either been neglected, or has been overemphasised, to the detriment of community cohesion based on common values. It has become urgent to design and promote diversity strategies that comply with relevant European standards on human rights, diversity and non-discrimination, and leading practice on the ground. Such strategies are emerging at the local level, with cities acting as laboratories for policy innovation.

The Council of Europe, in partnership with the European Commission, has been working for the past 5 years to support the conceptual development, implementation and assessment of urban diversity strategies through the Intercultural cities programme (www.coe.int/interculturalcities).

The Intercultural cities’ methodology combines action research with capacity building and policy change activities.

Intercultural Cities has developed and tested an integration model giving a central place to diversity strategies, called intercultural integration.

It has at its core the notion of diversity advantage –considering migrants first and foremost as a resource for local economic, social and cultural development, and not only as vulnerable groups in need of welfare support, services, education etc. Intercultural integration calls for a review and reshaping of urban policies on education, spatial planning, safety, culture, economic development, employment, etc. with a view to identifying the skills and potential of migrants, giving them access and empowering them to be full participants in the city life.
For this to succeed, a new discourse needs to be elaborated and adopted by political and civic leaders, governance should also be adapted, bureaucracy and institutions should become representative of the population diversity, culturally competent and institutions should be created to deal with cultural conflict.

The Intercultural integration models now being applied in 60 cities across Europe (20 members of the European network, as well as members of the national networks), as well as Mexico, Montréal, and cities in Japan and Korea.

The workshop will:

- Present the Intercultural integration concept and its implications for local governance and policies
- The impact of the concept in the participating cities
- The challenges and lessons learn

**Organizers:** Azerbaijan, Council of Europe

**Speakers**

1. **Ms. Christina Baglai**, Intercultural cities (ICC) Assistant Programme Manager, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France
2. **Mr. Daniel de Torres Barderi**, ICC expert, IMACITY SL, Barcelona, Spain
3. **Ms. Helena Rojas**, Director of Division for Democracy, Human rights and Intercultural Development, Botkyrka Municipal Council, Sweden
4. **Mr. Olexandre Butsenko**, Director, Development Centre “Democracy through Culture”, Kyiv, Ukraine
5. **Mr. Oliver Freeman**, Consultant in intercultural management, Lausanne, Switzerland
6. **Mr. Francisco Empis**, Coordinator of the Portuguese ICC network, Lisbon, Portugal
7. **Mr. Bruno Cianco**, ICC expert, ICC Coordinator at Castelvetro, Head of the Transcultural Master Programme at the University of Modena Modena, Italy
8. **Mr. Enping Zhuang**, Associate Dean, School of Foreign Languages, Shanghai University, Shanghai, China
9. **Mr. Mathias Malmberg**, ICC expert, Voorschoten consultancy, the Netherlands
10. **Ms. Phyllis Brunson**, Associate director, Center for the Study of Social Policy, Washington, D.C. Washington, USA
Workshop Session 6
“The Role of Corporate Sector in Promoting intercultural dialogue and diversity”

Based on the finding of its publication “Doing Business in a Multicultural World”, UNAOC will organize a session on “The role of business sector in promoting intercultural dialogue” that will be featured in the program of the Baku Forum. Senior corporate representatives will be part of the panel.

Organizers: Azerbaijan, UN Alliance of Civilizations

Speakers:
1. **Mr. Effenus Henderson**, Chief Diversity Officer and Director, Workforce Representation and Diversity for Weyerhaeuser Company, USA
2. **Mr. Carl Westring**, Vice President Partnerships Education First

Workshop Session 7
“Global citizenship: towards intercultural actions”

Multicultural communities remain fairly silent about a world in which condescension has given way to complexity. But intercultural dialogue does not simply step in to fill the vacuum. It is not just a convenient opportunistic device for policy-makers. It is creative, dynamic, and yet elusive defying a precise definition. Some see it as re-imagining contemporary society and rethinking a plural world through focus on a new type of civil society based on the twin principles of cultural diversity and social cohesion.

Real global citizenship is a dynamic and challenging process that enables those engaged to explore their own and others' identities and backgrounds and their effects on attitudes, behaviours and relationships towards and within communities locally, nationally and globally. Intercultural dialogue cannot have the same boundaries as it did in the past, where bridging differences were the main aim. In 2013 it is much more about human security, about the necessity to find creative solutions for problems that all diverse societies face (climate, economics, urbanisation, etc.). The boundaries of dialogue have often been located differently depending on whether we see it as a process, a tool or a destination.

But do we need to see them differently or could we try and find an ICD that combines all of these? Then ICD could become essential for effective political governance, policymaking and to increase fairness and equality in the global economy. One of the most important expectations about intercultural dialogue is that it is able to challenge stereotypes and prejudices. We often
generalise about what we don’t know. Stereotypes are usually exaggerated views of particular characteristics, which result from our own cultural frames of reference. This becomes a problem when these generalisations become prejudices that affect the way we act towards others. Religion, faith and belief play form the backdrop to the day-to-day lives of the majority of the world’s population. Without approaching some of the key current intercultural debates of global significance through the lens of belief, we are unable to effectively engage with the concerns or interests of a significant section of global societies.

**Key questions:**
How we build cultural relationships in our world and how we cope with cultural diversities will become mainstream agendas?

What do we mean by intercultural dialogue? What is it and who engages in it? What is the subject of intercultural dialogue and what is its purpose? Importantly, how active is it? Taking action? The question of how we interact, whether at work or at home, with people who we perceive as different to us is central to our sense of stability and security, not just for ourselves, but also for our families and communities? How do we challenge polarising narratives and negative representations through new models of engagement or dialogue? How can we develop communities where people interact in a meaningful way and experience true equality of opportunity? How can we help to equip people in the UK and globally to live engaged and peaceful lives in pluralistic societies?

What role has religion, science and belief in global society?
Do faith and belief matter?

Is there a clash between Islamic and Western societies or is this more a clash of worldviews or clash of ignorance?

Is consensus between the two achievable? What can we do at policy level to promote constructive dialogue between those worldviews?

Why does the right of religious freedom seem to be one of the weakest amongst all the rights contained in the Universal Declaration?

What is the role of States in promoting freedom of religion or belief and in protecting people from abuse in the name of religion or belief?

**Organizer:** Government of Azerbaijan

**Moderator:** Dr Darla Deardorff, Executive Director of the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA)
Speakers:
1. Mr. Stephen Shashoua, Director of the Three Faiths Forum, UK
2. Mr. Jose Cordeiro, Founder and president emeritus of the World Future Society, Venezuela Chapter, Sociedad Mundial del Futuro Venezuela
3. Ms. Sirkka Heinonen, University of Turku, Finland Futures Research Centre (FFRC), Director of Helsinki Office (tbc)
4. Mr. Fiyaz Mugal, the Founder and Director of a not for profit organization called Faith Matters
5. Ms. Sanja Vlahovic, Minister of Science, Montenegro
6. Mr. Hans Köchler, President International Progress Organization, Germany
7. Mr. Taleh Heydarov, Chairman of European Azerbaijan Society, Azerbaijan

Workshop Session 8
“Intercultural dialogue: Faith and Science”

Faith and science are two of the most powerful forces that shaped the history of the human kind. Faith has fed the great cultures and civilisations, and science has produced a universal legacy of knowledge and techniques that have triggered a spectacular development at the worldwide level. However, the human kind is facing a two-fold challenge: the promotion of a genuine intercultural dialogue for an enduring peace, and the resolution of an environmental crisis that is threatening the long-term future. The globalization of issues is now constraining all the cultural zones of the world to define their standpoint with respect to science, and the debate between faith and science, and science and culture, is giving a renewed content to the intercultural and interfaith dialogues. As a result of this new interest in the debate of science with faith and culture, a whole field of study is now appearing. ISESCO has had a long-standing interest in this field. As a new action, it is now producing a book for preparing scholars, religious leaders, students and the general public to understand some of the issues of the dialogue, and to participate in this endeavor. The panel discussion will present the main stakes, and some of the topics, of this worldwide debate between faith and science.

Organizers: Azerbaijan, ISESCO

Moderator: Dr. Bruno Abd-al-Haqq Guiderdoni, Astrophysicist, University of Lyon, France

Speakers:
1. Mr. Abdelilah Benarafa, Expert in charge of cultural policies and cultural diversity, ISESCO, Rabat, Morocco
2. **Mr. Elshad Iskandarov**, Chair of the State Committee for Religious Affairs
3. **Mr. Mohamed Tahar Bensaada**, Philosopher, Haute Ecole Ilya Prigogine, Brussels, Belgium
4. **Ms. Inès Safi**, Physicist, University of Paris, France
5. **Ms. Nabila Aghanim**, Astrophysicist, University of Paris, France
6. **Mr. Nidhal Guessoum**, Astrophysicist, American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
7. **Mr. Claudio La Jacono**, President of the Institute for Oriental studies, Italy

**Workshop 9**

“The Role of Corporate Sector in Promoting intercultural dialogue and diversity”

Building inclusive society has become a major challenge in most countries around the world. The role of leaders, being policy makers, corporate sector, media is crucial in raising public awareness and encouraging dialogue and understanding among people and communities beyond cultural divides. To achieve this goal, a vibrant and active civil society movement holding leaders responsible is indispensable. Responding to strong calls for increased interaction with civil society, this workgroup session will focus on setting a framework to expand the UNAOC Civil Society Country Chapter program, and will invite new partners to join. The UNAOC civil society chapter program enables NGO’s to:

- exchange best practices, collaborate across the spectrum of issues and approaches
- strengthen dialogue and understanding among civil society organizations, engaging all cultures, civilizations and diasporas
- promote cross-cultural understanding and cooperation among local and global communities

The session will offer civil society organisations an opportunity to align together, strengthen capacity, and establish a plan to work immediately upon returning home and over the next 12-24 months.

**Organizers:** Azerbaijan, UNAOC, Global Dialogue Foundation

**Speakers:**
1. **Mr. Peter (Pece) Gorgievski**, Chief Executive Officer of Global Dialogue Foundation, Unity in Diversity, Australia
2. **Mr. Fuad Muradov**, Member of Parliament, Azerbaijan
UNAOC Fellowship 1st Alumni Meeting

The first meeting of alumni from the UNAOC’s fellowship programme will take place in Baku, Azerbaijan on 31 May 2013. It will be held in conjunction with the 2nd World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue “LIVING TOGETHER PEACEFULLY IN A DIVERSE WORLD” hosted by the Government of Azerbaijan. The alumni meeting will be the first opportunity for all alumni to meet, to discuss their experiences and their contribution as advocates for dialogue and understanding between the Western and the Muslim worlds, and to agree on the creation of a loose but vibrant network of committed emerging leaders.

The UNAOC alumni network is composed of participants in the five editions of the fellowship programme. There are already close relations and regular interaction among fellows and a sustained interest and commitment in enhancing the relations between the Western and the Muslim. However, with the growing number of alumni, the need to create a loose and vibrant network has been felt in order to facilitate interaction and synergy, to strengthen the community committed to enhance mutual relations and to support the overall objective of the UNAOC and the Fellowship programme. This meeting will provide the opportunity for meaningful dialogue, sharing lessons learned from the experience of alumni, exchange ideas to build a momentum for the network’s future work.

The participants in the alumni meeting will include a group of about 60 alumni from the three regions: North America, Europe and the MENA region. UNAOC High Representative President Al Nasser will be addressing the opening session while Mr. Jean Christophe Bas, Deputy Director and Mrs. Karima Zerrou, Fellowship Programme coordinator, together with the partners in attendance, including the Federal office of Germany, ISESCO, LAS, OIC...will be facilitating and participating in the debates.

The alumni participants have been asked to provide input to prepare the meeting by responding to the following questions:

**Question 1:** How do you see the evolution of the West-Muslim relations?
**Question 2:** How to improve the format and content of the Fellowship?
**Question 3:** How to improve the West-Muslim relationship? How to be more effective?
**Question 4:** Other activities, other programmes?
**Question 5:** Personal commitment
**Question 6:** Expectations for the Alumni network and contribution
Culminating Event of the World Campaign “Do One Thing for Diversity and Inclusion” will be held in the framework of the WFID in Baku

Organizers: Azerbaijan, UNAOC

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) in partnership with UNESCO and a wide coalition of partners from corporations to civil society launched the world campaign “Do One Thing for Diversity and Inclusion”, aimed at engaging people around the world to Do One Thing to support Cultural Diversity and Inclusion.

Following the adoption in 2001 of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity the UN General Assembly declared May 21 as the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.

UNAOC will organize a series of special events at the occasion of the Baku Forum to celebrate the world campaign “Do One Thing for Diversity and Inclusion” developed by UNAOC in partnership with UNESCO and more than 100 global partners around the World.

The objective is to have the Baku Forum being the culminating point of the world campaign, involving all participants in the Forum, but also the population in Baku, in Azerbaijan around the world.

UNESCO Exhibition “Writing Peace”

JW Marriot Absheron Hotel

In a global effort to promote the emergence of a sense of belonging to a shared and plural humanity, while giving prominence to the wealth of cultures, mutual respect between them and the resulting intercultural dialogue, UNESCO has produced the Writing Peace exhibition. It highlights the value and contribution of cultures and civilizations to peace. The “Writing Peace” exhibition was opened on the occasion of the International Day of Peace, 21 September 2012, at UN Headquarters in New York. The catalogue of the exhibition, available online in English, French and Arabic at: http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002176/217691m.pdf.
Living together peacefully in a diverse world
On September 28, 2012, H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser was designated UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Mr. Al-Nasser assumed the post on March 1, 2013 from UNAOC headquarters in New York.

Prior to that, Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser assumed the Presidency of the Sixty-Sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly from September 13, 2011 to September 17, 2012.

From 1998 to 2011, Mr. Al-Nasser served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations. During this period, he played leading roles as Chairman of the General Assembly’s Special Political and Decolonization (Fourth) Committee (2009 to 2010) and as President of the General Assembly High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation (2007 to 2009). The recipient of numerous decorations and awards, Mr. Al-Nasser was made an honorary fellow of the Foreign Policy Association in New York in 2009. He also holds three honorary doctorates, in international affairs and in recognition of his efforts to foster cross-cultural understanding and strengthen the work of the Alliance.

Irina Bokova is Director-General of UNESCO since 2009. She was Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria to France and Monaco, Personal Representative of the Bulgarian President to the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO from 2005 to 2009.

Born in 1952, she obtained an MBA from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations and studied at the universities of Maryland and Harvard in the USA. During her rich and distinguished career, she served as Bulgaria’s representative to the United Nations and later as Secretary of State for European integration and Foreign Minister. Ms. Bokova has long promoted the transition to European integration. As Founder and Chairperson of the European Policy Forum, she worked to overcome divisions in Europe and promote the values of dialogue, diversity, human dignity and rights.
Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri is the Director General of ISESCO. He is a Saudi Arabian author and lecturer who has served at various posts including Executive Director of “Islam Today,” an Islamic academic journal published in Arabic, English and French; and “AL JAMIA” Journal published by the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World.

Abdulaziz was director general of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization -ISEESCO, served as secretary general of the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World, was a member of the Royal Al-Albayt Institute for Islamic Thought, Jordan, of the advisory committee of the Arab-Islamic Civilization Encyclopedia, of the World Islamic Forum for Dialogue, of the board of trustees of the Arab-European Centre for Studies in Paris, of the Arab Thought Forum in Amman and of the scientific committee of Prince Abdulmuhsin Bin Jallawi Center for Research & Islamic Studies Sharjah.

Mikhail Shvydkoy has been President of the Russian Television Academy Foundation and Special Envoy of the President of the Russian Federation for International Cultural Cooperation since 2008. Shvydkoy is also a theater specialist and majored in theater studies at the State Institute of Theatrical Arts. From 1973 to 1990 he worked for “Teatr” magazine, as correspondent, senior editor, executive secretary and ultimately as deputy chief editor. From 1991 to 1993 he was the director of “Kultura” publishing house, after which he served as Deputy Minister of Culture of the Russian Federation (1993-1997).

In 1999 he was awarded the Russian Federation State Prize for his organizational and creative work for the channel. For two years after that, he was chairman of the company. From 2000 to 2004, Shvydkoy served as Minister of Culture of the Russian Federation. He then became the director of the Federal Agency for Culture and Cinematography for four years. Shvydkoy is a member of several unions for creative professions, including the Russian Writers’ Union, Theater Workers’ Union and the Journalists’ Union. He is a doctor of art history, professor and member of the Academy of Humanities.
Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovici is the Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy at NATO. She is the first woman ever to be appointed the position of Assistant Secretary General at NATO. In 2001 Grabar-Kitarovici became a minister-councilor to the ministry of foreign affairs. She left that position in 2003. In November 2003 she was elected to the Croatian Parliament from the seventh electoral district as a member of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ). In the government formed in December 2003, she became the minister of European integration, beginning negotiations in 2004 for Croatia to join the European Union. In February 2005 she was nominated to become the foreign minister of Croatia. She was confirmed by the parliament and sworn into that position on February 17, 2005. Her main task as foreign minister was to guide Croatia into the European Union. From 2008 to 2011, she was the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Croatia to United States. She was sworn in as ambassador on March 19, 2008. From 2005 to 2008 she was the foreign minister of Croatia. In September 2012, the daily newspaper Jutarnji List stated that Grabar-Kitarovici is being considered as a possible candidate for the 2014 Croatian presidential election by the Croatian Democratic Union.

Dr. Abulfas Garayev is the Minister of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan since 2006. Previously, he held the position of Minister of Youth, Sport and Tourism from 2001 to 2006, Minister of Youth and Sport from 1994-2001. He is chair of the Organizing Committee of the World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue since 2011, co-chairman of the Intergovernmental Commission on cooperation between Azerbaijan and Cuba since 2009. During his term as minister of Culture and Tourism, he was the chair of the 6th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers (2009-2011), headed OIC Tourism Ministers Conference (2006-2008) and CIS Council on Cultural Cooperation.

A. Garayev received his PhD in philosophy and culture from the Academy of Social Sciences, Moscow-Russia (1992) and degree from University of Foreign Languages and Pedagogy, Baku-Azerbaijan in 1978. He also attended specialized courses on Management and Marketing in the Russian State Administration Academy in 1992.

Mr. Garayev is also actively involved in scientific work and pedagogical activities; he is author of several books and is an Associate Professor of Azerbaijan Tourism Institute since 2006.
GEORGI PARVANOV
President of the Republic of Bulgaria
(2002-2012)

Georgi Parvanov served as President of the Republic of Bulgaria from 2002 till 2012. Under his leadership, Bulgaria became a member of NATO (2004) and of the European Union (2007). He is the first President of Bulgaria elected to a second term.

From 1994 till 2001 Georgi Parvanov was a Member of the Bulgarian National Assembly. In the Assembly, he served as Chairman of the Parliamentary group of the Democratic Left (1997-2001) and Chairman of the Parliamentary group of the Coalition for Bulgaria. Mr. Parvanov served also as Chairman of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (1996-2001). He holds a Ph.D. in History.

President Parvanov received many awards and honours, including Heydar Aliyev Order.

STJEPAN MESIĆ
President of Croatia (2000 - 2010)

Stjepan Mesić is a Croatian politician who served as the second President of Croatia, 2000 to 2010. Before his ten-year presidential term between 2000 and 2010 he held the posts of Speaker of the Croatian Parliament (1992-1994), Prime Minister of Croatia (1990), the last President of the Presidency of Yugoslavia (1991), Secretary General of the Non-Aligned Movement (1991), a judge in Našice and mayor of his home town of Orahovica. Mesić was a deputy in the Croatian Parliament in the 1960s, and was then absent from politics until 1990 when he joined the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ), and was named Prime Minister after HDZ won the elections. He was appointed to serve as SR Croatia’s member of the Yugoslav Federal Presidency where he served first as Vice President and then in 1991 as the last President of Yugoslavia before Yugoslavia dissolved.

Following the breakup of Yugoslavia, Mesić served as Speaker of the Croatian Parliament from 1992 to 1994, when he left HDZ. With several other members of parliament, he formed a new party called Croatian Independent Democrats (HND). In 1997 the majority of HND members, including Mesić, merged into the Croatian People’s Party (HNS). After Franjo Tudman had died in December 1999 Mesić won the elections to become the next President of Croatia in February 2000. He was re-elected in January 2005 for a second five-year term. Mesić had always topped the polls for the most popular politician in Croatia during his two terms.

Upon completion of his duties he returned to Baku and in 1995-1998 was the deputy director of the Department of International Organizations in the Ministry. In 1998-2003 he served as counselor at the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the USA. In 2003 Mr. Mammadyarov was appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Italy. Since April 2, 2004 he is Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Mari Skåre was appointed the NATO Secretary General’s Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security on 27 August 2012.

Ms. Mari Skåre has extensive experience from the Norwegian Foreign Service. Prior to her nomination as Special Representative, she served as Minister Counsellor and Deputy Permanent Representative at the Norwegian Delegation to NATO. She also served as Minister Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission at the Norwegian Embassy in Kabul and previously as counsellor and legal adviser at the Norwegian Mission to the UN.

Ms. Mari Skåre joined the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1991. Her first assignment was as legal adviser in the Secretariat of the Minister of International Development. Since then she has held a number of positions and has extensive knowledge of the UN and NATO. Throughout her career she has worked with issues relating to women and security, particular through her positions as Minister Counsellor at the Norwegian Embassy in Kabul and the Norwegian Delegation to NATO. She has in these positions been instrumental in formulating Norwegian policies and promoting this agenda internationally.

Ms. Mari Skåre holds a master degree in law from the University of Oslo.
Jean-Christophe Bas is Deputy director for Strategic Development and Partnerships of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations. Jean-Christophe is the author of L’EUROPE À LA CARTE (Editions du Cherche-Midi), a book of reflections on Europe published at the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall. From 1999 to 2008, Jean-Christophe served as Development Policy Dialogue Manager at the World Bank and set up innovative mechanisms of strategic dialogue between the World Bank and key constituencies around the World on Development and Poverty eradication challenges. Jean-Christophe started his career as Head of staff of the President of the Committee on External Economic Relations (1984-86) at the European Parliament. He is also a former Executive Director of the Aspen Institute in France (1994-1999), and is now serving as vice chairman of the advisory Board of Aspen Institute in France. Jean-Christophe started his career as Head of staff of the President of the Committee on External Economic Relations (1984-86) at the European Parliament.

Lamberto Dini is an Italian politician and economist. He was the 51st Prime Minister of Italy from 1995 to 1996 and Foreign Minister from 1996 to 2001. After studying Economics in his native city of Florence, Dini took up a post at the International Monetary Fund in 1959, where he worked his way up until he served as Executive Director for Italy, Greece, Portugal and Malta between 1976 and 1979. Then, in October 1979, he moved to the Banca d’Italia, where he served as executive until May 1994. When the Governor of the Bank of Italy, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, with whom Dini had developed a rivalry, was called upon to serve as Premier, in April, 1993, Dini was widely tipped to succeed him. In January 1995, Dini was appointed Prime Minister by the then President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro. Dini also took the portfolio for treasury in the cabinet and was a non-elected prime minister and minister. His cabinet was a technocratic one. He is also the former, Deputy Speaker of the Italian Senate, and Italian Parliamentary Representative at the European Convention. Mr. Dini is a member of the International Advisory Board at Kenmar-Nihon Venture Capital.
MIKAYIL JABBAROV
Minister of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Mikayil Jabbarov is the Minister of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan. He graduated from the Faculty of International Law of the Baku State University. Then he got a degree of Master of Law at the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento and a Master of Economics at the Azerbaijan State Economic University.

Mr. Jabbarov is member of the New York State Bar Association. He began his career in 1995 in the banking sector, and in 1999-2002 worked as a lawyer in the private sector. In 2002-2003, he was Advisor to the Economic Development Minister, in 2003-2004 - President of the Azerbaijan Export and Investment Promotion Foundation (AZPROMO). He was appointed as Azerbaijani Deputy Economic Development Minister on Feb. 20, 2004. On March 6, 2009 he was appointed as the head of the Administration of Icheri Sheher State Historical-Architectural Reserve under the Cabinet of Ministers and then he took the office of the Minister of Education on 19 April 2013.

MEHMET SAGLAM
Deputy Speaker of Parliament

Prof. Dr. Mehmet Saglam graduated from Ankara University, Faculty of Law. He received his master’s degree and doctoral degree in New York University, USA, in the field of “public administration”. He serve as Chairperson of Higher Education Credit and Hostels Institution, the Chairperson of Council of Higher Education, the Chairperson of the Prime Ministry Public Officers Ethic Board.

Many of his Turkish and English articles have been published in various academic journals including his six books.

Mr. Saglam was elected as Deputy for Kahramanmarash for the 20th, 21st and 23rd legislative terms. He served as the Chairperson of the National Education Committee and the Co-Chairperson of Turkey-EU Joint Parliamentary Committee for the 20th legislative term. Mehmet Saglam became the Minister of National Education in the 54th Government. He was elected as the Chairperson of Committee on National Education, Culture, Youth and Sport for the 23rd legislative term, Deputy Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey and Chairperson of the Culture, Art and Publication Board of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey for the 24th legislative term.
Felisa Tibbitts is the Director of the Human Rights in Education Program at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard’s Founder and Senior Advisor of Human Rights Education Associates (HREA), which she directed from 1999-2010. Dr. Tibbitts is also Adjunct Lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Visiting Professor at the UN University for Peace.

Her professional career has been devoted to supporting educational activities that promote a culture of human rights and prevent human rights abuses. Since 1992, she has worked with Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNDP, OSCE, the Council of Europe, the Organization of American States and numerous non-governmental organizations, such as Amnesty International in developing curriculum and policies that support the integration of human rights into teaching and training.

Mr. Abdel-Ghaffar is a senior official of UNWTO with over 30 years of experience in shaping tourism policies and strategies and in managing development plans and projects, particularly in the Middle East, the region which he has served, as the Organization’s Director, since 1992. He is also President of UNWTO’s Themis Foundation for Tourism Education and Training.

During the period (1994-2005), in which UNWTO experienced rapid growth in its membership and activities, he was responsible for coordinating the preparation and implementation of six successive general programmes of work of the Organization and for introducing a new impact evaluation system. In 2006, he was assigned the responsibility of shaping the Organization’s new Risk and Crisis Management programme, developing its governance structure and mobilizing external financial resources for its implementation. In 2008, he was appointed Director of the Education and Training Department and entrusted with restructuring the Organization’s programme in this area.

Mr. Abdel-Ghaffar holds BA and MA degrees in Political Science from the American University in Cairo.
As Director of the London based 3FF (Three Faiths Forum), Stephen Shashoua, together with his dynamic team, innovate, design, and deliver a wide portfolio of award-winning social cohesion programmes to encourage interaction and learning between people of different faiths and beliefs. Having joined in 2004, Stephen has led the development of 3ff since 2008 into one of the UK’s largest and most delivery orientated interfaith and inter-cultural organisations. Stephen oversees 3FF’s outreach, both nationally and internationally. With a background in education and lifetime of understanding cultures, Stephen continues to work towards solutions to conflicts between communities and promote interaction, cooperation and learning through his work on the ground, as well as through his writing and lecturing.

Having moved to the UK from Canada in 2003, Stephen was named one of 40 Jews under 40 making a positive difference to the British Jewish community. He is an Ariane de Rothschild Foundation Fellow, sits on the Advisory Board for the Islamic Foundation, is a UNAOC Global Expert, is currently a Visiting Research Fellow attached to the Department of Professional and Community Education at Goldsmiths University of London, is part of the ROI Community, and a Co-Founder of Iraq in Common.

Darla K. Deardorff is currently executive director of the Association of International Education Administrators, a national professional organization based at Duke University in the United States, where she is a Research Scholar in the Program in Education. In addition, she is visiting professor at Leeds-Metropolitan University in the United Kingdom, an adjunct professor at Monterey Institute of International Studies, is on faculty of the prestigious Summer Institute of Intercultural Communication in Portland, Oregon, and on faculty of Harvard University’s Future of Learning Institute. She has also been on the faculty at North Carolina State University and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Dr. Deardorff has twenty years of practical experience in the international field and previously held positions at North Carolina State University and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. She is also an ESL instructor and teacher trainer and has lived, taught and worked in Germany, Japan, and Switzerland. An Educator for Duke Corporate Education and a trainer for the EAIE Academy in Europe, Dr. Deardorff is an experienced cross-cultural trainer and coach and conducts training for non-profits, corporations and educational institutions.
SAMI ADWAN
Bethlehem University, Professor, Palestine

Sami Adwan is a professor of Education and a teacher trainer at the Faculty of Education at Bethlehem University. He is the Palestinian director and cofounder of the Peace Research Institute in the Middle East (PRIME).

He was the head of the employee union at Hebron University and a chair of the Education program. Currently, he is the coordinator of the subject area teachers training program. His research focuses on Palestinian education system, problems and challenges teachers training and schoolbooks, the role of education in building peace, and on religious education and co-existing between different religions and believes. Sami Adwan and Dr. Bar-On were awarded the Alexander Langer Foundation Prize, the Victor J.

Goldberg IIE Prize for Peace and the European Association for Education of Adults Prize. Dr. Adwan was awarded the joint Legislative Resolution of the Senate and the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey in March, 2007.

HAFIZ PASHAYEV
Rector of Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy

Mr. Hafiz Pashayev started his political career in 1993 as an Azerbaijan’s first Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States (also accredited in Canada and Mexico). He was retained in his post till 2006, when at the same year he was appointed the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijan Republic.

Pashayev is accountable for the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy established under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan Republic. He is the first rector of the academy. Moreover, Hafiz Pashayev is the author of more than 100 scientific works and 2 monographs, as well as the articles on various socio-political issues in the local and international media.
Farhad Mammadov is the Director of the Center for Strategic Researches under President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In 2004 he was founder and executive director of the non-governmental organization “National Strategic Initiative Center”. During his activities in National Strategic Initiative Center, he organized debates between the political structures, created web resource dedicated to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, has participated in television debates on current issues in the political life of Azerbaijan.

In 2005, Mr. Mammadov was one of the 6 co-founders of “IRELI” public union. In 2007- he started working as an adviser at the ministry of Youth and Tourism. On 8 February, 2008 he was hired as chief adviser of Political Analyses and Information Department of the Presidential Administration of Azerbaijan. On 1 June, 2011 Farhad Mammadov was appointed as head of analysis and forecasting sector.

Effenus Henderson is an internationally recognized diversity thought leader and has been invited by numerous companies and organizations to share his expertise. He has addressed members of the General Assembly of the United Nations on intercultural and interreligious diversity, and also addressed a high level panel of the Alliance of Civilizations in Madrid, Spain in 2008 and in Istanbul Turkey in 2009.

Mr. Henderson also participated in a high level dialogue sponsored by the High Commissioner on Human Rights in preparation for the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the Universal Declaration of human rights. He was part of a special panel on diversity at the VII Annual Inter-American Conference on Corporate Social Responsibility held in Punta del Este, Uruguay in December 2009. He has advised members of the United Nation’s Alliance of Civilization and Global Compact offices on emerging issues. Additionally, Mr. Henderson has advised leaders of Club de Madrid’s Shared Societies Project on cross-cultural inclusion.
Frederik Stjernfelt, born 1957. Professor, Ph.D. at the Center for Semiotics, Aarhus University. Member of the Danish Academy and of the Royal Danish Academy of Science and Letters. Editor of the journal KRITIK 1993-2013; critic at the Copenhagen weekly Weekendavisen.


Dr. Hakan Yilmaz is Professor at the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Bogazici University, Istanbul. He is the director of the Center for European Studies in Bogazici University and Bogazici University-TUSIAD Foreign Policy Forum. A graduate of Galatasaray Lycée in Istanbul, he’s got his BA degree at the Economics Department of Bogazici University (1987). His research interests include political ideologies and political culture in post-war Turkey; culture and identity dimensions of European integration and EU-Turkish Relations; external-internal linkages in the processes of democratization; politics and culture; philosophy of social science. He has conducted research projects, based on nationwide opinion surveys, on Euroskepticism in Turkey (2004 and 2012); Conservatism in Turkey (2006 and 2012); Social Class Profiles in Turkey (2007 and 2012); the knowledge and image of Turkey, as well as the level of support for Turkey’s EU membership, in five EU member states (UK, Germany, France, Spain, Poland) (2009).
Shamit Saggar

Professor of Political Science at the University of Sussex. Director of Doctoral Studies

Prof Shamit Saggar is Professor of Political Science at the University of Sussex. Professor Saggar is currently on secondment to HM Government as an ESRC Knowledge Exchange Fellow, leading a cross-government project on ‘New approaches to equality’. He has previously been a Senior Policy Advisor in the Prime Minister’s Strategy Unit and the Cabinet Office.

His main research interests lie in the politics of ethnic pluralism, political participation, comparative migration, religious extremism, public policy and regulatory policy. He is the author or editor of a number of books and over fifty journal articles and book chapters. His most recent book, Pariah Politics, examined the causes of and policy responses to radical Islamist politics in Western liberal democracies. His book, Race and Representation, provided the first comparative analysis of the electoral behaviour of British ethnic minorities.

In 2008 Professor Saggar was a Special Advisor to the Commonwealth (Sen) Commission on Respect and Understanding, and lead author of the final report, Civil Pathways to Peace. He has also been a Special Advisor to the Speaker’s Conference on Parliamentary Representation.

Fiyaz Mughal

The Founder and Director of a not for profit organization called Faith Matters

His working history includes over 15 years experience in the community and voluntary sector in positions that have included social policy lobbying, project and general management, conflict resolution work and leading organizations as the Chief Operating Officer.

Fiyaz has worked in a number of organizations providing training to women right through to European transnational faith related programmes and advice and information projects. Currently, Fiyaz Mughal is the Founder and Director of a not for profit organization called Faith Matters (www.faith-matters.org) which works on reducing extremism and developing platforms for discourse and interaction between Muslim, Sikh, Christian and Jewish communities right across the UK. Faith Matters also works extensively on community cohesion, interfaith, conflict resolution and prevent programmes at a local, national and international level.
Joke van der Leeuw-Roord, Founding President and Executive Director of EUROCLIO - The European Association of History Educators received her degree in history at Groningen University in the Netherlands. She was chair of the WIEG, the Committee which designed and implemented innovative national examinations for history and citizenship education. Ms. van der Leeuw-Roord worked as consultant for the Council of Europe, UNESCO, OSCE, International Alert and the European Union, Board Member of the Europeana Foundation, the European on-line platform for knowledge exchange between librarians, curators, archivists and the creative industry, Advisory Board Member of EUROCLIO project Sharing History – Cultural Dialogues, member of the Advisory Board of the Georg Eckert Institute in Braunschweig (Germany), Vice-President of the Steering Committee of the European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learning, EUCIS-LLL and member of the Advisory Board of the Institute for Historical Culture at the Rotterdam Erasmus University. Joke van der Leeuw is the author of publications by the Koeberstiftung, UNESCO and many international journals on history and history education. She has been decorated in 2009 as Officer in the Order of Oranje-Nassau and honored with the Huib de Ruyter Award for History Education. In 2010 she was finalist for a WISE award. She is Honorary Member of the Bulgarian, Estonian and Georgian History Educators Associations.

Mr. Cordeiro studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, USA, where he received his Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Master of Science (M.Sc.) degrees in Mechanical Engineering, with a minor in Economics and Languages. His thesis consisted of a dynamic modeling for NASA’s “Freedom” Space Station (the “International” Space Station of today). He later studied International Economics and Comparative Politics at Georgetown University in Washington, USA, and then obtained his Masters of Business Administration (MBA) at the Institut Européen d’Administration des Affaires (INSEAD) in Fontainebleau, France, where he majored in Finance and Globalization.

During his studies, Mr. Cordeiro worked with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Vienna, Austria and with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington, USA. He started his doctoral work at MIT, which he continued later in Tokyo, Japan, and finally received his PhD at Universidad Simón Bolívar (USB) in Caracas, Venezuela. He is a lifetime member of the Sigma Xi (Scientific Research) and Tau Beta Pi (Engineering) Honor Societies in North America, is also a honorary member of the Venezuelan Engineers College (CIV), and his name has been included in the Marquis Edition of Who’s Who in the World.
ALISTAIR MACDONALD-RADCLIFF
Director General: The World Dialogue Council

Canon Alistair Macdonald-Radcliff is Director General of the World Dialogue Council successor body to the Council of 100 Leaders’ West-Islamic Dialogue launched by the World Economic Forum. He is also Senior Advisor to KAICIID, The King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna. He was formerly Dean of All Saints’ Cathedral, Cairo and served as Adjunct Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington DC.

He was educated at the Universities of London and Oxford where he specialized in Philosophical Theology before becoming a Research Fellow at Yale where he also took a Degree with International Relations. He has undertaken extensive international work and served as special advisor to Lord Carey of Clifton, the 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury.

Penelope Denu is the Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes. She has worked at the Council of Europe since 1995. From 2003 to 2006 she was responsible for the Committee of Ministers’ Group of Rapporteurs on Social cohesion and for Information Policy Issues. From 2007 to 2009 she chaired the Council of Europe’s Staff Committee, representing staff at internal and international level. From 2009 to 2011, she was co-Secretary to the Parliamentary Assembly’s Committee on Culture, Science and Education, responsible for cultural heritage, youth and sport and the organisation of the Council of Europe Museum Prize.

In November 2011, she was appointed Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes and Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR), located at the Abbaye de Neumünster Cultural Centre in Luxembourg. Her role is to promote the Council of Europe’s cultural routes programme as well as countries’ accession to the partial agreement, and to ensure that new projects for cultural routes wishing to join the programme are provided with relevant information and assistance. She coordinates the joint action of the Council of Europe and the European Commission on cultural routes.
Prof. Mihneva is currently a member of the Board and President of SAVE Center Norske Hus, Bulgaria. She is also founder and executive director of the Bulgarian Heritage National Association.

From 2006 until 2011 she was an expert at Administration of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria responsible for relations with UNESCO, heritage preservation and youth activities. She has also been Head of the Department of History of the Black Sea region (1995 – 2001) at Varna Free University as well as member of the Academic Board of Varna Free University (1993 – 2001).

In the last decades Rumyana Mihneva has been a visiting scholar at German, Russian and Bulgarian universities. She presented numerous lectures in Bulgaria and abroad. She has published intensively on cultural heritage and tourism, heritage preservation, history.

Prof. Mihneva is born in 1949 in Varna, Bulgaria. She speaks French, English and Russian.

Donika Georgieva works as a chief assistant professor in the field of preservation of cultural heritage at the University of Architecture at History and Theory of Architecture department since 2005. Currently she is head of the Multimedia Laboratory of Cultural Heritage at the University, where she works since its establishment in 2005 and is actively involved in all projects. At present she is completing her PhD thesis on cultural routes in historic towns.

Donika Georgieva specialized in historic cities in Greece (2002), in the World Heritage Sites in the United States (2004) and in the Cultural Routes in Luxembourg (2005). She works in the field of preservation, conservation and restoration of cultural heritage sites and urban historic centers since 2003. She participated in the development of series of scientific projects and studies related to cultural heritage safeguarding and promotion, including specialised exhibitions and websites.

She is member of ICOMOS Bulgaria (being a member of the Managing board, 2005-2007 and Secretary General, 2008-2011), the Union of Architects in Bulgaria and the Chamber of Architects in Bulgaria.
Mr. Jonathan (Jian) Shen CEO of Shinework Media Producer of China Movie Channel – World Film Report Mr. Shen accumulated vast experience in China’s media & entertainment industry. He founded Shinework Media in 2000 and served as CEO to present. Mr. Shen is the senior producer of the program World Film Report for the China Movie Channel (CCTV-6), awarded Chinese Top 100 TV Producers in 2004, and was honored by “China Starlight” which is the highest China National TV Award. Mr. Shen has made great achievements in the areas of cultural communication as well as IT industry. He is actively engaged in strategic study and consultancy for multinational enterprises. He was invited as strategic advisor to Microsoft Greater China from 2001-2002; as senior consultant to the Royal Philips China from 2002-2004; and as senior advisor on China affairs to The Hong Kong Jockey Club from 2007-2008, and joined Silver Lake Partners as its special advisor from 2009-2011.

Halit Eren was born in 1953 in Gümülcine (Komotini, Greece). He graduated from the Faculty of Islamic Studies, Marmara University, Istanbul, in 1976. He received his Masters degree from the Institute of Social Sciences Department of History, Marmara University in 1989 and the Doctorate degree from the Institute of Turkic Studies in the same university in 1995. Dr. Eren was the founder and administrator of the Turkish-Islamic Association of England (1979-1981); Member of the Executive Board (1984-1994) and President (1992-1994) of the Central Office of the Solidarity Association of Western Thrace Turks, Istanbul; Secretary General of the Foundation for Research on Islamic History, Art and Culture (ISAR), Istanbul (1990- ); Member of the Executive Board and Second Chairman of the Cultural and Solidarity Foundation of East European Turks (2001- ); Advisor on Balkan Affairs to the Minister of State of the Republic of Turkey (1997). He has been holding down the position of Founding Chairman of the Center for Balkan Civilization (BALMED) since 2007; member of UNESCO International Coordination Committee for the Safeguarding of Iraqi Cultural Heritage (2011).
Professor Fadi Daou is Chairman and CEO of Adyan foundation where he is also the Scientific director of the Euro-Arab program: Leaders for interreligious understanding. He is a Professor of Interreligious dialogue and Geopolitics of religion at Kaslik University.

Pr. Daou is also the Coordinator of the interreligious and ecumenical relations at the Maronite Church, and a Consultant on Middle-Eastern issues and Christian-Muslim relations to many international organizations. He is the author and editor of a number of books and articles among which: Education on Coexistence in the framework of plural citizenship (2012), Divine hospitality: Christian and Muslim Theologies of the other, (co-author with Nayla Tabbara - 2011), Reconciling Ethics and Politics: The role of Theology (2008).

Mr. Klingenberg is an adult education expert focusing on the development of adult education and lifelong learning in the CIS and beyond. He holds a diploma of the University of Heidelberg in History and Political Sciences. In his professional career he tries to bring forward intercultural understanding and is fostering the understanding of oral history as a tool for reconciliation.

He is the author and editor of several publications at the intersection of history, research, education and reconciliation. Currently he heads the Regional Office of the German Adult Education Association (DVV international) in Tbilisi. He supervises the activities of the association in South Caucasus and Turkey. He is also one of the initiators of the History Bridges Network.
UNESCO

The United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO) was founded on 16 November 1945. UNESCO has 195 Members and eight Associate Members. It is governed by the General Conference and the Executive Board. The Secretariat, headed by the Director-General, implements the decisions of these two bodies. The Organization has more than 50 field offices around the world. Its headquarters are located at Place de Fontenoy in Paris, France, in an outstanding, Modernist building inaugurated in 1958 and recently renovated. UNWTO’s membership includes 155 countries, 6 Associate Members and over 400 Affiliate Members representing the private sector, educational institutions, tourism associations and local tourism authorities.

www.unesco.org

United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

The Alliance of Civilizations aims to improve understanding and cooperative relations among nations and peoples across cultures and religions. It also helps to counter the forces that fuel polarization and extremism. The United Nations Alliance of Civilization (UNAOC) was established in 2005, at the initiative of the Governments of Spain and Turkey, under the auspices of the United Nations. A High-level Group of experts was formed by former Secretary-General Kofi Annan to explore the roots of polarization between societies and cultures today, and to recommend a practical programme of action to address this issue. The Report of the High-level Group provided analysis and put forward practical recommendations that form the basis for the implementation plan of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations.

On 26 April 2007, former President of Portugal, Jorge Sampaio, was appointed as the High Representative for the UNAOC by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to lead the implementation phase of the Alliance.

The UNAOC Secretariat, which is based in New York, works with a global network of partners with States, international and regional organizations, civil society groups, foundations, and the private sector to improve cross-cultural relations between diverse nations and communities. It
also works at the grassroots level, promoting innovative projects that build trust, reconciliation and mutual respect. The Alliance works in four program areas to support such projects. These areas are: youth, media, education, and migration.
www.unaoc.org

United Nations World Tourism Organization
The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is the United Nations agency responsible for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism. As the leading international organization in the field of tourism, UNWTO promotes tourism as a driver of economic growth, inclusive development and environmental sustainability and offers leadership and support to the sector in advancing knowledge and tourism policies worldwide.
www.unwto.org

Council of Europe
The Council of Europe, based in Strasbourg (France), now covers virtually the entire European continent, with its 47 member countries. Founded on 5 May 1949 by 10 countries, the Council of Europe seeks to develop throughout Europe common and democratic principles based on the European Convention on Human Rights and other reference texts on the protection of individuals.
www.coe.int

ISESCO
Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization was established by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) in May 1979. ISESCO is one of the largest international Islamic organizations and specializes in the fields of education, science, and culture. Its headquarters are in Rabat, Morocco. According to the ISESCO website, its objectives include strengthening and promoting and consolidating cooperation among Member States (OIC) in the fields of education, science, culture and communication, developing applied sciences and use of advanced technology within the framework of Islamic values and ideals, consolidating understanding among Muslim peoples, and contributing to the achievement of world peace and security, particularly through education, science, culture and communication.
www.isesco.org.ma
Council of Europe
North-South Centre

The North-South Centre’s status in the Council of Europe, an intergovernmental organisation, is unique: it is run on the basis of a quadrilogue, a term coined to mean the combination of four partners from political institutions and civil society—governments, parliaments, local and regional authorities and NGOs. This system helps build bridges between players with different approaches, viewpoints and priorities, generating constructive synergies. All the partners in this four-way process take part in running the North-South Centre as members of its decision-making bodies. The Executive Council, which meets twice a year in spring and autumn, is made up of eight representatives of the member states, six NGO representatives, four local and regional authority representatives from the Congress of the Council of Europe, four parliamentarians, three leading personalities from the South, the representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the European Commission representative. The current President of the Executive Council is Ms. Deborah Bergamini.

www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/
Practical information

- The working languages of the Plenary Sessions are Azerbaijani, Arabic, English, French, and Russian.
- The parallel workshops will be in Azerbaijani, English, French and Russian languages.
- From May 29 to June 3 all expenses of the participants (meals, accommodation, transportation from and to the airport, and transportation in accordance with the official program) will be covered by the inviting side. Hotel extras (mini bars and phone calls) will not be covered.
- For the period of the Forum every hotel, which accommodates guests, will be equipped with a special information desk.

- Tours:
  After the end of the Forum on June 1-2 (for one night) excursions to the regions of Azerbaijan (Gabala-Sheki) will be organized for those, who confirmed participation before 20th of May.
  Please, note that participants will be back to Baku on June 2, evening. All expenses during excursions will be covered by the Forum organizers.

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http://www.mct.gov.az/

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan
http://www.mfa.gov.az/

State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan
http://www.migration.gov.az/
ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

“JW Marriott Hotel Absheron Baku”
Azadlig Square. 674, Baku, Azerbaijan, AZ 1010
Tel: (+994) 12 499 8888; Fax: (+994) 12 499 8889

“Hilton Baku”
Azadlig Ave. 1, Baku, Azerbaijan, AZ 1000
Tel: (+994) 12 464 5000 Fax: (+994) 12 464 5001

“Excelsior Hotel Baku”
Heydar Aliyev Ave. 2, Baku, Azerbaijan, AZ 1154
Tel: (+994) 12 496 8000 Fax: (+994) 12 496 8008
http://www.excelsiorhotelbaku.az/index2.php

“Park Inn by Radisson Baku”
Azadlig Ave. 1, Baku, Azerbaijan, AZ 1000
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http://www.parkinn.com/hotel-baku

“Four Seasons Hotel Baku”
Nafchilar Ave. 77/79, Baku, Azerbaijan, AZ 1095
Tel: (+994) 12 404 2424 Fax: (+994) 12 404 2425
http://www.fourseasons.com/baku/
INFO about AZERBAIJAN

CAPITAL: BAKU

LAND AREA: 33,436 SQ MI (86,600 SQ KM)

POPULATION (2012 EST.): 9,493,600 (GROWTH RATE: 1.02%)

OTHER LARGE CITIES - GANJA, 303,000; SUMGAIT, 280,500

MONETARY UNIT: MANAT

EXCHANGE RATE (APRIL 2013): 1 USD = 0.7847 AZN
1 EUR = 1.0188 AZN
Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan

World Forum Organizing Committee House of Government, AZ-1000

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