

PROGRAM

EACH PARTICIPANT IS AN ACTOR IN THE MARCH OF THE CONGRESS

A great number of personalities rarely have the opportunity to meet in an informal gathering, open to exchanges, joint activities, proposals and actions. Through this event, we hope to give men of religion, both Jewish and Muslim, a forum for building vital bridges of communication.

The first day will be dedicated to examining the principal new challenges for religious leaders in our contemporary societies. The second and third day will focus on the theme: *Imams and Rabbis for Peace*

A FORUM TO MEET, PROPOSE AND ACT

Unlike a great number of congresses this event will not be public. It will offer a congenial space for numerous formal and informal meetings and allow in depth work on issues related to the responsibility of religious leaders in general and representatives of Islam and Judaism in particular.

The sessions will mainly focus on conflict resolution as well as the promotion of education for peace.

The working method used will allow each participant to express himself. During workshop meetings, imams, rabbis and experts will be given the opportunity to propose or initiate actions and find partners to implement them. No one person alone can envisage solutions to all the problems raised; no one person alone can, with certainty, determine the right themes for discussion or the results to be achieved. But we can, over the course of these four days, encourage the forces of influence, knowledge and diversity to converge, and in this way unite the competence and energy of each and every Congress participant.

All the proposals will be summarized in a document used to define an action plan. A report and action plan will be delivered to all present at the end of the meeting.

**For it is the participants who are the real experts.
They hold the keys to the problems and their solutions.**

PROGRAM

OPENING CEREMONY

SUNDAY 19 MARCH

Three Cultures Foundation

18:00 Greetings to the press

19:00 – 21:30 Opening Ceremony

Welcome & Speeches:

- Mr Alfredo Sánchez Monteseirín, Mayor of Seville
- Mr Alain Michel, Founder of Hommes de Parole
- Mr André Azoulay, Delegated President of the Three Cultures Foundation, Counsellor to His Majesty Mohammed VI
- Mr Federico Mayor, Co-director of Alliance of Civilisations
- S.E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijiri, Director General of ISESCO
- Chief Rabbi Yona Metzger, Chief Rabbi of Israel
- Dr. Ahmad Taoufiq, Minister of Moroccan Habous and Religious Affairs
- Mr Manuel Chaves, President of the Autonomous Government of Andalusia

Field Common Work:

- Imam Imad Al Falouji, Imam of Gaza
- Chief Rabbi Michael Melchior, Chief Rabbi of Norway, Member of the Knesset

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MONDAY 20 MARCH (Alcora Hotel)

Contemporary Challenges for religious leaders (plenary sessions)

8:00 Breakfast

9:00 Introduction

- Video message of HM Prince Bin Talal of Jordan
- Chief Rabbi David Rosen, President of the IJCIC
- Message of Chief Rabbi Amar, Chief Rabbi Amar
- Dr. Israel Singer, Chairman of the World Jewish Congress
- Dr. Aly El Samman, President of the Committee for Dialogue in the High Islamic Council of Egypt
- Sheykh Sayed Mostafa Al-Qazwini, Imam of the Shia Community of Los Angeles

11:00 - 11:30 Break

11:30 - 13:00 First workshop session

Family and modernity

Facilitators: Father Patrick Desbois, Archbishop Boutros Moualem

13:00 - 16:00 Lunch

16:00 - 17:45 Presentation of 'Open Space'

20:30 Dinner

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TUESDAY 21 MARCH (Alcora Hotel)

Imams and Rabbis for Peace (Open Space Program)

Facilitator : Harrison Owen

8:00-9:00 Breakfast

9:00 Workshop announcements, further issues

9:30 Session I

11:00 Session II

13:00-15:00 Lunch

15:00-16:45 Session III

16:45 Break (prayers)

17:30-19:00 Close of Day I - Reflections - further issues (plenary session)

19:30 Press briefing

20:30 Dinner

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CLOSING CEREMONY

WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH

9:00 Introduction

9:15 Future Direction

10:00 Steering Committee: purpose and role

10:45 Break

11:15 Defining the message

13:00 Lunch

15:30 Closing Ceremony

Reading of the Final Statement

Presentation of the new Steering Committee for Jewish-Muslim Dialogue

18:00 Press Conference

20:00 Dinner

21:30 Concert

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DETAILS OF THE WORKSHOPS:

Monday 20 : **Contemporary Challenges for religious leaders**

Many things have changed in our societies since the time of biblical and koranical revelations. How do these principles still apply to our modern societies and how can they contribute to their organization? What are the roles and responsibilities of religious leaders?

This reflection will specifically focus on the following themes:

- *Family and modernity*
- *Technology and morality*
- *Tension between individualism and social responsibility*
- *Faith in secular societies*

Tuesday and Wednesday 20 & 21 March: Imams and Rabbis for Peace

Every participant will be completely free to propose any subject relative the main issue: Imams and Rabbis for Peace.

This can be in the form of general questions such as:

- *How can religious leaders contribute to peace in general and to the resolution of conflicts in particular?*
- *Which initiatives and actions can they undertake?*
- *What role and responsibility do they have in this matter?*

Or more specific questions such as:

- *What role can education play in peace processes?*
- *What role and responsibility do religious leaders have in education and knowledge?*

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About Open Space

Open Space Technology is a simple approach which enables groups of people (from 5 to 2000) to confront large, complex, and conflictual issues in a respectful and productive fashion. The approach was developed 20 years ago, and has subsequently been used in excess of 60,000 times in 120 countries.

The participants set the agenda upon arrival, so it is quite impossible to determine in advance what the specific results will be, or precisely how they will be achieved. However there are several iron clad promises which have always been kept in every Open Space.

- 1) Every single issue of concern to anybody will be placed upon the table, if they care to put it there.
- 2) All issues will be discussed to the extent that the people care to do so.
- 3) Written reports will be created capturing the high points and allowing for further discussion.
- 4) Actionable issues will be identified and plans made to carry them out.

If you are curious about how all this might work and feel go to:
http://openspaceworld.com/opening_space_for_peace.htm.

This is a brief report written by Harrison Owen, who originated the approach and will be the facilitator for our gathering.