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DIALOGUE
OF CIVILIZATIONS
endowment fund

Talking about the present, seeing the future

Press Kit



“Appeals to war will be met with appeals to compromise. Hatred will be met with tolerance. Violence will be met with resolve. A dialogue among civilizations is humanity’s best answer to humanity’s worst enemies. [...] If one doubted the need for a dialogue among civilizations, let them doubt no longer”

Kofi Annan, Former UN Secretary-General



“The twenty-first century world inherited a civilization built on blood, tears, and hunger. At its portal stood two gate-keepers — Destiny and Death. Destiny for those who controlled the levers of power and wealth and domination and death for others. If this century has to escape the consequences of differential destinies, there has to be an understanding of the cosmic reality of the interconnectedness of all phenomena. And that the creation of two separate paths and modes of existence for the benefit of a few, under threats of weapons of mass bankruptcy and acts of terrorism for others, will boomerang by many orders of magnitude”.

Jagdish Kapur (1920-2010),
World Public Forum Co-founder and co-chairman



“The current world financial crisis also starkly reminds us that many of the concepts that guided our sense of how the world and its affairs are best ordered, have suddenly been shown to be wanting.”

«If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.».

“No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.”

Nelson Mandela, the 8th President of South Africa,
anti-apartheid revolutionary, politician, and philanthropist

About the Foundation

The Endowment for the World Public Forum “Dialogue of Civilizations” (DofC) was registered in July 2013 in Geneva. The activity of the endowment aimed to support research in the study of political and social sciences, religion, and culture; develop communication between countries on political and economic matters; and seek compromise in cases of social unrest and international dispute. All donations are allocated to the development of The World Public Forum “Dialogue of Civilizations” programs.



Support and partners of
WPF “Dialogue of Civilizations”:



The World Public Forum “Dialogue of Civilizations” (WPF DoC) is a large-scale, international, European-based discussion platform as well as the World Economic Forum and World Social Forum, and has been active for over a decade. Currently, the activities of the WPF DoC are focused on the creation of a new multi-polar world picture; aimed at producing a vision for future development paths while considering actual socio-political situations. The organization enjoys United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Special Consultative Status since 2013 and is supported by the world’s leading NGOs dedicated to maintaining world peace and social structure.

Mission of Endowment for DofC

Ensure stable activity and development of the WPF through:

- Efficient fundraising and use of financial instruments
- Financial transparency
- Development of donors-relations

Mission of World Public Forum DoC

- **Dialogue** – Invite experts from around the world to engage in civil dialogue, coming together to discuss ways to better the world on a global scale in the most open and discourse-oriented way possible.
- **Responsibility** – Improve the social climate, quality of life, and general well-being of future generations; forming a sustainable model for civilization.
- **Prevention** – Identify civilization’s problems an effort to prevent global conflicts before they take place.
- **Resolution** – Search for solutions and assist in resolving the world’s most pressing existing crises, including military conflicts.
- **Prognosis** – Forecast possible models of human growth and development and search for the most efficient paradigms of the future.
- **Education** – Positively influence human values by establishing and supporting cross-cultural education programs and empowering intercultural development.



Over 600 people from more than 70 countries participate annually in the work of the WPF.



The WPF DoC has been holding the **Rhodes Forum** for over ten years. During this time, the Rhodes Forum has become an effective mechanism of public involvement in the decision-making process. The main working principle of the Rhodes Forum is fostering a multi-level system of relations based on dialogue, openness, freedom of speech, and mutual respect.

The main theme of the 12th Rhodes Forum is “Ending war, preventing war,” commemorating the 100th Anniversary of WWI. The theme is as relevant today as has ever in light of the numerous military conflicts raging in different parts of the world today. The 12th Rhodes Forum will pay tribute to the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi and the late WPF Co-Chairman and Co-Founder Jagdish Kapur by promoting the culture of non-violence, and the spirit of cooperation, peace, and justice.

Please visit the Rhodes Forum’s webpage at www.rhodesforum.org

Rhodes Forum and the Youth Time movement



Since 2010, the annual **Rhodes Youth Forum** is held immediately following the main session of the Rhodes Forum. During the Youth Forum, participants discuss various pressing issues and questions concerning everyday life, such as: “How do young people see their future? What differences exist in the worldviews of young people from different countries and regions of the world? What can be done to pave the way towards a better future?” The Youth Forum blazed a trail for the Youth Time International Movement, a non-commercial, non-governmental, non-political organization founded by representatives of young people from all over the world. The movement’s motto is “Doing everything and anything possible to better the future of the present and next generations.”

Please visit the Youth Time Movement’s webpage at www.youth-time.org

Forum's Programs for 2014



Expert Editorial Project and Scientific Research Center in Trento

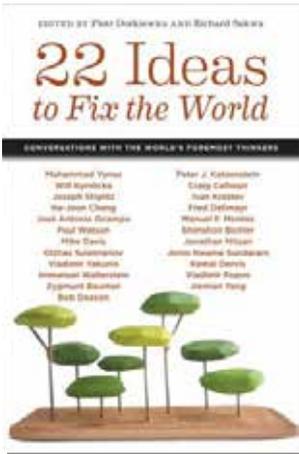
The Trento Project was launched in 2007 to unite the efforts of world-class scientists for the creation of a new concept of social development as an alternative to the existing neo-liberal model.

In 2011, WPF DoC published a series of books as part of the «Possible Scenarios of the Future» expert editorial project (Business as Usual, Deepening Crisis and Consequences: New Global Economic Conditions). These editions reveal the key «big ideas» that can explain the global changes in the political economy, social structure, ethics, and international law from a humanistic standpoint.

In 2014, the University of Trento, Italy, will launch a scientific research center under the WPF DoC. The work of the center will be focused on the development of an alternative world image by way of educational and scientific developments on the most pressing issues on the international agenda.

“22 Ideas to Fix the World”

The latest book of the Expert Editorial Project and Scientific Research Center in Trento “22 Ideas to Fix the World: Conversations with the World’s Foremost Thinkers” was released in September 2013. In this book, the best minds of our time reflect on how the so-called Great Recession will influence the traditional understanding of how countries can and should function. With the help of expert interviews turning into lively discussions, the book analyzes the geopolitical events of the past and offers forecasts for the future.



WPF Regional Conference: “Europe: Lost in Interpretation?”

An international conference for European and non-European NGO representatives, political leaders, economists, and experts in social sciences will convene with the purpose of strengthening the public vision of the future of Europe as a unique space for intercultural dialogue and coexistence. The conference is also devoted to a variety of problems that have been brought on by globalization of the world economy, finances, society, and the contemporary crisis of the Eurozone.

The Altai Forum: “Society, Human and Nature Development Within the Framework of the Dialogue of Civilizations”

The main objective of the Altai Forum is to form a new agenda of international cooperation regarding ecologically and spiritually oriented civilization. The Forum aspires to become a prominent and recurring platform of discussion on topics of ecological responsibility, the development of humanity in harmony with nature, and the role of spiritual and cultural aspects in relation to nature.



Forum-Related Events in China

Within the framework of goodwill cooperation with one of the three largest Chinese NGOs, “China Soong Ching Ling Foundation,” different events are being held in partnership throughout the year. In 2014, two youth camps were set up in China and Russia — the “Soong Ching Ling Camp” and the “EcoForum” on Lake Baikal, respectively. The theme of multicultural dialogue was brought to the center of attention at the First Chinese Forum, organized by the SCLF. In addition, a Chinese children’s art exhibition was organized at one of Russia’s museums as a joint effort of both organizations.



International schools of cross-cultural dialogue

In 2010, the WPF DoC started developing an international educational project entitled "School of Dialogue of Civilizations." The UNESCO Philosophy Department, "Philosophy in the Dialogue of Cultures," has been a project partner. The project is being implemented at several non-governmental educational institutions. The Schools of the Dialogue of Civilizations are aimed at developing a culture of tolerance and respect, as well as promotion of educational programs based on the historical traditions of multi-national states.

"Diaversity" — Long-term educational project

In 2013, the WPF DoC began implementing a pilot project, "Diaversity," where the basics of dialogue are studied for application in a polysemantic world. The project has been developed as a series of self-teaching dialogue practices that bring meaning to life.

International conference on Holy Mount Athos

In its work, WPF DoC places great emphasis on moral, religious, and value-based aspects, in an attempt to strengthen and develop them as a resource for overcoming both national and international tensions. As part of this activity and with the support of a number of European non-governmental organizations, an annual world public conference devoted to Mount Athos as a moral and spiritual resource in overcoming the deadlocks of globalization and secularization has been held since 2011. The conference participants discuss such topics as asceticism in public life, in interactions with the environment, and as a relevant practice for socially oriented programs.

The Online Community and Digital Portal of the Dialogue of Civilizations

The openness and accessibility of the Forum where WPF DoC conducts its activity makes it possible to represent the broadest range of opinions on social and economic issues and the problems of international relations in the online space. Forum participants are not limited by the rules of the protocol that cover the majority of interstate public projects of this nature, which makes it possible to quickly make comments and statements. All the participants have equal opportunity to express their opinions and suggestions regarding mechanisms for solving international problems.



Foundation's Board



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The Board of the Foundation was formed from a number of active Forum participants, who share its values and mission.

Most Board members also provide financial and organizational support to the Foundation.



Fred Dallmayr (USA)

Co-chairman of WPF «DoC» and Packey J. Dee Professor in the Departments of Philosophy and Political Science at the University of Notre Dame

Political theorist, specializing in modern European thought and cross-cultural philosophy.



Chandra MUZAFFAR (Malaysia)

President of the International Movement for a Just World (JUST)

Social activist, scholar, intellectual thinker and human rights militant. His research interests include dialogue between civilizations, religion, human rights, internal Malaysian political processes and international relations.



Vladimir YAKUNIN (Russia)

Co-founder of WPF «DoC»

Russian statesman and public figure, philanthropist, professor, head of Public Policy department at the School of Political Science at Moscow State University by Lomonosov.



Walter SHWIMMER (Austria)

Co-Chairman of WPF «DoC», Chairman of the Coordination Committee of the Forum

Former Austrian diplomat, politician and Secretary General of the Council of Europe. Consultant on international relations and European affairs.



Alfred GUZENBAUER (Austria)

Former Chancellor of Austria (2007-2008), politician, and social democrat leader.



Hans KOEHLER (Austria)

Founder and president of the International Progress Organization (IPO)

Professor of Political Philosophy and Philosophical Anthropology.



Piotr Dutkiewicz (Poland)

Professor of Political Sciences, specializing in the regional conflicts among the new EU members. His research interests are related to European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies.



Adrian PABST (UK)

Senior Lecturer at the School of Politics and International Relations, University of Kent; visiting professor at the Institute of Political Studies de Lille (Sciences Po). His teaching and research are at the interstice of political theory, political economy and European politics. He has also a strong interest in global geo-politics and in the complex links between religion, politics and economics.

«I warn against two threats, getting to collapse: «politization» of religion and «privatization» of religion».

Fred Dallmayr

«... Ukrainian events are not the only examples of such kinds of mass upheavals. The new world architecture should reflect how it is possible to get such massive outbreaks of discontent into a legal field.»

Piotr Dutkiewicz

“We seem to live in a post-European world. It is true that the US economic power and political authority have gone down in relative or even absolute terms, but the United States remain the sole military superpower and the largest economy by a long distance. By contrast, both Russia and the EU appear to be in decline geopolitically and geo-economically. They lack the demographic weight and innovation to compete with the US or China, and they’re not combining ‘hard’ with ‘soft’ power in ways that are sufficiently effective“

Adrian Pabst

“Why is Egypt bleeding? Because its security forces are re-asserting their power and authority and the Ikhwan-al-Muslimin (Muslim Brotherhood) is resisting”.

Chandra Muzaffar



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