



פורום ארגוני השלום הפלסטיני-ישראלי
منتدى مؤسسات السلام الفلسطينية-الاسرائيلية
Palestinian Israeli Peace NGO Forum

REGIONE
TOSCANA



April 2007

The Palestinian-Israeli Peace NGO Forum and the Region of Tuscany
are honored to invite you to a conference examining:

Europe's Role in the Resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict

Florence, June 10th to 13th, 2007

Palestinian and Israeli Peace NGOs play a major role in advancing peaceful relations – a role that has been highlighted as a result of the current stagnation at the governmental level. The international community, and in particular, the European community, acknowledges the necessity of the Peace NGOs' activities, and invests great efforts and resources in empowering these valuable civil society forces.

In order to strengthen European involvement and ensure the impact and sustainability of peacebuilding activities, there is a need to examine the current efforts undertaken by the European community together with Palestinian and Israeli civil society forces. The Region of Tuscany, a significant and committed partner and leading supporter of peace in the Middle East, has joined forces with the Peace NGO Forum to achieve this goal, through the upcoming conference, entitled "**Europe's Role in the Resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict**".

This gathering seeks to increase the international profile of Palestinian-Israeli peacebuilding activities; to strengthen the European community's partnership with civil society organizations, in order to expand European involvement in peacebuilding activities; and to amplify the call by Palestinian and Israeli civil society organizations to European governments and institutions, for a stronger political effort to revive the peace process between the respective governments.

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Participants will include representatives from member organizations of the Peace NGO Forum, together with delegates from European NGOs (of which some are active in the region), European governmental aid agencies, and officials from the EU and other European national and local governments.

The conference will tackle the issue of European involvement through five themes: (1) **Civil and Human Rights & Humanitarian Aid**; (2) **Political Advocacy & Activism**; (3) **Education, Culture & Youth**; (4) **Environment, Research and Academia**; and (5) **Media & Public Outreach**. Five working groups will be created accordingly.

Please respond to this email by May 1st to confirm your participation.

(Details required: name of organization, name of representative,
and preferred working group)

**We also invite you to recommend names of European NGOs that
should be invited to the conference.**

A tentative schedule follows, and further details will be forwarded in due course. Notices will also be posted on the website www.peacengo.org

Prof. Massimo Toschi
Minister of International
Cooperation and Reconciliation
Region of Tuscany

Dr. Riad Malki
Director General
Panorama Center
Co-chair, Peace NGO Forum

Dr. Ron Pundak
Director General
The Peres Center for Peace
Co-chair, Peace NGO Forum

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Preliminary Program

Sunday, June 10

Afternoon: Arrival at Florence

Monday, June 11th

Montecatini Terme

- 09.00-13.00 **Plenary - Welcome & Greetings**
Massimo D'Alema - Vice Prime Minister of Italy & Minister of Foreign Affairs
Massimo Toschi - Regional Minister for Peace, International Cooperation, Forgiveness and Reconciliation, Region of Tuscany
Dr. Riad Malki - Co-chair of the Palestinian-Israeli Peace NGO Forum and Director General of the Panorama Center
Dr. Ron Pundak - Co-chair of the Palestinian-Israeli Peace NGO Forum and Director General of the Peres Center for Peace
Introduction of the 5 working groups and objectives
- 13.00-14.00 Lunch Break
- 14.00-18.00 **Working groups sessions**

Tuesday, June 12th

Montecatini Terme

- 09.00-13.30 **Working groups sessions**
- 13.30-15.00 Lunch Break
- 15.00-18.00 **Presentation of Group Results**
Discussion & Recommendations

Wednesday June 13th

Palazzo Vecchio, Florence

- 9.30-10.00 Closing Address**
Romano Prodi *Prime Minister of Italy*
Angela Merkel *Chancellor of Germany and current EU Council Presidency (TBC)*
Claudio Martini *President, Region of Tuscany*
- Afternoon: Departure

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