

Hebrew University of Jerusalem



Religion for Peace Organization International



International Academy of Philosophy



The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute



Autonomous Province of Trento, Italy



Autonomous Province
of Trento (Italy)

In association with:

Gandhi Centre for Peace, Amman

Horizon Centre, Amman

UNESCO Chair for Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue, Haifa University

International Project of Culture of Peace



International Project of Culture of Peace

A Culture of Peace series of seminars and conferences, under the auspices of Religion for Peace Organization International and others, have been held since 1998 as follows:

First Conferences of Culture of Peace and project respect 1998-2001

In July 1998, a conference was held in Morocco, in cooperation with Robert Assaraf, distinguished businessman and public leader.

In February 1999, a conference was held in Jordan in cooperation with the Royal Center for Religious Studies, under the auspices of Crown Prince Hassan.

In March 1999, a conference was held in Egypt with the participation of several distinguished Muslim religious leaders.

The RPO held special events on holidays such as Ramadan, Christmas, the New Year and Hanukah for members of Muslim, Christian and Jewish communities.

First International Culture of Peace Gaflei 2001

In July 2001, conference was held in Gaflei, Liechtenstein, co-hosted by the International Academy for Philosophy, on the Foundation of Peace in Philosophy and Religion



Prof. Shimon Shetreet — President

The 2nd International Culture of Peace Conference September 2002

In September 2002 The Conference 2nd International Culture of Peace conference on the subject: "Foundations of Peace in Philosophy, Religion, Economy & Law" was held in Rhodes, Jerusalem and Aqaba in September 2002



From left: Prof. Josef Seifert, Ambassador Pietro Sambivatican Ambassador of Jerusalem, Prof. Shimon Shetreet, President Lorenzo Dellai

In November 2002, a seminar was held in Milano, Italy, in cooperation with University of Milan.

The Third International Culture of Peace Conference Trento 2004

In February 2004, a conference was held in Trento "Building Peace Respecting Identities", in association with Gandhi Center for Peace, Amman and Horizon Centre, Amman.

Jerusalem conference of Culture of Peace June 2004

Knesset Conference Jerusalem March 2005

In March 22nd 2005 a conference was held in the Knesset together with The Labour Party.



Knesset Conference Jerusalem

Casablanca Conference May 2005

In May 2005 a conference "Challenges of Peace Culture: Economic and Cultural Peace" will be held in Morocco, with participation of Moroccan public figures.

International Culture of Peace Project

Officers of the Culture of Peace Project

International Coordination Committee:

- HE Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Hebrew University of Jerusalem—President
- H.S.H. Prince Nikolaus von und zu Liechtenstein, IAP
- HRH Prince Hassan Bin Tallal
- HE President Lorenzo Dellai
- HE President Abdurrahman Wahid
- Cardinal Walter Kasper
- Prof. Josef Seifert, IAP
- Rabbi Prof. Naftali Rottenberg, Van Leer Institute
- Prof. Andrea Zanotti, Trento
- HE Edmond Israel, Asia-Europe Foundation
- HE Markus Buechel, RPO international
- Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh, Ghandi Centre for Peace, Amman
- Mr. Rateb Amro, Horizon Centre, Amman
- Prof. Marcel Storme, Ghent University, President of the World Association of Procedural Law
- Prof. Daniel Thuerer, University of Zurich
- Amb. Shmuel Hadas, IJCIR
- Prof. Burkhard Hess, University of Tuebingen
- Judge Mayer Gabay, President ICCI

International Distinguished Culture of Peace Awards

2002 Mrs. Lotte Schwarz

The Second International Culture of Peace Conference awarded Mrs. Lotte Schwarz the Culture of Peace Distinguished Award for her support of the coase of culture of peace and projects of helping the needy and the promotion of art and music as wel as humanitarian projects . The award was signed by H.E Lorenzo Dellai, H.E Markus Buechel, Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Prof. Josef Seifert and Prof. Rabbi Naftali Rothenberg.



Markus Buechel, RPO international
holding certificate of Appreciation
Presented to Mrs. Lotte Schwarz



Award Mrs. Lotte Schwarz

2003 HE Abdurrahman Wahid,

The International Culture of Peace Awards Committee decided to award the Distinguished Culture of Peace Award for 2003 to Abdurrahman Wahid, for his most significant contribution to the promotion of peace between civilizations, cultures and peoples in Asia and around the world. Ms. Yenny Wahid accepted the award on behalf of her father, H.E. Abdurrahman Wahid.



Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh, Prof. Josef Seifert, Prof. Shimon Shetreet,
Mrs. Yenny Zannuba Wahid

The committee decided to give the Distinguished Culture of Peace Award 2004 to H.E. Shimon Peres for his outstanding contribution to the promotion of peace in the Middle East in challenging times and for showing new directions of peace in the world. On a special ceremony the award was given to H.E. Shimon Peres, represented by Prof. Ya'akov Bar Siman Tov, .The award was presented to him by a delegation in his office in Tel Aviv.



From left: Mr. Shimon Peres, Mr Haim Avraham
Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Rabbi Prof. Naftali Rottenberg,
Prof. Aviva Doron



Ceremony awarding Mr. Shimon Peres in his chambers
Rabbi Prof. Naftali Rottenberg, Prof. Shimon Shetreet,
Mr. Haim Avraham

Culture of Peace Conferences Proceedings and Conclusions

First International Culture of Peace Conference Gaflei 2001

The Foundations of Peace in the World Today

International academy of Philosophy

Religion for Peace Organization



From left: Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Queen Fabiola, Rabbi Prof. Naftali Rottenberg

Proceedings

The world today needs what international scholars have called "**a culture of peace**". But peace cannot be the business of diplomats only. Peace has to take its stand on a broader foundation. Every person should have a part to play. And religious organisations, the sciences, and the media have the special task of promoting a culture of peace.

Every one needs to work at a culture of peace; no one can remain a by-stander. A **continuous learning process** is necessary. What creates culture is not the juxtaposition of different kinds of knowledge. What creates a culture of peace is understanding the connections among the different kinds of knowledge, and achieving a grasp of what is essential.

The essence of a culture of peace is not just tolerance. Rather, the essence of a culture of peace is **mutual respect** for one another.

The three Arabic religious communities -- Judaism, Islam, and Christianity -- are the messengers of a culture of peace today. And philosophy also, in the measure that it deals with things as they are, can prove to be of great service to religious communities in a secular world, promoting the dignity of and the respect for the human person and dialogue.

Since the time of the Greek philosophers, philosophical thinking and the principles of philosophy have strongly marked the understanding of human rights. **The practices of philosophy** can help provide and foster a constructive basis for the creation of peace among individuals, peace among nations, and the inner peace of human beings. Besides the contributions of philosophy, the contributions of science to this colloquium were also essential in enabling these dialogues and conversations to bear fruit.

A culture of peace is **a common task**, one to be shared among individual persons, media persons, scientists, and the religious communities.

The participants in the International Colloquium on The Foundations of Peace in the World Today, especially the representatives of the three Arabic religions and of philosophy, have decided **to continue their Colloquium**. They plan to broaden the circle of both direct and indirect participation through the various media. They also have in view the founding of a World Peace Center.

Dr. H. Deßloch

Generalsekretär i.E.

Gaflei, July, 5, 2001

The International Academy for Philosophy
in the Principality of Liechtenstein



Mr. Rateb Amro, H.S.H. Princess Marie Anglae

**Second International Culture of Peace Conference
Rhodes Jerusalem Aqaba 2002**

**Culture of Peace:
Foundations of Peace in Philosophy, Religion, Economy and Law**

**Hebrew University of Jerusalem
International Academy of Philosophy
Religion for Peace Organization
The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute
Autonomous Province of Trento, Italy**

In association with:
**Gandhi Centre for Peace, Amman
Horizon Centre, Amman
UNESCO Chair for Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue, Haifa University**

Rhodes, Greece
Jerusalem, Israel
Eilat, Israel and Aqaba, Jordan

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION
Prof. Shimon Shetreet and Prof. Josef Seifert
Co-chairmen**

Symbols of Rhodes, Jerusalem and Aqaba

This second conference of Culture of Peace followed the first conference at the campus of the International Academy of Philosophy in the Principality of Liechtenstein. The first conference on the Foundations of Peace Today focused on the contribution of the 3 Abrahamic religions, and of philosophy to a Culture of Peace. It was held from 2-7th July 2001, only two months before the 11th September.

This second conference, to foster a Culture of Peace, took place in three parts of the Eastern Mediterranean region. Our meeting in Rhodes referred to the Culture of the Greeks and the Romans that generated a high civilization. Rhodes today represents in our context the European Union.

Jerusalem, in the Holy Land is a Holy City for Muslims, Christians and Jews. Aqaba is in the triangle where Israel, Egypt and Jordan meet. These 3 places represent the universality of the Culture of Peace we are heading for.

We are honoured to conclude this conference in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Hassan bin Talal in Aqaba.

Proceedings

The conference was opened by greeting by Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Prof. Josef Seifert, Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh, Sheikh Muwafak Tarif, and Rabbi Naftali Rothenberg.

Prof. Shimon Shetreet, co-chair of the Culture of Peace Conference, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Senior Vice Mayor of Jerusalem, President of the Religions for Peace Organization emphasized four foundations of peace: political and security peace, economic peace, cultural peace, and religious peace.

Prof. Josef Seifert, Rector of the International Academy of Philosophy, spoke on the "Foundations of Peace in Philosophy". The IAP focuses its work on realistic philosophy which does not only see man in his full dignity as an image of god, but also proves the existence of the Almighty, The Merciful and The Compassionate within the framework of reason.

Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh, President of the Gandhi Centre for Peace, Amman emphasized the importance of gathering in these important times in the middle east and particularly following the September 11 attack on the Twin Towers.

Sheikh Muwafak Tarif, Spiritual Leader of the Druze Community in Israel emphasized the importance of spiritual and religious leaders in the promotion of peace in crisis time and in periods of violence.

Rabbi Naftali Rothenberg discussed the importance of leadership in the promotion of peace.

Rhodes Sessions

The Rhodes sessions discussed the Multiple aspects of the Culture of Peace and other topics.

Speakers of the conference included Prof. Aviva Doron, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Intercultural and inter-religious Dialogue, Mr. Edmond Israel, Governor for Luxembourg of the Asia-Europe Foundation, Prof. Yaakov Bar Siman Tov of the Conflict Resolution Center of Hebrew University in Jerusalem, as well Mr. Eli Ben Tovim, Member of the Board of the Religions for Peace Organization.

There were presentations made by Prof. Sam Estreicher, New York Law School, His Excellency Markus Buechel, Head of Government of Principality of Liechtenstein, His Excellency Vladimir Petrovsky, Former Undersecretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Amiram Bogot, Associations Registrar of the Israeli Government, and Dr. Haim Ayalon, Chairman of the AMAL School Network.

There were also speeches on religion and peace given Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh, Gandhi Centre for Peace in Amman, Prof. George Kanazi, Chairholder in Arabic Literature and Language, Haifa University, and Kadi Naiem Heno of the Druze Community. Mr. Rateb Amro spoke of the unique customs of the Bedouin Community, and Mr. Atef Odibat analysed the concept of Human security.



Rhodes Sessions



From left: HE Markus Buechel, Dr. Haim Elon, Mr. Eli Ben Tovim

Jerusalem Sessions

The Jerusalem sessions focused on Contemporary Challenges of the Culture of Peace. It was chaired by Prof. Israel Gilad, Dean of the Faculty of Law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and took place in the prestigious Van Leer Jerusalem Institute. Opening comments were made by Rabbi Michael Melchior, Deputy Foreign Minister of Israel, as well as Rabbi Naftali Rothenberg, Chair of the Jewish Thought Program at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute.



Speaking: Rabbi Prof. Naftali Rottenberg
Sitting: Litchev De Toro, Vladimi Petrovski –
vice president of UN, President Lorenzo Dellai, Prof. Shimon
Shetreet, Mr. Rateb Amro
Academy



President Lorenzo Dellai

Hope for a culture of Peace was generated by the Chief Rabbi of Haifa Shear Yashuv Cohen who spoke on Vatican-Israel Relations from a Jewish Perspective.

A possible framework for a culture of peace was designed by Judge Mayer Gabay, President on the United Nation Administrative Council, and Prof. Mordechai Alfredo Rabello of Hebrew University who spoke on Religious tolerance towards the Jews in the Roman Empire.



Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Mr. Tedy Colek, Litchev De Toro



President Lorenzo Dellai, Prof. Shimon Shetreet

In this session on "Removing the Barrier to the Culture of Peace", Mr. Petrovsky pointed out that we are all living in a period of change of paradigms. Mr. Rateb Amro put forward the goals of the Palestinians, while Prof. Yaakov Bar Siman Tov analyzed the different aspects of the breakdown of the Oslo peace process not without giving perspectives for a new start, referring to the ripeness of both sides of the current conflict for peace.

Hope again was underlined by a courageous young lady, Letizia De Torre, from the Autonomous Province of Trento, which will organize the third conference on the Culture of Peace to be held in September 2003.



Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Mr. Tedi Colek



Mr. Shear Yashuv Cohen, Mr. Tedi Colek



Mr. Tedi Colek, Prof. Shimon Shetreet
Academy for Jerusalem



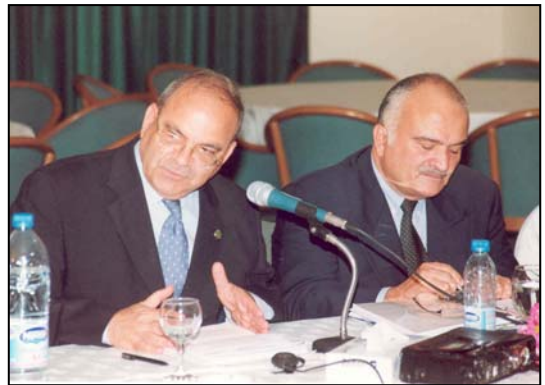
Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Bisop Anba Avraham

Aqaba Sessions

The concluding part of the conference held this morning in Aqaba is very encouraging. It completes a cycle from the European Union, with its roots in the Roman and Greek sources illustrated in Rhodes via Israel to the Arab world. We thank deeply Mr. Rateb Amro and Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh for their courage, for their moderation, and for the inspiring words we heard when they were presenting their papers in Rhodes and Jerusalem. Here in Aqaba we have found a corner stone of the Culture of Peace, His Royal Highness Prince Al-Hassan, the guest of honour in this conference.



From left: Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Prof. Prince Al-Hassan, Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh



Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Prince Hassan Bin Tallal

This morning a number of papers were presented by: Prof. Josef Seifert, Prof. Mariano Crespo, H.E Vladimir Petrovski, Prof. Shimon Shetreet and Sheikh Muwafak Tarif.



From right: Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh , Prince Hassan Bin Tallal, Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Sheikh Muwafak Tarif, H.E Vladimir Petrovski



From left: Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh , Prince Hassan Bin Tallal



Participants Akaba reunion with Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Prince Hassan Bin Tallal



Conclusions and points of emphasis

Out of the debates and discussions the following points emerged:

1. Peace in the world, including in regions like the Middle East has to be based on the Culture of Peace which is based on the four foundations: political peace which has to provide security and the rule of law, economic peace which has to provide social justice and hope, cultural peace which has to provide cooperation and trust, and religious peace which consists of mutual respect.
2. We were encouraged by the initiative of Prince Hassan bin Talal and John Marks published on 29th August in the Herald Tribune. Their initiative to put the moderates in the United States and the Muslim world together as “partners in humanity” was encouraging for our conference, as it came to our knowledge the day of its beginning.
3. Culture of Peace is made up of cultural and religious peace. We are in a process which gives hope but needs all of our energies. We must stop the misuse of religion which discredits religion in the view of non-religious people and politicians. Each of the 3 big monotheistic religions are heading for peace in subtle theological statements as expressed by Prof. Faisal Al Rfouh and Rabbi Naftali Rothenberg, as well as His Excellency Archbishop Pietro Sambini, Ambassador of the Holy See in Jerusalem who received the members of this congress on Monday evening in Jerusalem.
4. This second conference of the Culture of Peace supports the Alexandria Declaration of the Religious Leaders of the Holy Land signed in January 2002 by Archbishop of Canterbury, The Chief Rabbi of Israel Rabbi Bakshi Doron, and Sheikh Tantawi and other religious leaders, especially the condemnation of the

killing in the name of god. in order to work for an end to violence and resumption of the peace process in The Holy Land.

5. The conference joins the religious leaders illustrated by the Alexandria Declaration in order to respect the sanctity of the Holy Land and to prevent it from bloodshed, to estimate the grace given by the creator to be citizens in this Holy Land, to work for a just, secure and durable solution in the spirits of the world of the Almighty and the Prophets, to strive for an end of violence, to create an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust. In other words: a Culture of Peace.
6. The participants of the conference expressed their commitment to promote Culture of Peace. We the participants have to bring these visions to the people by good personal example, by supporting local and regional NGO's, by informing the media, by initiating literature, and by encouraging philosophers and religious leaders.
7. The Culture of Peace International Coordination Committee approved to accept the offer of H.E President Lorenzo Dellai of the Autonomous Province of Trento to hold the next annual conference in Trento, in September 2003.
8. The Culture of Peace Conference awarded Mrs. Lotte Schwarz the Culture of Peace Distinguished Award signed by H.E Lorenzo Dellai, H.E Markus Buechel, Prof. Shimon Shetreet, Prof. Josef Seifert and Prof. Rabbi Naftali Rothenberg.

**3rd International Culture of Peace Conference
Trento 2004**

Building Peace Respecting Identities

Autonomous Province of Trento, Italy

**In cooperation with
International Culture of Peace Project
And**

**Religion for Peace Organization
Hebrew University of Jerusalem International Academy of Philosophy
The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute**

And In association with:

Gandhi Centre for Peace, Amman

Horizon Centre, Amman

UNESCO Chair for Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue, Haifa
University

**3rd International Culture of Peace Conference
Building Peace Respecting Identities**

February 25th and February 26th 2004
Trento, The Autonomous Province of Trento

**Under the Auspices of
H.E. President Lorenzo Dellai,
President of the Autonomous Province of Trento**

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Prof. Simon Shetreet and Prof. Andrea Zanotti

Co- Chairmen

La Provincia Autonoma di Trento, a symbol of peace

This third conference of Culture of Peace, held 25th - 26th February 2004 in the Palace of the Autonomous Province of Trento followed the second conference in Rhodes, Jerusalem and Aqaba (28 August - 4 September 2002) and the first conference in Gaflei in the Principality of Liechtenstein (2 - 7 July 2001).

"Building Peace, Respecting Identities" the theme of the conference in Trento was developed from our deliberations on the contribution to peace of the three Abrahamic Religion (in the 1st Conference) and the Foundation of Peace in Philosophy, Religion, Economy and Law (in the 2nd conference). The third conference came about at a time when new ideas and new efforts in the political life of the Middle East and other parts of the world in order to start the peace process again.

H.E. President Lorenzo Dellai opened the Third International Culture of Peace Conference in the Parliament of the Province. He underlined the necessity for new initiatives in order to bring about peace. Europe today is able to show the way having successfully organized peace by a policy of European integration. This was the background to consolidate peace within the Autonomous Province of Trento and its ethnically different population.

H.E. Shimon Peres, Peace Nobel Prize Laureate, sent a videotaped message to the Conference. H.E. Abdurrahman Wahid, former President of Indonesia, was personally represented by his daughter, Ms. Yenny Zannuba Wahid. Ms. Yenny Wahid emphasized the importance of dialogue between civilizations, particularly between Islam and the Western Countries.



From right: Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh, Prof. Simon Shetreet
President Lorenzo Dellai, Mrs. Yenny Zannuba Wahid

It is the upcoming young generation, strongly present at this third Culture of Peace Conference who is advocating few new steps to bring about peace in the Middle East and in the world in which they are going to organize their lives.

H.E. Prof. Simon Shetreet, co-chair of the Third International Culture of Peace Conference, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, former Minister of Economy of the State of Israel and former Senior Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem emphasized the history of the Culture of Peace Project and the reasons why Trento was chosen to host the Third International Culture of Peace Conference. Trento symbolizes the successful efforts to bring about peace under difficult ethnic circumstances. Prof. Shetreet mentioned impressively the terror attack in the beginning of the same week in Jerusalem which killed 8 people and wounded 30 others gravely.

Europe now has to play an important role to get peace on the agenda again, based on politics, economy, culture and religion. Prof. Shetreet called upon President Dellai to be the agent of the conference to promote the idea of adding Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority within the concept of Wider Europe of the European Union.

Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh, former Minister of Culture of the Kingdom of Jordan referred to the peace-agreement between the State of Israel and the Kingdom of Jordan with unchanged support in the population of both states. Of course there is a need to take into account the root of the conflict but dynamic politics has to develop the crisis into legal patterns by not ignoring even nowadays operative problems.



Speaking: Prof. Shimon Shetreet

Proceedings

This Third International Culture of Peace Conference "Building Peace, Respecting Identities" worked on two main issues:

- the Foundation of Culture of Peace having discussed the matter in 5 sessions,
 - * Theoretical Aspect of Peace
 - * Peace in Europe
 - * Building a Culture of Peace: The Realization of Economic Peace between Jordan and Israel
 - * Peace and Social Responsibility

and

- Putting Peace on the Public Agenda meeting
 - * Contemporary Challenges of the Culture of Peace

Every session was a meeting of European, Israeli and Arab speakers under the chairmanship of

- Prof. Andrea Zanotti, Co-Chair of the Conference, University of Bologna
- Prof. Roberto Toniatti, Dean Faculty of Law, University of Trento
- Mrs. Iva Berasi, Minister for Equal Opportunities and International Solidarity, Autonomous Province of Trento
- Mrs. Letizia de Torre, City of Trento Council member
- H.E. Marcus Büchel, Vice President, Religion for Peace Organization, Former Prime Minister of Liechtenstein.



International Project of Culture of Peace

**The Hebrew University
Religion for Peace Organization**

**International Academy of Philosophy
Ghandi center of Peace**

**Culture of Peace Seminar - Casablanca
15-24 May 2005**

**The Challenges of Culture of Peace:
Economic & Cultural Peace**

Distinguished leaders and performers took part in the conference include Mr. Andre Azoulay, advise to his majesty king Muhamad VI.

Also took part –

- Mr. Serge Berdugo, President of the Jewish Community in Morocco.
- Mr. Robert Asaraf – Chairman of the World Association of Moroccan Jewry.
- Prof. Shimon shetreet, President of the International Culture of Peace Project and President of Religion for Peace Organization, Professor of law , The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- Prof. Josef Seifert, Rector International Academy of Philosophy.
- Dr. Werner Taberlli, Austrian Consul General in Lichtenshtien.
- Prof. Mohamad Rekab, University of Tetuan.
- Prof. Izhak Hadari, Tel-Aviv University.
- Prof. Gideon Doron, Tel Aviv University, President of Israel Society Political Science.
- Mohamed Akalay, University of Tanger.
- Dr. Cheikh Gueye International Academy of Philosophy Reflections on Philosophy of Peace.

Conclusions and Points of Emphasis

1. Peace, like every strong building, must have foundations and pillars and walls to support it. Peace must be built on four foundations: political peace, economic peace, cultural peace and religious peace.
2. The leaders of the cities and regions of Europe should play a role in placing greater focus on the cultural and religious aspect of peace. Trento set standards in this field of Citizens of Trento united in a project association to bring peace to the city of Prijedor in Bosnia devastated by ethnical cleansing and bombing. Four years of co-operation re-established normal life there.
3. Following the comments by Ms. Yenny Wahid, representing H.E. Abdurrahman Wahid, on the importance of dialogue between civilizations, the conference emphasized the great significance of dialogue between the mainstream Islam, which respects Culture of Peace and is not involved in any conflicts, as represented by H.E. Abdurrahman Wahid, former President of Indonesia. The Islamic population in Indonesia, Malaysia and India constitute a majority of the Muslim population in the world, and the Western world must pay special attention to the dialogue with these important groups.
4. Political leaders in the Middle East more and more recognize that the European Union is an outstanding example of a culture of peace. At the beginning the EU, 50 years ago, started the process of Franco-German reconciliation, nowadays a sustainable alliance within the EU. The German and the European reunification were worked out within the framework of the European Union.
5. It is important that the EU applies the Wider Europe Concept to the Middle East.
6. There was discussion during the conference that the State of Israel and the Palestinian Authority should apply for membership status in the European Union. Other ideas were that Middle Eastern countries should initiate a Union in the Middle East according to the model of the EU.
For the moment, diplomatic, cultural support of Europe is needed to try to promote the roadmap to peace in the Middle East.
7. Peace must bring practical projects that will improve the daily life of the residents. The challenge of economic co-operation in the Middle East is a major one. Qualifying Industrial Zones operating under agreement between Israel US and Jordan have proved great success. They generate with Israeli co-operation 10% of the Jordanian GNP. Export to the US in the amount of over \$ 550 Million which in the past year. In the last 5 years this has amounted to approximately \$ 1.5 Billion. In this context the culture of peace is an important tool in order to build confidence, justice, and common goals. Europe can do much to bring this about.

8. It is important that the successful model of the Qualifying Industrial Zones will be copied to other countries, such as Egypt, and also be applied to Israel, the EU and other countries as well.
9. Islam itself is a peaceful religion. Sheikl Al Azhar, Dr. Tantawi of Egypt who holds the highest religious office in Islam, has stressed many times that Islam does not condone violence and condemns taking of the life of innocent people. The Alexandria Declaration of religious leaders of Moslems, Christian and Jewish faith requires the building of religious peace. This declaration adopted on 22 the January 2002 - reiterated recently - condemns the Killing in the name of God.
10. At this conference in Trento Arab speakers confirmed this attitude and belief without hiding any of their interest or observation to western politics and culture. Prof. Mohamed Sabila, University of Rabat (Marocco) called for co-operation of philosophers in order to assess tendencies in cultural life which is offensive and humiliating for Muslim culture. Prof. Faisal O. Al-Rfouh gave an overview on this during the social events of this conference in Trento sons and daughters of Abraham gave impressively testimony of their deep rooted brotherhood.
11. A most impressive demonstration of Culture of Peace was given by two representatives of the Young Israeli Forum for Co-operation, Mr. Hilik Bar and Mr. Dan Dubiner.
They presented the story of a young soldier (lieutenant) in Israel during his term of service as a soldier in the North of Israel. This young man, Udi, was born the same day as Ismael a young Lebanese. The story, written by Udi, tells the parallel lives of Udi and Ismael from childhood through to their military service, Udi in the Israel Defence Force and Ismael with Hizbullah in the South of Lebanon. Udi and Ismael come to represent through their character and their actions, the sensitive balance of self-identity and respect for "the other", despite the world of difference between them. – This story as a book "Achi Ismael" (my brother Ismael) was published recently in Israel and will come to the movies in 2005.
The young Israeli Forum for Co-operation (YIFC) was formed in 2003 in a conference where delegates from Israel, Palestine and Europe met for a week in Hamburg (Germany). They will promote media campaigns, education and pragmatic steps in an effort to achieve peace.
12. Prof. Quaglioni gave an important presentation on "The Law as a Guarantee against Abuse of Power. A Review of the Simonino Case", in which he used the Simonino Case to illustrate that law and power can me misused, in this case to fuel Anti-Semitism. Dr. Steinhaus delivered a paper on "Meeting the challenge of Anti-Semitism in the Building of the Culture of Peace", in which he discussed the links between Anti-Semitism, Peace and Religion. Prof. Autiero presented his paper "On Remembrance: The Challenge of Remembering the Holocaust". Prof. Raphael Israeli discussed the issue from a slightly different perspective when he presented his paper on "Violence and the New Antisemitism".
13. Discussing a more theoretical side of the Culture of peace, Prof. Seifert presented a paper on "The Idea of a Culture of Peace". H.E. Prof Shimon Shetreet presented a paper on "Culture of Peace and the Process of Constitutionalization: The Cases of the United Kingdom, Israel and Canada. Prof. Ya'akov Bar-Siman Tov

presented his paper on "Stabilization of Peace after the Resolution of a Dispute. Prof Aviva Doron added her perspective by presenting a paper on "Advancement of Peace from a Perspective of Intercultural Dialogue. Dr. Daniel Attas gave a presentation of "Facilitating Trust". Prof. Yitzhak Hadari presented his paper on "Globalization, Law and Peace". Dr. Judith Banki presented a paper on "The Contribution of Interreligious Dialogue to Peace". Prof. Maimon Schwarzchild presented a paper on "Human Rights, Peace and International Law: Harmony and Inconsistency".



Around the table sitting:
 Second from right Rafi Israeli
 Chairman- Prof. Josef Seifert
 Third form left- Prof. Yaakov Bar Siman Tov

14. Dr. Dessloch discussed Culture of Peace through in a European context by presenting his paper on "Efforts Towards Peace in the Last 50 Years of the Birth of the European Community. Mrs. Annalisa Tomasi added her paper on "The Role of the Local Authorities in the Current Peace Process in the Balkans". Prof. Czeslaw Porebski presented a paper on "The Role of the Peaceful Revolution of Solidarity: Poland within a Reunited Europe".
15. A session was dedicated to "Building Cultural Peace: The Realization of Economic Peace between Jordan and Israel". In it, Mr. Gavriel Bar discussed the Qualifying Industrial Zone mentioned above when he presented his paper on "Implementation of Economic Peace between Jordan and Israel: The Success Story of the Qualifying Industrial Zone". Mr. Yishay Sorek presented a paper on "The Fruits of Peace: Economic Benefits of the Peace between Israel and Jordan – Increasing Exports". H.E. Dr. Ovadia Soffer added a diplomatic perspective to the session by presenting his paper on "The Role of Diplomacy in Peace Making". Lastly, H.E. Prof. Faisal Al-Rfouh delivered his paper on "Globalization and Culture of Peace: The Case of the Middle East". As Comments, Prof. Eliezer Glaubach Gal discussed "Cooperation Between People to People, Mr. Rateb Amro talked about "Palestinian Refugees in Jordan", while Mr. Shlomo Shetreet commented on "Peace and Agricultural Development".
16. Other various aspects of Culture of Peace were discussed. H.E. Vladimir Petrovski presented a paper on "The Contribution of the U.N. to the Culture of Peace". Mr.

Jared Ganser presented a paper on "The Role of NGOs in the Promotion of Culture of Peace". Dr. Ilaria Pedrini talked about "The Work of the Focolari for Peace". Mr. Uziel Hazan commented on "Culture of Peace and Literature". Dr. Cheikh Gueye presented a paper on "Overcoming Prejudices as Condition of a Cultural Roadmap for Peace". Dr. Hamid Lechhab presented his paper on "Efforts towards Peace and Dialogue of Civilizations in Morocco and the Islamic World Today".

17. The International Culture of Peace Awards Committee decided to award the Distinguished Culture of Peace Award for 2003 to Abdurrahman Wahid, for his most significant contribution to the promotion of peace between civilizations, cultures and peoples in Asia and around the world. The committee decided to give the Distinguished Culture of Peace Award 2004 to H.E. Shimon Peres for his outstanding contribution to the promotion of peace in the Middle East in challenging times and for showing new directions of peace in the world. On a special ceremony the award was given to H.E. Shimon Peres, represented by Prof. Ya'akov Bar Siman Tov, while Ms. Yenny Wahid accepted the award on behalf of her father, H.E. Abdurrahman Wahid.



Mr. Shimon Peres, Prof. Shimon Shetreet with additional friends in culture delegation for peace in Trento



Mr. Mahadi Abed Alhahi, Prof. Shimon Shetreet Israeli Palestinian reunion

Religion for Peace Organization

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