

Toledo, 17-18 December 2007

Hotel Eurostars Toledo

Paseo de S. Eugenio s/n

Sponsored by:



Castilla-La Mancha



Excmo. Ayuntamiento de Toledo

Since the end of the civil war in Lebanon from 1975-1989, the country entered a period of reconstruction led by the late Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri. The success was however limited since reconciliation between different Lebanese communities did not materialize thus leading to an asymmetric distribution of power.

This balance, based on a confessional system, has been seriously altered by subsequent circumstances, though the long history of coexistence in a multicultural and dynamic society points towards a possible process of reconciliation from and for civil society, which is necessary to impulse the construction of peace in Lebanon.

Within this framework, the Toledo International Center for Peace (CITpax), in accordance with its core mission to contribute to conflict resolution and peace-building, considered as opportune this workshop, entitled: "**Exploring Strategies for Reconciliation in Lebanon: Dealing with the Past. Building the Future**". This workshop includes representatives from the different Lebanese communities (Christians, Sunnis, Shia, and Druze), as well as members of civil society, academics, business men, members of parliament, and journalists.

This workshop offers a platform to facilitate dialogue and to promote basic values, concepts and practical options, to enhance the process of reconciliation and mutual understanding in the civil society of Lebanon. The consequences of the Taif Accord (1989), the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the situation of the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, the Hariri tribunal and socio-economic challenges, among other issues, will also be discussed during the workshop.

Moreover, the workshop will dedicate an entire session to the role of Spain in Lebanon and its peace-keeping presence in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). Spanish experts in issues of the Middle East will participate in this session and will debate the role of Spain and its collaboration in conflict reconciliation and the process of consolidating a democratic state based on a sustainable and balanced social and economic structure.

Monday, 17 December 2007

9:30-9:45: Welcoming Remarks.

Emilio Cassinello, Director General of Toledo International Center for Peace (CITpax).

Fernando Lamata, Vice- President of Junta de Castilla- La Mancha.

9:45 – 11:30: First Session (Part I) “*Reconciliation in Lebanon: Implementing the Taif Accords or Creating a New Power sharing Agreement?*”)

Moderator: George Irani, Director of Africa and Middle East Programme, Toledo International Center for Peace (CITpax).

Speakers:

Farid el Khazen: Member of Lebanese Parliament; Professor of Political Science at the American University of Beirut.

Samir Franjeh: Member of the Lebanese Parliament.

Ali Fayad: Director General of the Consultative Center for Studies and Documentation

Abbas el- Halabi: President of the Arab Group for Christian-Muslim Dialogue, a Former Supreme Court judge.

Salwa Baassiri: Secretary General, Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO in Lebanon.

11:30 – 11:45: Coffee Break

11:45 – 13:30: First Session (Part II). “Comments and Debate”:

Topics:

- **The Taif Accords: Are they still a viable document?**
- **Can the Lebanese agree on a new power sharing agreement?**
- **What is the impact of external influences?**

13:30 – 15:30: Lunch at Eurostars Toledo Hotel

15:30 – 17:30: Second Session (Part I) “Regional and Global Contexts (*The Israeli Palestinian Conflict, Shebaa Farms, UN Resolutions 1559, 1701, UNIFIL, Syria, Iran, Palestinian Refugees, The Hariri Tribunal, ..*)”

Moderator: José M Ferré, Ambassador of Special Mission for Middle East Affairs.

Speakers:

Tarek Mitri: Lebanese Minister of Culture, Acting Foreign Minister (AP).

Mona Fayad: Professor of Psychology at the Lebanese University.

Michel Naoufal: Journalist, *Al Mustaqbal*, Lebanese Daily Newspaper.

Nadim Shehadi, Associate Fellow, Middle East Program, Royal Institute of International Affairs in London (Chatham House).

17:30 – 17:45: Coffee Break

17:45 – 19:15: Second Session (Part II) “*Comments and Debate*”:

Moderator: Ignacio Forcada Barona: Professor of Public International Law and International Relations at the Faculty of Juridical and Social Science at the University of Toledo.

Topics:

**What role Lebanon can play in the Arab-Israeli Conflict?
How can Lebanon’s regional role be preserved?
How can Lebanon be protected from regional and global power struggles?
What to do with the weapons of Hizballah and its armed branch?**

21.30: Dinner at El Cardenal Restaurante, (Paseo de Recaredo, 24. Toledo)

Tuesday, 18 December 2007

9:30-11:30: Third Session “*Dealing with the Socio-Economic Challenges*”

Moderator: Carolina Mayeur, General Sub- Director of Cooperation, Middle East and East Europe Desk, Spanish Agency of International Cooperation (AECI).

Speakers:

Sami Nader, Professor of International Relations at Saint Joseph University, Beirut.

Antoine Haddad: Consultant/ Researcher in Socio- Economics with emphasis on Human Development and Partner in charge of Dar al Tanmiya limited Ltd.

Kamal Hamdan: Head of the economic division at Consultation and Research Institute (CRI) and a Consultant for the United Nations and the World Bank.

Sateh Al-Arnaout: Senior Staff of the World Bank for the Middle East and North Africa Region and a Former World Bank Advisor to the Government of Lebanon.

Topics:

- **Economic options for Lebanon. Hong Kong or Hanoi?**
- **Is it a war economy based on constant warfare or an economy based on services i.e. banking, tourism, etc...?**

11:30 - 11:45: Coffee Break

11:45 – 13:45: Fourth Session “*Transition to Democracy, the Spanish Experience*”

Moderator: Emilio Cassinello, Director General of Toledo International Center for Peace (CITpax)

Speakers:

José Sanroma: President of the Advisory Council of Castilla- La Mancha.

Andrés de Blas: Professor of Political Science and Public Administration, National University of Distance Education (UNED)

Luis Ortega Álvarez: Professor of Administrative Law at the University of Castilla- La Mancha.

Martin Ortega Carcelén: Currently he is working on the theory of international relations and foresight. Senior Research Fellow at the European Union Institute for Security Studies in Paris.

13:45 – 14:15: Conclusion and closing ceremony

14:30-16:30: Lunch at Hotel Silken Cigarral Toledo (Ctra. Navalpino s/n. Toledo)

Special Intervention by Gustavo de Aristegui. Deputy, Speaker of the Popular Party (PP) Parliamentary Group in the Commission of Foreign Affairs; Diplomat, Former Director of the Middle East Desk at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

16:30: Return to Madrid

21:30: Dinner at Restaurant LA VACA ARGENTINA de las Cortes (C. San Agustín, 3)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

AL- ARNAOUT Sateh: Senior Staff of the World Bank for the Middle East and North Africa Region and an advisor of the Prime Minister of Lebanon.

ÁLVAREZ Luis Ortega: Professor of Administrative Law at the University of Castilla-La Mancha.

BAASSIRI Salwa: Secretary General, Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO in Lebanon.

CASSINELLO Emilio: Director General of Toledo International Center for Peace (CITpax)

DE ARISTEGUI Gustavo: Deputy, Speaker of the Popular Party (PP) Parliamentary Group in the Commission of Foreign Affairs; Diplomat, Former Director of the Middle East Desk at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

DE BLAS Andrés: Professor of Political Science and Public Administration, National University of Distance Education (UNED)

EI KHAZEN Farid: Member of Lebanese Parliament; Professor of Political Science at the American University of Beirut.

EL-HALABI Abbas: President of the Arab Group for Christian-Muslim Dialogue, a Former Supreme Court judge.

FAYAD Ali: Director General of the Consultative Center for Studies and Documentation.

FAYAD Mona: Professor of Psychology at the Lebanese University.

FERRÉ José M^a: Ambassador of Special Mission for Middle East Affairs

FORCADA Ignacio: Professor of Public International Law and International Relations at the Faculty of Juridical and Social Science at the University of Toledo.

FRANJIEH Samir: Member of the Lebanese Parliament.

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HAMDAN Kamal: Head of the economic division at Consultation and Research Institute (CRI) and a Consultant for the United Nations and the World Bank.

IRANI George: Director, Africa and Middle East Programme, Toledo International Center for Peace (CITpax)

LAMATA, Fernando: Vice- President of Junta de Castilla- La Mancha.

MAYEUR Carolina: Sub Director General of Cooperation of the Middle East and East Europe, AECI.

MITRI Tarek: Lebanese Minister of Culture, Acting Foreign Minister (AP).

NADER Sami: Professor of International Relations at Saint Joseph University, Beirut.

NAOUFAL Michel: Journalist, *Al Mustaqbal*, Lebanese Daily Newspaper

ORTEGA Carcelén, Martín: Currently he is working on the theory of international relations and foresight. Senior Research Fellow at the European Union Institute for Security Studies in Paris.

SHEHADI Nadim: Associate Fellow, Middle East Program, Royal Institute of International Affairs in London (Chatham House).

SANROMA José: President of the Advisory Council of Castilla- La Mancha.