

ROUND TABLE

Round table “Dialogue works - How cultural and religious dialogue forms a stable society in Europe”

Within the 9. Festival of Tolerance on April 17th, from 5 till 7 p.m. at Kino Tuškanac a Round table will be held on the subject **“Dialogue works - How cultural and religious dialogue forms a stable society in Europe”**.

The Round table is organised by EUNIC Croatia – the network of European National Institutes of culture established in Croatia. It gathers: Austian Cultural Forum, Balassi Institute, British Council, Goethe-Institut, Hrvatska Kuća, Instituto Camoes, Instituto Cervantes, Institut Français, Instituto Italiano di Cultura, and Wallonie-Bruxelles International.

With regards to organising the Round table Conor Snowden, Director of the British Council and Chairperson of the EUNIC cluster said:

“Never before has the need for inter-cultural dialogue in Europe been more evident. Recent events in France, Denmark, Belgium and Ukraine show that across Europe there continues to be a deep mistrust between communities and individuals living side by side. This can be both a religious as well as a cultural divide but in many cases it might be both. Sometimes it comes from recent demographic changes in Europe but at other times it is based on decades or centuries old mistrust. However, across Europe and here in Croatia there are excellent examples of situations where dialogue and discussion are what is required to build respect, break down differences and allow co-existence on this small continent we all call home. Come and join the EU National Institutes of Culture (EUNIC) to discuss what works and how we can build a stable society where differences are respected and valued.”

Roundtable speakers:

Mr. Mevludi Arslani (Croatia)
Principal, Islamic Gymnasium Dr Ahmed Smajlović, Zagreb

Mr. Jakob Finci
President of the Jewish community in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Professor Jose Carlos Carvalho (Portugal)
Lecturer at Catholic Portuguese University of Oporto

PD Mag. Dr. Ernst Furlinger (Austria)
Head of the Center for Religion and Globalization, Danube University Krems

Professor Joseph Maïla (France)
Professor of Geopolitics, Mediation and International relations at ESSEC, School of Management, France

PD Mag. Dr. Ernst Furlinger was born in 1962 in Linz (Upper Austria). He is a scholar in religious studies where his main fields of expertise are Hinduism, Islam and inter-religious dialogue. He has published and taught inter-religious dialogue in Europe and India.

Professor Jose Carlos Carvalho is a graduate in theology of the Catholic Portuguese University of Oporto and studied at the Pontifical Institute in Rome. His areas of specialization involve New Testament theology and inter-religious dialogue.

Mr. Mevludi Arslani is the principal of the leading Islamic Gymnasium in Croatia where he runs a staff of 40 in this state-funded Islamic secondary school.

Professor Joseph Maïla is a member of the IRENÉ team on mediation as well as professor at ESSEC, School of Management, France. He was director of *Policy Planning* at the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (Quai d'Orsay) until December 2012, and previously Head of the Religious Affairs Department. He was the former president of the *Université Catholique de Paris*.

Mr. Jakob Finci, born in 1943 on the island of Rab. President of the Jewish community in BiH, politician and diplomat. In 1991 was one of the initiators of the renewal of Jewish cultural, educational and humanitarian society La benevolence and his first vice president. As a diplomat, he served as Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Switzerland.

Be a part of the Round table and actively participate in the development of dialogue between cultures and religions.

Applications for registration for the Round table until April 15th 2015 to the following address:
okruglistol@jff-zagreb.hr / djuoro.zifra@diplomatie.gouv.fr

Requests for interviews with speakers: press@jff-zagreb.hr

www.festivaloftolerance.com

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