



THE LANGUAGE OF ART AND MUSIC

The Language of Art & Music

*“A Three Piece Puzzle:
The Relationship between Culture, International Relations
and Globalization over the next Two Decades”*





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„A Three Piece Puzzle“ is an international Conference taking place in London from August 25th - 29th, 2011 to explore the relationship between culture, international relations, and globalization through a program of workshops, lectures & discussions, debates, film screenings, art exhibitions, performances and cultural activities. The event will bring together artists and practitioners from the fields of culture, literature, and music, that will share their perspectives alongside renowned academics and leading figures from international politics, diplomacy, civil society, and the public sector. The audience will include scholars and academics, students and young professionals, artists, diplomatic and political representatives, representatives of civil society, and other interested stakeholders.

The conference will begin by looking in greater detail at „culture“ and „identity“ and how these terms are used and understood today. The program will then build on these components by considering the role that culture plays in contemporary international relations and the process of globalization. The conference will then explore and summarize the challenges that lie ahead and the complex relationship between culture, international relations, and globalization over the next two decades (during these five days the concepts of „cultural diplomacy“ will also be explored in more detail).

Conference Speakers

The event will bring together artists and practitioners from the fields of culture, literature, and music, that will share their perspectives alongside renowned academics and leading figures from international politics, diplomacy, civil society, and the public sector. These speakers will include a number of individuals from the ICD Advisory Board (for further information about the Advisory Board please click here).

Sustainable Network »

During the program the participants will have opportunities to network amongst each other, with the speakers, as well as with ICD Advisory Board Members and partners. Conference participants will become part of a growing international network of people from across the world of diverse interests and backgrounds who share a commitment to intercultural exchange. Participants will be able to remain in touch with each other through the ICD Networks.

Conference Participants »

The conference is open to applications from young professionals, students and scholars, diplomatic and political representatives, civil society practitioners, private sector figures, journalists, and other interested stakeholders in international relations from across the world.



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Program Agenda

The conference will focus in particular on the following issues, and will be followed by a variety of social and cultural activities:

Interpreting and Understanding of Culture in the Past, Present and Future

(Focus: *The essence of culture, The development of cultural expression, The extent to which a global culture is emerging, Moving beyond definitions of "high" and "low" culture)*

The Formation and Expression of Cultural Identity

(Focus: *Is cultural identity inherited or created? The implications of global migration for cultural identity, Does culture matter in defining national and regional identities? The politicization of identity and implications for government, Are nationalism and fundamentalism by products of globalization? The challenges and opportunities of identity and integration, The European Union and the emergence of a European identity)*

The Evolution of Cultural Interaction

(Focus: *The extent of globalization's impact on local culture, Technological advances and cultural exchange, The development of transnational communities, Cultural interpretations of globalization, The democratization of the media: a global phenomenon? The emergence of budget travel and the consequences for intercultural interaction, Does cultural identity divides more than it bridges peoples? Is globalization a synonym for Americanization?)*

Religion and Modernity

(Focus: *The evolution of religious expression since 1945, Does globalization limit or accelerate the spread of religious dogmas? Exploring the religious rights and responsibilities of migrant communities, Does the global reach of religion provide solutions or problems for peace and stability? The role of religious leaders in generating multilateral dialogue*

Assessing the political, cultural, and religious points of conflict in the Middle East)

The Influence of Language in Intercultural Relations:

(Focus: *The relationship between culture, ethnicity, and language, The impact of globalization on minority languages, The challenges and opportunities of the spread of the English language, The role of governments in promoting language education)*

Culture, Globalization, and International Relations over the Next two Decades

(Focus: *the role of culture in global politics, Is globalization building or burning the bridge between culture and politics?*

The new global competition for winning hearts and minds, Do diasporas serve as cultural ambassadors or as political agitators? Cosmopolitanism and the rise of global citizenship, Cultural relativism and the concept of universal human rights)



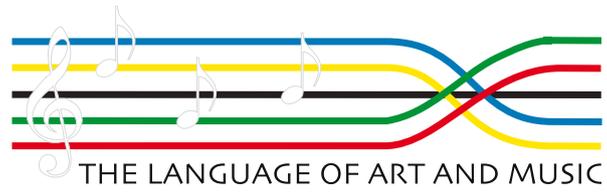
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The Role of Culture in Tackling Global Challenges

(Focus: *Cultural understanding as a prerequisite for sustainable cooperation on climate change, Culture as a gateway or barrier to conflict resolution, Cultural obstacles in the path of China’s “peaceful rise”, Will culture smooth the transition towards the “New” New World Order? Disaster relief as cultural diplomacy, How can culture and the arts be best utilized to address socio-economic inequalities, both within and between states? Cultural dissonance as the catalyst for international terrorism, Can intercultural relations and dialogue serve to prevent the spread of AIDS in Africa?)*





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Institute for Cultural Diplomacy (ICD)
Kurfürstendamm 207-208 - D-10719 Berlin, Phone: +49 (0)30 2360-7680, Fax: +49 (0)30 2360-76811
E-mail: info@culturaldiplomacy.org, Website: www.culturaldiplomacy.org