



icd | Annual Report  
institute for cultural diplomacy | 2015



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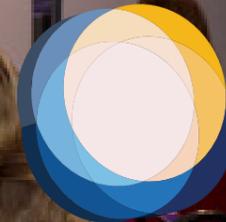
sri lanka

icd

for cultural diplomacy



ACADEMY FOR  
CULTURAL DIPLOMACY



YOUTH EDUCATION  
& DEVELOPMENT



HUMAN RIGHTS &  
GLOBAL PEACE



HOUSE OF ARTS & CULTURE



## ACADEMY FOR CULTURAL DIPLOMACY

**IN 2008, THE INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL DIPLOMACY LAUNCHED ITS ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE ICD, KNOWN AS THE ACADEMY FOR CULTURAL DIPLOMACY. THE ACADEMY FOR CULTURAL DIPLOMACY SERVES AS THE ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL DIPLOMACY WITH THE AIMS OF DEVELOPING AND RAISING AWARENESS OF THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF CULTURAL DIPLOMACY AND RELATED FIELDS BY GOVERNMENTS AND NON-STATE ACTORS, AS WELL AS TO EXPLORE NEW STRATEGIES FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS AND PROMOTING GLOBAL PEACE.**

Areas of particular academic focus of the Academy for Cultural Diplomacy include intercultural relations, global governance and politics, sustainable economies & creative industries, international law & human rights, and culinary innovation & excellence.

Alongside providing the best possible academic resources to the students, the ICD Academy is fostering a very diverse and internationalised environment, with students, professors, and special lecturers from all around the world. Over the past years the Academy for Cultural Diplomacy has welcomed thousands of academics, diplomats and politicians, journalists, young professionals, students and scholars from across the world to its programs. During the same period, a vast number of current and former Heads of State and Ministers, world-renowned academics, champions for global peace and celebrities have contributed to the Academy events as speakers and partners.



Academy for Cultural Diplomacy

BA, MA, PhD Programs, E-Learning Programs, Certificate Programs

Academy for Cultural Diplomacy

BA, MA, PhD Programs, E-Learning Programs, Certificate Programs

## BA, MA, PHD PROGRAMS, E-LEARNING PROGRAMS, CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS:

### The Center for Cultural Diplomacy Studies

*The Center for Cultural Diplomacy Studies is the world's leading center for the study of Cultural Diplomacy, offering educational opportunities ranging from Weeklong seminars for students and interested professionals to Master's and PhD programs for graduates pursuing careers in academia, diplomacy, government, and the private sector, dedicated either wholly or in part to the field of Cultural Diplomacy.*

The educational programs of the Center for Cultural Diplomacy Studies, which are offered in partnership with leading universities and institutions, allow students to analyze, research, and experience Cultural Diplomacy in theory and in practice at the local, state, and international levels. The Center for Cultural Diplomacy Studies focuses on, though its capacities are not limited to, the balancing of "hard" and "soft" power, globalization and the interdependence of nation-states, liberal institutionalism, intercultural dialogue & exchange, and the ability of culturally-based initiatives to further mutual understanding and, in turn, conflict resolution.

In 2015 the ICD Academy has successfully coordinated and conducted BA, MA and PhD programs in partnership with Furtwangen University from Baden-Württemberg, the University of Siena, the Babes-Bolyai University from Cluj-Napoca (Romania), the University of Bucharest, the University of Nicosia and the Touro College in Berlin.

In partnership with the University of Nicosia, the ICD now offers BA, MA and PhD programs where students will attend blended programmes of study, combining online lectures with, face-to-face seminars in the ICD premises. The BA programs on offer are Business Administration and International Relations with European Studies, the MA programs are Euro-Mediterranean studies and Cultural Diplomacy and International Relations and European Studies. Doctoral studies in Business Administration and International Relations and European Studies are also available. The ICD looks forward to welcoming the future students coming from the University of Nicosia and working together to maintain a fruitful working relationship.

Another new deal completed in 2015 was the joint BA program now offered in partnership with Coventry University. As a result of this partnership, a delegation of students from Coventry University visited Berlin in March 2015.

Between Monday, March 16th until March 20th, the ICD organized a study tour for history students from the ICD partner, Coventry University, about historical and contemporary Berlin and Germany. During the study tour, students participated in historical and touristic visits, sightseeing, and a series of lectures and discussions. The ICD was most pleased to be continuing the annual tradition of hosting study tours from the Coventry University.

New partnerships with Furtwangen University were also agreed upon in 2015, four new Masters courses are now available at the University in partnership with the ICD. About 50 students have already started their studies in Berlin. They come from 30 nations, including the US, Canada, Bolivia, Brazil, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Morocco, India, Uzbekistan, Italy and Spain. "We bundle the mutual competencies ideally" explains Prof. Dr. Michael Lederer, Vice-Rector for International and Further Education at the HFU. "From the HFU experienced professors come from the area of International Business, the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy teach international university teachers and diplomats." - Mark C. Donfried, Director General of ICD stressed: "We are delighted that we together with the HFU can offer the first academic programs in the field of cultural diplomacy on German soil. These unique study programs have great potential for students from around the world."

The ICD were very happy to welcome the Vice President of Furtwangen University, Michael Lederer to our Annual Conference 2015, during which he gave a speech explaining the importance of the relationship with the ICD and he explained the new programs on offer for students as well as discussing why he thought it was important to educate students on the field of cultural diplomacy.

The other partnership secured in 2015 was with Touro College Berlin which was established in Germany by Touro College and University System in New York, USA. It is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), an agency recognized by the United States Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and by "Wissenschaftsrat" in Germany for its Bachelor and Master programs. New York remains the epicenter of the Touro network, with programs thriving in California, Nevada, Moscow, Israel, Berlin and Paris. In partnership with the ICD, students are able to undertake an MBA in International Business Relations with a focus on Cultural Diplomacy. The ICD were very excited to work together with Touro College and provide students with further opportunities.

Academy for Cultural Diplomacy

*BA, MA, PhD Programs, E-Learning Programs, Certificate Programs*



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*BA, MA, PhD Programs, E-Learning Programs, Certificate Programs*



## Certificate Program

The Certificate Programs in Cultural Diplomacy are two-week-long sessions that explore the role of Cultural Diplomacy in the contemporary globalized and interdependent world. The programs feature lectures, seminars and workshops led by experts from the fields of international politics, diplomacy, economics, academia, civil society, and the private sector. During their time in Berlin, participants have the opportunity to take part in cultural and social activities and to visit historical and contemporary landmarks such as cultural institutions and foreign embassies.

The Certificate Programs comprise specialized courses designed to provide participants with core knowledge on both theory and practice of the field of Cultural Diplomacy and provide a unique experience for those interested in innovative points of view and progressive ideas in the practice of Cultural Diplomacy.

## Weeklong seminars

ICD Academy Sessions are weeklong programs that explore the role of cultural diplomacy in contemporary international relations. Each program features lectures, seminars and workshops led by experts from the fields of international politics, diplomacy, academia, civil society, and the private sector. During their time in Berlin participants will also have the opportunity to take part in cultural and social activities and to visit institutions such as the German Foreign Office, the German Parliament, the Berlin City Hall, cultural institutions and Berlin-based embassies.

The ICD Academy was established to allow individuals of all academic and professional backgrounds the opportunity to learn more about the subject of cultural diplomacy. The Academy Session timetables are designed to allow participants the opportunity to discuss salient issues with experts from the field, whilst providing a framework for group discussions amongst each other.

## E-Learning Programs

The Center for Cultural Diplomacy Studies has developed the E-Learning Programs in order to offer individuals interested in the field of Cultural Diplomacy and related areas the opportunity to increase their knowledge and experience in this fascinating and expanding field. The E-Learning Programs have been designed to be studied at a distance, giving students the flexibility to study from any location in the world within a structured and supportive framework.

The programs are built in a way that allows individuals currently working full time the ability to acquire academic knowledge with maximum flexibility regarding scheduling and learning formats. The courses will be delivered via an e-Learning platform, designed to help participants meet the course's learning objectives through a self-paced study routine supported by

multimedia, required and optional readings, and a wealth of other information adapted specifically to full-time professionals. The programs have also been designed in a flexible way to allow students to structure their instruction around their own schedules.

The programs offer access to high profile lecturers, audio-visual content, a library of reading materials, and professional networking opportunities to promote one's own projects. Students will have access to the innovative research and publications in the field and a distinguished and renowned faculty with wide-ranging experience in international diplomacy, academia, and public and private international sectors.

Academy for Cultural Diplomacy  
BA, MA, PhD Programs, E-Learning Programs, Certificate Programs

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## The Center for Creative Industries & Performing Arts



**The Center for Creative Industries & Performing Arts (CCIPA)** is a leading institute for the study of the Creative Industries, Performing Arts and Cultural Diplomacy.

Combining theoretical studies with practical and professional application covering all elements of the creative industries. The CCIPA aims to generate world leaders and pioneers in the Creative Industries and the Performing Arts through new and innovative educational opportunities. Five different categories of education programs on Creative Industries

and Performing Arts are offered: graduate degree programs, e-learning courses, professional development programs (certificate programs), weeklong seminars, and study abroad.

Our objectives are to extend current research, programs and practices in the field of Creative Industries and Performing Arts and create a platform to promote and sustain the fields of Creative Industries and Performing Arts. The CCIPA is committed to the promotion and development of arts and culture as well as excellence in the advancement of and research in this ever-evolving field.

### Symposium on Creative Industries Culinary Innovation & Performing Arts

“Benefits, Uses and Contributions to Global Politics, Diplomacy, Sustainable Economics and Multiculturalism”

Berlin; July 28th - August 1st 2015

The second decade of the new millennium, which has been influenced by the major global economic crisis resulting in high unemployment rates around the world, has increased the importance for the development of new industries and occupations. Indeed, all over the world, creative industries, culinary innovation and new trends in the performing arts together with the constant development of the digital capabilities, have developed new fields that not only provide new employment opportunities, but also significantly influence and contribute to global politics, world diplomacy, sustainable economics as well as multiculturalism.

In light of the importance of these growing trends, innovations and changes in everyone’s daily life, from governments to private individuals, the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy, together with leading institutions from the field launched: “The International Symposium on Creative Industries, Culinary Innovation and Performing Arts” in order to analyze, reflect and raise awareness of the benefits, uses and contributions of these trends and innovations.

The Symposium brought together experts and professionals from the fields of creative industries, culinary and performing arts in order to discuss, perform and present the many benefits, uses

and contributions of creative industries, culinary innovation and performing arts through a mixture of dynamic presentations, performances, demonstrations, workshops and interactive discussions.

The main themes creative industries explored at the conference were media and communication; design and fashion; film and video games and TV, radio and journalism. Culinary innovation and excellence focused on current industry trends and culinary styles; organic food and city gardening; culinary innovation and fine dining and hospitality and diplomatic catering.

Hence the speeches ranged over a variety of topics including “Understanding Cultures through Film”; “The benefits, uses and contributions of creative industries to world diplomacy, sustainable economics as well as multiculturalism - case study”; “European integrative culture: game-based educational program” and “The bridges and culture of innovative cuisines”.

Students from the ICD Academy had the opportunity to attend and take part in the event where they listened to the speakers who they were then able to interact and network with both formally and informally during the breaks.

Our resident artist Laura Martínez presented on the occasion of the visit of President Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, her exhibition “Brand Berlin” formed by a collection of chairs. The chairs, that were manufactured in her studio within the ICD House of Arts & Culture, combined the bear, symbol of Berlin, with features of different countries in Europe.

Academy for Cultural Diplomacy

*BA, MA, PhD Programs, E-Learning Programs, Certificate Programs*

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## The Center for Culinary Innovation & Excellence

The Center for Culinary Innovation & Excellence (CCIE) is a leading institute for the study of culinary tradition and innovation, gastronomy, and cultural diplomacy cuisine. Three different categories of educational programs on culinary innovation and excellence are offered: professional degree programs, e-learning courses, professional development programs (certificate programs). In addition the CCIE provides advisory services to governmental and diplomatic institutions regarding important culinary issues or events.

Our objectives are to extend current research, recipes and culinary experiences with a focus on quality, culinary excellence and innovation. The CCIE is committed to the promotion and development of culinary innovation and excellence with an emphasis on an international kitchen consisting of a vast diversity of cultural traditions.

Two of the highlights of the activities of the CCIE in 2015 are the The International Symposium on Creative Industries, Culinary Innovation

and Performing Arts and the opening of Red Culinary, the culinary side-project of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy.

In early 2015 Red Culinary was established as a renowned restaurant, which specialises in Mediterranean cuisine, yet remaining a vital component of the ICD. It is in close co-operation with the Academy in coordinating the international conferences and special lectures.



## The Center for International Law & Human Rights

The Center for International Law & Human Rights (CILHR) is a leading institute for the study of international law, human rights and cultural diplomacy. Four different categories of education programs on International Law and Human Rights are offered: graduate degree programs, e-learning courses, professional development programs (certificate programs) and study abroad (credit programs) dedicated either fully or in part to the field of International Law and Human Rights.

Our objectives are to extend current research, programs and practices in the field of International Law and Human Rights and create a platform to promote and sustain human rights and the rule of law. The CILHR is committed to the promotion and development of applied international law and human rights and operates in partnership with International and National Courts, Judiciary, Parliaments and Global Governance Institutions around the world.



Academy for Cultural Diplomacy  
Thematic Projects

# THEMATIC PROJECTS



The Academy runs the following Thematic Projects:

## 1) Cultural Diplomacy and the Global Economy

The lecture given by the Minister of Finance  
Berlin Economic Forum

During 2015 the ICD has celebrated conferences and lectures where different issues concerning the Global Economy have been analyzed. The Berlin Economic Forum, celebrated in March at the headquarters of the ICD, mainly focused on relations between the economy and tourism. At the Annual Conference in December there was a remarkable lecture by Hans Eichel, former Minister of Finance of Germany, who spoke about the concept of Multilateralism in the current economic world.

<http://www.culturaldiplomacy.de/mediacenter/index.php?hans-eichel-former-minister-of-finance-of-germany>

## 2) Cultural Bridges in Germany

### The Syrian Refugees Support Project

The Syrian Refugees Support Project was created as a response to the humanitarian crisis in Syria (starting already in 2011 and developing and worsening up until now) with the main goals of offering support and relief to the community, to raise awareness in Germany about the evolving crisis as well as to build bridges between the Syrian Refugees in Germany and Germans.

For 2016 the ICD is planning to organize during April the German-Syrian month ([http://kulturbruecken.de/index.php?en\\_deutsch-syrischer-monat-2016](http://kulturbruecken.de/index.php?en_deutsch-syrischer-monat-2016)) that will consist of panel discussions, film descriptions and workshops about the German-Syrian relations.

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## 3) The Transatlantic Relationship

The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy created “The European-American Relationship Program” to strengthen the political, economic and cultural ties across the Atlantic and to note the importance of this relationship to international activity in pursuit of global public goods.

The United States and Europe have a deep historical relationship that has bound the two regions from the Age of Enlightenment and political revolution, through the waves of 19th century immigration, to the political manifestations of the Cold War and the predicted new world order. European heads of state frequently refer to a “special relationship” with the US, and a “Trip West” is inevitably one of the first official visits they will undertake upon election.

Despite these common experiences, and longstanding cooperation in global politics, there still remains key areas in which the transatlantic relationship has become strained, notably over the past decade. These differences are most prominent with regards to foreign and security policy, in particular the use of military force abroad and the need for a comprehensive approach to climate change. The digital revolution has also resulted in differences in domestic policy, such as the role of religion in society, becoming international news and influencing public opinion abroad.

If the challenges and opportunities of an increasingly globalized world are to be met, the US and Europe, comprising around half of the world’s total GDP, must work together. It is in recognition of the importance of this relationship that the ICD established the program “The European-American Relationship Program”.



### Programs Aims

The “European-American ” program pursued the following specific aims:

- To improve understanding between the US and Europe at the grass roots level.
- To increase academic, cultural, and scientific exchange between the US and Europe.
- To strengthen international trade and investment between the US and Europe.
- To generate stronger cooperation between the US and Europe in tackling global public goods.

### Academic Themes

In recognition of the specific program aims outlined above, the activity of the European-American relationship program focused on the following academic themes:

- The history and development of the European-American relationship.
- The drivers of foreign and domestic policy in the US and Europe.
- The role of cultural diplomacy and soft power in foreign policy.
- An analysis of transatlantic trade and investment and consideration of future trends.
- The approach of the US and Europe towards the United Nations, NATO, and other international organizations.
- A comparison of US and European approaches to integration and immigration.
- The impact of the digital revolution on political and media culture in the United States and Europe.
- US and European approaches to tackling global climate change.

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*Thematic Projects*



#### 4) Cultural Diplomacy in Africa

*The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy has developed the program “Experience Africa” to promote social and economic development within Africa, and to strengthen relations between cultural groups and nation states on the continent. At the global level, the program works to promote stronger political, economic, and cultural links between Africa and other regions.*

The challenges and opportunities facing the African continent have been widely acknowledged and discussed by commentators across the world. At the domestic level, African states are under pressure to improve social and economic development, in particular with regards to education, healthcare, and infrastructure. At the regional and global levels they must address issues of political instability, international trade imbalances, and a comparatively weak influence in global politics and economics.

These challenges are accompanied by opportunities, however. The African continent is not only the world’s largest and second most populous, but also has an abundance of natural resources: A key foundation for increasing economic influence at

the global level. Furthermore, as one of the world’s most diverse regions, Africa has tremendous potential to develop its tourist industries and to do so in an environmentally sustainable manner.

The ICD has established the “Experience Africa” program to ensure that the challenges outlined above are addressed, and the opportunities seized.

On January 20th, 2015, the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy had the honor to welcome the Former President of Botswana. Before President Quett Masire took to the stage at the ICD House of Arts and Culture, the Ambassador of Botswana, H. E. Amb. Tswelopele C. Moremi gave a speech honouring the former President and concentrating on Botswana’s recently launched diplomatic mission to Germany. In his keynote address, President Quett Masire emphasized the need for interaction and exchange between nations and people – “we are not beasts, we are people and we must all interact”. According to him, Botswana’s greatest challenge at the moment as a young nation is to develop programmes which empower the country’s youth to compete globally. The perfect example for that is the Botswana International University of Science & Technology that was established 10 years ago.

Academy for Cultural Diplomacy  
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The Former President expressed that Botswana needs to be better at promoting its culture and “flag-waving” and that the ICD’s cooperation with Botswana is going to help the country with this matter.

<http://www.berlinglobal.org/index.php?president-quett-masire-former-president-of-botswana-delivers-speech-at-icd-house>

#### **Program Aims**

The “Experience Africa” program pursued the following specific aims:

- To promote social development in Africa, in particular in the fields of education and healthcare.
- To strengthen relations between nation-states and cultural groups on the African continent.
- To foster stronger relations between Africa and other regions of the world.
- To encourage economic investment in, tourism to, and trade with, Africa.
- To improve relations between African Diaspora communities.

#### **Academic Themes**

In recognition of the program aims outlined above, the ICD “Experience Africa” program activity focused on the following academic themes:

- The role of the African Union in promoting economic and social development, and as a regional peacemaker.
- The success of aid and development programs in achieving their objectives.
- The development of tourism in Africa over the coming two decades.
- The role of national brands in promoting international investment and tourism in Africa.
- Micro financing and the emergence of new development initiatives in Africa.
- The role of the global African Diaspora in promoting development and stability.
- The development of China-African relations and their importance to both regions.
- The roles of cultural diplomacy and soft power in the foreign policies of African states and the region as a whole.
- The use of music, art, and sport, to promote stronger intercultural relations within Africa.
- The European Union as a possible model for the African Union.

Academy for Cultural Diplomacy  
*Thematic Projects*



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5) Cultural Diplomacy in Europe

*The Cultural Diplomacy in Europe program was established by the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy to strengthen relations between cultural groups and countries within Europe, to improve relations between Europe and other regions, and to support Europe in playing a more influential, constructive role in addressing global challenges.*

Whilst there is ongoing discussion regarding the geographical reaches of “Europe”, there is widespread acceptance that the region has played a profound role in global affairs over the past 500 years. This influence remains strong today. Around 25% of the world’s total GDP comes from EU member states, despite comprising less than 10% of the world’s population. Two of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council are European, as are four of the world’s 7 largest economies. The establishment and growth of

the European Union is widely acknowledged as a success, having laid a foundation for peaceful inter-state relations and economic growth. Indeed, the success of the European Union is best reflected in the desire for ever more countries to join.

Despite Europe’s prominence and success, however, the region faces a number of significant challenges. Economically, it has been hit hard by the global financial crisis, and recent Eurozone bailouts of Greece and Ireland have caused anxiety and disagreement between states. In political terms, the EU faces an uphill struggle if it is to speak “with one voice” as some member states desire and a majority acknowledge would be beneficial.

Europe is, and will remain, a key global player. In order for it to consolidate its political and economic influence at today’s levels, however, it must face difficult choices. It is in recognition of these challenges that the ICD has created the program Cultural Diplomacy in Europe.

**Program Aims**

Cultural Diplomacy in Europe program pursued the following five specific aims:

- To improve intercultural understanding between cultural groups and nation states at the grass roots level.
- To increase academic, artists, scientific, and cultural exchange between European countries.
- To improve economic, political, and cultural relations between Europe and other regions.
- To strengthen Europe’s capacity to promote human rights and generate consensus in the pursuit of global public goods.

**Academic Themes**

In recognition of the program aims outlined above, Cultural Diplomacy in Europe program activity addressed the following academic themes:

- The future of the Euro and the economic stability of the Eurozone.

- Inter-state relations within Europe and ties between ‘old’ and ‘new’ Europe.
- The use of art, music, and sport, to promote stronger intercultural relations at the local and national levels.
- Economic migration between EU member states.
- Integration and immigration policies at the national and European levels.
- The establishment and shaping of national brands at the European level.
- Regional relations between Europe and the US, Latin America, Africa, and Asia.
- The future role of the EU in tackling climate change.
- Europe’s role and responsibility in ensuring peace and stability abroad.
- The future of Europe’s economy and the emergence of a knowledge based society.
- The digital revolution and the evolution of the media in Europe.
- Active citizenship and the future of democracy within Europe.

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### 6) Cultural Diplomacy in East Asia

*CDEA is a program established by the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy aimed at exploring and analyzing the East Asian region and its growing prominence in an increasingly globalized world. The program was developed in order to strengthen relations between cultural groups and countries within East Asia, to improve relations between East Asia and other geographical regions, and to support East Asia in playing a more influential and constructive role in addressing global challenges. The program pursues these aims first and foremost by bringing together individuals of diverse professional and academic backgrounds, from across the world in order to discuss salient political, economic, and cultural issues affecting the region. These events sustain an international network of likeminded individuals, and generate best practice guidelines and suggestions for policy-makers and practitioners at all levels. The program also supports research related to its goals, which is then published online or presented at our conferences.*

Program activity includes Young Leaders' Forums, International Conferences, and other individual events, all of which balance academic

components with cultural and social activities. The program brings together diplomatic and political representatives, academics, journalists, civil society practitioners, students, young professionals, and other individuals with a keen interest in the East Asian region. Participants engage in a diverse range of activities which are designed to raise awareness of issues concerning the region and its ongoing development. All events feature notable speakers from the fields of academia, international politics, diplomacy, and civil society, ensuring a thorough, interdisciplinary analysis of the key themes.

#### **Program Aims**

Cultural Diplomacy in East Asia program pursued the following five specific aims:

- To improve intercultural understanding between cultural groups and nation states at the grass roots level.
- To increase academic, artistic, scientific, and cultural exchange between East Asian countries
- To improve economic, political, and cultural relations between East Asia and other regions.
- To strengthen East Asia's capacity to promote human rights and generate consensus in the pursuit of global public goods.

Academy for Cultural Diplomacy  
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### 7) Cultural Diplomacy in Latin America

*The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy created the program "Cultural Diplomacy in Latin America" to have a constructive impact on the region's development. At the domestic and regional levels, it aims to support social and economic development and strengthen relations between individual nation states and between diverse cultural communities. At the global level it aims to improve economic, political, and cultural relations between Latin America and other regions.*

#### **Dialogue about Cuba:**

##### **The Role of European Union and Spain**

Madrid, Spain, October 19 - 21 December 2015

[http://www.economicbridges.com/index.php?en\\_dialogue-about-cuba](http://www.economicbridges.com/index.php?en_dialogue-about-cuba)

On October 20th the ICD organized an event called "Dialogue about Cuba" at the Hotel AC Cuzco in Madrid. The aim of the event was to discuss the new situation after the announcement of the thaw in relations between Cuba and North America on the 17th December 2014 and the new perspectives for both the Southern hemisphere and in Europe. This new situation led to many logistical questions such as how will the embargo be lifted; how long will the process take; and what role will Spain and the EU play in this process. Representatives from both Cuba and the USA, as well as members of the European public and private sectors took part in the conference.

José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, President of the Advisory Board of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy and former Prime Minister of Spain, started the round of welcome speeches. Zapatero stressed the historic importance of the agreement and the benefits it will create regarding the cooperation between North and South America. He praised the American decision of removing Cuba from the list of countries supporting terrorist groups and he manifested confidence in a process which will guarantee social cohesion, equity and progress for the island.

## Academy for Cultural Diplomacy Thematic Projects

Miguel Ángel Moratinos, former Foreign Minister in Zapatero's government named the agreement the "greatest news for the diplomatic community since the end of the apartheid". He highlighted Pope Francis' role in the negotiations and he stated that dialogue and cooperation were the main instruments used during his time in office in order to advance the resolution of the conflict.

Eugenio Martínez Enríquez, Ambassador of Cuba to Spain, began his speech with a historic overview of Cuban politics, mentioning the limited sovereignty of the country before the revolution. Nevertheless he expressed his satisfaction with the fact that both Chief of States and Senior Officers of the two countries have restarted communication. He also thanked European companies and the Spanish population in particular, for their support even during the most difficult moments.

Kris Urs, Minister-Counselor of the Embassy of the United States in Spain emphasized the importance of normalizing political and diplomatic relations. He observed that the process is in its first steps and that it will be complex but nonetheless there have already been important achievements, like the modification of regulations regarding touristic visits to the island and the cooperation on security, migration and other issues.

Juan Costa Climent, former Minister of Science & Technology of Spain, came in representation of Ernst & Young. Costa took up a stance in favour of dialogue between the USA and Cuba to boost cohesion in the American continent, and as a consequence to create value for the private sector, by taking advantage of the big human potential and the abundance of natural resources.

The first panel discussion of the day, moderated by diplomat Carlos Alonso Zaldívar, made an analysis of the political rapprochement between Cuba and North America. The speakers discussed the new

political agenda and how to progress towards the end of the embargo.

The session Economic reforms and investment perspectives in Cuba was moderated by journalist Joaquín Estefanía. Topics regarding the new Economic perspectives were discussed, like the New Law of Foreign Investment, the Special Economic Interest Area of El Mariel, and the cooperative agreement between the EU and Cuba. The experts made predictions about the development of the agricultural sector, tourism sector, infrastructures and the technological sector in Cuba.

Economist José Carlos Díez moderated the panel about sustainability, innovation and cooperation in Latin America. Experts in the field discussed how to make progress in a sustainable way, counting on innovation, paying attention to the requirements regarding the fight against climate change, and taking advantage of cooperative programs. They examined the challenges that Latin America has to face and, in general, those challenges facing developing countries.



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The last panel of the evening was entitled Spain and Cuba: a story with a future and it was moderated by the Spanish writer Marifé Santiago. Representatives from both the Spanish and Cuban cultural sector discussed the impact of the Law in Historical Memory, the importance of shared culture and the cooperation in the fields of education, technology and sustainable development.

The conference concluded with a piano concert performed by the Cuban musician José Maria Vitier, who played some well-known classics from the Cuban repertoire, as well as his own compositions.

### Program Aims

Cultural Diplomacy in Latin America conducted activity that pursued the following specific aims:

- To increase investment in, trade with, and tourism to, Latin America.
- To strengthen intercultural relations amongst nation states and cultural communities within the region.
- To improve economic, political, and cultural relations between Latin America and other regions.
- To have a constructive influence on social development and mobility, in particular in the fields of healthcare and education.
- To raise awareness of the rich cultural heritage of the Latin American region across the world.

### Academic Themes

In recognition of the program aims outlined above, the CDLA program activity will focus in particular on the following academic themes.

- Eco-tourism and the development of the Latin American tourist industry.
- The political and economic influence of the World Cup and the Olympic Games on Brazil and the region as a whole.
- The emergence of left-wing governments and their impact on regional and foreign policies.
- The role of music, art, and sport in fostering a Latin American identity and strengthening relations between cultural groups in the region.
- The financial benefits of having a strong national brand.
- The history of Latin American Diaspora communities and their role in promoting social and economic development in the region.
- The impact of social assistance programs on development.
- Regional economic integration, protectionism, and free trade agreements.
- The impact of fair trade on agricultural practices and economic development.
- The history and development of European-Latin American relations.

## Academy for Cultural Diplomacy Thematic Projects



### 8) Cultural Diplomacy in Central-Southern Asia & The Caucasus

The “Cultural Diplomacy in Central-Southern Asia & The Caucasus” program that has been developed by the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy to raise awareness of the challenges and opportunities facing Central Asia and Caucasus, and to contribute to the global policy debate on the best strategies for ensuring sustainable development and stability in the region.

The program consists of a number of different components, such as ongoing research and analysis; hosting local, national, and international conferences; organizing cultural events and individual lectures; and holding Young Leaders Programs that bring together students and young professionals with an active interest in Central Asia and The Caucasus Region.



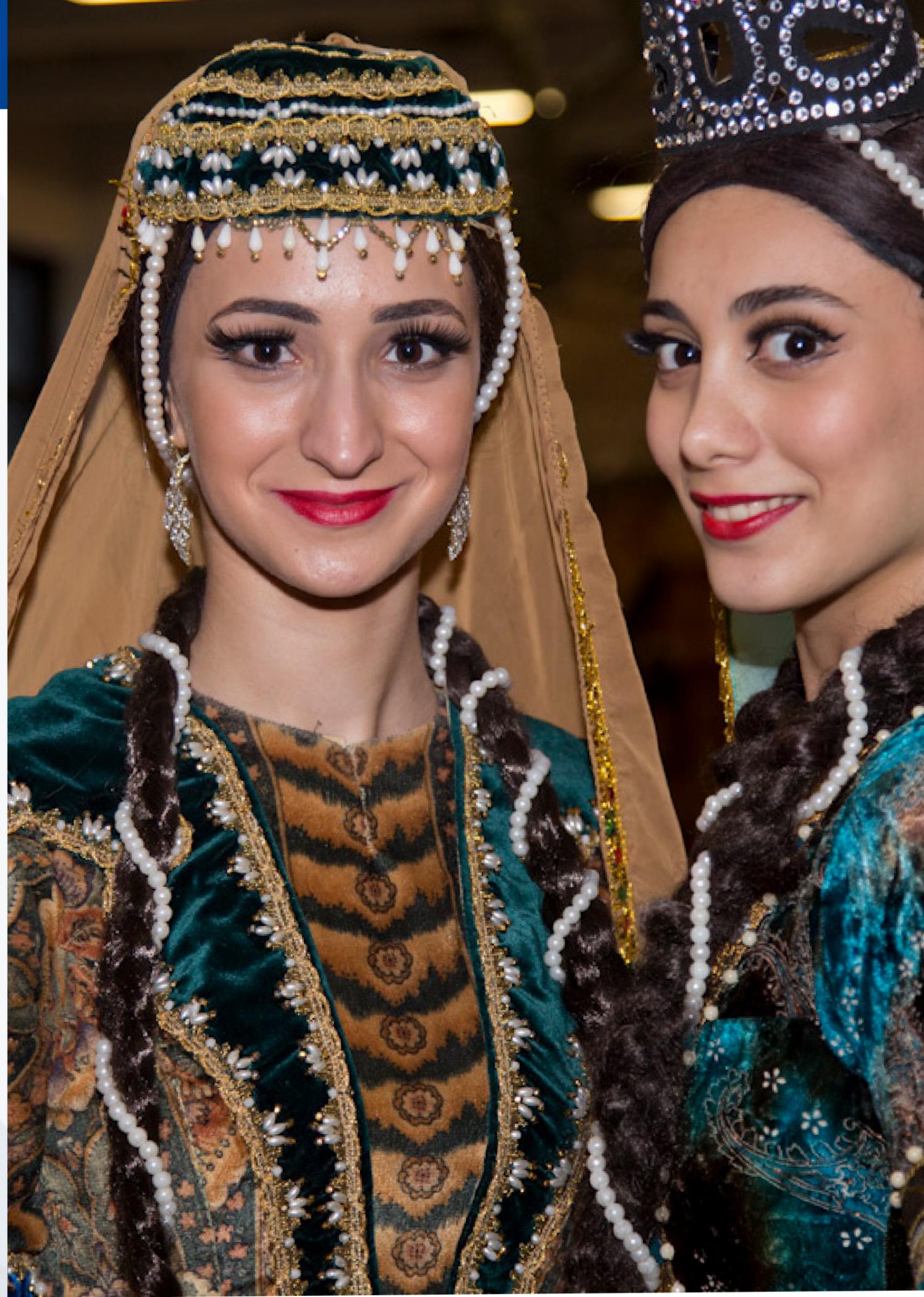
#### Program Aims

The program pursued the following specific aims:

- To bring together likeminded individuals from Central Asia, the Caucasus, and across the world in the fields of international politics, diplomacy, business and economics, academia, and civil society
- To contribute to the global debate on the challenges and opportunities facing Central Asia and the Caucasus region through research and events open to the general public.
- To bring together young leaders from Central Asia, the Caucasus, Europe, and the wider international community with an active interest in Central Asia, the Caucasus and Neighboring countries.

The program is focused on four specific issues:

- The history, development, and cultural diversity of Central Asia and the Caucasus Region.
- The key political and security challenges that currently face Central Asia and the Caucasus region and new strategies to address these challenges
- The role of NATO and other members of the international community in working with local partners to promote democracy and development in Afghanistan and central Asia
- The importance of Afghanistan and Pakistan to regional stability and in the context of global politics.



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# CULTURAL DIPLOMACY RESEARCH PROJECTS



Cultural Diplomacy Research (CDR) is a program undertaken by the Academy for Cultural Diplomacy consisting of components focused on analysing and interpreting key challenges facing culture and society in the contemporary era. As the field continues to grow, further research undertaken on the role and potential of Cultural Diplomacy consequently develops. CDR therefore focuses on expanding the current understanding of Cultural Diplomacy, as well as the

methods for which Cultural Diplomacy can be successfully implemented.

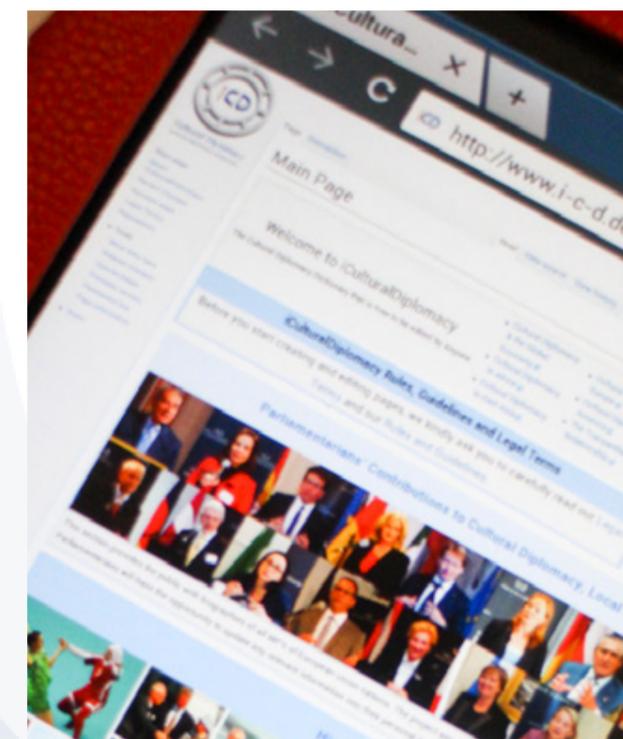
By providing an informed academic portal resource which offers a diverse and current range of examples of Cultural Diplomacy, we can increase the access to and further the development of the field. We aim to highlight the potential utility of this important tool as a valid policy option in achieving conflict resolution and strengthening bilateral relations in the event that traditional diplomacy fails.

The main projects CDR has been undertaken in 2015 are:

## Cultural Diplomacy News

Cultural Diplomacy News is a program undertaken by the ICD Academy for Cultural Diplomacy. CD News is an internet resource for the latest developments in the field of Cultural Diplomacy.

We believe that by providing an informed portal to a diverse and current range of examples of cultural diplomacy, we can increase access to cultural diplomacy, and highlight the potential of this important tool in healing conflicts and strengthening bilateral relations, where traditional diplomacy fails.



## Berlin Global

Berlin Global is an online news agency that reports on Berlin's culture, politics and economy and examines how cultural diplomacy is practiced and implemented in Berlin. The reporting of this news is sourced from different sectors including governments, the Berlin diplomatic community, the business sector, civil society, academic and research institutions.

During the year 2015 Berlin Global has managed to increase both in quality and quantity of the content published on the platform. The change in the editorial policies and the close working relations between the management and the journalists has also been reflected in the increase of traffic and in the number of unique visitors.



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## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES



### Film for Peace

“The Power of Film & the Arts to Build Peace”

Berlin, Germany; February 10 - 13, 2015

<http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/index.php?the-berlin-language-of-art-music-conference-2015>

Participation in the conference was open to artists, film & creative industry representatives, governmental & diplomatic officials, academics, artists, journalists, civil society practitioners, private sector representatives, young professionals and students as well as other interested individuals from across the world.

### Berlin Economic Forum 2015

“Innovative Nation Branding: Creative Economies, Sustainable Tourism & Responsible Foreign Investments”

Berlin, Germany; March 4 - 7, 2015

<http://www.economicbridges.com/index.php?en-berlin-economic-forum-2015>

The Berlin Economic Forum Project is the world’s leading project combining the fields of International Economics and Relations, Nation Branding and Cultural Diplomacy with an interdisciplinary and multinational program. It was established in order to further promote sustainable economies worldwide and the inauguration of the project took place from the 4th to 7th of March 2015 in Berlin and was focused on innovative nation branding strategies. The Project was held parallel to the International

Tourism Trade Fair (ITB). The Forum aims to analyze and discuss global trends of nation branding with a particular focus on creative economies, sustainable tourism and responsible foreign investments and also demonstrated how these can be used as primary drivers for sustainable economic growth.

The forum emphasized the use of cultural diplomacy practices in these fields and the importance of this for the success of the Nation Branding activities. It included keynote addresses, panel discussions, plenary sessions, social activities, as well as presentations from representatives of different nation states of their national brands. The vision for the Forum was to bring an interdisciplinary mixture of representatives from the public and private sectors in order to initiate and develop programs and projects that support sustainable economic growth at the national and international levels.

On the first day of the conference we had, among other important speakers, a keynote speech, delivered by Stéphanie Balmir Villedrouin - the Haiti Minister of Tourism. She became a minister in October 2011 and since then she has been trying to implement new marketing strategies in order to promote Haiti as a destination in the Caribbean for tourists. The catastrophe that happened in the country 5 years ago affected Haiti strongly and contributed to a negative view of the country as a tourist destination. Ms Balmir Villedrouin started to work on recovering the ruined place, to become one of the most attractive touristic destinations in the Caribbean. Besides her speech there was also native music from Haiti, that was performed on stage by Rachel Jeanty, as well as food from Haiti, provided by the Embassy.

On the second day of the conference, there were keynote addresses held by the Ministers of Tourism

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from Malta, Croatia and Morocco, as well as some other representatives, such as the Ambassador of Portugal to Germany, Embassy of Kyrgyzstan and Federal Minister of Kashmir from Pakistan. There was also a Reception from the Embassy of Pakistan with their native food and traditional music on offer.

The keynote address on the third day of the conference was held by Taleb Rifai, the Secretary General of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), who spoke about tourism as a form of soft diplomacy. According to him, tourism is one of the most effective ways to bring people and culture together in order to break down stereotypes and bring the world into a better state than it is in today. After his speech an interactive panel discussion was held, which was focused on tourism in Sri Lanka since the end of the conflict with Tamils. The speakers on the panel were the following: S.G. Taleb Rifai (the Secretary General of the World Tourism Organization – UNWTO), Navin

Dissanayake (the Minister of Tourism and Sports in Sri Lanka), H.E. Amb. Karunatilaka Amunugama (the Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Germany), Rohana Athukorala (the Chairman of the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau) and Pusghpakumara Manel Withana (Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority). After the end of the discussion, there was a Cultural Sri Lankan performance, with native food, musicians and dancers.

The final day of the conference closed with reflections about Islam in Berlin. The topic of the discussion was the following: "Islam in Berlin: Economic, Political, Cultural Opportunities and Challenges of Migration". The discussion was held by four speakers, Dr. Timo Lochocki from the German Marshall Found, Marie Walter from the Freie Universität Berlin, Havva Arik from the Unabhängige Patientenberatung Deutschland and Mohamed Matar from the NBS Moschee & Kulturzentrum.

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**The International Symposium on Cultural Diplomacy in Germany**  
"The 70th Anniversary of the End of WW2 and the Establishment of the UN: Developing Initiatives to Promote Cultural Understanding, Global Human Rights & World Peace"  
Berlin, Germany; May 21 - 24, 2015

The historic day of November 9th 2014, which marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the summer of 2015 which marked the 70th anniversary of the end of the last world war and the establishment of the UN, represent the major transitions that have taken place globally in the development of global human rights towards a more peaceful, prosperous, equal and protected society.

As we celebrate these historic occasions together throughout the world, and in particular, at a time when new forms of violence are currently on the rise, we must remember and learn from the global cooperation and diverse initiatives of that time, which have allowed us the privilege to no longer live in a region of peoples divided, cultures suppressed and voices oppressed.

The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy therefore created the symposium in order to build on this past experience, on the one hand, and on the other hand, to formulate new initiatives, which will strengthen international relations and encourage cooperation between diverse communities based upon values of peace, democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

By creating an effective platform for global dialogue and facilitating engagement with key global decision-makers, the symposium aimed to foster greater

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global trust and understanding, and facilitate new creative and innovative ways to solve the issues which affect the peace and prosperity of the whole world today.

The Symposium was opened by Prof. Dr. Ulrich Brückner who is the Academic Director at the Center for Cultural Diplomacy Studies. Prof. Brückner welcomed all the distinguished guests and speakers and expressed the usefulness of the opportunity the symposium provides to bring people together both from the world of academia but also practitioners who work in institutions.

Following on from this, the first keynote speech of the symposium was delivered by MdB Gitta Connemann who is a Member of the German Parliament, who discussed the impact of WW2 on the world and the setting in which the United Nations was set

up. Ms Connemann read aloud the beginning of the UN Charter as the principles are so ingrained in the UN and extremely important. She finished by expressing that “the UN can only be as civilized as its members themselves, in the end the UN remains an international organization not a supranational one.”

In the afternoon there was an interactive panel discussion on the theme of the symposium featuring The Hon. Anna Diamantopoulou, Former Greek Minister and Former European Commissioner, Prof. Dr. Ulrich Brückner and Mr Mark Donfried.

The Hon. Anna Diamantopoulou then gave the final speech of the day on “The EU Economic Crisis: the Case of Greece and the Particular Relationship with Germany”. Ms Diamantopoulou covered the following in her speech; she first gave a brief summary of the six year old crisis including its origins

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and the EU’s collective response. This was followed by what Greece had done during these years and what they were currently doing. Then she discussed certain issues that saved the influence of the Greek psyche and concluded with what she considered was the way forward.

The second day of the Conference, Friday 22nd May, started with the speech from a member of the German Parliament, MdB Roderich Kiesewetter. The topic of his speech was “Germany and the United Nations: Past and Future”. Almost 28 years after the foundation of the United Nations, Germany joined and the main aim was to create a unique platform to discuss global issues and to find common solutions in order to solve conflicts peacefully. Mr Kiesewetter spoke about how this relationship changed over the last years and how it should be changed in the future. After WW2, UN membership for the two

German states was unthinkable for many years. The UN members regarded the two states as enemy states at the beginning and the population of post-war Germany focused on other issues, concerning livelihood and economic reconstruction and the rebuilding of families after the separation. The first contact between post-war Germany and the UN remained the humanitarian work of different UN agencies, for example UNICEF. Mr Kiesewetter concluded the speech with the following sentences: “The UN needs reforms, in general, to adapt the multilateral world. Therefore they need to be more efficient, more transparent and more modern in the future. The alliances inside of the UN will be more important than the decision making of the Security Council”.

After the opening speech, there were also other speeches held by important Ambassadors, Ministers

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and Professors, on the common topic, regarding the end of WW2, the founding of the UN and countering violence & extremism. The second day finished with the speaker MdB Charles Hubert, another Member of German Parliament and with the Interactive Panel Discussion on the topic “Key to Regional Peace and Stability lies in the Solution of Kashmir Dispute”. The discussion took place between Afzal Khan and Sajjad Karim (Members of the European Parliament), Dr. Michael Gottlob (representative of Amnesty International in Berlin), Prof. Dr. Hermann Kreutzmann (Chairman of the Department of Geography at the Free University in Berlin) and Ali Raza Syed (Chairman of the Kashmir Council EU in Brussels). The day finished with the Dinner Reception, hosted by the Embassy of Pakistan.

The third day of the conference began with a PhD researcher and a postgraduate student presenting their various research and papers related to

“European Identity” and “External Cultural Diplomacy as a soft power instrument of national image promotion”. After this Dr. Ibrahim Mohammed Adam who is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of Cultural Relations and Information at the University of Bahri, Khartoum, Sudan. Dr. Adam reflected upon “Democracy and the Problem of Minorities in Africa”, he began by explaining countries in Africa are facing social and economic problems and an absence of social justice as a result of the formation of the states and weak national structure. He went on to discuss the many conflicts between minorities in African countries in part as a result of the uneven distribution of wealth and political power. To conclude he said “African political leadership failed in realizing aspirations of the people and aspirations of the independent leaders, today the continent is faced with continuing problems and great challenges seen in the internal wars which are taking place in a number of countries

[...] conflicts have to be resolved peacefully to ensure security and be managed carefully.”

After lunch, Dr. Mohamed Elrashed, Pharmacist of the Medical Project of the Sudanese Red Crescent Society in Sudan gave a talk addressing the “Eight Principles of Peace-building”. Everything in life has procedures by which aims can be achieved, and peace is no different. In the world now we are in need of peace, it is what all religions are based on. Mr. Elrashed explained the different sources of conflicts both today and historically.

The Hon. Ruth M. Chikwira, Ambassador of Zimbabwe to Germany then gave a keynote address about cultural diplomacy in Zimbabwe. Ms Chikwira looked to define what cultural diplomacy is for Zimbabweans, this she expressed as “about fostering understanding and appreciation”, a tool which has been used during difficult times in the country.

The day came to a close with a moderated interview of H.E. Amb. Ramón Custodio Espinoza, Ambassador of Honduras to Germany and then Mr Mark Donfried gave some concluding remarks, summarizing the main discussion points of the symposium and thanking all the speakers and participants.

The final day of the conference, Sunday May 24th was reserved for a day-long excursion to the Berlin Carnival of Cultures which is a four-day urban festival that celebrates the diversity of Berlin. During the festival there is a parade, music and dance performances from many different cultures as well as food and drinks available. Participants of the symposium were able to enjoy all such delights around Berlin.

[Reference](#)

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**Kosovo Summit on International Law & Human Rights 2015**

*"The 70 Year Anniversary of the End of WW2 and the Establishment of the UN: An Interdisciplinary Review of the Development of International Law in Protecting Human Rights"*

Pristina, Kosovo; June 14 - 17, 2015

[http://www.ipahp.org/index.php?en\\_ksilhr-2015](http://www.ipahp.org/index.php?en_ksilhr-2015)

The year 2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, the establishment of the UN, the creation of the ICJ, and the 20th anniversary of the Dayton Accords signed in Paris in December 1995. Seventy years after the horrors of the end of the WW2 and the Bosnia war, the world is witnessing now the rise of new armed conflicts, widespread terror

and destruction, which are resulting in thousands of deaths, millions of refugees, and a deterioration of the relations between the super-powers. These treacherous developments and alarms remind the global community of the urgent need for the development of institutions and procedures to be used during such times as both a "Moral Lighthouse" and a guardian for the protection of global human rights.

The contemporary international law system (encompasses a diverse collection of international accords, UN charters, agreements, treaties, protocols, tribunals, memorandums, and the legal precedents of the IJC), which serves today as the primary pillar for the protection and the development of human rights globally, requires a universal effective functioning international law system including a greater magnitude of legislation together with the further development of legal procedures, in order



to continue to assure the swift implementation and further development of human rights globally.

In light of the importance of these recent developments, the Supreme Court of Kosovo and the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy have developed the "Kosovo Summit on International Law & Human Rights 2015" in order to review the development of international law in protecting human rights in the recent decades and to create recommendations for its future use.

**International Symposium on Cultural Diplomacy in the Commonwealth 2015**

*"The 70th Anniversary of the Establishment of the UN: Developing Initiatives to Promote Cultural Understanding, Global Human Rights & World Peace within the Commonwealth"*

London, United Kingdom; July 22 - 24, 2015

As we celebrate these historic occasions together throughout the world, and in particular, at a time when new forms of violence are currently on the rise, we must remember and learn from the global cooperation and diverse initiatives of that time, which have allowed us the privilege of no longer living in a region of peoples divided, cultures suppressed and voices oppressed.

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The Commonwealth which covers almost a quarter of the world's entire land area serves as an influential regional player in global political, economic and cultural affairs and it has a rich and diverse experience of best practices in cultural diplomacy. In addition, the Commonwealth constitutes a global community where all members have an equal voice regardless of size and population. Such a community, with its shared values and history, is the ideal forum for fostering mutual understanding and cooperation through cultural exchange and open dialogue. The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy therefore created the International Symposium on Cultural Diplomacy in the Commonwealth 2015 in order to build on this past experience and to formulate new initiatives, which will strengthen international relations and encourage cooperation between diverse communities based upon values of peace, democracy, human rights and the rule of law within the Commonwealth of Nations.

The three day conference was opened by welcome addresses from Mr Mark Donfried, Robin Marsh (Secretary General, Universal Peace Foundation) and Dr. Sheikh Ramzy (Director, Oxford Islamic Information Centre), who each welcomed all the guests and introduced the topic and theme of the symposium.

One of the keynote addresses during first the day was given by MP Stephen Gethins who is a Member of the British Parliament, in his address he tackled the issues of "The Role of Cultural Diplomacy in Global Good Governance". Mr Gethins expressed that it is a really important time for cultural diplomacy as the world is now facing new challenges never faced before, and cultural diplomacy has a role to play in the existing institutions to tackle some of these new challenges. He looked at the way in which the Commonwealth has changed over time and how it will likely change in the future in ways we may not be aware of today.

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The Co-founder and Artistic Director of the Grand Union Orchestra, Mr Tony Haynes gave a keynote address in the afternoon entitled "The Isle is Full of Noises". Mr Haynes provided the view of cultural diplomacy from artists, he expressed how he uses music to practice cultural diplomacy and explained some of the artistic projects going on in London which are involving refugees.

Thursday July 23rd began with a keynote address from Lord Jack McConnell, a Member of the House of Lords and Former First Minister of Scotland. Another of the keynote addresses was in the form of a personal perspective on soft power from a Member of the House of Lords, Judith Jolly who discussed the formation of the Commonwealth with regards to soft power or the lack of it. She looked to peruse soft power in greater depth and of course referred to the work of Joseph Nye and his redefinition of soft power in 2013. Another issue discussed was the

role of diaspora communities in the commonwealth which was explained by Mr Keith Vaz, a Member of the British Parliament.

The final day of the symposium started with a keynote address from Natalie Bennett who is the Leader of the Green Party in the UK. Ms Bennett focused particularly on migration issues, refugees and the Paris Climate talks that were to take place in December 2015. The audience were then treated to another artistic perspective from Jayne Joso the British novelist, playwright, writer and artist who discussed "Space, Place, Identity - Notes from a Novelist on Anti-Human Architecture".

Concluding remarks to close the symposium were given by Sir James Mancham (Founding President, Seychelles; Member ICD Advisory Board), Dr. Yehoeshahfaht Ben Israel (Director, Experience Africa Program, ICD), Mr Robin Marsh and Dr. Sheik Ramzy.

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A number of interns from the ICD were lucky enough to travel to London to attend the symposium. As well as being able to listen to the keynote speeches and addresses, the interns had the opportunity to ask questions, network during the breaks and speak with the distinguished guests.

Reference

**The Annual Conference  
on Cultural Diplomacy**

**“Building Bridges of Peace and  
Reconciliation in Times of Greater Global  
Insecurity”**

Berlin, Germany, ICD House, 10 - 13 December 2015

<http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/index.php?the-annual-conference-on-cultural-diplomacy-2015>

The Annual Conference on Cultural Diplomacy is the world's leading event in the field of cultural diplomacy hosted and organized by the ICD in partnership with other leading institutions at the end of each year.

The current political situation in many regions and countries such as North and Central Africa, Ukraine, Greece, Iraq, Syria, Palestine, South Sudan, Somalia and others together with the deteriorations of social norms for the use of violence, emphasizes the growing need for a greater cultural dialogue, understanding and trust in order to avoid further escalation. The 2015 Annual Conference on Cultural Diplomacy therefore focused, on raising awareness and support for activities that promote global peace, stability and prosperity.

The conference brought together leading politicians, religious leaders, senior academics and celebrated artists together with representatives from areas of conflict in order to establish new institutions and

initiatives that will help with these challenges using the practice of cultural diplomacy together with other practices and means.

The conference began on the afternoon of Thursday 10th December with a welcome address from the Director General of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy Mr Mark Donfried. In his speech, he welcomed everybody to the event and went on to explain the importance of cultural diplomacy and the key role it can play in the world today. He expressed that cultural diplomacy when used together with economics, politics, governments, civil society and the private sector there is potential, and within the framework of the Annual Conference there is both formal and informal opportunities for discussion. Mr. Donfried reiterated the importance of having one conference which is dedicated solely to cultural diplomacy, as the landscape of international relations is always changing hence it is important to constantly

reassess exactly what cultural diplomacy was, is and may be in the future. By bringing important figures together in the setting of the Annual Conference on Cultural Diplomacy, it provided the opportunity for dialogue and discussion on current issues and created a platform to search for possible solutions and initiatives.

Another key speaker on the first day was The Hon. Rui Duarte Barros, the Former Prime Minister of Guinea Bissau, who spoke about the main topic of the conference on peace and reconciliation but with a focus on Africa and how cultural diplomacy is contributing to the building of bridges there. He focused on three points, globalization and security in Africa today, democracy, political instability peace and reconciliation against the changing constitutions and finally the contribution of cultural diplomacy to the process.

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In the late afternoon, The Hon. Yasar Yakis, Former Foreign Minister of Turkey addressed the audience and spoke about the Syrian crisis and its various dimensions. Mr Yakis expressed the importance of the Arab Spring and the disproportionate amount of force used by the Syrian regime to repress such protests. The problem he stated is that there is so many different factions and groups even up to 20 or 30 which means it is difficult to achieve anything. The fact that there are so many international actors also involved in the Syrian Crisis is also an issue. Among the international actors, led by the US, there are differing opinions between different countries also causing tension. He closed by summarizing the prospects in Syria and the influence the international community is having in the country. After the final lectures, the RED Ballroom hosted a welcome dinner for all the speakers and guests at the conference.

Day two of the conference was kicked off by a talk from MdB Charles Huber who is a member of the German Parliament. As the refugee crisis is a topic that is high on Germany's agenda, he addressed the integration of refugees into European society during his speech and answered questions from the audience about refugees in Germany. Following from this, The Director of the International Bureau of Education at UNESCO; The Hon. Prof. Mmantsetsa Marope took to the stage to discuss "Building Bridges with Bricks from the Walls we Break Down: Towards a Secure, Peaceful and Reconciled 21st Century". Ms Marope noted the importance of being able to have a continuous and meaningful dialogue each year at the Annual Conference, hence she continued upon the theme of her talk at the previous Annual Conference in 2014. She looked to highlight specifically which walls have been broken and which bricks we are taking in order to promote peace and

reconciliation. She expressed the need to focus more on good governance than just on democracy if we are to achieve anything meaningful.

One of the keynote addresses was given in the afternoon by MEP Michèle Alliot-Marie the Former Foreign Minister of France. Ms Alliot-Marie spoke about the issues of terrorism and cultural diplomacy, she opened by noting the recent terror attacks which took place in Paris prior to the conference and stated that such attacks can "strike everyone, everywhere and in every circumstance". She went on the note that the most important aspect for terrorism is communication, the presence of media to report on the attacks is essential for terrorists to create a feeling of fear and paralysis. "For the first time the whole world is mobilized against terrorism. Not just security and military is needed to fight terrorism but cultural diplomacy has a special role to play in the fight against terrorism." The role of cultural diplomacy in

terrorism, Michèle Alliot-Marie went on to discuss in further detail.

The second day came to a close with a panel discussion on "Building Bridges of Peace and Reconciliation in Times of Greater Global Insecurity" moderated by Prof. Dr. Hans Köchler featuring a number of the distinguished speakers including President Valdis Zatlers, Sen. Linda Lanzillotta, the Hon. Ali Ahmad Jalali and the Hon. Thuli Mandonsela. Following this there was a group dinner.

Saturday 12th December began early with a talk about building peace and cooperation between North African countries after the Arab Spring, given by The Hon. Nouzha Skalli who is the Former Minister of Family Affairs of Morocco. Ms Skalli discussed peace, cultural dialogue and security in the Maghreb countries. These five countries are the link between

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Europe and Africa and therefore look to promote joint development between the two continents. To finish she stated we need strong political will and to promote the values of democracy and human rights for women and men and increase economic corporation and integration to reduce poverty and vulnerability. She ended by stating “The future of the world is Africa so we must work together hand in hand with our brothers and sisters there. United we can overcome all the challenges and achieve peace, security, democracy, freedom and development”.

Just before lunch the President of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy and Former Prime Minister of Spain, President José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero gave a keynote address in which he reflected upon “the impact the institute can make on the key challenges of peace and living together”. Zapatero went on the look at the links between the United Nations and the

Institute for Cultural Diplomacy and how the two institutions can work together.

The day came to a close in another Moderated Panel Discussion about “Promoting Culture of Peace: the Political, Education, Legal and Cultural Dimensions” which was moderated by MP Ögmundur Jónasson. The discussion was followed by the Oriental Night Event with dinner and a concert.

The final day of the conference featured another panel discussion on “Terrorism and the Culture of Democracy” including President Emil Constantinescu, President Valdis Zatlers, Lord Jack McConnell, The Hon. Staffan Nilsson and others. Lord Jack McConnell the Former First Minister of Scotland then made a keynote speech focused on the Agenda 2030 and the role cultural diplomacy can play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Hon. Ali Ahmad Jalali, The Former Minister of the interior of Afghanistan then wrapped up the keynote speeches with his talk discussing the cultural dimensions of conflict resolution. During this talk he looked to define what culture is and what its relationship to conflict is and how state policies create the environments for cultural friction, violence and wars based on cultural differences.

The whole conference came to a close with the Romanian Cultural Event which featured a Romanian Cultural Heritage Panel Discussion with keynote addresses from President Emil Constantinescu (Former President of Romania), Prof. Dr. Mircea Dumitru (Rector, University of Bucharest) and Prof. Dr. Vlad Nistor (President, University Senate, University of Bucharest). The Cultural Event featured also a musical performance by the celebrated Romanian musician Andrei Ionita and a performance by the Romanian artist Razvan Rosu.



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**Countering Violent Extremism**

"New Security Agenda for  
Education and Culture"  
Sofia, Bulgaria, December 16, 2015

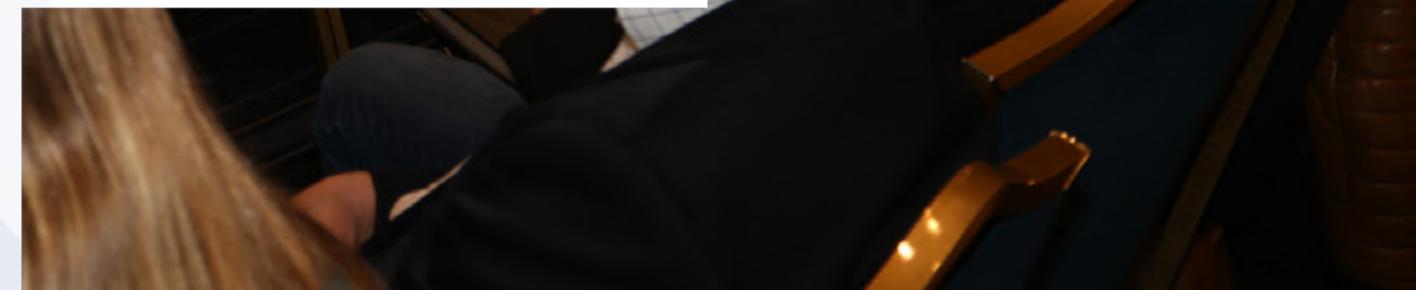
<http://www.atlantic-club.org/index.php?international-conference-8220countering-violent-extremism-new-security-agenda-for-education-and-culture8221>

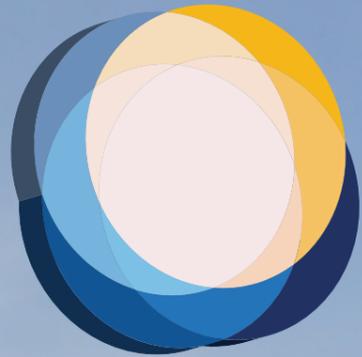
UNESCO and the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria, with the support of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy, hosted an international conference with the topic "Countering Violent Extremism: New Security Agenda for Education and Culture". The perspectives for building a global coalition for the protection of cultural heritage and diversity, as well as the role of education in preventing violent extremism were discussed during the event.

The conference started with an opening session from the following speakers: Irina Bokova (Director-General of UNESCO), Dr. Solomon Passy (Founding President of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria), Aleksander Kwaśniewski (the President of Poland during 1995 and 2005) and Bill Richardson (the US Ambassador to the United Nations, during February 1997 and August 1998). Mr. Richardson spoke about the increasing extremism and summarized events that occurred in the previous year. National security and terrorism have supplanted the economy, which has traditionally been the main issue in the present era. Violence has been increasing across the world and its impacts are not confined to one part of the world. He stressed that securing the future from these threats means our governments have to work together, despite the differences, and break down the barriers of ignorance between our people. He emphasized the importance of education as the key tool in order to solve the mentioned issues.

After, there were two discussion panels held. The first panel was on the topic of "Building a Global Coalition for the Protection of Cultural Heritage and Diversity" with the moderator Polina Karastoyanova, the Chairperson for Culture and Media Committee at the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria.

The second panel's topic was about "Building Resilient Minds: The Role of Education in Preventing Violent Extremism", with the moderator Mr Mark Donfried, the Director of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy.





## THE ORGANIZATION FOR YOUTH EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT (OYED)

The Organization for Youth Education & Development (OYED) operates under the legal framework of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy and is organized in cooperation with national governments. The ICD Youth Education & Development Program is dedicated to the creation, promotion and execution of youth-oriented education and development programs. Over the past decade, the program has managed to bring thousands of young people together from every corner of the world to discuss and promote issues that are vital to the younger generation, and has grown to become one of Europe's largest independent cultural exchange organizations, whose programs facilitate interaction between individuals of all backgrounds from across the world.



The Organization for Youth Education & Development (OYED)



**Philosophy**

The ICD understands that in a rapidly evolving and globalized world, the rights and opportunities of young people around the world are neglected far too often. As a result, both the success of these young individuals and the success of their respective countries can be unnecessarily limited. The ICD believes that the youth are the future and supporting the world's young people is both an urgent and global priority. Since its inception, the ICD has dedicated itself to the promotion and empowerment of young leadership initiatives in order to impact the next generation of global leaders worldwide.

**Role & Mission**

The program provides the younger generation with greater access to personal development, while increasing their chances for professional opportunities. The major objectives of the program are to promote and empower the world's young people through the application of cultural diplomacy initiatives at the local, national and international levels. The program serves as a platform to promote and sustain intercultural dialogue at all levels and by doing so promotes specific educational and professional opportunities for youth.

The Organization for Youth Education & Development (OYED)

**Activities**

To further promote and empower young people, the Youth Education and Development Program undertakes a wide variety of different professional and educational activities which can be categorized into one of the following areas:

• **International Conferences & Events**

The program organizes and hosts events around the world at both the very high-level (including Heads of State, Ministers and Members of Parliament) and at the grassroots level working with local communities and schools. The intention of the events is firstly to raise awareness and promote the issues that lie at the core of the program secondly to expand the network of partners and youth of the program, and thirdly to further promote the mission of the OYED, so that it is implemented increasingly at the local, national and global levels.

• **Young Leaders' Forums**

Through its Young Leaders Forums, the program is empowering the next generation of young leaders from around the world by creating exchange programs, events, programs and follow-up projects between them. By working with the next generation of leaders, the program and its partners have a unique opportunity to empower youth and have a long-term impact on the future global leadership. The format of the young leaders forums is that first the participants are sent background and preparatory readings, then they come together for the program itself including lectures, seminars, workshops and visits, and finally at the end of the program each participant is expected to do a follow-up project or "leadership initiative" which will contribute to the intercultural dialogue and understanding between different cultures.

• **Youth Initiatives**

The program has launched a number of Youth Initiatives, which are designed to lobby important youth issues that need to be implemented in national, regional and international parliaments and governments. The youth initiatives aim to increase parliamentary and current leadership involvement in youth related issues as well as increasing youth involvement within parliaments and institutions by bringing together young people and senior leaders to work together to promote solutions to youth issues.

• **Internship Project**

The program Internship Project, which has now existed for eight years, was officially launched in January 2008 and has been successful in achieving its main purpose of enabling like-minded students and young professionals to come to Berlin and engage in intercultural and international programs. The internship program is an ongoing, evolving project and, as such its ultimate goal is to enable and empower young professionals to engage in intercultural relations and in so doing promote multiculturalism worldwide.

• **Research & Development**

The OYED is constantly conducting research about the current situation of youth within different countries and institutions in the world and attempting to identify both opportunities for further OYED developments as well as positive examples of successful youth empowerment.

The Organization for Youth Education & Development (OYED)

The Transatlantic Youth Alliance 2015-25  
**“Alliance of Young Leaders from America & Europe”**



2015 saw the Youth Development Program launch the Transatlantic Youth Alliance which is a ten year project aimed at bringing together young people from Europe and America and encouraging cooperation and dialogue between them in order to develop an intercultural dialogue. The main goal of “The Transatlantic Youth Alliance 2015-25” is to strengthen transatlantic relations by formulating initiatives which encourage cooperation between European and American youth and young leader’s.

There are many parallels to be drawn between the young people of Europe and the US. Due to the European heritage of many Americans, and the influence of American culture in Europe, in recent history, the values, traditions and cultures of these respective peoples have become in many ways mutually-reinforcing and thus significantly intertwined.

In this respect, these similarities can provide a sound basis for intercultural dialogue between European and American youth. Already existing mutual trust and understanding can therefore be harnessed in order to discuss global issues, and develop solutions to problems which exist as barriers to global stability and prosperity. In creating a forum for European-American intercultural dialogue, and by facilitating engagement with key international decision makers, we can build a platform for young people to influence global policy, and have a positive impact upon the wider world.

The Transatlantic Youth Alliance will initially select 200 highly qualified young leaders who together, will conduct activities and formulate initiatives throughout the first twelve months of the project. Each year thereafter, another 100 young leaders both from Europe and the USA will be added to the network, so that by 2025, the alliance will consist of 2,000 active members based on both sides of the Atlantic.

The duration of the program will be 10 years, and during this period, the young leaders will regularly engage with participant representatives from leading global governance organizations, national governments and leading academic institutions. Through this interaction, the young leaders will have the unique opportunity to work with world leaders on finding solutions to global problems and have a direct influence on the formulation of policies which affect the whole world.

The Organization for Youth Education & Development (OYED)



2015 was yet another successful year for the Young Leaders’ Forums, the following reviews will explicate in more detail the activities which took place throughout the year. 2015 saw several Young Leaders’ Forums take place both in Berlin and internationally. All proved to be successful in joining together future leaders in an interdisciplinary setting so as to explore past and future trends within the realm of Cultural Diplomacy in respective regions. The development of these initiatives has set the standard for the overall Young Leaders’ Forums program, thus prompting the ICD to continue its advancement within the Youth Development program.

An overview of the Weeklong Seminars from 2015 can be found below:

**The Berlin Summit on African Youth Education & Development**  
 “Establishing a Sustainable Educational System Infrastructure and Professional Development Programs in Africa”  
 (Berlin; January 13th - 16th 2015)

Over the past decade, significant progress has been made in the field of education, and many African countries are making significant headway in the struggle to realize the Millennium Development Goal of achieving universal primary education. Since the turn of the Millennium, enrollment in secondary education has more than doubled and the net enrollment rate in primary education now

stands at just over three-quarters of the child population. For this reason the focus of the Summit was on how a sustainable education system can be developed in Africa.

The Summit brought together high level politicians, senior diplomats and academics together with experts in the field and included high level stakeholders from the field of education and the African private sector to discuss central issues and potential solutions regarding social development, educational systems and developing career opportunities in Africa.

At its conclusion, the Summit published a report based on the lectures, proposals and suggestions

The Organization for Youth Education & Development (OYED)  
**Young Leaders' Forums** (Weeklong Seminars 2015)

from all speakers and participants, which was published and delivered to the international community. This report included the key information presented and documented the educational and professional opportunities presented in the framework of the Summit.

Notable speakers at the conference included: H.E Rui Duarte Barros (Former President of Guinea – Bissau) who was the Patron of the Summit, Mr Pierre-Emmanuel Quirin (Director General for International Affairs, Crans Montana Forum), H. E. Amb. Kamanga Clementine Shakembo (Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Congo to Germany), The Hon. Halldor Asgrimsson (Former Prime Minister of Iceland), Mr Chu Eben (Refugees Emancipation e.V.) and The Hon. Edouard Bizimana (Ambassador of Burundi) who gave a speech about the case of Burundi.

[Reference](#)



**Cultural Bridges in Germany**  
**A Forum for Young Leaders (CBG)**  
(Berlin; February 18th-21st, 2015)

"Cultural Bridges in Germany: A Forum for Young Leaders" (CBG) is a network of young individuals, who share an interest in strengthening German intercultural relations. The forum provides a platform for interdisciplinary discussion and exchange on salient issues concerning German culture, society and related political and economic subjects. At the international level, the program seeks to analyze the roles and responsibilities of Germany in the emerging new world order. Through these discussions and exchanges, the forum plays a valuable role in strengthening relations between Germany's cultural communities and between its international partners.

During the three day seminar, participants took part in panel discussions, lectures and seminars held by experts from the cultural, political, diplomatic, academic, and the private sectors as well as civil society practitioners. In addition to these academic components, participants also took part in a range of cultural and social activities that allowed them to experience Berlin's unique history and cultural landscape.

[Reference](#)

**The Common EU Youth Policy Forum**  
**"A Call for Further Engagement & Support for Global Youth Issues"**  
(Brussels; June 13th, 2015)

In recent years, youth unemployment and the development of the labor market for the youth has become a challenge as unemployment rates are high and youth all around the EU is struggling to develop their future careers. The situation is affecting every country in the EU in a significant manner, however the south of Europe is affected more seriously.

The Organization for Youth Education & Development (OYED)  
**Young Leaders' Forums** (Weeklong Seminars 2015)

After the 2008 financial crisis, which was one of the most damaging in EU history, it is crucial that youth policies have a prominent and central role in the future of the EU agenda. The financial crisis of 2008 is perhaps not the direct cause for the current difficult situation of EU youth, however the economic and political framework which enabled a factor like the financial crisis to escalate the situation of youth, has been inherited over the course of many years. Therefore, in order to create sustainable policies, the situation of youth issues must be carefully observed and analyzed from both the legal and legislative perspectives.

The Common EU Youth Policy Forum gathered representatives from non-governmental organizations and civil society, experts in the areas of youth coming from the fields of politics, economics and law together with politicians, academics, young professionals and students from across the EU. The Forum delegates discussed the proposal for a Common EU Youth Policy Proposal 2014-24 and strived to develop a plan for after the conclusion of the conference to establish programs and initiatives that will be implemented across the EU at the local and national levels to support the policy proposal.

[Reference](#)

**The Annual Summit on Youth in the United Nations**  
**"The 70th Anniversary of the Establishment of the UN: Developing Youth Initiatives to Promote Sustainable Economies, Cultural Understanding, and Global Human Rights"**  
(New York City; September 21st-26th, 2015 - Held Parallel to the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly)

The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy acknowledges these new standards, practices and opportunities



and therefore created the Annual Summit on Youth in the United Nations in order to present and to promote the new roles of youth in the United Nations to support the global community as well as the roles of the UN to further promote youth related issues and concerns.

The Annual Summit on Youth in the United Nations 2015 took place in New York City in Foreign Embassies & Consulates, the United Nations and at a number of important political, historic, and cultural locations across the city.

Speakers during the summit included experts of the United Nations, leading politicians and diplomats, senior academics, and other dignitaries, including H.E Amb. Katalin Bogyay (Ambassador of Hungary to the UN), President José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero (Former Prime Minister of Spain) and The Hon. Bertie Ahern (Former Prime Minister of Ireland).

[Reference](#)

The Organization for Youth Education & Development (OYED)

**Young Leaders' Forums (Weeklong Seminars 2015)**

**USA Meets Europe**

A Forum for Young Leaders (USAME)  
(New York City; September 21st-26th, 2015)

The USA Meets Europe: A Forum for Young Leaders (USAME) is a network of young professionals from both sides of the Atlantic who have an interest in supporting the relationship between the United States and Europe.

The USAME Weeklong Seminar 2015 was an international and interdisciplinary gathering of young professionals and students from across the world. The seminar provided an excellent opportunity for young people to expand their knowledge of current and future developments in these fields, meet with current and former key cultural players and politicians, build sustainable networks, and experience the rich and diverse cultural life of New York City.

[Reference](#)

**Africa Meets Europe**

A Forum for Young Leaders (AME)  
(Berlin; December 10th-16th, 2015)

Africa Meets Europe: A Forum for Young Leaders (AME) is a network of young professionals and individuals who have an interest in exploring



and strengthening the relations between Africa and Europe. The ultimate goal of the forum is to educate, enhance and sustain the African-European relationship by empowering the next generation of young leaders from Africa and Europe.

The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy now provides a forum to embrace and examine the field of cultural diplomacy and its importance in African-European relations. During the weeklong seminar, participants had the opportunity to get detailed information about the current African-European relations and discuss their thoughts and ideas about future bilateral cooperation. At the AME weeklong seminar every participant had the chance to meet prominent experts from the field and work in a multicultural environment.

The event consisted of programs of lectures, seminars, and workshops, together with cultural and social activities. The Seminars aimed to give the participants an insight into key perspectives on, the African-European relationship and to introduce them to a network of like-minded individuals, and allow them to explore the cultural landscape of the city of Berlin. Speakers during the seminar included individuals from the fields of politics, diplomacy, academia, culture & the arts, civil society, and the private sector. Once individuals have taken part in an AME Weeklong Seminar and joined the forum, they become a part of the ICD's network, which facilitates communication between like-minded individuals across the world.

[Reference](#)

**Cultural Diplomacy in Africa**

A Forum for Young Leaders (CDA)  
(Berlin; December 10th-16th, 2015)

The Cultural Diplomacy in Africa program fully promotes the use of cultural diplomacy as a basis for advancing relationships between young individuals

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from all over the world who share an interest in Africa. It focuses on the recognition of cultural diplomacy as an important tool in addressing the array of complex challenges that Africa currently faces. The forum conducts on-going activities and discussions aimed at supporting the development of communication between African states and strengthening relations between different countries and cultural groups within Africa. The continent is characterized by a myriad of different identities, cultures and traditions, and the forum seeks to celebrate and recognize the advantages of such diversity. African cultures are diverse and varied and not static, and like most of the world have been impacted upon by both internal and external forces.

The network also endeavors to promote stronger and more amicable connections between African nations and the rest of the world. The forum approaches these objectives in a number of ways, including inviting participants to weeklong seminars which focus on a variety of themes and involve a series of lectures from high profile speakers with extensive knowledge and/or experience on the relevant themes, follow up discussions, debates, a variety of workshops and leadership initiative programs. Outside the seminars, participants are also involved in conferences, festivals and the turning in of papers, all dedicated to the topic of improving intercultural dialogue across the African continent. Taking part in the Young Leaders Forum allows like-minded individuals to share their thoughts and ideas and work together towards establishing a

better cultural climate for future generations both in and across Africa and around the world.

[Reference](#)

**The ICD Voluntary Internship Project (2008-17)**

Is a 10 year program with the main purpose to enable students who need an internship as a compulsory part of their BA or graduate studies to engage in cultural diplomacy and in doing so, to further promote cultural diplomacy and multiculturalism worldwide.

The positioning of the ICD in the center of Europe, makes it a natural hub for the younger generation and indeed, the past years of the project have been witness to interns being active participants in the multicultural field, where lasting friendships were formed and valuable contacts made, which immediately expanded each individual's network to all parts of the world.

The diverse multicultural environment provides an excellent framework for Cultural Diplomacy to be practiced on a daily basis within the office as well as outside of the office. One of the main privileges afforded by the project is to work in a young, interdisciplinary and international environment, which serves as a model of successful multiculturalism in practice. The experience of learning to work together in a multicultural and international organizational environment is a rare, unique and a rewarding common experience.

To read and watch interns testimonials, please see the following hyperlink:

[http://www.oyed.org/index.php?en\\_internship-testimonials-2015](http://www.oyed.org/index.php?en_internship-testimonials-2015)



# Human Rights & Global Peace

The Inter Parliamentary Alliance for Human Rights and Global Peace (IPAHP) operates under the legal framework of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy and has been established in order to raise awareness of the universality of fundamental human rights, to promote social and economic development in developing countries across the world, and to strengthen intercultural relations between peoples and their communities. Spearheaded by an international group of parliamentarians with the support of experts from politics, academia, and civil society, the Alliance activity includes regular international conferences and academic programs, interdisciplinary research and the promotion of diverse initiatives.

Human Rights & Global Peace

## Aims of the Foundation

*The Alliance pursues the following Aims:*



- Promoting the universality of fundamental human rights (working to support activity that serves to monitor and promote human rights across the world);

- Promoting socio-economic development in developing countries (conducting activity that aims to support sustainable socio-economic development in areas such as education, energy, tourism and the economy in developing countries across the world);

- Strengthening intercultural relations in order to promote global peace and stability (working to strengthen intercultural relations between regions, countries and cultural communities at all levels, by promoting dialogue, understanding and trust with the ultimate goal of promoting global peace and stability).

Human Rights & Global Peace

## Activities of the Foundation

*In order to pursue these aims, the Initiative for Human Rights and Global Peace conducts the following four main types of activity:*



### The Center for International Law & Human Rights (CILHR)

The Center for International Law & Human Rights is a leading institute for the study of international law, human rights and cultural diplomacy. It focuses particularly on raising awareness of the universality of fundamental human rights and international law, in order to promote social and economic development and to strengthen intercultural relations between people and their communities at all levels, with the aim to achieve global peace and stability.

There are four different categories of education and academic programs offered in partnership with leading universities, which are enabling students to explore, analyze and experience international law and human rights both in theory and practice, which are the following: graduate degree programs, e-learning courses, professional development programs and study abroad programs. The main objectives are to extend current research, programs and practices in the field of International Law and Human Rights and also to create a platform to promote and sustain human rights and the rule of law. It is committed to the promotion and development of applied international law and human rights and operates in partnership with International and National Courts, Judiciary, Parliaments and Global Governance Institutions around the world.

Human Rights & Global Peace



## Human Rights Initiatives

The Inter-Parliamentary Alliance for Human Rights & Global Peace (IPAHP) is committed to the ongoing struggle to ensure basic global human rights standards throughout the world. In pursuit of this goal, the IPAHP has initiated its Human Rights Program, which is composed of projects that are dedicated to the most urgent issues and global challenges of the time. Each of these Human Rights Projects include human rights initiatives on different levels, which are all fully interactive and open to the general public. These Projects are based on the fundamental principles in the UN Charter and major multi-lateral agreements, aiming to inspire decision-makers to promote the implementation of these principles. As such, the IPAHP is seeking to inspire and engage governments, decision makers and individuals to become advocates and leaders, in order to ensure universal human rights. Besides that, it is also exercising and implementing cultural diplomacy practices as the main tool in order to support its engagement in promoting human rights standards around the world.

*The IPAHP Human Rights Program includes the following projects:*

**The IPAHP Violence Prevention Project**  
*(Initiative on the UN Genocide Convention)*  
[Reference](#)

Human Rights & Global Peace

**The IPAHP “Born Equal Project”**  
*(Initiative on the UN Women's Rights Convention;  
The Work Place Initiative; Initiative for Multiculturalism)*  
[Reference](#)

**The IPAHP Corporate Cultural Diplomacy Project**  
*(Initiative on the "UN Global Compact")*  
[Reference](#)

**The IPAHP Initiative on Environmental Responsibility & Climate Change**  
[Reference](#)

**The IPAHP Global Health Security Project**  
*(The Responsibility to Care Initiative)*  
[Reference](#)

**The Sound of Freedom Project**  
[Reference](#)



## Peace Building Initiatives

The process of globalization is creating a world in which individual nation states are increasingly interdependent and interconnected. Despite this growing interdependence, there remain major cultural, political, religious, and economic disputes as well as a large number of conflicts across the world with deep-rooted historical experiences, from political conflict at the international level to violent conflict at the sub-national level. The de-escalation of these disputes and conflicts requires creative thinking and new approaches that take into account both the history of the divisions and the evolving global context within which they are set.

## Human Rights & Global Peace

In light of the importance of these issues and the urgent current global challenges, the IPAHP has established its Peace-building Program in order to contribute to achieving sustainable solutions and strategies for securing global peace and reconciliation. The IPAHP Peace-Building Project is a continuation of a 5-year long project, the “World without Walls Project”, which has been implemented between 2009 and 2014. But the new project will be a 10-year long project, which started in 2015. It is conducted by the ICD in partnership with global governance organizations, national governments, leading academic institutions and multinational corporations. This project is designed to serve as an influential peace-building actor with a specific focus on conflict resolution and reconciliation. It will be comprised of annual meetings and events, peace delegations, extensive research in the field and activities for the youth. Special emphasis will be given to develop multiple follow up initiatives by other global actors, dialogue with key decision makers and engagement of those with financial means who can support the development of such initiatives.



## Conferences & Academic Events

**The Hague Summit on International Law & Human Rights - An Interdisciplinary Analysis on the Role of International Law in Promoting Human Rights**  
(International Court of Justice, The Hague; February 4th-5th, 2015)

### Reference

The year 2015, which marked the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations and the creation of the UN International Court of Justice, which represented the major transitions that have taken place in the development of global human rights towards a more equal and protected civil society. These powerful transitions have presented citizens with great opportunity to develop a just society based on the sincere and absolute protection of human rights. In today's globalized world, where billions of citizens are demanding the development and protection of basic human rights, the development of

## Human Rights & Global Peace Conferences & Academic Events

an effective functioning international law system is therefore of paramount importance. However, the realization of this demand, requires both universality and a greater magnitude of legislation together with the further development of legal procedures, in order to assure the implementation and further development of human rights globally.

The Summit brought together legislators, members of the judiciary, representatives from global governance institutions and stakeholders from all around the world, to discuss and prepare recommendations and a list of concrete activities for the future development of the international law system to support human rights globally, which can be implemented by the participants of the conference and the global community. Participation in the conference was also open to governmental and diplomatic officials, academics, journalists, civil society practitioners, private sector representatives, young professionals and students as well as other interested individuals from all over the world.



**How to Implement Peace Around the World? - Exceptional Meeting of Political and Religious Leaders**  
(Brussels; June 10th - 13th, 2015)

### Reference

Religious leaders from all around the world have a key role to play in order to pave a new path towards peace, based on tolerance and the acceptance of others. Nowadays with diversity of opinions and the multiplicity of religious & philosophical choices, it is vital that these societal assets shall not become the root causes of violence and fractures.

On the occasion of the 26th Annual Session of the Crans Montana Forum (CMF) the ICD organized a meeting in Brussels. With the participation of ISESCO, a gathering at the highest level was organized, made up of religious leaders from different backgrounds, in order to address these crucial issues. The forum was hosted in a number of important political, historic and cultural locations across the city. The forum brought together world leaders from the fields of politics and religion, together with senior academics, representatives from the private sectors and other dignitaries traveling to Brussels from all over the world, with the aim to promote global peace and economic cooperation.

Human Rights & Global Peace  
*Conferences & Academic Events*



**Kosovo Summit on International Law & Human Rights**

“The 70 Year Anniversary of the End of WW2 and the Establishment of the UN: An Interdisciplinary Review of the Development of International Law in Protecting Human Rights”  
(The Supreme Court, Pristina, Kosovo; June 14th - 17th, 2015)

Reference

The year 2015 also marked the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and the end of the Bosnian war as well. The world is now witnessing the rise of new armed conflicts, widespread terror and destruction, which are resulting in thousands of deaths, millions of refugees and a deterioration of the relations between the super-powers. These events remind the global community of the urgent need for the development of institutions and procedures to be used during such times as both a “Moral Lighthouse” and a guardian for the protection of global human rights. In light of the importance of recent developments, the Supreme Court of Kosovo and the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy developed the “Kosovo Summit on International Law & Human Rights 2015” in order to review the development of international law in protecting human rights in the recent decades and to create recommendations for its future use.

The Kosovo Summit, which was hosted at the supreme court of Kosovo, brought together legislators, members of the judiciary, representatives from global governance institutions and stakeholders from around the world to a four-day Summit. It included keynote addresses, panel discussions, plenary sessions and social activities.

The keynote speakers, among other important participants, included: Isa Mustafa, the Prime Minister of Kosovo; Fejzullah Hasani, the President of the Supreme Court of Kosovo and Atifete Jahjaga, the President of Kosovo.

Human Rights & Global Peace  
*Conferences & Academic Events*



**International Symposium on Cultural and Religious Diplomacy  
War and Peace in the Religions of the Mediterranean:**

“Religions as Catalysts for Peaceful Coexistence”  
(Galata Rum School, Kemeralti Cad. Beyoglu Istanbul Turkey; December 6th - 8th, 2015)

Reference

The International Symposium on Cultural and Religious Diplomacy is a global conference combining the fields of inter-faith dialogue, peace-making and cultural/religious diplomacy. The Symposium was held under the presence and Patronage of His All Holiness Bartholomew I', Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch.

European countries progressively confront the consequences, the problems and the challenges, which are related with the presence of Muslims in these traditionally Christian areas. What is the nature and the causes of these consequences? What impact do they have on the political and economic agenda? These and other similar questions were investigated at the Conference.

The Symposium was based in Istanbul and hosted at the Halki Theological School and at a number of other important political, historic and cultural locations across the city. The Conference brought together academics experts, religious leaders, politicians and businessmen from all over the world, approached and elucidated the impact of the religious factor on the current discussion concerning religious terrorism, radicalization and re-shaping of the global religious and cultural map.

The Symposium included, among other important speakers and delegates, keynote addresses from the following distinguished guests: José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, the Former Prime Minister of Spain; His All Holiness Bartholomew, the Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch and Anna Diamantopoulou, the Former Greek European Commissioner for Employment.



## The ICD House of Arts & Culture

Is a multi-purpose location, in the heart of multi-cultural Berlin, which has been designed to provide an independent forum for interaction and exchange between groups and individuals from Berlin's diverse communities including politicians, diplomats, cultural practitioners, academics, civil servants, and private sector representatives. In 2015, the ICD House hosted multiple cultural events of diverse background and styles.



ICD House of Arts & Culture

*Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015*

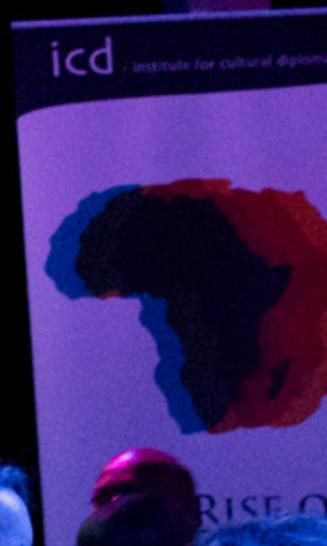
ICD House of Arts & Culture

*Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015*

## Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015

### *Karibu Night*

On January 15th, the ICD House of Arts & Culture hosted an evening of music, dancing, delicious delights, networking and socializing. The event was held in the framework of our Summit on African Youth Education. "Karibu" brought together people from across Berlin to celebrate in the ICD House, both those who had participated in the conference during the day as well as others. The African-themed evening consisted of musical performances, dance performances and typical African food, drinks and refreshments. Carmel Zoum (<http://www.carmelzoum.biz/>), an artist with French and Congolese background performed a blend of African rhythms and electronic beats, that was enjoyed by visitors of the ICD House. The aim of the evening was to ensure all the guests got a taste of African culture and were able to appreciate and celebrate it through the diverse range of music, dance and food available.



ICD House of Arts & Culture  
*Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015*

ICD House of Arts & Culture  
*Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015*



### *Bellissima Italia*

The Italian community, one of the biggest foreign presences in Germany, presented its culture, traditions and customs, in a welcoming event on April 30th, 2015. The aim of the event was to explore the uniqueness of Italy's worldwide popularity and reputation, and to give the people of Berlin an opportunity to be immersed in its exceptional individuality and diversity. The audience was given an opportunity to experience aspects of Italian identity (gastronomy, music, regional dances and cultural heritage) with the participation of Italian representatives from the culinary, music and artistic fields. The occasion served as an opportunity to demonstrate Italy's renowned practices and to enhance the existing cultural bridges between Italy and Germany, which were tackled in presentations and panel discussions. The event concluded with a concert by Malika Ayané, who combined some hits of her own with classics of the Italian repertoire. "Bellissima Italia" served as an opportunity to demonstrate the best of Italy engaging a network of like-minded individuals and enhancing the existing cultural and economic bridges between Italy and Germany.

ICD House of Arts & Culture  
*Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015*

## *Embassy of Honduras*

On May 30th, 2015, The Embassy of Honduras held a concert by Guillermo Anderson. As an artist, Guillermo has played an important role in Honduras bringing awareness to important issues, such as the protection of the environment, health and literacy. His recordings and concerts for children aimed at familiarizing children with rainforest species in danger of extinction have also made him a favorite amongst the children of his country. After the concert Mark Donfried, Director General of the ICD and Ramon Custodio Espinosa, Ambassador of Honduras, announced that Guillermo Anderson has been honored as a member of the Board of Advisors of the ICD.

ICD House of Arts & Culture  
*Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015*



ICD House of Arts & Culture  
*Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015*

ICD House of Arts & Culture  
*Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015*

## *Siam Sinfonietta Youth Orchestra*

On August 12th, the Siam Sinfonietta Youth Orchestra performed a concert as homage to the Queen Consort of Thailand, Her Majesty Sirikit, whose birthday was celebrated. It was directed by Silpathorn Kittikhun, artist Somtow Sucharitkul and Thailand's leading young conductor, Trisdeena Patalung, who has been acclaimed "one of the world's top ten conductors under thirty to watch" by the Italian press. The orchestra played pieces of Richard Wagner, among others. The event was organized by the Embassy of Thailand.

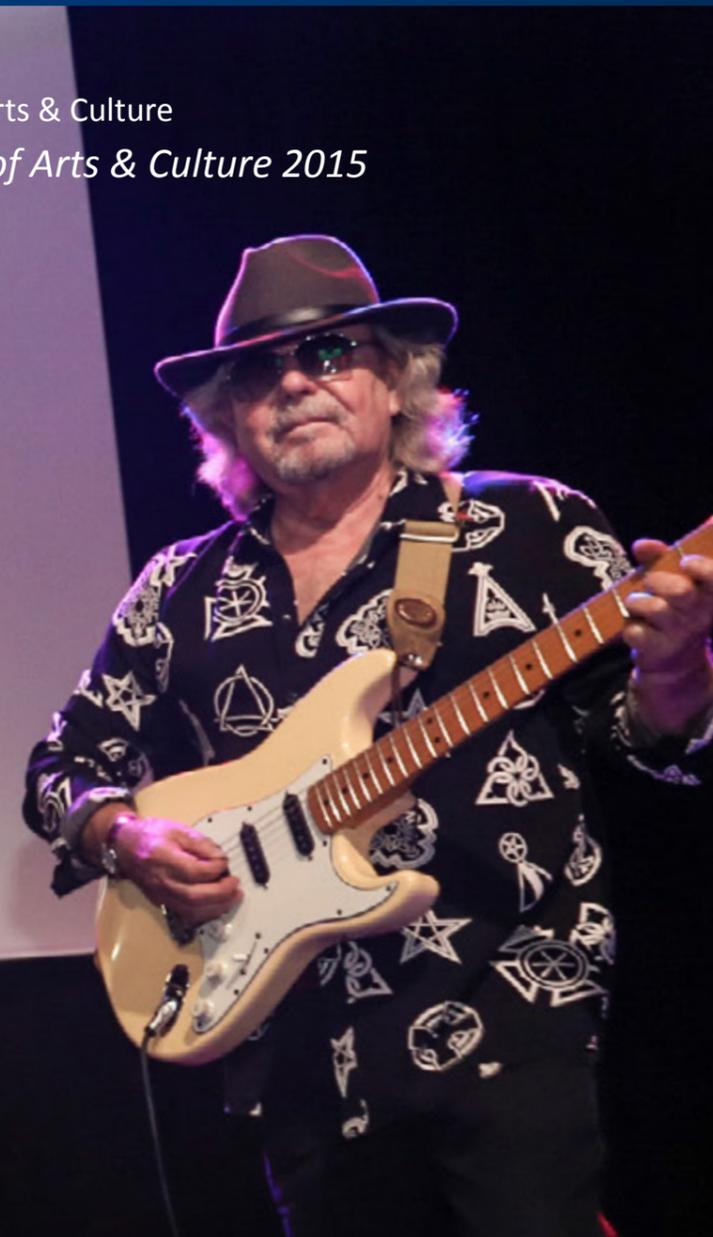
ICD House of Arts & Culture  
*Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015*

ICD House of Arts & Culture  
*Events in the ICD House of Arts & Culture 2015*



### *Creedence Clearwater Revisited*

On September 11th, the ICD House hosted a concert by Creedence Clearwater Revisited, a band which unites former members of the Southern Rock band Creedence Clearwater Revival. The band was formed in 1995 by the former members Stu Cook and Doug Clifford. Since then, Creedence Clearwater Revisited have toured North America, South America, Australia, New Zealand, Europe and Asia. Many fans came to the ICD House to watch the concert during which Creedence Clearwater Revisited played all the hits of the original influential band from Los Angeles. The supporting act of the evening was the local band "Pistoleros".



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## *Opera Batak*

The Red Ballroom of the ICD House was part of the Opera Batak Tournee, performing for the first time in Berlin on October 2nd. The story of the play *Perempuan di Pinggir Danau* (Women at Lake's Edge), written by Lena Simajuntak, is inspired by the legend of the origin of Lake Toba. Its two densely intertwined central themes are the preservation of the water supply and the role of women in society. Cast members participating in the piece originated from the Batak region in North Sumatra.

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### *Gospel music with Ingrid Arthur*

On November 8th, the ICD House of Arts & Culture celebrated the joy of Gospel music with Ingrid Arthur and her 100%-Gospel-Workshop-Choir. In 2006 Ingrid Arthur, a renowned gospel singer started a project known as "100%-Gospel-Workshop-Berlin". The project aims to involve people with no experience in gospel singing, in a gospel choir workshop which takes place over a week and comes to a conclusion in a live concert at the end of the workshop. Under Ingrid's leadership and with the assistance of brothers JJ and Brandon Evans, who are experienced choir leaders from the US, people of all ages and from all backgrounds were able to sing Gospel songs together after only one week of practice. It was also open to experienced singers as well, meaning the result was a mixture of professional singers, choir members and first time gospel singers comprising a one hundred voice choir. The RED Ballroom hosted the final concert at the end of the workshop. The members of the choir who participated in the workshop donated €5 each to different charities at the end of the concert.

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# Kizomba

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## *Embassy of Angola*

On November 11th the ICD House of Arts & Culture, in collaboration with the Embassy of Angola, celebrated the 40th anniversary of the independence of Angola with an evening of Kizomba and Semba featuring the angolan artist Don Kikas, from the city of Sumbe, who specializes in Kizomba music. He was accompanied by DJ Edgar who played some Kizomba beats, characterized by their slower and more romantic rhythm.

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### *Festival in memory of Nelson Mandela*

On December 5th the Ubuntu Initiative organized a festival in memory of Nelson Mandela, on the anniversary of his death. The festival represents Mandela's desire for peace and international cooperation. The Red Ballroom gathered a mixture of musicians from different parts of the Globe, willing to pay homage to the historic South African leader. The line-up was formed by SATORI (Jazz/South African), TROVA 5 (Salsa/Cuban), LA BANDA DEL SUR - LUCA ARTIOLO (Latin/Brazilian/Italian), BERNHARD MAYO (Ballads/Traditional African/Congo), FONZ (Hip-Hop), MOUSSA COULIBALI (Percussion/Burkina Faso) and DJIELEFILY SAKHO (Kora/Mali).

Excess proceeds were assigned to the Nelson Mandela Foundation in Johannesburg.



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*“After Work  
Soul of Jazz & Blues”*

Several times in 2015 the RED Ballroom has hosted the “After Work Soul of Jazz & Blues” Parties, which included live music performance and DJ. The genres of jazz, blues, R&B and more were played by Detroit Gary Wiggins & Band, who have over 30 years’ experience playing all over Europe and the USA. Tingers Queen Yahna, Ingrid Arthur and Sam Leigh Brown have featured in some of these concerts. After the concerts, Dj Mitch Alive, from Berlin, played some hits and rarities from his extensive collection of records.

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*Celebrated German  
Singers Ayman & Adel  
Tawil in the ICD House*

On October 31st, The ICD House was honored to have the opportunity to host a special private performance of the celebrated Tunisian-German pop-stars Ayman and Adel Tawil. Both artists presented their collection of pop music including their biggest hits "Lieder" and "Mein Stern".

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## *Dancing Galas with Workshops*



This year the Red Ballroom has hosted multiple musical events where the guests have had the opportunity to participate in dancing courses. Fernando Zapata, well known when it comes to teaching Latin-American rhythms in Berlin, has regularly given free workshops to the community, both for beginner and advanced level. Other musical styles like Swing or Fox(Disco-Fox and Disco-Chart organized by DJ Teddy) have been also taught this year. After the workshops the guests have had the opportunity to practice their moves in Dancing Galas, both with DJs and Live Bands.

During the summer the ICD House celebrated a series of events called: "Summer Music as Cultural Diplomacy Evenings" in the Red Berlin Restaurant. The events included daily live music and other social activities. The restaurant visitors had the opportunity to listen to a performance by pianist Christian Weichert, or to dance to the american rhythms of Hannes Strauss and his rockabilly/ swing bands.

