



Rete europea degli Enti Locali per la pace in Medio Oriente
Network of European Local Authorities for peace in the Middle East
Réseau des collectivités européennes pour la paix au Proche-Orient
Red Europea de las Autoridades Locales por la paz en Oriente Medio
Netzwerk von europäischen lokalen Behörden für den Frieden im Nahen Osten

Subject: invitation to the 3rd European Conference of Local Authorities for Peace in the Middle East - Venice - 25 / 27 September 2008

Dear Mr Mayor,
Dear Mr President,
Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to invite you to the 3rd European Conference of Local Authorities for Peace in the Middle East that will take place in Venice (Italy) from Thursday 25 to Saturday 27 September 2008.

The slogan of the Conference is "Let's make peace in the Middle East. Let's rebuild hope". It aims to support the international efforts to build peace in the Middle East strengthening the engagement of the European Local Authorities and communities.

In Venice, the European Local Authorities will find evidence to know and understand, tools to work, projects to implement and relationships to cultivate. The objective is to define a concrete action plan to be realized over the next two years.

The Conference will be also attended by Israeli and Palestinian Local Authorities, international associations of Local Authorities, European Parliamentarians, journalists, scholars and representatives of civil society organisations.

Given the importance of the initiative, the Conference will be held at the prestigious Doge's Palace in St. Mark's Square, the same place where on June 13, 1980, the European Council approved the historic "Venice Declaration" for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

The Conference will take place within the celebration of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue and the 60° anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Conference is promoted by the European Network of Local Authorities for Peace in the Middle East, Italian Coordination of Local Authorities for Peace and Human Rights, Municipality of Venice, Province of Venice, French Network of Decentralized Cooperation for Palestine, Federation of United Cities (France), Catalan Fund for Cooperation and Development (Spain), Andalusian Fund of Municipalities for International Solidarity (Spain), Province of Barcelona (Spain), Urban Community of Dunkirk (France) in collaboration with the Committee of Regions of the European Union, Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), Union of Local Authorities in Israel - ULAI, Association of Palestinian Local Authorities - APLA.

The languages of the Conference are: English, French, Spanish and Italian. Translation will be provided.


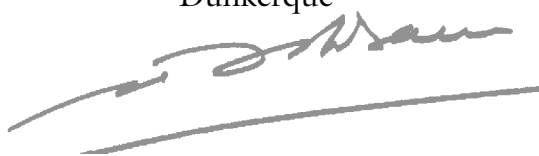
I do hope that you and your Local Authority will take part in this Conference and will make a concrete contribution to peace building in the Middle East.

Looking forward in receiving a positive reply

Michel DELEBARRE
Former Minister
Deputy Mayor of
Dunkerque
President of the Urban
Community of
Dunkerque

Charles JOSSELIN
Senator of Côtes
d'Armor
Vice-president of the
general Council of
Côtes d'Armor
President of Cités
Unies France

Claude NICOLET
President of the
French Network of
decentralised
cooperation with
Palestine



In France

Cités Unies France

9 rue Christiani (75018) Paris (France) - tel: +33 (0) 1 53418187 - fax +33 (0) 1 53418141

email s.giovetti@cites-unies-france.org - www.cites-unies-france.org

More information are available in the attached materials or can be found by contacting the Conference secretariat: Italian Coordination of Local Authorities for Peace and Human Rights - tel. +39 075 5722148 - fax +39 075 5721234 - email: info@entilocalipace.it - www.entilocalipace.it