



Rhodes Forum – 2011

Ninth Annual Meeting

October 6-10, 2011
Rhodes Island, Greece

Scientific Program (Draft 27.07.2011)

Plenary Session No. 1

“The Future and the Identity of Civilizations”

Main vectors of discussion

- The system of ideals and values for mankind’s existence and steadfast perfection as a potential for projecting and constructing the future
- Every world civilization as being projected into the future
- The foundations and principles for mapping scenarios of future development
- The main methods for constructively resolving world problems

Plenary Session No. 2

“Present-day answers to the challenges of the future”

Main vectors of discussion:

- Ecological, technological, political, social and mental challenges to mankind
- Society as a responsible entity for shaping models of future development

- Preserving traditional values as a challenge for reconstructing social development
- Response of NGO's, the new generation, and other public entities to challenges of the future

Section 1

“New social reactions to disproportions in the present-day world”

(three round-table discussions)

Main vectors of discussion

- Maintaining the traditional moral values and ideals in the conditions of social tension (round-table discussion)
- Recent Alterations in the Arab countries? (round-table discussion)
 - ❖ Normative values and forms of interaction of the countries in Occidental and Oriental civilizations
 - ❖ Turbulent social consequences of present economic development in the Arab world
 - ❖ Problems of youth self-identification and self-realization the Arab countries
- The impact of the civil society in the aftermath of the economic crisis: intercultural commonality models and the purpose of the media (round-table discussion)

Section 2

“Dialogue of Civilizations as a new culture of the world community interaction”

Main vectors of discussion

- Projects for putting into place traditional civilization mechanisms for responsible bodies of social development (G20, BRICS)
- Infrastructural social projects of a new world order

- Public dialogue as a mechanism for legitimizing a new world order
- World public dialogue for determining the subject and objectives of economic development

Section 3

“Cross-cultural International Institutions and Law”

Main vectors for discussion

- International regional institutions and development of a new framework of social interaction
- Global governance – dialogue of civilizations and international institutions.
- Political and legal aspects of democratic governance.
- Common legal culture: myth or reality?
- Unification of law: limits and opportunities for international cooperation.
- Vertical and horizontal power structures: law and legitimacy of power in different cultures and civilizations.

Section 4

“Structural problems of contemporary economy”

Main vectors for discussion

- Models of crisis management: responses of different civilizations (the USA, Europe, China, Latin America, Russia, CIS)
- Public requirements and standards and norms of economic development
- Regional mechanisms of innovative development: the quest for new solutions in conditions of multi-currency systems
- Potential of consumerism of human civilization: is there a limit? (or “limits of growth”)

Section 5

“The significance of enhancing personality and renewing the systems of education”

Main vectors of discussion

- Crisis in the present day system of education: the need for technological reforms or the quest for new methods of upbringing
- “Schools of dialogue” as a new pedagogical model of enhancing personality
- Crisis of the dominating educational model: regional responses
- Problem of international standards of education for the contemporary world

Section 6

“Post-secular Dialogues: religious and civilization traditions for peace”

Main vectors of discussion

- The role of religious communities in conditions of public turmoil
- Social awakening and religious tradition
- Social anomy and mainstream religious conscience
- Secular phenomenon in the contemporary world

Section 7

“Youth Movements in present-day conditions”

Main vectors of discussion

- Dialogue of generations during the period of crisis
- The youth’s perception of cultural and social traditions
- Formats for the socialization of young people in the contemporary community

Section 8

“Media communities and social needs of the cultural development in present-day conditions”

Main vectors of discussion

- Social content in the mass-media as the request for the world future development
- Moral qualification in Media. Antagonistic dualism of Media as a subject of the civil society
- Media’s impact in the negative aftermath of globalization in present-day world

Roundtable No.1

“Philosophical legacy of Jagdish Kapur”

The roundtable discussion is dedicated to the memory of the eminent Indian philosopher, Co-chairman of the World Public Forum “Dialogue of Civilizations” Jagdish Chandra Kapur who passed away in 2010. The main distinguishing feature of this philosopher was that he was not a dreamer but a doer. He contributed a lot to the transformation of the WPF “Dialogue of Civilizations” from a small seminar into a recognized international public organization that unite like-minded people from more than 60 countries. The ideas of Kapur about a dialogue of civilizations for the sake of a new globalization based on common human values laid the groundwork of themes for discussion. The Forum “Cosmic humanism” – this was his vision of the future which is to come into being by merging science and spirituality.

Roundtable No.2

“Civilization of Nomads yesterday and Dialogue of civilizations in the XXI Century”

Main vectors of discussion

- The phenomenon of Nomad and Nomadism: types and forms of Nomad civilizations and cultures
- The contribution of Nomads to the development of world civilization: problems of the civilization dimension of traditional Nomadic societies' development in different parts of the world
- Nomads and statehood
- Traditional world outlook of Altai, Turkic and Mongol nomads
- Dialogue among civilizations as a reliable instrument for building a new paradigm of global relations based on ideals of overall justice and freedoms

Concluding Plenary Session

“Decade of Dialogue of Civilizations”

Main vectors of discussion

- Initiatives of the “Dialogue of Civilization” program and the establishment of an international dialogue community
- “Dialogue of Civilizations” on the road to building a new human world order
- Models of the future civilization