



## *“Dialogue in Action” – An international Student Conference*

Jerusalem, September 2005

### **“Dialogue in Action”: International Student Conference**

November 13-16 2005, Israel

The World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS), supported by UNESCO's Israel National Commission and in conjunction with the Young Israeli Forum for Cooperation (YIFC), is inviting 50 young leaders from all denominations and from all over the world for a conference on promoting dialogue and democracy on campus and community.

The World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS) is a student led, non-partisan organization consisting of Jewish student unions around the world. In recent years, it has been working actively to promote dialogue and multi-cultural exchange, and has been cooperating with various non-Jewish organizations.

The Young Israeli Forum for Cooperation (YIFC) is an independent non-for-profit organization, cultivating a generation of young leaders who seek to take an active role in shaping Israel's future. It empowers young professionals to generate movement towards the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and acts to foster Israeli-European relations.

#### **General aims**

The main objective of the conference is to establish an active global coalition of student leaders that will continue to act for the promotion of conflict resolution and democracy around the world.

Universities are supposed to set an example for rational dialogue, multi-culturalism and co-existence. However, many Campuses around the globe have become a microcosm of the political battles “outside”, where major conflicts are brought onto campus and thus create a hostile, aggressive environment. We, as student leaders, must do all we can in order to find original and creative ways to rise to this challenge and make an impact. We aim not only to encourage solving such conflicts on campus, but also to apply these solutions within society and to influence political and social frameworks and decision makers, - thus shaping our common future

This forum will present models of solutions for peaceful coexistence that can be used within the academic institutions and emanate from them to the surrounding society - a highly necessary tool. The forum will also expose the participants to a variety of cultures and to people from all faiths, and allow them a rare opportunity of networking.

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### Structure

#### Participants:

The forum will be comprised of 50 young leaders representing different countries and faiths - all of whom are committed to the aim of promoting dialogue on university campuses. We believe that the students of today are the key players for resolving conflicts, since they are the leaders of tomorrow and university is where ideas and policies take shape.

#### Methods

- A program consisting of workshops, presentations and conflict management training.
- Analysing existing models around the world which promote peaceful dialogue and conflict resolution, presented by the actual initiators.
- Lectures by leading figures in the aforementioned fields.
- Tours of various coexistence frameworks in Israel.
- Participation in Rabin commemoration events with world leaders.
- A programming fair for participating organizations.

In order to guarantee that the coalition is not merely a one-off event, and that the students will be able to continue working on promoting dialogue and democracy, we intend to create a foundation that will ensure the continuity and viability of our actions.

We believe that holding the seminar in Israel, one of the most challenged democracies in the world from within and without, as well as the centre of the three largest monotheistic religions, would give extra depth and context to the discussions and expose leaders-in-the-making to the complex and multi-cultural nature of life in Israel.

We hereby invite you to participate in this unique seminar. The subsidized cost is €145 (\$180) including all ground costs, flight is not included.

As an organization committed to promoting dialogue and democracy in the world, we believe that it would be of great benefit to all persons involved if you would participate in such a conference. Your presence would be appreciated and would allow us all to work for better cooperation on campus, a safer society and eventually - a better world.

Viktoria Dolburd  
Chairperson  
World Union of Jewish Students

For participation, Please contact: [Office@wujs.org.il](mailto:Office@wujs.org.il) , Fax +972 2 625 1688  
by Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2005

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