



Peace Islands Institute New York organized a conference on the 10th anniversary in partnership with the Turkish Cultural Center at the Times Center on Sept. 28, 2011. Distinguished speakers discussed the theme "A Decade After 9/11: Incitement to Hatred and Violence On the Basis of Religion or Belief".

### ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

At the turn of the new millennium a decade ago, a terrorist attack by a group of fanatics at the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan has shaken the whole world, and marred the perceptions about the Muslims and Islam, the religion in the name of which those fanatics had perpetrated that terrorist act. The following decade has witnessed the rise of Islamophobia all across the United States and the Western Europe. The infamous Danish cartoon crisis and the heinous attempt to burn the Holy Quran triggered violent protests in various Muslim countries.



In the meantime, the so-called "war on terror" seems not to have reduced the threat of terror across the world, but on the contrary have increased it. The rising Islamophobia and the demonization of Islam and Islamic figures in the predominantly Christian countries though various media channels and other organs have culminated into incitement to hatred against the adherents of Islam. It also benefited the fanatics in the predominantly Muslim countries, thereby enabling them to incite the mainstream Muslims against the United States and European nations, and against the Jews and the Christians.

The latest terrorist attacks that a fanatic perpetrated in Norway in the name of saving Christianity and Europe from the so-called invasion of Islam has once again illustrated the negative implications of incitement to hatred and violence on the basis of religion or belief, be it Judaism, Christianity, Islam or another religion and set of beliefs. Throughout the last

decade, what have we done wrong, and what have we done right? Where are we today? And, where are we headed tomorrow?

**Date:** 28 September 2011|Wednesday, 9am – 2pm

**Venue:** The Times Center, The New York Times Building 242 West 41st Street New York, NY 10018

## **CO-SPONSORS**

Queens College, CUNY [www.qc.cuny.edu](http://www.qc.cuny.edu) New York Institute of Technology, [www.nyit.edu](http://www.nyit.edu)  
Unity Productions Foundation, [www.upf.tv](http://www.upf.tv) The Fountain Magazine, [www.fountainmagazine.com](http://www.fountainmagazine.com)  
Universal Foundation, [www.universalfoundationny.org](http://www.universalfoundationny.org)

## **PROGRAM**

Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Tomaczek Bednarek  
National Anthem Moment of Silence  
Opening Remarks, Mr. Zafer Akin, President of Turkish Cultural Center New York  
9/11 Movie Presentation  
**Panel 1** – What have we done wrong? What have we done right?  
Moderator: Dr. Carol Dahir, New York Institute of Technology  
Rita Cosby, Emmy Winning TV Host, CBS Inside Edition  
Dr. Jon Pahl, Professor of Theology, Lutheran School of Theology  
Alex Kronemer, Co-Founder & CEO of Unity Productions Foundation  
Questions & Answers Session

## **COFFEE BREAK**

**Panel 2** – The Worldwide Repercussions of Incitement to Hatred and Violence

Moderator: Rita Cosby, Emmy Winning TV Host, CBS Inside Edition  
Prof. Jonathan Laurence, Political Science, Boston College  
Dr. Walter Wagner, Moravian College and Theological Seminary  
Hakan Yesilova, Editor, The Fountain Magazine  
Questions & Answers Session

### COFFEE BREAK

#### **Panel 3 – Our Common Challenges in Our Common Future**

Moderator: Aydogan Vatandas, Correspondent, Cihan News Agency  
Prof. Abdullah T. Antepi, Muslim Chaplain/Faculty of Islamic Studies, Duke University  
Marc Scheuer, Director, UN Alliance of Civilizations  
Mohamed Younis, Senior Analyst, Abu Dhabi Gallup Center  
Questions & Answers Session

### REMARKS

Scott M. Stringer, Manhattan Borough President  
Mehmet Ibis, brother of Zuhtu Ibis who lost his life at the WTC

### RECEPTION

### END



