



# *United Federation for Middle East Peace*

## **Connecting Continents for Peace**

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### **USFMEP PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### The President of the United Federation for Middle East Peace Invites Delegation of 30 Imams and Rabbis from 13 European Countries for an Interfaith Dialogue

*New York, NY, July 20, 2009* - United Federation for Middle East Peace (“USFMEP”) is pleased to set the date for “Religions for Understanding,” an inter-faith dialogue between 30 imams and rabbis from 13 European countries. The event is arranged to take place on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and will be honored with the presence of ambassadors from over forty countries.

The event will host Rabbi Marc Schneier (President and Chairman of Foundation for Ethnic Understanding), actor and UN Goodwill Ambassador Russell Simmons, and Dr. Muzammil Siddiqi (President of the Fiqh Council of North America) as guest speakers. The guest speakers will be preceded by a welcome address from UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon and Imam Shamsi Ali, Chairman of the Masjid Al-Hikmah in Astoria, Queens, NY.

The event will promote mutual sharing of religious beliefs among the numerous faiths present at the dialogue. We often see conflict arise as a result of religious, cultural, political and economical clashes across nations. It is, therefore, crucial for peace initiatives to begin with the promotion of religious tolerance. The unprecedented delegation of religious and political leaders from across the world serves the intended purpose of reaching the global community in pursuit of this goal.

As moderator of the discussion and President of USFMEP, Mrs. Salwa Kader has served as a leader in advancing global humanitarianism, which is demonstrated in her devotion toward educating the general public – Americans and citizens from other countries alike – on a variety of topics ranging from the history, religions, and cultures of the Middle East to women’s empowerment and children’s rights.

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