



I. The Institute's vision

The close relationship, historically speaking, between Europe and Arab world has brought about at various periods highly significant and fruitful realizations in the field of culture and science that have become a common heritage of mankind.

Nowadays in our globalized world such relationship carries as many opportunities as challenges which young generations, both European and Arab, are called to face, by sharing and showing attitudes and concerns characterized by a common fund of feelings inclined either to change and conservation.

In this unique historical conjuncture, time has come to intensify exchanges and relations in view of an Euro-Arab consensus as a key-factor for reaching not only a greater and better understanding between cultures, but also more realistic prospects and targets of social progress and economic growth in terms of sustainable development of the entire Euro-Arab Region as central to the equilibrium of international relations worldwide.

To this end the academic world, where young people are preparing themselves to get their chances of future, while getting intellectually, professionally and socially engaged with the future of the world, is especially involved and committed to promote the advancement of culture of dialogue based on consensus and cultural cross-fertilization.

Within the above stated vision, the projected "Al-Babtain" Institute for Peace is aimed to become an international academic community of researchers, scholars and students, placed in Rome, as one the most significant and historical centers of a Regional Area extended to Africa, Middle East and Gulf Countries.

The project is intended to set up and carry on research, teaching and academic activities (conferences, seminars, public debates), either in the form of residential university with its headquarters located in Rome, and in the form of distance teaching through the use of innovative ICT, and on the base of networks and forums for dissemination activities.

II. The Institute's mission

In order to accomplish with its tasks and objectives enhancing cultural exchanges and social interactions, together with educational efforts aimed to the advancement of peace and dialogue among peoples, the Institute will focused on the main following objectives.

Reinforcing intercultural dialogue and related behaviours across European and Arab societies; so that it becomes a way of life in dealing with cultural differences.

Implementing dialogue between various cultures, civilizations and religions and expanding it towards more useful intellectual exchange.

Stimulating civil society associations as a vital tool of culture of dialogue, tolerance and mutual understanding.

Reinforcing the diversity of arts and literature creativity and freedom in the framework of global values, multilevel comparison, and international community.

III. The Institute's setting

In the aim to reach the largest audience of people and attract intellectual resources from all over interested quarters, the Institute is committed to promote a "Global Partnership" open to membership from a variety of countries, with involvement of entities (such as institutions, foundations, organizations) sharing common views and objectives as regards to peace, justice and security, finalized to the establishment of a true international academic community of researchers, scholars and students, working together for the progress of the university studies in the field of peace, justice and security.

In pursuance of the above statements, the Institute will pursue the following:

Aims & Tasks:

- globalization carries as many opportunities as risks and challenges, particularly demanding on young generations, who are called to face with them; in this context, education, especially at university level, implies more and more efforts aimed to intensify exchanges and relations in view of a regional and world consensus as a key-factor for reaching not only a greater and better understanding between cultures, but also more realistic prospects and targets of peace, social progress and economic growth in terms of sustainable development of the entire Euro-Arab Region as central to the equilibrium of international relations worldwide.

- the Institute's main tasks are to project, coordinate, promote, manage and realize activities and initiatives, also in collaboration and with the support of its Partners, within the range of the above mentioned objectives under the responsibility of a Scientific Committee composed of representatives of the Partners and internationally renowned scholars and experts.

Cooperation & Partnership:

- for the successful implementation of the project is necessary a wide Cooperation & Partnership open to universities, cultural foundations and institutions, civil society organizations sharing common views and objectives as regards to peace, justice and sustainable development, finalized to the establishment of a true international academic community of researchers, scholars and students, working together for the progress of the university studies in the field of peace, justice and sustainable development.

Proposed Activities:

In order to carry out its tasks the Institute will support and empower:

In general,

- Post-graduate courses/teachings in the fields of peace, sustainable development, human security, cultural diversity and dialogue, inclusion and integration, promoting diplomacy, global citizenship, people-to-people relations, cultural heritage, and poetic creativity;
- Research and scientific activities in these fields and related matters;
- Collection and arrangement of a special library on peace development studies;
- Promotional initiatives (conferences, seminars) aimed to the developing and dissemination of the above mentioned activities;
- Scholarships to help students and professors mobility;
- Any other activity useful in the aim to spread a culture of dialogue among peoples.

In particular,

- Regular periodic (yearly) lectures to be held in the name of the "Al Babtain Chair for Peace") at universities;
- Al "Babtain Scholarships on Peace Studies" for students and/or young researchers from Middle East and Mediterranean countries, to be used for periods of study and/or research at universities;
- Placement of books and other printed materials (libraries) in special sections dedicated to Arabic studies at universities.