



# CEIF

Central European Interfaith Forum



## CENTRAL EUROPEAN INTERFAITH FORUM – CEIF 2016

On the occasion of the 101<sup>st</sup> World Esperanto Congress  
Held under the Auspices of President of Slovakia H. E. Andrej Kiska

25 July 2016  
County Hall, Nitra, Slovakia

### 09:00-10:35 STEPPING STONES

#### Franciscan Blessing

Featuring the wisdom of **Father Maximilian Mizzi** of Assisi. From "Graceful Passages".  
Spoken Word and Music Montage Created and Composed by **Gary Malkin**,  
WisdomoftheWorld.com.

#### Welcome

**Anna Galovičová**, Honorary Chairman, Forum of the World's Religions - Slovakia; Chairman, Slovak Anti-Poverty Network, Bratislava/Piešťany

**Humphrey Tonkin**, former President, World Esperanto Association; Professor, President Emeritus, University of Hartford

**Marek Degro**, Director, Anton Tunega Foundation; former Chairman, Christian Democratic Youth of Slovakia, Bratislava

**Peter Kondrla**, Associate Professor, Head, Department of Religious Studies, Faculty of Arts, Constantine the Philosopher University, Nitra

**Milan Belica**, Chairman, Nitra Self-Governing Region

**Ján Vančo**, Deputy Mayor, City of Nitra

#### A Post-Secular World?

**Egon Gál**, President, Jewish Religious Community Bratislava

**Jozef Lenč**, Political Scientist, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Trnava

**Branislav Škripek**, Member of European Parliament, Brussels

## **skCUBE: Launching Slovakia into Orbit**

**Alex Kutka**, Co-founder, Slovak Organisation for Space Activities, Bratislava

## **Freedom: Upon This Rock I Will Build My Church**

**Heiner Bielefeldt**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief; Philosopher, Historian, Catholic Theologian, Professor of Human Rights and Human Rights Policy, University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Geneva/Erlangen (video)

**Ján Figel'**, EU Special Envoy for Religious Freedom in the World, European Commission; President, Anton Tunega Foundation, Brussels/Bratislava

## **International Council of Christians and Jews Conference 2016**

**Pavol Bargár**, Member of the Executive Board, International Council of Christians and Jews; Protestant Theological Faculty, Charles University, Prague

### **10:35-11:00 COFFEE & CAKES**

### **11:00-12:30 UNDER PRESSURE**

#### **Migrants: Fear and/or Compassion?**

**Reverend Daniel Pastirčák**, Preacher, free evangelical church Cirkev bratská (Church of the Brethren), Bratislava

**Saeed Ahmed**, Associate Professor (Ret.), Government College of Commerce; Author, SufiWisdom, Rawalpindi

**Mohamad Safwan Hasna**, Founder & Chairman, Islamic Foundation in Slovakia, Bratislava

**Emiliano Stornelli**, Chairman, Religion & Security Council; Program Director for the Mediterranean and the Middle East, Italian Atlantic Committee, Rome

Contribution: **Marián Žabenský**, Department of Culture and Tourism Management, Faculty of Arts, Constantine the Philosopher University, Nitra

Moderator: **Ján Orlovský**, A Plea for Humanity, Bratislava

#### **Muslims Are**

**Blanka Berkyová**, Program Manager for Human Rights and Minorities, Open Society Foundation, Bratislava

### **12:30-12:40 FAMILY PHOTO**

### **12:40-13:30 GOLDEN LUNCH**

By invitation only.

### **13:30-15:30 EXISTENTIAL QUESTIONS**

#### **Inner Roots of Poverty**

**Jo Bothmer**, Co-founder, European Anti-Poverty Network, Amsterdam

**Vladimír Krčméry**, Professor, Rector, St Elizabeth University of Health and Social Sciences; Manager, RESOTY Re-socialization Community of Anton Srholec, Bratislava

**Unni Krishnan**, Co-founder, Chief Service Architect, LongWealth, Vienna

**Federico Ottavio Reho**, Research Officer, Wilfried Martens Centre, Brussels

**Anna Záborská**, Member of European Parliament, Brussels

Contribution: **Peter Seman**, Europedirect; Slovak Anti-Poverty Network, Prešov

Contribution: **Slavomíra Mareková**, Deputy Chairman, Slovak Anti-Poverty Network, Košice

Moderator: **Tomáš Horváth**, Teach for Slovakia, Bratislava

## Ringing Out for Peace and Friendship

**Elisabeth Ziegler-Duregger**, Ambassador, Parliament of the World's Religions; Cooperation Circle Osttirol, United Religions Initiative, Lienz

## Give Love, Not War

**Imam Yahya Sergio Pallavicini**, Vice-President, Italian Islamic Religious Community (COREIS), Rome (video)

**Fahad Abualnasr**, Director General, KAICIID, Vienna (video)

**Katsuya Kimura**, Director, International Department, The Oomoto Foundation, Tokyo

**Peter Pavlovič**, Study Secretary, Conference of European Churches, Brussels

**Flory Witdoeckt**, Chairman, Belgium Esperanto Federation; Vice-Chairman, European Esperanto Union; Member-for-Life, International Association of Catholic Esperantists (IKUE), Oostende

Contribution: **Lyudmilla Verbitska**, Chairman of the Board, Ukrainian-Slovak Initiative, Bratislava

Moderator: **Mário Nicolini**, Executive Director, Forum of the World's Religions - Slovakia, Bratislava

## 14:50-15:50 ROUND TABLE: SLOVAK ANTI-POVERTY NETWORK

By invitation only.

## 15:30-16:00 COFFEE

## 16:00-17:45 SO... WHAT'S NEXT?

## Dialogue! What? Why? How?

**Father Dušan Ondrejovič**, Professor, Dean Emeritus, Faculty of Evangelical Theology, Comenius University, Bratislava (video)

**Sister Maureen Goodman**, Program Director, Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, London

**Egon Gál**, President, Jewish Religious Community Bratislava

**Philippe Cousson**, President, International League of Christian Esperantists (KĚLI), Poitiers

**Taesok Choe**, former President, Esperanto Association of Won Buddhism (EAU), South Korea

**Robert Sellers**, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Parliament of the World's Religions, Chicago; Professor of Theology, Hardin-Simmons University, Texas (video)

Contribution: **Father John Pawlikowski**, OSM, Professor of Social Ethics; Director, Catholic-Jewish Studies Program, Catholic Theological Union; Member, Executive Committee, Parliament of the World's Religions, Chicago

Moderator: **Pavol Demeš**, Former Minister of International Relations of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava

## Bratislava Forum of the World's Religions

**Anna Galovičová**, Honorary Chairman, Forum of the World's Religions - Slovakia, Bratislava

**Mário Nicolini**, Executive Director, Forum of the World's Religions - Slovakia, Bratislava

## The End of Suffering

Featuring the wisdom of **Thich Nhat Hanh** visualized by **Forum of the World's Religions - Slovakia**. From "Graceful Passages". Spoken Word and Music Montage Created and Composed by **Gary Malkin**, WisdomoftheWorld.com.

## 17:45-18:00 COFFEE & CAKES

## 18:00-20:00 INTERFAITH MEETING IN PRAYER AND THOUGHT

**Lukáš Chmelík**, Teacher of Tibetan Buddhism (video)

**Reverend Andras Corban-Arthen**, President, European Congress of Ethnic Religions (video)

**Venerable Dhammadipa**, Buddhist Monk and Teacher of Meditation (video)

**Sister Maureen Goodman**, Program Director, Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, London

**Rabbi Misha Kapustin**, Liberal Rabbi, Bratislava (video)

**Father Maroš Prachár**, Theologian, Rusovce

**Miroslav Kocúr**, Theologian, Independent Consultant and Analyst, LEAF, Bratislava

**Jitka Spillerová**, Bahá'í Community, Bratislava

**Bea Benkova**, European Transformation Leader, Founder, Global Institute of Extraordinary Women (GIFEW), London

**Marek Degro**, Director, Anton Tunega Foundation; former Chairman, Christian Democratic Youth of Slovakia, Bratislava

**Ambassador (Ret.) Jozef Dravecký**, former Ambassador of Slovakia to the Holy See, Bratislava

**Mark Fettes**, President, Universal Esperanto Association, Rotterdam (video)

**Peter Kondrľa**, Associate Professor, Head, Department of Religious Studies, Faculty of Arts, Constantine the Philosopher University, Nitra

**Anna Krishnan-Somos**, Co-founder, Managing Director, LongWealth, Vienna

**Grigorij Mesežnikov**, President, Institute for Public Affairs, Bratislava

**Irène Montjoye**, Scholar in Literature and Cultural Studies, Vienna

**Martin Poliačik**, Member of Parliament, Chairman, Group of Friends of Tibet, National Council of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava (video)

**Dušan Pekár**, Mayor, Bratislava-Ružinov

**Andrea Tittelová**, Founder & Managing Director, Youth Politics Education, Bratislava

**Ľubo Tomko**, CEO & Client Happiness Manager, Extraordinary, Bratislava

**Richard Q. Turcsányi**, Senior Analyst, Demagog.sk, Košice

**Elisabeth Ziegler-Duregger**, Ambassador, Parliament of the World's Religions; Cooperation Circle Osttirol, United Religions Initiative, Lienz



*This event receives financial support from the European Parliament. Sole liability rests with the organisers, the European Parliament is not responsible for the activity.*