



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



DEMOCRACY IN THE ARAB WORLD AND RENEWAL

UNESCO SUPPORTS THE TRANSITIONS TO DEMOCRACY

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
(ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Haila AL-MEKAIMI (Kuwait) is Professor in Political Science and Head of the Euro-Gulf Research Unit at the College of Social Sciences, Kuwait University. She obtained her PhD from Boston College. Ms Al-Mekaimi is a columnist for the newspapers Al-Sharq Al Awsat and Al-Nahar. She has carried out extensive research on issues concerning Islamic groups, democracy and Euro-Gulf relations.



Rana AL-SABBAGH (Jordan) is Executive Director of Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism (ARIJ). She is the Jordan correspondent for The Times (of London), regular columnist for the London-based Arabic newspaper Al-Hayat and for Jordan's daily Al Arab Al-Yawm, as well as consultant and trainer for the Thomson-Reuter Foundation. During her career, Ms Al-Sabbagh was also Chief Editor of the Jordan Times, served as correspondent for Reuters International News Agency and helped establish Jordan's newest newspaper, Al-Ghad.



Robert BADINTER (France) is a French Senator, lawyer, academic, essayist and politician. Former President of the French Constitutional Council and Minister of Justice, he achieved the abolition of death penalty in France in September 1981. On the international scene, Robert Badinter participated in the elaboration of the new constitutions of Eastern European countries after the fall of the Berlin Wall. He chaired the Arbitration Commission on the former Yugoslavia, created by the European Union between 1991 and 1996. He is President of the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.



Amal BASHA (Yemen), Chairperson of the Arab Sisters' Forum for Human Rights since 2001, holds a Master's degree in Gender and Development from the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK. She has been consultant for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Yemen, coordinator of the project "Protect the Rights of Prisoners" in Yemen, and director of a national programme of the United Nations Development Programme in Sana'a. She has been active in the areas of development, human rights law and women's rights.



Dominique BAUDIS (France) is President of the *Institut du monde arabe* (Arab World Institute) and Member of the European Parliament. He graduated from the Institute of Political Studies in Paris and is a journalist and politician. From 2001 to 2008, he held the position of President of the French Supreme Audiovisual Council and since 2010 has chaired the advertising professional regulation authority. Former Mayor of Toulouse and MP, Dominique Baudis has been approached to become Human Rights Defender.



Abdelbasset BEN HASSEN is President of the Arab Institute of Human Rights (AIHR) and member of the High Authority for the Achievement of the Revolution Objectives, Political Reform and Democratic Transition in Tunisia. He was the main organizer of the conference "Addressing the Past, Building the Future" held in Tunis in April 2011, dealing in particular with the issue of transitional justice. Between 2005 and 2011, he served as Director of the Human Rights in the Arab Region Programme of the Ford Foundation.



Mahmoud Ben Habib BEN ROMDHANE (Tunisia) is consultant for United Nations institutions, University Professor in Economics and former President of Amnesty International, firstly for Tunisia and then worldwide. He has written or co-written around 15 publications, the most recent of which is *Tunisie. Etat, économie et société* (Tunisia: State, Economy and Society), Publisud, Paris, and Sud Editions, Tunis. He is a leading member of the Ettajdid Movement (opposition political party during the deposed regime).



MODERATOR: Ali BENMAKHLouF (Morocco) is a specialist in Arab philosophy and the philosophy of logic, professor at the University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis and senior philosophy fellow. He is currently President of the Advisory Ethics Committee of the *Institut de recherche pour le développement* (French Development Research Institute) and a member of the French Advisory Ethics Committee. His most recent publications include: *L'identité, une fable philosophique* (Identity, a Philosophical Fable), PUF, 2011; *Montaigne*, Belles Lettres, 2008; *Le vocabulaire d'Averroès* (The Vocabulary of Averroès), Ellipses, 2007; *Al Fârâbî, philosophe à Bagdad au X^e siècle* (Al-Farabi, Philosophizing in Baghdad in the Xth Century), Seuil, 2007 and *Bertrand Russell*, Belles lettres, 2004.



MODERATOR: Pascal BONIFACE (France) is



Director of the French International and Strategic Relations Institute (IRIS) and lecturer at the Institute of European Studies at Paris 8 University. He is also in charge of *La revue internationale et stratégique* (International and Strategic Review) and *L'Année stratégique* (Strategic Year). He has written or edited around 40 books on international relations, nuclear and disarmament issues, the balance of power between nations, French foreign policy, and the impact of sport on international relations. He is a columnist for the weekly Moroccan newspaper *Actuel*, and the daily newspapers *La Croix* (France), *La Vanguardia* (Spain), and *Al-Ittihad* (United Arab Emirates).

Alya CHÉRIF CHAMMARI (Tunisia) is a



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Aly ELSAMMAN (Egypt) is an international



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Anders B. JOHANSSON was elected



Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in 1998 for an initial four-year mandate and has been re-elected three times. Prior to joining the IPU in 1991, he worked for more than 15 years in

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Chérif KHAZNADAR (France) is currently



President of the *Maison des cultures du monde* (World Cultures Institute) in Paris and is a poet, novelist and theatre director. He won the UNESCO Sharjah Prize for Arab Culture in 2010 in

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Latifa LAKHDAR (Tunisia) is lecturer at the



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Reem MAGED (Egypt) is a television journalist. Since 2008, she has been presenter of the programme “Baladna bel masry” on OnTV, a private television channel. Between 2007 and 2008, she was producer and presenter of two series of documentaries for Al Jazeera news and children. From 1995 to 2007: journalist at Nile TV International, an Egyptian state television channel.



Joseph MAÏLA (France), former University Rector, he is currently Director of the Forecasting Directorate at the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. He is also Professor of Political Sociology and International Relations, specializing in the Middle East, Islam and sociology of conflict. He has founded the *Institut de Formation à la Médiation et à la Négociation* – IFOMENE (Institute of Training in Mediation and Negotiation) in Paris.



Said SADEK (Egypt) is a Professor of Political Sociology and Political Communication, a political analyst and specialist on Middle Eastern affairs. Member of the Arab Association of Political Science, he has also been representative of the Finnish Institute in the Middle East since 2002. Said Sadek has taken active part in interreligious dialogue in Egypt.



Antony TODOROV (Bulgaria) graduated with a degree in international relations in 1983. He obtained doctorates in contemporary history in 1988 and in political science in 2009. He has been Professor of Political Science at the New Bulgarian University in Sofia since 1991. He has produced several research publications and is advisor to the President of the Republic.



Leonardo VALDÉS ZURITA (Mexico) holds a Ph.D. in Social Sciences (specialization Sociology) from the Center of Sociological Studies of *El Colegio de México*. He was full-time Professor at the Department of Sociology of Iztapalapa Autonomous Metropolitan University; Executive Director of the Electoral Organization at the Federal Electoral Institute (IFE), where he was member of the Commission of Experts for the Mexicans Voting Abroad Programme; Electoral Councilor of the Electoral Institute of Mexico City; President of the Directive Board of the Mexican Association for Electoral Studies. He was appointed President Councilor of the IFE by a majority vote in the Chamber of Deputies in 2008.



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