Mediated Storytelling at Islamic Arab Satellite-television

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After more than two years of preparation, WOCMES Barcelona 2010 brought together in the Catalan capital over 2,000 participants, largely surpassing the participation of the two previous years. Especially notable was the presence of academics from the Anglo-Saxon world, Mediterranean countries (mainly Spain, Germany, France and Italy) and Asian countries (Japan, in particular). The more than 500 sessions attended by the congress participants addressed a wide range of issues from different approaches and disciplines.

**WOCMES in Figures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Sessions</th>
<th>Total Participants</th>
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<tr>
<td>500</td>
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**The Congress Goals**

**Encouraging Mutual Awareness**
Researchers and experts shared the results of studies and research that may contribute to improving mutual awareness in the Mediterranean and the Middle East. Barcelona introduced for the first time research on the Mediterranean in the congress debates.

**Integrating Cooperation Research Networks**
With the creation of this network, researchers of the congress promoted a participatory and shared historical vision. Moreover, it was the opportunity to politicize research carried out in the South – often of difficult access – and increased North-South academic and regional cooperation.

**WOCMES 2010**
Barcelona, World Capital of Studies on the Middle East and North Africa

The European Institute of the Mediterranean (Eumed), founded in 1986, is a consortium comprising the Governments of Cyprus, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and Barcelona City Council, which incorporates city societies through the Board of Directors and an Advisory Council formed by Mediterranean universities, companies, organizations and personalities of renowned prestige.

**Academic Excellence**
Two committees of reports (International and Scientific) guaranteed the high academic level of the congress programme and the presence of distinguished guests and invited speakers.

**International Advisory Council**
WOCMES: in Search of a Route of Ideas

"After the Silk Route, we need a route of ideas." In this spirit, Prince Massoud Bin Talal of Jordan opened his WOCMES Barcelona 2010 Congress as an inaugural lecture in which he emphasized the difficult international situation of the region and his pledge to commit to dialogue with the peoples and countries of the Mediterranean.

Listening to the Prince, in a full auditorium, were some of the academics who from that moment and until 24th July would examine the state and progress of research at an international level on the Middle East and North Africa with a demolishing approach.

Some of the issues addressed or to which we drew interest were the analysis of the political situation in the region, the democratic advances and the questions linked to social evolution, although youth, the media and Internet, and new forms of artistic expression received a special attention by many congress sessions.

WOCMES Barcelona 2010 represented for the host country and city an almost unique opportunity to learn first hand from the most experts and researchers from two regions, the Middle East and North Africa, which have an outstanding world influence in political, social, cultural and economic issues. Moreover, it meant for the participants themselves, the opportunity for an academic dissemination of their work in this respect, academics and professors from Spanish and Catalan universities, who took advantage of the event to participate in the congress in greater numbers than in previous years, shared working sessions with academics from prestigious Anglo-Saxon universities such as Harvard School, UC Berkeley, Georgetown, Cambridge, Oxfords, Glasgow and Edinburgh, and other universities such as the Middle Technical University and Bilkent University (both in Turkey), the universities of Niza Boula Hippolupe and Paris Descartes (France), Free University and Zentral Medizinische Orte (Germany), the universities of Tunis, Millan and Naples (Italy), Cairo University and the American University in Cairo (Egypt), Abya Yala (Buenos Aires, Argentina); the universities of Tel-Aviv and Haifa (Israel); the universities of Khartoum, of the Nile and Alexandria (Egypt); the universities of Tunis and Montes University (Uzbekistan) and the University Mohamed Phantom Oudja (Morocco), among others.

In this respect, WOCMES Barcelona 2010 has incorporated, for the first time, along with research on the Middle East and North Africa and the Asian Muslim states, studies on the Mediterranean region as an area. An issue that could not be ignored this year, when the Congress was held in the city where the Permanent Secretary of the UN for the Mediterranean is based.

WOCMES Barcelona 2010 has been a privileged space of exchange and meeting for scientific and academic knowledge for more than 2,700 participants. An invitation both to dialogue and cooperation between people from 19 countries from a wide range of disciplines and fields of study. It has been, therefore, one of the best instruments which this EIM candidate could have in order to develop such an initiative, which is to work for a Mediterranean of peace and stability, shared prosperity and dialogue between cultures and civilizations.

Senén Florensa
Director General of the EIMed

The programme, published in English and French, is an updated guide to experts and issues of interest to the study of the Middle East and North Africa.

Available at www.iemed.org/wocmes

WOCMES 2010 Willem van Schendel Award

Institutional Support

The Congress was held at the Palau de la Generalitat de Catalunya, where the Vice-President of the Government of Catalonia, Josep-Lluís Carod-Rovira, offered them an institutional reception.

WOCMES 2010 Awards

Barcelona honour two of the congress participants with the WOCMES 2010 Award for their career and outstanding academic contribution: the Middle Eastern studies Roger Dean, Jr., Meyer-Professor of Middle Eastern History at Harvard University (USA) and Josef Yohannas, Emeritus Professor of Islamic Studies and Semitic Languages at the University of Tubingen (Germany). The event took place at the Palau de la Música in Barcelona.

Music, Cinema, Theatre and Exhibitions

WOCMES has included an intensive cultural programme and several social events. Around twenty exhibitors from Iran, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Turkey, Morocco and France, among other countries, were screened at the WOCMES Film Festival, organized in collaboration with the International Association of Independent Producers of the Mediterranean (AIEMED). It enjoyed the presence in two debates of the directors Hamid Rahmanian (Iran), who presented The Glass House, and Najeeb Rajjar (Palestine), who presented Homeland of the Eagle. The UNESCO authorities, coinciding with the congress, also programmed two dance performances.

Exhibitions

In different venues of the congress it was also possible to visit eight history, photography, sculpture and painting exhibitions. The exhibition, which came from Yemen, Australia, France, the United States or Spain, were: "La Frontera en derrumbe"; "Paisajes Illustracion y Script 19th Century"; "Poesía de la Mediterránea: poesía andalucía contemporánea"; "Proyectando y Bacteriófagos en la Mediterránea"; "Música y danza en Sahara. La tradición en la contemporanea"; "Arte: Images From Bennath & Chadli"; "Sculpture and politics in Pakistan"; "The Media in the Mediterranean Sea" and "El Mediterráneo de la 20th Century: Realities and Images", which could be seen at the Palau Robert in Barcelona until 29th August.

Programme in English and French is on the website www.iemed.org/wocmes.

Stop

Simon "Reporting from the Middle East".

"Nuestros Medios en el Medio Oriente".

"Interpelación de la congresos participantes".
WOCMES: in Search of a Route of Ideas

“The Silk Road, we need a route of ideas.” In this spirit, Prince Hassan bin Talal of Jordan opened the WOCMES Barcelona 2010 Congress in an inaugural lecture in which he emphasized the difficult international situation of the region and he pledged his commitment to dialogue so to unite the peoples and countries of the Mediterranean.

Listening to the Prince, in a full auditorium, were some of the academics who from that moment and until 24th July would examine the state and progress of research on an international level on the Middle East and North Africa with a multidisciplinary approach.

Some of the issues addressed or which awoke more interest were the analysis of the political situation in the region, the democratic advances and the questions linked to social evolution, although youth, the media and Internet, and new forms of artistic expression received a lot of attention among congress sessions.

WOCMES Barcelona 2010 represented for the host country and city an unique opportunity to learn from the most experts and researchers of two regions, the Middle East and North Africa, who have an outstanding world influence in political, social, cultural and economic issues. Moreover, it meant for the participants themselves the opportunity for an academic dissemination of their work in the respect, academic and professors from Spanish and Catalan universities, who took the advantage of the event to participate in the congress in greater numbers than in previous years, shared working sessions with academics from prestigious Anglo-Saxon universities such as Harvard, Stanford, UC Berkeley, Georgetown, Cambridge, Oxford, Lisbon, Galway and Edinburgh, and other universities such as the Middle East Technical University and Bosphorus University (both in Turkey); the universities of Nice Sophia Antipolis and Paris Descartes (France); Freie Universität and Zentrum Moderner Orient (Germany); the universities of Tunis, Masp and Naples (Italy); Cairo University and The American University in Cairo (Egypt); Aix-Marseille; Heidelberg (Germany); the universities of Tlemcen, Isfahan and Amric (Eau); the Hebrew University and those of Tel Aviv and Haifa; Swinburne’s of Beirut, Kyoto and Nagoya (Japan); the universities of Tunis and Monastir (Tunisia); and the University Mohammed Pacha Oujda (Morocco), among many others.

A Framework Favourable to Dialogue in the Mediterranean

The WOCMES Barcelona 2010 Congress, has been organized by the International Mediterranean Association for Dialogue and Cooperation (IEMED), and has again revealed the capital status of city of Barcelona in the Mediterranean as a meeting centre of dialogue and debate on issues related to stability, cooperation and progress in the region.

Our main objective is the promotion of activities, projects and actions contributing to mutual awareness, exchanges and cooperation between different countries, societies and cultures. Although our understandings are framed within the Mediterranean, the current, complex, independent and globalized world obliges us to take into account everything occurring further beyond, because in the end it affects us all.

WOCMES 2010 has been a privileged space of exchanges and meeting for scientific and academic knowledge for more than 3,000 participants. An invitation both to dialogue and cooperation between people from 79 countries from a wide range of disciplines and fields of study. It has been, therefore, one of the best instruments in which the IEMED could have given itself to advance in its mission, which is to work for a Mediterranean of peace and stability, shared prosperity and dialogue between cultures and civilizations.

Senén Florensa
Director General of the IEMED

Music, Cinema, Theatre and Exhibitions

WOCMES has included an intensive cultural programme and several social events

Film Festival and Theatre

Around twenty films from Iran, Pakistan, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Turkey, Morocco and France, among other countries, were screened at the WOCMES Film Festival, organized in collaboration with the International Association of Independent Producers of the Mediterranean (AMPED). It enjoyed the presence in two debates of the directors Hamid Rahmanian (Iran), who presented The Glass House, and Najeeb Majid (Pakistan), who presented The Window of the Moon. The AMPED ambassadors, coinciding with the congress, also programmed two dance performance.

Concerts

The Orquesta Arab de Barcelona offered the inaugural concert of WOCMES Barcelona 2010. The university campus also hosted the performance by the Algerian Nella Bentouati, who offered a journey through the great classics of popular music in her country. At the Palau de la Música, within the presentations of the WOCMES 2010 Awards, Folklorica performed Catalan folk music.

Exhibitions

In different venues of the congress it was also possible to visit eight photography, sculpture and painting exhibitions. The exhibitions, which came from Yemen, Australia, Russia, the United States or Spain, were: “La Tempestad se desata!”, “Persian Illustration & Script 19th Century”, “Poesía de la Mediterránea: poesía Árabes contemporáneo”, “Projetando e Reinventando o Mediterrâneo (Rághabah, Iraq)”, “Música y danza al Sahara. La tradición en la contemporánea”, “Im: Images From Bessath à Chadir”, “Société et politique au Pakistan”, “The Media in the Mediterranean Sea” and “The Mediterranean of the 20th Century: Realities and Images”, which could be seen at the Palau Robert in Barcelona until 29th August.
WOMCES: in Search of a Route of Ideas

“After the Silk Route, we need a route of ideas.” In this spirit, Prince Massen Bin Taal of Jordan opened the WOMCES Barcelona 2010 Congress on an inaugural lecture in which he emphasized the difficult international situation of the region and the need to build bridges of dialogue and understanding between and within peoples and countries of the Mediterranean.

Listening to the Prince, in a full auditorium, were some of the academics who, from that moment and until 23rd July would examine the state and progress of research at an international level on the Middle East and North Africa with a multidisciplinary approach.

Some of the issues addressed, which aroused keen interest were the analysis of the political situation in the region, democratization and the problems linked to social evolution, although youth, the media and Internet, and new forms of artistic expression received a lot of attention during congress sessions.

WOMCES Barcelona 2010 represented for the host country and city an almost unique opportunity to learn from the most experts and researchers of two regions, the Middle East and North Africa, which have an outstanding world influence in political, social, cultural and economic issues. Moreover, it meant for the participants themselves the opportunity for an academic dissemination of their work in this respect, academics and professors from Spanish and Catalan universities, who took advantage of the event to participate in the congress in greater numbers than in previous years, shared working sessions with academics from prestigious Anglo-Saxon universities such as Harvard, Stanford, UC Berkeley, Georgetown, Cambridge, Oxford, London, Glasgow and Edinburgh, and other universities such as the Middle Technical University and Bilkent University both in Turkey; the universities of Nova Scotia, Amiens and Paris Descartes (France); Free University and Zeuthen Mediterranean Centre (Germany); the universities of Tübingen, Milan and Naples (Italy); Caro University and The American University in Cairo (Egypt); Aix-Béziers (France); the universities of Tehran, Isfahan and Islamic Azad; the Hebrew University and Warsaw of the Arab and Jewish world; Yarmouk University in Jordan; Damascus University in Syria; the universities of Cairo and Alexandria in Egypt; the University of Damascus in Syria; the University of Al Merriyah in Lebanon; the University of Bari in Italy; the University of Split in Croatia and the Spanish universities of Valencia, Málaga and Granada.

The congress was attended by about 2,500 participants from 70 countries and main international institutions. It was considered a unique opportunity to gather academics and intellectuals in the Mediterranean to discuss, debate and exchange ideas on the current situation in the region, especially the current political, social and cultural crises.

The opportunity to be able to organize professional, academic and artistic activities contributing to mutual awareness, understanding and cooperation between different countries, continents and cultures. Although our academics are nourished from the Mediterranean, they are current, complexly, independent and globalized, and we must take into account everything occurring further beyond, because in the end it affects us all.

The programme, published in English and French, is an updated guide to experts and issues of interest in the study of the Middle East and North Africa, available at www.iemed.org/womces.

Music, Cinema, Theatre and Exhibitions

WOMCES has included an intensive cultural programme and several social events, Film Festival and Theatre

Around twenty films from Iran, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Turkey, Morocco and France, among other countries, were screened at the WOMCES Film Festival, organized in collaboration with the International Association of Independent Producers of the Mediterranean (APIEMED). It enjoyed the presence in two debate of the directors Hamid Rezaei (Iran), who presented The Great House, and Najjou Rajer (Pakistan), who presented The Wilds of Waziristan. The UA headliner, consisting with the congress, also programmed two dance performances.

Concerts

The Orquesta Arabs de Barcelona offered the inaugural concert of WOMCES.Barcelona 2010. The University campus also hosted the performance by the Algerian Walid Benoua, who offered a journey through the great classics of popular music in his country. At the Palau de la Música, within the presentations of the WOMCES 2010 Awards, Folkloric performed Catalan folk music.

Exhibitions

In different venues of the congress it was also possible to visit night photography, sculpture and painting exhibitions. The exhibition, which came from Yemen, Australia, France, the United States or Spain, was "L’Arabie en doute"; "Penchant Illustration & Script 19th Century"; "Poèmes de la Méditerranée : poètes arabes contemporains"; "Projektion and Bernstein in Khartoum (Rasheida, Iraq)"; "Musique et danse au Sahara. La tradition dans le contemporain"; "Arts From Bessah & Chad"; "Societies and political in Pakistan"; "The Media in the Mediterranean Sea" and "The Mediterranean of the 20th Century: Realities and Images", which could be seen at the Pala Robert in Barcelona until 28th August.

Institutional Support

The congress participants visited Barcelona City Hall for the official and the Palau de la Generalitat de Catalunya, where the Vice-President of the Government of Catalonia, Joaquim Pujol, offered them an institutional reception.

WOMCES 2010 Awards

Barcelona honoured two of the congress participants with the WOMCES 2010 Award for their career and the outstanding academic contributions to the Middle Eastern studies: Roger Owen, A.J. Mayo Professor of Middle Eastern History at Harvard University (USA) and José Vila Sás, Emeritus Professor of Islamic Studies and Semitic Languages at the University of Toulouse (France). The event took place at the Palau de la Música in Barcelona.
After more than two years of preparations, WOCMES Barcelona 2010 brought together in the Catalán capital over 2,300 participants, largely surpassing the participation of the two previous years. Especially notable was the presence of academia from the Anglo-Saxon world; Mediterranean countries (mainly Spain, Germany, France and Italy) and Asian countries (Japan, in particular). The more than 550 sessions attended by the congress participants addressed a wide range of issues from different approaches and disciplines.

**WOCMES in Figures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>91</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>Turkey</td>
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**Sessions by Issue**

- Water and the Environment
- Urban and Regional Studies
- Economic Culture
- Policies
- Normative Phenomena and Legal Reasoning
- Societies: Past and Future
- Intellectual and Educational heritage
- Economic, Social and Cultural Studies
- Cultural Change and Identities
- Controversies in Research
- Conflict Resolution and Resolution
- Science and Social Studies
- Research Network

**The Congress Goals**

- Encouraging Mutual Awareness
- Integrating Cooperation Research Networks

**Academic Excellence**

Ten committees of reports (International and scientific) guaranteed the high academic level of the congress programme and the presence of “young turks” from all the well-known Mediterranean countries.

**WOCMES 2010**

Barcelona, World Capital of Studies on the Middle East and North Africa

- From 19th to 24th July 2010, the World Congress on Middle Eastern Studies (WOCMES) turned the city of Barcelona into the world capital of studies on these regions. Over 2,300 researchers, scientists and researchers from 70 countries presented their studies, detailed and shared points of view during the intensive working days.

- Organised by the European Institute of the Mediterranean (EMED), WOCMES Barcelona 2010 programmed more than 500 academic sessions, held in blocks of 10 sessions, on a wide range of disciplines and issues focusing on the Middle East and North Africa including political and economic aspects, the environment, literature, history, gender issues, religion, town planning, contemporary artistic creation and identities.

- The scientific programme, which was prepared for two years based on the proposals and contributions of 2,401 academics, was accompanied by a notable and intensive cultural agenda including a cinema festival, eight exhibitions, theatre and music performances, and a book fair.
After more than two years of preparation, WOCMES Barcelona 2010 brought together in the Catalan capital over 2,100 participants, largely surpassing the participation of the two previous years. Especially notable was the presence of academics from the Anglo-Saxon world: Mediterranean countries (mainly Spain, Germany, France and Italy) and Asian countries (Japan, in particular). The more than 550 sessions attended by the congress participants addressed a wide range of issues from different approaches and disciplines.

From 19th to 24th July 2010, the World Congress on Mediterranean Studies (WOCMES) turned the city of Barcelona into the world capital of studies on three regions. Over 2300 researchers, academics and researchers from 72 countries presented their studies, debated and shared points of view during the intensive working days.

Organised by the European Institute of the Mediterranean (EIMed), WOCMES Barcelona 2010 programmed more than 500 academic sessions, held in blocks of 10 sessions, on a wide range of disciplines and issues focusing on the Mediterranean East and North Africa including political and economic aspects, the environment, literature, history, gender issues, religion, town planning, contemporary artistic creation and identities.

The scientific programme, which was prepared for two years based on the proposals and contributions of 2421 academics, was accompanied by a notable and intense cultural agenda including a cinema festival, eight exhibitions, theatre and music performances, and a book fair.