Mediated Storytelling at Islamic Arab Satellite-television

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WOCMES in Figures

Academic Excellence

Two committees of reports (International and Scientific), and guaranteed the high academic level of the congress programme and the presence of international agencies from the 300 participating countries.

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 the first time research on the Mediterranean in the congress debates.

Integrating Cooperation Research Networks

With the creation of this binational research network, the congress promoted a participatory and shared historical vision. Moreover, it was the opportunity to publicise research carried out in the South – often of difficult access – and increased South academic and regional cooperation.

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 three regions. Over 2,300 international experts, academics and researchers from 73 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 30 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 241 academic associations, was accompanied by a notable and intense cultural agenda including a cinema festival, eight exhibitions, theatre and music performances, and a book fair.
A Framework Favourable to Dialogue in the Mediterranean

The IEMed set out on a long journey of over two years of preparation leading in July to the WOCMES Barcelona 2010 Congress. The efforts made have been very well worthwhile. The third year of the congress has achieved the highest figures of participation and has once again revealed the capital status of city 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 to promote the development of activities, projects and actions contributing to mutual awareness, exchange and cooperation between different countries, societies and cultures. Although our activities are framed within the Mediterranean, the current, complex, independent and globalised world obliges us to take into account everything occurring further beyond, because in the end it affects us.

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 itself. An issue that could not be ignored this year, when the Congress was held in the city where Prime Minister of Spain for the Mediterranean is based.

WOCMES Barcelona 2010 has been a privileged space of encounter and meeting for scientific and academic knowledge for more than 230 participants. An institution both to dialogue and cooperation between people from 15 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 intervened to contribute to its own 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 Theatres

Around twenty films from Iran, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Turkey, Morocco and France, among others, were screened at the WOCMES Film Festival, organized in collaboration with the International Association of Independent Producers of the Mediterranean (APIREMED). It enjoyed the presence in two debates of the directors Hamid Bahtiar (Iran), who presented The Glass House, and Najeeb Hajar (Palestine), who presented (Prophets and the Mirror). The IEMed auditorium, coinciding with the congress, also programmed two dance performances.

Concerts

The Orquesta Arab de Barcelona offered the inaugural concert of WOCMESBarcelona 2010. The university campus also hosted the performance of the Algarino Nafez Band, who offered a journey through the great classics of popular music in his country. At the Palau de la Música, within the presentation of the WOCMES 2010 Awards, Folklórica 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, France, the United States or Spain, were: “La Fieren en desord”, “Photo: Illustration & Script 19th Century”, “Photocra de la Mediterrània: postes arabes contemporanis”, “Projections and Beyond in Khartoum (Sudan, Iraq)”, “Musique et danse au Sahel. La tradition dans le contemporain”, “Art: Images From Bessoth & Chadar”, “Sculpture 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.
WOCMES: in Search of a Route of Ideas

“After the Silk Route, we need a route of ideas.” In this spirit, Prince Hassan Bin Talal of Jordan opened the WOCMES Barcelona 2010 Congress as an inaugural lecture in which he emphasized the difficult international situation of the region and he pledged his commitment to dialogue in unity 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 multidisciplinary approach.

Some of the issues addressed in which ourcommon 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 great attention of many congress sessions.

WOCMES Barcelona 2010 represented for the host country and city an unique opportunity to learn first-hand from the main 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, 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, the London, Glasgow and Edinburgh, and other universities such as the Middle Technical University and Berga University (both in Turkey); the universities of Nice Sophia Antipolis and Paris Descartes (France); Freie Universität and Humboldt University (Germany); the universities of Tübingen, Milan and Naples (Italy), Case Western Reserve University in the United States, the universities of Tel Aviv, Baku (Azerbaijan); the universities of Tehran, Isfahan, and Caspian (Iran), the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and others of Tel Aviv and Haifa (Israel), those of Tokyo, Kyoto and Nagoya (Japan); the universities of Tübingen, Milan and Naples (Italy), and the University Mohammed V in Rabat (Morocco), among many others.

A Framework Favourable to Dialogue in the Mediterranean

The BIEFset out on a long journey of over two years of preparation leading to the WOCMES Barcelona 2010 Congress. The efforts made have been very well worth it. The third year of the congress has achieved the highest figures of participation and has again revealed the capital status of the 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 in the promotion of activities, projects and actions contributing to mutual awareness, exchanges and co-operation between different countries, societies and cultures. Although our understandings are formed within the Mediterranean, the current, complex, independent and globalised world, obliges us to take into account everything occurring further beyond, because in the end it affects us really.

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 area as a region. An area that could not be ignored this year, when the Congress was held in the city where the Permanent Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean is based.

WOCMES Barcelona 2010 has been a privileged space for exchange and meeting for scientific and academic knowledge for more than 3 200 participants. An initiative both to dialogue and cooperation between people from 75 countries from a wide range of disciplines and fields of study. It has been, therefore, one of the best instruments in which the BIEF could have been involved to advance in our mission, which is to work for a Mediterranean peace and stability, shared prosperity and dialogue between cultures and civilizations.

Senan Finmea
Director General of the BIEF

Music, Cinema, Theatre and Exhibitions

WOCMES has included an intensive cultural programme and several social events

Music

WOCMES Barcelona 2010 is a place for knowledge, dialogue and music, an environment where different cultures interact. The concerts and performances took place in the historic centre of Barcelona, with the aim of bringing people together and creating a meeting point where culture and dialogue flow.

Citation of the peace prize for dialogue and co-operation in the world of the University of the Middle East and West Asia. (Barcelona, 24 July 2010).

Exhibitions

In different venues of the congress it was also possible to visit eight history, photography, sculptures and painting exhibitions. The exhibitions, which came from Yemen, Australia, France, the United States or Spain, were: “La Frontera en Amberes,” “Persian Illustration & Script 18th Century,” “Princesa de la Mediterránea: pintores andaluces contemporáneos,” “Projektung and Restoring in Khadija (Baghdat, Iraq),” “Mandar y danse au Sahara: La tradition dans le contemporain,” “Images From Bessath a Chador,” “Séculisme 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.
A Framework Favourable to Dialogue in the Mediterranean

The DIMed set out on a long journey of over two years of preparation leading to the WOCMES Barcelona 2010 Congress. The efforts made have been very well worthwhile. The third year of the congress has achieved the highest figures of participation and has again revealed the capital status of the city of Barcelona in the Mediterranean as a meeting point 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, exchange and co-operation between different countries, societies and cultures. Although our activities are focused within the Mediterranean, the current, complex, interdependent and globalised world calls us to think in a range of disciplines and fields of study. It has been, therefore, one of the key instruments in which the DIMed could have been able to contribute to address such a challenge, which is also our work for a Mediterranean of peace and stability, sharing prosperity and dialogue between cultures and civilizations.

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 as a region. 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 by more than 2700 participants. An invitation both to dialogue and cooperation between people from 75 countries from a wide range of disciplines and fields of study. It has been, therefore, one of the key instruments in which the DIMed could have been able to contribute to address such a challenge, which is also our work for a Mediterranean of peace and stability, sharing prosperity and dialogue between cultures and civilizations.

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.wocmes.org/wocmes

Music, Cinema, Theatre and Exhibitions

WOCMES has included an intensive cultural programme and several social events around twenty films from Iran, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Turkey, Morocco and France, among others, were screened at the WOCMES Film Festival, organized in collaboration with the International Association of Independent Producers of the Mediterranean (APMED). It enjoyed the presence of two debates of the directors Hamid Reza Mirzaei (Iran), who presented The Glass House, and Najeeb Majid (Pakistan), who presented Voiceprint of the Moon. The DIMed auditorium, coinciding with the congress, also programmed two dance performances.

The Orquesta Arábica de Barcelona offered the inaugural concert of WOCMES Barcelona 2010. The university campus also hosted the performance of the Algerian Nabil Bennani, who offered a journey through the great classics of popular music in his country. At the Palau de la Música, within the presentation of the WOCMES 2010 Awards, Folklorica performed Catalan folk music. In different venues of the congress it was also possible to visit a sighthistory, sculpture and painting exhibitions. The exhibitions, which came from Yemen, Australia, France, the United States or Spain, were: “La Frontera en derrumbe”; “Persian Illustration & Script: 19th Century”; “Poèmes de la Méditerranée: poésies arabes contemporaines”; “Projetant and Bestowing in Khatibiyat (Baghshat, Iraq)”; “Marcher et danser au Sahara. La tradition dans le contemporain”; “Harm: Images From Bosnian War”; “Sciences 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.
The European Institute of the Mediterranean (EIMed), founded in 1986, is a consortium comprising the Government of Catalonia, the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and Barcelona City Council. It incorporates civil society through its Board of Trustees and an Advisory Council formed by Mediterranean universities, companies, organisations and personalities of renowned prestige.

In accordance with the principles of the Euro Mediterranean Partnership Barcelona Process, and notably with the objectives of the European Union for the Mediterranean, the Institute is to achieve an advanced understanding, exchange and cooperation between the different Mediterranean countries, societies and cultures, as well as to promote the principles of a spirit of peace and stability, shared prosperity and dialogue between cultures and civilizations in the Mediterranean region.

Adapting a clear role as a think tank specialized in Mediterranean studies based on a multidisciplinary and networking approach, the EIMed excels in analysis, understanding and cooperations through the organization of seminars, research projects, debates, conferences and workshops to achieve cultural programmes.

The Congress Goals

- Promoting approaches to breaking stereotypes
- Organizing overarching viewpoints

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 three regions. Over 370 international reports, academics and researchers from 92 countries presented their studies, debated and shared points of view during the intensive working days.

Organized by the European Institute of the Mediterranean (EIMed), WOCMES Barcelona programmed more than 50 academic sessions, held in blocks of 30 sessions, on a wide range of disciplines and focused 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 2421 scholars, was accompanied by a notable and intense cultural agenda including a cinema festival, eight exhibitions, theatre and music performances, and a book fair.
After more than two years of preparations, WOCMES Barcelona 2010 brought together in the Catalan capital over 2,350 participants, largely surpassing the participation of the two previous years. Especially notable was the presence of academics from the Anglo-Saxon world, Mediterranean countries (headed by Turkey), European 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**

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<th>Country</th>
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<td>Spain</td>
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WOCMES Barcelona 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 three regions. Over 2,350 renowned experts, academics and researchers from 92 countries presented their studies, debated and shared points of view during the intensive working days.

Organised by the European Institute of the Mediterranean (EI Med), WOCMES Barcelona 2010 programme managed to gather $500 academic sessions, held in blocks of 10 sessions, on a wide range of disciplines and leaving 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 222 experts, was accompanied by a notable and intensive cultural agenda including a cinema festival, eight exhibitions, theatre and music performances, and a book fair.

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**Academic Excellence**

Two committees of experts (international and scientific) guaranteed the highest academic level of the congress programme and the presence of distinguished guests for the opening and plenary sessions.


- Scientific Advisory Council: Jean-Claude Tranpis, Carlo Cotta-Ramusino, Giorgio Zanini, and the President of the Scientific Committee, Giorgio Zanini.

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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 the first time research on the Mediterranean in the congress debates.

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

- **WOCMES in Figures**: 2,350 participants, largely surpassing the participation of the two previous years. Especially notable was the presence of academics from the Anglo-Saxon world, Mediterranean countries (headed by Turkey), European 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.

- **Representation by Countries**: Spain: 130 sessions, France: 110 sessions, Italy: 80 sessions, Germany: 50 sessions, Turkey: 40 sessions, USA: 30 sessions, UK: 20 sessions, and others.

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**The Scientific Programme**

- **Day 1**: Plenary Session, Opening Ceremony, Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Council, Keynote Speech (Benedetta Morini, European University Institute, Florence, Italy). The scientific programme, which was prepared for two years, based on the proposals and contributions of 222 experts, was accompanied by a notable and intensive cultural agenda including a cinema festival, eight exhibitions, theatre and music performances, and a book fair.

- **Day 2**: Conference Session, with 20 plenary sessions on topics related to the Mediterranean and the Middle East, presented by leading experts from around the world. The sessions covered a wide range of disciplines and topics, including political and economic aspects, the environment, literature, history, gender issues, religion, town planning, contemporary artistic creation and identities.

- **Day 3**: Conference Session, with 20 plenary sessions on topics related to the Mediterranean and the Middle East, presented by leading experts from around the world. The sessions covered a wide range of disciplines and topics, including political and economic aspects, the environment, literature, history, gender issues, religion, town planning, contemporary artistic creation and identities.

- **Day 4**: Conference Session, with 20 plenary sessions on topics related to the Mediterranean and the Middle East, presented by leading experts from around the world. The sessions covered a wide range of disciplines and topics, including political and economic aspects, the environment, literature, history, gender issues, religion, town planning, contemporary artistic creation and identities.

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**The Congress Themes**

- **Research and Innovation**: The congress debates prompted new points of view and innovative approaches to cultural and religious questions, all of which are deeply rooted in the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

- **Consolidation**: The large participation of broad academic and geographical scopes has meant for Barcelona an important step in the consolidation of WOCMES as a congress of international reference after the two previous years (2009 in Germany and 2010 in Jordan). Moreover, the high level of participation also called the expectations following the candidature of Barcelona in 2008 to host the congress, when it was chosen in open vote over other candidate cities.

- **Innovation**: The scientific programme, which was prepared for two years, based on the proposals and contributions of 222 experts, was accompanied by a notable and intensive cultural agenda including a cinema festival, eight exhibitions, theatre and music performances, and a book fair.