



SWEDISH INSTITUTE
ALEXANDRIA

Events Calendar 2006

February 2006

Writing for the Stage (3 February)

Organized by:
International Association for Creation and Training

Hosted and Co-sponsored by:
SwedAlex

A seminar conducted by Professor Mahmoud Abou Doma within “The Creative Forum for Independent Theatre Groups” co-hosted by Bibliotheca Alexandria. A “Book Session” will be held at the Swedish Institute. The newly published book “Writing for the Stage” will be reviewed by the renowned critic Farouk Abdel Qader. Five directors and a number of critics will take part in the discussions.

March 2006

Image of the Other (4 March)

Hosted and Co-organized by:
SwedAlex

The Egyptian Commission for the Revision of Schoolbooks under the auspices of the Ministry for Higher Education; meeting of the steering committee including UNESCO, the Arab League and SwedAlex.

Rebuilding the Trust between Europe and the Muslim World (4 March)

Hosted and Co-organized by:
SwedAlex

A seminar organized jointly by SwedAlex and the Egyptian-European Cooperation Council, and co-chaired by Ambassador Ihab Sorour and Director Jan Henningsson.

Visit to Egypt and Jordan by a Delegation of Four Prominent Arabic-Speaking Swedish Muslims (13-21 March)

Sponsored and Co-organized by:
SwedAlex

The purpose of this visit is to increase understanding between our countries and to promote a dialogue of cultures rather than a clash of civilizations. The delegates will meet with Egyptian students at Al-Azhar University, Cairo University, American University in Cairo, and two branches of the Suez Canal University: in Suez and Al-Areish. In Jordan, the delegates will visit Al-Yarmuk University in Irbid, and the University of Jordan in Amman.

They will also give interviews to the Arab media, especially as concerns the need for broadened contacts between youth in Europe and the Arab world, as evidenced by the so-called cartoon crisis. A follow-up of the delegation visit is envisaged for November, with a return visit to Sweden by youth from Arab countries.

Learning from Mediaeval Manuscripts: “Early Egyptian Hadith Scholarship: the Examples of Ibn Wahb and Ibn Lahya” (23 March)

Organized by:
International Society for Arabic Papyrology
Bibliotheca Alexandrina

Hosted and Co-sponsored by:
SwedAlex

Lecture at SwedAlex by Dr Hugh Kennedy with comments by Prof Mustafa Al-Abbadi and others. This seminar is within the conference “Documents and History of the Medieval Islamic World” to take place at Bibliotheca Alexandrina during the period from 23-26 March. During the conference around 40 papers will be presented by scholars from twelve countries (e.g. Egypt, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine).

April 2006

Civic Education and Human Rights for Youth (1-9 April)

Organized and Sponsored by:
Council of Europe
SwedAlex

Hosted by:
SwedAlex

This is an Arab-Euro training course for trainers in human rights education with young people. Emphasis will be on methods and criteria for education about human rights. Also, the manual for human rights education, “Compass”, produced by the Council of Europe, have been translated into Arabic. The course addresses mainly teachers and multipliers who work with courses on human rights for young people.

Human Rights and Renewal of the Religious Discourse (18-20 April 2006)

Organized by:
Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS)

Hosted by:
SwedAlex

Co-sponsored by:
CIHRS
SwedAlex

"How could the Arab World benefit from the Non-Arab Islamic experience?" – a seminar co-organized with CIHRS under the leadership of Dr Bahiy Al-Din Hasan (Cairo). Lectures address issues such as: "Religion and state in the non-Arab Islamic world", "Human Rights in the non-Arab Islamic discourse", "The consultation known as fatwa", and "Modern science in the non-Arab Islamic world". Among the learned speakers invited are Dr Ahmad Abdullahi An-Na'im (Atlanta, Ga, USA), Dr Azyumardi Azra (Indonesia), Mme Zayna Anwar (Malaysia), and Dr Mohamed Shahid (South Africa).

May 2006

Legal Traditions of the World: Family Law and Civil Code (2-3 May)

Organized, Hosted, and Sponsored by:
SwedAlex

This is the second seminar in a series of three, aiming at analyzing various legal systems, especially as concerns the interplay between Islamic Law (*shari'ah*) as applied in Arab countries and the secular legislation in European countries. The focus this time is on International Private Law, including case studies of family law conflicts: divorce, custody and abduction of children.

Among the speakers invited are: Prof Farida Benani (Morocco), Prof Johanna Schiratzki (Sweden), Prof Hisham Sadeq (Egypt), and Dr Stella Camille Sultan (Lebanon).

Equal Status and Human Rights for Women in the MENA Region (21-25 May)

Organized by:
SwedAlex
Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI)
Sida

Hosted by:
SwedAlex

Sponsored by:
Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI)

This international course is a regular annual event at the Swedish Institute. The seminar in May will contain one educational part that covers international law concerning women's rights and one part of case-studies in order to rightly interpret the different laws and conventions that have been discussed.

June 2006

Cavafy – the Great Poet of Alexandria and the Eastern Mediterranean (6 June)

Organized, Hosted and Sponsored by:
SwedAlex

A reception at the Swedish Institute, celebrating Sweden's National Day, by showing "Reading Cavafy: Fourteen Poems", a documentary film by the Swedish film-maker C-H Svenstedt. The Greek poet Cavafy was at home in Athens and Istanbul but most of all in Alexandria, where his home is nowadays a museum. The film is accompanied by a book with new renderings of Cavafy's poems in many languages, edited by Magnus William-Olsson.

Euro-Arab Dialogue (13 June)

Organized and Sponsored by:

SwedAlex

Swedish Institute of International Affairs

Swedish Institute

Commission of Foreign Affairs

Hosted by:

The Parliament of Sweden/Commission of Foreign Affairs

Three months after the visit to Egypt and Jordan by a Delegation of Four Prominent Arabic-Speaking Swedish Muslims, it is time yet again for new meetings, new questions and a continued dialogue. Among the speakers invited are: Mr. Berndt Ekholm, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chairperson of Swedalex' board, Mr. Anders Hellner, Swedish Institute of International Affairs, Mr. Mohamed Kerrou, Professor of Sociology at the University in Tunis, Ms. Nadia Mustafa, Professor at the faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University, specialized in issues regarding "Dialogue between cultures". Youth delegates: Ms. Hanin Shakrah, Sida/Zenith, Malmö and Mr. Othman al-Tawalbeh, peace researcher, Helsingborg.

October 2006

Arab Research Leaders Delegation to Sweden (16-19 October)

Organized by:

SwedAlex

ASRT (Cairo)

Sida

Swedish Research Council

Sponsored by:

Sida

SwedAlex

Visit to Sweden by a delegation of Arab research leaders for the annual meeting of the Joint Technical Committee for the MENA Research Links programme, involving: Sida, the Swedish Research Council, ASRT (the Egyptian Academy for Scientific Research and Technology), as well as several Arab universities and institutions of higher learning.

November 2006

Image of the Other in Schoolbooks (25-27 November)

Organized by:

UNESCO

League of Arab State

Al-Azhar University

SwedAlex

Council of Europe

Sponsored by:

UNESCO

League of Arab State

*Al-Azhar University
Council of Europe*

*Hosted by:
The League of Arab States*

This meeting of experts marks the third phase in a process aiming at raising the awareness among school teachers as well as authors of textbooks as regards the “Image of the Other” (the images Muslims and Christians hold of each other).

Legal Traditions of the World: International Conventions (26-29 November)

*Organized, Hosted, and Sponsored by:
SwedAlex*

The third seminar in a series of three, analyzing the interplay between Islamic law and secular legislation in European countries. The focus this time is on international conventions and legal instruments, especially the UN declaration on Human Rights, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Youth Policies - Part 2 (27-30 November)

*Organized by:
SwedAlex
National Youth Board (Sweden)
Ministry of Youth (Egypt)
Council of Europe
Bibliotheca Alexandrina
The League of Arab States
Local Youth NGO's*

*Sponsored by:
SwedAlex*

*Hosted by:
The League of Arab States*

The second seminar on Youth Policy in 2006 will be a continuation of the seminar held in September 2005. This seminar is a first step for young people, governmental employees, researchers and NGOs from Europe and the Arab world to meet and learn from each other, exchange experiences and identify challenges for youth policies. The seminar allows for a deep exchange about the purposes, means and role of youth policy. The countries participating all have very different demographic structures, different histories of political democracy and also different approaches to youth policy. The seminar should develop a shared understanding of the importance of the role of youth policy and come up with ideas how to cooperate in the future and how to improve implementation of youth policies, both in Europe and the Arab world.

December 2006

Euro-Cinema Festival (7-15 December)

*Organized and Sponsored by:
All European Cultural Centers in Alexandria*

Hosted by:
The French Cultural Centre

The eight European Cultural Centres of Alexandria: The Centre Culturel Français, the Goethe-Institut, the Hellenic Foundation for Culture, the Italian Consulate, the Russian Centre for Science and Culture, the British Council, the Instituto Cervantès and the Swedish Institute in Alexandria are participating to present Euro-Cinema, 9 days of a fascinating encounter with new European cinema.

We will show during the nine days 16 films from our countries, two films from each country. The Alexandrinians will explore the diversity of European cinema production and the common spirit of our film culture.

**Annual Conference on Contemporary Arab Philosophy: “Citizen and Citizenship”
(16-21 December)**

Organized by:
Egyptian Philosophical Society

Hosted and Sponsored by:
SwedAlex

Since 2003, SwedAlex hosts this pan-Arabic conference under the auspices of the Minister of Religious Affairs, Dr M Hamdi Zaqzouq. The program begins in Cairo, 16-18 December, and continues in Alexandria, 19-21 December.