



Events Calendar 2007

January 2007

Young Swedish Muslim Peace Agents in Sweden (19-27 January)

*Organized, Hosted and Co-sponsored by:
SwedAlex*

After the terrorist acts in Europe and the terrible military events in Iraq and Lebanon, it is more important than ever to search for peace. Fifteen young, highly educated, Swedish Muslims come to Egypt in order to meet scholars of sociology, psychology, peace studies, Islamic law and theology. Upon their return to Sweden they will train one hundred young Muslim “peace agents” to promote an irenic understanding of Islam.

Strindberg “Spöksonaten” in Alexandria (30 January)

*Sponsored by:
SwedAlex*

*Hosted by:
The Creative Centre*

The famous Swedish playwright August Strindberg’s drama “Spöksonaten” (“The Ghost Sonata”, translated into Arabic as “Al-Shabah”) will be presented by an independent Alexandria-based group of young actors, directed by Sherif Hamdy. The group has previously performed other plays by Strindberg, e.g. “The Road to Damascus” (Arabic: “Hilm Al-Gharib”). The performance will take place at the “The Creative Centre” in Alexandria.

February 2007

The 4th Creative Forum for Independent Theatre Groups (1-10 February)

*Organized by:
International Association for Creation and Training (IACT)
Bibliotheca Alexandrina*

*Co-hosted and Co-sponsored by:
SwedAlex*

The Creative Forum is a meeting point for groups that work apart from official, governmental cultural institutions, out a different artistic and socio-political formula. It aims to remove the fake masks that conceal the artists from their lives and spread the notions of isolation, alienation and mistrusting the other. This is done through theatre performances, dialogue programmes, exchange of experiences, and building joint projects between artists from different generations and cultural

backgrounds. As usual, intercultural class-rooms, roundtables, and seminars are hosted by SwedAlex.

Meeting of SwedAlex Advisory Committee (7-8 February)

SwedAlex Board Meeting (23-25 February)

March 2007

Youth Policy: Follow-up Meeting of Euro-Med Steering Committee (5-7 March)

*Co-organized, Sponsored and Hosted by:
SwedAlex*

SwedAlex in close co-ordination with the Council of Europe, League of Arab States, Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs, Bibliotheca Alexandrina and the National Council for Youth have arranged a couple of seminars regarding "Youth Policy".

April 2007

Peace Studies in the Middle East: Contextualizing and Globalizing (22-25 April)

*Organized by:
Life and Peace Institute (LPI), Uppsala*

*Sponsored and Hosted by:
SwedAlex*

Organized jointly with the Life & Peace Institute (LPI), Uppsala, in close co-operation with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Through the project "Publications for Peace Education" run by LPI more than 20 000 text books have been distributed in forty countries. One highlight of this seminar is the SIPRI Yearbook 2006, translated into Arabic by the Centre for Arab Unity Studies.

May 2007

SwedAlex Board Meeting (10 May)

Childrens' Books (20-23 May)

*Organized by:
Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF)*

*Sponsored by:
Sida & SwedAlex*

*Hosted by:
SwedAlex*

A Seminar for publishers of childrens' books. Participants are publishers, government representatives and distributors of children books from Sweden, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria.

June 2007

The Second Arabic Conference for Translation (3-5 June)

Organized by:
Arab Organization for Translation (AOT), Beirut

Sponsored and Hosted by:
SwedAlex

Together with the Arab Organization of Translation (based in Beirut) we convene translators from all Arab countries to explore. There are many examples of increased translation activity in the Arab world. Thus, in February 2006 the Supreme Council of Culture of Egypt initiated an inventory of translations.

Gender-Based Violence (11-13 June)

Co-organized, Sponsored and Hosted by:
SwedAlex

Attention has been drawn in recent years to the issue of crimes against women committed in the name of honour and the issue has been addressed by intergovernmental and expert bodies within and outside the UN system and also by the European parliament.

September 2007

Meeting with the Steering Committee for the UNESCO Textbooks Project (10-11 September)

A preparatory meeting for the experts' reunion scheduled for end of November 2007.

Meeting of Swedish NGOs with activities in the MENA-Region, (24-26 September)

Organized by:
Sida's regional office in Cairo
SwedAlex

Sponsored and Hosted by:
SwedAlex

The purpose is to present Sida's regional strategy for the people working in the field and to discuss priority areas for the Swedish involvement in the region. Also to share experiences from work in the region.

October 2007

MENA Research Links Workshop (3-6 October)

Organized by:
Swedish Research Institute, Istanbul
SwedAlex

*Sponsored by:
Sida*

*Hosted by:
Swedish Research Institute, Istanbul*

This Sida-financed programme brings together research teams in Sweden with colleagues in Arab countries. It is administered by the Swedish Research Council, SwedAlex and the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul. This year, the annual meeting of Arabic and Swedish research leaders is combined with a workshop on urban studies.

The Future of Islamology in Sweden (21-23 October)

*Organized, Sponsored and Hosted by:
SwedAlex*

An explorative seminar with university teachers and research leaders responsible for Islamic Studies in Sweden. What will the teaching about Islam and Muslim history look like in the next 10-15 years at Swedish universities? What methods can be developed for increased academic co-operation with universities based in Muslim majority countries?

Islam and the West (25 October)

A seminar with a delegation from the League of Islamic Universities.

Manual on Human Rights Education (29-31 October)

*Organized by:
The Council of Europe*

*Sponsored and Hosted by:
SwedAlex*

A seminar to review the evaluation and impact of the training for human rights education carried out in the Euro-Med region in 2006 and 2007 and to take account other regional stakeholders experiences in human rights education so as to develop a consolidated approach in 2008 and beyond.

November 2007

The Euro-Cinema Festival (15-23 November)

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

*Hosted by:
The French Cultural Centre*

The eight European Cultural Centres of Alexandria are participating to present the Euro-Cinema Festival, 9 days of a fascinating encounter with new European cinema. 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 the Euro-Cinema Festival.

December 2007

Including Women in the Political Process (3-5 December)

Organized by:
International IDEA, Stockholm
Sida's regional office in Cairo
SwedAlex

Sponsored by:
International IDEA, Stockholm
Sida's regional office in Cairo

Hosted by:
SwedAlex

The aim of the seminar is to facilitate dialogue and understanding on which affirmative action measures can make a meaningful impact on the situation for women. A country's constitution sets the stage for women's involvement in society, political parties decide who run for elections and the electoral systems influence who wins.

Islam and Arab Nationalism (9-11 December)

Organized by:
Centre for Arab Unity Studies (CAUS), Beirut
SwedAlex

Sponsored and Hosted by:
SwedAlex

A process of structured dialogue between these two major ideological forces in the Arab world was initiated by CAUS in 1981. Now, 25 years on, some parameters have changed but the basic tension remains – or does it? Are we witnessing a fusion of the two, such as in the recently unified Palestinian government?

Euro-Arab Philosophers' Debate: "Faith and Reason" (14-15 December)

Organized by:
Egyptian Society for Philosophy,
SwedAlex

Sponsored and Hosted by:
SwedAlex

Since 2003, SwedAlex has hosted an annual seminar of philosophers from all Arab countries, with such distinguished lecturers as Nasr Abuzeid, Hasan Hanafi, and Tayyib Tayzini. Themes have included "Renewal of religious discourse", to Contemporary Philosophy", "State and Citizenship", "The Philosophy of Resistance". In 2007, European philosophers will be invited in cooperation with the Vatican.