



ICERM

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR ETHNO-RELIGIOUS MEDIATION

"Fostering a culture of peace among ethnic and religious groups"

www.icermediation.org

Presents:

2nd Annual International Conference

on Ethnic and Religious Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding

Theme:

**"The Intersection of Diplomacy, Development and Defense:
Faith and Ethnicity at the Crossroads"**

Venue: The Riverfront Library Auditorium, Yonkers Public Library

**1 Larkin Center
Yonkers, New York 10701**

Date: October 10, 2015

Time: 9am – 5pm



*ICERM 2nd Annual International Conference On Ethnic And Religious Conflict Resolution
And Peacebuilding, Yonkers, NY, U.S.A. October 10, 2015, www.icermediation.org*

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About ICERM



The International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation (ICERM) is a New York based 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization in Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

As an emerging center of excellence for ethnic and religious conflict resolution and peacebuilding, ICERM identifies ethnic and religious conflict prevention and resolution needs, and brings together a wealth of resources, including mediation and dialogue programs to support sustainable peace in countries around the world.

Through its membership network of leaders, experts, professionals, practitioners, students and organizations, representing the broadest possible views and expertise from the field of ethnic and religious conflict, interfaith and interethnic dialogue and mediation, and the most comprehensive range of expertise across nations, disciplines and sectors, ICERM plays a vital role in promoting a culture of peace among, between and within ethnic and religious groups.

Vision

ICERM envisions a new world characterized by peace, irrespective of cultural, ethnic and religious differences. We strongly believe that the use of mediation and dialogue in preventing and resolving ethnic and religious conflicts in countries around the world is the key to creating sustainable peace.

Mission

ICERM's mission is to develop alternative methods of preventing and resolving interethnic and interreligious conflicts in countries around the world.

We work with the State of New York residents and diaspora associations, national governments, judiciary, schools, community leaders, religious groups, peace advocates, media, local, regional and international organizations, etc. to foster a culture of peace among,

between and within ethnic and religious groups through research, education and training, expert consultation, dialogue and mediation, and rapid response projects.

Mandate

ICERM plays a leadership role in identifying ethno-religious conflict prevention and resolution needs, and in bringing together all kinds of resources, including mediation and dialogue programs for governments, community leaders, religious leaders, ethnic group representatives, political parties, public officers, lawyers, law enforcement or security officers, activists, artists, business leaders, women associations, students, teachers, families, diaspora & immigrants, etc., and their various communities and countries to support full sustainable peace in countries around the world.

Specifically, ICERM:

- Conducts technical, multidisciplinary and result-oriented research on ethno-religious conflicts in countries around the world;
- Develops alternative methods of resolving inter-ethnic and inter-religious conflicts;
- Nurtures and promotes a dynamic synergy among Diaspora Associations and Organizations in New York State and in the United States in general, for a proactive ethno-religious conflict resolution in countries around the world;
- Organizes peace education programs for students in order to strengthen peaceful co-existence amidst cultural, ethnic and religious differences;
- Creates forums for communication, dialogue, inter-ethnic and inter-religious exchanges through the use of modern technology, social media, conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures, arts, publications, sports, etc.;
- Organizes ethno-religious mediation training programs for community leaders, religious leaders, ethnic group representatives, political parties, public officers, lawyers, security officers, physicians, health-care workers, activists, artists, business leaders, women associations, students, teachers, etc.;
- Promotes and provides inter-community, inter-ethnic, and inter-religious mediation services in countries around the world, under unbiased, confidential, regionally costed and expeditious process;
- Acts as a resource center of excellence for mediation practitioners, scholars and policy makers in the area of inter-ethnic, inter-religious, inter-community and inter-cultural conflict resolution;
- Co-ordinates the activities of and assists existing institutions concerned with ethno-religious conflict resolution in countries around the world;

- Provides professional and consultation services to formal and informal leadership, local, regional and international organizations, as well as other interested agencies, in the area of inter-ethnic, inter-religious, inter-community and inter-cultural conflict resolution.

What We Do

- **Research:** We create and maintain a global conflict alert database through the conflict monitoring networks, and develop new conflict prevention and resolution tools through the journal of living together, conflict early warning and response mechanism, and other publications.
- **Education and Training:** We educate people about ethnic and religious conflicts through the ICERM radio project, web-based forums, peace education programs, international conference on ethnic and religious conflict resolution and peacebuilding, world youth convention on ethnic and religious harmony, lectures, sports and artistic activities, peace exchange program, retreats and publications, and we train new mediators and facilitators through classroom and e-learning modalities.
- **Expert Consultation:** We provide consultation & advisement services, monitoring and evaluation, post-conflict investigation and reporting, election observation and assistance to formal and informal leadership.
- **Dialogue and Mediation:** We facilitate communication and dialogue through the living together movement and the pray for peace initiative, and assist parties to reach a mutually satisfactory solution through unbiased, culturally-sensitive, confidential, regionally-costed and expeditious mediation processes.
- **Rapid Response Projects:** We provide moral, material and financial support to the victims of ethnic and religious violence.

For more information about ICERM, contact:

Basil Ugorji, President and CEO

International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation

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Mount Vernon, New York 10550

Phone: +1-(916) 719-6946 // Fax: +1- (914) 363-9784

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Conference Synopsis

Since the earliest times, human history has been punctuated by violent conflict among ethnic and religious groups. And since the beginning there have been those who have sought to understand the causes behind these events and grappled with the questions around how to mediate and mitigate conflicts and bring about peaceful resolution. In order to explore recent developments and emerging thinking supporting modern approaches to diffuse current conflicts, we have selected the theme, *The Intersection of Diplomacy, Development and Defense: Faith and Ethnicity at the Crossroads*.

Early sociological studies supported the premise that it is poverty and lack of opportunity that drive marginalized groups to violence against those in power, which can metastasize into hatred fueling attacks against anyone belonging to a “different group”, for example by ideology, lineage, ethnic affiliation and/or religious tradition. So the developed world’s peacebuilding strategy from the mid-20th century forward became focused on eradicating poverty and encouraging democracy as a way of alleviating the worst of social, ethnic and faith-based exclusion.

During the last two decades, there has been increasing interest in the triggers, mechanics and dynamics that launch and sustain radicalization that pits people against one another resulting in violent extremism. Today, last century tactics have been paired with adding military defense into the mix, based on the assertions of political leadership, as well as some scholars and practitioners that the training and equipping of foreign armies by our own, when combined with collaborative development and diplomatic efforts, offers a better, more proactive approach to peace building. In every society, it is the history of the people that shape their governance, laws, economies and social interactions. There is a great deal of debate as to whether the recent shift to the “3Ds” (*Diplomacy, Development and Defense*) as part of U.S. foreign policy supports the healthy adaptation and evolution of societies in crisis, the improvement of stability and the likelihood of sustained peace, or whether it is actually disruptive to the overall social well-being in the nations where the “3Ds” are implemented.

This conference will host speakers from a variety of disciplines, fascinating and well informed panels and what is sure to be very lively debate. Often, diplomats, negotiators, mediators and interfaith dialogue facilitators are uncomfortable working alongside military members believing their presence to be antagonistic. Military leadership frequently finds challenges to carrying out their support missions subject to the broader timelines and impenetrable command structure of diplomats. Development professionals regularly feel stymied by the security regulations and policy decisions imposed by their diplomatic and military colleagues. Local populations on the ground committed to improving the safety and quality of life of their families while maintaining the cohesion of their people find themselves confronted with new and untested strategies in what are often dangerous and chaotic environments.

Through this conference, ICERM seeks to promote scholarly research with practical application of the “3Ds” (*Diplomacy, Development and Defense*) to peacebuilding between peoples, or among ethnic, religious or sectarian groups both within and across borders.

Program Schedule

8:30 AM Registration & Breakfast

- **Venue: The Riverfront Library, 1 Larkin Center Yonkers, New York 10701**

Opening Session

- **Cristina Pastrana, ICERM Director of Operations**
- **Basil Ugorji, President and CEO**

9:00 AM Welcoming Remarks

- **Mayor Ernest Davis, Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon, New York**

9:15 AM Keynote Address

Theme: *The Intersection of Diplomacy, Development and Defense: Faith and Ethnicity at the Crossroads*

- **Professor Abdul Karim Bangura, Renowned Scholar with Five Ph.Ds. (Ph.D. in Political Science, Ph.D. in Development Economics, Ph.D. in Linguistics, Ph.D. in Computer Science, and Ph.D. in Mathematics), Professor of Research Methodology and Political Science at Howard University, Researcher-in-residence of Abrahamic Connections and Islamic Peace Studies at the Center for Global Peace in the School of International Service at American University, Special Envoy of the African Union Peace and Security Council, Director of The African Institution in Washington, DC. Author of 80 books and more than 600 scholarly articles, and Recipient of more than 200 major teaching and other scholarly and community service awards**

9:45 AM Q&A Session with the Keynote Speaker

Moderator:

- **Amit K. Chhabra, J.D., Ambassador & Permanent Representative to the United Nations, ICERM; Vice Chair of Public Relations & Legal Affairs, ICERM Board; Bank Regulatory Attorney, TCG Advisory, LLC; Visiting Professor of International Law, Saint George's University; Adjunct Professor, New York Law School**

Insights from the Experts

10:00 AM Distinguished Speeches

10:00 AM - 11:55 AM *Session One: Terrorism & Disarmament*

Moderator:

- **Arthur Lerman, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Political Science, History and Conflict Management, Mercy College, New York**

Speakers:

10:00 AM “Ethnic and Religious Terrorism Cross Nationally”

- **Victor Asal, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science, Director of the Center for Policy Research, and Co-Director of the Project on Violent Conflict, Rockefeller College, University at Albany, SUNY**

10:35 AM “Islamic Radicalization and Terrorism: The Middle East - Sub Sahara African Experience”

- **George A. Genyi, Ph.D., Department of Political Science, Benue State University Makurdi, Nigeria**

11:10 AM “Disarmament during Ethnic and Religious War: The UN Perspective”

- **Curtis Raynold, Secretary, Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations Headquarters, New York**

11:45 AM *Q&A Session on Terrorism & Disarmament*

12:00 Noon - 12:50 PM *Session Two: "The Mediation of Ethnic and Religious Conflicts"*

Moderator:

- **Michael Lloréncz, Professor of Management and the Director of the Entrepreneurship Center in the Graduate School of Business and Assistant Professor of Communication and Director, Department of Communication and Arts, Lander College for Women---an Orthodox Jewish women's college**

Speaker:

- **Peter T. Coleman, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Education; Director of the Morton Deutsch International Center for Cooperation and Conflict Resolution (MD-ICCCR) at Teachers College, Columbia University; and Executive Director of the Advanced Consortium on Cooperation, Conflict and Complexity (AC4) at The Earth Institute at Columbia University**

Discussant:

- **Abu Bakarr Bah**

ICERM Board member, Associate Professor of Sociology at Northern Illinois University and Faculty Associate at the Center for NGO Leadership and Development. He is also Editor-in-Chief of *African Conflict & Peacebuilding Review* published by Indiana University Press and the author of *Breakdown and Reconstitution: Democracy, the Nation-State, and Ethnicity in Nigeria*.

12:40 PM *Q&A Session on Mediation*

12:55 PM *Group Photo*

1:00 PM *Lunch & Networking*

1:55 PM *Distinguished Speeches Continue...*

2:00 PM - 2:55 PM *Session Three: "The Role of Mediation in the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes with Ethnic and Religious Components - The UN Perspective"*

Moderator:

- **Amit K. Chhabra, J.D., Ambassador & Permanent Representative to the United Nations, ICERM; Vice Chair of Public Relations & Legal Affairs, ICERM Board; Bank Regulatory Attorney, TCG Advisory, LLC; Visiting Professor of International Law, Saint George's University; Adjunct Professor, New York Law School**

Speaker:

- **Kulmiye Mohamed, Policy and Mediation Division, Department of Political Affairs, United Nations Headquarters, New York**

2:45 PM Q&A Session on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes with Ethnic and Religious Components

3:00 PM Interview with Priscilla Prutzman on “Bias Awareness”

- **Priscilla Prutzman, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Creative Response to Conflict, Nyack, New York**

Interviewer:

- **Jillian Post, Facilitator, The Living Together Movement - NYC**

3:30 PM Panel Discussion

Moderator:

- **Annabel Hertz, ICERM Board Vice Chair for Programs and Services, and Policy Research Consultant**

Presenters:

“Black Liberation Theology and White Evangelicalism: Reconciling the Ecumenical and Cultural Dissent”

- **Michael D. Royster, Division of Social Work, Behavioral and Political Sciences at Prairie View A&M University; Elder and Pastor in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**

“Emergency Assistance as an Integral Component of Peacebuilding and Reconciliation: Freedom House’s Emergency Assistance Program”

- **Samy Gerges, Senior Program Officer, Freedom House; Specialist in Religious Freedom; Ph.D. Candidate, International Conflict Management, Kennesaw State University**

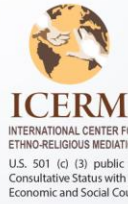
« The Role of Diplomacy, Development and Defense in Ensuring Peace and Security in Multi-Ethnic and Religious States: A Case Study of Nigeria”

- **Ven. (Dr.) Isaac Olukayode Oyeneye, & Mr. Gbeke Adebawale Adenuga, School of Arts and Social Sciences, Tai Solarin College of Education, Omu-Ijebu, Ogun State, Nigeria**

4:30 PM Closing Remarks

- **Basil Ugorji, President and CEO of ICERM**

General Information



Presents the 2nd Annual International Conference

on Ethnic and Religious Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding

Theme:
"The Intersection of Diplomacy, Development and Defense:
Faith and Ethnicity at the Crossroads"

Venue:
The Riverfront Library Auditorium, 1 Larkin Center Yonkers, New York 10701

Registration:
www.icermmediation.org

Date:
October 10, 2015
Opening Ceremony & Keynote Address: 9:00am
Insights from the Experts: 10am - 5:00pm

Keynote Address



**Professor
Abdul Karim Bangura**
Peace Activist, Renowned Scholar with Five Ph.D.s. & Professor of Research Methodology and Political Science at Howard University

Distinguished Speakers



Victor Asal, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Political Science, Director of the Center for Policy Research, and Co-Director of the Project on Violent Conflict, University at Albany, SUNY



George A. Genyi, Ph.D.
Dept. of Political Science, Benue State University Makurdi, Nigeria



Curtis Raynold
Secretary of the Board, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, UN Headquarters, New York



Peter T. Coleman, Ph.D.
Professor of Psychology and Education & Director of the Morton Deutsch International Center for Cooperation and Conflict Resolution (MD-ICCRR) at Teachers College, Columbia University



Levent Bilman
Director of the Policy and Mediation Division, Department of Political Affairs, UN Headquarters, New York

Symposium Presenters

Priscilla Prutzman,
Creative Response to Conflict, New York

Member Euginia George-Genyi,
Benue State University

Michael D. Royster,
Prairie View A&M University

Roselyn Sola Isola,
Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund

Samy Gerges,
Freedom House

Welcoming Remarks

Mayor Ernest Davis,
Mayor of the Great City of Mount Vernon, New York

Dianna Wuagneux,
Ph.D., Chair, ICERM Board of Directors

Basil Ugorji,
President and CEO of ICERM

Acknowledgment:

ICERM is grateful to the Yonkers Public Library, New York, for supporting the 2015 conference.

Registration

Interested organizations, educational institutions, government agencies, religious groups or associations, ethnic associations, policy makers or public leaders, individuals or Diaspora associations are encouraged to participate or send delegates.

This year's conference will host peace activists and renowned scholars from a variety of disciplines and organizations, including the United Nations, a fascinating and well informed panel discussion as well as an opportunity for audience Q & A. We welcome you to join us for an insightful debate that will address such problems as Radicalization and Terrorism, Disarmament during Ethnic and Religious War, The Mediation of Ethnic and Religious Conflicts, Emergency Assistance, Political Leadership, Social Exclusion, and much more.

We welcome students, scholars, practitioners, public and civil officials and leaders in different disciplines to come together, join the conversation, and exchange ideas on proactive ways to prevent, manage and resolve ethnic and religious conflict locally and globally.

The logo for the 2nd Annual International Conference. It features a large, stylized number '2' in a dark brown color, with the word 'Annual' in a black serif font to its right. Below 'Annual' are the words 'International' and 'Conference' in a black serif font, stacked vertically. A dark brown horizontal bar is positioned below the text, containing the subtitle 'on Ethnic and Religious Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding' in a white sans-serif font. The background of the logo is a light purple gradient with a darker purple circular shape on the right side.

2nd Annual International Conference

on Ethnic and Religious Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding

Theme:
**"The Intersection of Diplomacy, Development and Defense:
Faith and Ethnicity at the Crossroads"**

To register for the 2015 ICERM Conference and to view the program details, visit our website at www.icermediation.org.

We also invite you to help sponsor the Conference by making a donation via our website at [2015 ICERM Conference Donations](#).

We have decided to make the event free to open the doors to anyone interested in this very timely discussion. However, your tax free donation will go far in helping us print programs, publish the conference proceedings, as well as make the outcome of the event available online.

We thank you in advance for your participation and we look forward to seeing you on October 10, 2015.

Directions / Itinerary

The 2015 Annual International Conference on Ethnic and Religious Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding will take place at the Conference Auditorium located at:

Riverfront Library Auditorium
1 Larkin Center
Yonkers, NY 10701



Source : www.forum.skyscraperpage.com

Getting to the Riverfront Library, Yonkers:



Source: plus.google.com

By Train

Metro-North Hudson Line to Yonkers Railroad Station.
Library is across the street.

By car or subway, please use Google map: 1 Larkin Center Yonkers, NY 10701.

Parking

If you are planning on driving, limited metered street parking is available in the area.

Additional parking (\$3.00 for first hour, \$1.00 for each additional hour) is available at the Buena Vista Parking Garage: <http://www.yonkersparkingauthority.com/bva.html>. There is an entrance to the garage on Hawthorne Avenue near Main Street, and another entrance at the corner of Hawthorne and Hudson Street. Upon entering garage, push button and take entry ticket. Take ticket with you as you leave the garage.

Walk past the Post Office and library is across the street from the Railroad Station.

Hotel & Accommodation Information

We have identified two kinds of accommodation in and around Yonkers, New York.

Hotel Accommodation: Though there are many hotels in Yonkers, we blocked a group hotel accommodation with reduced rate for interested out-of-state and international conference participants. The hotel name is: Hampton Inn & Suites Yonkers located at: 160 Corporate Blvd. Yonkers, New York 10701, USA. To make a reservation, please click on the following link: <http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/groups/personalized/N/NYCYNHX-ICE-20151008/index.jhtml>

Other Accommodation Providers: You can use this online resource, <https://www.airbnb.com>, for an alternative accommodation search in Yonkers, Mount Vernon or other cities around Yonkers, New York. Before you make your reservation, try to check the distance to our conference venue: The Riverfront Library Auditorium, Yonkers Public Library, 1 Larkin Center Yonkers, New York 10701, United States of America.

It is your responsibility to negotiate with the hotel and landlord, and pay all the fees associated with your reservation. ICERM does not handle reservations, and will not be involved as a third party. However, we may provide you with assistance when requested.

Restaurant for 1:00 PM Lunch & Networking

Lunch & networking is scheduled at 1:00 pm. We recommend that you go to Dolphin Restaurant for your lunch.

Dolphin Restaurant
1 Van Der Donck Street
Yonkers, NY 10701
Website: www.dolphinrbl.com

Although Dolphin Restaurant is recommended, ICERM is *NOT* liable for anything arising from your transaction at this or any other restaurants.

Walking Direction to Dolphin Restaurant

From the Riverfront Library Yonker
1 Larkin Plaza, Yonkers, NY 10701
3 min (0.1 mile)

Head west toward River St
Turn left onto River St
Turn right onto Dock St
Turn left onto Van Der Donck St
Destination will be on the right

Acknowledgments

With much gratitude and thanks, the International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation wants to acknowledge the generous donations and support it received from the following people and organization. Their generous and philanthropic support made the 2015 Conference possible.

Abdul Karim Bangura (Keynote Speaker)
Basil Ugorji
Diomaris Gonzalez
Dianna Wuagneux
Ronny Williams
Cristina Pastrana
Love Kumuyi
Mayor Ernest Davis
Riverfront Library Yonkers represented by
James Hackett
(Website: <http://www.ypl.org/riverfront>)
Whole Foods Market® Yonkers (Website:
www.wholefoodsmarket.com/stores/yonkers)
By The Way Bakery in Hastings-On-
Hudson, NY (Website:
www.btwbakery.com)
Hampton Inn & Suites Yonkers (Website:
www.hamptoninnyonkers.com)
Panera Bread, Yonkers (Website:
www.panerabread.com)
Gary Chilutti, Films-4-Good
Mood Republic Studios (Website:
www.moodrepublic.com)

Uzair Fazl-e-Umer
Muhammad Danish
Opher Segev
Arthur Lerman
Victor Asal
Peter T. Coleman
George A. Genyi
United Nations Office for Disarmament
Affairs represented by Curtis Raynold
The Policy and Mediation Division, United
Nations Department of Political Affairs
represented by Kulmiye Mohamed
The Outreach Division United Nations
Department of Public Information
Jillian Post
Annabel Hertz
Amit K. Chhabra
Michael Llorénz
Abu Bakarr Bah
All the ICERM Members
All the 2015 Conference Presenters &
Participants

Get Involved

ICERM provides many opportunities for interested individuals and organizations to get involved. You can contribute by writing an article to be considered for the *Journal of Living Together* or by becoming a peer review panel member. You can also join our family of members, volunteer to start a living together movement forum, participate in upcoming training sessions, serve as a Board member, make a donation, sponsor any project(s) of your choice, become a partner or help plan the 2016 annual international conference.

Membership

Become a Member and Join the Movement! For information about the three categories of membership - executive, corporate, and individual - send email to: icerm@icermmediation.org.

ICERM membership is an international network of leaders, experts, professionals, practitioners, students and organizations, representing the broadest possible views and expertise from the field of ethnic and religious conflict, interfaith and interethnic dialogue and mediation, and the most comprehensive range of expertise across nations, disciplines and sectors.

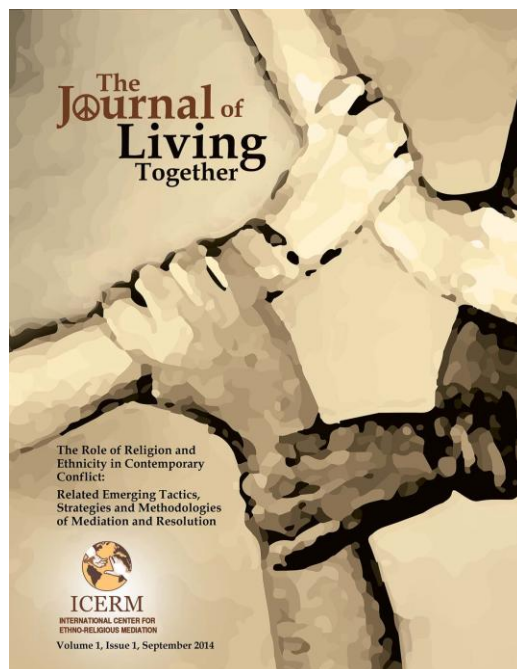
Membership in this organization is also open to all those who care about, have an interest in, or wish to make contributions to help ICERM foster a culture of peace among, between and within ethnic and religious groups in countries around the world. By completing their membership registration, members endorse ICERM's mission, work and core values. In return, ICERM creates opportunities for strong partnership and collaboration with members and their organizations, as well as a forum for professional development and open decision making.

Journal of Living Together

Recent Publication:

***“The Role of Religion and Ethnicity in Contemporary Conflict:
Related Emerging Tactics, Strategies and Methodologies of Mediation and Resolution”***

Journal of Living Together
Volume 1, Issue 1, September 2014
ISSN 2373-6615 (Print)
ISSN 2373-6631 (Online)



Upcoming Issues

New Militant Movements in Africa and the Middle East

The *Journal of Living Together* is currently accepting papers for a special issue highlighting the rise of new militant movements and their impact on the societies of Africa and the Middle East. For this special issue, we are particularly interested in articles and case studies that address any of the following questions:

- What are the ideological roots of these movements?
- How do these movements deviate from their religious roots?
- What devastating impacts do these movements have on the corresponding society?
- What new tools are available to governments and peace organizations to prevent the expansion of these groups and to stem terrorism?
- What models or means used in the past have helped to curb the activities of similar groups?
- Also to be considered are in-depth scholarly biographies of leaders of these movements.

Submission Deadline: Ongoing

Visit www.icermediation.org for the full Call for Papers

The Anatomy and Remedy of Trans-generational Conflict

The International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation, New York is seeking scholarly papers/articles for the Spring edition of its journal, the *Journal of Living Together*.

The beliefs & attitudes resulting from the trauma inflicted by violent ethno-religious conflict are often passed down through generations. For this edition, we are particularly interested in articles that address any of the following questions:

- What are the social and psychological processes at work in trans-generational conflict?

- What role does governance/policy play in the exacerbation or amelioration of this form of conflict?
- How can this legacy of violence be stopped/interrupted long enough for effective intervention?
- Are there programs or practices in place that have demonstrated some promising results?
- What can we learn, and perhaps incorporate, from emerging conflict mediation and mitigation practices designed to address trans-generational conflict?

Submission Deadline: Ongoing

Visit www.icermediation.org for the full Call for Papers

Peer Review Panel:

All the papers or articles received for inclusion in the Journal of Living Together are carefully reviewed by a Peer Review Panel made up of renowned scholars, specialists and practitioners in the field of ethno-religious conflict and conflict resolution.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Peer Review Panel or would like to recommend somebody, please send email to: icerm@icermediation.org.

Living Together Movement

The *living together movement* is a new civic movement made up of peace-driven individuals who recognize the same humanity in all peoples, and are passionate about bridging the gap between different races, ethnicities, religions, political views, genders, generations and nationalities, in order to increase respect, tolerance, acceptance, understanding and harmony in the world.

We come together every month to listen to, talk with, learn from, understand and share with one another. Each member enriches the group with a unique story and cultural background. Everyone is given an equal opportunity to talk about his or her cultural background and feelings, or any topics of interest, including but not limited to security issues, politics, policies, war, conflict, conflict resolution, human dignity, forgiveness, foreign relations, world peace, economy, education, employment, family, health, immigration, science and technology.

We practice empathic listening, and do not judge or criticize anyone. Our goal is to truly understand the other before seeking to be understood; and to focus on what the other person is saying rather than what we are going to say next.

We celebrate our diversity in a symbolic manner with the traditional arts, songs, food and drinks that our members bring to the living together forum.

Start a Forum:

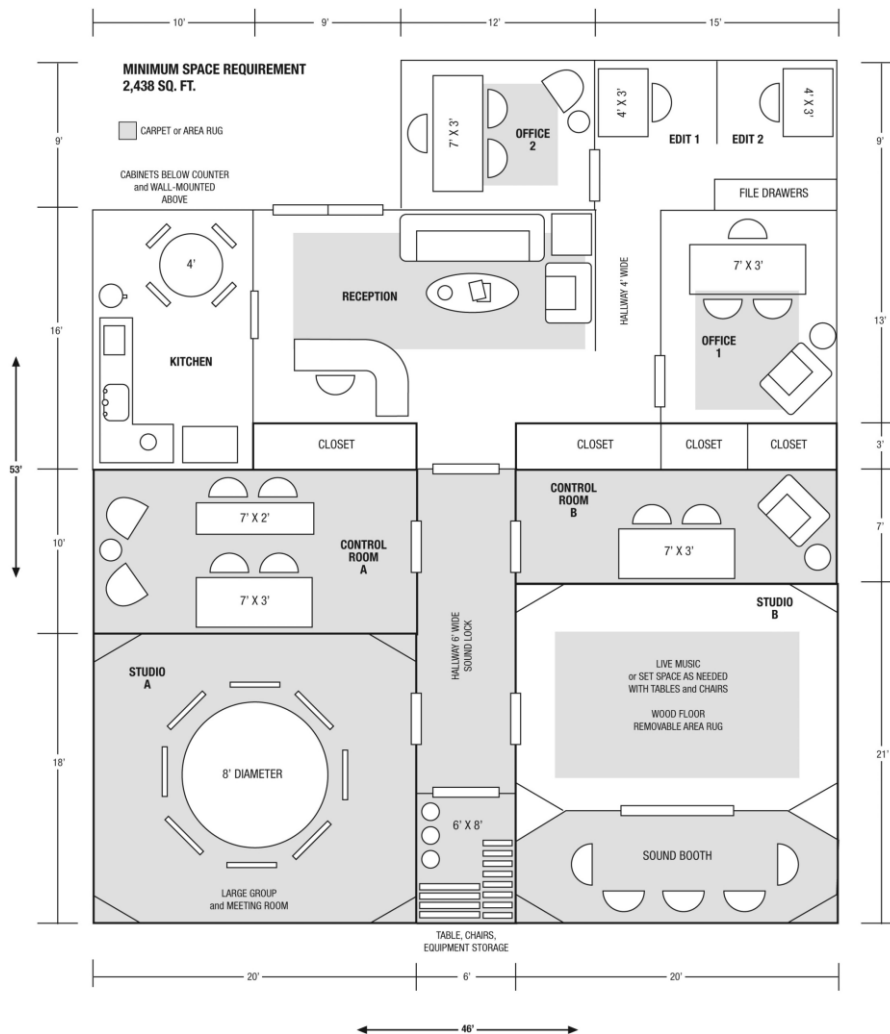
You'd love to join the Living Together Movement but can't find a forum near you. We encourage you to become a *Bridge Builder* and start a group in your school, community, city, state or province. We'll provide you with all the resources and training you'll need to start your group, and help you to get it going. Send email to icerm@icermediation.org for more information.

North-Eastern Nigeria Project

The International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation is actively and strategically involved in educational activities and capacity-building in the North-East sub-region of Nigeria. We do this to help foster a culture of peace and security. To achieve this goal, ICERM has entered into partnership with the Federal University Wukari, Taraba State, Nigeria, to establish a Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation and Peace Studies. Our joint objective is to address the issues of ethno-religious crisis in the North-East of Nigeria and increase students' access to peace studies by developing certificate and degree programs in Mediation and Peace Studies. We are helping to provide high quality post-secondary education in the area of peace and conflict resolution in the Federal University Wukari and within the North-East sub-region of Nigeria.

If you are interested in this project and would like to receive information about how you can support it, partner with us and get involved, please send email to: icerm@icermmediation.org.

Office Building Campaign



ICERM is currently looking for generous donors and sponsors who will help us acquire a permanent office building. We are looking for an office building or space in New York City or Westchester County that will serve as our headquarters and from where many peace programs and services will be offered to the public. Our dream office building or space is a minimum of 2,438 SQ. FT. with 2 studios (Studios A & B) for the ICERM Radio programming and the mediation & counseling services. This office building or space will also include a reception area, 2 offices, 2 small edit suites for post production work, and a small kitchen area. Studio A will have a large round table for recording group discussions. Studio B would be a multipurpose room, allowing for interviews, panel discussions, and for live music to be recorded or streamed live as well.

To learn more about this project, and how you can get involved, please send email to: icerm@icermmediation.org.

Specialized Mediation Training Program

ICERM is currently accepting applications for a specialized mediation training program, *The Mediation of Ethnic and Religious Conflicts*. The primary goal of this specialized mediation training program is to prepare and equip participants with the theoretical and practical tools and skills needed to successfully prevent, manage and resolve tribal, ethnic, racial, cultural, religious or sectarian conflicts through proper analysis, policy development, mediation and dialogue.

How to Apply:

To be considered for the specialized mediation training program, *The Mediation of Ethnic and Religious Conflicts*, you will need to follow the steps below:

Resume: Send your resume to: [icerm\(at\)icermmediation.org](mailto:icerm(at)icermmediation.org). After an evaluation of your academic and professional background, you will receive an email from us inviting you to complete the online application form.

Board of Directors

The International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation (ICERM) is accepting applications and/or nominations for leadership positions on its Board of Directors. In case you or someone you know may be interested in serving on the ICERM Board of Directors, please send email to: icerm@icermmediation.org.

Serving as a member of the ICERM Board of Directors is a rewarding commitment. It is also a sign of respect, recognition and accomplishment, as well as a valuable opportunity to collaborate with resourceful professionals who share the same interests and values. By volunteering as a Board member at ICERM, you are not only helping in preventing and resolving ethnic and religious conflicts in countries around the world, you are also assisting in creating sustainable peace and saving lives.

We are looking for Board members who have experience in or would like to support our work in any of the following areas: project design & implementation, development/fundraising, human resources, public relations and legal affairs, finance & budgeting, research, education and training, expert consultation, dialogue and mediation, rapid response projects, etc.

Donation, Sponsorship & Partnership Opportunities

ICERM is dependent on the voluntary donations and contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations and government agencies. In order to generate adequate funds for the activities of the organization, ICERM solicits donation from the public. As a 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization, all donations to ICERM are tax deductible in the United States of America.

As a regular course of practice, ICERM makes inquiries about individuals and organizations that would join us in our mission by sponsoring specific projects and giving back to the community.

If world leadership had the know-how to resolve the fanatical fringe-driven upheavals and resulting suffering of today, they would have done so. The members of the human family who understand this, and who care enough, need to step up.

We seek partners in this worthy effort. Any provisions/contributions-in-kind (materials, equipment, meeting space, financial donations and endowments, conference-hopefuls, etc.), or any other assistance that will facilitate the continuance of our non-profit operation are tax deductible and central to our mission and existence.

In return, we will share the nature of your mission and extent of your generosity with our international audience and membership. We can offer you or your organization links to ours, recognition on our website, journal, newsletter, and other promotional materials. Individual sponsors or organizational spokespersons will be invited to join the event planning committee to help develop the program.

Interested in making a donation or sponsoring a project? Contact us at icerm@icermmediation.org for current projects that need your support.

2016 Annual International Conference

Theme: "One God in Three Faiths: Exploring the Shared Values of the Abrahamic Religious Traditions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam"

Tentative Date(s): October 4, 5 and 6, 2016

The Call for Papers and conference synopsis will be published on our website, www.icermmediation.org, in the first week of November, 2015.

Coming Up

ICERM is rebranding! Our logo and website are currently being redesigned.

Here is a glimpse of our new brand.

