

- **Mousta Largo**, Musician, Forest
- **Prof Marco Martiniello**, University of Liège

**17.45 → 18.30** Committee on International Trade -  
*The Suez canal in international trade*  
Room ASP 3G2

- **Ahmad Muhamad Mustapha**, counselor to the President of the Suez Canal Authority, Egypt
- **Ahmad Muhamad Al-Manakhly**  
DG Department Planning and Research,  
Suez Canal Authority, Egypt

**17.45 → 19.00** EuroMed-Delegation: *Debate* Room PHS 6 B 01

- **André Azoulay**, President of the Anna Lindh Foundation
- **Ahmad Ben Hilli**, Assistant SG for Political Affairs,  
League of Arab States

**19.15** *Bus from the European Parliament to Place Flagey* -  
departure from the Information Office,  
Place du Luxembourg

**19.30** *Hospitality drink* offered by the municipality  
of Ixelles (on invitation)

**20.00 → 23.00** *Public concert*, place Flagey, in cooperation with  
the municipality of Ixelles

- **The art of Sawt** (Bahrain)
- **Popular Arts Group** (Saudi Arabia)
- **Nass El Ghiwane** (Morocco)

**14.45 → 16.40** Film "*Les jardins de Samira*", Morocco  
Yehudi Menuhin space

**16.40 → 17.15** Debate with the Film Team, moderated by  
the EP Vice President, **Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou**  
Yehudi Menuhin space

**17.30 → 18.15** **Closing event: Oriental Tea time**, hosted by  
the EP Vice President, **Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou**  
Yehudi Menuhin space

### Contemporary art

Inside and around the building, an array of visual installations will attempt to convey contemporary Arab creativity. At its core, "*Re-Orientations*", an exhibition of paintings, photographs, sculptures, tapestry and videos, etc. of over 30 contemporary Arab artists, is the first of its kind at the European Parliament. "*It tells a visual story of what Arabs have to say. What comes through the work of these artists is the universality of their expression: first, as Arabs who still have many things in common – be it their sources, whether historical, religious, linguistic, but mostly, cultural – and secondly as international artists who have found the visual language of universal communication*" (Rose Issa, curator).

**Boubeker Hamsi**, an Algerian born artist, well known for his decoration works at the Brussels metro station Lemonnier, exhibits in the Yehudi Menuhin space.

### Calligraphy

**Hassan Massoudy**, famous Iraqi calligrapher living in Paris, will make a demonstration of his art on 4 and 5 November between 12.45 and 14.45.

### Music and Dance

The Bahraini vocal ensemble "*The Art of Sawt*" performs on 4 November between 12.45 and 14.45.

The Tunisian musician Hatem Sakly performs on 5 November between 12.45 and 14.45.

A Popular Arts group from Saudi Arabia performs dance and music on 6 November between 12.45 and 14.45.

### Whole week events

- *Re-Orientations*, Contemporary Arab Representations,  
Curator: **Rose Issa**
- Exhibition "*Iraq – from ancient times to the modern day*"
- Photo exhibition on the Suez Canal in front of Room ASP 3G2
- Exhibition on Egyptian Islamic Pottery,  
Commissioner: **Abdul Hakim Sayed Abdul Hakim**
- Exhibition "*Never-Part*" - Histoires de Palestine, Palais des Beaux-Arts from 19/10 to 11/01 within the cultural season "*MASARAT Palestine*" ([www.masarat.be](http://www.masarat.be))
- Exhibition "*Sous les palmiers, la mine - Maroc 1962-1970*",  
Musée bruxellois de l'industrie et du travail  
"La Fonderie", rue Ransfort 27, 1080 Bruxelles
- Arab menu in the ASP Restaurants

### Message from Hans-Gert Pöttering, President of the European Parliament



The European Parliament decided to hold an Arab Week, as part of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue. The Arab world is not only a close neighbour of Europe but also, through the Arab communities present in the Union's Member States, a component of today's European societies. If intercultural dialogue is to develop its full potential, it must include respect for human dignity, religious beliefs, and different worldviews. What triggers off dialogue is often curiosity, the desire to know the other better and the determination to overcome stereotypes. In this spirit, the Arab Week turns the spotlight not only on the cultural wealth and diversity of the Arab countries, but also on the way their societies work, on their multifaceted nature and on the place they take in the wider context of globalisation. The Arab Week is one of the key events of our European Year of Intercultural Dialogue. It is great to see that the idea has come true and I wish all the participants every success!

### Message from Amr Mussa, Secretary General of the League of Arab States



The League of Arab States takes pleasure in responding to the initiative of the European Parliament to jointly organise the Arab Week in follow up to the first LAS-EU Foreign Ministers Conference held in Malta last February, and within the framework of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008. This partnership reflects the collective will of Europe and the Arab World to enhance intercultural dialogue based on the principles of cultural diversity and respect of others. Indeed, no single people, nation or civilisation exhausts the human genius. Each culture enriches it with its part of beauty and truth, and it is only in their ever-renewed expression that the universal which gathers us is glimpsed. All cultures enjoy equal dignity, lend themselves to interpretation and are capable of enriching one another. The Arab Week partakes in this démarche of dispelling stereotypes, fears and bad memories so we may learn to look at each other in the face, to rise above our differences and set about building our shared future. I wish that this initiative will be followed by other equally ambitious ones. Such a positive momentum must always be encouraged and sustained.



European Parliament



PROGRAMME

Arab Week  
03-07.11.2008

Intercultural Dialogue



## The Arab Week will take place in the European Parliament during the week 3-7 November 2008, as part of the European Year for Intercultural Dialogue (EYID)

Committees and delegations will put a special focus on Arab issues in their agendas. This will cover the external policy committees, several Interparliamentary Delegations, the EP Delegation to the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly, and also internal policy committees. The various meetings and events will be the opportunity for dialogue and exchanges to create synergies between culture and politics.

The Arab Week is also the opportunity for the European Parliament to open itself towards the Arab communities living in Brussels and to engage in dialogue with them. A round table on integration will take place on Wednesday evening, 5 November. Following this, a public concert will be held on place Flagey in cooperation with the Commune of Ixelles.

External guests who want to participate in Arab week should register (with name, nationality, date of birth and say which event they would like to attend) one week in advance at the following address:

[intercultural.dialogue@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:intercultural.dialogue@europarl.europa.eu)

### Monday to Thursday timetable

Time slot	Activities
09.00 → 12.30	Committees, Delegations
12.45 → 14.45	Small cultural events
15.00 → 18.30	Committees, Delegations
18.30 → 20.30	Seminars, Round tables
19.00 → 23.00	Cultural event

### Programme

The activities mentioned in this programme are the activities which are directly related to the Arab World and/or Intercultural Dialogue, in the framework of the Arab Week. For the full agendas and official programmes of committees and delegations, please consult [www.europarl.europa.eu](http://www.europarl.europa.eu)

The European Parliament's Office for the Promotion of Parliamentary Democracy will hold a special Programme for the visit of **Mohamad Al Hassan Al-Amin**, Member of Foreign Affairs and National Security Committee, **Adnan Omran**, Secretary General of the Arab Transitional Parliament, and **Dr. Abdelaziz Hassan**, Member of the Arab Transitional Parliament, on Monday, 3 and Tuesday, 4 November 2008.

### Monday, 3 November 2008

**12.45** Projection of the film *"REEL Bad Arabs"*, stereotypes in Hollywood productions, introduced by **Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroek**, MEP  
**Yehudi Menuhin space**

**14.30 → 18.30** Seminar on *"The Union for the Mediterranean: challenges and prospects"*  
EuroMed-Delegation in cooperation with EuroMeSCo **Room ASP 1E2**

#### Participants

- **Raimon Obiols i Germa**, MEP
- **Gonçalo Santa Clara Gomes**, EuroMeSCo Secretariat, Lisbon
- **Dr. Tobias Schumacher**, EuroMeSCo Secretariat, Lisbon
- **Dr. Erwan Lannon**, College of Europe, Natolin & University of Ghent
- **Prof. Ahmed Driss**, University of Tunis
- **Dr. Driss Maghraoui**, Al Akhawayn University, Ifrane
- **Dr. Mohamed Hassan Al-Habbash**, Deputy Minister of Economy and Trade, Syria
- **Tarek Mira**, MP, Algeria
- **European Commission**
- **Council Presidency**

**17.00 → 18.30** Sub-Committee on Human Rights on *"Human Rights in the Arab world: the Arab Charter of Human Rights"* **Room PHS HEM**

- **Taieb Baccouche**, President of the Arab Institute for Human Rights, Tunis
- **Driss Yazami**, Secretary General of the IFHR
- **Bahey Eddine Hassen**, Cairo Institute for Human Rights (CIHRS) – to be confirmed

**18.30 → 19.30** Conference on *Cultural heritage in Bahrain The Dalmonian Civilisation*, moderated by **Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroek**, MEP **Room ASP 1E3**

- **Prof. Abdelazizi Souweilah**, Bahrain

**18.30 → 20.00** Round Table on *Security challenges in North Africa and the Middle East*, moderated by **Ana Gomes** and **Tobias Pflüger**, MEPs **ASP 1E1**

- **Waël Al Assad**, Director for multilateral relations and disarmament at the Arab League
- **Assia Alaoui**, Special Ambassador to H.R.M. King Mohammed VI

### Tuesday, 4 November 2008

**LUNCH** Arab menu in the ASP restaurants

**12.45 → 14.45** **Vox Box Zone** Exhibition of Arab books  
Demonstration of Arab calligraphy,  
**Hassan Massoudy**  
Bahraini Music *"The art of Sawt"*

**12.30 → 14.00** Debate on *"Perspectives of Euro-Arab relations"*, moderated by **Pasqualina Napoletano**, MEP  
**Room ASP 1H1**

- **Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Eryani**, Former Foreign Minister of Yemen and current Adviser to the President
- **Adnan Omran**, Secretary General of the Arab Transitional Parliament

**15.00 → 16.30** Mashreq Delegation: *Debate on the potential of cultural and religious dialogue* **Room ASP 3 H 1**

- **Nabil Al-Leo**, Director of the Syrian Opera House
- **Father Paolo Dall'Oglio**, Deir Mar Musa Al Habachi Monastery
- **Hanan Qassab Hassan**, Secretary General "Damascus, Cultural Capital of the Arab World 2008"

**15.45 → 16.45** Committee on Development: *Debate on gender equality and development cooperation*  
**Check screens for time and location**

- **Safia Al Souhail**, Member of the Iraqi Parliament

**16.00 → 17.00** Committee on Industry, Research and Energy: *Debate on Facing oil challenges* **Room ASP 3 E 2**

- **Dr. Fawaz el Alami**, Secretary General of the Saudi Ministry of Commerce
- **Dr. Majid Jafar**, Executive Director, Crescent Petroleum

**17.15 → 18.30** Committee on Transport and Tourism: *Exchange of views* **Room ASP1G3**

- **Akel Biltaji**, Senator, Former Minister of Tourism, Jordan
- **Mohamed Raouf Jomni**, Director General of the National Tourism Office, Tunisia

**19.00** Vernissage and visit of the exhibition *Re-Orientations - Contemporary Arab representations* **Vox Box Zone**

**19.45** *Inaugural speeches*  
**Yehudi Menuhin space**

- **Hans-Gert Pöttering**, President of the European Parliament
- **Amr Mussa**, Secretary General of the League of Arab States
- **André Azoulay**, President of the Anna Lindh Foundation, Alexandria

- **Dominique Baudis**, President of the Arab world Institute, Paris
- **Presidency of the European Council**
- **European Commission**

**20.15** *Reception* (on invitation only)  
**Yehudi Menuhin space**

### Wednesday, 5 November 2008

**09.00 → 10.30** Committee on Foreign Affairs: *Exchange of views*  
**Room PHS 1A 002**

- **Amr Mussa**, Secretary General of the League of Arab States

**10.00 → 12.00** Iraq Delegation: *Debate with Members of the Iraqi Council of Representatives*  
**Room ASP3H1**

**10.30 → 10.40** Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Internal Affairs: *Debate on Migration Policy and Intercultural Dialogue* **Room PHS 5 B1**

- **Chedly Neffati**, Deputy Secretary General of the League of Arab States

**LUNCH** Arab menu in the ASP restaurants

**12.45 → 14.45** **Vox Box zone** Exhibition of Arab books  
Demonstration of Arab calligraphy,  
**Hassan Massoudy**  
**Hatem Sakly**, Tunisian music performance and patisserie

**12.30 → 14.00** Literary encounter with the Algerian writer **Yasmina Khadra**, moderated by **Véronique de Keyser**, MEP **Room ASP 1E1**

**15.00 → 16.00** Committee on Culture and Education: *Workshop - presentation of the project 1001 inventions*  
**Room ASP 5G3**

- **Prof. Salim Al-Hassani**, University of Manchester  
Committee on Culture and Education: *Debate*  
**Room ASP 5G3**
- **Dr. Fowziyah Abu Khalid**, Sociologist and writer, Saudi Arabia
- **Mohammad Wassel**, Ministry of Higher Education, Syria

**17.30 → 19.00** Round Table: *Segregation? Coexistence? Integration? - Brussels and its Arab communities*

- Moderators: Alain Hutchinson**, MEP and **Delphine Bourgeois**, Member of Ixelles City Council **Room ASP 1E1**
- **Nouza Bensalah**, Counselor Ministry of Culture, French speaking Community, Brussels
  - **Ahmed Medhoune**, Member of Saint-Josse City Council, Director of the ULB