



**Prof. Dimitri Kitsikis**

*August 20, 2014*

**Dear Prof. Kitsikis,**

We would like to invite you to participate in the Twelfth Annual Session of the World Public Forum "Dialogue of Civilizations" (Rhodes Forum) which will be traditionally held on Rhodes Island, Greece, September 25–29, 2014.

In the midst of an unfolding new Cold War a monstrous specter could be emerging: the threat of a Third World War with truly global proportions. The roots of this threat reside in the project of a "New World Order" of global domination pursued by a totalizing ideology subduing the diversity of cultural traditions and of the historical "world images" of humanity and nature. The World Public Forum "Dialogue of Civilizations" – together with dozens of other international NGO's and hundreds of independent intellectuals – is aware of the need to foster global solidarity in order to counter short-sighted global agendas with the principles of international law and civilizational dialogue congruent with the idea of a future democratic world order. The principle of dialogue, in particular, is needed to resist the relentless global standardizations and homogenization of cultures and ways of life under the aegis of hegemonic uniformity. The same principle is also required to foster widespread awareness of the ongoing destruction of the environment and of the ecological habitat appropriate for a viable human existence on Earth.

Building on the work done in previous years, the Forum 2014 plans to discuss the following issues in the format of plenary sessions, panels and workshops:

- The legacies and lessons of World War I and World War II;
- Dialogical promotion of the solidarity of cultures as the needed premise for world order and social well-being;
- The problem of externally engineered modes of "regime change" as a threat to the stability and development of global humanity;
- Dialogical education as a means to promote the peaceful settlement of inter-faith, intra-faith, inter-cultural and inter-ethnic tensions;

- Projects fostering solidarity in the fields of economic development and regional cooperation and integration;
- Policies designed to protect the natural environment as well as the "spiritual wealth" of the people of this world.

Presentations of NGOs, academic monographs, films and other achievements of the dialogue community shall be held within the framework of the Forum.

We shall be very glad to see you among participants and hear your opinion referring to the subjects on the Forum's agenda.

We kindly ask you to reserve in your schedule the indicated dates of the Forum.

With our most sincere respects,

On behalf of The 12th Forum Steering Committee,



***Dr. Vladimir Kulikov***

### **The Steering Committee of the Rhodes Forum 2014**

***Dr. Vladimir Yakunin***, Founding President, WPF "Dialogue of Civilizations";

Professor, Lomonosov Moscow State University

***Prof. Fred Dallmayr***, Co-chairman, WPF "Dialogue of Civilizations"; Packey J. Dee

Professor, Departments of Philosophy and Political Science, University of Notre Dame

***Dr. Walter Schwimmer***, Co-chairman, WPF "Dialogue of Civilizations"; Head, WPF International Coordinating Committee; Former Secretary General, the Council of Europe

***Dr. Chandra Muzaffar***, President, International Movement for a Just World (JUST)

***Prof. Gholamali Khoshroo***, Special Adviser to President Mohammad Khatami on Dialogue among Civilizations

***Dr. Vladimir Kulikov***, Executive Director, WPF "Dialogue of Civilizations"