INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUNNI-SHIA CONTEMPORARY RELATIONS
Brussels – Sep.30th – Oct. 2nd 2009

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30th 2009: EVENING OPENING SESSION
Palace of the Academies (Throne Hall, Hertogstraat/Rue Ducale 1)
- Plenary session (18.00-20.00)
  - Aminé Aït-Chalaal (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium): Welcoming remarks.
  - Brigitte Maréchal (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium) & Sami Zemni (Ghent University, Belgium): General introduction.
  - Sabrina Mervin (CNRS, France): On Sunni-Shia doctrinal and contemporary geopolitical tensions.
- 20.00-21.00: Reception

THURSDAY OCTOBER 1st 2009
University Foundation (Egmontstraat/Rue d’Egmont 11)
- Geopolitical tensions, conflicts and changing Sunni-Shi’ite relations I (9.00-12.00)
  - Jean-François Legrain (CNRS, France): The Shiite threat in Palestine, between phobias and propagandas.
  - Joseph Alagha (Radboud University, Holland): Ideological tensions between Hizbullah and jihadi salafism: mutual perceptions and fears.
  - Mariam Abou Zahab (CERI, France): The Sunni-Shia conflict in Pakistan in the post 9/11 environment.
  - Bayram Balci (IPEAC, Azerbaijan): Islamic renewal in post-Soviet Azerbaijan and the redefinition of the relations between Shiism and Sunnism.

- Geopolitical tensions, conflicts and changing Sunni-Shi’ite relations II (14.00-18.00)
  - Stéphane Dudoignon (CNRS, France): Sunnis and Shiites in Iran since 1979: confrontations, exchanges and convergences

FRIDAY OCTOBER 2nd 2009
University Foundation (Egmontstraat/Rue d’Egmont 11)
- Intellectual exchanges, centers of knowledge, public debates and media interfaces I (9.00-10.30)
  - Azzam Tamimi (Director Institute for Islamic Political Thought, UK): The political and the religious in Sunni-Shiite disputes.
  - Mohsen Kadivar (Visiting Professor, Duke University, USA): Shiite intellectual debates.
  - Yousif Al-Khoei (Director of the Al-Khoei Foundation): Development of Shi’a-Sunni relations in the UK with special Reference to the Middle East

- Intellectual exchanges, centers of knowledge, public debates and media interfaces II (11.00-12.00)
  - Chair: Amine Aït-Chalaal (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium)
  - Discussants: Sabrina Mervin (CNRS, France). Felice Dassetto (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium), Brigitte Maréchal (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium), Sami Zemni (Ghent University, Belgium), Johannes Den Heijer (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium).

REGISTRATIONS:
- September 30th 2009 opening session: FREE ADMISSION
- Conference days: (includes midday lunch and coffee breaks)
  One day: 15 €, Two days: 25€ (Students & Unemployed: 8€/13€).

Information and registration: Mrs. E. Lallemand (Eliane.Lallemand@uclouvain.be - +32 10 47 42 46)