HISTORY

At the end of the 20th Century, the world was full of plans and ideas to improve the global political and economic system.

In 2000, Iranian President Mohammad Khatami introduced the idea of dialogue among civilizations while addressing the United Nations General Assembly.

THE INITIATIVE TO CREATE THE WORLD PUBLIC FORUM DIALOGUE OF CIVILIZATIONS WAS PROPOSED IN THE EARLY 2000s BY

Dr. Vladimir Yakunin
Chairman of the Supervisory Board, DOC Research Institute
Head of the State Governance Department, Faculty of Political Sciences, MSU
Visiting Professor, Peking University
Doctor of Political Science

Inder Kumar Gujral
Prime Minister of India (1997)

Jagdish Chandra Kapur
Indian social scientist and entrepreneur, futurist

Nicholas F.S. Papanicolaou
President of Lion Finance SA,
Former vice president of the Onassis Organization

With the European Union having brought peace to the continent after two world wars, the United Nations Millennium Declaration* was adopted in 2000 by 189 world leaders.

*This 2000 UN declaration was replaced by the Sustainable Development Goals in December 2015 and ratified by 193 member states of the UN General Assembly.
The Rhodes Forum has consistently sought to promote a new culture of dialogue that is so desperately needed. Today, the World Public Forum’s community is committed more than ever before to achieving this goal.

Held since 2003, the Rhodes Forum is an annual session of the World Public Forum Dialogue of Civilizations (headquartered in Vienna).

From 2016 it has been the central annual event of the Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute (headquartered in Berlin).

The Rhodes Forum takes place on the Greek island of Rhodes, and gathers 300 to 600 participants from over 70 countries. Key guests and speakers include serving and former presidents and senior officials, members of the international academic community and business elite, representatives of international non-governmental organisations, diplomats, experts from various fields, and the media.

The Rhodes Forum has consistently sought to promote a new culture of dialogue that is so desperately needed. Today, the World Public Forum’s community is committed more than ever before to achieving this goal.
Since 2003, the RHODES FORUM has brought together leaders from the business, academic, diplomatic and political communities, including current and former heads of state and government, to discuss crucial issues facing the world today.

Throughout its history, its hallmark has been the pioneering spirit, inclusiveness, and moral resilience of its participants in their work to tackle the problems we face.
KEY SPEAKERS

MULTIPOLARITY AND DIALOGUE IN REGIONAL AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS

IMAGINING POSSIBLE FUTURES

2017

XV ANNIVERSARY

DIONCOUNDA TRAORÉ
President of Mali (2012-2013)

DOMINIQUE DE VILLEPIN
Prime Minister of France (2005 – 2007), Founder of Villepin International

GOODLUCK JONATHAN
President of Nigeria (2010-2015)

JÁN FIGEL
Special Envoy for the Promotion of Freedom of Religion or Belief Outside the European Union

NATALYA KASPERSKY
President of the "InfoWatch" Group of Companies

IAN GOLDIN
Vice-President of World Bank (2003-2006), Professor of Globalisation and Development, Oxford University

VLADIMIR YAKUNIN
Chairman of the Supervisory Board, DOC Research Institute

VAČLAV KLAUS
President of Czech Republic (2003-2013)

RUBEN VARDANYAN
Social entrepreneur and impact investor, President of LLC VARDANYAN BROITMAN AND PARTNERS, Co-Founder of RVVZ Foundation

EVA KAILI
Member of the European Parliament for Greece, Chair of the Delegation for relations with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly

DJÖOMART OTORBÆEV
Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic (2014 – 2015)

WALTER SCHWIMMER
Secretary General of the Council of Europe (1999 - 2004)
# Panels & Sessions 2017

## Day 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multipolarity and Dialogue in Regional and Global Developments: Imagining Possible Futures (opening panel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globalization and the Future of Democracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Mobility and Migration: Through the Prism of Values and Cultures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of New Technologies and Digitalization on Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never Again: Demands for a New Global Security Architecture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Day 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leaders’ Club Summit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative Economic Models – Curbing Inequality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond the World of Clashes: Towards a Multipolar Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Challenges to Humanity: Traditionalism vs. Postmodernity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Infrastructure Development Scenarios: Where the Interests of Banks, Industries, Governments, and Societies Meet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe’s Refugee Crisis: Crisis Response From Rhetoric to Reality</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Forum made weighty contribution to the development of inter-civilised communication, strengthening trust and mutual understanding between peoples. The Rhodes forum has become an authoritative discussion floor for consideration of urgent problems of evolution and interaction of civilizations.

Dialogue of Civilizations’ Rhodes Forum is a great opportunity to enhance collective thinking on multilateral issues and solutions to the major challenges of our time.

In our world, where “the winner is taking all” it is critically important for any public event to have the “stars” among their participants. That is why the 15th Rhodes Forum was clearly the big success for all its participants and supporters. All sessions of the forum had high level discussants, but especially we all were proud to attend top quality plenary and policy sessions. The Rhodes Forum of the Dialogue of Civilisation Research Institute has all chances to be established as the one of the most influential public forums around the world.

President of Mali (2012-2013)

Dialogue is a non-confrontational communication, where both partners are willing to learn from the other and therefore leads much farther into finding new grounds together. I had the honor and the privilege to participate in the 15th edition of the Rhodes Forum last October and it made me triply happy. First, the Forum allowed me to enrich myself from the exchanges of very high level with the participants of proven expertise.

Then, I appreciated the interpersonal skills and professionalism of the DOC Research Institute’s team. Finally, island of splendor and culture, Rhodes conquered me. The Rhodes Forum is both a dynamic and a spirit to be preserved.

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GOODLUCK JONATHAN
Prime Minister of Nigeria (2010-2015)

I appreciate organisations such as the Rhodes Forum for stepping in to fill the gap, with programmes that promote understanding, unity, and equality. Advocacy by the Rhodes Forum and similar organisations is exceedingly important because they provide neutral platforms for advice on global issues.
Every year the RHODES FORUM tackles the most pressing and relevant issues.
Political and Business leaders discussed the connections between terrorism and education and the challenges posed by migration at the 15th Rhodes Forum organised by the Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute (DOC).

The fundamental importance of education as the key to a sustainable future for humankind was the focus of Leaders’ Club meeting at the 15th Rhodes Forum which was attended by various heads of state and government, and other high-profile speakers, to develop concrete approaches to solving key problems that is being faced by the countries.

From the podium and behind the scenes the speakers adamantly called for dialogue, emphasising the failures of America’s policies and, to a lesser degree, of Europe’s, in managing the world’s affairs.

Dialogue of Civilization – World Public Forum aims to protect human spiritual and cultural value, by uniting all power groups around the world. The forum encourages constructive conversations between civilizations and solve global issues. The forum has already developed into a civil society dialogue mechanism with international influence.

Every year the most influential media come to Rhodes, shining a light on discussions and debates held at the conference, which has already become the symbol of the dialogue.
MAKING MULTILATERALISM WORK – ENHANCING DIALOGUE ON PEACE, SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Dialogue of Civilizations for Our Common Future

5-6 OCTOBER
Rhodes Island, Greece
FOLLOW THE DIALOGUE

SAVE THE DATE!

JOIN RHODES FORUM 2018