



AUSWÄRTIGES AMT

PRESSEREFERAT



Thursday, 7 June 2007

Federal Minister Steinmeier to open high-level international conference "Building a Future on Peace and Justice" in Nuremberg (25 - 27 June 2007)

From 25 - 27 June 2007, Germany, Jordan and Finland will join non-governmental partner organizations from three regions of the world in Nuremberg for a conference entitled "Building a Future on Peace and Justice".

Speaking on the conference, the Minister of State for Europe, Günter Gloser, today (7 June) said:

"For the first time, an international conference will deal with the complex and extremely topical issue of the conflict of interests which arises between the objectives of peace and justice in the resolution of armed conflicts. We are delighted that this important event is taking place in Nuremberg."

The three hundred participants, who include leading international figures and experts, will discuss their experiences of peace and reconciliation processes throughout the world. Key issues will be the optimal relationship between punishment and forgiveness, the permissible scope of amnesties and the importance of establishing structures based on the rule of law. The burning actuality of these issues can be seen in the situations in Afghanistan, Uganda, Colombia and Iraq.

The conference will be opened by Federal Foreign Minister Dr Frank-Walter Steinmeier and his co-hosts on 25 June in the historic "Schwurgerichtssaal 600" courtroom of the Higher Regional Court in Nuremberg, the scene of the Nuremberg War Crime Trials.

Prominent participants include Kosovo Special Envoy Martti Ahtisaari, Jordanian Justice Minister Sharif Al-Zubi, former Finnish Foreign Minister Erkki Tuomioja and Afghan Foreign Minister Rangin Dadfar Spanta, as well as the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Luis Moreno Ocampo, the former UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, the distinguished UN conflict manager, Lakhdar Brahimi, and Sonia Picado, former judge at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and personal envoy of Costa Rican President Oscar Arias at the conference.

E D I T O R S T A K E N O T E
-- Opportunity for participation --

The opening and closing days are open to the press.

Of special interest:

Opening event with Foreign Minister Steinmeier

Location: Higher Regional Court of Nuremberg

Entrance: Fürther Straße 110, 90429 Nuremberg
(left wing entrance)

Time: 25 June 2007, 9.30 a.m. rpt 9.30 a.m.

(Admission from 9.00 a.m. rpt 9.00 a.m.)

Press centres will be available for use in the Higher Regional Court and at the conference venue, Messe Nürnberg. Press representatives will have the chance to talk to participants during the course of the conference.

All press representatives are required to register for the conference. Please contact the Conference Secretariat **by 14 June** at the latest: Ms Katja Suhr, tel.: +49 (0)69 - 247065-14, fax: +49 (0)69 - 247065-50, Email: peace-and-justice@gtz.de.

Further logistical information, the press programme and details on the participants and the conference programme can be found on <http://www.peace-justice-conference.info/press>.

Note: The conference will be accompanied by a concert by the Nuremberg Philharmonic, featuring works by Mikis Theodorakis including the debut performance of his piece "Petra".