



## Press Release

Alexandria / Stockholm, 1 September 2009 – For Immediate Release

# On World Peace Day, Anna Lindh Foundation to launch major international dialogue forum for the first time in Sweden

**Over 100 civil society and media representatives from across Europe, the Middle East and Balkan region to gather in Stockholm to build on the new momentum for regional cooperation post-Obama and following the re-launch of the Union for the Mediterranean.**

The Anna Lindh Foundation, an institution shared by the 43 countries of the Union for the Mediterranean and which was given the name of the former Swedish Foreign Minister in recognition of her work for regional cooperation, is preparing to carry out a major dialogue forum in Sweden on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September, which marks the UN International Day of Peace

The Forum, which will be hosted at the Mediterranean Museum in Stockholm, has confirmed participation of civil society and media from over 30 countries, leading Mediterranean figures including former UN envoy Lakhdar Brahimi and André Azoulay, President of the Anna Lindh Foundation, as well as the award-winning Israeli-Palestinian civil movement 'Combatants for Peace'..

The occasion will also present the first outcomes of 'Restore Trust, Rebuild Bridges', a region-wide civil society initiative launched in the aftermath of Gaza by the Anna Lindh Foundation in collaboration with the UN Alliance of Civilisations, and the debate will be webcast live across the Foundation's network of 3000 civil society organisations present in 43 countries.

The Forum is being prepared under the Swedish Presidency of the European Union by the Anna Lindh Foundation in collaboration with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), the European Commission, the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations and Sweden's National Museums of World Culture.

The final event of the Forum, taking place on the evening of the 21<sup>st</sup> of September in the presence of Euro-Med Diplomats, will see the bestowing ceremony for the 2009 edition of the Euro-Med Award for Dialogue between Cultures, featuring this year winner 'Combatants for Peace' (Israel/Palestine) and the first runner-up 'History in Action' (Bosnia-Herzegovina/Serbia/Croatia).

---

### For editors

The Anna Lindh Foundation, created in 2005 is an institution shared by the 43 countries of the Union for the Mediterranean, with a region-wide network of over 2800 civil society organizations and a mandate to bring people together as a way to promote dialogue between cultures. For more information, log on to: [www.euromedalex.org](http://www.euromedalex.org)

For more information about Restore Trust, Rebuild Bridges Initiative, please visit:  
<http://www.euromedalex.org/restoretrust>

**The 'Restore Trust, Rebuild Bridges' Forum is being carried out in collaboration with:**

