



ISTANBUL
SECURITY
CONFERENCE

INTERNATIONAL JERUSALEM WORKSHOP

“Arab Peace Initiative and Perspectives for a Permanent Peace”



MİLLÎ SAVUNMA VE
GÜVENLİK ENSTİTÜSÜ

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TASAM
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INTERNATIONAL AL-QUDS WORKSHOP

“Arab Peace Initiative and Perspectives for Permanent Peace”

(03-05 December 2015, Istanbul)

“Arab Peace Initiative” introduced for the first time to world public opinion in Beirut, 2002, than in Riyadh, 2007 March, is one of the most important solution proposals made by the Arab World for Palestine thus for Arab-Israeli conflict. However, despite the support of most countries and international organizations at the level of political rhetoric, there is still little done for the discussion and accomplishment of this bold initiative.

We think that “time” is mature enough to promote this initiative with concerned efforts. More than any other time in the history of the Arab – Israeli conflict, a majority of the peoples of the region has shown a strong desire to end the conflict. What is needed now is a way to mobilize support of the masses who believe that the principles of the Arab Peace Initiative should be taken seriously if there is to be peace between Israel and the Arab World.

For this reason **International Al-Quds Workshop** with the main theme ‘**Arab Peace Initiative and Perspectives for a Permanent Peace**’ is aimed to be a platform on which the principles of Arab Peace Initiative will be looked into and promoted while using the progress in the negotiations that has been made over the years. The workshop in which the principles of the Arab Peace Initiative will be used as a basis to build a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace, should not be used as a platform for charges and counter-charges, polemics and aimless arguments; on the contrary should be a goal-oriented event, providing a set of clear and realistic measures to be pursued systematically to promote peace.

The participation of the members of academic community, experts and high-ranking bureaucrats, especially from Israel, the Arab states, Turkey, the US, EU, UN and OIC is expected.

It is believed that the workshop be held in Turkey is significant in many ways. Turkey has strong historical, geographical and cultural relations with Israel and Arab states. Developing and strengthening these relations in order to advance the collaboration and a comprehensive consultation for all areas mutual interest are Turkey’s institutional policy framework today. Furthermore, we believe that this policy and vision is shared not only by



Turkey but also by all interested parties. It has been confirmed in Istanbul with the Turkish-Arab Co-operation Forum, First Meeting of Foreign Ministers which was held in 11 October 2008 that Turkey and Arab states shared common vision in ensuring peace, security, stability and welfare in Middle East. This vision was repeated in the forums attended in 2009 and 2010, too. The main theme of the three forums has been finding a comprehensive and permanent solution to Arab – Israeli conflict (including Palestine, Syria and Lebanon) on the basis of land for peace principle, Arab Peace Initiative and Road Map and UN Security Council’s related resolutions (242, 338, 1397 and 1515). Herein, it is particularly important in terms of our subject that parties have emphasized “Arab Peace Initiative” at their final declarations.

The idea behind the conference is to establish a specific plan of action based on the numerous negotiations and agreements between Israel and the Palestinians that is consistent with general parameters of the Arab Peace Initiative. The participants will discuss how to promote each of the four principles of the Initiative, offer suggestions, new ideas, and new approaches. In this context, throughout the workshop;

The support for active and effective negotiations between Palestinians and Israel within the framework that was set forth in the Annapolis Process will be sought,

The urgent necessity of overcoming the difficulties including refugees, Jerusalem and withdrawal to June 1967 borders by a comprehensive agreement will be emphasized,

Concerns of the international community about unilateral actions that endanger the peace process will be taken into agenda,

That the peace process should be concluded with the establishment of an independent, viable, sovereign Palestinian State; with east Jerusalem as its capital will be confirmed,

That the disunity among Palestinians is damaging the Palestinian cause and peace process will be expressed and the support for providing the unity among Palestinians will be emphasized,

The need to establish normal relations with Israel in the event of a peace settlement and of warranting the security of all the countries in the region will also be underlined.