



H.H. Sheikh Sabah IV Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of Kuwait
Mediterranean Award for Peace

HISTORY

In **1996** the *Fondazione Mediterraneo* has founded the **Mediterranean Award** (along with its various sections) which is granted yearly to personalities of the political, cultural, scientific, social and artistic world who have contributed with their action to reduce tensions and start an upgrading process of cultural differences and shared values in the area of the Greater Mediterranean.

This Award is considered one of the most prestigious acknowledgements in the world.

The Award has developed as follows:

In **1996** and in **1997** the *Fondazione Mediterraneo* granted the Sarajevo Award to poets of the Balkanic area.

In **1998** the sections Peace, Culture and Laboratorio Mediterraneo International Award have been instituted. The latter is granted every year to the best short film chosen by an international jury during the Trieste Film Festival (since 2010 this award has been Included in the section Mediterranean Cinema Award).

In **2001** the section Art-Creativity and the special edition of the twenty year anniversary of the Mediterranean Award in 2015 was instituted.

In **2002** were instituted the sections Diplomacy, Institutions, Media and Silver Dolphin.

In **2003** were instituted the section Cinema, Mediterranean Award "Special Edition" (granted every two years to personalities and institutions which have given a great contribution to spreading culture and social solidarity) and "Medal Honour" of the Mediterranean Award (granted to institutions and individuals having distinguished themselves in the course of the year for the promotion of peace in the Greater Mediterranean). In **2004** the section Science and Research was instituted.

In **2005** were instituted the sections Architecture and Euro-Mediterranean Award for Dialogue between Cultures (the latter was instituted by *Fondazione Mediterraneo* in partnership with the "Anna Lindh" Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures – the *Fondazione Mediterraneo* being Head of its Italian Network).

In **2007** the section Mediterranean Book Award, acknowledgment granted for translation, publication, promotion, circulation of literary works on the two shores was instituted.

In **2008** the section Social Solidarity and in **2009** the section Environment and Co-Development was instituted.

In **2010** the sections Ambassador of the Mediterranean, Inter-Faith Dialogue, Economy and Enterprise, Energy and Sustainable Development, Cultural Heritage, Community Service, Civil Society were instituted. In the same year it was also decided to dedicate three awards to the memory: "Raffaele Capasso" Mediterranean Award for Legality, "Angelo Vassallo" Mediterranean Award for Environment and Co-Development and "Rita Allamprese" Mediterranean Award for Children.

Since **2010** the Mediterranean Award is represented by the "Totem for Peace" by the sculptor Mario Molinari.

In **2011** it was decided to dedicate the Mediterranean Award for Science and Research – instituted in **2004** – to the memory of Mario Condorelli and was instituted the Mediterranean Award for the Motorways of the Sea to the memory of the ship-owner Guido Grimaldi.

In **2012** was instituted the section Mediterranean Award for Archeology to the memory of Marcello Gigante.

The 2014 Mediterranean Awards are conferred



Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State
Mediterranean Award



Barack Obama, President of Usa – Mediterranean Award for Peace



Ban Ki-moon – Secretary General of the United Nations –
Mediterranean Award

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THE WINNERS:



SPECIAL EDITION
BAN KI-MOON
*Secretary General of the United Nations
(SOUTH KOREA)*

The UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon has used his best endeavours to further the ideals of peace and international cooperation enshrined by the United Nations Charter – through actions to promote fundamental human rights, equality of men and women, international peace-keeping and security, and the economic and social advancement of all peoples. In particular, he has been outspoken in his actions to resolve the conflict in Syria, and more generally across those countries in which the Arab Spring has produced difficult transitions and bloodshed.

Historical truth, old and new difficulties preventing the peace process serve to strengthen his determination to consider peace as the imperative basis for the future of the Mediterranean and the world.



SPECIAL EDITION
PIETRO PAROLIN
*Secretary of State
(HOLY SEE)*

Archbishop Pietro Parolin, Holy See's Secretary of State is the higher expression of trustful Vatican diplomacy.

The simplicity and humility with which he carried out his mission are the example of the new course at the top of the Holy See really wanted to transform the Pope Francis' "Love of Power" in the "Power of Love".

Born in Schiavon, near Vicenza, January 17, 1955, at the age of 58 is the youngest Secretary of State in the post-war period. In 1986 he began his diplomatic service: in Nigeria until 1989, in Mexico until 1992, when he returned to Rome in the Secretariat of State until 2009. Finally, the Apostolic Nuncio in Caracas until October 2013. Alien from appearing with John Paul II and Benedict XVI has dealt with countless files: in particular, is an expert on the Middle East and Asia in general. The Mediterranean, with Cardinal Parolin, regains full cooperation to the search for peace and respect for the dignity of every human being.



PEACE
BARACK OBAMA
*President
of United States of America
(USA)*

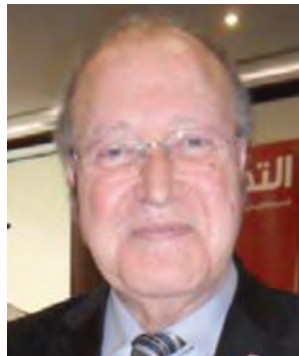
For his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples and for his continued support for the vision of a world free of weapons of mass destruction. Consistent with his previous stances, during his first mandate Barack Obama advocated dialogue and cooperation across national, ethnic, religious and political dividing lines. Most notably, he called for a new start to relations between the Muslim world and the West, based on common interests and mutual understanding and respect. All along his mandate, President Obama has continued in his firm stand as strong spokesman for human rights and democracy as well as for the work being done to put effective measures in place to combat the Planet's climate change. Today he continues to strongly support the Middle East Peace Process and in the greater Mediterranean area.



PEACE
**H.H. SHEIKH
SABAH IV AL-AHMAD
AL-JABER AL-SABAH**
*Amir of Kuwait
(KUWAIT)*

During his long career as Minister of Foreign Affairs, then Prime Minister and since 2006 as Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Sabah has both witnessed and practiced the art of dialogue as the main tool among Governments and Nations, be that in the Arab-Islamic world, in the Non-Aligned Movement and in the United Nations.

This Award is meant to acknowledge the noble vision, as well as the personal courage constantly shown by H.H. the Amir of Kuwait in affirming his fundamental and unfailing views on behalf of the rights of all Nations to live in peace, as the main precondition for Governments to take care of the well being of their peoples as well as of that of the developing Countries. A doctrine that Sheikh Sabah Al-Sabah has constantly practiced by developing the Kuwait Fund interventions on behalf of his Sister Nations in need, including those in the greater Mediterranean area, and reaching out to over 100 Countries worldwide.



INSTITUTIONS
MUSTAPHA BEN JAAFAR
*President
of the Parliamentary Assembly
(TUNISIA)*

The prize is awarded to President Mustapha Ben Jaafar for his contribution to the construction of the Tunisian Constitutional Assembly and the new Tunisian Constitution, which legitimate social justice and public as well as individual liberty as paramount rights of the newly born Tunisian Democracy.



CIVIL SOCIETY
ŠTEFAN FÜLE
*Commissioner
for Enlargement
and Neighbourhood Policy
(EUROPEAN UNION)*

For having conferred civil society a leading role, in decision-making over processes of governance and democracy, especially across the Mediterranean countries

For its role as promoter of democracy and participation, the initiative of the "Structured Dialogue" between civil society, local authorities, and the European Union is a fundamental tool to relaunch Europe and its partnership with the Southern Mediterranean countries.



DIPLOMACY
**HE DR. JAMAL SANAD
AL-SUWAIDI**
*Director General
of the Emirates Center
for Strategic Studies
and Research
(UNITED ARAB EMIRATES)*

For his efforts to reconciling peoples through the use of parallel diplomacy, which steers scientific production, global forums and strategic reports disseminated and estimated throughout the world, and, among others, in the Mediterranean area.

His remarkable commitment reflects his desire to always achieve the alliance of civilizations, cultural diversity, and the principle of otherness among peoples.



DIPLOMACY
SERGE TELLE
*Ambassador
(FRANCE)*

Diplomate français, il a été nommé ambassadeur en charge du processus Euromed en avril 2008 et a porté, et mis en place, au nom de la France, l'ensemble du corpus juridique, politique et administratif au cœur de la nouvelle initiative de l'Union pour la Méditerranée.

Ce projet est désormais irréversible et, malgré les difficultés inhérentes à la région, devrait contribuer à favoriser la compréhension, le rapprochement, voire la convergence indispensable entre les 2 rives de la Méditerranée.

Serge Telle est un des acteurs principaux pour faire sortir la Méditerranée de la marginalisation que dans les dernières années s'est considérablement aggravée.

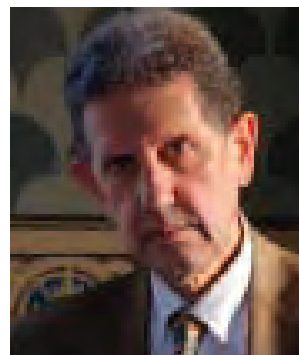


INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE
THÍCH NHẬT HẠNH
*Rinza Buddhist Monk
(VIETNAM)*

A charismatic personality world wide recognized, Master Thích Nhất Hạnh is a point of reference for interreligious dialogue. Through his way of life and actions, he teaches that spirituality exists beyond all religious beliefs, which he translates into a deep commitment to peace and constructive dialogue between different faiths and religious beliefs in the Mediterranean and throughout the entire world.

*"Society needs to become conscious and reawaken!
To discover and consolidate its cultural and spiritual roots.
To nurture a peaceful mind.
We are all interconnected; you and I are no different. If I attack you, I am attacking myself..."*

(Thích Nhất Hạnh)



"MARCELLO GIGANTE"
FOR ARCHEOLOGY
SALVATORE SETTIS
*Archaeologist
(ITALY)*

This Award – in memory of Marcello Gigante – has been awarded in partnership with the Municipality of Buccino (Antica Volce), where the renowned philologist and papyrologist was born. This award has been conferred upon Salvatore Settis, who is a noted archaeologist and lawyer as well as former and former director of the "Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities" in Los Angeles, and also member of the "Deutsches Archäologisches Institut", member of the "American Academy of Arts and Sciences", member of the "Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei" and of the Scientific Committee of the "European Research Council".

His action in defense of the archaeological heritage and university education as the basis for the future of youth people serves as an example for the Countries of the Mediterranean.



ART AND CREATIVITY
MARIANGELA MELATO
*Actress
(ITALY)*

For having dedicated her life through discipline and nobility of character to theatre and cinema. She was not only a great actress, but also a woman who took on impossible challenges, a non-conformist who was always true to her choices, an anti-diva yet the queen of stage, blessed with a rare talent for versatility, which made her at home in both comical and dramatic roles through characters that were so diverse yet always brimming with the same intensity.

Mariangela Melato has bequeathed her audience with the gift of the unforgettable personalities she interpreted, whether in feature films or on the theatre stage. She was a truly great woman schooled in European thought but filled with the life-breath of Mediterranean air.



ART AND CREATIVITY
FARID BELKAHIA
*Painter
(MOROCCO)*

One of the most important painters in Morocco, Farid Belkahia he has united Mediterranean creativity with great mastery in his use of colour, skins and typical materials from the Arab and Berber Amazigh, Islamic and Mediterranean traditions. He has always looked towards the future standing half way between the East and West. His authoritative style is not determined by will-power, but by something more enigmatic, perhaps the fascination for mystery which characterizes his works: an ambiguous screen looking onto the world to stimulate dreams and hopes for the Mediterranean and the whole world.

THE WINNERS:



SCIENCE AND RESEARCH
"MARIO CONDORELLI"
CNRS
CENTRE NATIONAL
DE LA RECHERCHE
SCIENTIFIQUE
(FRANCE)

For its commitment – as a public research body – to producing knowledge and making it available to society for the "common good". Thanks to its more than 1100 research institutes on French territory and its international partnerships, it has come to represent a point of reference in all its field of knowledge.



INSTITUTIONS
UNION FOR
THE MEDITERRANEAN
(UPM)
SECRETARY GENERAL
FATHALLAH SIJILMASSI

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is the only instance in which institutional regularly meet and cooperate with Israel and Palestine, as part of practical initiatives for peace and shared development.

Thanks to the dynamism and the organizational efforts of the Secretary-General Fathallah Sijlmasi were defined useful projects for the Mediterranean which will bring benefit to the people that look out on this sea, strengthening relations between the 42 euro Mediterranean countries members of the UfM.



CULTURE
DAVID ABULAFIA
Writer
(UNITED KINGDOM)

To the merits acquired with his studies on the history of Italian and Mediterranean cuisine. Among his books: Frederick II, a medieval emperor (1990), The kingdoms of the western Mediterranean 1200-1500 (1999) The discovery of humanity, Atlantic encounters in the age of Columbus (2010). In his book 'The Great Sea' (English edition, "The Great Sea", 2010), David Abulafia describes the Mediterranean as the most dynamic place for interaction between different societies on the face of the planet: a space in the history of human civilization has played a much more significant role than any other stretch of water.



CULTURAL HERITAGE
ARTISANS OF THE CASBAH
OF ALGERI
(ALGERY)

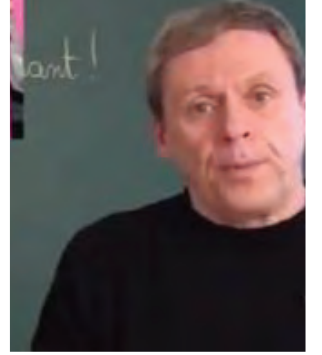
For their daily commitment to the defense and preservation of the Casbah of Algiers, UNESCO World Heritage Site. This award is given to the hundreds of artisans, merchants, men and women who do not intend to leave the Casbah of Algiers who are building a civic choral system to prevent the destruction of this unique place in Algeria and the Mediterranean.



"RAFFAELE CAPASSO"
FOR LEGALITY
DON GIUSEPPE DIANA
(ITALY)

At 7:25 March 19, 1994, on his feast day, Father Giuseppe Diana - the symbol of the fight against the mafia and crime - is murdered in the sacristy of the church of St. Nicholas of Bari in Casal di Principe, and is preparing to celebrate the Holy Mass.

On the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of his death, the Mediterranean Foundation attributes this recognition to the memory of Father Giuseppe Diana and all the organizations of the Committee Don Peppe Diana.



"RITA ALLAMPRESE"
FOR CHILDREN
LIGUE DES DROITS
DE L'ENFANT
President
JEAN-PIERRE COENEN
(BELGIUM)

The Ligue des Droits de l'Enfant is an example for the protection of fundamental rights of children, in particular the Education and Health Care.

Thanks to the many initiatives undertaken, it was possible to raise awareness - under the leadership of President Jean-Pierre Coenen - public opinion and the media on the need to put in the middle of the policies of the various countries, the protection of children's rights, especially against new traps formed by the rampant pornography and the spread of new diseases.



ECONOMY AND ENTERPRISE
MAURIZIO MARINELLA (ITALY)
Entrepreneur

For his efforts in the defense of the values of the High Arts and Creativity, protecting the enterprise value based on the powers and memories of ancient knowledge. Choosing to stay in Naples as the centerpiece of the production and sales of core products of his company, the "Marinella Ties", confirm the ethical value of the Company for the revival of a great city that can think and breathe the European Mediterranean.



MEDAL OF HONOUR
VINCENZO CAPEZZUTO
Mayor of Procida
(ITALY)

For having contributed to the creation of the "Totem for Peace", a universal symbol of dialogue and cooperation among cities and peoples of the World, which was erected in the town of Procida, Island for peace.



MEDAL OF HONOUR
RAFFAELE FERRAIOLI
Mayor of Fuore
(ITALY)

For having contributed to the creation of the "Totem for Peace", a universal symbol of dialogue and cooperation among cities and peoples of the World, which was erected in the town of Fuore.



SOLIDARIETÀ SOCIALE
JOSÉ H. ORNELAS
Psychologist
(PORTOGALLO)

Between 2011 and 2013 José Ornelas was one of the researchers of Housing First Europe, a social experimentation project on the EU level, developed, and funded by the European Commission.

This project brought together projects in several European cities, including five test sites where the approach was evaluated (Amsterdam, Budapest, Copenhagen, Glasgow and Lisboa), and facilitated the exchange of information and experiences with other cities where Housing First programs were planned or already implemented (Dublin, Gent, Gothenburg, Helsinki, Lille, Marseille, Paris, Toulouse and Vienna).



MEDIA
AL ARABIYA
TV News Channel
(UNITED ARAB EMIRATES)

For having contributed through its world network – thanks to its channels in various languages – to disseminating news of the most significant events in the Euro-Mediterranean region. News summaries and rapid updates have played an essential role in witnessing important events, particularly those concerning the "Arab Spring".



ARCHITECTURE
AIN MEMORY OF
OSCAR NIEMEYER
Architect
(BRAZIL)

Ribeiro de Almeida Niemeyer Soares Filho, better known as Oscar Niemeyer (Rio de Janeiro, 15 December 1907 – Rio de Janeiro, 5 December 2012), was a Brazilian architect and one of the most renowned architects of the twentieth century. He worked for many years with Le Corbusier, and, despite advocating utilitarianism in architecture, his creations reflect the use of dynamic "Mediterranean" forms. They are so sensual that many of his admirers saw him as a sculptor of monuments more than an architect.

This award, which was conferred upon him on 10 November 2012, is now made to commemorate his works.



EUROMED AWARD
2014-2015
HOUSE OF TALES AND MUSIC
(JORDAN)

The House of Tales and Music (Jordan), which is represented by Rabeea Najm Al-Din Al-Naser, is the winner of the Euro-Med award 2013-2014. The awarding ceremony has taken place in Vilnius among the leaders of the 42 National Networks of the Anna Lindh Foundation and with the participation of Andreu Claret as Director of Anna Lindh Foundation and Michele Capasso as President of Fondazione Mediterraneo Foundation, who have delivered the prize to Rabeea Najm Al-Din Al-Naser.

Dr. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi to receive the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014

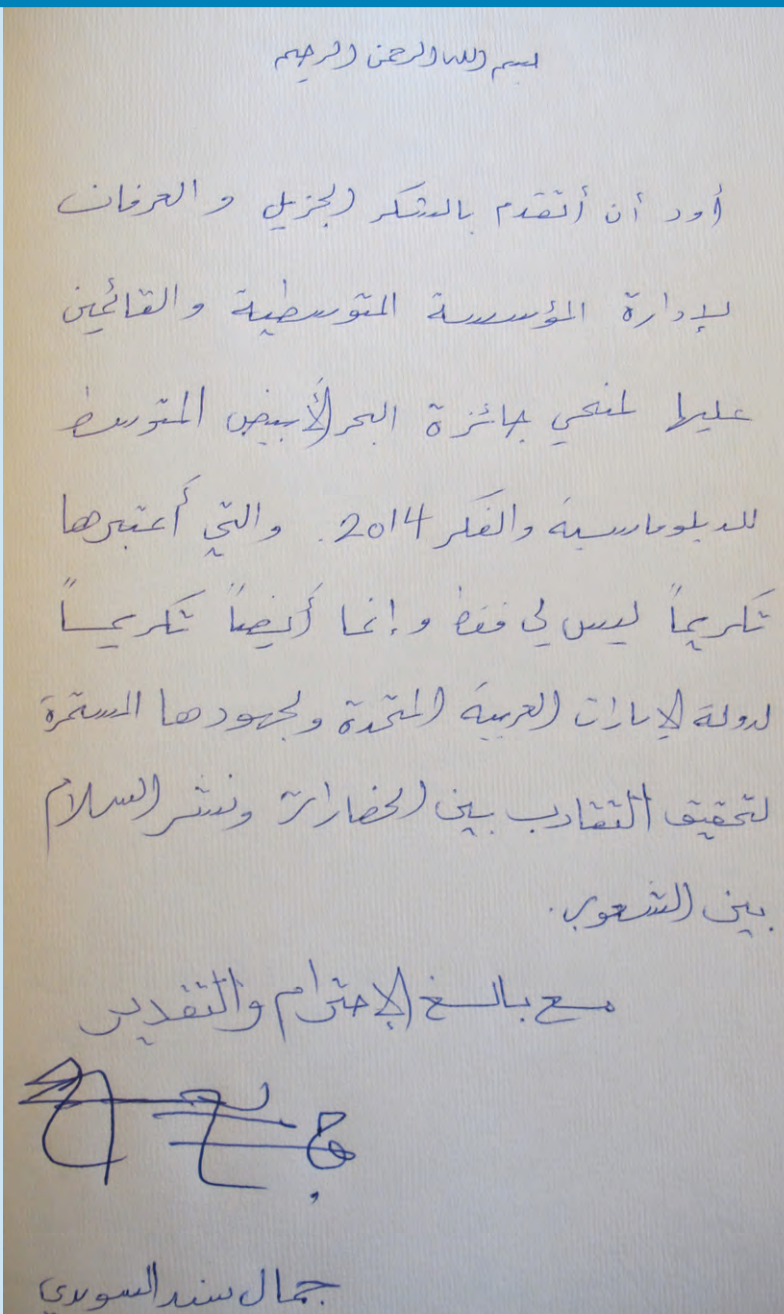


Abu Dhabi, 27 April 2014 - Dr. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi, Director General of the Emirates Center of Strategic Studies and Research (ECSSR), is to receive the Fondazione Mediterraneo's Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014 at a ceremony in the Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al Nahyan Hall at the ECSSR Office Complex in Abu Dhabi. The award, which consists of a work of art, Totem of Peace, by Italian sculptor Mario Molinari, was presented to H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi by the son of the sculptor Jacopo Molinari in the presence of Prof. Michele Capasso, President of the Fondazione Mediterraneo.



The Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy is regarded as one of the most important awards in the Euro-Mediterranean area. The winners of this award over the years have included highly acclaimed personalities such as Nobel Prize laureates Shirine Ebadi and Naguib Mahfouz as well as Heads of State and Rulers such as US President Barack Obama, President Cavaco Silva of Portugal, former French President Nicholas Sarkozy, President José Mujica of Uruguay, King Juan Carlos I of Spain, President Mahmud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority, Queen Rania of Jordan, and Princess Lalla Meryem, president of the National Union of Moroccan Women.

The Fondazione Mediterraneo pointed out that conferring the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014 on H.E. Dr. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi is an appreciation of his efforts and contributions toward bringing nations closer through knowledge-based diplomacy and in recognition of the UAE's role in support of global peace. The international conferences, strategic studies reports, publications and cultural activities overseen by H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi encompass important issues related to



peace, security and development in the region and the world. They attract international interest because they examine regional and international issues, provide a sense of perspective that enhances dialog between cultures and highlights cultural-diversity and co-existence among nations. This is not the first international award conferred on H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi. He has won several such awards for his efforts to promote the culture of scientific research and openness among various nations and cultures. He has been recipient of the French Order of Merit, the Young CEO Award 2006 by the Middle East Excellence Awards Institute, and the title of Honorable Professor from the International University, Vienna. In November 2012, H.E. Dr. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi was honoured by the Europe Business Assembly for his outstanding contribution to community-based programs offered by the ECSSR, and in March 2013 he was awarded the 'Key to the City of Fez' by a delegation from Morocco in recognition of his role in strengthening relations between the two countries. The Mediterranean Award, which consists of the Totem of Peace work of art by sculptor Mario Molinari, is awarded to distinguished global personalities who are symbols of dialog and cooperation among nations.

Michele Capasso:

Dr. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi is one of the most influential thinkers of 21st Century



H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi, Prof. Michele Capasso, President of the Fondazione Mediterraneo and Italian Ambassador in Abu Dhabi H.E. Giorgio Starace.

Dr. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi, Director General of the Emirates Centre for Strategic Studies and Research (ECSSR), received the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014 from the Fondazione Mediterraneo at a ceremony held in the Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Hall at the ECSSR Office Complex in Abu Dhabi on Sunday, 27 April 2014. Esteemed members of the scientific, cultural, political and diplomatic communities as well as Fondazione Mediterraneo senior officials attended the ceremony. The award was conferred on H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi in recognition of his efforts and contributions toward bringing nations closer and promoting the concept of cultural diplomacy based on knowledge and thought. The award, which consists of a work of art, Totem of Peace, by Italian sculptor Mario Molinari, was presented to H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi by the son of the sculptor Jacopo Molinari in the presence of Prof. Michele Capasso, President of the Fondazione Mediterraneo and of Italian Ambassador in Abu Dhabi Giorgio Starace. The Mediterranean Award is conferred on distinguished personalities around the world as recognition of their endeavours for dialog and cooperation.

Prof. Michele Capasso, President of the Fondazione Mediterraneo, remarked that conferring the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014 on H.E. Dr. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi reflects recognition of the role of the UAE in promoting global peace and encouraging dialog between cultures and civilizations. He pointed out that the UAE has become a key player in ensuring global peace through its policies, which stress the importance of giving, co-existence, and sharing with others.

Prof. Capasso said he was proud that the Fondazione Mediterraneo has conferred the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014 on H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi, who is a source of pride not only for the UAE but also for GCC and Arab countries, and the whole world. This is because he is one of the most influential thinkers globally of the 21st century and his intellectual and scientific contributions have received great regional and international attention. His work has provided a vision for promoting dialog between civilizations and highlighted cultural diversity and

co-existence among different people. All these efforts constitute the concept of parallel diplomacy based on knowledge, thought and culture.

Prof. Capasso said that he considers H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi an intellectual pioneer in the region and the world and a source of cultural and strategic inspiration, which is needed in the world today. This is because such thinkers and intellectuals lay the foundations of global peace and co-existence. Through his intellectual contributions, H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi has played an effective role and showed how culture and thought can bring people together. This is why he has become a symbol of peace and dialog across the world. Prof. Capasso said that the Fondazione Mediterraneo determined that H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi deserves to be awarded the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014, which is conferred on prominent personalities and leaders who have contributed to promoting the culture of peace and encouraged dialogue between civilizations.





Dr. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi: *I want to express my gratitude to the Fondazione Mediterraneo*



Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi delivered the following welcoming remarks

In his remarks made during the ceremony, Moroccan academic and researcher Dr. Abdel-Haq Azzouzi said that the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014 recognizes the efforts of people who have contributed to bridging the gap between different civilizations and cultures and realizing peace and security in the world. He praised the Fondazione Mediterraneo and its President Prof. Michele Capasso for taking initiatives that enhance cultural dialog for the sake of progress and prosperity around the world.

Dr. Azzouzi pointed out that the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy is conferred on scholars and intellectuals who contribute, through their own thinking and the institutions they oversee, toward building a parallel diplomacy based on culture, thought, conferences and symposia. He said that H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi is a pioneer in the field of parallel diplomacy and is a source of pride for the UAE, GCC and Arab countries, and the whole world, because he fights for his principles. These principles are a continuation of the principles upon which the UAE was built by late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, and which form the basis of the country's strategy of comprehensive development in all fields.

Dr. Azzouzi said that H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi is following the path laid down by the founder of the UAE, late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. This path has two elements – trust and hope. Trust between the leadership and the people, and among institutions, is the source of strength and cohesion for any country. Hope creates innovation, development and looks forward to the future. He concluded that H.E. Dr. Jamal Al-Suwaidi's unanimous selection for the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014 by all members of the panel, representing 43 countries, reflects both trust and hope for a better future.



Moroccan academic and researcher
Dr. Abdel-Haq Azzouzi

Your Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to start by welcoming you all to the United Arab Emirates and the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research (ECSSR). At this Center, with the immense support of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan (may God protect him), who believes in the role of knowledge in achieving progress and development, and His Highness General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces and President of the ECSSR, we strive diligently and tirelessly to realize our mission of enabling informed strategies and decision making processes in our country similar to those in advanced nations.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to the Fondazione Mediterraneo and its President, Professor Michele Capasso, as well as its members, for conferring on me the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014. In my capacity as Director General of the ECSSR, I would like to praise the Fondazione Mediterraneo for the distinguished and effective role it has been playing since it was established in Italy in 1991 in promoting peace, dialog and cooperation between nations. I also commend its efforts in recognizing distinguished personalities, leaders, thinkers and researchers who have largely contributed to promoting the culture of peace and encouraging cultural dialog through its awards such as 'The Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy', 'The Mediterranean Award for Institutions', 'The Mediterranean Award for Civil Society', and 'The Mediterranean Award for Culture'. On this occasion, I also thank the esteemed members of the scientific and cultural community for attending this ceremony and sharing with me the presentation of one of the most important awards in the Euro-Mediterranean region, which has been conferred on distinguished personalities and heads of states all over the world for their contributions to promoting peace and encouraging dialog between civilizations.

Ladies and Gentlemen, The culture of recognizing and rewarding the efforts of others is an important human value and an aspect of civilization. It also has its roots in our local culture and Islamic faith, which encourage us to reward honest and hard workers. Such recognition strengthens the social structure, enhances self-motivation, and leads to achieving social development. The culture of recognition is an important aspect of performance evaluation in the UAE. Appreciation and gratitude have been a strong foundation of the UAE's federal structure since the days of Founder of the UAE, the Late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan (may God bless his soul). This approach has been furthered by President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan (may God protect him), and is followed under the directives and supervision of His Highness General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces and President of the ECSSR.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Receiving the Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014 is a matter of pride for me. This motivates me to make greater efforts, and pushes me toward more achievements. It makes me feel confident that I am on the right track. This recognition, while an honour for me, lays more responsibility on me to continue the efforts for which I was being given the award, namely contributing to closer ties between nations through knowledge-based parallel diplomacy, organizing international forums and various cultural events, and enhancing the culture of scientific research of which the ECSSR has been a key platform in the UAE and the Arab region.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Finally, I would like to again thank you all for coming and sharing with me this important moment in my academic and professional career. My special thanks go to Dr. Abdel Haq Azzouzi, the academic researcher from the Kingdom of Morocco, who has founded several think tanks and strategic studies centres, and to Dr. Houria Benjelloun.

I wish you all the best.

Dr. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi

Mediterranean Award for Diplomacy 2014 to Dr. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi



The winners of Mediterranean Award 1996–2014

Mahmūd **Abbās** (Abū Māzen), Ivano **Abbruzzi**, Gorge **Abela**, David **Abulafia**, Mohamed-El Aziz Ben **Achour**, S.M. 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