

HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal

A pluralist, believing in consensus and respect for the other, His Royal Highness Prince El Hassan bin Talal, believes in societies in which all peoples can live, work and function in freedom and with dignity. This goal has been the moving force behind his interest and involvement in humanitarian and interfaith issues, with particular stress on the human dimension of conflicts. His Royal Highness has initiated, founded and is actively involved in a number of Jordanian and international institutes and committees. He co-chaired the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues (ICIHI), 1983 and is currently President and Patron of the Arab Thought Forum, President Emeritus of the World Conference on Religion and Peace and a Board Member of the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI). In September 2003, His Royal Highness was elected Chairman of an Independent Eminent Experts group, appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to implement the Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance that took place in Durban in 2001. His Royal Highness is a founding member of the Parliament of Cultures which was established in Istanbul in July 2002, the purpose of which is to promote understanding among cultures of the world and to enhance dialogue among their thinkers and intellectuals. On his call for humanitarian and cultural outreach and to improve understanding and build positive relationships between the Muslim world and the United States, His Royal Highness is currently working with American Non-Governmental Organizations on a program called Partners in Humanity. His Royal Highness is a member of the Commission on the Legal Empowerment for the Poor and was a Commissioner on the Independent International Commission on Weapons of Mass Destruction as well as the Helsinki Process on Globalization and Democracy. His Royal Highness currently heads up an Integrity Council that is serving as an advisory body for the Coalition for the Global Commons which is an international consultation process to engage civil society groups and individuals across the world in the development of a common global action plan.