



**BASEL
PEACE
FORUM**

2017

MEDIA RELEASE:

BASEL PEACE FORUM IS RETHINKING PEACE

Basel, 21 December 2016

International peace efforts are currently facing tremendous difficulties. About 80 decision-makers from business, diplomacy, academia and civil society will meet on 15 and 16 January 2017 in Basel to rethink peace. Linkages between peacebuilding and health, artificial intelligence as well as risk analysis will take center stage. The «Basel Peace Forum» is organized by the Swiss Peace Foundation in partnership with the European Institute of Peace. The Canton of Basel-Stadt, the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and private donors support the Forum financially.

Participants include the UN Special Envoy for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, the CEO of the IKEA Foundation, Per Heggenes, as well as the Syrian architect, Marwa Al-Sabouni, who has chosen to stay in Homs. Besides the thematic questions mentioned, participants will discuss particularly challenging crises including Libya, Syria or South Sudan. The Basel Peace Forum aims to bring new perspectives and initiate partnerships.

Despite many international efforts, setbacks have called earlier successes of peacebuilding into question. The Basel Peace Forum wants to reflect on previous endeavors and inspire new, unconventional ideas. Thanks to their diverse backgrounds the participants should fathom novel connections in peacebuilding. The conference will take place regularly and shall achieve global importance and reach over the next few years.

MEDIA EVENT

On 16 January from 1.15 pm to 2.00 pm a media event will take place at the MCH Lounge at the Congress Center Basel in which selected speakers and personalities will participate. The media event will be held in English.

Please register by 11 January by sending an e-mail to lukas.krienbuehl@basel-peace.org.



CONTACT

For specific interview requests and further questions, please contact:

Lukas Krienbuehl
Media relations manager
+41 330 12 07; +41 79 245 11 65
lukas.krienbuehl@basel-peace.org

ORGANIZER AND PATRONS COMMITTEE

The Basel Peace Forum is organized by the Swiss Peace Foundation swisspeace. The institute, which is associated with the University of Basel, has more than 25 years of experience in innovating peacebuilding. The European Institute of Peace (EIP) is partner of the Basel Peace Forum. The Canton of Basel-Stadt, the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and private donors support the event.

Further information on the speakers and the program can be found online:
www.basel-peace.org.

An advisory board presided by Eric Sarasin accompanies the Basel Peace Forum. Furthermore, a Patrons Committee supports the Forum and is composed of the following personalities:

- Anita Fetz, Member of the Swiss Council of States for the Canton of Basel-Stadt
- Dr. Claude Janiak, Member of the Swiss Council of States for the Canton of Basel-Landschaft
- Sam Keller, Director of the Fondation Beyeler
- Dr. Guy Morin, President of the Executive Council of the Canton of Basel-Stadt
- Prof. Dr. René Rhinow, Professor emeritus for public law at the University of Basel
- Dr. Jenö Staehelin, former Swiss Ambassador to the UN
- Thomas Weber, President of the Executive Council of the Canton of Basel-Landschaft
- Prof. Dr. Beatrice Weder di Mauro, Member of the board of directors of UBS

BASEL PEACE FORUM

SWISSPEACE
BERNOULLISTRASSE 14-16
CH-4056 BASEL
INFO@BASEL-PEACE.ORG
WWW.BASEL-PEACE.ORG