

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

POSTAL ADDRESS — ADRESSE POSTALE : UNITED NATIONS, NY 10017

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

17 May 2011

Dear Mr. Candir,

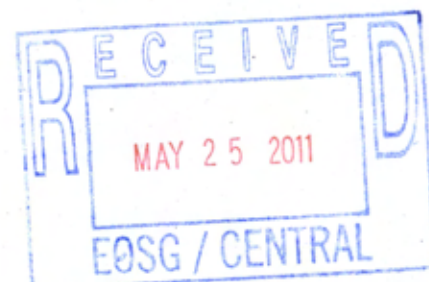
I am writing in reply to your e-mail of 19 April 2011, inviting the Secretary-General as keynote speaker to one of the Gulen Institute's Luncheon Forums, at a time convenient to him.

The Secretary-General appreciates your kind invitation. Unfortunately, I have to inform you that he will be unable to honour your request, owing to prior commitments and pressing demands on his schedule for 2011. Nevertheless, I am pleased to take this opportunity to convey his best wishes of success to your institution.

Yours sincerely,

Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

Mr. Ali R. Candir
President
The Gulen Institute
Houston

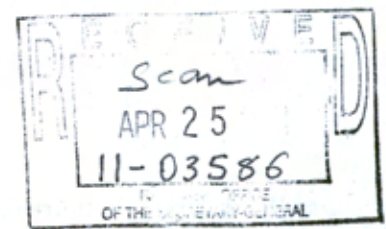


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Invitation for His Excellency Ban Ki-moon
Ali R. Candir to: sgcentral



22/04/2011 01:33 PM

April 19, 2011

HIS EXCELLENCY BAN KI-MOON
Secretary-General of the United Nations
2 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Subject: Invitation to Luncheon Forum as keynote speaker in Houston, Texas ✓

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

The Gulen Institute at the University of Houston is a non-profit organization established in 2007 to promote academic research as well as grass roots activity toward bringing about positive social change, namely the establishment of stable peace, social justice, and social harmony by focusing on the themes of education, volunteerism and civic initiatives.

Toward these goals, the Institute publishes scientific and popular works, provides student scholarships and faculty research grants, and organize academic and public events, such as conferences and luncheon forums.

Among these events is the "Gulen Institute Luncheon Forum" which is a venue designed to bring together national and local leaders from both civic and governmental organizations to discuss important issues that affect the local and global communities, and seek solutions.

The speakers at luncheon forums include prominent government, corporate and media officials, opinion makers, academics, diplomats, clergy and other civic leaders, who share their viewpoints, perceptions and experiences on timely and important issues facing our local communities and our world.

Distinguished personalities we welcomed as keynote speakers include:

- Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, 1997-2006 and Nobel Peace Prize Recipient
- Hon. Luis Paulino Mora, President, Supreme Court of Justice - Costa Rica
- Hon. Madeleine Albright, 64th U.S. Secretary of State
- Hon. James Baker III, 61st U.S. Secretary of State
- Hon. Vicente Fox, 55th President of Mexico (on May 3, 2011)
- Dr. Renu Khator, Chancellor and President, University of Houston
- Dr. David Leebron, President, Rice University
- U.S. Congressman Hon. Ted Poe
- U.S. Congressman Hon. Gene Green
- Houston Mayor Annise Parker
- Stephen Kinzer, Author and Journalist

Along with luncheon forum events, we organized an international essay contest for high school students called "Dialog of Civilizations Youth Platform" as a new initiative in 2011. More than 600

SC H/08/002

students from 53 countries and 35 states responded to the topic "The use of military means as a solution to today's international and national political issues: Diplomacy or war, democracy or military coup?"

We welcomed the award winning students, their parents and educators in Washington, D.C. for the ceremony in Rayburn House Building on April 6. In addition, they enjoyed a four-day-trip between April 4 and April 8 to tour the great capital, meet with U.S. Congress members, visit think-tank organizations and prestigious universities. We believe inviting young minds from every corner of the world to discuss crucial issues is an important contribution to dialogue, cultural awareness, respect and dignity in our globalized world.

We, the Gulen Institute, kindly invite you as a keynote speaker to one of our luncheon forum events designed around your presence in Houston at a convenient time for you.

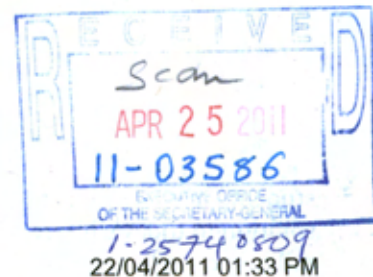
Yours sincerely,

Ali R. Candir
President, The Gulen Institute

University of Houston
237 Social Work Building #417
Houston, TX 77204
(713) 743 8135 office
(832) 830 2549 direct
www.guleninstitute.org
ali.candir@guleninstitute.org



Invitation for His Excellency Ban Ki-moon
Ali R. Candir to: sgcentral



April 19, 2011

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MRM

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