



DAIMLERCHRYSLER

مركز بيرس للسلام  
The Peres Center for Peace



## WITTENBERG DECLARATION FOR THE 4<sup>th</sup> FORUM OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION

In July 2006, the Peres Center for Peace and the Amman Center for Peace and Development held the 4<sup>th</sup> Jordanian-Israeli "Joint Economic Seminar" on information technologies hosted by the Wittenberg Center for Global Ethics and supported by DaimlerChrysler.


Overshadowed by the knowledge that rockets were shattering the Middle East while the workshop was going on, the participants worked intensely in a remarkably positive and friendly atmosphere of mutual respect, open-mindedness, and partnership. All participants agreed to see this kind of dialogue as an important basis for building trust and for creating opportunities of new and promising economic partnerships.

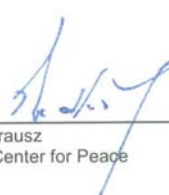
The discussion highlighted the demand of the Arab speaking world to get a better access to the enormous opportunities of the internet and the demand of the Israeli side to have more ways of communication with the Arab world. It was also emphasized that future discussions should integrate the Palestinian side as a key factor in the region.

A tangible result of the workshop is the plan to create (1) a common technology-educational initiative especially for young people in the Middle East to strengthen technological skills, (2) to encourage and facilitate business cooperation, and (3) to work on a "Middle East Internet Portal" as a platform for young people to exchange their ideas, interests, and experiences.

We – the participants – feel dedicated and committed to the idea to promote the demanding process of accomplishing stability and peace by fostering dialogue, creating opportunities for mutually beneficial exchange and overcoming the various impediments. We are calling upon all involved parties – our governments and civil society – to support this endeavor. In our view, there is no reasonable alternative to invest in the prerequisites for social cooperation for mutual advantage.

Wittenberg, July 19, 2006

  
General (ret) Mansour Abu Rashid  
Amman Center for Peace and Development

  
Mr. Asher Krausz  
The Peres Center for Peace

  
Prof. Dr. Andreas Suchanek  
Wittenberg Center for Global Ethics