

The
Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue
kindly invites to the lecture of

H.E. MANUEL HASSASSIAN

**Ambassador of the Palestinian General Delegation to the United Kingdom / Professor of International Politics
and Relations**

NEW CHALLENGES AFTER THE PALESTINIAN ELECTIONS

Welcome address:

Margit Schmidt

Member of the Board of the Bruno Kreisky Forum

Moderator:

Viola Raheb

Thursday | February 9, 2006 | 19.00 h

Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue | Armbrustergasse 15 | 1190 Vienna

R.s.v.p.

Tel.: 318 82 60/20 | Fax: 318 82 60/10 |

e-mail: einladung.kreiskyforum@kreisky.org

Manuel Hassassian

Ambassador of the Palestinian General Delegation to the United Kingdom.

Prof. Manuel Hassassian is a Professor of International Politics and Relations. Between 1996-2006 Professor Hassassian served as the Executive Vice President of Bethlehem University. In November 2005 Prof. Hassassian was assigned as the Ambassador of the Palestinian General Delegation to the United Kingdom. His areas of specialization are: comparative politics with emphasis on Middle East politics and Armenian nationalist movement and political theory. He published extensively in both areas, and his latest books are: *Palestine: Factionalism In the National Movement 1919-1939* and *The Historical Evolution of the Armenian Question and the Conflict over Nagorno Karabagh, Citizenship in the Middle East* published by Syracuse University Press (2000). He also published in academic journals on the PLO, the peace process, democracy and elections, refugees and civil society in Palestine.

Professor Hassassian is a member of the editorial board of the Arab Political Science Journal as well as the Palestine-Israel Journal, in addition he was editor in chief of Bethlehem University Journal. Professor Hassassian is a board member of the Center of Non-Violence in Palestine, he is also a member of the Arab Association for Human Rights. Professor Hassassian was appointed by the PA as General Secretary of the Bethlehem District Elections commission 1996. Furthermore, he had been appointed consultant to the Palestinian Ministerial Higher Commission on Church Affairs. He had been participating in many 2nd track diplomacy, and had been visiting scholar to many American universities, lecturing on models and practices of conflict resolution and management. In September 1996, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the "Université de Reims", France, for his academic contributions in the field of political science.

Professor Hassassian is the head of the Jerusalem Task Force in the Negotiations Affairs department. He is the President of the Rectors' Conference at the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education. He is also the president of the Palestinian/European Academic Cooperation in Education (PEACE) since 2001, (Location: UNESCO – PARIS).

Viola Raheb

Born on October 2, 1969 in Bethlehem as daughter of Palestinian Christians, M.A. at Ruprecht-Karl-University in Heidelberg/Germany (education and theology). 1995-1998: International Center of Bethlehem (Head of the Public Relations Department); 1995-1998: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and Palestine (Deputy Director); 1995-1998: Education for Awareness and Involvement (Program Coordinator, later on Program Director); 1998-2002: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and Palestine (School Director). Viola Raheb has published numerous books and articles, e.g. *Zwischen nationaler Identität und Geschlechterkampf* (in: Naher Osten – Ferner Frieden? Israel und Palästina. Probleme des Friedens. Politische Schriftenreihe 1996/4), *Leben mit der Angst* (in: Israel 1998), *Geboren zu Bethlehem; Notizen aus einer belagerten Stadt*

(Aphorisma Verlag 2003). Viola Raheb is a member of numerous organizations and committees promoting peace. Viola Raheb is married to the Austro-Palestinian musician Marwan Abado, has a son, and lives in Vienna. Viola Raheb currently works as a free-lance consultant on development aid and adult education.