Coptic Solidarity 9th Annual Conference, June 21-22, 2018

Egypt Copts: Faces of Persecution

Policy Day June 21 - Capitol Hill Visitor Center - Room 201

9:00 AM  Registration

9:30 AM:  Welcome and introductory remarks - Dr. George Gurguis, MD – President, Coptic Solidarity

9:40 AM:  Session: ‘Forms of Persecution’

Moderator – Mr. Adel Labib - Executive Committee Member

▪  Mr. Edward Clancy - Director of Outreach, Aid to the Church in Need
▪  Rev. Fr. Philemon Patitsas - Holy Metropolis of Atlanta, St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, & Christian Rights and Freedom Institute
▪  Dr. Henry Srebrnik - Professor Political Science, University of Prince Edward Island

10:45 AM:  Screening of “FaithKeepers” - Documentary about the persecution of Christians and other minorities in the Middle East produced by Clarion Project, a non-profit educational organization.

11:00 AM:  US Senators and Representatives share remarks
Annual Leadership Award Recipient - Rep. French Hill (R – AR)

12:15 PM:  Lunch

1:00 PM  Session: International Legal Definitions of Persecution

Moderator – Dr. George Gurguis, MD - President, Coptic Solidarity

▪  Lord David Alton - UK House of Lords
▪  Dr. Robert A. Destro - Professor of Law & Director at Institute for Policy Research & Catholic Studies, The Catholic University of America
2:15 PM  Session: ‘International Response and Responsibilities towards the Persecuted’

Moderator – Professor Ryan Mauro - Director of the Clarion Intelligence Network and national security analyst for the Clarion Project, a non-profit educational organization that produced "Faithkeepers"


MP Garnett Genuis – Canada House of Commons

H.E. Ambassador László Szabó, MD - Hungarian Ambassador to US

3:30 PM  Guest Speaker – Dr. Hamed Abdel-Samad: ‘An Insider’s Look at Christians’ and Other Minorities’ Persecution in Egypt’

4:00 PM  US Senators and Representatives share remarks

4:55 PM  Closing remarks

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Day 2:  June 22 - Holiday Inn National Airport/Crystal City
2650 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202

9:00AM  Session: ‘Our Responsibility Towards our Family in Egypt: Engaging Young Copts in the Diaspora’

Moderator – Ms. Ghada Melek - Rights Activist Canada

Dr. Jonathan Adly, PharmD - Writer and Producer, History of the Copts Podcast

Mark Eid, MD – Coptic Solidarity Executive Committee Member

Ms. Marianne Melleka-Boules, MPP - Editor-in-Chief, Coptic Voice

10:30 AM  Session: ‘Government, Media and Societal Denial and Deception’

Moderator (and speaker) – Mr. Raymond Ibrahim - Author, Public Speaker, and Middle East and Islam Specialist

Mr. Mansour al-Hadj - Director Reform Project, Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI)

Mr. Robert Herman - Senior Advisor for Policy, Freedom House
- **Mr. Andrew Miller** - Deputy Director for Policy, Project on Middle East Democracy (POMED)

11:45 AM  **Coptic Solidarity Annual Activity Review** – **Ms. Lindsay Griffin**, Director of Development & Advocacy, Coptic Solidarity

12:00 PM  **Lunch**

1:15 PM  **Guest Speaker: Ms. Raheel Raza** - President, Muslims Facing Tomorrow

2:00 PM  **Session: Forms of Minority Persecution and Marginalization**

  *Moderator - Ms. Lindsay Griffin* – Coptic Solidarity

  - **Ann Buwalda, Esq** - Executive Director of Jubilee Campaign USA; Founder and Owner of Just Law International PC
  - **Raymond Stock** - Instructor of Arabic, Louisiana State University
  - **Mr. Nathan Weinenger** - Director of Policy and Coalitions, 21 Wilberforce

3:00 PM  **Guest Speaker: Salim Mansur, PhD** - Political Science, Western University, London, Ontario

3:30 PM  **Session: Islamic Extremism and Coptic Persecution**

  *Moderator (and speaker) - Mr. Magdi Khalil* - Executive Committee Member

  - **Dr. Hamed Abdel Samed** - German-Egyptian political scientist and author
  - **Dr. Wafa Sultan** – Author and Expert in Islamic Terrorism

**Gala Dinner - Holiday Inn National Airport/Crystal City**
2650 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202

5:30 PM  **Reception**

6:30 PM  **Dinner**

**Keynote Speaker: Mr. Azbej Tristan** - Hungary's State Secretary for the Aid of Persecuted Christians

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**Master of Ceremonies**

- **Mrs. Ghada Malek**, Rights Activist Canada
- **Dr. Michael Rizk**, Coptic Solidarity EC Member and Secretary