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Remarks by
Secretary of State
Hillary Rodham
Clinton
in the U.S.-Islamic
World Forum



SECRETARY CLINTON: Thank you very much. It is, indeed, an honor to be here, to be part of this U.S.-Islamic World Forum.

And I thank you for all of the kind words and good wishes for my husband, who is doing fine. He is in great shape. All is well, or I would not be here this evening. And he sends his best greetings to each and every one of you, and particularly to you, Your Highness. I told the Emir that, on my way to the airport today, the last instruction I received from my husband was to give his very best regards to you, Your Highness. And it is a great pleasure to convey them, both publicly and privately, and to be here with you and with the Prime Minister and the government of Qatar to, once again, engage again in this important effort to strengthen the dialogue between our countries and our people.

I want to thank Strobe Talbott and Martin Indyk and the Saban Center at the Brookings Institution, for hosting this event, but for doing so much more beyond it to actually pursue the dialogue and its result. Because the work on the issue that you are doing, from Religious Leaders in Diplomacy to Science Cooperation and New Media, is exactly the kind of leadership and engagement we need right now.

And I know that the Prime Minister's inspirational words yesterday and tonight reflect Qatar's ongoing commitment to promoting mutual understanding and the progress that it holds out for us.

Since I became Secretary of State a little more than a year ago, I have had the privilege of traveling to 46 countries around the world, including many that have a Muslim majority. And while much of my time on these trips is devoted to working with governments and high officials, I also make it a point to meet with citizens, as well: civil society leaders in Indonesia, young women on a television program in Turkey, students in an English-language program in Ramallah, citizens sharing their ideas for their own future, and for the hope of a better tomorrow.

I traveled to Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, and Kuwait. I have met with Islamic leaders in Nigeria. I visited Tatarstan on my trip to Russia. And I have met with an array of people and groups in Pakistan and Afghanistan. And I have helped to launch the American Pakistan Foundation, to bring more Americans into the work of supporting a strong and democratic Pakistan.

And in Morocco, at the Forum for the Future, I reinforced America's support for civil society and announced programs designed to empower individuals and communities through greater economic opportunity, entrepreneurship, science, technology, and education.

I am very grateful to have had this chance to meet with so many people. And I have been grateful also to hear, to have the chance to listen to what is on your mind, just as I have heard from many American Muslims over the years who have done so much to enrich my own nation. I hope that these trips help to underscore the importance that the United States places on engaging effectively and energetically, not only with governments in Muslim-majority countries, but with Muslim communities everywhere.

[Read all...](#)

Secretary Clinton's Interview with Al Jazeera



MR. FOUKARA: Madam Secretary, if the criteria for judging U.S.-Muslim relations is the issue of Palestine, as millions of Arabs and Muslims seem to feel, they would say that those relations, taking that criterion into consideration, are not in very good shape right now. What say you to that?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, first, I am delighted to be part of this exciting interview and town hall at Al Jazeera. And thank you for participating.

The first thing I would say is that, obviously, our relations with people around the world is much broader than any one issue, even an issue as important as the future of the Palestinian people and the conflict between the Palestinians and Israel. I think it is a mistake to only look at the United States and our role in working with other countries through any single prism. But I accept the fact that this is a critical issue. It's a critical issue to us.

One of the very first decisions that President Obama made was that the United States would not be on the sidelines, that we would actively participate in trying to bring the parties into negotiations that would lead to a final resolution, and that it would result in a state for the people of Palestine, that they would have a chance to have their own future, fulfill their own dreams and aspirations, and that it would provide security for the people of Israel, that they too would be able to live side-by-side, in a two-state solution.

We have worked over this past year with both parties, as well as other interested countries, to try to bring that about. And I am hopeful that this year we will see the commencement of serious negotiations that will cover every issue that is outstanding. Obviously, those are the ones that have to be decided between the parties; no one can dictate to either the Israelis or the Palestinians what the outcome should be. They must make those decisions themselves. But the United States is very focused on being a facilitator and a help in every way possible to achieve that outcome. And we are working hard on it, we are working hard on it every day. And we hope that we will see the kind of break-through this year that everyone is anticipating.

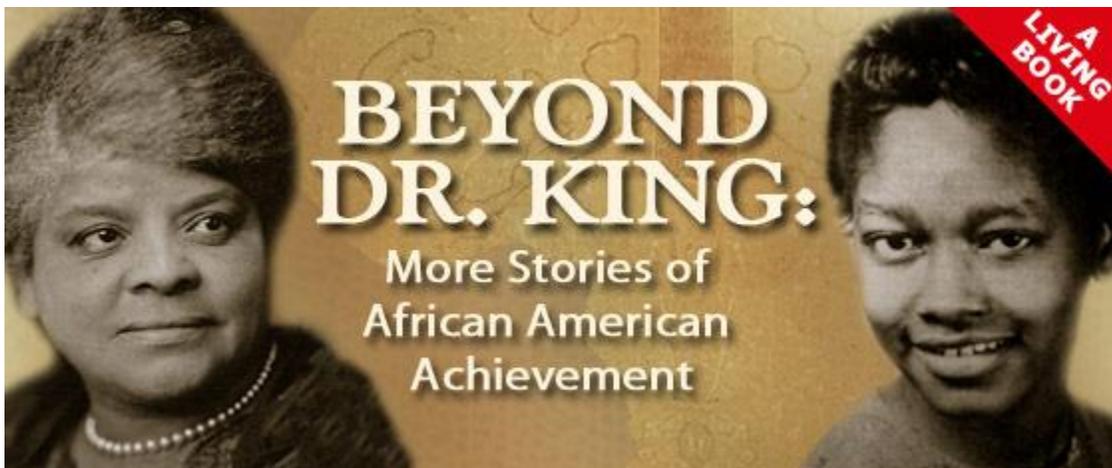
MR. FOUKARA: Madam Secretary, a lot of people look at the issue of settlement into West Bank, and they wonder if the United States gives priority to the concerns of the few thousand settlers over its interests and its relations with over a billion Muslims. How do you account for that?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, the fact is that we do not, that our position is that settlement activity is illegitimate, and that the final resolution of borders has to be worked out that will give both sides, the Israelis and the Palestinians, the secure borders that they deserve to have. And both sides recognize that development and swaps will be necessary in order to achieve the outline of the Palestinian state. But, of course, it will be based, as I have said many times, on the 1967 lines, with the agreed swaps, and taking into account subsequent developments. Those are the very clear parameters that the United States believes that the parties should negotiate over.

[Read full interview](#)



*African
American
History Month
February 2010*





What is MEPI?

The [Middle East Partnership Initiative \(MEPI\)](#), located within the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, supports efforts to expand political participation, strengthen civil society and the rule of law, empower women and youth, create educational opportunities, and foster economic reform throughout the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Through timely, responsive and innovative approaches, MEPI projects provide critical assistance to local reformers using three primary programming mechanisms:

- [Education and Exchange Programs](#)
- [MEPI Local Grants](#)
- [Washington Awards](#)

In addition to its main office in Washington, DC, MEPI maintains two regional offices in Tunis and Abu Dhabi. The [MEPI Regional Office \(RO\) in Tunis](#) administers more than \$2 million in programming each year across North Africa and the Levant, including the Palestinian Territories. Programs consist of conferences, exchange programs, and funding opportunities such as the Local Grants Program and Civil Society Grants.

MEPI Coordinators are located in U.S. Embassies and Consulates across the region. The MEPI Coordinator in the U.S. Consulate General Jerusalem provides oversight of all MEPI programming in the Palestinian Territories and serves as the local point of contact for MEPI award recipients. For further information regarding specific MEPI awards in the Palestinian Territories please email, MEPIJerusalem@state.gov.



The Public Affairs Office of the U.S. Consulate General, Jerusalem Announces the AY 2011 - 2012 Fulbright Science and Technology Scholarship PhD Student Program

The Fulbright Science and Technology Scholarship is a highly selective program for PhD study at top U.S. institutions in science, technology, or engineering. Approximately 45 awards will be competed worldwide for candidates who demonstrate unique aptitude and innovation in scientific fields. Scholarships will be awarded to applicants who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership qualities, and a commitment to improving cross-cultural relations through international exchange.

The fellowship will provide the following benefits: Activities, tuition and fees; a monthly stipend for up to 36 months; books and equipment, research and professional conference allowances; J-1 visa sponsorship; round-trip airfare from fellow's home city to the host institution in the United States; health and accident coverage as per U.S. Government guidelines; and specially tailored enrichment activities. After three years, the host U.S. university will be expected to cover the remaining expenses toward completion of the Ph.D.

For more information on Application and Requirements [click here](#)

Selected E-Docs:

- ✓ CLIMATE SHOCKS AND EXPORTS. National Bureau of Economic Research. Benjamin F. Jones and Benjamin A. Olken. Web posted February 1, 2010.
- ✓ COMPARABILITY OF ANNEX I EMISSION REDUCTION PLEDGES. World Resources Institute. Kelly Levin and Rob Bradley. February 2010.
- ✓ OMPASS 2010: GLOBAL AEROSPACE & DEFENSE SECTOR OUTLOOK. Deloitte. February 10, 2010.
- ✓ EDUCATION'S HARDEST TEST: SCALING UP AID IN FRAGILE AND CONFLICT-AFFECTED STATES. Center for Universal Education at Brookings. Rebecca Winthrop et al. February 9, 2010.
- ✓ FIVE YEARS OF KYOTO. Brookings Institution. Nathan Hultman. February 9, 2010.
- ✓ GENDER PERSPECTIVES ON THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS. Oxfam International. Richard King and Caroline Sweetman. February 3, 2010.
- ✓ GLOBALIZATION: CURSE OR CURE? The Cato Institute. Jagadeesh Gokhale. February 1, 2010.
- ✓ PARENTING THE PLANET. University of Colorado Law School. Sarah Karkoff. February 10, 2010.
- ✓ THE THINK TANKS AND CIVIL SOCIETIES PROGRAM 2009: THE GLOBAL "GO-TO THINK TANKS." University of Pennsylvania. James G. McGann. January 31, 2010.
- ✓ THE GLOBAL CRISIS AND THE FUTURE OF THE DOLLAR: TOWARD BRETTON WOODS III? Levy Economics Institute of Bard College. Jorg Bibow. February 2010.
- ✓ KEEPING FOREIGN CORRUPTION OUT OF THE UNITED STATES: FOUR CASE HISTORIES. U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs. February 4, 2010.