PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30th 2009: EVENING OPENING SESSION –
Palace of the Academies (Throne Hall, Hertogstraat/Rue Ducale 1)
- Plenary session (18.00-20.00)
  - Brigitte Maréchal (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium) & Sami Zemni (Ghent University, Belgium): General Introduction.
  - Sabrina Mervin (CNRS, France): on contemporary Shiite geopolitical revival.
- 20.00-21.00: Reception

THURSDAY OCTOBER 1st 2009 - University Foundation (Egmonstraat/Rue d’Egmont 11)
- Power politics, geopolitical tensions and conflicts (9.00-12.00)
  - Jean-François Legrain (CNRS, France): The Shiite threat in Palestine, between phobias and propagandas.
  - Joseph Alagha (Radboud University, Holland): Ideological Tensions Between Hizbullah and Jihadi Salafism: mutual perceptions and fears.
  - Mariam Abou Zahab (CERI, France): The Sunni-Shia conflict in Pakistan in the post 9/11 environment.
  - Stéphane Lacroix (Sciences-Po, France): Saudi Islamists and the Shia Question.

- Local tensions, conflicts and changing Sunni-Shiite relations (14.00-18.00)
  - Stéphane Dudoignon (CNRS, France): Sunnis and Shiites in Iran since 1979: Confrontations, exchanges and convergences.
  - Mohammad Amer (PhD Candidate, Holland): Shia-Sunni harmony and Sectarian Politics: a case of the Minhajul Quran in Pakistan.

- Attempts to bring Shiites and Sunnites closer to each other (14.00-16.00)
  - Rainer Brunner (University of Freiburg, Germany): The Azhar and Shiism: A complicated relationship between practical recognition and principal rejection.
  - Hisham A. Hellyer (Centre for Research in Ethnic Relations , University of Warwick, UK): The Amman message.

- Concluding remarks
  16.00: Farewell drink

FRIDAY OCTOBER 2nd 2009 - University Foundation (Egmonstraat/Rue d’Egmont 11)
- Intellectual exchanges, centers of knowledge, public debates and media interfaces (9.00-12.00)
  - Azzam Tamimi (Director Institute for Islamic Political Thought, UK): The political and the religious in Sunni-Shiite disputes.
  - Mohsen Kadivar (Visiting Professor, Duke University, USA): Shiite intellectual debates.
  - Gino Schallenbergh (Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium): Images of Shiite ‘expansionism’ in the Arab press.
  - Farian Sabahi (University of Turin, Italy): The representation of Sunnism in the Iranian press.

- Concluding remarks
  16.00: Farewell drink

REGISTRATIONS:
- September 30th 2009 opening session: FREE ADMISSION
- Conference days: (includes midday lunch and coffee breaks)
  One day: 15 €, Two days: 25€ (Students & Unemployed: 8€/13€).
Information and registration: Mrs. E. Lallemand
(Eliane.Lallemand@uclouvain.be +32 10 47 42 46)