

# The Role of the Information Society in Building a Culture of Peace

17<sup>th</sup> November 2005  
Tunis Room, Kram Palexpo

**T**oday more than ever, there is a need to reinforce our efforts to build collectively with a Culture of Peace. One of the greatest challenges being to better dialogue, understand and share between and among cultures and civilizations. To meet this challenge the Information Society has the potential to offer us an opportunity to transform our world of extremes and exclusion to truly a global village. A global village where we co-exist with an ethic of inclusion, solidarity, dignity and compassion, founded on the understanding that there is but one race, the human race, expressing itself in many diverse co-existing traditions and cultures. The divide between the haves and have-nots, the missing link between principle and practice or intention and action, will not be bridged without the awareness that technology by itself does not change our lives so much as the motivation, passion and resolve with which we make use of it. We need to keep developing better technology and to make use of it, but must also see it as a common public good that can, and must, be used responsibly in ways that respect and benefit all humanity. This panel of experts would offer insights on how technology could be an enabler to promote these principles and ethics in various facets of our society. The panel would be followed by a workshop to explore how to make this a reality.

3.00 pm- 5.00pm

Moderator: **Shaila Mistry**,  
International Federation of University Women (IFUW)

1. Conchita Poncini (IFUW) Past President of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women) "ICTs: Women's Vision of Peace for the 21st Century."
2. Daniel Schaubacher, representative to the European Institutions for the European Baha'i Business Forum (EBBF) "Corporate Social Responsibility"
3. Chris Drake, Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University (BKWSU) " The Role of Spirituality in the Information Society"
4. Q&A followed by further discussion on process of implementation
5. Celia Wexler, Vice President for Advocacy at Common Cause  
*"The Role of the Media in Building a Culture of Peace and Equality and Universal Participation"*
5. Max Senges, Youth perspective, UOC PhD student, Barcelona  
*"Cosmopolitan Citizenship in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century- Ethics, Values and Netizens"*

5.00 pm- 6.00pm

Optional time to continue discussions as a caucus to look at post-WSIS inputs



**Organised by the Values and Ethics Caucus**  
(Brahma Kumari World University, International Federation of University Women,  
Common Cause, Baha'i International Community)