

CWSC AM360 National Intelligence Interfaith Cruise Call for and Presentation of Papers Research Topics

Topic 2: Since 9-11, there has been a marked increase in interfaith dialogue among Muslims, Christians, and Jews, even among faith traditions beyond the Abrahamic traditions. 9-11 became a catalyst for forging new interfaith connections. With nearly twenty years of dialogue since September 11, 2001, what are the expected outcomes for interfaith dialogue in 2020, especially against the backdrop of a growing divide in America? Should interfaith dialogue be a means unto itself or a means to a greater end? And how should we assess the effectiveness of such dialogue over a relevant period?

The Research Paper should examine the traditional purpose and expected outcomes of interfaith dialogue and explore if such models are sufficient or insufficient today in the face of growing inequality, increased political and racial polarization, and other chronic social and economic justice disparities. It should also explore the challenges and opportunities of contemporary examples of working models of interfaith relations that are redefining traditional paradigms of dialogue, while raising expectations and achieving greater collaborative outcomes among interfaith partners.

The Paper should draw on examples from:

- The history of the Prophet (S) and his community outreach and relations with the Negus of Abyssinia and similar examples.
- Madina Munawarah as a model among modern pluralistic cities or societies.
- Other historical examples of interfaith interaction from examples of earlier Muslim societies from Spain to Africa.