



IN DEFENSE
OF CHRISTIANS

INAUGURAL SUMMIT

Protecting and Preserving Christianity, Where It All Began

SEPTEMBER 9 -11, 2014

OMNI SHOREHAM HOTEL | WASHINGTON, DC

We invite you to join hundreds of Middle Eastern Christian
Diaspora from around the United States who will be
gathering in Washington, D.C. in unity and solidarity to
promote the protection and preservation of the ancient Christian
communities of the Middle East suffering persecution.



FEATURED SPEAKERS

INCLUDE:



RELIGIOUS LEADERS

Maronite Patriarch of Antioch, **Boutros al-Rahi** (A)

Syriac Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch, **Aphrem II** (B)

Eastern Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, **John X Yazigi** (C)

Patriarch of Antioch and all the East of the Syrians, **Joseph III Younan** (D)

Prefect of the Vatican's Congregation for Oriental Churches, **Cardinal Sandri** (E)

Catholicos of the Holy See of Cilicia of the Armenian
Apostolic Church, **Aram I Keshishian** (F)

Melkite Patriarch of the Church of Antioch, **Gregory III Laham** (G)

General Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Church of Alexandria, **Bishop Angaelos** (H)

Archbishop of Washington, **Cardinal Wuerl** (I)

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Rep. Illeana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) (J)

Rep. Ted Deutch (D-FL) (K)

Rep. Jim McGovern (D-MA) (L)

Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE) (M)

Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) (N)

Rep. Joe Pitts (R-PA) (O)

POLICY MAKERS AND ACTIVISTS

Dr. James Zogby, Arab American Institute (P)

The Honorable John Ashcroft, The Ashcroft Group (Q)

Nermien Riad, Coptic Orphans (R)



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DAY 1 – SEPTEMBER 9

Omni Shoreham Hotel

- 12:00 pm Registration Opens
- 5:00 pm Ecumenical Christian Prayer Service
- 7:00 pm Reception

DAY 2 – SEPTEMBER 10

Omni Shoreham Hotel/Capitol Hill

- 8:00 am Breakfast and Keynote: Call to Unity
- 9:00 am Effective Advocacy on Capitol Hill
- 11:00 am Remarks by Members of House and Senate **CVC Congressional Auditorium**
- 1:30 pm Direct Advocacy and Education
- 4:30 pm Capitol Hill Reception
- 7:30 pm Inaugural Solidarity Reception and Dinner:
Religious Freedom and Human Dignity

DAY 3 – SEPTEMBER 11

Omni Shoreham Hotel

- 9:00 am First Panel: Where We Stand Now
- 10:30 am Second Panel: Why Christianity Is Vital to the Middle East
- 12:30 pm Lunch and Keynote Address: U.S. Policy and Unity with the Persecuted
- 2:00 pm First Afternoon Panel: Changing Policy Through Awareness and Advocacy
- 3:30 pm Concluding Remarks

REGISTRATION

Please email Kristina Olney, IDC's Director of Government Relations and Outreach, at Kristina@indefenseofchristians.org to register.

Please visit www.idcsummit.org for more information about the Summit.