

# Conference Booklet



## INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

5-6 February 2026

**O. P. Jindal Global  
University, Sonipat**



**O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL**  
INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE  
**UNIVERSITY**  
A Private University Promoting Public Service



**INDIALOGUE FOUNDATION**  
*Dialogue for Peace*

[hizmetconference.in](http://hizmetconference.in)

# Contents

---

**2**

About the Organisers

---

**6**

About the Conference

---

**8**

Programme

---

**21**

Editorial Board

---

**24**

Gala Dinner

---

**25**

Delhi Tour

---

**26**

Culinary Selection

---



# **INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026**

**About the Organisers**





# O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY

*A Private University Promoting Public Service*



**O. P. Jindal Global University (JGU)** is a non-profit global university established by the Government of Haryana and recognised by the University Grants Commission (UGC). JGU was established as a philanthropic initiative of its Founding Chancellor, Mr. Naveen Jindal, in memory of his father, Mr. O.P. Jindal. Founded in 2009, JGU is a non-profit, global, and research-focused university. JGU maintains the best faculty-student ratio and appoints faculty members from India and different parts of the world with outstanding academic qualifications and experience.

With over 16,000 students and 1,100+ full-time faculty members, studying and living on a fully residential campus, JGU's twelve schools focus on Law, Business & Management, International Affairs, Public Policy, Liberal Arts & Humanities, Journalism, Art & Architecture, Banking & Finance, Environment & Sustainability, Psychology & Counselling, Languages & Literature and Public Health & Human Development. Over the last decade, JGU has grown into an institution that brings full-time faculty from 50+ countries in the world, students from 100+ countries and has collaborated with 525+ leading institutions in 80+ countries to bring international learning experiences to the Indian higher education system.



## O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY

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In 2020, JGU was recognized as an 'Institution of Eminence' by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. JGU is ranked Number 1 in the world with the highest overall score amongst all universities and awarded 'Gold' by the Times Higher Education (THE) Online Learning Rankings 2024. JGU has been listed among the Top 150 universities globally under the age of 50 years by the QS Young University Rankings. Among the schools of JGU, Jindal Global Law School has retained its number one rank in India for six consecutive years and remains the only Indian law school listed in the Global Top 100 by the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2025. Furthermore, JGU holds the distinction of being India's top private university for Arts & Humanities and Politics & International Studies (within the Top 201-250 globally) as per QS. It ranks among the top two private universities in India for Economics & Econometrics, among the top three private universities in India (Top 274 in the world) for Social Sciences & Management, and among the top six private universities in India for Business & Management Studies (Top 500 in the world) as per the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2025.

JGU has been awarded 5-Star Excellent Ratings (Overall) in QS Stars Ratings 2025, which underscores the breadth of our strengths and the holistic nature of our academic ecosystem. Most recently, JGU has been honoured with the 2025 Global Education for Peace Award on the UN International Day of Peace 2025.





## INDIALOGUE FOUNDATION

*Dialogue for Peace*

**Indialogue Foundation** is a Noida-based non-profit organisation committed to fostering peace through intercultural and interfaith dialogue, community cohesion, and active citizenship. Established in 2005 by a group of Indian and Turkish citizens, the Foundation regularly organises conferences, panel discussions, seminars, and cultural events that align with its mission to promote mutual understanding and cooperation across diverse communities.

Indialogue Foundation is affiliated with the transnational civil society initiative known as the Hizmet Movement, inspired by the teachings of Islamic scholar Fethullah Gülen.

Dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion, Indialogue Foundation creates and sustains platforms for intellectual and social engagement among people of different faiths, cultures, and backgrounds. It actively generates and shares knowledge with stakeholders, while building partnerships both in India and globally to drive positive social change.

Indialogue Foundation's mission is to serve society by advancing universal humanitarian values and fostering lasting peace through sustained dialogue and mutual understanding.



# **INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026**

**About the Conference**



## International Conference on the Hizmet Movement 2026

The International Conference on the Hizmet Movement, titled **“The Role of Social Movements in Cultivating Trust and Collaboration in Diverse Societies,”** is a two-day event dedicated to exploring the evolving role of the Hizmet Movement in fostering peace, mutual respect, and resilience in societies with a diverse set of cultures, ethnicities, and religions. Scheduled for **5-6 February 2026**, at O. P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, India, this conference aims to bring together scholars, researchers, practitioners, and community leaders to discuss the movement’s impactful contributions through its core pillars of Education, Dialogue, and Community Service.

In an era marked by growing polarisation, extremism, and social division, faith-inspired civil society movements play a vital role in fostering peace, unity, and ethical leadership. The Hizmet Movement, rooted in the principles of education, interfaith dialogue, and community service, makes significant contributions to global peacebuilding, coexistence, and resilience.

Although Hizmet continues to face state-sponsored persecution at its homeland of Turkey, its participants continue to offer service projects across the globe. This conference seeks to critically examine the movement’s contributions, challenges, and future potential in addressing contemporary issues such as polarisation, social fragmentation, and cultural misunderstandings. The conference will also engage in comparative analysis and study of other similar social movements and citizen initiatives from around the world, which have had an impact on peace, coexistence and interfaith understanding. By fostering rigorous academic discussion and interdisciplinary collaboration, this conference aims to highlight innovative practices and theoretical frameworks that advance harmony and coexistence in pluralistic societies.







# **INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026**

**Programme**



# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## Programme

*Please note that the agenda is subject to change. Kindly refer to the online version for the most up-to-date schedule.*

### DAY ONE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

08:30-09:15

Arrival and Registration

09:15-10:00

Inaugural Session

**Professor (Dr.) C. Raj Kumar** - Vice Chancellor, O. P. Jindal Global University

**Qamar Agha** - President, Indialogue Foundation

**Professor (Dr.) Sreeram Chaulia** - Dean, Jindal School of International Affairs

**M Behzad Fatmi** - Executive Director, Indialogue Foundation

Hall

Global Auditorium, Ratan Jindal Academic Block



# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY ONE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

10:15-11:45

**Foundations of Hizmet Thought, Ethics, and Philosophy**

**Moderator**

**Sudheendra Kulkarni**

(Parallel Session)

*Fethullah Gülen: The Knight of Faith in the Earthly City*

**Andrew Skotnicki**

*The Philosophy of Hizmet and its Parallels from Indian History*

**Farhat Nasreen**

*The Dharma of Hizmet and Its Dharma-based Cousin (Online)*

**Ori Soltes**

*The Religious Foundations of Hizmet's Core Values: A Quranic and Prophetic Framework*

**Arhan Kardas & Ahmet Kurucan**

**Hall**

**Imaginarium, Savitri Jindal Faculty Office Block (FOB)**

11:45-12:00

**Tea Break**





# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY ONE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

10:15-11:45

**Environmental Ethics, Arts and Music from the Hizmet Perspective**

**Moderator**

**Dr Maya Joshi**

*(Parallel Session)*

*The thought of Fethullah Gülen, the Hizmet Movement, and the Climate Crisis*

**Jon Pahl**

*Pillars of Environmental Consciousness in Fethullah Gülen's Discourse and the Practice of the Hizmet Movement*

**Y Alp Aslandogan**

*Music and its Contributions to Social Integration and Personal Growth*

**Stephan Bongard & Kadir Boyaci**

*A Place of Poetry: Texturing Interfaith Learning Journeys with Literary Analysis*

**Leonard Gordon & Lori Lefkovitz**

**Hall**

**Global Auditorium, Ratan Jindal Academic Block**

11:45-12:00

**Tea Break**



# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY ONE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

12:00-13:30	Interfaith Dialogue, Religious Encounter & Comparative Traditions
Moderator	Dr Irfanullah Farooqi
(Parallel Session)	<p><i>Fethullah Gülen's Engagement with the Life and Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi (Online)</i> <b>Kerim Balci</b></p> <p><i>Inter-faith Dialogues and Peacebuilding: A Comparative Study of Sree Narayana Guru and Fethullah Gülen</i> <b>Mohammed Shabeer K</b></p> <p><i>Interreligious Dialogue as a Catalyst for Religious Freedom: Comparative Analysis of the Hizmet and Focolare Movements</i> <b>Mustafa Cenap Aydin</b></p> <p><i>Coherence between Catholic Interfaith Teaching and Practice and the Hizmet Movement</i> <b>Gregory J Fairbanks</b></p>
Hall	Imaginarium, Savitri Jindal Faculty Office Block (FOB)
13:30-14:30	Lunch



# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY ONE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

12:00-13:30	Peacebuilding, Conflict Resolution and Dialogue Theory
Moderator	Prof Swasti Rao
(Parallel Session)	<p><i>From Endemic Polarization to Bridge-Building: The Hizmet Movement's Dialogue Potential in an Era of Democratic Fragmentation</i> <b>Ercan Karakoyun</b></p> <p><i>Historical Roots and Contemporary Causes of Religion and Violence: Glimpses into Hizmet Pathways to Peace</i> <b>Maniraj Sukdaven</b></p> <p><i>The Jewish-Palestinian Dialogue Group</i> <b>Miriam Zimmerman</b></p> <p><i>The New Partnership: Interfaith Cooperation Supporting a Major Movement of Civil Society Dialogue and Activism</i> <b>Philip Clayton</b></p>
Hall	Global Auditorium, Ratan Jindal Academic Block
13:30-14:30	Lunch





# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY ONE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

14:30-16:00	Social Cohesion, Migration, and Transnational Hizmet Communities
Moderator	Prof Sreeram Chaulia
	<div><p><i>Experiences of Hizmet-Affiliated Refugees in Transnational Contexts</i> <b>Hilal Akdeniz</b></p><p><i>From Disruption to Resilience: A Thematic and Emotional Analysis of Social Media Interviews with Hizmet Immigrants</i> <b>Ervin Iusein</b></p><p><i>Migration, Integration, and Social Cohesion in Nigeria: The Hizmet Movement as a Model of Trust-Building in Diverse Societies</i> <b>Abubakar Aliyu Maigari</b></p><p><i>Hizmet in Germany</i> <b>Rainer Hermann</b></p></div>
Hall	Global Auditorium, Ratan Jindal Academic Block
16:00-16:15	Tea Break



# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY ONE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

16:15-17:45

Hizmet as a Catalyst for Peace: Leadership, Dialogue, and Transnational Community

Moderator

Rainer Hermann

(Parallel Session)

*Servant Leadership in Islam: The Case of M. Fethullah Gülen*

**Wendi Lawson See**

*A Well-Known Islamic Scholar's Contribution to Promoting Interreligious Understanding*

**Imre Tokics**

*Peacebuilding Dialogue: Post-War Reconciliation, Interfaith Communication, Intractable Conflict, and Potential Contributions of AI*

**Karen A. Feste**

*Unfolding the Tent: Belonging Beyond Borders in the Hizmet Movement*

**Ayhan Cetin**

Hall

Imaginarium, Savitri Jindal Faculty Office Block (FOB)



# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY ONE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

16:15-17:45

**Cultural Diplomacy, Dialogue Trips & Civic Engagement**

**Moderator**

**Dr Ranjana Kumari**

(Parallel Session)

*Changing Geopolitical Landscape and Grassroots Diplomacy: The Role of Turkish NGO in Bridging and Building communities through Interfaith and Educational Dialogue in the Philippines*

**Henelito A Sevilla**

*Cultural Diplomacy in Action: Hizmet Cultural Trips as Models of Global Educational, Interfaith Learning, and Civic Engagement*

**Vonya Womack**

*The IDEIS Foundation's Contributions to a Diverse Dutch Society*

**Ibrahim Kurt**

*Hizmet and the Ethics of Trust-Building: A Faith-inspired Model for Pluralism in Polarised Times*

**Tejinder Singh Rawal**

**Hall**

**Global Auditorium, Ratan Jindal Academic Block**





# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY TWO: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

09:00-09:30

Arrival and Registration

09:30-11:00

Hizmet, Leadership Models, and Global Organizational Practice

Moderator

Dr Manisha Choudhary

(Parallel Session)

*Sustaining Service through Social Friendship (Online)*

**Kate Kelly Middleton and Pim Valkenberg**

*Hospitality as a Transformative Ethic: The Underexamined Role of Fethullah Gülen in Contemporary Islam*

**Tamara Albertini**

*In Service of Knowledge: Compassion, Education, and Transformation*

**Chris RayAlexander**

*Lighthouse, the Hizmet Students Home*

**William Alexander Morel**

Hall

Imaginarium, Savitri Jindal Faculty Office Block (FOB)

11:00-11:15

Tea Break



# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY TWO: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

09:30-11:00

**Science for Peace, Coexistence & Pluralism**

**Moderator**

**Prof Jon Pahl**

(Parallel Session)

*Science Diplomacy for Global Peacemaking*

**Margaret E. Kosal**

*From Dialogue to Coexistence: Cultural Diversity through the Lens of Hizmet*

**Salim Abdallah & Erkan Tashkyn**

*Weaving the Tapestry: Towards a Deeper Understanding of Diverse Muslim Ethnicities  
As the Collaborative Force for Thailand*

**Sheikh Mohammad Altafur Rahman & Srawut Aree**

*Faith-Inspired Ethics of Trust: The Hizmet Movement's Contribution to Peacebuilding and  
Intercultural Solidarity*

**Ghada Ghazal**

**Hall**

**Global Auditorium, Ratan Jindal Academic Block**

11:00-11:15

**Tea Break**



# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY TWO: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

11:15-12:45	Education, Moral Formation & Global Citizenship
Moderator	Prof Ides Nicaise
(Parallel Session)	<p><i>Learning Morality - Embodying Virtues: Negotiating Moral Education at Hizmet Schools in Tanzania</i> <b>Kristina Mashimi</b></p> <p><i>Global Citizenship Education as a Pathway to Holistic Human Development</i> <b>Ashok Pandey</b></p> <p><i>Educating for Citizenship With Support of the Community. Two Case Studies: the Swallow (primary school in Gambia) and Lucerna (Hizmet schools in Flanders, Belgium)</i> <b>Ides Nicaise</b></p> <p><i>Religious Organizations' Potential Contributions to Strengthening European Democracies: A Critical Analysis</i> <b>Sabina Gonzalez Vilas</b></p>
Hall	Global Auditorium, Ratan Jindal Academic Block
12:45-13:45	Lunch





# INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

## DAY TWO: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

11:15-12:45

**Hizmet as a Global Ethic: Intercultural Values, Renewal, and Civic Engagement**

**Moderator**

**Prof Sotiris Livas**

(Parallel Session)

*Integrating Ubuntu and Hizmet Values: Their Role in the Success of African Hizmet-Affiliated Schools*

**Ibrahim Yunus Rashid & Hayrullah Akif Çevik**

*Textual Analysis of Turquoise Harmony Institute Documents and Social Media*

**Aydin Inal & Wahbie Long**

*Renewal Movements: Commonalities across Cultural and Religious Traditions. A Reading on the 60th Anniversary of Nostra Aetate*

**Roberto Catalano**

*Building Peace Through Service: Hizmet as Civic Infrastructure*

**Mahmut Yilmaz, Celil Akgöbek & Yetkin Yildirim**

**Hall**

**Imaginarium, Savitri Jindal Faculty Office Block (FOB)**

12:45-13:45

**Lunch**



# **INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026**

**Editorial Board**



**DR FRANCESCO ZANNINI**

Emeritus Professor, PISA, Rome



**PROF SREERAM CHAULIA**

Dean, Jindal School of  
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**DR IMRE TOKICS**

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Hungary



**DR IDES NICAISE**

Professor, Leuven University,  
Belgium



**DR IRFANULLAH FAROOQI**

Faculty Member, IIM Kozhikode



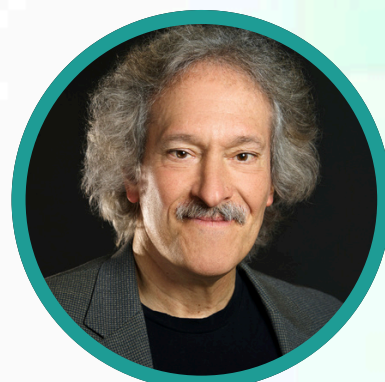
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The Hindu



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International Affairs, Sonipat



**DR TARUSHIKHA SARVESH**

Assistant Professor,  
Aligarh Muslim University





# GALA DINNER

IN HONOUR OF  
**INTERNATIONAL HIZMET  
CONFERENCE DELEGATES**

VENUE

**EROS HOTEL, NEHRU PLACE, NEW DELHI**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026**

**TIME: 06:00 PM**

Hosted By



**INDIALOGUE FOUNDATION**

*Dialogue for Peace*

This event is open to invited guests only.



# A TRIP TO EXPLORE DELHI

February 7, 2026 | New Delhi

Delegates will be taken on a guided cultural tour of Delhi, exploring the city's iconic landmarks and heritage sites. The tour will include visits to Qutub Minar, Lotus Temple, Akshardham Temple etc. offering a glimpse into the capital's rich history, spiritual harmony, and vibrant culture.



## A CURATED GUIDE TO DELHI'S CULINARY EXCELLENCE



Mia Bella, Hauz Khas



Zylo, Mehrauli



Kiyan, The Roseate



Molecule, Noida



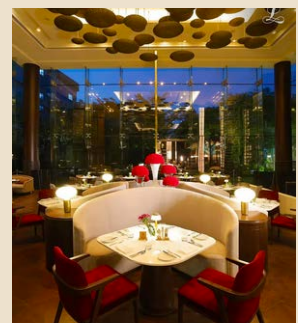
Gumband Cafe,  
Old Delhi



Ottimo West View, ITC  
Maurya



Delhi Club House,  
Chanakyapuri



Mi Piaci, Mehrauli





## INTERNATIONAL HIZMET CONFERENCE 2026

The International Hizmet Conference 2026 stands as a testament to the collaborative spirit of academia and civil society. Co-organised by O. P. Jindal Global University and Indialogue Foundation, this conference embodies a shared commitment to fostering dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding among diverse communities.



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## #HizmetInIndia