



University of Haifa

אוניברסיטת חיפה

The Senate of the University of Haifa, by virtue of the authority vested in it by the constitution of the University and in accordance with the recommendations of the President and the Executive Committee

סנאט אוניברסיטת חיפה בתוקף סמכויותיו המוענקות לו על-ידי חוקת האוניברסיטה ובהתאם להמלצות הנשיא והוועד המנהל

hereby confers upon

מעניק בזאת

Irina Bokova

לאירינה בוקובה

the degree of

את התואר

Doctor of Philosophy

דוקטור לפילוסופיה

Honoris Causa

לשם כבוד

in recognition of her great contribution and commitment to intercultural dialog, founded on mutual respect and tolerance; for her leadership and vision in heading the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; for ensuring that the organization under her directorship has set itself exemplary goals, such as providing assistance and contributing to the stabilization and development of Africa, the fight against world poverty, and advancing gender equality; for her contribution to strengthening Israel's ties with UNESCO, based on values of pluralism, equality and acceptance of the other; and for her support for the establishment of UNESCO Chairs at the University of Haifa.

בהוקרה על תרומתה הרבה ומחויבותה לדיאלוג בין-תרבותי, המבוסס על כבוד הדדי וסובלנות; על המנהיגות והחזון שבהובלת ארגון האומות המאוחדות לחינוך, מדע ותרבות; על כך שהארגון שבראשותה הציב לעצמו מטרות געלות, בדוגמת הסיוע והתרומה למען ייצובה והתפתחותה של אפריקה, המאבק בעוני העולמי והשוויון המגדרי; על תרומתה לחיזוק היחסים בין ישראל ובין אונסקו, יחסים המבוססים על ערכי הפלורליזם, השוויון וקבלת האחר; ועל התמיכה בהקמת קתדרות אונסקו באוניברסיטת חיפה.

Conferred in Haifa, Israel
25 Iyar 5771/May 29, 2011

ניתן בחיפה, ישראל
כ"ה באייר תשע"א, 29 במאי 2011

Ami Ayalon
Chairman of the
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רקטור

פרופ' אהרון בן-זאב
נשיא

עמי אילון
יו"ר הוועד המנהל

Irina Bokova

Irina Bokova was born in 1952 in Bulgaria. She holds a Master's degree from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations and began her diplomatic career in the early 1980s in the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She had a political career in Bulgaria and was elected member of the Bulgarian Parliament, followed by an appointment as State Secretary for the Parliament's European Integration Committee. She was Minister of Foreign Affairs in 1996-1997. In 2005 Ms. Bokova was appointed Bulgaria's ambassador to UNESCO and in 2009 became UNESCO Director-General as its first woman in this senior position. Her current visit to Israel is the third of a UNESCO Director-General since 1997.

Ms. Bokova has been particularly active in fostering dialogue and collaboration between ethnic groups in Europe, grounded in multiculturalism, pluralism and acceptance of the other. She has also been active in the advancement of women's leadership.

Since being appointed UNESCO Director-General, the organization's ties with Israel have been greatly enhanced and in March 2011 an agreement was signed for the establishment of a UNESCO department to be dedicated entirely to the education of Holocaust remembrance around the world. Ms. Bokova has repeatedly announced that the organization that she is heading will uncompromisingly fight Holocaust denial.

The University of Haifa is home to three UNESCO Chairs – in Bioethics, Intercultural Dialog, and Cultural Diversity.

