

IFIMES RECEIVES CRANS MONTANA FORUM'S GOLD MEDAL

PRESS RELEASE

LJUBLJANA, 21 October 2012 - In the margins of the 14th Crans Montana Forum (CMF) Summit dedicated to global security and transnational crime, which was held in Geneva from 17 to 20 October 2012, Crans Montana Forum's medals were presented to some individuals and organisations in recognition of their achievements.

The International Institute for Middle-East and Balkan Studies (IFIMES) received Crans Montana Forum's gold medal. The medal was presented to the Institute's Director **Zijad Bećirović** by **dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri**, Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), in the presence of Ambassador **Jean-Paul Carteron**, Chairman and Founder of the Crans Montana Forum, and the Forum participants from over 45 countries.

On this occasion, IFIMES Director thanked for the high award on behalf of all the co-workers of the Institute. In his opinion the medal represents a recognition to all those who have contributed to the work of the Institute during the past ten years. Director Bećirović stressed the importance of Crans Montana Forum and the role Jean-Paul Carteron has played since the end of the Cold War, contributing with his activities to the integration of and cooperation between various regions of the world.

The Crans Montana Forum "Prix de la Fondation" was awarded to former President of Zambia **Rupiah Banda** and to President and Founder of the Observatoire Sahélo-Saharien de Géopolitique et de Stratégie **Soumeylou Boubeye Maiga**.

On the same occasion, the Crans Montana Forum's gold medals were given also to: **Alain Juillet**, former Head of Intelligence, France, **Eugenia Tymoshenko**, daughter of the former Prime Minister of Ukraine, **Judith Amaechi**, Spouse of the Executive Governor of Rivers State, Nigeria, **Alain Michel Luvambano**, Secretary General of the Organisation Maritime de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre, **Demba Diallo**, President of CENTIF, Senega and **Adama Coulibaly**, President of CENTIF, Côte d'Ivoire.

Ljubljana, October 21, 2012

