

Andreas van Agt

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To whom it may concern

The Arab-West Report has taken on a vital work for the cause of intercultural understanding and hopes to keep doing so. This non-for-profit organization publishes (in full or in summary) translations of articles coming out of the Arabic press that are highly informative. These articles not only illustrate how Arabs think, they also show how they feel about what is happening in today's world. For readers in the West, it is essential to acquire a deeper, more informed understanding of the frustrations encountered by the Arab world vis-à-vis the West and the animosity they engender.

The Arab-West Report also provides critiques of articles which fall short of meeting the ethical criteria for honest and fair journalism. Such evaluations are aimed at helping to improve the standard of reporting and reducing senseless polarization.

This organization aspires to provide a similar service in reverse as well, producing publications in Arabic. These publications present translations and critiques of highly informative articles coming out of the western press that help Arabic readers to better understand viewpoints to be encountered in the West.

The Arab-West Report hopes to evolve into a Center for Arab-West Understanding. It is seeking to be registered and recognized in order to achieve this goal. Plans have been drafted to network with academic institutions working in the fields of Eastern Christianity and Islam.

I wholeheartedly endorse and encourage these concepts and the endeavors being made for their realization. The greatest obstacle to these efforts has been a lack of financial resources. I would strongly recommend to potential sponsors that they lend their support to these very idealistic and beneficial initiatives.

Andreas van Agt
Prime Minister of The Netherlands
1977 - 1982