



# UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

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**Arab-West Report**  
**Cornelis Hulsman, Editor-in-chief**  
**Cairo, Egypt**

Vienna, June 12, 2012

Dear Mr. Hulsman,

The visiting students and professors of the University of Vienna wish to thank you and the *Center for Intercultural Dialogue and Translation* again for your excellent work in arranging a most interesting program for study during our visit to Egypt. Our purpose was to better understand Egyptian contemporary religious and political culture, in particular the place of Christians in a predominantly Muslim society, which you succeeded well in doing. The meetings with leaders and scholars from the Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant Churches, al-Azhar, the Dar al-Iftah and also with representatives from different political streams in Egypt, Liberal, Muslim Brothers and Salafis were most enlightening. They illustrated to us the wide variety of opinions that exist in society and the difficult transition period that Egypt is going through. Your explanations and your non-partisan approach were very helpful in seeing the issues within a wider context.

We also appreciated meeting with the board of the *Center for Arab-West Understanding* and believe that what you are doing in getting to the facts, creating links of communication between peoples of different beliefs and your conviction are very important to Muslim-Christian and Arab-West mutual understanding. It is obvious you have an amazing network of connections in Egypt that is very diverse. We hope and pray that your work as a bridge between peoples of different cultures and convictions may grow and develop, and that links between our university and your institute will develop in the future.

Sincerely Yours,

Univ.-Prof. Dr. H.-J. Feulner



Univ.-Prof. Dr. R. Prokschi