PRESS RELEASE

A unique gathering of visionaries and activists exploring
the evolution of global religion and spirituality in the 21st century…

Presented by:
 • The International Interreligious Peace Council (IIPC)
 • The Association for Global New Thought (AGNT)
 • The Interreligious Engagement Project (IEP21)

We live in an age of constant change; but it’s not all chaotic. Global culture has entered a period of progressive values-shift, and religion and spirituality are evolving at a dramatic pace. In October 2012, 200 visionaries and activists from the great faith traditions and from the secular sphere will meet in Rome and Florence, Italy to explore that evolutionary process. They will work together to shape initiatives that will inform and energize spiritually motivated global action for a better world.

Participants will spend the first four days of the conference in Rome, gathering in working sessions to deepen their collective understanding of three dimensions of the 21st-century evolution of religion and spirituality:

* *Signs* (compelling indicators that ours is a time of real change in the world’s religions)
* *Shadows* (obstacles to this evolutionary advance)
* *Strengths (collective values and resources we bring to the table)*
* *Solutions* (new initiatives, projects, and action plans to encourage the progressive process).

The group will travel to Florence for the gathering’s final three days, which will be devoted to sharing action plans and refining a critical vision for our time – *A Charter for Engaged Spirituality in the 21st Century*, and a plan for its implementation. The living document will provide the framework for an ongoing global proces interreligious and intercultural dialogue and engagement.

To learn more about the event and opportunities for participation, visit <http://www.agnt.org/awakened2012>. If you have questions about individual or group involvement, contact Barbara Fields or Jim Kenney (see *Contact* at the top of this page).

 *The three co-sponsoring organizations — IIPC, AGNT, and IEP21 – are well-known and respected interreligious and intercultural not-for-profit groups dedicated to fostering dialogue, mutual respect, and creative common action among the world’s religious communities*