

21. Stretching the boundaries of Islamic Finance - Russia and Tatarstan joining the folk of Islamic finance

In the last few years, the Russian Federation has intensified its diplomatic engagements in the Islamic world and has clearly identified Muslim countries as an ideal ground to reposition herself favourably in the emerging 21st century world order. Islamic finance has become a major element of this repositioning as the government of Russia has recognized that to be a serious international financial centre and the hub for the 100 to 120 million Muslims living in the Commonwealth of Independent States and Eastern Europe it cannot leave out this important new form of financing

Within this framework, the Republic of Tatarstan - the historical kernel of Islam in Russia - and its government play a truly unique role in proactively accommodating Islamic finance policies

ASSAIF is supporting this trend by making specific contributions at the following events:

- The 'Moscow Halal Expo 2011' – Moscow, 26-28 May 2011 (<http://www.halalexpo.org/>) - Alberto Brugnoli will moderate 'Session 2. Master Class and investment projects in the field of Islamic financial businesses' and participate to 'Session 6. Roundtable on Social Projects and Charity Practices in Russia'
- The '7th WIEF 2011' - Astana, 7-9 June 2011 (<http://www.7wief.org>). Two plenary sessions are dedicated to Islamic Banking and Finance: 'Islamic Banking and Finance in Emerging Markets: Seizing Opportunities, Overcoming Challenges' and 'Islamic Banking and Finance: Raising the Bar' and one on the 'World of Halal: Tapping the Potential of the Global Halal Ecosystem'
- The 'III International Islamic Business and Finance Summit' - Kazan, 20-21 June 2011 (<http://kazansummit.com/>). Alberto will co-moderate the 'Session on Philanthropy' and make a presentation at the 'Session on Islamic Economics and Finance' on "Islamic Finance and Russian foreign policy". He will also head an Italian delegation that will animate the roundtable on "Tatarstan and the Italian North-West: a common SME's approach"
- The 'IFN 2011 Issuers & Investors Europe Forum' – London, 7-8 July 2011 (http://www.ifnforums.com/IFN_Europe_Forum/index.asp). Alberto will chair a breakout session featuring Russia's progress in Islamic finance and depicting investment opportunities
- The '5th International Takaful Summit 2011' – London, 11-13 July 2011 (<http://www.takafulsummit.com/2011/>) where Alberto will moderate a slot on Russia and CIS countries
- The 'XXI Economic Forum' - Krynica (Poland), 7-9 September 2011 (<http://www.economic-forum.pl/>) where Alberto will chair a session on "The role of Islamic finance for the financial inclusion in non-Muslim countries"
- The '3rd annual Moscow International Forum «Islamic Finance and Investments»'. This event is in the process of being arranged during the month of September. Please refer to <http://bankconference.ru/en> for updated information

- The 'Mediterranean Islamic Finance Conference – New Openings' - Malta, 27-28 October 2011 where Alberto will attend a session on "Islamic Finance in Russia and Eastern Europe". Please go to <http://www.maltamanagement.com/> for further information

With kind regards,

ASSAIF



tel: +390289604727

fax: +390293665127

<http://www.assaif.org/>