

A More Perfect Union and the Clash of Civilizations

by **Richard L. Rubenstein** (November 2011)

Author's note: On June 9, 2005, I delivered the keynote address, "A More Perfect Union and the Clash of Civilizations" at the Annual Meeting of the Public Administration Theory Network (PAT-Net), an international academic organization, meeting in Krakow, Poland.. I had initially been informed that the address would be included in September 2005 issue of PAT-Net's quarterly journal, Administrative Theory and Praxis. Nevertheless, the editors subsequently refused publication although they published "a Forum discussion" on the address without publishing my paper. I discuss my experience in an article, "<http://www.islamonline.net/fatwa/arabic/FatwaDisplay.asp?hFatwaID=2042>. Al-Qaradhawi has often made similar statements. For example, in his weekly religious program on Al-Jazeera, the Arab-language satellite network, the Sheikh declared: "The Hadith says that the city of Constantinople, the city of Heracles, will be conquered first. We conquered Constantinople and the second part of the prophecy remains – the conquest of Romiyya. The conquest of Romiyya means that Islam will return to Europe. In one of my previous programs, I said that I think that this conquest would not be by the sword or armies, but by preaching and ideology. Europe will see that it suffers from materialistic culture, and will seek an alternative, it will seek a way out, it will seek a lifeboat. It will find no lifesaver but the message of Islam the message of the muezzin who gives it religion but does not deny it this world, brings it to Heaven, but does not uproot it from Earth. Allah willing, Islam will return to Europe and the Europeans will convert to Islam. Then they themselves will be able to be the ones to disseminate Islam in the world, more than we ancient Muslims. This is within Allah's capabilities." Al-Jazeera Television (Qatar), November 30, 2000, <http://www.aljazeera.net/programs/shareea/articles/2000/11/1si1-30-3.htm>

[28] On "stealth jihad, see Robert Spencer, *Stealth Jihad: How Radical Islam is Subverting America without Guns or Bombs* (Washington, DC: Regnery Publishing, 2008).

[29] See <http://www.kalamat.org/sections.php?so=va&aid=93> .

[30] The speech was delivered on November 14, 2002. The English translation is available on the Vatican website,

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/speeches/2002/november/documents/hf_jp .

[31] Christopher Caldwell, "Islamic Europe?" *The Weekly Standard*, October 4, 2004, <http://www.weeklystandard.com/Content/Public/Articles/000/000/004/685ozxcq.asp?pg=1> .

[32] Kieron Wood, "An Islamic Europe?" *The Sunday Business Post (Irish Republic)*, October 3, 2004, <http://archives.tcm.ie/businesspost/2004/10/03/story305659027.asp> .

[33] "Durch zunehmende islamische Migration wandelt sich die Identität Europas. Aber in welche Richtung? Entweder wird der Islam europäisiert, oder Europa wird islamisiert... Ich selbst als islamischer Migrant meine, dass das Problem nicht darin besteht, ob die Mehrheit der Europäer islamisch sein, sondern welcher Islam, Scharia-Islam oder Euro-Islam, in Europa dominieren wird. Nicht mit einem Generalverdacht gegen islamische Migranten in Europa (1950 knapp eine Million, heute 17 Millionen, 2025 voraussichtlich etwa 40 Millionen), sondern nur mit einer Politik der Europäisierung des Islam kann man die Gefahr abwenden." Bassam Tibi, "Grenzen der Toleranz," *Welt am Sonntag (Hamburg)*, September 5, 2004, <http://www.wams.de/data/2004/09/05/328478.html> .

[34] See Bat Ye'or, *Eurabia*, p. 95.

[35] See "Muslims in the West: Dim Drums throbbing in the hills half heard," *The Economist*, August 8, 2002, http://www.economist.com/displaystory.cfm?story_id=1270416.

[36] "The New French Revolution," a report by Christiane Amanpour on the CBS News Program "60 Minutes," May 16, 2004 <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2004/05/13/60minutes/main617270.shtml> .

[37] See **Farhad Khosrokhavar** , "L'Islam Carcéral," *Le Nouvel Observateur*, March 25, 2004 <http://www.nouvelobs.com/articles/p2055/a235982.html>