

Issam Fares Honored with US Former Presidents Bush & Clinton



The independent, non-aligned institution called the International Crisis Group (ICG), which contributes to the settlement of intricate conflicts and international crises, held its annual dinner on October 28th at Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York, to honor three influential international figures: The 42nd and 41st Presidents of the United States of America Georges Bush and Bill Clinton, respectively, and the former Deputy Premier of the Republic of Lebanon Mr. Issam Fares.

In his speech, Mr. Fares said: "ICG is honoring two world leaders – President George H. W. Bush and President William J. Clinton. It is with deep humility and great pride that I am also honored with them. The three of us share the same passion for peace and support the organizations working for peace. This is to me the noblest of all noble causes." Mr. Fares went on to say: "I have seen war. I have tasted its bitter taste. War is savage, destructive, and primitive. We should all help ICG to realize our dream and eliminate war from the archive of human history."

President George W.H. Bush addressed the audience on a videotape, saying, "It is an honor for me to be awarded with my friend President Clinton and my dear friend Issam Fares who is a special individual."

The dinner banquet was interspersed by certificates delivered to the awardees. The ceremony was presented by CNN correspondent Christiane Amanpour, while world artist James Taylor entertained the crowd.

