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ENERGY AND COMMERCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0529

HENRY A. WAXMAN

29TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
October 10, 2002

The Honorable H.E. Ferdinando Salleo
Ambassador
Embassy of Italy in the United States
3000 Whitehaven Street Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20008-3612

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

I am writing to urge your immediate intervention against an upcoming "hate" conference that was recently brought to my attention. The conference, entitled *In Memory of the Millions of Civilian Victims of the Democracies and their Lies*, is scheduled to begin in Verona, Italy on October 12, 2002.

Organized by the neo-fascist group Nuovo Ordine European, the meeting's expressed purpose is to rationalize the September 11 attacks against the United States, and promote Holocaust revisionism and vicious anti-Semitic canards against Zionism and Jews. The featured speakers include Ahmed Rami, a Moroccan fugitive convicted in Sweden for incitement on his extremist Islamic radio program, and the organizers of a Holocaust-denial conference canceled last year by the Lebanese government.

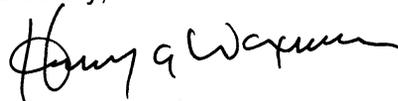
It is vital that the Italian Government take a bold stance to stop this conference from fanning the flames of hatred and intolerance. In our lifetime we have seen powerful examples of atrocities and destruction bred by unchecked provocation and violence. It is our responsibility as allies in the war against terrorism to vigilantly uproot the seeds of hate.

As a signatory of the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Italian government is obligated to condemn all propaganda and based on ideas of racial or ethnic superiority and organizations that attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination. I urge the Italian Government to take swift action to ban this gathering and deny its organizers a platform for their dangerous message.

I appreciate your attention to this serious matter.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress