The International Olympic Truce Centre Announces Its Open Forum:

"The relevance of Olympic Truce nowadays: are there ways to effectively apply it?"

Tuesday 31st July 2012 At 1pm at the House of Hellenes, Carlton Club,

69 St.James's Street

More than ever before the *Olympic Truce* idea is prevalent; with wars raging in many parts of the world during the Olympic Games. The concept of *Olympic Truce* dates back to the first Games held in 776BC in ancient Olympia, Greece. It was to allow warring Greek city states to set aside conflict, to celebrate togetherness, to experience peace inspired by sport, to imagine peace! An open forum is organised for 31st July at 1pm with many respected speakers to discuss the purpose of the Olympic Truce at the House of House of Hellenes, Carlton Club, 69 St.James's Street, SW1A 1JP.

The International Olympic Truce Centre is holding an open forum to discuss the "The relevance of Olympic Truce nowadays: are there ways to effectively apply it?" The event is being hosted by the International Olympic Truce Centre with confirmed speakers include:

- Willi Lemke, special advisor to the UN Secretary General on Sport for Development and Peace
- Lord Bates, member of the House of Lords, former MP
- Hugh Dugan, Founder of the US Truce Foundation
- Fani Palli Petralia, vice-chairperson of the International Olympic Truce Foundation
- Dr Filis, Director of the International Truce Centre will moderate the discussion

In July 2000, the International Olympic Committee, in close cooperation with Greece, established the International Olympic Truce Foundation and its operational arm, the International Olympic Truce Centre, with the goal of reviving the ancient tradition of the Olympic Truce.

The Olympic Truce Centre is an international non-governmental organization which operates within the framework of the Olympic Movement. Its mission is to promote the Olympic Ideal, to serve peace, friendship and international understanding, and to uphold the Olympic Truce. It promotes a Culture of Peace, through a combination of

global and local initiatives, mobilizing leaders, athletes and young people of the world behind the cause of sport and peace.

The symbolic seat of the International Olympic Truce Centre is in Olympia, birthplace of the Olympic Games. The Centre has a liaison office in Lausanne, Switzerland, home of the International Olympic Committee. The executive offices of the International Olympic Truce Centre are in Athens, where the first Games of the modern era were held in 1896.

Olympic Truce is an ancient tradition. A peace accord which has lasted through more than 1,200 years of ancient history. A truce, which has now been revived to offer hope and an opportunity for dialogue. Encouraging and inspiring all humanity to ... **imagine peace.**

To register to attend the event please visit www.houseofhellenes.com

For press information please contact the media office of the House of Hellenes:

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