

FREEDOM

of

religion

or

belief

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, HATE SPEECH, AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM:

A Human Rights Perspective

December 8-9, 2022

The conference was attended by 70 participants from 23 countries, including speakers from the academic research community and international organizations. There were participants from Austria, Belgium, Canada, Egypt, Finland, France, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Lebanon, Malaysia, Oman, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, and the United States of America.

This conference's edition took place on World Genocide Commemoration International Day and focused on religious freedom, hate speech, and the importance of freedom of expression. This event brought together representatives from various fields that significantly impact their organizations and communities.

Hate speech is an ongoing problem in all societies, both online and offline. As history has shown, atrocity crimes are sparked by hate speech. A growing trend of hatred and intolerance toward people who are perceived as different increases the potential to incite violence and severe human rights abuses. Ethnic and religious minorities, migrants, refugees, and others who are perceived as unwelcome are often targets of hate speech and discrimination.

The main purpose of this conference was to discuss the impact of hate speech on vulnerable groups and the significance of freedom of expression and religious freedom as fundamental components in the continuing process of building peaceful and respectful communities. The conference brought together experts from international organizations, faith-based NGOs, and academics from diverse cultural, religious, and political backgrounds to share their experiences and concerns and exchange research results on these current topics that impact our daily lives.

Some of the Guest Speakers:

LOUISA KLINGVAL, Policy Officer, Fundamental rights Policy Unit, DG JUST, European Commission

FERNAND DE VARNENNES, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues

IBRAHIM SALAMA, Chief of Human Rights Treaties Branch at United Nations

MICHAEL WIENER, Human Rights Officer, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

LIBERATO C. BAUTISTA, President, Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN

TINA RAMIREZ, Founder and President, Hardwired World

TITUS CORLĂȚEAN, Legal scholar, diplomat, lawmaker, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs

JONATHAN GALLAGHER, Writer, Bible translator, Former UN Liaison of the Seventh-day Adventist

TERESA FLORES, Director of the Observatory of Religious Freedom in Latin America – OLIRE

THIERRY VALLE, President, Associations and Individuals for Freedom of Conscience, France

RYAN J. KOCH, Public and International Affairs, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

PAULO MACEDO - Secretary-General, International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty

UUGANAA RAMSAY - Director, Mongol Identity SCIO

JEREMY P. BARKER, Director of the Middle East Action Team for the Religious Freedom Institute

JONATHAN K. AMMONS, President of the NGO Committee on FoRB, New York

NICHOLAS P. MILLER, Professor Andrews University, Director, International Religious Liberty Institute

WISSAM AL-SALIBY, Director of the Geneva Office of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA)

DIANE ALA'I, Representative to the United Nations for the Bahá'í International Community

RATHIKA SITSABAIESAN, Educator and former Member, Parliament of Canada

- MARIAN GH. SIMION, President of the IPSEC at Harvard Divinity School, USA
Blessing Weapons as Hate Speech
- JULIA M. PUASCHUNDER, Behavioral economist, New School for Social Research in New York, USA
Human Rights Online: Towards a New Generation of Human Rights in the Virtual World
- YUVARAJ HALAGE, Assist. Prof., Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering, Bangalore, India
Freedom of Expression in the Age of Artificial Intelligence
- MARCO MARSILI, PhD, ISCTE – University Institute of Lisbon, Portugal
State-driven Hate Speech: From Nazi Germany to Date
- UTKU BOZDAG, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary
Tweeting Metaphors: A Critical Analysis of Turkish Media Coverage of Fled People
- RAHA SABET SARVESTANY, Turku University, Finland
Demonizing Baha'is to Justify Crimes against Them
- ANASTASIA JESSICA ADINDA SUSANTI, University of Szeged, Hungary
Graphic Narrative's Power to Break the Silence of The 1965-1966 Massacres in Indonesia
- BARTOSZ LEWANDOWSKI, Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University, Poland
Artificial Intelligence as a Tool for Detecting Hate Speech
- RAMYA H. P., Assistant Professor, Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering, India
A Conceptual Review of Religious Freedom for Employed Women's Contributions to Family Investment Decision-Making in India
- ZEINAB SHOJAEIAN, Tehran University/faculty of social science, Iran
Discourse Analysis of Online Violence in the Instagram pages of Iranian Female Microcelebrities
- DENISE E. BURRILL, Assistant Professor, Fitchburg State University, USA
Challenges of Preventing Hate Speech on Social Media
- NICOLETA HEGHEȘ, Researcher, Romanian Academy, “Andrei Rădulescu” Legal Research Institute
The Offense of Incitement to Hatred or Discrimination
- NITHYA S.M., & GANESH K.S., Assistant Professors, Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering, India
Artificial Intelligence Model in Detecting Hate Speech in Social Media Platforms
- MIROŚLAW A. MICHALSKI, Christian Theological Academy in Warsaw, Poland
The Christian towards Hate Speech
- VIKTOR SAVCHENKO, Associate Professor, V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, Ukraine
Difficulties with Expressing the Free Will in Ukraine due to Russian War Aggression
- PRIYA BHALLA, Associate Professor, University of Delhi, India
Non-violence, Peace and Human Rights: Revisiting Gandhian Thoughts on Exploitation

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