

INTERRELIGIOUS ENGAGEMENT AND FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF (FoRB)

LAMBETH PALACE, LONDON

FRIDAY 13 JULY 2018, 10.00 – 16.00

**Seminar to work towards the drafting of a policy report on
'Interreligious Engagement and Freedom of Religion or Belief'**

PURPOSE

This closed-door seminar is the second meeting of the year-long consultation to produce a policy report that identifies interreligious engagement strategies as policy tools to advance FoRB for all and combat intolerance based on religion. The consultation process aims to develop a first draft of the report to be presented at the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in September 2018 with a view to launch it in the context of the OSCE next Ministerial Council in Milan on 6-7 Dec 2018.

AGENDA

9.30–10.00: Registration and Welcome Teas and Coffees

10.00–12.00: Lessons Learnt and Looking Forward

- Introductory remarks by Fabio Petito and Stephanie Berry, *FoRB & Foreign Policy Initiative*, University of Sussex
- 3-5 minutes intervention/comment from all participants around the table answering the following question: *“What, in your view, are the most important issues raised during the consultation process to date (from the earlier meeting in Bologna and the panel discussions in UK Parliament)? What are the challenges and areas that the final report will need to develop further?”* [Please read the Bologna summary report and reflect on it if possible in the light of the previous day's deliberations in Parliament]

12.00–13.00: Lunch Break

13.00–14.30: Breakout Session 1: Focusing on Evidence Gaps, Government Role and Interreligious Dialogue

Participants will be divided into smaller working groups facilitated by a rapporteur to discuss the following 3 questions:

1. *To what extent and how does interreligious engagement improve respect for FoRB (and human rights more generally)?*
2. *What is and what should be the role of governments in interreligious engagement?*
3. *Can religious language and interreligious dialogue contribute to promoting FoRB and combatting discrimination more effectively than the secular framework and language of human rights? What are the limitations of this approach?*

14.45–15.45: Breakout Session 2: Feedback from Breakout Session and Discussions across Working Groups

15.45–16.00: Conclusions

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS – 13 July, Lambeth Palace

Yousif Al-Khoei

Director of Public Affairs, Al-Khoei Foundation

Stephanie Berry

Senior Lecturer in Public Law, University of Sussex

Judd Birdsall

Managing Director, Cambridge Institute on Religion & International Studies

Ross Brittain

MA Conflict, Security, and Development student at the University of Sussex

Fadi Daou

Chair and CEO, Adyan Foundation

Adama Dieng

Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, United Nations

Jan Figel

Special Envoy for FoRB outside the EU, European Commission

Steven Fisher

Joint Head, Human Rights Policy Unit, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Paolo Frizzi

Lecturer in Interreligious Dialogue, Sophia University Institute

Gwen Griffith-Dickson

Executive Director, Lokahi Foundation

Khataza Gondwe

Head of Advocacy, Africa Middle East Team Leader, Christian Solidarity Worldwide

Julian Hargreaves

Research Fellow, the Woolf Institute

Harriet Hoffler

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Steve Hucklesby

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Ozcan Keles

University of Sussex and Chairperson of the Dialogue Society

Maria Mancinelli

Programme Coordinator, Interreligious Engagement & FoRB, University of Sussex

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Katherine Marshall

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Vice-President, Ahmadiyya Muslim Women's Association

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Director of FoRB & Foreign Policy Initiative, University of Sussex

Sharon Rosen

Global Director, Religious Engagement, Search For Common Ground

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Special Representative for Freedom of Religion or Belief, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark

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