

## HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING 2018

Thursday, 20 September, 13:30 - 14:30

Plenary Hall, Sofitel Victoria Warsaw Królewska St. 11 00-065

*Side Event - Sandwich lunch provided*

# INTERRELIGIOUS ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES: A POLICY TOOL TO ADVANCE FORB

## *A CONSULTATION PROCESS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE 2018 ITALIAN OSCE CHAIRMANSHIP - POLICY REPORT PRESENTATION*

[The Interreligious Engagement and Freedom of Religion or Belief \(IE&FoRB\)](#) project aims at co-producing innovative knowledge on interreligious engagement – dialogue and collaboration – as a policy tool to advance FoRB for all and combat intolerance based on religion. Two consultation meetings have been held this year – [in Bologna](#) in the context of the European Academy of Religion and [in London](#) in the UK Parliament and at Lambeth Palace. These consultations will feed into a policy report which will be presented, in draft, for the first time at this side event, with a view to receive feedback and improve the report that we aim to launch it in the context of the OSCE next Ministerial Council in Milan on 6-7 December 2018. Among the key questions to be discussed are: To what extent and how does interreligious engagement improve respect for FoRB? What is and what should be the role of the State in interreligious engagement? 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? How to apply more specifically this approach to the OSCE context both inside the region through its soft diplomacy mechanisms and outside through the foreign policy of its member states?

### PANEL:

**Kishan Manocha**

Senior Advisor on Freedom of Religion and Belief, OSCE/ODIHR

**Fabio Petito**

Director of Freedom of Religion & Foreign Policy Initiative, University of Sussex

**Stephanie Berry**

Senior Lecturer in International Human Rights Law, University of Sussex

*Organized by FoRB & Foreign Policy Initiative, University of Sussex in partnership with OSCE/ODIHR and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation*