



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

## Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue: *Working together for our common future*

Palais des Congrès, Marrakesh, Morocco  
Marrakesh, 13–15 June 2023



Kingdom of Morocco

\*The Parliament\*

15 June 2023

### Panels with speakers

#### Day 1: 13 June

**High-level panel** – Track 1 (The rule of law): 14:00 – 16:00 (120 Mins)

*Working together for the promotion of the rule of law: Good practices and challenges*

Moderator: **Dr. Nazila Ghanea** (UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, OHCHR, Professor of International Human Rights Law)

Panellists:

- **Ms. Meritxell Batet** (President of the Congress of Deputies – Spain)
- **Mr. Bahouba Norbert Tankoano** (Executive Secretary, Parliamentary Committee of the G5 Sahel)
- **Ms. Fernanda San Martin Carrasco** (Director, International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief [IPPFoRB], former MP of Bolivia)
- **Dr. Thomas Schirmacher** (Secretary General, World Evangelical Alliance, Co-President, Religions for Peace – Germany)
- **Dr. Fadi Daou** (Executive Director, Globalethics - Lebanon)
- **Rabbi Moshe David HaCohen** and **Imam Salahuddin Barakat** (Amanah Center – Sweden)

**High-level panel** – Track 2 (Peace and inclusion): 16:30 – 18:30 (120 Mins)

*Promoting regional and global peace through intra-faith dialogue*

Moderator: **Dr. Ahmad Abaddi** (Secretary General, Mohammadia League of Scholars – Morocco)

Panellists:

- **Ms. Tulia Ackson** (Speaker of the National Assembly – Tanzania)
- **Senator Garret Ahearn** (Oireachtas of Ireland)
- **Senator Farooq Hamid Naek** (Senate of Pakistan)
- **Mr. Hayder Al-Khoei** (Director, Al-Khoei Institute – Iraq)
- **Ligia Matamoros** (Latin American Catholic Episcopal Council [CELAM] Member – Costa Rica) *Youth representative*

#### Day 2: 14 June

**Panel** – Track 1 (The rule of law): 09:30 – 11:00 (90 mins)

*Religion and belief in different secular systems: Examples from around the world*

Moderator: **Prof. Katherine Marshall** (Senior Fellow, Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs, Georgetown University – USA)

Panellists:

- **Ms. Christine Schwarz-Fuchs** (Member of Parliament – Austria)
- **Mr. Jeyhun Mammadov** (MP, National Assembly of Azerbaijan)
- **Sr. Liliana Franco** (President, Caribbean and Latin American Confederation of Religious Women and Men)
- **Dr. Alfonso Santiago** (Professor for Constitutional Law & Director of the School of Politics, Government and International Relations, Austral University – Argentina)
- **Mr. Habibou Bako** (Policy Officer, Joint Initiative for Strategic Religious Action [JISRA], Search for Common Ground – Mali) *Youth representative*

**Panel – Track 2 (Peace and inclusion): 11:30 – 13:00 (90 mins)**

*How can parliamentarians cooperate with religious communities and faith-based organizations to mobilize society for greater moderation, solidarity and inclusion?*

**Moderator: Mr. Elias Szczytnicki** (Regional Secretary General, Religions for Peace Latin America and the Caribbean – Argentina/ Peru)

**Panelists:**

- **Hon. Fiona Bruce** (UK Prime Minister's Special Envoy for Freedom of Religion or Belief, Member of Parliament – United Kingdom)
- **Mr. Ioannis Sarakiotis** (Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy, Member of Parliament – Greece)
- **Rabbi (Ms.) Tamar Elad-Appelbaum** (Co-founder and Educational Director, Beit Midrash for Israeli Rabbis – Israel)
- **Dr. Chinmay (Mr.) Pandya** (Pro Vice-Chancellor, Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya University – India)
- **Mr. Daniel Coulibaly** (Peacebuilding and Advocacy Officer, Tearfund – Mali) –  
*Youth representative*

**Panel – Track 1 (The rule of law: 14:30 – 16:30 (120 mins)**

*Clarifying the relationship between the rule of law and freedom of religion or belief to preserve statehood and citizenship*

**Moderator: Ambassador Mokhtar Omar** (Senior Advisor, Inter-Parliamentary Union)

**Panelists:**

- **Mr. Hatem El-Hady** (Representative, Bahá'í International Community)
- **Senator Silvia-Monica Dinică** (Chairperson, Committee for Science, Innovation and Technology - Romania)
- **Dr. Alves Pinto** (Lecturer in Legal Studies and Diplomatic Studies, Director of Studies in Religion and Theology, University of Oxford – Finland/ Brazil)– *Youth representative*
- **Dr. Leo Igwe** (Board member, Humanists International, founder of the Humanist Association of Nigeria – Nigeria)
- **Rev. Elga Joan Sarapung** (Director, Institute for Interfaith Dialogue in Indonesia, Chair of the Asia Pacific Women of Faith Network - Indonesia)
- **Dr. Maryana Hynp**, (President, European Network on Religion and Belief – Belgium)

**Panel – Track 2 (Peace and inclusion): 17:00 – 18:30 (90 mins)**

*Different mandates, common goals: Religious actors and parliamentarians as allies for promoting gender equality and youth participation*

**Moderator: Ambassador Marie-Thérèse Pictet-Althann** (Permanent Mission to the United Nations, Order of Malta)

**Panelists:**

- **Ms. Khaddouj Slassi** (Member of Parliament – Morocco)
- **Mr. Ousmane Bougouma** (Speaker, Transitional Legislative Assembly – Burkina Faso)
- **Ms. Sabina Ćudić** (International Parliamentary Platform for Freedom of Religion and Belief – IPPFoRB and Member of Parliament – Bosnia-Herzegovina)
- **Mr. Martin Chungong** (Secretary General – IPU, Chairman of the Global Board - International Gender Champions)
- **Ms. Lyka Mtambo** (Youth Representative, Public Affairs Committee – Malawi)
- **Fr. Youkhana Emanuel** (Representative of World Council of Churches, Director, CAPNI - Iraq)

**Day 3: 15 June**

**Panel – Track 2 (Peace and inclusion): 09:00 – 11:00 (120 mins)**

*Promoting trust and mutual recognition: Contributions of religious actors and parliamentarians to counter hate speech, incitement to violence and digital challenges to democracy*

**Moderator: Ms. Nihal Saad** (Director, UNAOC)

**Panellists:**

- **Dr. Ali Al-Nuaimi** (Chairman, Manara Center for Regional Coexistence and Member of the Federal National Council – UAE)
- **Ms. Karen Bradley** (Member of Parliament – United Kingdom)
- **H.E. Emmanuel Adamakis** (Metropolitan Elder of Chalcedon – France/ Greece)
- **Imam Salahuddin Barakat** (Amanah Center – Sweden)
- **Rabbi Moshe David HaCohen** (Amanah Center – Sweden)
- **Ms. Desi Hanara** (Former IPPFoRB, Current ASEAN Secretariat – Indonesia) *Youth representative*

**Panel – Track 1 (The rule of law): 11:30 – 13:00 (90 mins)**

*Legislators and religious leaders as bridge builders: Promoting rights and fundamental freedoms for more just and cohesive societies*

**Moderator: Ms. Deepika Singh** (Associate Secretary General, Religions for Peace)

**Panellists:**

- **Mr. Abdulnabi Salman** (Deputy Speaker of Majlis Al-Nuwab – Bahrain)
- **Ms. Aisha Adams** (Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly – Malawi)
- **H.H. Couchoro Corneille Balogoun** (President, Yandou Indigenous Religions of Benin and Honorary President, Religions for Peace)
- **Ms. Bani Dugal** (Representative to the United Nations, Baha’I International Community)
- **Prof. Jorge Gonzalez** (UNESCO Chair on Intercultural Dialogue – Colombia)
- **Ms. Heela Yoon** (Founder & CEO, Afghan Youth Ambassador for Peace Organization, 2023 Young Leader for the SDGs, Office of the UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth – Afghanistan) *Youth representative*