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Recommendation
« For a permanent Platform for Ongoing Interreligious and Interconvictional Dialogue within the Council of Europe »

Adopted by the Conference of INGOs
at its General Assembly session of 15 October 2025

The Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations (CINGO),

- a) referring to Recommendation 1962 (2011) of the Parliamentary Assembly on the “Religious dimension of intercultural dialogue”,
- b) recalling Recommendation 1975 (2011) of the Parliamentary Assembly, “Living together in 21st-century Europe: follow-up to the report of the Group of Eminent Persons of the Council of Europe”,
- c) recalling Resolution 2076 (2015) of the Parliamentary Assembly, "Freedom of religion and living together in a democratic society",
- d) referring to Recommendation 2080 (2015) of the Parliamentary Assembly, “Freedom of religion and living together in a democratic society”, which recalls “the urgent need to step up the Council of Europe’s action so that it can better support member States’ efforts to combat the danger that fanaticism and religious extremism, but also xenophobia and rejection of anything different, represent to our democratic societies”,
- e) recalling the comprehensive work of the Congress of Regional and Local Authorities, “Organizing intercultural and interreligious activities: a toolkit for local authorities”,
- f) recalling also the work of the Conference of INGOs such as: “Human Rights & Religions (2015)”, "Educating for intercultural dialogue, living together in Europe (2017)",
- g) concerned about the risk of social fragmentation and weakening of social bonds in the face of the many threats (e.g. climate change, attacks on democracy, populism,

challenges to the rule of law and the place of international law, armed conflicts and hybrid wars),

- h) Aware that our humanity is interdependent and that religions and beliefs in their diversity bring positive action and a fundamental contribution to dialogue, and to maintaining and deepening societal bonds of harmony, goodwill and solidarity,
 - i) Convinced that the Council of Europe, through its commitment and action in favour of democracy, the rule of law and human rights, must act accordingly,
 - j) Recalling that Recommendation 2080 (2015) remains an important reference text, and that no follow-up has been given to point 5 of the Committee of Ministers' response "CM/AS (2016)Rec2080-Final" concerning the establishment of a platform for dialogue,
 - k) Considering that it is now more than ever in the fundamental interest of the Council of Europe to support the **creation of a permanent platform for interreligious and interconvictional dialogue**, in order to:
 - Strengthen relations between the Council of Europe and representatives of religious and belief communities as well as organizations representing non-religious worldviews and convictions";
 - Promote active engagement of civil society in preventing polarization, fanaticism and extremism;
 - Strengthen the resilience of European societies against prejudices and hate speech by promoting positive, inclusive dialogue based on equality.
1. **RECOMMENDS**, therefore, that the Parliamentary Assembly take up the invitation extended to it by the Committee of Ministers in response to its Recommendation 2080 (2015) and initiate work toward this goal;
 2. **EXPRESSES ITS READINESS** to actively cooperate with the Assembly and its committees to propose realistic and effective ways for establishing such a platform;
 3. **FURTHER RECOMMENDS** that the Committee of Ministers include this initiative among the strategic priorities of the Council of Europe, in line with the plan "Building a new democratic pact for Europe (2025)" presented by the Secretary General;
 4. **DECIDES** to raise this issue at the next 'Quadrilogue' between the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and the Conference itself;
 5. **REAFFIRMS**, through this recommendation, its commitment to the right of freedom of religion and belief (as stipulated in Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights), as well as to "Living together" in democratic, inclusive and peaceful societies;

6. **INVITES** its President to ensure dissemination of the present Recommendation to the other instances of the Council of Europe.