

FAITH AND FREEDOM SUMMIT

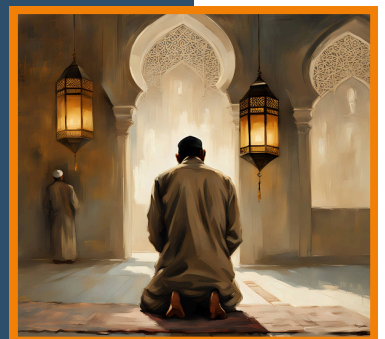
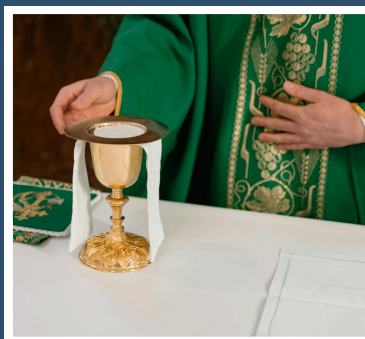
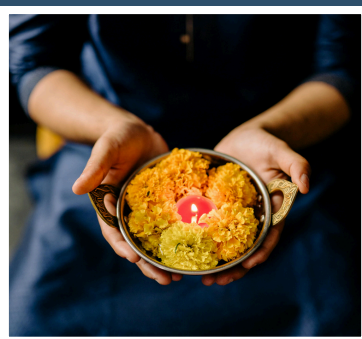


PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2024

“Practicing What We Preach”

www.faihandfreedomsummit.com



Purpose of the event

To bring together an international body of high-level scholars, human rights advocates, religious leaders and politicians to end discrimination and defend and support FoRB for everyone.



THE FAITH & FREEDOM SUMMIT NGO COALITION

The Faith and Freedom Summit is not an organization. It is a campaign directed by a vast coalition of faith-based and secular NGOs. Initially comprising EU stakeholders, it is now supported internationally.



STRATEGIC PARTNERS



BYU LAW



Freedom of Religion or Belief

Freedom of religion or belief is fundamental to every human being. It is universal, applying to all persons equally everywhere, regardless of who they are, where they live, their age, gender, race or ethnicity, and no matter what they believe or do not believe.



This right is intrinsic and essential to other fundamental rights, including freedom of expression and opinion, freedom of association, and the universal principles of non-discrimination and equality for all.

**FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF
IS NOT A PRIVILEGE PROVIDED BY
A GOVERNMENT—IT IS THE
INDIVIDUAL'S BIRTHRIGHT.**



It is the ultimate freedom, encompassing one's belief in God or the infinite or the purpose or ultimate sense of life. It includes the ability to make ethical decisions and judgments based on personal convictions, to live life in alignment with one's values and principles, and to express these inner beliefs. As such, it supports all other rights and responsibilities.

Freedom of religion or belief concerns everyone, and it must be protected and defended by all, without constraint or restriction, always.

AGENDA

TUESDAY

8:00 am - 10:00 am	Registration
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Summit Opening
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Panel: Mechanisms to promote and protect FoRB within nations and regions
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Panel: The role of academia in the defense of religious freedom
3:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Break
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Panel: Religions and interfaith work to protect the freedom of others - Part 1

09.24.24

WEDNESDAY

9:00 am - 10:30 am	Panel: Religions and interfaith work to protect the freedom of others - Part 2
10:30 am - 11:00 am	Break
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Panel: Importance of Civil Society participation on FoRB advocacy
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Panel: Media responsibility on the promotion and respect of FoRB
3:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Break
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Panel: Achieving FoRB for all through Diplomacy
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Summit Closing Session

09.25.24

OPENING CEREMONY



Dr. Elias Castillo

Executive Secretary
Latin American and Caribbean Parliament



Dr. Ruben Farje

Representative to Panama
Organization of American States



**His Excellency
Juan Francisco Borrell Cal**

Viceminister of Government
Republic of Panama

Biographies



MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Mrs. Giselle Lima

Co-Chair, International Religious
Freedom Roundtable in Panama



Panel

Mechanisms to promote and protect FoRB within nations and regions

Biographies



SPEAKERS



Mr. Fabricio Alvarado

Congressman, Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica

Dr. Carmen Dominguez

President

Latin American Consortium for Religious Freedom



Mr. Pedro Mena

Head of Religious Affairs, State of Mexico

Mrs. Maricarmen Plata

Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity
Organization of American States



Mrs. Lorena Rios

Senator, Congress of the Republic of Colombia



MODERATOR

Mrs. Maritza Cedeño

President, National Panamanian Bar Association

Panel

The role of academia in the defense of religious freedom

Biographies



SPEAKERS



Mrs. Amy Andrus

Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University



Dr. Andrea De Vita

Director of the Open Chair: Religious Freedom, Beliefs and Worship, Universidad del Salvador



Prof. Massimo Introvigne

President, Center for Studies on New Religions



Dr. Dennis Petri

Director, International Institute for Religious Freedom



Prof. Dr. Lautaro Roig Lanzillotta

Director, Red Global International Master University of Groningen



Prof. Dr. Marco Ventura

Professor, University of Sienna



MODERATOR

Prof. Alonso Illueca

Associate Professor, Santa Maria la Antigua Catholic University

Panel

Religions and interfaith work to protect the freedom of others – Part 1

Biographies



SPEAKERS



Mr. Jonathan Ammons

International Public Affairs Director
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Imam Beytullah Colak

Director of Institutional Outreach
Respect Graduate School



Dr. Ganoune Diop

Director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty
Worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church

Rev. Olivia McDuff

Public Affairs and Interreligious Officer
Church of Scientology International



Rev. Dr. Scott Stearman

Vice Chair, Parliament of World Religions



MODERATOR

Bhairavananda Saraswati Swami

President, Shiva Forum of Europe

Panel

Religions and interfaith work to protect the freedom of others – Part 2

Biographies



SPEAKERS



Dr. Massimo AbdAllah Cozzolino
President, EuroIslam



Father Manuel Corral
Private Secretary of Mexican Cardinal Carlos Aguiar
for Institutional Relations



Rabbi Yosef Garmon
President, Humanitarian Coalition of Israel



Mr. Felipe Gómez
Coordinator, COMPAS Central America



Bishop Tito Ysabel
President, Concilio de Iglesias de Dios Unidas
Dominican Republic



MODERATOR

Mr. Guillermo Smythe
Personal Public Relations Officer for L. Ron Hubbard

Panel

Importance of Civil Society participation on FoRB advocacy

Biographies



SPEAKERS



Dr. Cristian Badillo

Director General, Fundación Conciencia Nacional por la Libertad Religiosa



Mrs. Preeti Bansal

Global Council Chair, United Religions Initiative



Mr. Matthias Böhning

Secretary General
International Society for Human Rights



Mr. Gustavo Guillermé

President, World Congress of Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue



Mr. Simran Stuelpnagel

Global Affairs Director, Sikh Dharma



MODERATOR

Mrs. Karen Rodas

Communications Director for Central America
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Panel

Media responsibility on the promotion and respect of FoRB

Biographies



SPEAKERS



Prof. Rafael Candanedo
Philologist and Journalist
Panamanian Language Academy



Prof. Willy Fautre
Founder and Director, Human Rights Without Frontiers



Mr. Juan González Bedoya
Journalist, El País



Ms. Angela Redding
Executive Director, Radiant Foundation



Mr. Eric Roux
Co-Chair, FoRB Roundtable Brussels-EU



Prof. Dr. Christine Schirmacher
Professor of Islamic Studies, University of Bonn



MODERATOR

Prof. Francisco Blanco
Rector, Santa Maria la Antigua Catholic University

Panel

Achieving FoRB for all through Diplomacy

Biographies



SPEAKERS



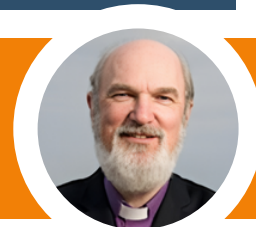
Mrs. Maureen Ferguson
Commissioner
US Commission on International Religious Freedom



Dr. Ján Figel'
Founder, European Institute of Innovation & Technology



Mr. Greg Mitchell
Founder and Chair
International Religious Freedom Secretariat



Dr. Thomas Schirmacher
Co-President, Religions for Peace



Mr. David Trimble
President, Religious Freedom Institute



MODERATOR

Mr. Ivan Arjona-Pelado
President, Scientology representative to the European
Union and the United Nations

Sign the Pledge!

The Summit launched a pledge that now calls for all Members of Parliaments to sign, that reads as following:

"I PLEDGE THAT I WILL UPHOLD AND DEFEND THE FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE AND RELIGION OF ALL INDIVIDUALS BY REJECTING AND SPEAKING OUT AGAINST BIGOTRY, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE; AND SO BUILD A MORE EQUITABLE SOCIETY FOR ALL."

Join the campaign

If you are an elected or appointed member of European Union institutions, the Latin American Parliament, Organization of American States, the United States Congress, or of any other national political body, please contact us to sign the pledge and become part of this nonpartisan initiative that is aimed at guaranteeing all citizens the freedom of religion or belief.

If you are an NGO and want to join the campaign and be part of the coalition, please contact us with all details.

If you are an individual wanting to support the campaign, please register below by signing the pledge. You will receive all news of the campaigns and be invited to all events we organize.

www.faithandfreedomsummit.eu/sign-the-pledge

