

International Conference on Building Bridges for Human Solidarity in Light of Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter Fratelli Tutti

August 19th – August 21st, 2021

Executive Summary

The conference took place from Thursday August 19 to Saturday, August 21, 2021. It was inspired by the Abu Dhabi Declaration on the Human Fraternity (2019) and the Encyclical Letter Fratelli Tutti (2020) of His Holiness Pope Francis.

This three-day global event was co-organised by six institutions that are involved in interreligious dialogue both at the academic and grassroots levels. It is the fruit of one-year long process and collaboration among these institutions,

- i. The Global Ministries University based in California,
- ii. State University Kalijaga Jogjakarta, Indonesia,
- iii. Harmony Institute based in Kenya,
- iv. The Institute for Interreligious Dialogue, and Islamic Studies (IRDIS) of Tangaza University College,
- v. Umma University,
- vi. In partnership with Agiamondo Civil Peace Service.

The conference is recognized by Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue led by His Eminence Miguel Cardinal Ayuso, the Muslim Council of Elders Chaired by His Eminence Grand Imam, Sheikh Ahmad Al-Tayyeb of the Al-Azhar University Egypt.

It was further supported by the Institut Catholique de la Mediteranee (ICM), Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Maryknoll Global Ministries, Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Kenya National Cohesion and Integration Commission.

The conference, was broadcast on YouTube with sixteen webinars, taking place across the world and comprising three main hubs covering Africa (IRDIS/Tangaza), Americas (GMU) and Asia (UIN) under the theme of “Building Bridges for Human Solidarity”. Various topics were discussed they include

- i. Islamophobia and Religious Intolerance
- ii. Paths to Interfaith Understanding Collaboration among Christians and Muslims
- iii. The Climate Crisis
- iv. Addressing Structures of Racism
- v. Contemporary Political Trends
- vi. Human Solidarity in the spirit of Fratelli Tutti
- vii. Confronting religious extremism, and violence
- viii. Role of the family in instilling open-mindedness and peace
- ix. Impact of the Coronavirus on Health, Inequality and Politics of the Global Community
- x. Environment as connecting element between Laudato Si' and Fratelli Tutti
- xi. Inclusivity of Minorities and Women
- xii. Maintaining Human Solidarity in The Post-Pandemic Era

In total over 3000 people followed across the globe. The opening of the conference was conducted by 21 high level officials these include religious leaders, academics, members of international organizations, and political leaders around the world, eighty-four presenters from over thirty different locations, thirteen religious leaders were present at the closing ceremony joined to the conference.

We would like to thank all the organizers of this International Conference, speakers, and dignitaries for their contributions to the success of this unique and global endeavor. A word of appreciation to all those following us on YouTube, interacting with us through the live chat and enriching the workshops with their questions and comments. Please share the message of Global Solidarity among your friends because we cannot be saved alone.

It is our intention to honor His Holiness Pope Francis and His Eminence Grand Imam Sheikh Ahmad Al-Tayyeb for leading us to the path of Human fraternity and Global solidarity.

As we are closing this conference we wish each and everyone of you, blessings from the All-Mighty God. And we hope to meet you in other conferences of the same nature.

Fr Maganya Halerimana Innocent
Chair of the Conference Committee
Nairobi/Kenya
August 21st, 2021