



Global Rules to Ban the Political Abuse of Religion

International Partnership to Address the Root Causes of Religious Conflicts

LONDON
The Churchill Room
House of Commons

26 March
2026



Global Rules to Ban the Political Abuse of Religion

International Partnership to eliminate the root causes of religious conflicts

The CONCEPT NOTE

This event is a call for a global partnership of visionary officials, lawmakers, religious leaders and prominent representatives of the international community to work together to affirm existing international norms with an effective legal framework to protect the sanctity of faith from political exploitation and to address the deeper causes of religious conflicts, division and instability.

The objective is to build a global consensus on clear, indisputable international standards to define and prohibit all political abuses of religion that violate human equality, without offending any religious group or threatening the social and political stability of any country.

This partnership seeks to move beyond traditional dialogue to take freedom of religion or belief from aspirational principles to practical protection. It is a springboard for sustained momentum to advance the legislative and diplomatic efforts required to deliver a durable and historic transformation.

This platform offers a unique opportunity to help shape preventive and solution-oriented global rules with lasting international impact. It aims to develop a universal legal framework to protect equality and to prohibit all forms of religious discrimination, exclusion and all restrictions on freedom of religion or belief.

These fundamental rules, enshrined as international law, would be the ultimate tool to protect all victims of religious oppression. They would advance all international humanitarian objectives by addressing the root causes of religious conflicts and discrimination, while protecting the integrity of religious traditions.

This partnership aims to encourage governments to support the introduction of these rules on the international stage. It is a collective effort to develop and promote a landmark United Nations treaty that would prohibit the political abuse of religion and strengthen the global legal toolkit to prevent such abuses.

Such a respectful and non-confrontational standard would empower governments entangled with religious discrimination to join the global consensus on justice and equality for all. Subsequently, it would enhance stability, strengthen social cohesion, improve governance and pave the way for sustainable development.

This campaign is already well underway, with proposed parliamentary resolutions, including a significant supporting motion for a resolution at the Council of Europe. It has active engagement with several governments, growing support in over 80 countries and strong partnerships with international organisations.

All participants are cordially invited to work together to exchange ideas on how to encourage governments to support this global effort to make the world more fair and more peaceful.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

12:30 PM

Registration

The Conference Moderator: Canon Dr Sarah Snyder, Founder of Rose Castle Foundation.

1:00 PM

Opening Session: Official Keynote Speakers

Jim Shannon MP, Chair of the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group for International FoRB, UK

Amina Bouayach: President of the National Human Rights Council, Morocco

Naguib Sawiris, Philanthropist, Global Investor, Patron of BPUR, Egypt

Dr Stephen Schneck, Commissioner, the US Commission on International Religious Freedom, USA

Sir Dr Liam Fox, Chair of Abraham Accords Prosperity Group, Former Defence Minister, UK

2:00 PM

Panel One: Why We Need An International Treaty to Ban The Political Abuse of Religion, Open Conversation and Q&A

Dr Shereen Fuad Masum (Moderator), Diplomat and Political advisor, Kurdistan Iraq, UK

Lord Krish Raval OBE, Founder and Director of Faith in Leadership, UK

Archbishop Angaelos, Papal Legate to the UK and Founder and Director of Refcemi, UK-Egypt

Rabbi Alexander Goldberg Senior Rabbi of Guildford & Surrey, Faith Coordinator, City of London

Edmund Otudeko MNI, Policymaker, Executive Director of the NILDS, Nigeria

Mirza Dinnayi, Aurora Prize Laureate, Yazidi Genocide Expert, Germany

Commentators:

Ghaleb Darabya, Prominent scholar on Leadership and Public Policy, Palestine

Dr Hamid Alkifaey, Writer, Journalist, Activist and Commentator, Iraq-UK

2:45 PM

Refreshment Break, 30 minutes

CONFERENCE AGENDA

3:15 PM

● Panel Two: Freedom of Religion or Belief: From Principal to Practical Protection, Open Conversation

Alisa Lockwood (Moderator), Chair of the Global Diplomatic Forum, UK
Archbishop Malkhaz Songulashvili, Metropolitan Bishop of Tbilisi, Georgia
Rabbi Dr Jonathan Romain MBE, Chair of the Rabbinical Court, Movement for Reform Judaism, UK

Martha Bissmann, Former Lawmaker & Ambassador of BPUR, Austria
Dr Arben Ramkaj, Chairman at Interreligious Collaboration Center, Albania
Paul Salahuddin Armstrong, Managing Director, Association of British Muslims, UK

Commentators:

Revd Dr Nadim Nassar, Founder and Executive Director of Awareness Foundation, Syria

Dr Munqith Dagher, Political advisor, MENA Director in Gallup International,
Dr Taras Dzyubanskyy, Acton Institute/Collins Center for Abrahamic Heritage, the Vatican

4:00 PM

● Stakeholders Comments and the Final Statement

Struan Stevenson, Prominent Politician, Board Member of BPUR, UK.
Edwin Shuker, International Businessman. Philanthropist, Peace Activist, UK
Mathilda Milik, Entrepreneur, Co-founder & CEO at OCTARR, UK
Salam Sarhan, Founder of BPUR International, UK

5:00 PM

● Commentators: Our Commitment Tomorrow

Laura Roberts, Board Member of the UK Abraham Accords Group, UK
Dr Brian J Grim, President of Religious Freedom & Business Foundation
Jeroen van der Horst, Philanthropist, technology entrepreneur, Netherlands
Filip Perkon, Angel Investor, Philanthropist, Founder Bamboo Venture Partners
Lara Buchanan, Director of Pedagogy, Rose Castle Foundation, UK
Melissa Dewar, Philanthropist, Entrepreneur, Investor, TEDx Speaker, UK
Sonal Kadchha, Philanthropist, Charity Founder, Prominent Therapist Banker
Gabriella Maxwell, Operations Manager, BPUR International, UK
Sci Sarhan Artist and IT manager at BPUR International UK

6:00 PM

● Networking Reception and Canapés

CONFERENCE HOSTS



Canon Dr Sarah Snyder

Founder of Rose Castle Foundation, UK



Jim Shannon MP

Chair of the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group for FoRB, UK



Salam Sarhan

Founder & Secretary General of BPUR International, UK

SPEAKERS



Amina Bouayach

President of the National Human Rights Council, Morocco



Naguib Sawiris

Philanthropist, Global Investor, Patron of BPUR, Egypt



Stephen Schneck

Commissioner, the US Commission on International Religious Freedom



Sir Liam Fox

Chair of Abraham Accords Prosperity Group, Former Defence Minister, UK



Dr Shereen Fuad Masum

Diplomat and Political advisor, Kurdistan Iraq, UK



Lord Krish Raval OBE

Founder and Director of Faith in Leadership, UK

SPEAKERS



Archbishop Angaelos

Papal Legate to the UK and
Founder and Director of
Refcemi, UK-Egypt



**Rabbi Alexander
Goldberg**

Senior Rabbi of Guildford &
Surrey, Faith Coordinator,
City of London



Edmund Otudeko MNI

Policymaker and Executive
Director of the NILDS,
Nigeria



Mirza Dinnayi

Aurora Prize Laureate,
Yazidi Genocide Expert,
Germany



Alisa Lockwood

Chair of the Global
Diplomatic Forum, UK



**Archbishop Malkhaz
Songulashvili**

Metropolitan Bishop of
Tbilisi, Georgia



**Rabbi Dr Jonathan
Romain MBE**

Chair of the Rabbinical
Court, Movement for
Reform Judaism, UK



Martha Bissmann

Former Lawmaker &
Ambassador of BPUR,
Austria



Dr Arben Ramkaj

Chairman at
Interreligious
Collaboration Center,
Albania

SPEAKERS



**Paul Salahuddin
Armstrong**

Managing Director, Association
of British Muslims, UK



Struan Stevenson

Prominent Politician, Board
Member of BPUR, UK



Edwin Shuker

International Businessman,
Philanthropist and Peace
Activist, UK



Mathilda Milik

Entrepreneur, Co-founder &
CEO at OCTARR, UK



Revd Dr Nadim Nassar

Founder and Executive
Director of Awareness
Foundation, Syria



Dr Brian J Grim

Founding President of
Religious Freedom &
Business Foundation, USA



Ghaleb Darabya

Prominent scholar on
Leadership and Public
Policy, Palestine



Dr Hamid Alkifaey

Former Spokesperson of
the Iraqi government,
Writer/Journalist UK



Dr Munqith Dagher

Political advisor & MENA
Director in Gallup
International, USA

SPEAKERS



Dr Taras Dzyubanskyy

Director of Institute of Religion & Society, the Vatican



Laura Roberts

Board Member of the UK Abraham Accords Group, UK



Melissa Dewar

Philanthropist, Entrepreneur, Investor, TEDx Speaker, UK



Filip Perkon,

Philanthropist, Angel Investor, Founder at Bamboo Venture Partners,



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Gabriella Maxwell,

Operations Manager, BPUR International UK



Lara Buchanan,

Director of Pedagogy, Rose Castle Foundation, UK

DISTINGUISHED PARTICIPANTS

H.E Hakim Hajoui, Ambassador of Morocco to the UK, Morocco

Monsignor Ante Vidović, Deputy of the Apostolic Nunciature in London, the Vatican

Revd Dr Richard Harries, Member of the House of Lords, UK

Dr Charles Reed, Policy Adviser on Foreign Affairs, Church of England

Marwan Francis, Deputy Head of Mission of Lebanon Embassy to the UK

Denis Keefe CMG, Former British Ambassador, UK

Professor Jolyon Mitchell, Principal of St John's College, UK

Ala Al Louzi, Deputy Head of Mission Embassy of Jordan in London, Jordan

Talal Alabsi, Counsellor at the Embassy of Bahrain to the UK, Bahrain

Nikita Artamonov, Political and Legal Affairs, Embassy of Switzerland

Robin Marsh, Secretary General Universal Peace Federation - UK

Rick Sopher, Philanthropist, CEO of Edmond de Rothschild Capital Holdings Limited, UK

Shahad Suwaed, Assistant Manager BPUR International, UK

Othman Al Omeir, prominent Publisher, Writer and Editor in Chief, Saudi Arabia

Imtiaz Hussain, Investor, CEO at UK-GCC Private Capital Alliance, UAE

Fath El Habti, Head of International NGO, National Human Rights Council, Morocco

Abdelghani Berdi, Director of Communication, National Human Rights Council, Morocco

Freddie Russell, Executive Director at UK Abraham Accords Group, UK

Dr. Raphael Ogar Oko, Former Secretary General, Universal Peace Federation, Nigeria

Muhammad Antabli, Founder and director of Palmyra Relief, Syria

Ali Jabbar, Globally renowned artist, senior advisor to BPUR, Denmark

Diar Umary, Journalist, Senior Reporter, Dubai TV, UK

Ciarán Wadd, head of campaigns, Rose Castle Foundation, UK

Wael Aleji, UK Director of Syrian Christians for Peace, Syria - UK

Lew Cramer - Church of Latter-Day Saints

Barbara Cramer - Church of Latter-Day Saints

Aubree Christensen - Brigham Young University

Jared Kerr - Church of Latter-Day Saints

Amanda Gash - Church of Latter-Day Saints

Padideh Sabeti - National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the UK

Daniel Jordan - National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the UK

Dr Caroline Hull - Aid to the Church in Need UK

Elliott Banks - Aid to the Church in Need UK

Johnny Heald, CEO (UK) of ORB international, UK

Dr Sunday Aladesanmi, Entrepreneur and Philanthropist, UK

Christian Jimenez, Assistant Manager BPUR International, UK



**BPUR
International**



**The UK All-Party
Parliamentary Group for
International Freedom of
Religion or Belief**