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Association internationale  
POUR LA DÉFENSE DE LA LIBERTÉ RELIGIEUSE  
International Association  
FOR THE DEFENSE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

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Schosshaldenstrasse 17, CH-3006 Berne, SWITZERLAND

[www.aidlr.org](http://www.aidlr.org)

Phone +41 (0)31 359 15 31

Fax +41 (0)31 359 15 66

E-mail: [liviu.olteanu@aidlr.org](mailto:liviu.olteanu@aidlr.org)

SECRETARY GENERAL: Dr. LIVIU OLTEANU

**« THREE PROPOSALS ADDRESSED TO THE OSCE' MEMBERS STATES AS CONTRIBUTION  
FOR SECURITY AND PEACE ON COMBATting ANTI-SEMITISM, INTOLERANCE AND  
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CHRISTIANS, MUSLIMS AND MEMBERS OF OTHER  
RELIGIONS »**

Keynote Address and Written Statement introduced by Dr. Liviu Olteanu, Secretary General of the AIDLR  
at the OSCE ODIHR - OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting, on

**Freedom of Religion or Belief: Issues, Opportunities and the Specific Challenges of Combating Anti-  
Semitism and Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians, Muslims and members of other  
Religions**

22-23 June 2017, Hofburg, Vienna

Mr. Michael Georg Link, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights  
(OSCE/ODIHR)

H.E. Ambassador Clement Koja, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative  
of Austria to the OSCE

Ms. Katarzyna Gardapkhadze, First Deputy Director OSCE/ODIHR

Mr. Omer Fisher, Head, Human Rights Department, OSCE/ODIHR

Dr. Kishan Manocha, Senior Adviser on Freedom of Religion or Belief, OSCE/ODIHR

Your Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Colleagues,

I'm Dr. Liviu Olteanu and I talk on behalf of the International Association for the Defense of Religious  
Liberty (AIDLR) from Switzerland. **The organization I have the honor to represent defends** (since 1946  
when it has been created in Paris by Dr. Jean Nussbaum, with the assistance and strong support of Madame  
Eleanor Roosevelt) **not a religion, but the PRINCIPLE of religious freedom liberty and conscience for**

**all people.** (Note references on my organization included in the list of civil society participants to this OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting, at number 31, and for more information see our website: [www.aidlr.org](http://www.aidlr.org); [liviu.olteanu@aidlr.org](mailto:liviu.olteanu@aidlr.org))

As Ambassador Peaucelle said, and I quote : “we have to allow other to criticize your religion” end quote, but I would add that it should be possible when all actors defend - first of all- not their own religion or belief, but when they defend the principle of freedom of religion or belief for all people and, all people have the right to have a religion or to give up to their religion, without fear or any risk.

I express my **thanks to OSCE Director, to Austria Chairmanship** and to **Dr. Kishan Manocha**, Senior Adviser on Freedom of Religion or Belief of OSCE for his kind invitation and useful work he is doing on behalf of the OSCE for freedom of religion or belief.

Many thanks to all panelists for their keynotes and all inputs. Also I would like congratulate here at the OSCE in Vienna the EU mission and Spain Government - Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice- for constructive trajectory in behalf of FoRB, for constant support, legislation adopted and, thanks too to those member states from OSCE region for good practices in favor of freedom of religion and religious minorities.

Excellences, ladies and gentlemen,

**Normality has become unpopular or considered *suspect* in many areas regarding the treatment of people based on thought, conscience or religion.** Those actors that do not take religion, freedom of religion or belief, and religious minorities into account for their analysis of contemporary issues, assume great danger.

Freedom of religion or belief, despite its long history, is now under the threat of special challenges in context of violence and terrorism in the name of religion. We need peace! We need security! And also we need respect for dignity of every human being. We need to defend and protect the diversity on freedom of religion for “Christians, Muslims and Members of other religions”.

Today on human rights and freedom of religion, not only the daily reality but the system itself of international relations, government policies, must be interpreted and/or adapted to the specific challenges of combating anti-Semitism, intolerance and discrimination against Christians, Muslims and members of other religions and religious communities.

International law consists of a set of written or unwritten rules that are meant to regulate the conduct of states in relationships involved. Fundamental freedoms and respect for the human beings serves as a reference for judging States, societies and religions, and constitutes an unprecedented factor in relations between States, and that influences the reaction of public opinion worldwide. The ultimate foundation of all laws, natural or positive, is the human personality, personal condition of man. 'Justice' is to give to each person his own, or give everyone the ‘right’ to choose the direction on freedom of religious freedom, to adopt, change, have or no religion at all.

Mr. Alexander Klyushev, one of the introducers of the first session, and later continued by many other participants, all of them gave us examples of people that are discriminated, persecuting, detained or condemned due to religious affiliation, or because anti-extremist /terrorist legislation that should be or even is used by some governments as *pretext* or *political abuse* against religious people and religious minorities; thanks also to all participants at this OSCE Meeting for vigilance on the issues of freedom of religion : I believe all data received must be evaluated and treated consequently ; also the States-members always have to look to the benefit or reparation of those affected.

**But what must be done when in the 21st Century States or non-States actors practice harassment, intolerance, discrimination and persecution or that affect strongly members of religion and religious minorities?**

### **Three proposals:**

**1. Collecting data and follow-up by a troika.** The OSCE to create a special committee which have: to identify all specific challenges and data information received at the “OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting”, from States or non-states actors, on discrimination, intolerance, persecution, torture, kidnapping, missing the life, and genocide, due to religious’ belonging, practice or sharing the beliefs and values with others, and to follow-up by a troika (States members/ including civil society experts on this field) all concerned issues on freedom of religion or belief that have been reclaimed to the OSCE. Consequently, to inform the States members and civil society representatives at the OSCE on the results and offering proposals after identified the States members that didn’t respect FoRB.

**2. A continue and consolidated Education/ training program on « Security, Diversity and FoRB ».** The OSCE is invited to create a special program on education and training on diversity, security and freedom of religion and belief with the support of the international experts on this field. This program must starts by training the trainers (state actors, politicians, religious leaders, civil society, and so on), for prevention on combating anti-Semitism, intolerance and discrimination against Christians, Muslims and members of other religious or minorities.

**3. To join the Dialogue Five framework.** The International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty (AIDLR) invites all the OSCE Member States, and national, regional and international actors, to be part of and join the «International Platform ‘DIALOGUE FIVE’ » that works on « Religion, Peace and Security framework». Information on it at : [www.aidlr.org](http://www.aidlr.org)

Short description of this framework. The « Dialogue Five » have been created and launched on 2014 at the University Complutense Madrid by his author Dr. Liviu Olteanu, and consolidated at the United Nations in Geneva, in 23-25 November 2016 at the Global Summit on Religion, Peace and Security, coorganized by the AIDLR - Dr. Liviu Olteanu- and the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention - H.E. Mr Adama Dieng-, and cosponsored kindly by the European Union and Spain, and supported by other coolaborators as World Council of Churches, Pro Vivere Dignum, Adra and others. « Dialogue Five » framework include : 1. Diplomats, 2. Politicians, 3. Religious Leaders, 4. Academia, 5. Civil Society (NGOs, media, others) working, cooperating and COORDINATION all stakeholders.

**I conclude saying: Those that do not take into account on their analysis of contemporary issues the Religion, Peace and Security framework, assume great danger for peace, democracy and security.**

I thank you.