



Permanent Mission of Italy
OSCE

Diritto di replica dell'Italia

HDIM 2019, Sessione di lavoro 12: Tolleranza e non discriminazione

I would like to exercise the right of reply for highlighting that the Italian Constitution guarantees all fundamental and inalienable rights of the human person, of which the freedom of religion and worship is great part. All individuals, in Italy, can profess their religion (or no religion at all) without suffering any discrimination in the enjoyment of their civil and political rights.

All religious Denominations benefit of “equal liberty” of expression, freedom of assembly, freedom of organization, freedom of worship.

In particular, the Italian Constitution provides specific articles on religious matters: Article 3 states the principle of non-discrimination based on religious grounds; Article 8 restates that all religious Denominations are equally free before the law and the non catholic ones can organize themselves freely and their relations with the State are based on bilateral agreement called “Intesa”; Article 19 affirms that everyone is entitled to freely profess his/her religious belief, both individually and collectively, to promote it, and also to celebrate religious rites in public or in private, unless they are not offensive to the public morality; lastly, Article 20 forbids any special legal limitation or special fiscal burdens at the expenses of religious associations and institutions with confessional aims.

The remarks of the President of association “COREIS” expressed in the course of this session, including those on the legal recognition of COREIS as a faith entity in Italy and on some legislative initiatives by two Italian regional administrations, were noted and will be of course shared with the relevant authorities in Italy.

Thank you.