



2019_04_10_World's Largest Political Network Embraces Humanitarian Islam

Centrist Democrat International Adopts PKB Resolution, Signaling a Profound Shift in Global Discourse Regarding Extremism and Terror

BRUSSELS, Belgium: On April 10, 2019, the Executive Committee of Centrist Democrat International (CDI)—the world’s most extensive political network, with over 100 affiliated parties in more than 70 nations—unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing the “universal principles and aspirations” of the global Humanitarian Islam movement, and calling for the “widespread dissemination and study” of its foundational texts.

A “Resolution on acknowledging that universal human fraternity is essential to the emergence of a global civilization founded upon respect for the equal rights and dignity of every human being,” was drafted and presented to the Committee by the National Awakening Party (PKB), Indonesia’s largest Islamic political party. The resolution commends Nahdlatul Ulama—the world’s largest Muslim organization—for its “groundbreaking” role in having “first articulated the concept of universal human fraternity as a *shari’ah* basis for legal equality between Muslims and non-Muslims” at its National Congress held in Situbondo, East Java, in 1984.

CDI announced its “unanimous recognition of PKB’s leadership on this sensitive issue,” and voiced its “maximum support for the PKB [i.e., Humanitarian Islam] project,” which seeks to reform obsolete and problematic tenets of Islamic orthodoxy that enjoin religious hatred, supremacy and violence, by restoring *rahmah* (universal love and compassion) to its rightful place as the primary message of Islam. The following day, Nahdlatul Ulama hosted a press conference at its headquarters in Jakarta, where Kyai Haji Said Aqil Siradj, General Chairman of the Nahdlatul Ulama Executive Board; H. Muhaimin Iskandar, Chairman of PKB; and Kyai Haji Yahya Cholil Staquf, General Secretary of the Nahdlatul Ulama, Senior Advisor to Indonesian President Joko Widodo and PKB’s Emissary to CDI, all hailed the move as marking a profound shift in global discourse regarding Islamist extremism and terror.

Before CDI adopted the resolution, a [video address](#) was played to the Executive Committee, in which Mr. Staquf explained that “this resolution will assist all of us... end the weaponization of identity that lies at the heart of the current global crisis. Human fraternity is key to reaching across racial, religious, cultural and political lines to achieve the unity of purpose required if we are to stop the cycle of violence and consolidate democracy around the world.”

Humanitarian Islam’s foundational texts include: the [International Summit of Moderate Islamic Leaders \(ISOMIL\) Nahdlatul Ulama Declaration](#) (2016); the [First Global Unity Forum Declaration](#) (2016); the [Gerakan Pemuda Ansor Declaration on Humanitarian Islam](#) (2017); the [Nusantara Statement](#) and [Nusantara Manifesto](#) (2018), in addition to the [Document on Human Fraternity](#) (2019).

Signed by Pope Francis and Grand Shaykh Ahmed al-Tayyeb of al-Azhar, and ratified at the 2019 National Conference of Nahdlatul Ulama Religious Scholars, the *Document* is

Bayt ar-Rahmah li ad-Da‘wa al-Islamiyah Rahmatan li al-‘Alamin
info@baytarrahmah.org • www.baytarrahmah.org

consistent with, and articulates, key elements of the concept of fraternity that the Nahdlatul Ulama has embraced and strived to implement for over 35 years.

The CDI resolution concludes with the statement: “We believe that the widespread dissemination and study of these documents will serve to reduce all forms of ethnic and religious prejudice, discrimination, hatred and violence and thus foster the emergence of a global civilization founded upon respect for the equal rights and dignity of every human being.”