



The G20 Religion Forum (R20) Issues its Final Communiqué

“I permit myself to entertain the thought that [the R20] meeting in Bali might have a larger effect on world stability and prosperity than any decision reached by world leaders at the G20 Summit.”

~ Harvard Professor Mary Ann Glendon

BALI, Indonesia, 3 November 2022 — Following two days of intense and substantive discussion among over 400 religious leaders and scholars gathered from around the world and across its major faith traditions, the first annual G20 Religion Forum, or R20, issued its final communiqué.

The full text of the document, which outlines the *raison d'être*, aims, and future direction of the R20, may be read below:

R20 Bali Communiqué

Final Communiqué of the G20 Religion Forum (R20): Striving to Ensure that Religion Functions as a Source of Global Solutions

1. We, religious leaders from G20 Member States and elsewhere throughout the world, are deeply concerned by global challenges such as environmental degradation, natural and man-made disasters, poverty, unemployment, displaced persons, extremism, and terrorism. Effectively responding to these challenges has been rendered more difficult by rivalry between and among major powers and the resurgence of identity-based conflict worldwide, which threatens both domestic and international peace and security, as well as by the erosion of public commitment to ethical and spiritual values that are essential to the wellbeing of individuals and societies.
2. In response to these challenges, we have gathered in Bali, Indonesia, for the first G20 Religion Forum (R20) on 2 – 3 November, 2022, co-chaired by Kyai Haji Yahya Cholil Staqf and H.E. Shaykh Mohammad bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa.
3. The R20 seeks to promote mutual understanding, a culture of peace, and harmonious co-existence among the world’s diverse peoples, religions, and nations. In pursuit of this objective, the R20 is mobilizing religious, social, economic, and political leaders from throughout the world to ensure that religion functions as a genuine and dynamic source of solutions, rather than problems.

4. The R20 welcomes and appreciates constructive endeavors to achieve the aforementioned goals, including but not limited to:
 - a. *The establishment, in June 2021, of the “Center for Shared Civilizational Values” by Nahdlatul Ulama spiritual leaders, including the Founding Chairman of the R20 and General Chairman of the Nahdlatul Ulama Central Board, Kyai Haji Yahya Cholil Staquf; and*
 - b. *The “Forum for Building Bridges Between East and West” and the 2019 “Makkah Charter,” initiatives established by the Muslim World League under the leadership of H.E. Shaykh Mohammad bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa, Secretary General of the Muslim World League, in order to foster mutual understanding, peaceful co-existence, and harmony among the world’s diverse peoples, cultures, and nations.*
5. Therefore, the R20 calls upon religious and political leaders and people of goodwill of every faith and nation to join in building a global alliance founded upon shared civilizational values.
6. The R20, through this global alliance, seeks to:
 - I. develop and implement concrete initiatives that will build bridges between nations and civilizations;
 - II. encourage honest and realistic conversation within and between religious communities, in order to ensure that religion functions as a genuine and dynamic source of solutions, rather than problems;
 - III. infuse the world’s social, political, and economic power structures with moral and spiritual values;
 - IV. prevent the political weaponization of identity;
 - V. curtail the spread of communal hatred;
 - VI. promote solidarity and respect among the diverse peoples, cultures, and nations of the world;
 - VII. safeguard human beings from violence and suffering precipitated by conflict;
 - VIII. call upon the world to actively assist those who are suffering the consequences of such violence;
 - IX. harness the wisdom of spiritual ecology embedded within the world’s religious traditions to ensure respect for, and preservation of, the natural environment, including the elements of earth, air, and water;
 - X. foster the emergence of a truly just and harmonious world order, founded upon respect for the equal rights and dignity of every human being; and

XI. secure recognition of the R20 as an official G20 Engagement Group.

7. Having launched the R20 under the 2022 Indonesian Presidency of the G20, we look forward to India's Presidency of the G20 in 2023.

Bali, Indonesia, 3 November 2022