EVENTS PROGRAM

MINISTERIAL TO ADVANCE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
JULY 15-19, 2019

“All men shall be free to profess and by argument to maintain their opinions in matters of religion.”
- Thomas Jefferson, America’s first Secretary of State
This Events Program was produced independently by the

INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ROUNDTABLE

To subscribe to the list serve or for more information go to www.irfroundtable.org

Follow @IrfRoundtable on Twitter for a complete schedule of which organizations are live tweeting each event and for updates and information about the Ministerial.

Not produced at government expense.
All side events are independently presented by their organizational sponsors and are not endorsed or authorized by the State Department or U.S. Government. The International Religious Freedom Roundtable is a participant led coalition and does not endorse information or opinions expressed at side events.
Dear Participants of the 2019 Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom,

The International Religious Freedom (IRF) Roundtable is excited to welcome you to the largest IRF event in history! It is an unprecedented opportunity to meet and network with others, increase mutual understanding and respect, and develop long-term relationships that can collaboratively advance religious freedom. We hope you will engage in many ways and at many events while you are in Washington, D.C.

As an informal group of individuals from non-governmental organizations who gather regularly to discuss IRF issues, our hope is that this entire week provides encouraging and collaborative conversations centered around engaging in the pursuit of religious freedom for every human being. Whether you are participating in the formal meetings at the State Department, the live stream at the Second Stage, the 81 Side Events, or all of the above, we are grateful for your participation at this historic gathering.

The events found in this Event Program are independently produced. Each event’s features and requirements vary. Please note that some events are open to the public, some require an RSVP, and others are invitation only. This Events Program is designed to assist you in locating, learning about and choosing events you would like to attend. It features:

- A convenient Table of Contents where you can click on a title and be taken directly to that event’s full information.
- A “back-to-top” link at the bottom of every page to take you to the top of the Program.
- A map-of-the-day link on each page that makes it is easy to discover where you are in relation to where the events are that you would like to attend.
- The necessary RSVP information is linked under each event in this program.
- Events marked by the Second Stage Event badge are important concurrent programing during official events, as well as overflow space with a live stream of official events on Tuesday and Wednesday.

We hope this guide to the 2019 Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom will be help you engage in discussions, develop relationships, and work towards the advancement of peace and prosperity through the fundamental right of freedom of belief, conscience, and religion.
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What is the IRF Roundtable?

The International Religious Freedom (IRF) Roundtable in Washington, D.C., is a proven platform for bringing people together—despite deep political and theological differences—and building mutual understanding, respect, trust and reliance among citizens, groups and governments. Since its first meeting in January of 2010, it has emerged as a multi-confessional, inclusive, equal citizenship and governance model.

As an outgrowth of the first-ever Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom last year, the IRF Roundtable model is being replicated around the world. A global network of multi-faith Roundtables that intentionally interfaces across countries and continents could support societies that are more civil, states that are more stable, and thus countries that are stronger. These civil society-led Roundtables are manifestations of “bottom-up” civil society engaging the “top-down” of governments, through which strategic partnerships and consultative relationships between governments and civil society organizations might advance peace and prosperity.

The IRF Roundtable has been called by a leader of one of the new Roundtables a “technology for peace.” Participants plan to coordinate multi-faith civil society and government actions to strengthen cultures; discredit and undermine radical ideologies and violent extremism; increase stability and security; secure individual rights; and enable economic development, growth and prosperity.

The Strategic Opportunity: Since the Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom last year, Ambassador Sam Brownback and his IRF team have been working with other governments, the IRF Roundtable and other civil society partners to build a global alliance that consists of networks of like-minded governments, parliamentarians, and civil society organizations and faith communities.

The Strategy: The goal is to get more players in this game and on the field, supercharge IRF efforts and more effectively impact public policy to advance religious freedom. The Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom serves as the annual in-person gathering of the global alliance. In between, like-minded governments organize and host follow-on regional religious freedom conferences; and civil society and faith community leaders establish multi-faith roundtables that work among themselves and with their respective governments, holding regular meetings on all continents.

Building the IRF Roundtable Global Network: Roundtables have already been created in Nigeria, Taiwan, Sudan, South Korea, Belgium, Colombia, Ukraine, and Italy. We expect more to launch soon in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, the United Kingdom, France, Hungary, Mongolia, Indonesia, Mexico and Romania. And more are now being discussed in the Dominican Republic, Bulgaria, Uzbekistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Lebanon, Tunisia, Argentina, Peru, Guatemala, Brazil, and Greece.

Coordinating Global Actions: As an outgrowth of this 2019 Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom, we will focus on coordinating actions across all three global networks of the alliance, which will become the foundation for the long-term impact we all seek.
FORMAL MEETINGS OF
THE MINISTERIAL TO ADVANCE
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

MON | MAP

July 15th, 2019

VIP Opening Event with Survivors

Invitation Only

Location: Holocaust Museum

Preview: The 2nd State Department Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom will commence with this evening of speakers. Attendees will have the chance to hear from survivors of religious persecution.

TUES | MAP

July 16th, 2019

Formal Meetings Day 1 – Civil Society

Invitation Only (Will also be live streamed for the public at the Second Stage)

Time: 7:00 am Guest Arrivals,

9:00 am – 5:15 pm Sessions

Location: State Department

Preview: During the first day, government and civil society representatives will participate in several main sessions including: Building Blocks for Advancing Religious Freedom; Emerging Trends in Religious Freedom; and Religious Freedom in Development and Humanitarian Assistance.
Formal Meetings Day 2 – Civil Society and Government

Invitation Only

Time: 7:30 am Guest Arrivals
9:00 am-5:15 pm Sessions

Location: State Department

Preview: Government and civil society representatives will explore regional and global trends in international religious freedom through one of the following three tracks that expand on the topics explored. Participants must choose only one track for the day.

Track 1: Building Blocks for Advancing Religious Freedom (Track 1 will be live streamed for the public at the Second Stage)

This track will explore the foundation elements that ensure Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB). Breakout session topics will include subjects such as challenges facing religious minorities, best practices in religious freedom advocacy, governments’ role in advancing FoRB, and combatting anti-Semitism.

Track 2: Emerging Trends in Religious Freedom

This track will explore emerging trends that help foster the growth of FoRB. Breakout session topics will include subjects such as atrocity prevention, interfaith tolerance education to combat extremism, religious freedom and national security, religious freedom and economic prosperity, religious freedom and technology, media/reporting on religious freedom issues, and women’s rights and FoRB.

Track 3: Religious Freedom in Development and Humanitarian Assistance

This track will be led by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Breakout topics are in development but will explore the intersection of how religious communities, faith leaders, and faith-based organizations and the development community.

VIP Reception

Invitation Only

Time: Evening

Location: State Department

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Formal Meetings Day 3 – Government

Invitation Only

Time: 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Location: State Department

Preview: Foreign delegations will gather to discuss how governments can partner together and engage on international religious freedom issues. Due to the anticipated increase in participating delegations, civil society participation will be limited and by invitation only.

Closing Reception

Invitation Only (Open for all with official ministerial passes)

Time: 7:00-11:00 pm

Location: National Museum of African American History Culture, 1400 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20560
SIDE EVENTS ON THE MARGINS OF
THE MINISTERIAL TO ADVANCE
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

FoRB Civil Society and Embassy Meet and Greet

Invitation Only
Time: 8:00 – 9:30 am

Organization(s): British Embassy & 21Wilberforce

Preview: The British Embassy and 21Wilberforce are partnering for this exclusive side event to the Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom. This event is a unique opportunity for staff from embassies and NGOs to form connections while working on the vital area of international religious freedom. Light breakfast will be served.

Discussion Rule: Off the Record

Welcome Breakfast with Ambassador Brownback

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 8:00 – 10:00 am

Organization(s): Faith and Liberty

Location: The Honorable William J. Ostrowski House, 109 2nd St NE, Washington, DC

Preview: Welcome Breakfast w/AMBASSADOR BROWNBACK & members of Congress. The event will serve as a WELCOME to the Summit to Advance Religious Freedom. Speakers at the event will highlight the crucial importance of promoting, protecting & preserving religious freedom-our first freedom & a core American value

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Speaker: Ambassador Sam Brownback, Members of Congress

RSVP/INFO: rsvpFAITH@yahoo.com
Silicon Valley and China: The Rise of Religious Oppression Through Technology

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization(s): Coalition to Advance Religious Freedom in China

Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building 106, 50 Constitution Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002

Preview: The increasing use of technology as a tool for oppression in China, specifically in the suppression of religious people groups, urgently calls for proactive steps from American tech companies in ensuring they are not accomplices in the Chinese Communist Party’s war on religion.

Discussion Rule: On the Record


Religious Freedom in Myanmar, Indonesia and Malaysia: Challenges and Opportunities

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization(s): Boat People SOS, Freedom House, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Stefanus Alliance International, ADF International

Location: Freedom House, 1850 M Street NW, Suite 1100 Washington, D.C.

Preview: Issue experts will overview challenges, opportunities and ongoing efforts to promote religious freedom in Indonesia, Malaysia and Myanmar. This event dovetails the annual Southeast Asia Freedom of Religion or Belief Conference, to be held in Bangkok, Thailand on November 4-6, 2019.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Kyaw Win with Burma Human Rights Network, Eugene Yapp with Religious Freedom Institute, Ben Rogers with Christian Solidarity Worldwide, & Nguyen Dinh Thang of Boat People SOS

RSVP/INFO: forb@bpsos.org
Captive Nations Week Summit

Open to the General Public
Time: 10:30 am – 3:00 pm

Organization(s): Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation: Co-hosted by Senator Ted Cruz and Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers

Location: Russell Senate office building, Room 325, Kennedy Caucus Room, Washington, D.C. 20510

Preview: Panel of human rights activists from captive nations discussing the human rights situations in their respective countries, together with MOCs discussing US policy solutions.

Discussion Rule: On the Record


RSVP/INFO: https://www.victimsofcommunism.org/events/captive-nations-week-summit
Nigeria – Is it an Ethno-Religious Cleansing or Herders/farmers conflict? A Deep Dive into the Conflict Drivers in the World’s Deadliest Place to be a Christian

Open to the General Public
Time: 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Organization(s): Africa United for Peace; African Christian Fellowship, Washington DC Chapter; Religious Freedom Coalition, USA; Faith and Liberty

Location: 109 2nd Street, NE Washington DC 20002 (Behind the US Supreme Court Building)

Preview: An expert panel of distinguished leaders, humanitarians and survivors will elucidate one of the most underreported ongoing atrocities in Africa’s most populous country. Speakers will examine the religious and ethnic factors driving the orgy of killings and mindless destructions going on in Nigeria often mischaracterized as herders/farmers conflicts.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

When Islam is Not a Religion

Open to the General Public
Time: 11:15 am – 1:00 pm

Organization(s): Muslim Public Affairs Council & New America

Location: New America, 740 15th St NW, #900, Washington, D.C. 20005

Preview: This panel will discuss how faith in America is being secularized and politicized, and the repercussions this has on debates about religious freedom and diversity. Panelists will examine the state of religious freedom in the U.S. through the prism of attacks on the constitutional rights of American Muslims with a view that attacks on the religious liberty of one group has implications for everyone. At a time when the legitimacy of a particular faith is being questioned, this will be a conversation that will advocate for all faiths.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Panelists: Hannah Allam, National Security Correspondent, NPR; Robert McKenzie, Sr. Fellow & Director of Muslim Diaspora Initiative, New America; Asma Uddin, religious liberty lawyer and scholar. Opening remarks by Peter Bergen, journalist and Director of the International Security and Future of War programs, New America

RSVP/INFO: https://www.newamerica.org/muslim-diaspora-initiative/events/when-islam-not-religion/
Beyond Legislation: Transnational Strategies for Countering Religious Persecution

Invitation Only
Time: 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Organization(s): Foundation for Defense of Democracies & International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief

Location: Foundation for Defense of Democracies, 1800 M St NW, Washington, DC 20036

Preview: This panel will bring together legislators and religious freedom advocates for a discussion of best practices for building transnational coalitions to counter religious persecution and to protect freedom of religion or belief.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Introductory Remarks: Clifford May, President of Foundation for Defense of Democracies, Former USCIRF Commissioner
Moderator: Aykan Erdemir, Senior Fellow at Foundation for Defense of Democracies, Former Member of the Turkish Parliament
Panelists: David Anderson, IPPFoRB Chair, Member of the House of Commons of Canada, and Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Human Rights and Religious Freedom; Farahnaz Ispahani, Former Member of the Pakistani Parliament, Senior Fellow at the Religious Freedom Institute; Sharon Nazarian, Senior Vice President for International Affairs at the Anti-Defamation League

RSVP/INFO: [https://fdd.wufoo.com/forms/qoaynsu0em5nmt/](https://fdd.wufoo.com/forms/qoaynsu0em5nmt/)
Solidarity With Rigal - Free Cuban Homeschooling Pastor

Open to the General Public
Time: 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Organization(s): HSLDA

Location: Cuban Embassy, 2630 16th St. NW WASHINGTON DC

Preview: Human Rights law acknowledges the prior right of parents to choose the kind of education their children receive and that it conforms with their religious and philosophical convictions. Join us in a demonstration of solidarity in support of jailed Cuban homeschooling Pastor and Parents.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

RSVP/INFO: https://m.facebook.com/events/307970983444589/
Disinformation in the Middle East: The Case of Religious Minorities in Iran

Invitation Only
Time: 12:00 – 1:45 pm

Organization(s): The Washington Institute for Near East Policy

Location: Washington Institute for Near East Policy, 1111 19th Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20005

Preview: A panel will discuss the impact of hate speech and false information on religious minorities in Iran, especially the Baha’is and the Gonabadi Sufis and the policy options open to western governments, companies, and civil society to counter this. Light lunch served.

Discussion Rule: On the record

Panelists: Ms. Simin Kargar, research affiliate of the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University; Azadeh Pourzand, Executive Director of Siamak Pourzand Foundation; Hamid Gharagozloo, U.S. Representative of International Organization to Preserve Human Rights.

RSVP/INFO: Send request for invitation to unsna-opa@usbnc.org; allow two to three days for response from The Washington Institute for Near East Policy

Nigeria: “This Genocide is Loading”

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 12:00 – 2:00 pm

Organization(s): Jubilee Campaign USA & Institute on Religion and Democracy, Save the Persecuted Christian

Location: National Indian Gaming Association, 224 2nd St SE, Washington, DC 20003

Preview: A panel event with experts to discuss the status of jihad and genocide in Nigeria.

Discussion Rule: On the record

RSVP/INFO: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/this-genocide-is-loading-tickets-64176791511?aff=affiliate1
Congressional Briefing on Refugees and International Religious Freedom

Open to the general public

Time: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Organization(s): World Relief, HIAS, The Episcopal Church, and the National Association of Evangelicals

Location: Rayburn House Office Building Room 2237, 45 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20515

Preview: The briefing will highlight the history of the US refugee admissions program as a life-saving tool for those fleeing religious persecution, the current state of persecuted religious minorities around the world, data around refugee arrivals of religious minorities, and how the United States and the global community can respond to promote international religious freedom through refugee protection.

Participants: Pari Ibrahim, Founder and Executive Director, Free Yezidi Foundation; Melanie Nezer, Senior Vice President of Public Affairs, HIAS; Galen Carey, Vice President of Governmental Affairs, National Association of Evangelicals (NAE); Jenny Yang, Vice President of Advocacy and Policy, World Relief; Joseph Lewis, Liberian Refugee and Pastor; Moderator: Rebecca Linder Blachly, Director, Office of Government Relations, The Episcopal Church

Discussion Rule: On the record

RSVP/INFO: Email jyang@wr.org to RSVP
Religious Freedom in Vietnam: Challenges and Opportunities

Open to the General Public
Time: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Organization(s): Boat People SOS, Freedom House, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Stefanus Alliance International, ADF International

Location: Freedom House, 1850 M Street NW, 11th Floor, Washington DC 20036

Preview: Religious leaders and victims will offer an overview of the different persecuted religious and indigenous communities and present ongoing efforts to promote religious freedom in Vietnam, including the Vietnam FORB Roundtable. There will be discussion of action plans for the next 18 months.

Discussion Rule: On the Record


RSVP/INFO: forb@bpsos.org
Press Conference, Panel Presentation and Discussion on Latest Developments in China’s Killing of Prisoners of Conscience for Organs

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Organization(s): China Organ Harvest Research Center (COHRC), International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China (ETAC), Human Rights Law Foundation (HRLF), and Citizen Power Initiatives for China (CPIC)

Location: First Amendment Lounge, National Press Club, 529 14th St. NW, 13th Floor, Washington, DC 20045

Preview: “Forced organ harvesting has been committed for years throughout China on a significant scale,” concluded an independent tribunal last month. Unlike black market operations, this on-demand killing of prisoners of conscience for organs is driven by the state and carried out by both military and civilian institutions. This press conference and panel brings together experts and leaders of international human rights communities to present the latest findings based on over a decade of research. Presenters will discuss the scale, nature, organ sources, and victims, as well as explore strategic measures being implemented around the world to counter this corruption.

Discussion Rule: On the Record


RSVP/INFO: For RSVP online: https://forms.gle/RybtLnM4n36WWW8U9 or contact us via info@ChinaOrganHarvest.org
Report Launch: "Surveying the Landscape of International Religious Freedom Policy"

Open to the Public, RSVP Required
Time: 1:30 – 2:15 pm

Organization(s): Religious Freedom Institute

Location: National Press Club (Murrow, White & Lisagor Room), 529 14th St. NW, 13th Floor Washington, DC 20045

Preview: Join us for a public release of a first-of-its kind report titled, Surveying the Landscape of International Religious Freedom Policy. This unique report documents the efforts of governments and multilateral institutions to advance international religious freedom.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Dr. Thomas Farr (President, Religious Freedom Institute), David Anderson (Member of Parliament, House of Commons of Canada; Founding Member and Chair of the International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief), Fr. Dcn. Andrew Bennett (Senior Fellow and Director, North America Action Team, Religious Freedom Institute; Programme Director, Cardus Law), Jeremy Barker (Senior Program Officer and Director, Middle East Action Team, Religious Freedom Institute)

RSVP/INFO: https://www.religiousfreedominstitute.org/rfievents/unveiling-international-religious-freedom-landscape-report | rsvp@rfi.org
Dare to Overcome: Women’s Short Film Screening

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 2:30 – 5:30 pm

Organization(s): Empower Women Media, Religious Freedom and Business Foundation, & the Religious Freedom Center of the Freedom Forum Institute

Location: Newseum, Documentary Theater, 555 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. Washington D.C. 20001

Preview: The world is increasingly visual, story-driven and mobile dominated. It’s urgent we identify, equip and mobilize leaders to create short films to share empowering messages. In partnership with the Religious Freedom & Business Foundation and Empower Women Media, we will showcase women’s short films that are compelling explorations of the impact of freedom of belief and how this helps empower women, religious minorities and the displaced. The screening will include a panel discussion with film makers and a reception.

Speakers: IRF Ambassador Suzan Johnson Cook, Dr. Brian Grim and Shirin Taber. The panel will include female filmmakers from around the world who promote freedom of belief and religion.

RSVP/INFO: http://engage.newseum.org/site/Calendar?id=101425&view=Detail

Visit to the US Holocaust Memorial Museum

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Organization(s): U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Location: US Holocaust Memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW

Preview: Museum staff will provide a briefing and orientation to introduce you to the Museum’s Permanent Exhibition: The Holocaust as well as a new special exhibition Americans and the Holocaust and an exhibition about ongoing atrocities in Syria entitled, Syria: Please Don’t Forget Us.

RSVP/INFO: adupuis@ushmm.org
Warfare on Women

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Organization(s): Save the Persecuted Christians & Mission Africa International

Location: The Watterston House, 224 2nd St SE, Washington, DC 20003

Preview: Save the Persecuted Christians will premier a new exhibit entitled “Warfare on Women” combined with a screening of the Mission Africa International documentary on Nigeria, “In the Cauldron of Conflict - Women and Children in the Pathway of the Islamist” with Drinks & Hors d’oeuvres

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Speakers: Frank Gaffney, President, Save the Persecuted Christians with Dr. Oluwasayo Ajiboye, President, Mission Africa International

RSVP/INFO: info@savethepersecutedchristians.org
Exploring Collective Declarations from around the World that Promote Human Dignity and Religious Freedom for All

Open to the General Public

Time: 3:00 – 6:00 pm, with reception at 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Organization(s): Religious Freedom Institute, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, & Brigham Young University Law School

Location: National Press Club - Murrow/White/Lisagor Room, 529 14th St NW Washington, DC 20045

Preview: This event will focus on several important declarations and joint statements on human dignity and religious freedom, discussing the goals, content, and impact of these statements on international religious freedom and human rights discourse.

Speakers: Ambassador Sam Brownback, Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, United States Department of State; Knox Thames, Special Advisor for Religious Minorities in the Near East and South/Central Asia, U.S. Department of State; Shaykh Hamza Yusuf, President, Zaytuna College Dr. Thomas Farr, President of the Religious Freedom Institute; Professor W. Cole Durham, Jr., Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, and Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law, Brigham Young University; Ján Figel, EU Special Envoy for Freedom of Religion and Belief outside the EU; David Anderson, Member of Parliament, House of Commons of Canada; Founding Member and Chair of the International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief; Professor Brett Scharffs, Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Rex. E. Lee Chair and Professor of Law, BYU Law School; David Trimble, Director, Center for Religious Freedom Education of the Religious Freedom Institute

RSVP/INFO:  https://www.religiousfreedominstitute.org/rfievents/exploring-global-charters | rsvp@rfi.org
Religious Freedom in Cuba

Open to General Public
Time: 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Organization(s): Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW), Organization Outreach to the Americas (OAA), & Global Liberty Alliance (GLA)

Location: Capitol Visitor’s Center, Room SVC 215, First St NE, Washington, DC 20515

Preview: Experts on religious freedom in Cuba and leaders of major religious groups in Cuba will share analysis and personal testimony on the state of freedom of religion or belief in Cuba.

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules

Speakers: Kristina Arriaga de Bucholz, Vice-Chair, United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, USCIRF; Jason Poblete, GLA; Anna-Lee Stangl, CSW; OAA representative; Rev. Mario Felix Leonart Barroso, Patmos Institute; Cuban religious leaders (ID withheld for security).

RSVP/INFO: csw-dc@csw.org.uk (RSVP recommended but not required)

Second Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom Capitol Hill Reception Honoring Survivors

Invitation only
Time: 4:30-5:30 pm

Organization(s): Senator Lankford & Senator Coons

Location: Capitol Visitors Center SVC-200

Preview: Senator James Lankford, Senator Christopher Coons and Ambassador-at-Large for Religious Freedom Sam Brownback will be hosting a reception for Members of Congress, State officials, staff and civil society to honor survivors of religious persecution as a part of the Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom.

Discussion Rule: Off the record

Participants: Senator James Lankford, Senator Christopher Coons and Ambassador-at-Large for Religious Freedom Sam Brownback

RSVP/INFO: Holly_Cox@lankford.senate.gov by Wednesday, July 10, 2019
Viewing of "Christians in the Mirror"

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Organization(s): Institute on Religion and Democracy & Save The Persecuted Christians

Location: Watterston House, 224 2nd St SE, Washington, DC 20003

Preview: Screening of documentary exploring the global persecution of Christians with vignettes from Iraq, Syria, Egypt, India & Sudan. In addition, "People of the Cross" photo exhibit will be shown. Refreshments served.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Post-Screening Panel: Filmmaker Jordan Allott and advocates for persecuted Christians.

RSVP/INFO: fmcdonnell@theird.org

Capitol Prayer Service in the Historic Christian Languages of the Middle East

Invitation Only
Time: 6:00 – 8:30 pm

Organization(s): In Defense of Christians

Location: U.S. Capitol Visitors Center (HVC 201 AB), First St NE, Washington, DC 20515

Preview: Join with Christian leaders from the Middle East and American faith leaders in a nonpartisan prayer for Christians in the Middle East who continue to suffer from discrimination, prejudice, and terrorism.

Discussion Rule: On the Record


RSVP/INFO: steven@indefenseofchristians.org
Moving Religious Freedom & Minorities Rights Forward

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Organization(s): South Asia Minorities Alliance Foundation (SAMAF)

Location: Karma Modern India, 611 I St, NW, Washington DC 20001

Preview: SAMAF is delighted in promoting IRF Roundtable by hosting a welcome reception "Moving Religious Freedom & Minority Rights Forward".
6:30-7:00 PM Social Hour
7:00 - 7:10 PM Documentary on minorities of S Asia
7:10 - 7:25 PM Brief remarks
7:30 - 8:00 Social networking resumes

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Nadeem Nusrat Chairman of SAMAF, Former Congressman Tom Garett Senior Advisor SAMAF, Puneet Ahluwalia Executive Director SAMAF.

RSVP/INFO: nwssonc1@gmail.com
Live Stream of the Formal Meetings of the Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom

Open to the General Public
Time: 9:00 am – 5:15 pm

Organization(s): International Religious Freedom Roundtable

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University, Betts Theater, 800 21st St NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: The events of the Formal Ministerial hosted at the State Department will be live streamed here for the general public.

Religious Freedom - Missing Voices from Sub Saharan Africa: Beyond the MENA (Middle East & North Africa) a Look at Growing Extremism in E/W Africa

Open to the General Public
Time: 9:00 – 10:00 am

Organization(s): Africa United for Peace & African Christian Fellowship, Washington, DC Chapter

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University Room 309, 800 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Islamist extremist groups such as ISWAP, Boko Haram and others operating in countries in Sub-Saharan African countries have left a gory trail of blood and pains along their heinous paths. This program aims to call attention to the dangers posed to the world if this is not urgently addressed.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Dr. Emmanuel Emenyonyu, Chair, Africa United for Peace; Attorney Emmanuel Ogebe, President, US Nigeria Law Group; Attorney Solomon Asemota, Chair, Nigerian Christian Elders Forum; Solomon Mengesha, MPA Harvard and M.Div, Yale University.
World Alliance of Religions Peace Office

Open to the General Public
Time: 9:00 – 10:00 am

Organization(s): Heavenly Culture World Peace and Restoration of Light

Location: TBD

Preview: Interfaith panel showcasing nonviolent conflict resolution and prevention bringing religious leaders together provide the foundation for peace-based communication pursuant to sustainable peace solutions in respective communities.

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules

Speaker: Randir Chhatwal - Sikh Foundation of Virginia, Rameez Abid - Islamic Circle of North America, Rabbi Bruce Aft - Congregation Adat Reyim, Khiry Edmondson - Grace Ministries, Dr. Bikram Paul - Hindu Association of Metropolitan Washington, Keegan Burke - HWPL

Update and Develop Religious Freedom and Civil Society for Viet Nam

Open to General Public
Time: 10:00 – 11:00 am

Organization(s): The Council of the Ethnic Peoples and Religions of Vietnam (CPRVN) & Vietnamese People’s Evangelical Fellowship (VPEF)

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University Room 309, 800 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20052


Discussion Rule: On the Record

Engaging the Taliban on Muslim Women's Rights

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 10:00 – 11:30 am

Organization(s): United States Institute of Peace, Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality & Equality (WISE), Women for Afghan Women (WAW), & Afghan Women's Network (AWN)

Location: United States Institute of Peace, 2301 Constitution Avenue Northwest Washington, DC 20037

Preview: Please join us July 16th on a discussion on religious freedom of Afghan women in the context of the peace process. The discussion will focus on how the potential outcomes of an Afghan peace process may influence and impact women’s religious freedom, and what steps can be taken now to facilitate an engaging and productive dialogue with the Taliban on religious freedom.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Ambassador Swanee Hunt (Inclusive Security), Jamila Afghani (Noor Educational and Capacity Development Organization/Afghan Women’s Network), Daisy Khan (Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality & Equality), Palwasha Kakar (United States Institute of Peace), Palwasha Hassan (Afghan Women's Network), Belquis Ahmadi (Women for Afghan Women/U.S. Institute of Peace)

RSVP/INFO: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/engaging-the-taliban-on-muslim-womens-rights-tickets-65109668772
Uyghurs: Oppression for the Sake of Progression in China

Open to the General Public  
Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization(s): Campaign for Uyghurs & World Uyghur Congress

Location: Senate Visitor Center 212-210, First St NE, Washington, DC 20515 (At the Capitol Hill Visitor Center)

Preview: The Uyghurs are ethnically and culturally Turkic Muslims, who have been under the control of Communist China since 1949. The prosecution against the Uyghurs is racially motivated, their ethnicity and religion are targeted. Now, the PRC’s strategy of building a new SilkRoad is the destruction of their homeland and its foundation is 3 million Uyghurs in modern-day concentration camps. PRC is conducting genocide against the Uyghurs with camps and a police state, challenging human dignity and basic survival rights that God gave all humans with birth. The speakers in the panel will discuss and address further support and coordination on the Uyghurs cause.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Panelists: Scott Busby (Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor), Mike Breen (President and CEO of Human Rights First), Dolkun Isa (President of the World Uyghur Congress), Sophie Richardson (China Director, Human Rights Watch), Jewher Ilham (Director of Public Affairs, Campaign for Uyghurs)
Displacement and Data: Responding to & Documenting the Boko Haram Insurgency in Northeast Nigeria

Open to the General Public
Time: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization(s): Church of the Brethren,

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University Room 309, 800 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Data gathered in northeast Nigeria demonstrates that the number of widows and dependents and total deaths and abductions is likely much higher than typically reported. Leaders from the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria will describe the plight of widows and survivors located in the heart of the crisis.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Speakers: Dr. Rebecca Dali of the Center for Caring, Empowerment, and Peacebuilding Initiatives, Rev. Dr. Samuel Dali Former President of the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria, Rev. Dr. Nathan Hosler Church of the Brethren, Office of Peacebuilding and Policy

Home Education: A Right of Conscience

Open to Public, RSVP required
Time: 12:00 – 2:30 pm

Organization(s): Homeschool Legal Defense Association

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University Room 309, 800 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: If 2 million children are homeschooled in the United States, why does Germany, Sweden and Norway persecute homeschooling parents? If human rights acknowledges a prior right of parents to direct their children’s education in accordance with their convictions, why is home education controversial?

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Speakers: Senator Michael Braun*, USCIRF Commissioner (appearing in personal capacity), Kristina Arriaga, HSLDA President J. Michael Smith & Senior Counsel Michael Donnelly, Global Liberty Alliance President Jason Poblete, Persecution Victims Uwe & Hanne Romeike, and a proxy for jailed Cuban homeschooling parents Ramon, Adya Rigal, Golkis Almaguer. * (*invited)

The Natural Law Foundation of Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion

Open to the general public
Time: 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Organization(s): The Heritage Foundation

Location: Lehrman Auditorium, The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Ave NE, Washington D.C. 20002

Preview: In the seven decades since the United Nations General Assembly adopted and proclaimed the UDHR, the human rights movement has come unmoored from its foundation in natural law. For civil society leaders, government officials and victims who seek to strengthen protection of all human rights, restoring the natural law foundation of the right to thought, conscience and religion is essential. Please join us for this important conversation.

Participants: Robert P. George (speaker) - McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and Director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University; Emilie Kao (moderator) - Director, DeVos Center for Religion and Civil Society, The Heritage Foundation; Ryan T. Anderson (host) - William E. Simon Senior Research Fellow in American Principles and Public Policy, The Heritage Foundation

Discussion Rule: On the Record


International Coalition for Religious Freedom in North Korea Roundtable

Invitation Only
Time: 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Organization(s): Global Peace Foundation

Location: Capitol Hill

Preview: The International Coalition for Religious Freedom in North Korea held its inaugural meeting in South Korea with more than 200 activists. The roundtable is a US-based coalition bringing awareness to the religious persecutions in the DPRK and advocating all future talks to include religious freedom.

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules
Unraveling the Challenges of Trans-Regional Terrorism, Ethnic Cross-country Migration and Socio-Political Marginalization of Indigenous Nigerians

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Organization(s): LiftUpNow Foundation & The Nigeria Working Group

Location: Marvin Center, George Washington University Room 407, 800 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: The event will bring together Local Experts, Top Government Functionaries, NGO Leaders, Socio-Political Activists, and Concerned Citizens to discuss Nigeria’s Internal Social Conflicts that have led to the country’s designation of Country Of Concern

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules

Guest Speakers (10 minutes each)
1. Rt. Hon Terwase Orbunde - Chief Of Staff, Governor Of Benue State Nigeria
2. Ambassador Uche Ajulu-Okeke - Member, Alaigbo Development Foundation
3. Lady, Annkio Briggs - President, Agape Birthrights Organization
4. Lady, Elizabeth Ojutiku - Secretary and Co-Founder LiftUpNow Foundation
5. Tony Nnadi - Secretary General, The Lower Niger Congress

Q&A Panelists (60 minutes)
1. Rt. Hon Joseph Odauda - Senior Adviser on Special Duties, Governor Of Benue State
2. Rev (Dr.) Phillip Micah Doppah - Chairman, Fellowship of Churches of Christ in Nigeria
3. Otunba 'Deji Osibogun - Convener, Yoruba Koya Leadership and Training Foundation

Building A Strategic Partnership to Advance FoRB in Kazakhstan

Open to General Public
Time: 2:30 – 4:00 pm

Organization(s): LYN Community
Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University Room 309, 800 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: This panel discussion will engage key FoBR influencers and leaders in what is expected to be a dynamic and timely conversation. Participants can expect to hear about new collaborations and events forthcoming in the region and well as policy next steps.

Discussion Rule: Off the Record

Participants: Ministry of Information and Social Development, Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, IRF Roundtable, IGE, LYNC

The Mass Destruction and Desecration of Uyghur Mosques by China

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Organization(s): Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) & Uyghur Human Rights Project
Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University Room 309, 800 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Thousands of mosques in the Uyghur homeland have been bulldozed since 2016. Satellite photos and witness testimony paint a devastating picture of the Chinese government’s systematic campaign to wipe out Uyghur religious devotion, teaching and education, community life and Uyghur identity itself.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Speakers: Bahram Sintash (Founder, Uyghurism.com), Omer Kanat (Director, UHRP), Louisa Greve (Director of External Affairs, UHRP), Fernando Burges (U.S Representative, UNPO), Benedict Rogers (East Asia Team Leader CSW), Commissioner Tenzin Dorjee
A Conversation with U.S. Lawmakers about Religious Persecution

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Organization(s): Ahmadiyya Muslim Congressional Caucus & Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission

Location: House Capitol Visitor Center Room 201, First Street NE, Washington DC 20215

Preview: The Ahmadiyya Muslim Congressional Caucus and Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission will co-host members of Congress, foreign dignitaries, and survivors of religious persecution for a conversation about international religious freedom. Lord Tariq Ahmad (U.K. PM's Special Envoy) and Academy Award winner Mahershala Ali will make special remarks.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: U.S. Congress Members Jackie Speier, Peter King, Jim McGovern, Chris Smith and Jamie Raskin; Lord Tariq Ahmad, (U.K. Prime Minister's Special Envoy for Freedom of Religion and Belief); Nadine Maenza (Vice Chair of U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom); Actor Mahershala Ali

RSVP/INFO: emily.small@mail.house.gov
Will Religious Freedom Survive in Northeast Syria?

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Organization(s): Family Research Council & Law and Liberty

Location: Family Research Council, 801 G Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

Preview: Northeastern Syrian citizens have created a democratic self-governance system giving religious freedom to all. This could quickly vanish depending on US and allies’ foreign policy and military decisions. Experts will describe current realities and policy options to support continued religious freedom

Discussion Rule: On the Record


RSVP/INFO: https://www.frc.org/events/will-religious-freedom-survive-in-northeast-syria
IRF Roundtable Congressional Reception

Open to Public
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Organization(s): IRF Roundtable Congressional Working Group

Location: Hart Senate Office Building, Room 902, 120 Constitution Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002

Preview: During this reception where food and drinks will be served, the Congressional Working Group invites Members of Congress, Foreign Delegations, Embassies, and Civil Society Representatives to attend a welcome reception on Capitol Hill. Members of Congress will be invited to address the attendees in demonstration of broad, bi-partisan support of international freedom of belief, conscience, and religion.

Participants: Members of Congress, Foreign Delegations, and NGO Representatives

Confirmed Speakers:

- Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, Prime Minister’s Special Envoy on Freedom of Religion or Belief for the United Kingdom
- Congressman Jim McGovern (D-MA)
- Congressman Frank Wolf (R-VA, Retired)


RSVP/INFO: http://evite.me/pZXYspq1md (USG and Foreign Delegations contact rboyt@21wilberforce.org)
Live Stream of Track One of the Formal Meetings of the Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom

Open to the General Public
Time: 9:00 am – 5:15 pm

Organization(s): International Religious Freedom Roundtable

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University, Betts Theater, 800 21st St NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Track 1 of the Formal Ministerial hosted at the State Department will be live streamed here for the general public.

Towards an inclusive Sudan: challenges and opportunities for FoRB and human rights in post-Bashir Sudan?

Open to the General Public
Time: 9:00 – 10:00 am

Organization(s): CSW

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University, Continental Ballroom (3rd Floor), 800 21st St. NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Nationwide protests that rocked Sudan since December 2018 have significantly altered the political landscape. As a new agreement is finalized between the Transitional Military Council and the Forces for Freedom and Change, this side event brings together activists and Sudan Experts to discuss the challenges and opportunities for the promotion of fundamental rights including freedom of religion or belief in Sudan

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules

Participants: Dr Khataza Gondwe (CSW)

RSVP/INFO: cswsudan@gmail.com
Democracy and Religious Freedom Tolerance in West Papua

Open to the General Public

Time: 10:00 – 11:00 am

Organization(s): West Papua Human Rights Center

Location: Smith Hall (formerly Metropolitan), 5183, SCAR Conference Room, Arlington Campus, 3434 N. Washington Blvd. Vernon Smith Hall, 5th Floor Arlington, VA 22201

Preview: On behalf of the West Papua Human Rights Center Washington D.C., you are invited to listen to Mr. Herman Wainggai, visiting scholar, torture survivor, nonviolent political leader and former political prisoner, share the story of West Papua’s struggle for the restoration of basic human rights, religious freedom without the fear of intimidation and an end to the abuses of the West Papuans. Since the “Act of free choice” in 1969 there has been an estimated 500,000 West Papuans that have been tortured, killed or gone missing. Consequentially the indigenous Papuans are now a minority in their homeland of 30,000 years and continue to be marginalized in their own lands.

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules

Speaker: Mr. Herman Wainggai, Visiting Scholar, Nobel Peace Nominated and Leader of Nonviolent struggle in West Papua

RSVP/INFO: peter.wphrc@gmail.com
Pakistan as a Country of Particular Concern (CPC) under the International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA): What Now?

Open to the General Public
Time: 10:00 – 11:00 am

Organization(s): Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO)

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University, Continental Ballroom (3rd Floor), 800 21st St. NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: This event will bring together policymakers, advocates and representatives of religious minorities to discuss how the international community can encourage tolerance and respect for religious freedom in Pakistan in light of its recent designation as a Country of Particular Concern. It will compliment events held this year related to the review of Pakistan’s compliance with the human rights requirements in the EU's GSP+ preferential trade access regime.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Fernando Burgés (UNPO), Michael Kugelman (Wilson Center), Eiga Kenny (Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement), Ismail Royer (RFI), Munawar Laghari (World Sindhi Institute)

RSVP/INFO: f.burges@unpo.org
Compromised Space: How the UN is Becoming an Ever More Dangerous Place for Representatives of Religious and Other Minorities

Open to the General Public
Time: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization(s): Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO)

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University, Continental Ballroom (3rd Floor), 800 21st St. NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Unrepresented peoples face enormous challenges when advocating at international forums. Particularly concerning is how restrictive the UN has become for representatives of religious minorities, who often face harassment and intimidation from some UN Member-states.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Fernando Burgés (UNPO), Dokun Isa (World Uyghur Congress), Dr Fiona McConnell (University of Oxford), Abdirahman Mahdi (ONLF), Representative of Crimean Tatars (TBC),

RSVP/INFO: f.burges@unpo.org
Documentary Screening: "Harvested Alive - 10 Years of Investigation"

Open to the General Public
Time: 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Organization(s): Falun Dafa Association at Washington DC & World Organization to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (WOIPFG)

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University, Continental Ballroom (3rd Floor), 800 21st St. NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Presenting Evidence on Chinese State Sanctioned Organ Harvesting. A former Chinese military doctor exposed a secret transplant business. A crime that has never happened before on this planet. A regime in peacetime is harvesting living people's organs on a massive scale. Dr. Zhiyuan Wang spent 30 years studying how to save lives. He never imagined that he would spend another 10 years investigating how Chinese doctors take innocent lives. His research reveals an inconceivable truth - China's hospitals, judiciary, and military worked together to mercilessly slaughter a large number of Falun Gong practitioners through the harvesting of their organs.

Discussion Rule: On the Record


Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Organization(s): Christianity Today & Institute for Global Engagement

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University, Continental Ballroom (3rd Floor), 800 21st St. NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: A presentation and analysis of the latest Pew data on governmental and societal restrictions on religion worldwide (new 2019 rankings, plus first-ever 10-year trend analysis), followed by responses from a panel of experts. (RSVP by 10 a.m. Wed preferred, but we will accommodate last-minute arrivals.)

Discussion Rule: On the Record

RSVP/INFO: ctgglobal@christianitytoday.com
**Evangelical Engagement on International Religious Freedom: Innovative Case Studies**

Open to Public, RSVP Required  
Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Organization(s): Christianity Today & Institute for Global Engagement  
Location: *Second Stage*, Marvin Center, George Washington University, Continental Ballroom (3rd Floor), 800 21st St. NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Discussion of proven strategies regarding Uzbekistan, Vietnam, India, Cuba, gender-based persecution, multi-faith clergy retreats, citizen journalism, and more. (RSVP by 10 a.m. Wed preferred, but we will accommodate last-minute arrivals.)

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: James Chen - Institute for Global Engagement, Bob Roberts - Glocal.net, Helene Fisher - Open Doors, Mario Lleonart - CSW Cuba, and others.

RSVP/INFO: ctglobal@christianitytoday.com

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**The Persecution of Christians in the Middle East and Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew**

Open to Public, RSVP Required  
Time: 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Organization(s): The Order of St. Andrew - Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate  
Location: U.S. Capitol Visitors Center, Room HVC-200, First St NE, Washington, DC 20515

Preview: Reception and discussion of issues facing Christians living in the Holy Lands and the Middle East, and wherever they are suffering for their faith

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Speakers: Expected participants include: Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, numerous US Senators and Members of Congress, newly-elected Greek Orthodox Archbishop of America His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros, prominent Greek Orthodox Christians

RSVP/INFO: EFagan@Manatos.com
Kashmir: Past, Present, and Future

Open to the General Public
Time: 4:30 – 6:00 pm

Organization(s): Hindu American Foundation (HAF) & Indo-American Kashmir Forum (IAKF)

Location: Second Stage, Marvin Center, George Washington University, Continental Ballroom (3rd Floor), 800 21st St. NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Three decades ago, the Hindu Kashmiri Pandit community was ethnically cleansed from their ancestral home in the Valley of Kashmir. If you listen to the mainstream media tell the story though, you’ll get none of that. HAF and IAKF invite you to find out why and how to resolve this problem.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Raj Koul: Director (Midwest Region) - Indo American Kashmir Forum, Suhag Shukla: Executive Director - Hindu American Foundation, Jay Kansara: Director of Government Relations - Hindu American Foundation

RSVP/INFO: info@hafsite.org

The Role of International Religious Freedom in U.S. Foreign Policy

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 5:15 – 6:30 pm

Organization(s): Loeb Institute for Religious Freedom & U. S. Commission on International Religious Freedom

Location: The George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum, 701 21st St NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: In this panel, commissioners from the US Commission on International Religious Freedom will discuss U.S foreign policy and offer recommendations for addressing violations of human rights.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

RSVP/INFO: http://www.justrsvp.me/role-international-religious-freedom-us-foreign-policy
IRF Roundtable Ministerial Reception:

Shining a Light on the Uyghur Crisis & Reflecting on Our Global Movement for Religious Freedom

Open to Public

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Organization(s): IRF Roundtable and Sponsors: Uyghur Human Rights Project, World Uyghur Congress, Uyghur-American Association; Islamic Relief USA, ChinaAid, and Religion News Foundation

Location: U.S. Institute of Peace, 2301 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20037

Preview: Please join other Ministerial participants for an evening reception open to all. The reception is an opportunity for survivors, officials, scholars, religious and secular leaders, advocates, activists and press to come together at the conclusion of the formal civil society meetings of the 2019 Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom. A brief program will shine a light on the Uyghur crisis of ethno-religious cultural extermination, combining an asphyxiating technosurveillance police state and a massive archipelago of secret detention camps holding 1-3 million Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims since early 2017; and provide a show of solidarity and support for the Uyghurs.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

RSVP/INFO: RSVP to lheffley@globalengage.org

Congressional Freethought Caucus Reception with Bonya Ahmed

Open to Public

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Organization(s): Congressman Jared Huffman

Location: Cannon 122, Cannon House Office Building, Washington D.C.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Speaker: Bonya Ahmed

“Religious Liberty” or Discrimination?: “Unalienable” Rights and the Fragmentation of Human Rights

Open to the General Public
Time: 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Organization(s): Human Rights Watch & Human Rights Campaign

Location: Human Rights Campaign Equality Forum, 1640 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

Preview: In this panel, human rights experts will examine various areas in different regions of the world where the freedom of religion and belief has been used in a rights-restrictive way – particularly for women, LGBT people, and religious minorities – and discuss how the freedom of religion can and should be harmonized with other rights to which people are entitled.

Discussion Rule: On the Record


Advancing Religious Freedom in South and Southeast Asia: Religious Minorities and the Challenges of Extremism and Violent Ethno-Religious Nationalism

Open to the General Public
Time: 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Organization(s): ADF International & Religious Freedom Institute

Location: City View Room, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University 1957 E St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20052

Preview: Religious freedom has taken a sharp turn for the worse in much of South and Southeast Asia. Hostility to religious minorities is driven by increasingly violent strains of ethno-religious nationalism and extremist ideologies that politicize religion. In Sri Lanka, India, Burma, Nepal, and Pakistan, violence and legal restrictions against Christians and other religious minorities are on the rise. This event will feature experts and prominent advocates on the situation of religious minorities in South and Southeast Asia. A panel will discuss the history and current situation of religious freedom in South and Southeast Asia and propose concrete solutions.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Panelists: Tehmina Arora (ADF India), Balakrishnan Baskaran (ADF India), Farahnaz Ispahani (Religious Freedom Institute and Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars), Benedict Rogers (CSW UK), Rebecca Shah (Religious Freedom Institute), Timothy Shah (Religious Freedom Institute)
WED | MAP

RoofTop After Party

Open to Public, Drop-in
Time: 8:30 – 10:30 pm

Location: Hive Bar Rooftop, 2224 F St NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Come to socialize and network with other Ministerial participants.

RSVP: Not required, but helpful https://forms.gle/Sz4yDAe6K7T6kJBr6

THURS | MAP

Multi-Faith Breakfast and Call for Action: Central African Republic

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 8:00 – 9:00 am

Organization(s): Search for Common Ground, US Conference of Catholic Bishops, Islamic Relief USA, & Aid to the Church in Need

Location: George Washington University, Marvin Center, Room #403, 800 21st St NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Come join a coalition of multi-faith and nonsectarian supporters of the Central African Republic for a breakfast discussion to hear from featured guest peacebuilder Bishop Nestor Désiré Nongo-Aziagbia and discuss opportunities for action to reduce identity-based violence in CAR.

Speakers: Bishop Nestor-Désiré Nongo-Aziagbia (Bishop of Bossangoa, CAR), Anwar Khan (Islamic Relief USA), Edward Clancy (Aid to the Church in Need)

Discussion Rules: Chatham House Rules

An Exploration of Religiously-Motivated Violence

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 9:00 – 11:00 am

Organization(s): Institute on Religion and Democracy & International Institute for Religious Freedom

Location: Institute on Religion and Democracy, 1023 15th Street, NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20005

Preview: A breakfast discussion of religiously motivated violence, why it is happening, and how to remedy it.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Dr. Thomas K Johnson (International Institute for Religious Freedom), Dr. Paul Marshall (Hudson Institute), Jacob Rudenstrand (Swedish Evangelical Alliance), and Faith McDonnell (Institute on Religion and Democracy).


U.S. Government Grant Workshop

Open, but RSVP required
Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization(s): U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom

Location: Government Publishing Office Building, Harding Hall, 732 N. Capitol Street, NW (Bookstore Entrance), Washington DC 20401

Preview: Speakers from the U.S. State Department and USAID will provide training on how to apply for U.S. government funding

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules

RSVP/INFO: training@uscirf.gov
Inaugural International Religious Freedom Youth Advocacy Day at Congress. Case Study: Cameroon

Open, but RSVP required
Time: 9:30-11:15 am

Organization(s): Cameroon American Council & George Washington University's Leob Institute for Religious Freedom

Location: The U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, Senate Visitor Center (SVC) Room # 202 | First St NE, Washington, District of Columbia, 20515

Preview: Our Inaugural International Religious Freedom Youth Advocacy Day at Congress, engages activists, Loeb Institute's Youth Ambassador for Religious Freedom, congressional staffers. Case Study: Cameroon-Herders (Mbororo/Fulani) and Farmers (Amba Separatists) in Mbem-Nwa Villages. Refreshments provided.

Discussion Rule: On the record

RSVP/INFO: https://loeb.columbian.gwu.edu/cameroon-addressing-religious-freedom-within-anglophone-separatist-conflict or email Cameroon.American.Council@gmail.com
Best Practices on Collaborating between Parliamentarians and NGOs

Open to the General Public
Time: 10:00 – 11:30 am

Organization(s): 21Wilberforce & International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief (IPPFORB)

Location: Marvin Center at George Washington University - Room 301, 800 21st St NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Preventing persecution, atrocities, and even genocide requires strategy and coalitions. Parliamentarians are often in a position to impact situations on the ground, but they require good collaboration from civil society. This capacity building panel discussion will explore best practices for effectively engaging with, and leveraging the potential impact of, civil society and parliamentary partners.

Panelists: Frank Wolf (former Congressman and lead sponsor of the International Religious Freedom Act) Nqabayomzi Kwankwa (Member of Parliament of the Republic of South Africa), Hon. Lena Maryana Mukti (Member of Parliament, Indonesia) Kelly Block (Member of Parliament, Canada)

Discussion Rule: On the Record panel discussion, Chatham House Rules question and answer

RSVP/INFO: http://evite.me/kn2uSs6uU7
Humanity Denied: Religious Freedom in North Korea

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 10:00 – 11:30 am

Organization(s): Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission
Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building G11, 50 Constitution Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002
Preview: This event will premiere a short, 10-minute film produced by the ERLC featuring North Korean defectors and church leaders and activists in South Korea. The film screening will be followed by a panel discussion featuring a defector, an activist, and several experts from the religious freedom space.

Discussion Rule: On the Record
Speakers: Olivia Enos - Heritage Foundation, Rev. Kenneth Bae - Longest-serving U.S. Prisoner in North Korea, Dr. Jin Shin - International Coalition for Religious Freedom in North Korea, Steven Harris - ERLC, Phillip Bethancourt - ERLC


Advancing Accountability: Tools to Curb International Violators of Religious Freedom

Invitation Only
Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization(s): International Christian Concern & Church of Scientology
Location: Fraser Mansion, 1701 20th Street Northwest | Washington, DC 20009
Preview: Side event designed to educate the IRF/NGO community on the tools available to them to assist the U.S. government in holding violators of religious freedom accountable for their actions, regardless of where in the world they commit their crimes

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules
RSVP/INFO: advocacy.assoc@persecution.org
Guided Tour of U.S. Capitol - Inaugural International Religious Freedom Youth Advocacy Day at Congress

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Organization(s): Cameroon American Council & George Washington University's Loeb Institute for Religious Freedom

Location: The U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, Senate Visitor Center (SVC) Room #202 - First St NE, Washington, District Of Columbia 20515

Preview: In DC and wonder what is it like in the halls of power? A guided of the U.S. Capitol? Join us for our second part of our Inaugural International Religious Freedom Youth Advocacy Day at Congress. Tour is open to all IRF Ministerial attendees, especially those from Africa. Just RSVP.

Discussion Rule: Off the Record

Speakers: Olivia Enos - Heritage Foundation, Hyon Henry Song - North Korean activist, Steven Harris - ERLC, Phillip Bethancourt - ERLC; additional speakers forthcoming

RSVP/INFO: https://loeb.columbian.gwu.edu/cameroon-addressing-religious-freedom-within-anglophone-separatist-conflict or email Cameroon.American.Council@gmail.com
End the Persecution of Falun Gong in China Now

Open to the General Public
Time: 11:30 am – 9:30 pm

Organization(s): Friends of Falun Gong & Falun Dafa Association of Washington D.C.

Location: West Lawn of the Capitol, the National Mall, the Washington Monument, First Street SE, Washington, DC 20004

Preview: July 20th will mark the 20th anniversary of the start of the cruel persecution of Falun Gong by the Chinese Communist Party. Thousands of Falun Gong practitioners and supporters will rally at the National Mall to raise awareness and call upon the U.S. government and the public to help end the persecution in China.

11:30am-1:00pm: Rally at the West Lawn of the Capitol, Speakers: Members of the Congress, NGO representatives, victims
1:30pm - 3:00pm: March from the Capitol to the Washington Monument
7:30pm - 9:30pm: Candlelight vigil at the Washington Monument commemorating those who died in the persecution

Burma’s Identity Crisis

Open to the General Public
Time: 12:00 – 2:00 pm

Organization(s): Religious Freedom Institute & CSW

Location: Russell Senate Office Building - SR 385, 2 Constitution Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002

Preview: Burma’s diverse society has endured over seventy years of conflict. The military’s continued power and extremist Buddhist nationalism has led to genocide against the Rohingya and violence against ethnic minorities – Muslim and Christian. Speakers will reflect on CSW’s new report "Burma’s Identity Crisis" which details these challenges.

Discussion Rule: On the record

Speakers: Benedict Rogers (CSW’s East Asia Team Leader), Kyaw Win (founder and Executive Director of the Burma Human Rights Network), Timothy Shah (Vice President for Strategy and International Research of the Religious Freedom Institute)

RSVP/INFO: https://forms.gle/MQdxGZXp2Ke1hy48 | rsvp@rfi.org
Holy Sites & Lands

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 12:00 – 2:00 pm

Organization(s): International Community of the Holy Sepulchre, Hudson Institute's Working Group on Christians and Religious Pluralism in the Middle East

Location: Cityview Room, Washington School of International Affairs, 1957 E St NW, Washington, DC 20052

Preview: This event brings together religious and lay leaders from varying Christian traditions throughout the Middle East with United States and international leaders and experts, discussing the global importance and challenges of preserving holy sites in the region while effectively ministering to local populations.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: His Most Godly Beatitude Theophilos III, Patriarch of Jerusalem; His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos, Coptic Orthodox Church; Fr Ramzi Sidawi OFM, General Administrator, Custody of the Holy Land; Fr Dr Alexi Chehadeh, Patriarchate of Antioch; Fr Salar Kajo, Chaldean Archdiocese of Al Qosh; Nermien Riad, Coptic Orphans, Egypt; Very Revd Hosam Nooum, Secretary for the Council of Heads of Churches, Jerusalem; Max Primorac, Minority Assistance Programs, USAID, Iraq; Bob Destro, Director, Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies, Catholic University of America; Lord David Alton, United Kingdom House of Lords, Select Committee on International Relations; Congressman French Hill, Arkansas; Kristina Arriaga, United States Commission on International Religious Freedom; Prof Dr Christiaan Alting von Geusau, President, International Catholic Legislators Network

RSVP/INFO: austin@icohs.org
Preventing Violence against Holy Sites: Building Global Cooperation

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 12:45 – 2:15 pm

Organization(s): Search for Common Ground & Religions for Peace
Location: George Washington University, Marvin Center Room 403, 800 21st St NW, Washington, DC 20052
Preview: Our world has been rocked by attacks against innocents in sacred spaces. The protection of holy sites has become a shared concern across faith traditions. This roundtable will highlight concrete practices in preventing such violence and identify strategies for making this a global priority.

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules
Speakers: Sharon Rosen (Global Director for Religious Engagement, Search for Common Ground), Dr. William Vendley (General Secretary, Religions for Peace), Dr. Mohammad Abu Nimer (Senior Adviser, KAICIID), Ana Jimenez (Political Adviser, UN Alliance of Civilizations), [To be confirmed] Rabbi Jeffrey Myers (Tree of Life synagogue, Pittsburgh).


Addressing the Threat of Islamist Extremism to Religious Freedom in the Post-ISIS World

Open to the General Public
Time: 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Organization(s): Christian Solidarity International
Location: National Press Club, First Amendment Lounge, 529 14th St. NW, 13th Floor, Washington, D.C., 20045
Preview: Bishop Michael Nazir Ali and Prof. Habib Malik – two distinguished Christian scholars and human rights promoters - will present unique observations regarding the current threat to religious freedom posed by Islamic Extremism following the defeat of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria. They will also propose appropriate governmental and non-governmental responses. The presentations and subsequent discussion will be moderated by John Eibner

Discussion Rule: On the Record
Panelists: Bishop Michael Nazir Ali, OXTRAD, Former Anglican Bishop of Rochester, Prof. Habib Malik, Lebanese American University, Dr. John Eibner, Christian Solidarity International (CSI)
IRF Roundtable Ministerial Side Event

Open to the Public, RSVP Encouraged
  Time: 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Organization(s): International Religious Freedom Roundtable

Location: Room G50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill; at 50 Constitution Avenue (cross street is 1st Street), NE, Washington, DC 20002

Preview: The IRF Roundtable in Washington, D.C., is a proven platform for bringing people together—despite deep differences—and building trust among citizens, groups, and governments. As an outgrowth of the first Ministerial, this model is being replicated as a global network of multi-faith Roundtables that intentionally collaborates to support peace and prosperity through religious freedom. We will:

- Present and discuss the IRF Roundtable model.
- Highlight the efforts of IRF Roundtables in Nigeria, Sudan, Taiwan, South Korea, Belgium, Ukraine, Italy and Colombia and discuss planned IRF Roundtables in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, Hungary, Romania, the United Kingdom, France, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Indonesia, and Mexico.
- Taking the next step as an outgrowth of this second Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom: strategically planning and coordinating global actions across three networks: like-minded governments, Parliamentarians, and IRF Roundtables and their civil society partners

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules

RSVP/INFO: RSVP to lheffley@globalengage.org
The Role of Partnership in Achieving Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB)

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 2:00 – 4:30 pm

Organization(s): International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD)
Location: United States Institute of Peace (USIP) - Kathwari Amphitheater, 2301 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20037

Preview: PaRD members will shed light on the role of multi-stakeholder-partnerships to advance FoRB by providing examples from the field, linking it to existing initiatives in development cooperation, and discussing the nexus between religious literacy and FoRB literacy.

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules
Participants: Archbishop Thabo Makgoba (Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town), Kirsten Evans (USAID), Ulrich Nitschke (PaRD secretariat), Katherine Marshall (WFDD) tbc., Mohammed Abu-Nimer (KAICIID), Sharon Rosen (Search for Common Ground), Don Rogers (CRS) tbc., Eiman Kheir (AUC-CIDO) tbc., Mohamed Elsanousi (The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers) tbc., Susan Hayward (USIP) tbc.

RSVP/INFO: info@pard.international

Visit to the US Holocaust Memorial Museum

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Organization(s): U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
Location: US Holocaust Memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW

Preview: Museum staff will provide a briefing and orientation to introduce you to the Museum’s Permanent Exhibition: The Holocaust as well as a new special exhibition Americans and the Holocaust and an exhibition about ongoing atrocities in Syria entitled, Syria: Please Don’t Forget Us.

RSVP/INFO: adupuis@ushmm.org
Workshop on Christian Persecution

Open to the Public, RSVP Required
Time: 4:00 – 7:00 pm

Organization(s): Embassy of Hungary

Location: Capitol Hill Club, 300 First St SE, Washington, DC 20003

Preview: The persecution of Christians is among the most severe human rights crises of our time. More than one hundred countries approximately 245 million people experience discrimination and persecution for their Christian faith. The purpose of our event is to raise awareness and identify common actions.

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules

Participants: Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Péter Szijjártó, State Secretary for the Aid of Persecuted Christians Tristan Azbej

RSVP/INFO: RSVP.WAS@mfa.gov.hu

Evangelical-Muslim Peacemaking Today: Reception and Networking

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Organization(s): Unity Productions Foundation & KAICIID Dialogue Center

Location: GWU Marvin Center Room 307, 800 21st St NW Washington, DC 20052

Preview: Please join Muslim, Evangelical, and Religious Freedom advocates from around the country working at the forefront to cross divides and promote dialogue and relationship-building. This reception and networking event will present the work of the KAICIID Dialogue Center and Unity Productions Foundations work in promoting Evangelical-Muslim relationship-building through film and dialogue. Hosted by Unity Productions Foundation and KAICIID Dialogue Center.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Pastor Bob Roberts, NorthWood Church; Faisal bin Abdulrahman bin Muaammar, Secretary General, KAICIID Dialogue Center; Alexei Laushkin, Kingdom Mission Society; Daniel Tutt, Unity Productions Foundation

RSVP/INFO: daniel@upf.tv
Reception for the International Humanist Community

Invitation Only
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Organization(s): American Humanist Association

Location: American Humanist Association, 1821 Jefferson Place NW, Washington, DC, 20036

Preview: Join fellow humanists from around the world for an informal reception at the American Humanist Association Headquarters near Dupont Circle. Beer, wine, and light refreshments will be served.

RSVP/INFO: ncarr@americanhumanist.org

Candlelight Vigil with Live Musical Performances

Open to the General Public
Time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Organization(s): Falun Dafa Association at Washington DC

Location: Washington Monument Grounds (Close to 17th St and Constitution Ave.), 130 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20006

Preview: A candlelight vigil to memorialize the compassionate hearts and adamantine spirit of Falun Gong practitioners who endured 20 years of unprecedented and brutal persecution in China. A special tribute to those practitioners who were persecuted to death.

7:00pm - 8:00pm: Live performance with folk songs

8:00pm - 9:30pm: Candlelight vigil

Discussion Rule: Off the Record

Participants: Performers include Michael D. Feltz, Sara Effner, Scott Brown, etc.
Breakfast Reception and Guided Tour of Religious Freedom Exhibits at the Museum of the Bible

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 9:00 – 11:00 am

Organization(s): Religious Freedom Institute

Location: Museum of the Bible, 400 4th Street Southwest Washington, DC, 20024

Preview: Join us for a breakfast reception and special tour of key exhibits that spotlight the profound impact of the bible on the development of religious freedom and human rights in the United States and around the world.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Guided tour features: Dr. Seth Pollinger, Director of Education, Museum of the Bible; Dr. Timothy Shah, Vice President for Strategy and International Research, Religious Freedom Institute (RFI); David Trimble, Director, Center for Religious Freedom Education, RFI


Skills-Building Workshops for Practitioners

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 9:00 am – 1:30 pm

Organization(s): U.S. Institute of Peace

Location: U.S. Institute of Peace 2301 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009

Preview: The U.S. Institute of Peace with partners will hold three concurrent skills-based workshops for international participants of the Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom. The three workshops will focus on nonviolent action, dialogue, and media. RSVP is required and space is limited. Additional information about the workshops is available at the RSVP link.

Discussion Rule: Chatham House Rules

Speakers: Nonviolent action: Rosarie Tucci (USIP), Tonis Montes (USIP), Tarek Maassarani; Dialogue: Mohammed Abu Nimer (American University & KAICIID), Susan Hayward (USIP); Media: Shirin Taber (Empower Women Media)

RSVP/INFO: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfgX24adE6ztgnDGyRLiv39IAB5vaRtxh3c-ouCGecbfSxA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfgX24adE6ztgnDGyRLiv39IAB5vaRtxh3c-ouCGecbfSxA/viewform)
The Impact of War on Religious Freedom

Open to the General Public

Time: 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Organization(s): Committee for Responsible Foreign Policy & The American Conservative

Location: Museum of the Bible, 6th Floor, 400 4th St., SW, Washington, DC 20024

Preview: A discussion as to the specific impact of war on religious freedom, taking into consideration humanitarian issues and the impact of American affairs abroad.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Participants: Senator Rick Santorum, Keynote Speaker, W. James Antle III, Editor, The American Conservative, J. Heinrich Arnold, Senior Pastor, Bruderhof Church Communities, Kristina Arriaga, President, Oxford Society for Law and Religion, Karen Barkey, Haas Distinguished Chair of Religious Diversity, Professor of Sociology, University of California - Berkley, Rev. Dr. Andrew P.W. Bennett, Senior Fellow and Director, Religious Freedom Institute, John A. Burtka IV, Executive Director, The American Conservative, Cole Durham, Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law; Founding Director, Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University, Aykan Erdemir, Senior Fellow, Foundation for Defense of Democracies, Tugba Tanyeri Erdemir, Research Associate, University of Pittsburgh, Nadine Maenza, Commissioner, United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, Alberto Melloni, Professor of History of Christianity, University of Modena-Reggio, Dr. Peter Petkoff, Senior Law Lecturer, Brunel Law School, Elizabeth Prodromou, Visiting Associate Professor of Conflict Resolution, The Fletcher School at Tufts University
Roundtable Leader’s Workshop

Invitation Only
Time: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Organization(s): 21Wilberforce & ICON

Location: 245 Second St, NE, Washington, DC 20002

Preview: After last year’s ministerial, a network of roundtables, is coming online. Many of the experiences can be shared between the leaders of those roundtables. This event is a planning session where good ideas, lessons learned, and collaborative opportunities can be discussed, explored, and white boarded.

Discussion Rule: Off the Record

Christian and Muslim Persecution

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 10:00 – 11:30 am

Organization(s): Center for Pluralism

Location: 3210 8th Street, SE, Unit 5, Washington D.C.

Preview: Christian and Muslim minorities are persecuted everywhere in the world by fellow countrymen. How can we mitigate these phobias and let Christians and Muslims live freely and practice their faith fearlessly?

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Speakers: Dr. Mike Ghouse, Center for Pluralism & Ajit Sahi, Indian American Muslim Council

RSVP/INFO: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christians-and-muslims-persecution-tickets-64250052637
Prosperity of a Nation Hinges on its Religious Freedom

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Organization(s): Center for Pluralism

Location: 3210 8th Street, SE, Unit 5, Washington D.C.

Preview: The economic prosperity of a nation is directly proportional to religious freedom. It frees people from the daily tensions of what to eat, drink, wear and believe, or loss of income. They become a productive employee and devoted members of their family and contributing to prosperity of the nation.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

Speaker: Dr. Mike Ghouse, Center for Pluralism & Dr. Abusaleh Shariff, US India Policy Institute

RSVP/INFO: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/religious-freedom-is-proportional-to-economic-prosperity-of-a-nation-tickets-64248754755

Advancing Stability and Economic Development Through Religious Freedom

Open to Public, RSVP Required
Time: 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Organization(s): International Union of Bilateral Chambers of Commerce and Industry (IUBCCI)

Location: L Ron Hubbard House Museum, 1812 19th St. NW Washington DC 20009

Preview: The event will be a panel discussion on "Advancing Stability and Economic Development Through Religious Freedom" where selected members of diplomatic corps in Washington DC, officials and international organization representatives will engage in conversation and identify how religious freedom will help achieve sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all.

Discussion Rule: On the Record

RSVP/INFO: office@iubcci.com