

## Advancing Religious Freedom: A Path to Peace

### Religious Freedom as a Human Right

All people deserve religious freedom. This panel seeks to address how the international community can reaffirm religious freedom as a human right in the 21st century. No matter our own cultural contexts, religious affiliations, or moral differences, the universal rule of law of every prosperous, stable country shares a common respect for human rights, including freedom of religion or belief. Recognizing Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, this panel will consider ways to ensure every member-state is abiding by this agreement and how to expand the efforts to champion religious human rights.

**Moderator:** *Dr. Paul Murray, Vice President, Global Peace Foundation*

- **Dr. Daniel Philpott**, *Professor, Political Science, University of Notre Dame*
- **Pam Pryor**, *Former Acting Assistant Secretary for International Organizations, U.S. State Department*
- **Sean Nelson**, *Legal Counsel for Global Religious Freedom, ADF International*
- **Rev. Susan Taylor**, *National Public Affairs Director, Church of Scientology*
- **David Anderson**, *Chairman Steering Group, International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief*

### The Global Rise of Government Restrictions on Religious Freedom

Government restrictions on religion have increased markedly in many places around the world, not only in authoritarian countries, but also in many of Europe's democracies, according to a report surveying 198 countries. In many countries, actions by government officials, social groups or individuals espousing nationalist positions have caused restrictions on religion. In addition, the practice of religious freedom, like most other spheres of human activity, has been radically affected by the coronavirus pandemic. USCIRF's monitoring revealed that in some countries, already marginalized religious minorities faced official and/or societal stigmatization, harassment, and discrimination for allegedly causing or spreading the virus. This panel seeks to address the rising religious restrictions around the world, the increased implications of the pandemic and what tools are necessary to reverse this rising tide.

**Moderator:** *Dr. Paul Murray, Vice President, Global Peace Foundation*

- **Samirah Majumdar**, *Research Associate, Pew Research Center*
- **Ján Figel'**, *Former European Commissioner, Slovak Republic*
- **Peter Henne**, *Professor, University of Vermont*
- **Doug Bandow**, *Senior Fellow, Cato Institute*
- **Olivia Enos**, *Senior Policy Analyst, Heritage Foundation*

### SOUTH KOREA INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ROUNDTABLE

**Moderator:** *Dr. Paul Murray, Vice President, Global Peace Foundation*

#### USA

- **Dr. Robert Schuller**, *Evangelist, Author*
- **Greg Mitchell**, *Chairman, International Religious Freedom Secretariat*
- **Rev. Bob Fu**, *Ph.D., President, ChinaAid*
- **Dr. Gerald Durley**, *Civil Rights Icon*

#### South Korea

- **Rev. Kenneth Bae**, *Founder, Nehemiah Global Initiatives*
- **Dr. Chan-il An**, *Chair Professor, Open Cyber, University of Korea*
- **Hon. Choong-whan Kim**, *Co-chair, Action for Korea United*
- **Dr. Jin Shin**, *Professor, Choongnam University*
- **Dr. Yeo-sang Yoon**, *Chief Director, Database Center for North Korean Human Rights*