

## Moving Forward Together: Peacebuilding 2021

### VALUES-BASED PEACEBUILDING IN ASIA

#### Community Peacebuilding through Shared Values: Effective Methods in Preventing Violent Extremism

Efforts to address the roots of radicalism and counter violent extremism can be most effectively addressed at a local level by community and faith leaders who are best positioned to identify those at risk and provide a path to peace and non-violence. Interreligious peacebuilding can help prevent violent extremism by building trusting relationships and reducing the marginalization that is a potential driver of extremism. This session will address the premise that shared values based on our common humanity, and expressed in the world's faith traditions provide an affirmative basis to build social cohesion in diverse and multi-religious societies.

**Moderator:** Gail Hambleton, Senior Program Specialist, Values-based Peacebuilding Global Peace Foundation

- Yusef Paglas, Community Youth Leader
- Arriza Nocum, Founder and Executive Director, KRIS for Peace
- Noraida Chio, Senior Program Officer, Philippines, The Asia Foundation

#### Empowering Youth as Positive Agents of Change in Preventing Violent Extremism

In the wake of the COVID 19 pandemic, countries around the world have experienced a surge in violent extremism, online radicalization, intolerance and religious and ethnic hatred. While youth suffer disproportionately from the effects of these vulnerabilities, they can play important roles in preventing violence, mitigating negative effects of conflict and strengthening social cohesion and resilience. They can be the agents of positive change, and are most able to mobilize their peers to push back against the growing threats and challenges. An increasing number of youth-focused and youth-led organizations are leveraging social media and other platforms to prevent and counter extremism, hate speech, and intolerance and promote alternative positive narratives and shared positive values. In this panel we will hear from panelists what their organizations are doing to create opportunities for youth to become engaged as change-makers and peace-builders in their communities.

**Moderator:** Dr. Nilufar Choudry, Senior Advisor, Partnerships & Development, Global Peace Foundation

- Isabella Caravaggio, Programme Analyst-Prevention of Violent Extremism, UNDP
- Gracia Respati, Program Officer, Search for Common Ground Indonesia
- Saumya Vilashini, Sri Lanka Programmes Officer, Generations For Peace
- Shintya Rahimi Utami, General Manager, Global Peace Foundation, Indonesia

### VALUES-BASED PEACEBUILDING: GLOBAL

#### Interreligious Peacebuilding; Acknowledging the One Human Family

Over the last two decades, Africa has witnessed an alarming rise of identity-induced conflict and violence, terrorist organizations, and groups sympathetic to their ideologies. The situation has been exacerbated by growing political tension and corruption, socio-cultural challenges, and economic deprivation in many African countries today. From ancient times, Religions and wisdom traditions have always taught the values that motivate and lead people to higher aspirations that transform and heal relationships. This session focuses on the role of religion in promoting our shared humanity as one family with shared values, countering extremism, and the wrong use of religion to advance violence in Africa.

**Moderator:** Rev. Joseph Hayab, Country Director, Global Peace Foundation, Nigeria

- Rev. Dr. Walter Ihejirika, Professor of Development Communication & Media Studies, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria
- Sheikh Ilyasu Imoro, Director, Halbullah Islamic Institute, Ghana
- Rev. Fr. Michael Niba, Ph.D, Research Scholar at the McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values, Catholic University of America, Cameroon
- Sheikh Halliru Abdullahi Maraya, Northern Coordinator, Global Peace Foundation, Nigeria

#### Cohesion and Solidarity through Shared Values

Identity based conflict, or the "us vs. them" mentality divides us, directly contributes to violence and even war, and continues a vicious cycle of underdevelopment, poverty, environmental degradation and social disorder. Usually there are layers of identity, tribal or religious for example, that can further complicate a conflict. Understanding our shared identity and common aspirations as members of the human family beyond the boundaries of ethnicity, religion and nationality establishes the basis for lasting peace. We need to work together to build consensus on shared values to advance the creation of vibrant, prosperous, ethical societies.

**Moderator:** Rev. Dr. Fr. Canice Chinyeaka Enyiaka, Program Development Specialist, Interfaith/Community Outreach, Global Peace Foundation

- Ambassador (Dr.) Martin Uhomobhi, Former President, United Nations Human Rights Council, Nigeria
- Dr. Brown Odigie, Program Officer, Mediation, Directorate of Political Affairs, ECOWAS, Nigeria
- Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, Chairman, National Cohesion and Integration Commission, Kenya
- Ambassador Frederic Ngoga Gateretse, Head of Conflict Prevention and Early Warning Division, African Union, Burundi

#### Think Global, Act Local: Global Ethics in Community Peacebuilding

Cohesion in diverse and pluralistic societies is possible based on shared values. Though the world's various religious traditions may differ greatly on doctrines and modes of worship, they share broad agreement on the essentials of how people treat each other. There have been numerous efforts to articulate this broad agreement on shared values as a "global ethic." Given the current global crisis of polarization and extremism, a renewed effort to highlight a "global ethical framework" is urgently needed. What could be the process for Global Ethics to become more known and accepted on a grassroots level in our world today?

**Moderator:** Gail Hambleton, Senior Program Specialist, Values-based Peacebuilding, Global Peace Foundation

- Dr. Jonathon Keir, Founding Officer, KSG Foundation, Stuttgart, Germany, Hans Küng's Global Ethics Institute
- Dr. Paul Mojzes, Professor, Academic Dean, and Provost Emeritus, Rosemont College

### VALUES-BASED PEACEBUILDING IN EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST, INDIA, and AFRICA

#### Community Peacebuilding through Shared Values: Best Practices from the Field

Efforts to address the roots of radicalism and counter violent extremism can be most effectively addressed at a local level by community and faith leaders who are best positioned to identify those at risk and provide a path to peace and non-violence. Social cohesion can help prevent violent extremism by building trusting relationships and reducing the marginalization that is a potential driver of extremism. This session will address the premise that shared values based on our common humanity, and expressed in the world's faith traditions provide an affirmative basis to build social cohesion in diverse and multi-religious societies.

**Moderator:** Martha Nghambi, Country Director, Global Peace Foundation, Tanzania

- Rev. Joseph Hayab, Country Director, Global Peace Foundation, Nigeria
- Anthony Sarota, Country Coordinator, Mercy Corps, Tanzania
- Joyce Deloge, Technical Specialist-PVE, UNDP

#### Countering Violence and Misinformation in the Electoral Process

In recent years, elections in many African countries have been fraught with significant levels of violence during the campaign period, on polling day, or in the aftermath of voting. While conflict triggers are multi-dimensional, spread of misinformation has remained one of the most common forms of political incitement during elections. Electoral violence has the potential to undo years of peace building and development work, and can threaten democratic stability. This session will explore the causes and dynamics of election violence, good practices of fighting misinformation, and the opportunities and mechanisms available to proactively mitigate and prevent electoral violence, and foster peaceful elections.

**Moderator:** Daniel Juma Omondi, Executive Director, Global Peace Foundation, Kenya

- Anisa Harrasy, Young Cities and Sub-Saharan Africa Manager, Institute for Strategic Dialogue
- Sentell Barnes, Southern Africa Regional Resident Program Director, International Republican Institute
- Abubakar Said, Civic Education Manager, Uraia Trust

### VALUES-BASED PEACEBUILDING AND EDUCATION IN THE AMERICAS

#### Digital Citizenship and Media Literacy as Tools to Strengthen Democracy

Digital platforms like Facebook, WhatsApp, Signal and Telegram all bring benefits in communication, messaging, and online organizing. Social media and private messaging keep people in touch and informed. However, misinformation and the share button can also amplify narratives that are detrimental to democracy and manipulate public opinion. This panel examines how strengthening media literacy also strengthens democracy and empowers individuals as proactive consumers of information. Best practices will feature approaches that empower youth, women and educators with media literacy skills that combat misinformation and amplify voices in the emergent digital space of democracy.

**Moderator:** Cat Lockman, Director of Organizational Development, Global Peace Foundation

- Amanda Quinn, Data and Media Analyst, Creative Associates
- Hurunnessa Fariad, Director of Outreach, Multi-Faith Neighbor's Network
- Safiya Ibn Garba, Founder and Programme Director, Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative