

- FORUM - THE FUTURE OF RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Borromeo Palace, Rome | 11 December 2018



To examine the challenges and the prospects concerning religious minorities in the war-torn Middle East, and to advocate for the respect of their fundamental human rights, first of all religious freedom. These are the major goals of the Forum "The Future of Religious Minorities in the Middle East" promoted by the Center for Studies on the Middle East of the Fundación Promoción Social, and the Religion & Security Council. The Forum will take place in Rome on Tuesday 11 December 2018, from 15 to 19 hours, at the Embassy of Italy to the Holy See (Borromeo Palace, Viale delle Belle Arti, no. 2), and will bring together institutional authorities and personalities from the political, religious, diplomatic, and academic field; officials of international organizations; researchers of think tanks and study centers; representatives of the civil society and the media. The proceedings will devote particular attention to the Middle East Christian communities, interreligious dialogue in conflicts resolution, and the role of the international community in the protection of minorities.

PARTNERS:

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AGENDA

15.00 OPENING SESSION

WELCOME REMARKS

H.E. Amb. Pietro SEBASTIANI
Ambassador of Italy to the Holy See
Ms. Jumana TRAD
President, Fundación Promoción Social

15.30 FIRST SESSION

RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN AREAS OF CRISIS: CHALLENGES & PERSPECTIVES

Rev. Fr. Rachid MISTRIH OFM
Regional Minister for Syria, Lebanon, and
Jordan, Custody of the Holy Land
H.E. Hon. Pascal WARDA
Former Minister of Immigration and
Refugees, Iraq
Prof. Nadim SHEHADI
Fares Center for Eastern Mediterranean
Studies, Fletcher School of Law and
Diplomacy, Tufts University
Prof. Francesco ZANNINI
Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic
Studies
Introduction and Moderation
Mr. Roberto FONTOLAN
"Stand Together" Project

16.30 SECOND SESSION

INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE & CONFLICTS RESOLUTION: WHAT ROLE FOR CHRISTIANS?

Prof. Fr. Laurent BASANESE SJ
Director of the Centre for Interreligious
Studies, Pontifical Gregorian University

Prof. Elie AL HINDY
Notre Dame University-Louaize
Mr. Abdellah REDOUANE
Secretary General, Cultural Islamic
Center of Italy
Prof. Ambrogio BONGIOVANNI
Pontifical Urbaniana University
Introduction and Moderation
Mr. Emiliano STORNELLI
Chairman of the Religion & Security
Council

17.30 THIRD SESSION

MINORITY PROTECTION: WHAT ROLE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY?

H.E. Sen. Paola BINETTI
Member of the Senate of the Republic
H.E. Prof. Agostino BORROMEO
Lieutenant General, Equestrian Order of
the Holy Sepulcher
Ms. Pascale DEBBANE
Regional Coordinator for the Middle
East - Migrants & Refugees Section,
DIHD, Holy See
Couns. Ms. Michela CARBONIERO
Head of Human Rights Office,
Directorate General for Political Affairs
and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation
Introduction and Moderation
Ms. Marta PETROSILLO
Spokesperson of ACN Aid to the Church
in Need-Italy

18.30 CONCLUSIONS

H.E. Hon. Antonio TAJANI
President of the European Parliament

PARTNERS: