



INVITATION

BUSSOLA VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE: FURTHERING HUMAN FRATERNITY THROUGH INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE AND EXCHANGE IN THE WAKE OF THE PANDEMIC



Wednesday, 26th May 2021 from 14:00 to 15:00 (CET, Brussels time)

Virtual Roundtable

The ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic are continuing to test the limits of human compassion and solidarity within and between societies. One of Bussola's key programmes, *"The Values That Bind Us"*, explores the fundamental social and cultural elements that have an impact on the EU-GCC relationship, with an emphasis on issues promoting greater inter-religious dialogue, cross-cultural awareness and mutual understanding. A key aspect of this programme is to provide a framework in which the dynamics of people's faith, religion and societal change can best be understood in order to enhance tolerance, diversity and inclusion.

The fundamental principles enshrined in the historic document on *"Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together"*, signed by Pope Francis and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar in Abu Dhabi in February 2019, call for enhanced cooperation and solidarity in advancing a culture of greater understanding and mutual respect.

This Bussola Institute virtual roundtable will examine the importance of inter-religious dialogue and exchange between Christians and Muslims, particularly at this time of global crisis, when discontent, isolation and uncertainty are fuelling exclusionary narratives and spreading animosity towards "others". The event will also explore the scope for new initiatives that might be developed in response to the call for the Human Fraternity principles to be translated into policies, decisions and concrete initiatives.

PANELLISTS:



Panel Member

HE Sheikha Najla Al Qasemi

Former Ambassador and Director of Global Affairs, B'huth Dubai Public Policy Center, UAE



Panel Member

Fr. Markus Solo

Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and Vice-President of the Nostra Aetate Foundation, Vatican City



Panel Member

Hadjah Sarah Handang

Senior Education Program Specialist, Mindanao, Philippines



Panel Member

Fr. Manuel Barrios Prieto

General Secretary of COMECE, the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the EU, Brussels



Panel Member

Fr. Edmond Grace SJ

Secretary for Justice and Ecology, Jesuit European Social Centre, Brussels



Panel Member

Mr. Stephen Biller

Founder of the Working Group on Islam in the European Parliament



Register here

Questions

There will be an opportunity to submit written questions to the panel during the course of the event via Zoom or they can be submitted vz in advance to: events@bussolainstitute.org

