



Preventing Violent Extremism: Call for Mutual Respect, Tolerance, Dialogue and a Culture of Peace

We, the representatives of different faiths, appreciating and greatly valuing religious freedom in the Kingdom of Bahrain, and united by our collective belief in the dignity of the human person and the pursuit of peace, came together during the holy month of Ramadan.

Shocked and horrified by the bloodshed and loss of life which occurred during recent global events, we discussed the twin challenges of preventing and countering extremist violence facing our communities and the world.

The violent actors aim to foster discontent, distrust and vengeance. They seek to obscure the fundamental values of our faiths, propagate fear, sow division, and to incite more violence. Around the world, communities are experiencing this radicalization and extremist violence; no community is exempt or immune.

We reiterated our complete rejection of violence and agreed to demonstrate by example a commitment to mutual respect, tolerance, dialogue and a culture of peace.

We shared perspectives and discussed practical steps to foster mutual respect, tolerance, dialogue and a culture of peace among peoples in our communities. We concluded by uniting in courage to:

- foster in our communities the practice of mutual respect, tolerance, dialogue and a culture of peace;
- engage actively the youth of our communities in the practice of mutual respect, tolerance, dialogue and a culture of peace;
- partner with educators and other community leaders in promoting mutual respect, tolerance, dialogue and a culture of peace; and
- look for opportunities to increase interfaith dialogue among our different communities focused on mutual respect, tolerance, dialogue and a culture of peace.

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