



# Upholding a Rules Based System on Freedom of Religion or Belief

## Singapore, 30-31 October 2019

Mandarin Oriental  
5 Raffles Ave  
Singapore 039797

### Wednesday, 30 October 2019

8.45 - 9.30 Registration with coffee and tea

Official start of parliamentary symposium:

09.30 - 10.30 **Opening speeches**  
*(Plenary session & open to media)*

Moderated by Sharanjit Leyl, *International News Journalist*

- Guest of honour  
Grace Fu, Minister of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY), Singapore
- Abid Raja, Vice President, Parliament of Norway, Member of the Steering Committee, IPPFoRB
- Norbert Lammert, Chairman, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and former President of the German Bundestag
- David Anderson, Member of Parliament Canada & Chair of the Steering Committee, International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief (IPPFoRB) – *introducing the Singapore Declaration for Freedom of Religion or Belief*

10.30 - 11.00 **Special Discussion on History of IPPFoRB** *(Plenary session)*

Moderated by Sharanjit Leyl, *International News Journalist*

- David Anderson, Chair of the Steering Committee, IPPFoRB
- Volker Kauder, Member of the German Bundestag & former Chairman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the German Bundestag

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 - 12.30 **ABC of FoRB** *(Plenary session)*

- Liv H. Kvanvig, Coordinator IPPFoRB
- Nazila Ghanea, Associate Professor in International Human Rights Law, Oxford University

**Q&A**



- 12.30 - 14.00 Lunch
- 14.00 - 15.30 **Recent trends (Plenary session)**
- Keynote speech*
- Ahmed Shaheed, United Nations Special Rapporteur on FoRB
- Regional response**
- Desi Hanara, Southeast Asia Regional Coordinator for Freedom of Religion or Belief, ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights (APHR)
- Q&A session
- 15.30 - 16.00 Coffee break
- 16.00 - 17.30 **Sofa conversation on the Role of Legislators in relation to FoRB (plenary session)**
- Moderated by Eugene Tan, *Associate Professor of Law, School of Law, Singapore Management University & former Nominated Member of Parliament, Republic of Singapore & Alternate Singaporean Representative to ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights*
- 17.45 – 19.30 Tour of Singaporean Parliament
- 19.30 – 21.00 Singapore River Cruise and Dinner

#### **Thursday, 31 October 2019**

- 9.00 - 9.15 **Introduction to the 2<sup>nd</sup> day (Plenary session)**
- Introducing Toolkits
- Liv H. Kvanvig, Coordinator, IPPFoRB
- 9.15 - 10.45 **Aspects of Toolkits (Plenary session)**
- Amro Hussein, Director (APPG for Freedom of Religion or Belief), British House of Commons
- 10.45 - 11.15 Coffee break
- 11.15 - 12.45 **Working Group Sessions**
- Working Group 1: FoRB and Women's Rights**
- Moderated by Dian Shah, *Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore*
- Working Group 2: FoRB in Multi-Religious Societies**



Moderated by Norman Vasu, *Senior Fellow & Deputy Head of Centre of Excellence for National Security, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies*

12.45 - 14.15

Lunch

14.15 - 15.30

**Region-based discussions**

*Moderators:*

**Asia** – Ronojoy Sen, Senior Research Fellow; and Research Lead (Politics & Governance), Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore

**Africa** – Nqabayomzi Kwankwa, Member of Parliament, South Africa & Chair of the African Parliamentarians Association for Human Rights

**Europe** – Amro Hussein, Director (APPG for Freedom of Religion or Belief), British House of Commons

**Americas** – Thiago Alves, Project Coordinator, Oslo Coalition Project, University of Oslo

15.30 - 16.00

Coffee break

16.00 - 17.00

**Synthesis of the region-based discussions**

Knox Thames, Special Advisor for Religious Minorities, U.S State Department

17.00 – 17.30

**Closing remarks and Way Forward**

David Anderson, Chair IPPFoRB