

INTERNATIONAL
DIALOGUE CENTRE



KAICIID



Voices of Dialogue **KAICIID QUARTERLY**

QUARTER 2, 2025

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FOREWORD



**By Ambassador António
de Almeida-Ribeiro**
Acting Secretary
General, KAICIID

In April, the international community mourned the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis, whose life and leadership profoundly shaped the global dialogue on peace, compassion and care for the most vulnerable. His legacy will continue to inspire us, together with actors across sectors, faith-based and secular alike, to carry forward his vision of a more humane and united world.

In this spirit and rooted in our unique model of multi-religious and multilateral governance, KAICIID continues to serve as a bridge between tradition and innovation, faith and diplomacy. Our mandate, entrusted by our Member States – the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Austria, the Kingdom of Spain, and the Holy See as a Founding Observer – calls us to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue as a concrete tool for social cohesion, conflict prevention and inclusive development.

I wish to express my deepest gratitude to our Member States, partners, and friends across faiths, sectors and regions. Your trust, dedication and collaboration empower KAICIID to serve as a bridge-builder across religions and cultures. From global forums to regional initiatives, throughout the second quarter of 2025, KAICIID strengthened partnerships and shared stories that showcased the role of religious leaders and faith-based actors in addressing some of the most urgent challenges of our time.

As we move into the second half of 2025, I encourage all of us in a renewed commitment to working together in building just and inclusive societies. I look forward to continuing to work with all of you in the months to come.

EXECUTIVE UPDATES

Positioning KAICIID at the Intersection of Faith Diplomacy, Multilateralism, and Global Dialogue Initiatives

The Acting Secretary General (ASG) held a series of bilateral meetings with diplomatic representatives of countries of programmatic relevance, exploring tailored cooperation and policy advocacy. The ASG also held bilateral meetings with educational institutions in Portugal, exploring pathways for academic cooperation, including research partnerships, institutional training, and youth leadership programming.

On 10 June 2025, the ASG participated in national celebrations on the Day of Portugal, Camões, and the Portuguese Communities, in Lagos. He used this platform to foster diplomatic relationships within Portugal and internationally.

Baku Mission: Advancing Dialogue as a Response to Religious Hatred

As part of KAICIID's efforts in combatting religious discrimination, the ASG represented the Centre at the 3rd International Conference on Islamophobia in Baku. Held in observance of the International Day to Combat Islamophobia, the event convened global actors under the theme *“Islamophobia in Focus: Unveiling Bias, Shattering Stigmas.”*

Delivering a keynote address at the opening plenary, the ASG emphasised the urgent need for integrated, dialogue-based responses to rising hate speech and religious intolerance:



- **APRIL 2025:**
 - Ambassadorial Roundtable for the Arab Region Diplomatic Corps
 - KAICIID Expert Meeting
 - Outreach Mission to Rome, Italy
- **MAY 2025:**
 - 3rd Baku Conference on “Islamophobia in Focus: Unveiling Bias, Shattering Stigmas”
- **JUNE 2025:**
 - Mission to Vienna for OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting III
 - Empowering Faith Communities: Adapting to a Green-Based Economy
 - 2nd Inter-Parliamentary Union Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue
 - Signing of Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution

“The rise of Islamophobia is not only a threat to one religious group, but also a direct challenge to democratic institutions, social cohesion, and our collective humanity.”

In parallel, the ASG engagement with KAICIID's affiliated platform, EuLeMa, together with representatives from Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Germany, Portugal, and Romania to garner joint action in advancing interreligious harmony across the region. Additionally, he held bilateral meetings with the representatives of diplomatic and institutional organizations, as well as with Sheikh ul-Islam Dr. Allahshukur Pashazade, Chairman of the Caucasus Muslims' Board and KAICIID Board Member.

Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers

On 3 June, the ASG delivered written remarks to the Principles of the Steering Group Luncheon, hosted by H.E. Ambassador Elina Kalkku, Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations, the luncheon gathered members of the Network's Steering Group to discuss the progress, achievements, and direction of the ongoing strategic renewal process. In the same context, KAICIID also contributed actively to the Expert-Level Steering Group Meeting, underscoring the importance of strengthening collaboration between secular and faith-based organizations to foster multi-faith and multilateral partnerships, enhance local engagement, and transform collective efforts into more effective and impactful peacebuilding outcomes.



Read more:



KAICIID Showcases Leadership in Tackling Religiously Motivated Hatred at Conference Marking International Day to Combat Islamophobia | KAICIID

“



We need to enhance and broaden the collaboration between secular and faith-based organizations – enabling multi-faith and multilateral partnerships that amplify local voices and translate synergy into stronger, more impactful action.”

Ambassador António de Almeida Ribeiro, Acting Secretary General, KAICIID

MFAC All-Members Meeting

On 23 June, KAICIID joined the All-Member Meeting of the Multi-Faith Advisory Council (MFAC) to the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development. At the meeting, MFAC members officially introduced two new thematic groups (the Youth Engagement Working Group and the Climate Working Group) and elected KAICIID and as a co-chair of the Working Group on Gender.

"A Call for Peace, the End of Wars and Respect for International Law"

KAICIID attended the official launch event, co-organised by KAICIID's MoU partners UNAOC and Religions for Peace, designating 2025 as the International Year of Peace and Trust. The interfaith panel featured contributions from notable religious leaders affiliated with KAICIID, including Sheikh-UL-Islam Allahshukur Pashazade, Rev. Kosho Niwano, and H.E. Mufti Dr. Nedžad Grabus.

Read more:



RfP and UNAOC Launch an Alliance for Peace - Religions for Peace

Seekers of peace are found across persons of all societies, races, ethnicities, and religions. There is no clash of civilizations, only the machinations of demagogues to incite hatred and wars.



Empowering Faith Communities: Adapting to a Green-Based Economy

In May, on invitation from the Faculty of Protestant Theology and Religious Studies in Brussels, KAICIID's ASG delivered keynote remarks on 21 May at the webinar "Empowering Faith Communities: Adapting to a Green-Based Economy." Held against the backdrop of accelerating global efforts toward environmental sustainability, the webinar explored the theological and ethical foundations of environmental responsibility and examined how religious teachings can inform practical climate action.



The green transition is not only a technological or economic imperative, it is an ethical and spiritual one. Faith communities carry a unique capacity to inspire collective action and foster a deeper sense of solidarity with our planet and with one another."

António de Almeida-Ribeiro,
Acting Secretary General

Governance Updates

On 22 April 2025, KAICIID welcomed Rev. Kosho Niwano, Member of the Board of Directors, for an official visit to the Centre's headquarters in Lisbon. Subsequently, on 5 June 2025, the Board of Directors held its 30th Special Session virtually. During the session, His Eminence Metropolitan Emmanuel was unanimously re-elected as Chairperson, and Dr. Abdel-Wahab Ahmed Hassan Taha Al-Sammerai as Vice-Chairperson. Their tenure will extend until the first session of 2026. The Board also engaged in discussions regarding its strategic involvement in key programmatic areas of the Centre.



KAICIID PROGRAMME UPDATES



Across regions and communities, KAICIID continues to deliver transformative dialogue initiatives that amplify local voices, build inclusive societies, and strengthen global cooperation for peace and coexistence. From empowering youth in Southeast Asia and launching cross-border peace platforms in West Africa, to equipping communities across the Arab region to confront hate speech and supporting Fellows alumni to rebuild trust in post-conflict Mosul, these stories exemplify the Centre's enduring commitment to fostering understanding and catalyzing change worldwide.



AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAMME

SHAPING NIGERIA'S INTERRELIGIOUS LANDSCAPE

WHAT WE DO AT THE EXECUTIVE LEVEL – BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

Through these partnerships, and working directly with senior religious leaders and policymakers, KAICIID deepens its programmatic engagement in Nigeria by supporting the formulation of inclusive policies aimed at resolving ethno-religious conflict and fostering peaceful coexistence among communities.

Interfaith Dialogue Forum for Peace (IDFP)

The Interfaith Dialogue Forum for Peace (IDFP), with a membership of 120 Christian and Islamic religious leaders, is KAICIID's key platform and partner in Nigeria. The platform was formed in 2017 by KAICIID, together with its three principal national partners, the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), the Kukah Centre and the Interfaith Mediation Centre. With KAICIID's continued support, the IDFP has evolved into one of Nigeria's leading platforms for inclusive governance and peacebuilding through interreligious and intercultural dialogue.



PaRD's Flagship Project on Strengthening Faith- based Partnerships for a Sustainable Future

Having joined the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty, the International Partnership won Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD) launched its flagship project titled *"Strengthening Faith-based Partnerships for a Sustainable Future."*

The project includes sharing extensive knowledge about the critical role faith actors play in advocating for evidence-based practices, which includes a comprehensive mapping, and enhancing engagements between religious actors, faith-based organizations (FBOs) and governmental authorities in three strategic focus countries: Colombia, Indonesia and Nigeria. The IPDF has been selected to lead the project implementation in Nigeria, specifically focusing on Benue State.



Read more: about
Africa Region programme

Building our partnerships in Nigeria: MoU with IPCR

The IPCR is a government-affiliated think tank and a key actor in Nigeria's peace and security architecture. The institution focuses on peacebuilding and conflict management in Nigeria and across Africa, advising on national strategies for conflict prevention and resolution. In addition to being IDFP's founding partner, the IPCR is represented in the platform's Central Coordination Council and serves as a core adviser to the IDFP General Assembly and Peace Conference.

On 30 June, KAICIID and the IPCR signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation on interreligious peacebuilding and inclusive policy dialogue in Nigeria. The MoU identifies several areas of cooperation over the next three years, including interreligious and intercultural dialogue for peace, protection of sacred sites, and prevention and countering of hate speech.

The agreement is a timely opportunity to revive and strengthen the Network of Policymakers and Religious Leaders for Peace and Security, originally established by the two institutions.

WHAT OUR WORK LOOKS LIKE PROGRAMMATICALLY – DEVELOPING CAPACITY

The Interfaith Code of Conduct

In collaboration with the Interfaith Dialogue Forum for Peace (IDFP), KAICIID's Nigeria programme has successfully developed the Interfaith Code of Conduct (ICoC), Nigeria. This resource is designed to provide guidance for all members of the interfaith community, including Muslim and Christian leaders and their followers. The ICoC is grounded in core values supported by key principles and teachings drawn from Biblical and Quranic quotes.

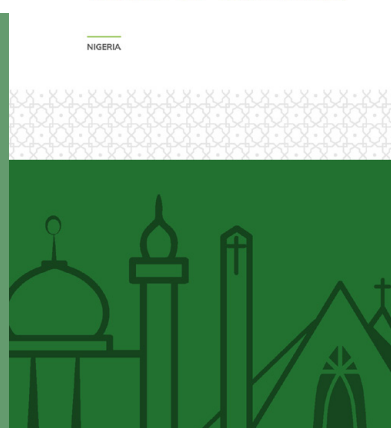
Read more:



KAICIID and IPCR Strengthen Partnership to Advance Peace and Interreligious Dialogue in Nigeria

The new agreement outlines enhanced cooperation to strengthen dialogue between policymakers and religious leaders on inclusive public policies that promote peaceful coexistence.

Interfaith Code Of Conduct



Read the current version of the Interfaith Code of Conduct.

Interfaith Dialogue Networks: Early Warning Systems for Peace

The IDFP, with KAICIID's support, established the Interfaith Dialogue Networks (IDNs) function as sub-regional early warning and response mechanisms in 10 conflict-prone states. From May through July 2025, the IDFP undertook monitoring visits to Nasarawa and Plateau states to assess the impact and sustainability of the IDNs. Meeting with religious leaders and community stakeholders, the newly elected IDFP co-chairs observed robust community engagement despite facing persistent challenges in funding, administrative capacity and documentation, as well as membership turnover due to leadership changes in affiliated religious bodies.

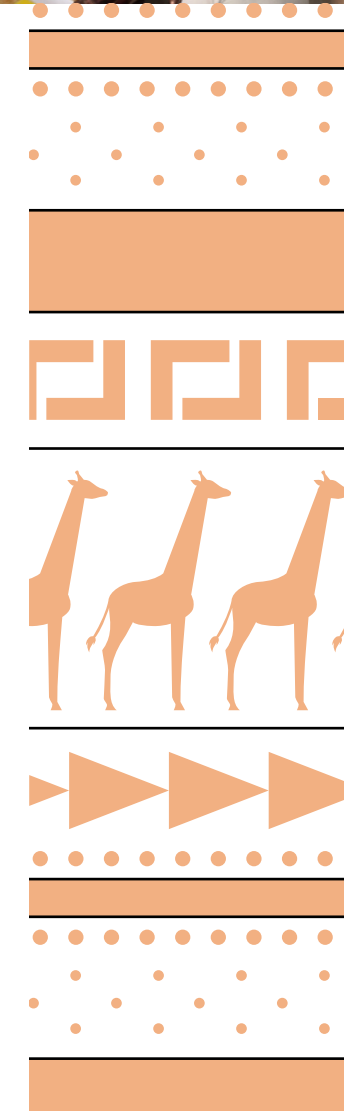
HOW OUR WORK IS AMPLIFIED - A SUCCESSFUL CASE EXAMPLE

IDNs work in practice - Healing Divides in Nasarawa

In meeting with the IDFP co-chairs, the Nasarawa State IDN relayed its work, challenges, as well as achievements, including a situation in 2023, in which the IDN was able to mediate peace between the Alago and Eggon ethnic groups in Obi Local Government Area, a region of intercommunal tensions, prone to cycles of retaliation.

Violence erupted between the two communities, leading to the expulsion of over 5,000 Eggon people from their ancestral lands. Families were forced to abandon their homes, farms and livelihoods, to seek refuge in neighbouring towns.

Recognising the gravity of the situation, the Nasarawa IDN took lead in the mediation process. The IDN members sought to understand the root causes of the conflict and explore pathways for reconciliation. They identified that traditional reconciliation mechanisms were weakened by political interference and a lack of neutral mediators due to vested interests. The IDN engages directly with the Alago traditional ruler, community elders and other key stakeholders. Through a series of inclusive dialogue and



reconciliation sessions, the mediators created a safe space for grievances to be aired, apologies exchanged and practical solutions negotiated, resulting in the Alago leadership agreeing to welcome back the displaced Eggon community, on the condition that clear resolutions were established to prevent future conflicts.

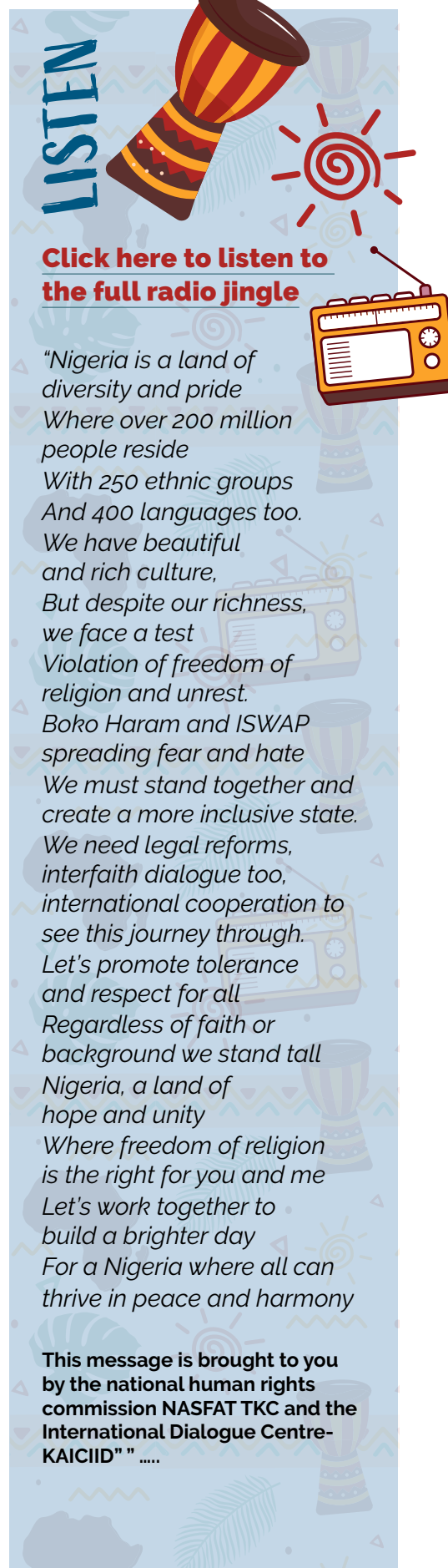
After the return of the displaced Eggon people to their homes, joint community meetings were held to reaffirm commitments to peace, helping normalise relations between the two groups, enabling an environment where the Eggon people were able to reclaim their farms, reopen their businesses, and begin to rebuild their lives.

Nigeria Amplifies Voices for Freedom of Religion and Belief

At the end of stage one of the Freedom of Religion and Belief project across six states in Nigeria, KAICIID and its partners Nigeria's National Human Rights Commission, The Kukah Centre, and Nasrul Lahi'l'Fatih Society (NASFAT), identified systemic challenges faced by religious minority groups.

As part of stage two, focusing on the Kano and Ebonyi States, trained monitors documented verifiable evidence (audio, photos, and written documentation), which can be used to shape policy dialogues. Between February and May 2025, they gathered empirical data on lived experiences of FoRB violations from 102 organizations, including religious institutions, civil society, academia, and security agencies across both states. Their findings identified religious intolerance as the primary root cause of FoRB violations (76.5% of respondents), followed by denial of worship rights (57%), harassment or violence (39%), and discrimination in education and employment (31%). Despite this, over 60% of cases remain unreported due to mistrust in justice mechanisms and fear of reprisal.

KAICIID and its partners translated research insights into action, producing multilingual radio jingles to inspire grassroots change. Broadcasted in Pidgin, Hausa, Yoruba, and Igbo, these messages promote unity and call for an inclusive Nigeria.



LISTEN

Click here to listen to the full radio jingle

*"Nigeria is a land of diversity and pride
Where over 200 million people reside
With 250 ethnic groups
And 400 languages too.
We have beautiful and rich culture,
But despite our richness, we face a test
Violation of freedom of religion and unrest.
Boko Haram and ISWAP spreading fear and hate
We must stand together and create a more inclusive state.
We need legal reforms, interfaith dialogue too,
international cooperation to see this journey through.
Let's promote tolerance and respect for all
Regardless of faith or background we stand tall
Nigeria, a land of hope and unity
Where freedom of religion is the right for you and me
Let's work together to build a brighter day
For a Nigeria where all can thrive in peace and harmony*

This message is brought to you by the national human rights commission NASFAT TKC and the International Dialogue Centre- KAICIID" "

Building Peace from the Ground Up in the Central African Republic

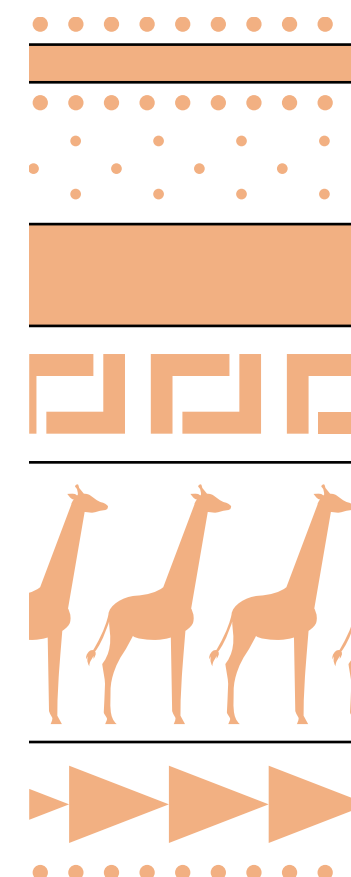
The Interreligious Platform for Peace and Coexistence (PCRC) is working towards stability in the Central African Republic (CAR). With KAICIID's support, PCRC has established peripheral offices in 16 prefectures, providing conflict resolution services in areas where government presence remains limited. Equipped with expertise in interreligious and intercultural dialogue, conflict analysis, and early warning systems, facilitate crucial community level dialogue to prevent the occurrence of violence and conflict and are essential structures for achieving long-lasting peace and stability in the country.

HOW OUR WORK IS AMPLIFIED - A SUCCESSFUL CASE EXAMPLE

Deactivating Local conflicts in Central African Republic

The Antenna in Kemo prefecture regularly intervenes to de-escalate conflict between Farmers and Herders. In one case they engaged with a pastoralist family that was victim of an attack, and had some cattle stolen and one family member injured. The religious leaders engaged with the family, supported them and eventually managed to remind them of the principles of tolerance and non-retaliation, finally succeeding in preventing the escalation of violence that these incidents normally cause. This is an example of how dialogue works within a community, engaging with victims to allow them to overcome the trauma of the attack, remind them about the importance of tolerance and eventually breaking the cycle of violence.

In Kemo's capital Sibut, the PCRC's local representatives engaged the residing community to ensure the safe return of Muslim IDPs originally from Sibut. Thanks to their efforts, returning Muslims were allowed to re-open businesses and take possessions of the homes they abandoned years before without suffering excessive opposition from other community members. The work of the PCRC team, facilitated the construction of a Mosque in Sibut that was initially opposed by residing Christian community members. Thanks to their efforts returned Muslim citizens can now pray freely.



Thanks to the support and backing of KAICIID, that gave us knowledge and confidence to work, the PCRC team on the ground, together with other actors, managed to reduce the level of violence in the prefecture allowing for higher degrees of freedom of movement".

Pastor Innocent: PCRC Representative

In Kaga-Bandoro, capital of the province of Nana-Grébizi, the local representatives of the PCRC cooperate with MINUSCA in mediating between Seleka and Anti-Balaka rebel groups residing in the province, to ensure protection of civilians and prevent skirmishes between the two groups. The PCRC representatives are now engaging with the community members mainly on issues of Gender Based Violence (GBV) and protection of children. In fact, due to the widespread insecurity in this province, the capital of Kaga-Bandoro is extremely overcrowded, leading to an increase in cases of GBV and violence on children.

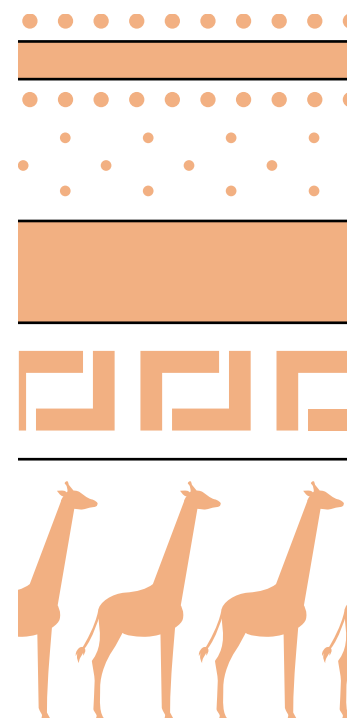
Only in the prefecture of Mambéré-Kadéï, the PCRC representatives were successful in establishing networks of religious leaders for peace outside the capital of Berberati.

Countering Extremist Narratives: Clube de Lisboa Webinar Highlights CAR Strategies

On 30 April 2025, KAICIID, in partnership with the Clube de Lisboa, organised the final webinar in its series [“The Instrumentalization of Religion to Justify Violence in Africa and How to Effectively Counter Extremist Discourses”](#) at the Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa. This last edition focused on the conflict dynamics and existing resolution strategies, in Central African Republic.

Key Insights from the Panel

- Mr. Boris Yakoubou-Modeste, KAICIID's Field Expert in CAR
- Professor at the University of Bangui
- Mr. Tim Galwion, Senior Researcher at the Arnold Bergstraesser Institute



Learn more:



KAICIID's initiatives on countering extremist narratives in Africa

KAICIID's work in Africa focuses on promoting peace and reconciliation through interreligious and intercultural dialogue.

West Africa Regional Forum: Cross-Border Cooperation for Peace and Security

In April 2025, KAICIID, in partnership with EducommuniK (Burkina Faso) and the Regional Center for Governance and Security Policy Initiative (Sierra Leone), convened a pivotal Regional Consultation Forum in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, under the theme “Strengthening Cross-Border Cooperation for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development in the Sahel and West Africa.”

The forum convened Influential traditional leaders such as Ousmane Amirou Dicko, the Emir of Liptako, as well as around forty civil society experts from different countries in the fields of border studies, religion, traditional authorities, conflict, peace and security, natural and transboundary resource governance and representatives from international development partners. They reaffirmed the central role of inclusive, locally anchored, and people-centred cross-border cooperation frameworks to sustainably tackle instability, underdevelopment, and resource-related conflict across the Sahel and the West Africa sub-regions.

Faith-Led Solutions for Sustainable Food Systems: Kigali Summit Insights

In December 2024, Kigali became a hub for interfaith action as KAICIID, and the World Resources Institute (WRI) co-convened the Faith-led Food Systems Transformation Summit. Bringing together over 130 stakeholders from 33 countries, representing 54 organizations, including faith-based organizations (FBOs), UN agencies, civil society, and research institutions. the summit underscored the unique role of faith-based organizations (FBOs) in advancing equitable and sustainable food systems across East Africa and beyond.

Titled “Towards a Legacy of Resilience”, the publication the publication released in Q2 captures the diverse insights, practical recommendations, and emerging partnerships from the summit, highlighting how faith communities are uniquely positioned to contribute to food security, climate resilience, and sustainable agricultural practices across East Africa and beyond.

Learn more:



Lefaso coverage of the Forum

Civil society experts and traditional leaders convene in Ouagadougou to chart pathways for cross-border cooperation and sustainable peace across the Sahel.



Read the full press release here



Faith actors are essential to building inclusive, people-centered development models,”

Mr. Agustin Núñez-Vicandi,
KAICIID's Senior Programme
Manager for Africa.

Its central aim: to recognize and scale the work of FBOs across the food value chain from regenerative farming and food loss reduction to ethical distribution and waste management. *“Faith actors are not just spiritual leaders; they are stewards of land, educators, and first responders in communities,”* said Mr. Agustín Núñez-Vicandi, KAICIID’s Senior Programme Manager for Africa. *“Their engagement in food systems transformation is essential to building inclusive, people-centered development models.”*

For KAICIID, the summit reaffirmed the Centre’s commitment to leveraging interreligious dialogue as a tool for development and creating sustainable societies. The event built on the Centre’s ongoing partnerships with faith networks across Africa and complemented earlier joint research with WRI on the role of faith communities in tackling food loss and waste.

Rather than imposing new models, KAICIID’s approach centered on enabling collaboration, facilitating dialogue between religious leaders, policy experts, and environmental practitioners to identify areas for joint action. This aligns with KAICIID’s broader mandate to foster understanding and cooperation across cultures and faiths, especially in tackling global challenges such as climate change, migration, and inequality.

Read more:



the full article on The Kigali Summit

Titled “Towards a Legacy of Resilience”, the publication captures the diverse insights, practical recommendations, and emerging partnerships from the summit.



Watch the Kigali Conference Video Highlights

Towards a Legacy of Resilience: Faith-led Food Systems Transformation Summit

This paper discusses the role of faith-based organizations (FBOs) in transforming food systems in Rwanda, highlighting their potential to advance regenerative agriculture, reduce food loss, and support vulnerable communities. It summarizes insights from a 2025 summit co-hosted by WRI and KAICIID, offering practical recommendations for cross-sector collaboration.



Access the publication

ARAB REGION PROGRAMME

WHAT WE DO AT THE EXECUTIVE LEVEL – CONVENING

Deepening Ties with Arab Region Diplomats: The Ambassadorial Roundtable

On 16 April 2025, KAICIID convened its first Ambassadorial Roundtable in Lisbon. The event, *“Transformative Dialogue Approaches for Peace and Social Cohesion,”* was co-hosted with the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco and H.E. Mr. Othmane Bahnini, Dean of the Arab Regional Group, and drew participants from eleven Arab diplomatic missions: Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates. Discussions focused on addressing hate speech, promoting peace education, and upholding human dignity in pluralistic societies.



“



Religion, like diplomacy, can mobilise communities for the common good. And when policymakers and religious leaders work together, they can create lasting, preventive solutions to conflict – as their roles are interconnected and mutually reinforcing.”

António de Almeida-Ribeiro,
Acting Secretary General

Read more:



Regional Ambassadorial Roundtable

The roundtable provided an opportunity to present KAICIID’s flagship programmes in the Arab region, emphasizing its integrated approach to building environments conducive to dialogue, peace, and resilience.

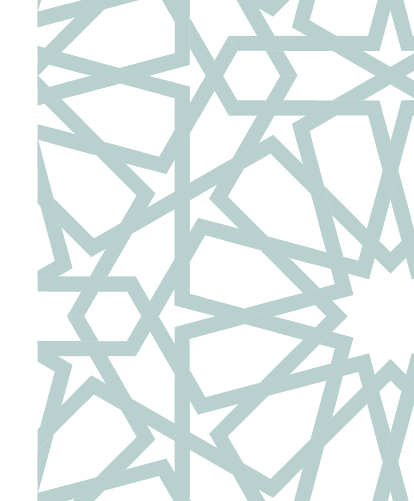
WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY – CONVENING

From Dialogue to Strategy: Defining Egypt's Framework for Countering Hate Speech

IPDC steering committee members and Fellows are vital connectors between KAICIID and local communities in the Arab region. In this instance, they were an integral part in organising, and actively participating in the “*United Against Hate Speech*” preparatory workshop for the 2025 Countering Hate Speech Conference in Cairo,

In preparation for a national conference on preventing and countering hate speech and embracing diversity, set for the end of 2025, KAICIID and its Egyptian partners, founding members of the IPDC, the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS), the Coptic Orthodox Church and Egypt's Dar al-Ifta, held three-day workshop in May, under the theme “*United Against Hate Speech*”.

Alongside planning logistics, cross-sectoral discussions laid a thematic and strategic foundation for the upcoming conference. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants formed a planning committee to coordinate the lead-up to the conference, including developing the conference programme, launching early awareness initiatives, and engaging stakeholders across all sectors to ensure the broad participation necessary to make the conference a transformative milestone



Learn more:



**KAICIID's initiatives in
countering hate speech
across the Arab region.**



Read more: about
Arab Region
programme



Key thematic outputs were identified at the workshop towards developing a unified response to hate speech in Egypt – anchored in dialogue, guided by shared values, and driven by the belief that diversity must be protected, not feared.

- **Develop a working definition of hate speech;**
How do you define hate speech in a way that is tailored to Egypt's cultural and legal environment?
- **Develop a typology of hate speech expressions;**
In order to address hate speech in all its forms, how do you identify overt and subtle forms of hate speech?
- **Assess institutional responsibilities;**
In which spheres of life is hate speech propagated? For instance, social media, political rhetoric, and educational and entertainment platforms.
- **Develop a plan for a coordinated, multi-sectoral response;**
What practical interventions can be identified by each sector? For instance, collaborative messaging among religious leaders and institutions, curriculum reforms in education, responsible practices, in media, the arts and sport, and review of legal frameworks.
- **Develop a code of ethics, guiding individuals and institutions in promoting tolerance and preventing hate speech and incitement.**

IPDC Steering Committee Reinforces Strategic Priorities for the Arab Region

In April 2025, KAICIID's Interreligious Platform for Dialogue and Cooperation (IPDC) convened its Steering Committee in Amman, Jordan, at a critical juncture marked by heightened tensions and renewed challenges across the Arab region, particularly in Lebanon and Syria.

The IPDC pointed to heightened tensions in Lebanon following cross-border violence, stressing the crucial role of religious leaders and institutions in maintaining unity and preventing internal strife. It was noted that Lebanon's religious leadership has a unique influence on public sentiment and can serve as a stabilising force by promoting coexistence and condemning division along political or sectarian lines.



In Syria, the IPDC raised concerns over ongoing violence, particularly recent killings in coastal areas and the broader societal fractures they reflect. The committee urged KAICIID to explore engagement in Syria through the creation of a dedicated IPDC chapter.

Discussions reinforced that dialogue as a central instrument for peacebuilding and resilience, and emphasised the strategic importance of Intra-Muslim dialogue as a tool for peacebuilding and social cohesion.

WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY – DEVELOPING CAPACITY

Shaping Narratives for Peace: Dialogue Journalism Fellowship Equips Arab Media to Champion Inclusion and Peace

In April, the 2025 Dialogue Journalism Fellowship (DJF) cohort attended its first workshop in Amman, Jordan. Under the umbrella of the IPDC, the four-day workshop was organised in cooperation with Al-Hayat Center, KAICIID's partner in Jordan, and featured a diverse range of activities, including training sessions, a panel discussion with policymakers and journalists, a field visit, and case study presentations and analysis.

The 22 journalist fellows from 13 Arab countries, enhanced their knowledge and skills in interreligious and intercultural dialogue, deepening their understanding of diversity and pluralism in the Arab region. They explored real-life media practices, identified key challenges in managing diversity, and built practical dialogue skills for peacebuilding.



22 
journalists

13 Arab
countries

Gather in Amman to hone their skills in dialogue-based reporting and build inclusive narratives for the region.



Having fostered a strong group, the journalists also took part in a joint moderated session with small working groups that brought together the fellows and members of the IPDC, developing set of recommendations, intended to strengthen cooperation and communication between the media and religious institutions and actors, with the goal of promoting inclusive, dialogue-driven media narratives.

Key recommendations include:

- **Religious institutions:** Organise regular meetings with journalists and religious leaders to foster mutual understanding, trust, and positive engagement, which journalists can then reflect positively in their reporting.
- **Media and journalists:** Report positively and constructively on meetings with religious leaders and emphasise moderate religious discourse and shared values in public discourse.
- **Both media and religious institutions:** Develop a joint charter between religious leaders and journalists aiming to promote religious and cultural diversity and social cohesion in media narratives. Organize and hold training sessions for journalists on interreligious and intercultural dialogue to improve understanding, reduce stereotypes, and enhance dialogue-based reporting.
- **IPDC and DJF network:** Strengthen collaboration between the IPDC members and Dialogue Journalism Fellows to work together on dialogue-focused topics, provide moderate religious perspectives and accurate information, and complement each other's efforts to promote moderate religious discourse in media.



Discover:



How DJF is changing media narratives in the Arab Region.

The Dialogue Journalism Fellowship is a unique journalism fellowship in the Arab region that focuses on the role of media in peacebuilding by using dialogue. It is a one-year fellowship that aims to support journalists in becoming more effective and critical in promoting peaceful coexistence and common citizenship through constructive dialogue, accuracy, fairness and balance, as well as respect for diversity, ethnicity and religion as inscribed in national and international codes of ethics.

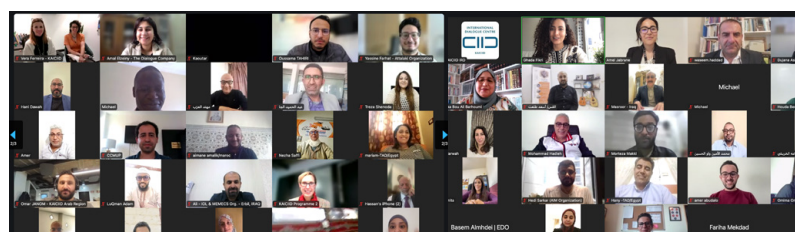


Dialogue360: Empowering Change Across the Arab Region

On 17 April 2024, KAICIID launched the 2025 Dialogue360 initiatives, a transformative project designed to strengthen dialogue, inclusion and peacebuilding across the Arab region.

Following a thorough needs assessment, four key training areas were developed to address institutional capacity development priorities were identified: Common Citizenship, Engaging Policymakers, Storytelling for Dialogue, and Conflict Analysis & Resolution.

A highlight of the quarter was the webinar “*Confronting Hate: Strategies and Mechanisms for Resilient Societies*,” a part of Dialogue360's broader knowledge-sharing series. Drawing on insights from the newly published Reference Guide to Hate Speech titled [Strategies for Confronting Hate Speech: Tools and Mechanisms for Effective Response](#), the webinar, led by authors of the book, Dr. Hani Dawah and Dr. Houda Lahkim Bennani, and moderated by journalist Michael Fares, frames hate speech as both a social and structural issue, providing practical tools for identifying and countering hate speech, insights into regional dynamics fueling harmful discourse, and inspiration for localised campaigns and inclusive dialogue initiatives.



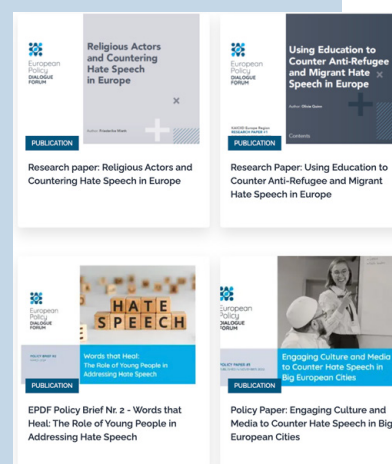
Results-Based Management (RBM) Courses for Arab Fellows

As part of their capacity-building journey, 62 Dialogue360 partners and 39 DJF Fellows are participating in KAICIID's “*Results-Based Management (RBM): Basic Principles and Processes*” course. Delivered in both English and Arabic, the course equips participants with tools to design, monitor, and evaluate initiatives for meaningful impact, allowing them to integrate RBM principles into their peacebuilding and dialogue efforts at local and regional levels.



Dialogue360 programme and webinar highlights

Explore:



Reference Guide to Hate Speech and Dialogue360 resources.



Explore KAICIID RBM Course

ASIA REGION PROGRAMME

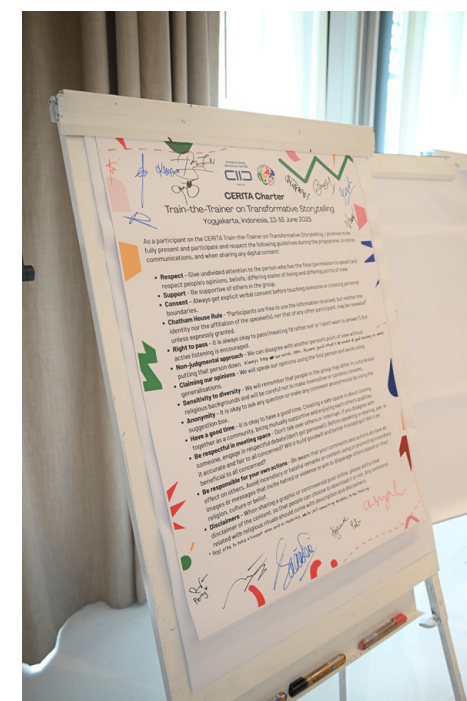
WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY – DEVELOPING CAPACITY

Youth Voices Transform Dialogue Through Storytelling in Southeast Asia

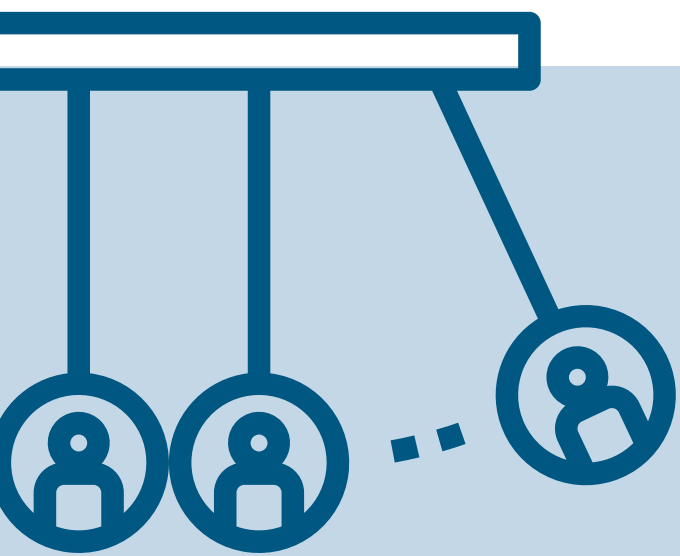
In partnership with Caravansera Collective, KAICIID launched CERITA: Transformative Storytelling, an innovative Training of Trainers (TOT) programme empowering youth leaders across Southeast Asia to use storytelling as a tool to engage in dialogue across cultures and faiths.

This four-day in-person TOT, held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, brought together 15 emerging leaders under 35 from Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand, and the Philippines. Participants developed the skills to design and facilitate community dialogues using creative, context-specific storytelling methodologies. With KAICIID's support, including micro-grants to implement their locally rooted initiatives participants are now equipped to exchange their stories across cultures and religions, challenge bias, foster trust, and build inclusive spaces in their communities.

Central to CERITA's approach is empowering youth as catalysts for change. The programme surfaced a growing network of dialogue practitioners who are already amplifying youth-led narratives of peace and inclusion across the region. KAICIID and Caravansera Collective will continue mentoring participants through the implementation phase, documenting outcomes to amplify their impact and inform future programming.



HOW OUR WORK IS AMPLIFIED



IMPACT STORY

Perry Paul Lamanilao, TOT participant from the Philippines

As a communications professional, I'm often in search of stories that will leave a lasting impact on readers. In my usual work setting, I tell the stories of others, highlighting events, issues, and updates that shape our communities. Rarely, if ever, do I share my own story.

That's why the CERITA Trainer's Training on Transformative Storytelling has been a truly meaningful experience. For the first time in a long while, I was invited to turn inward, to reflect on my journey, and to see how my story connects with others who share similar paths and passions. Through this process, I've come to realize how our stories are not isolated; they are deeply intertwined, woven together into a larger tapestry of humanity.

What makes this training even more powerful is its unique format. It's not your typical, lecture-heavy workshop. Instead, it creates space for participants like me to explore, create, and express. It challenged me to step out of my comfort zone while nurturing my growth as a storyteller.



Read more: about
Asia Region programme



Discover:

Discover how CERITA is redefining dialogue for a new generation of leaders.



WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY – CONVENING

Jakarta Conference Reinforces Localised Approaches to Interreligious Dialogue in Southeast Asia

On 17 June 2025, KAICIID partnered with the Universitas Islam Internasional Indonesia (UIII) to convene the regional conference titled "Interreligious Dialogue in the Southeast Asian Region: Achievements, Challenges, and Opportunities." Hosted through one of KAICIID's Fellows at UIII's campus in Jakarta, the event gathered over 50 influential participants including KAICIID Fellows alumni, scholars, civil society activists, policymakers, and international dialogue experts, to critically assess the evolving landscape of interreligious dialogue (IRD) and explore strategic pathways for future interventions across the region.

The conference provided a vital platform to reflect on the transformation taking place in IRD initiatives across Southeast Asia, notably emphasizing an emerging trend towards localized, context-specific interventions. Discussions highlighted that grassroots actors and KAICIID Fellows have increasingly become primary agents of dialogue, tailoring approaches to meet specific local needs and cultural contexts.

Participants underscored a significant shift: interreligious dialogue is no longer perceived simply as a standalone peacebuilding tool. Instead, it is now intricately woven into broader social goals such as inclusive governance, educational reforms, community development, and especially initiatives targeting youth and gender equality.

Notably, the conference drew attention to the growing role of academic institutions such as UIII in institutionalizing IRD through research, policy advocacy, and inclusion of dialogue studies in higher education curricula. This institutionalization represents a sustainable investment by KAICIID, reflecting the Centre's long-term vision of embedding interreligious dialogue within regional frameworks for lasting peace and social cohesion.



50 influential participants

came together critically assess the evolving landscape of interreligious dialogue (IRD) and explore strategic pathways for future interventions across the region.



Temu dan Dialog: Deepening KAICIID's Engagement in Indonesia

Building immediately on the conference outcomes, on 18 June 2025, KAICIID, with support from the Gusdurian Network in Jakarta, hosted a targeted roundtable discussion titled *"Temu dan Dialog: Building Bridges with KAICIID."* The roundtable brought together 14 senior representatives from Indonesia's diverse religious organizations, creating an intimate and inclusive forum aimed at understanding local dynamics and exploring meaningful partnership opportunities.

The session surfaced concrete areas for immediate collaboration, including:



- **Youth Capacity-Building:** Equipping young leaders with dialogue and peacebuilding competencies.



- **Digital Peacebuilding:** Strengthening positive, values-based online narratives to counteract polarization and hate speech.



- **Regional Buddhist-Muslim Engagement:** Developing strategic cross-community dialogue initiatives to promote regional understandings.

Participants explicitly appreciated KAICIID's intentional posture accompanying and empowering local partners rather than imposing externally defined models. This principle of collaboration, deeply rooted in respect for local ownership and leadership, resonated strongly among attendees.



14 senior representatives

came together to the roundtable discussion titled **"Temu dan Dialog: Building Bridges with KAICIID."**

Strategic Outlook and Commitment

The Jakarta conference and subsequent roundtable have firmly positioned KAICIID as a committed strategic partner in advancing dialogue initiatives across Southeast Asia. Participants called for deepened investments in regional capacity-building, more intentional leveraging of local experiences and innovations, and strengthened partnerships with academia, civil society, religious communities, and governmental stakeholders.

KAICIID's engagement in Jakarta underscored its strategic intent: to continue supporting innovative, localised interreligious dialogue initiatives that resonate authentically with the region's unique cultural and social contexts, driving sustainable peace, inclusion, and good governance across Southeast Asia.

Singapore Conference Positions KAICIID as a Strategic Partner for Cohesive Societies

In June 2025, KAICIID reinforced its role as a trusted partner for dialogue and social cohesion across Southeast Asia by actively participating in the International Conference on Cohesive Societies (ICCS), hosted in Singapore by the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) with support from Singapore's Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth.

With the theme *"Cohesive Societies, Resilient Futures"*, the ICCS provided a dynamic platform to explore inclusive strategies for building trust, resilience, and sustainable peace, an agenda closely aligned with KAICIID's mission and the Asia Programme's 2025 priorities.

The KAICIID delegation, led by the Head of Regional Programmes and supported by the Asia Programme team, actively engaged in plenary sessions, thematic dialogues, and high-level bilateral meetings. This provided a critical opportunity to showcase KAICIID's expertise at the intersection of dialogue, governance, and development.

Notably, the Centre's presence was amplified by the participation of nearly 20 KAICIID Fellows from Asia and beyond. These Fellows served as speakers, moderators, and delegates, bringing authentic local perspectives and highlighting KAICIID support for grassroots initiatives that exemplify the transformative power of dialogue in addressing regional challenges.

Read more:



Ullrich Serves as Hub for Interreligious Dialogue as KAICIID Celebrates 10 Years of Action

A distinctive feature of the event was the strong presence of KAICIID Fellows alumni, whose contributions have been instrumental in shaping interreligious initiatives across the region over the past decade.

ICCS THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COHESIVE SOCIETIES



CELEBRATING A DECADE OF FELLOWSHIP

“DIALOGUE & CONNECTION”

A key highlight of KAICIID's engagement was the semi-formal dinner event “Dialogue & Connection: An Evening with KAICIID” on 25 June 2025. This gathering brought together Fellows, regional partners, and future friends:

- Celebrate 10 years of the KAICIID Fellows Programme.
- Facilitate deeper connections between Fellows and the Asia Programme team.
- Share strategic priorities and explore future engagement opportunities across Southeast Asia.

The dinner created an inclusive and informal space for reflection, relationship-building, and vision-setting. Fellows shared powerful testimonies of their work in areas such as storytelling as a tool for dialogue and promoting inter-cultural and inter-religious women empowerment initiatives, positioning themselves as anchors and ambassadors of KAICIID's work in the region.



Strategic Outcomes and Next Steps

The ICCS conference and accompanying dinner significantly enhanced KAICIID's visibility as a key enabler of dialogue in Southeast Asia, generating new partnership leads and collaborative opportunities within Singapore and across ASEAN.



Key Outcomes:

- Strengthened trust and relationships with KAICIID Fellows, reaffirming the Centre's commitment to local ownership and co-creation.
- Fellows positioned as regional dialogue champions, extending KAICIID's reach into critical thematic areas.
- interest in partnering with KAICIID to provide capacity building in interfaith and intercultural dialogue to local and national institutions.



Next Steps:

- Explore creating a recurring “Fellows & Friends” model, inspired by the success of the Dialogue & Connection dinner.
- KAICIID Asia programme to work more closely with the Fellows programme to reach and engage Fellows alumni in programme development and implementation.
- Explore how KAICIID is building partnerships and empowering Fellows to shape inclusive, cohesive societies in Southeast Asia.

Women Peacebuilders and Faith Leaders
Unite for Inclusive Peacebuilding

As part of its ongoing efforts to bridge diverse actors in peacebuilding, KAICIID joined the International Civil Society Action Network's (ICAN) Women's Alliance for Security Leadership (WASL) monthly webinar for a transformative dialogue session on faith-based engagement in advancing peace and gender equality. The conversation brought together KAICIID experts and members of the WASL network, a global coalition of women peacebuilders operating in some of the world's most challenging contexts. Together, they explored the powerful intersection of religion, women's rights, and peacebuilding, acknowledging both the opportunities and complexities inherent in these spaces.

Discussions underscored the transformative potential of women peacebuilders working alongside religious leaders to promote dignity, social justice, and reconciliation. Participants shared compelling examples from diverse settings:



- Addressing harmful practices rooted in cultural or religious norms.



- Promoting reconciliation in communities torn apart by violence.



- Shifting social attitudes to create space for women's voices in dialogues traditionally dominated by male leaders.

This engagement laid the groundwork for a potential partnership between KAICIID and ICAN. By connecting KAICIID's network of local religious actors with WASL's global coalition of women peacebuilders, both organizations envision a powerful, locally rooted alliance capable of:



- Advancing gender equality through interreligious dialogue.




- Supporting joint initiatives that foster inclusive, community-driven peacebuilding.



- Creating platforms for shared learning and coordinated advocacy on issues at the intersection of faith, gender, and security.

This initial dialogue marks an important step toward KAICIID's strategic aim of enabling inclusive peace ecosystems that leave no group behind.

Learn more:



Women Peacebuilders and Religious Leaders: A Complex Partnership with Transformative Potential
WASL Community Check-In Calls

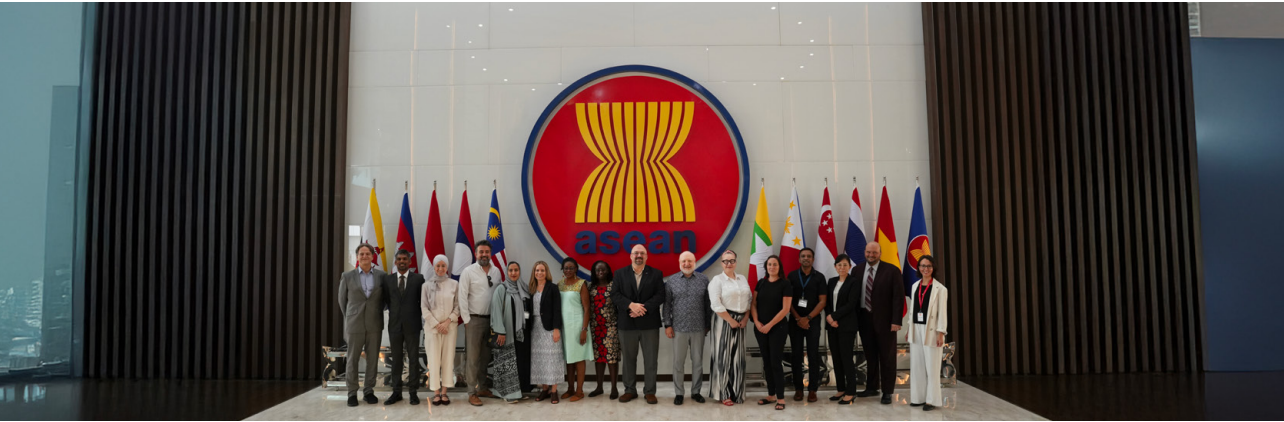
KAICIID's work with women and faith-based networks in Asia.

Embedding Dialogue in Urban Development:
KAICIID's Strategic Engagement in Bangkok

In April 2025, KAICIID participated in the 81st Session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) in Bangkok, Thailand. The forum, held under the theme *"Regional Cooperation for Resilient and Sustainable Urban Development"*, provided a timely opportunity for KAICIID to strengthen its regional presence and advance dialogue-based approaches to inclusive urban policies.

The Centre's presence aligned closely with its Inclusive Cities Programme, which promotes interreligious and intercultural dialogue as essential tools for fostering social cohesion and resilience in urban environments. By leveraging Bangkok's convening power, KAICIID strategically positioned itself as a connector between faith communities, policymakers, and grassroots actors in the rapidly urbanizing region.

Recognising the unique opportunity to engage regional decision-makers and multilateral stakeholders, KAICIID maximised its presence in Bangkok through a series of targeted bilateral meetings and informal dialogues with institutional partners, government actors, and youth-led interfaith networks.



Collaboration with Thailand's Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA)

On the margins of the APFSD, KAICIID held a bilateral meeting with Thailand's Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and a KAICIID Fellow actively engaged in the local dialogue space. MoSA expressed strong interest in collaborating with KAICIID on its upcoming National Social Expo, particularly around designing a session that highlights the role of faith communities in climate resilience.

Youth and Faith Voices at Bangkok Climate Week

In addition, KAICIID engaged with organisers of **Bangkok Climate Week**, an emerging platform for multi-stakeholder environmental dialogue. Conversations focused on amplifying the voices of young people and faith leaders in climate action efforts. Organisers welcomed KAICIID's proposal to co-create a dialogue session for Bangkok Climate Week 2025 that would bring these groups together to share perspectives and co-develop solutions.

EUROPE REGION PROGRAMME

AMPLIFYING KAICIID'S POLICY ENGAGEMENT IN EUROPE

WHAT WE DO AT THE EXECUTIVE LEVEL – DIALOGUE DIPLOMACY

2025 European Policy Dialogue Forum (EPDF) Expert Meeting in Rome

For Catholics, 2025 is the [Year of Jubilee](#), a transformational Holy Year commemorated with pilgrimages to sacred sites, and a celebration of the 60th anniversary of Nostra Aetate, a seminal declaration redefining the Catholic Church's engagement with non-Christian religions.

Organised in Rome, within the Jubilee Year framework, KAICIID held the European Policy Dialogue Forum (EPDF) Expert Meeting, *"Common Horizons: Interreligious Pathways to Social Cohesion and Climate Justice in Europe"*. Taking place at the Pontifical University Antonianum on 8–9 April 2025, the meeting was attended by representatives of KAICIID's Council of Parties, in particular, Ambassador of Austria to the Holy See, together with representatives from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Spanish Embassies, as well as the Ambassador of Portugal to the Holy See. KAICIID's ASG opened the meeting with the following remarks:

"Interreligious dialogue is not an abstraction. It is a vital tool to restore justice where inequalities – economic, racial and environmental – are eroding our societies and ecosystems".

Ambassador António de Almeida Ribeiro, Acting Secretary General, KAICIID

The Rome meeting was a crucial step towards the upcoming 6th EPDF, with outcomes directly informing the focus of the Forum.



Learn more:



Learn more: about
KAICIID's European
Policy Dialogue

2nd IPU Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue

KAICIID participated in the 2nd Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue, held from 19 to 21 June 2025 in Rome, Italy. The event was hosted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Italian Parliament, in cooperation with Religions for Peace.

The conference brought together Speakers and members of Parliament, alongside representatives of religions, beliefs, governments, UN bodies, international organizations, faith-based and civil society organizations, and academia. The gathering served as a platform to advance interfaith dialogue as a means of strengthening democratic institutions, building cross-community trust, and fostering peaceful coexistence.

The outcome document, known as the Rome Communiqué, emphasized the power of religion and belief *"for building bridges of understanding and cross-community compassion and solidarity."* It further affirmed that *"interfaith dialogue and action strengthen trust between communities and institutions, nurturing the hope needed to jointly build a peaceful and inclusive future."*

A key highlight of the conference was the Audience with the Holy Father on Saturday, 21 June, hosted at the Vatican as part of the Jubilee of Governments. Welcoming over 600 delegates, Pope Leo XVI addressed the critical role of parliamentarians and policy makers. Through its ongoing programmatic work, KAICIID remains committed to providing safe spaces for dialogue between religious actors and policymakers, in support of inclusive governance and shared values of peace.



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Rome visit

In acknowledgement of this special year, the ASG visited Rome in April 2025, establishing relations with institutions such as the Pontifical University Antonianum, and engaging with senior representatives from multilateral, academic and religious institutions dedicated to dialogue and peace, including:

- Rector Agustín Hernández Vidales and Prof. Paolo Cancelli, Pontifical University Antonianum,
- Prof. Ambrogio Bongiovanni, Director, Centre for Interreligious Studies, Pontifical Gregorian University,
- Fr. Stefano Cecchin, President of the International Pontifical Marian Academy,
- Imam Yahya Pallavicini, President of COREIS and Chair of EuLeMa.

And with key Vatican figures, such as:

- Cardinal George Koovakad, newly appointed Prefect of the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue,
- Monsignor Paul Richard Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States and International Organizations,
- Fr. Laurent Basanese, KAICIID Board Member and Vatican expert.

WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY – PROMOTING DIALOGUE IN POLICY

The EPDF is KAICIID's flagship platform for dialogue and action in Europe. Since its launch in 2019, the Forum has provided an inclusive and dynamic space for policymakers, faith leaders and civil society actors to explore how interreligious and intercultural dialogue can address pressing challenges in an increasingly multi-faith and multicultural Europe.

Scheduled for 11–13 November 2025, KAICIID's 6th EPDF will be hosted by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in Geneva. The upcoming forum will spotlight how faith leaders and policy actors can co-create solutions for inclusive climate action and resilient societies.

In addition to the strong diplomatic attendance, the EPDF Expert Meeting in Rome brought together 37 of the region's leading experts, prominent religious leaders, policymakers, youth advocates and environmental organizations including UNEP Faith for Earth, GreenFaith, and Soka Gakkai International.

Participants highlighted worrying trends, such as narratives that divide people into those "deserving" and "undeserving" of access to essential rights, such as education, healthcare, housing, employment and a healthy environment. They warned that these dynamics not only weaken social cohesion, but risk exacerbate environmental injustices through entrenched exclusion and accelerated depletion of natural resources.

Yet there was also hope, with all participants in agreement that by offering a compelling counter-narrative – one rooted in hope, dignity, and relational responsibility, religion remains a powerful force in uniting communities and inspiring positive collective action.



Fellows Alumni Engagement

Fellows Alumni are active members and play an important role in platforms such as the European Policy Dialogue Forum (EPDF).



By working together – across faiths, disciplines and institutions – we can foster communities that are more inclusive, societies that are more just, and a world that is more sustainable.

Ambassador António de Almeida Ribeiro, Acting Secretary General, KAICIID

In recognition of the KAICIID's Europe region's growing position as a an actor in the sphere of social cohesion through interreligious and intercultural dialogue. Outcomes from the Rome meeting will directly inform the design and thematic focus of the 6th European Policy Dialogue Forum, scheduled for 11–13 November 2025 in Geneva, hosted by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The upcoming forum will spotlight how faith leaders and policy actors can co-create solutions for inclusive climate action and resilient societies.

WHAT WE DO AT THE EXECUTIVE LEVEL – DIALOGUE DIPLOMACY

In June 2025, the ASG travelled to Vienna, to take part in the OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting III. As part of the visit, the ASG held bilateral meeting with, among others, representatives of the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs engaging the continued support of the Council of Parties Member. He also discussed future KAICIID and MJLC events in Vienna with senior officials from the Vienna Mayor's Office.

At the OSCE Meeting, themed "Inclusion as a Way to Promote Tolerance and Non-Discrimination". The ASG delivered a statement addressing the nexus of religion, diplomacy and security, advocating for partnerships, as well as interreligious, cross-generational and cross-community dialogue as an essential tools for addressing polarisation, safeguarding human dignity and preventing discrimination across the OSCE region.

"Religious leaders are uniquely positioned to build trust and foster social cohesion. Yet they often lack the platforms and partnerships needed to scale their efforts.

This is why OSCE engagement matters so deeply. Because as intergovernmental organizations, we hold the responsibility and the power to translate dialogue into durable policies, and to move from mere coexistence to active solidarity."

Ambassador António de Almeida Ribeiro, Acting Secretary General, KAICIID

He also announced the launch of KAICIID's upcoming Resource Guide for Religious Leaders on Countering Hate Speech, which was well received by participants and aligns with OSCE/ODIHR priorities.



Faith traditions hold deep reservoirs of wisdom and moral responsibility. Religious leaders are uniquely placed to bridge divides and advocate for inclusive climate action."

Metropolitan Emmanuel, KAICIID Board Member

Read more::



Common Horizons: Interreligious Pathways to Social Cohesion and Climate Justice in Europe

This is the moment in which KAICIID, in collaboration with local partners, faith-based institutions, and civil society actors, continues to step forward—not as the sole actor, but as a convener of trust. With the EPDF, we offer a unique space for reflection and honest conversation, where diverse perspectives can converge in pursuit of shared solutions.

A Resource Guide for Religious and Community Leaders on Understanding and Responding to Hate Speech

Rooted in both theory and practice, KAICIID is developing a Resource Guide to equip local leaders with accessible knowledge and actionable strategies to counter hate speech in all its forms. The guide is intended to serve as an operational resource adaptable to diverse local contexts. It will help strengthen communities' resilience to misinformation and post-truth narratives by promoting critical thinking and digital literacy, and illuminate ways to prevent and respond to hate speech while supporting its victims.

Real-life examples drawn from across Europe will offer inspiration for leaders seeking to catalyse dialogue and reconciliation within their communities. To ensure the guide reflects real-world needs, KAICIID convened a dedicated Ad Hoc Advisory Group in May. Composed of religious leaders and specialised secular institutions, the advisory group is shaping the guide as a practical and relevant resource that is sensitive to the unique roles and responsibilities of grassroots leaders.



KAICIID's work on countering hate speech and empowering local leaders to promote inclusive narratives.

WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY – PROMOTING DIALOGUE IN POLICY

As part of the OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting III official programme, KAICIID's Europe Region unit co-hosted a side event titled "Faith and the Future: Religion's Role in Peacebuilding, Diplomacy, and Social Cohesion in the OSCE Space." The side event, organised in collaboration with Dublin City University and the European Council of Religious Leaders/Religions for Peace Europe, with presenters working on combating intolerance, discrimination, racism and xenophobia, focused on the complex and yet critical role that religious leaders play in conflict prevention and reconciliation processes.

Read more::



KAICIID Highlights Inclusive Dialogue Practices at OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting III in Vienna

WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY – DEVELOPING CAPACITY

Passing the Torch – A New Chapter for the Muslim-Jewish Leadership Council Ambassadors

Since 2023, the Ambassadors Programme of the [Muslim-Jewish Leadership Council \(MJLC\)](#) has brought together young Muslim and Jewish leaders aged 18–35, equipping them to foster mutual understanding, build intercommunal trust, and lead joint initiatives promoting social cohesion across Europe. This year in Helsinki, the graduation of the second cohort and the launch of the third cohort were held side by side for the first time, creating a powerful space for intergenerational exchange between the young Ambassadors and their mentors, established religious leaders within their respective communities.

The Helsinki event brought together 50 participants and marked a turning point for the Ambassadors Programme, which has now trained 20 young leaders; 10 Muslim-Jewish pairs in 10 cities including Warsaw, Frankfurt, London, Vienna, Milan, Sarajevo, Lisbon, Brussels, Strasbourg, and Helsinki.

Outgoing Ambassadors shared moving reflections on their journeys, speaking of projects completed, mindsets changed, and friendships forged. Hind Hafuda, an outgoing Ambassador from Vienna, described how the programme is becoming "a movement across Europe."

For this year's new Ambassadors, the programme opened amid heightened tensions and uncertainty, making recruitment especially challenging. Yet in Helsinki, participants confronted these realities directly, equipping themselves with tools to navigate criticism and strengthen leadership within their communities. As Danièle Hayum, a new Ambassador from Brussels, candidly shared: "This year I lost a few friends, but through this programme, I gained new ones."

Discover more:



the Muslim-Jewish Leadership Council and how its Ambassadors are transforming Europe's intercommunal landscape.

The MJLC Ambassadors Programme is intended to build up a network of young European leaders from the Jewish and Muslim faiths who share enthusiasm for interfaith work, consult regularly and can coordinate interreligious activities through city chapters in order to dispel harmful stereotypes and spread accurate information about their faiths and traditions and to promote solidarity and collaboration, providing an important example of coexistence in times of increasing divisions and polarisations.



This year's training was co-led by Emina Frljak and Basya Gartenstein, a Muslim-Jewish female facilitation pair who embodied the collaborative ethos of the programme. Mentors and alumni also played key roles, with senior religious leaders reflecting on past challenges and Ambassadors' alumni presenting bold new proposals for continued activity to the MJLC Board.

The Helsinki gathering also opened new doors for collaboration. Santeri Leinonen, 2025 OSCE Special Representative on Youth, Peace and Security (YPS), praised the Ambassadors' spirit and highlighted opportunities for partnership within OSCE's YPS initiatives. Meanwhile, city-based projects are already emerging in Lisbon, a football-themed initiative is fostering collaboration between synagogue and mosque leaders.

The event left participants with a renewed sense of purpose. As they return to their communities, the new Ambassadors carry not only training but also a shared commitment to make dialogue a tool for leadership, trust, and change, rooted in faith and growing through action.

Read more:



**Young Voices of Hope:
MJLC Ambassadors
Build Bridges in
Times of Division**



Read more: about
Europe programme



EUROPEAN YOUTH EVENT (EYE) 2025, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, STRASBOURG

In June, KAICIID supported two alumni of the Europe Region Unit's Catalyst for Change – a programme which provides groups of young people with funding and training in order to lead projects implementing policy recommendations coming out of the EPDF – to attend the European Youth Event 2025 (EYE2025).

The two young women, Sintia Lemegne and Stacy Ogembu, delivered a project on refugee inclusion in Osnabrück, Germany, co-founded their BreachBuilders and secured funding for their work from the European Youth Foundation.

Together with other attendees to the biennial event EYE2025, Stacy and Sintia had the opportunity to engage directly with Members of the European Parliament, EU decision-makers, and a wide range of experts, activists and content creators.

"Attending the session 'In the Shoes of a Member of the European Parliament (MEP)' was a unique and eye-opening experience."



**Sintia Lemegne, Europe
Region Catalyst for Change
Alumni, co-founder
BreachBuilders organization**

Taking part in debates, workshops, guided visits, artistic performances, and, importantly, structured youth consultations and intergenerational dialogue sessions, attendees focused on themes of social cohesion, combating hate speech, migration, dialogue, youth participation, and the promotion of inclusive and respectful societies themes closely aligned with KAICIID's mandate.

"A standout moment for me was the session organized by the Forum for European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations (FEMYSO) on the power of narratives. Participating in a group exercise to deconstruct biases and examine how they reinforce prejudice was both insightful and transformative."



**Stacy Ogembu Europe
Region Catalyst for Cohesion
Alumni, co-founder
BreachBuilders organization**



WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY - CONVENING

Shaping the Future of Refugee and Migrant Inclusion: Network for Dialogue Strategic Retreat in Serbia

In the serene surroundings of Vrdnik, Serbia, members of the KAICIID supported [Network for Dialogue \(N4D\)](#) gathered for three-day retreat. The meeting brought together dialogue practitioners, faith leaders, educators, and civil society actors from across Europe to reflect on the network's journey, strengthen connections, and chart a bold vision for the future.

Discussions focused on refining N4D's mission and vision, with participants reaffirming its role as a reference community for dialogue-based approaches to the inclusion and integration of migrants and refugees. Through in-depth working sessions, they explored how to elevate N4D's presence on the European stage as a trusted platform where policy meets practice and where intercultural and interreligious dialogue becomes a powerful tool for social transformation. A recurring theme during the retreat was the power of narrative: how to more effectively communicate the lived realities of displaced people and advance a values-driven message that living together in harmony is not only possible but necessary, enriching, and urgently relevant in today's Europe.

The retreat concluded with a commitment to action. As N4D looks ahead, the insights and strategies developed in Serbia will guide its next phase of initiatives, partnerships, and advocacy efforts to build inclusive communities rooted in human dignity, trust, and cooperation.



Read more:



Discover how the Network for Dialogue is shaping Europe's approach to refugee and migrant inclusion through dialogue.

The Network for Dialogue was officially launched in March 2019 in Bologna, Italy, and brings together European faith-based, secular organizations and other experts to jointly promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue for the social inclusion of refugees and migrants.



LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

PREPARATIONS FOR PROGRAMMATIC INTERVENTION IN LATIN AMERICA

WHAT WE DO AT THE EXECUTIVE LEVEL - BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

Preparations for Programmatic Intervention in Latin America

As part of KAICIID's extending KAICIID's programmatic activities to Latin America and the Caribbean, the ASG met with Paulo Neves, President and founder of the Institute for the Promotion of Latin America and the Caribbean (IPDAL). In May, IDPAL organised the 14th Strategic Triangle Meeting: Latin America and the Caribbean – Europe – Africa, providing the ASG an opportunity to hold bilateral discussions with the Secretary-General of the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI) H.E. Mr. Mariano Jabonero, and the Ibero-American Secretary-General of the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) H.E. Mr. Andrés Allamand.

These and similar discussions with prominent diplomatic, political and academic figures alongside the Strategic Triangle Meeting, explored pathways for cooperation in advancing interreligious and intercultural dialogue across the region.

WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY - BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

Over 50 Fellows Alumni from across Latin America are facilitating KAICIID's engagement with regional offices of partners such as University for Peace (UPEACE) and Religions for Peace (Rf), Catholic, Evangelical (Protestant) and Jewish seminaries in the region.

In the second quarter of 2025, KAICIID held preparatory meetings with RfP Latin America and University for Peace UPEACE in preparation for a November 2025 event, to be held in Costa Rica. The Center is working to with UPEACE to co-host the event, intended as a platform for cross-sectoral participants to exchange good practices and promote the role of interreligious dialogue in education.

Additionally, KAICIID and its Chilean partners are preparing to host an international congress in Temuco, Chile, on 12–13 August 2025. Titled "Pathways to Peace: Religions and Cultures in Dialogue," the conference will explore challenges and perspectives of dialogue as well as successful regional and international experiences. Preparatory consultations were held with regional partners, including:

- Arigatou International
- Religions for Peace (RfP)
- Chilean Association of Interreligious Dialogue (ADIR)
- Evangelical Theological Community of Chile
- Catholic University of Temuco
- Pontifical Catholic Universities of Chile and Valparaíso

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS PROGRAMME

WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY – DEVELOPING CAPACITY

First Fellows Training: Amman, Jordan

The 2025 Fellows cohort, comprised of staff from leading intergovernmental and international nongovernmental organizations advancing peace, social cohesion, and global development, convened in Amman, Jordan, from 3–9 April for the first in-person training. Building on a rigorous online orientation, the training set the stage for deep engagement with interreligious and intercultural dialogue frameworks. Designed to equip participants with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to serve as catalysts for dialogue in their respective contexts, the programme addressed identity formation, compassionate and active listening, and the role of religion and culture in fostering inclusive societies.

Key contributions came from distinguished regional experts, including Elias Al Halabi (University of Balamand, Lebanon), Amer Al-Hafi (Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies, Jordan), and Amer Al-Sabaaleh, a noted authority on geopolitics and Middle Eastern affairs. Organized in collaboration with Al-Hayat Center - RASED, the training also facilitated strategic exchanges with the Swedish Institute for Dialogue in the Middle East. Site visits to sacred and cultural landmarks including the Baptism Site of Jesus Christ, Mount Nebo, Mosaic Institute, and Al-Hussein Mosque, offered immersive insights into Jordan's rich religious heritage. A participant reflected: *"Changing mindset is the first step toward transformative dialogue."*

 **50+** Fellows Alumni are facilitating KAICIID's engagement with regional offices of partners



Second Fellows Training: Jakarta, Indonesia

From 13–19 June, Fellows reunited in Jakarta for the second in-person training, aimed at translating theory into practice and fostering direct encounters with diverse religious and cultural communities. Through intensive workshops, site visits, and high-level meetings with national and regional stakeholders, participants engaged deeply with inclusive models of dialogue and peacebuilding.

Key engagements included ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation, Indonesia's Ministry of Religious Affairs, Nahdlatul Ulama, Indonesia's largest Muslim organization and the Supreme Council for the Confucian Religion (MATAKIN). Dialogue with leaders representing minority and unrecognized faith traditions Bahá'í, Sikh, Confucian, Indigenous, among others, underscored the intersection of faith, recognition, and inclusion. Gender dynamics and the vital role of women in interfaith dialogue remained a cross-cutting theme throughout the training. Site visits to iconic locations such as Istiqlal Mosque, Jakarta Cathedral, Kong Miao Temple, and Chinatown complemented the dialogue praxis and peer learning sessions.

The visit to the ASEAN Secretariat underscored the critical role of regional intergovernmental institutions in sustaining dialogue for peace and stability. Fellows noted the importance of these exchanges in strengthening their commitment to inclusive engagement in their local contexts.



Read more:



Regional media coverage:



[Kabar Baru](#)



[Kuningan Global](#)

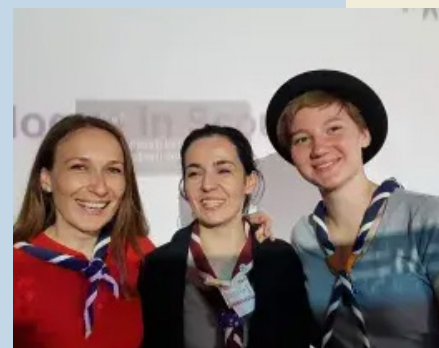
[Religi.id](#)



Photovoice Methodology Workshop Marks Graduation Milestone

As part of its commitment to innovative and inclusive learning, KAICIID introduced the Photovoice methodology as a learning session in the KAICIID Fellows Programme, presenting it as one option for story-telling in interreligious and intercultural dialogue. This approach empowers participants to use photography as a medium for dialogue and inclusion, allowing for the elevation of underrepresented voices and promoting empathy and understanding in communities. The Photovoice methodology was introduced. Learn more on Interfaith photovoice via <https://www.interfaithphotovoice.org/>

Read more:



**KAICIID Youth-
led Initiatives**

WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY - CONVENING

Celebrating a Decade of KAICIID Fellows

Now celebrating its 10th anniversary, the Fellows Alumni Network has grown from 20 members in 2015 to over 550 in 2025, spanning nearly 100 countries and all major world religions. As Fellows gather in Lisbon this October for the 10th Anniversary Celebration, they look ahead to building an even stronger global network of dialogue practitioners.

Fellows Engage at the International Conference on Cohesive Societies in Singapore

Nearly 20 KAICIID Fellows participated in the International Conference on Cohesive Societies (ICCS) 2025, organised by Singapore's Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and RSIS. The conference brought together policymakers, academics and faith leaders from the Asia-Pacific region to explore innovative approaches to social cohesion. On 25 June, KAICIID hosted a semi-formal dinner, "Dialogue & Connection: An Evening with KAICIID", uniting Fellows, regional partners, and Council of Parties representatives. The event celebrated a decade of the Fellows Programme while advancing conversations on future regional engagement and collaboration.



20 members
in 2015

550+
members in 2025



90+
countries



Fellows acknowledge achievements and look to the future in Indonesia

Also in June, Fellows Alumni from across Southeast Asia organised an international conference titled "Interreligious Policy Dialogue in Southeast Asia: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities". The event, hosted by the Indonesian International Islamic University's Faculty of Social Sciences, convened experts in policy, culture, religion and peacebuilding from around the region to assess Fellows and other stakeholders' contribution to fostering dialogue across diverse religious and cultural landscapes in the region.

In compliment to the event, KAICIID held a two-day workshop that explored how Fellows can strengthen regional priorities and integrate KAICIID initiatives more deeply into their communities. Participants also contributed to revising the Fellows Programme capacity-building curriculum to ensure its continued relevance and impact.

HOW OUR WORK IS AMPLIFIED

Fellows Alumni continue to amplify KAICIID's mission globally. They are deeply embedded in KAICIID's programmes across all regions, serving as trainers, resource experts, and local convenors. Examples of their work can be found throughout this newsletter.

A Beacon of Coexistence – Fellows Alumni Launch Historic Nineveh Declaration in Mosul, Iraq

On 29–30 April 2025, KAICIID Fellows Alumni convened an international forum in Mosul, Iraq. This event was achieved through the Fellows' active engagement with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the University of Mosul, and the Religion and Security Council. to advance dialogue, rebuild trust, and promote interreligious coexistence in Nineveh Governorate.

In addition to actionable recommendations, the "Nineveh Declaration for Peace, Dialogue, and Coexistence" was launched at the forum. The declaration is a transformative roadmap charting Iraq's path towards reconciliation and inclusive development. Crafted collaboratively with local and international actors, the declaration calls on all sectors

Read more:



**Southeast Asian
Interreligious Fellows
Gather at UII to Reshape
KAICIID Curriculum**

**UII Serves as Hub for
Interreligious Dialogue
as KAICIID Celebrates
10 Years of Action**



From the ashes of destruction, Nineveh rises once again as a symbol of humanity's capacity for dialogue, coexistence, and shared hope."

Nineveh Forum Declaration



Read more: about
International Fellows
programme

of society to unite around shared principles of peace and dignity.

Central to the Nineveh Declaration are six guiding commitments:

- Fostering peace and interreligious coexistence across communities divided by decades of conflict.
- Upholding human rights, dignity, and citizenship for all citizens regardless of faith or background.
- Promoting education, cultural heritage restoration, and community-led reconstruction efforts.
- Combating extremism in all its forms through dialogue and inclusive governance.
- Empowering youth, women, and civil society as catalysts for change and resilience.
- Advancing justice and sustainable development through multi-stakeholder collaboration.

The declaration stands as a beacon of hope, and a call for communities to heal, rebuild, and embrace diversity as a strength rather than a source of division.



@Religion & Security Council

Read more:



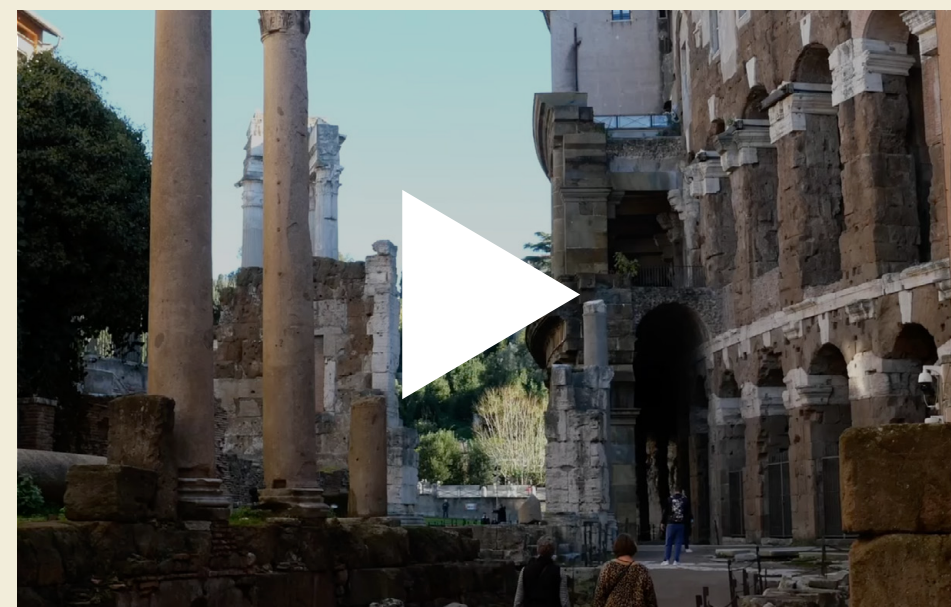
The Nineveh Declaration for Peace, Dialogue, and Coexistence – Religion & Security Council

Nineveh has long been a cradle of civilizations, a mosaic of cultures, ethnic groups, and religions, and a beacon of coexistence and mutual respect. Despite the challenges and conflicts that have cast a shadow over this region in recent decades, the unwavering spirit of its people and their commitment to unity provide a firm basis for rebuilding Nineveh as a symbol of peace, unity, and prosperity.



Interreligious Dialogue for Peace and Living Together” – RSC Religion & Security Council

Fellows Alumni Launch Documentary on Sacred Spaces and Interreligious Dialogue in Rome



On 11 April, Alumni from the KAICIID International Fellows Programme (Italy chapter) hosted a screening of the documentary *“Sacred Spaces and Interreligious Dialogue in Rome: A Living Document”* at La Sapienza University of Rome.

The 40-minute film is an exploration of Rome’s vibrant interreligious landscape and the hidden religious communities of the Eternal City. While Rome is globally synonymous with the Holy See and the Catholic Church, the documentary shines a light on the city’s diversity and the interreligious engagement unfolding across its neighborhoods.

Through the lens of the Fellows and other experts, viewers are introduced to sacred spaces and living traditions that underscore the city’s intercultural richness. Europe’s largest mosque stands less than a dozen kilometers from St. Peter’s Basilica. The Roman Jewish community is one of the oldest in the world, pre-dating the diaspora caused by the destruction of the Temple and razing of Jerusalem by two hundred years. Buddhists, Hindus, Sikhs, Baha’i and others all call Rome home, as well as a diversity of Christian traditions, from the Waldensians, a pre-Reformation evangelical church, to the latest wave of Pentecostals.

The film shows Rome as a microcosm of interreligious dialogue, with models of coexistence and collaboration deeply rooted in religious history. Following the screening, Fellows Alumni facilitated a discussion with approximately 60 university students in attendance on inclusive models of interfaith engagement and the significance of documenting living examples of intercultural and interreligious cooperation.

Produced in Italian, the documentary is currently being subtitled in English to expand its reach globally.

2026

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS PROGRAMME



550+
Fellows



90+
Countries

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:

KAICIID is pleased to announce the launch of the 2026 Call for Applications for its prestigious International Fellows Programme. This year's call introduces two distinct cohorts, including a dedicated track for youth service organization staff and volunteers. Since 2015, the Programme has trained over 550 Fellows from 90+ countries, representing a spectrum of faith traditions. It combines in-person and online learning with experiential workshops and seed funding for grassroots initiatives.



Learn more: and apply

Application deadline:

31 July 2025

For inquiries:

fellows@kaicid.org



"What sets this Programme apart is its emphasis on deep personal transformation, its truly global diversity both religiously and regionally, and its ability to bring together academics, religious leaders, policy makers, and practitioners – It brings together voices that are rarely heard together in the same space"

Prof. Andrew J. Boyd, Senior Programme Manager.



E-LEARNING AND ONLINE RESOURCES

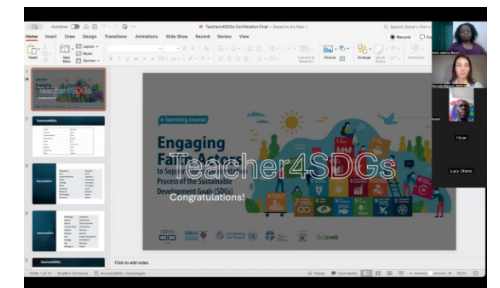
WHAT WE DO PROGRAMMATICALLY – DEVELOPING CAPACITY

Teachers' Empowerment: E-Learning Graduation in Kenya and Zimbabwe

In May 2025, 100 teachers from Kenya and Zimbabwe completed the e-learning course Engaging Faith Actors to Support the Implementation Process of the SDGs. The Executive Director of the Interreligious Council of Kenya spoke at the Virtual Graduation Ceremony, which included two professional sign language interpreters to provide full accessibility to hearing impaired participants. Teachers also shared powerful reflections on their learning experiences and personal growth throughout the course.

HOW OUR WORK IS AMPLIFIED

Teachers from both current and previous cohorts have already begun applying their learning. Initiatives underway include an educational summit focusing on interreligious and intercultural dialogue and environmental themes, as well as the formation of an interfaith ecological network for children.



In Q2, **100** teachers from Kenya and Zimbabwe successfully completed the e-learning course Engaging Faith Actors to Support the Implementation Process of the SDGs'

E-Learning by the Numbers – Q2 2025



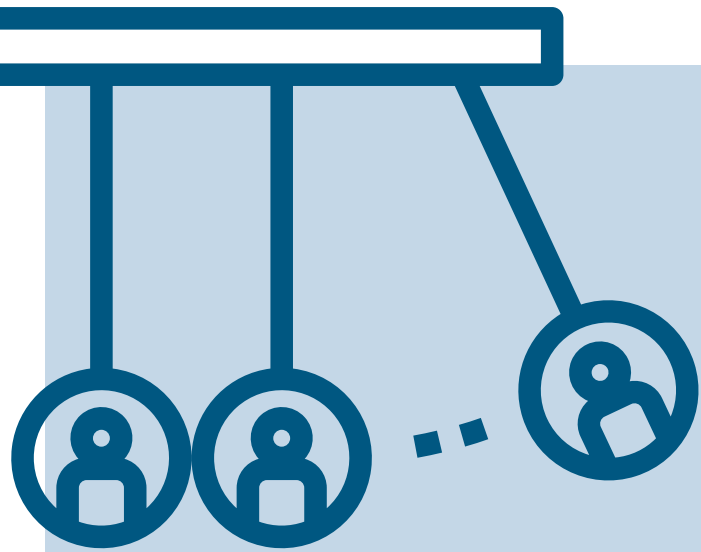
200+
registered for the 2nd Teacher4SDGs Cohort



416
Participants completed KAICIID ELU courses



22
Moderated Cohorts



IMPACT STORY:

Dominic Leshan

Educator - Kenya

"This course has truly shifted how I see my role, not just within the classroom but within the wider community. Before, I often felt the weight of individual challenges my students and community members faced, tackling issues in isolation. Now, understanding the interconnectedness highlighted by the SDGs has given me a broader lens. It's like stepping back to see the whole system instead of just individual threads. I realize that the struggles we see locally – access to clean water, the need for better education, the divisions that sometimes arise – are all part of these global goals. This perspective has instilled a greater sense of hope and purpose, knowing we're contributing to something larger than ourselves.

Moving forward, I'm eager to infuse the principles of the SDGs directly into my teaching. For instance, when discussing environmental science, we'll connect it to SDG 13 (Climate Action) and explore how different faiths approach environmental stewardship. In our faith community, I envision organizing interfaith dialogues focused on shared values like compassion and justice, linking these directly to SDGs like 16 (Peace, Justice



Moving forward, I'm eager to infuse the principles of the SDGs directly into my teaching. For instance, when discussing environmental science, we'll connect it to SDG 13 (Climate Action) and explore how different faiths approach environmental stewardship."

and Strong Institutions) and 4 (Quality Education). By creating spaces for shared learning and action, we can break down misconceptions and build bridges of understanding. Imagine students from different backgrounds collaborating on a project to improve local sanitation (SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation), guided by their diverse faith perspectives on community well-being.

The potential impact of this knowledge on the people I serve is immense. By fostering interfaith collaboration grounded in the SDGs, we can create more inclusive and resilient communities. When individuals see different faith traditions working together towards common goals like eradicating poverty (SDG 1) or ensuring good health and well-being (SDG 3), it builds trust and encourages wider participation. It moves the focus from potential differences to shared humanity and a collective responsibility for our world. Ultimately, this approach can empower individuals to become active agents of change, contributing to a more just, peaceful, and sustainable future for all, right here in Nairobi and Bungoma where I work and beyond."

University Partnerships: Equipping the Next Generation for Peace

Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

In a growing recognition of the need to integrate dialogue and mutual understanding into peace and conflict education, universities and other educational institutions are choosing to supplement their curriculum's with KAICIID's online resources. The latest such is the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. Around 40 students from the department completed KAICIID's moderated e-learning course Using Interreligious Dialogue to Strengthen Peace, Reconciliation and Social Cohesion, preparing them to become proactive contributors to inclusive societies.

HOW OUR WORK IS AMPLIFIED



I appreciated how the course effectively connected Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (IRD/ICD) with broader peacebuilding frameworks."

IMPACT STORY:

Manoj Dilshan Annaraj

KIFP Alumni - Sri Lanka

My name is Manoj Dilshan Annaraj. Originally from Sri Lanka, I now live in Adelaide, Australia, where I serve as Associate Director of Peacebuilding Programming with World Vision International. In this global role, I have the privilege of working with almost all the countries where World Vision is present. My day-to-day work focuses on inter- and intra-faith peacebuilding and dialogue. Wanting to strengthen the quality and impact of my work, I saw this programme as both a timely and valuable opportunity.

The online segment of the course was fantastic. I thoroughly enjoyed the modules, the forum discussions, and various other assignments. It was a great learning exchange. KAICIID's modules on theories and historical perspectives of dialogue were particularly insightful for me. I appreciated how the course effectively connected Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (IRD/ICD) with broader peacebuilding frameworks—it was both profound and practical.

The course challenged me in many ways. It reaffirmed that ICD/IRD are very complex and challenging processes, yet when done with care and intentionality they are definitely transformative. I gained practical insights that have helped me navigate challenges in my own work, and I've already begun applying what I've learned in projects and programs across several countries where World Vision works.

One of the key learnings that I am applying in my work now is the openness that I have when I go into dialogues (or even when I plan) – to look at it as a learning process rather than a platform to provide quick wins or solutions. I'm also now more committed to demonstrating measurable impact in the dialogues I support. I am also open to any personal transformation that might happen within me. I invite others also to follow this course. I am sure it's a self-transformative process. It's a great platform to learn together, innovate, and do great things together.

Department of International Relations at the National University of East Timor

In June, 30 students from the Department of International Relations at the National University of East Timor participated in a KAICIID's moderated Intercultural Communication e-learning course. During the course, presenters, such as Mr. Mahmudi Yusbi, Head of Strategic Planning and Business Development at the ASEAN Foundation emphasised the role of intercultural communication in empowering youth to address shared challenges across Southeast Asia.

HOW OUR WORK IS AMPLIFIED

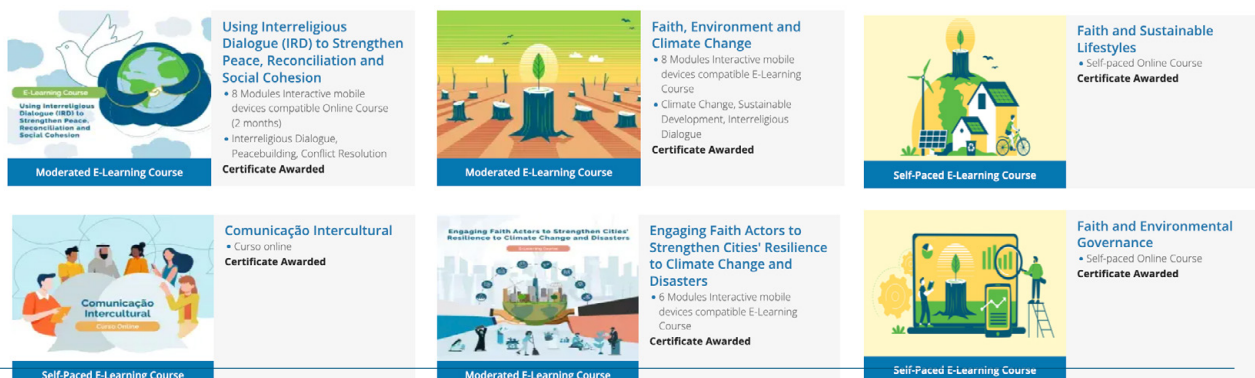
Providing a moderated version of the e-learning course for students in East Timor was initiated by Epifania Da Silva Araujo Sarmento. Drawing on her prior experience and engagement with KAICIID through the Asia Region Programme's collaboration with ASEAN and as a former student of the Intercultural Communication e-learning course, this young leader requested KAICIID's support to deliver the course and successfully mobilised a significant number of her peers to participate.

Women's Voices Webinar Series: Empowered to Rise

Held on 30 April 2025, the latest installment of KAICIID's Women's Voices webinar series brought together 53 participants from 23 countries across KAICIID's regions. The webinar "*Empowered to Rise*" showcased young women leaders advancing gender equality through interreligious and intercultural dialogue. Discussions focused on digital inclusion, gender-responsive care, climate justice, and leadership development within faith-based organizations. Practical recommendations emerged from breakout groups, including strategies for engaging men as allies, promoting grassroots women's leadership, and linking faith values to sustainability.



Explore KAICIID's **E-Learning and Online Resources** for available courses, and past and future webinars



BUILDING VISIBILITY AROUND INTERRELIGIOUS & INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE



In Q2 2025, KAICIID's voice resonated across global platforms, cementing its role as a leading authority on interreligious and intercultural dialogue. Through targeted media outreach, real-time monitoring of global conversations, and the launch of innovative multimedia assets, the Centre expanded its visibility, strengthened partnerships, and reinforced its narrative of peace and inclusion.



THIS QUARTER SAW:



High-impact media coverage with over 200 editorial clippings from international and regional outlets, highlighting KAICIID's role in convening critical dialogues and addressing pressing global challenges.



Robust online conversations and digital campaigns, captured through social media, reflecting growing public engagement around KAICIID's core themes and programmes.



A dynamic **Multimedia Hub**, complementing programmatic activities with creative content; documentaries, photo galleries, and youth-led productions that bring the Centre's initiatives to life for global audiences.

Together, these efforts underscore KAICIID's ability to not only deliver impactful programmes but also to shape global narratives and showcase the transformative power of dialogue in action.

SOCIAL LISTENING: MAPPING GLOBAL CONVERSATIONS AROUND DIALOGUE AND PEACE

In Q2 2025, KAICIID recorded 26,618 global mentions across editorial and social media platforms, amplifying the Centre's voice on interreligious and intercultural dialogue at a pivotal moment for global peacebuilding. This visibility reached an estimated 201 million potential readers, strengthened by coverage in leading international outlets such as BBC, MSN Noticias, Azertac, KSA News, Daily Mail, Saudi Press Agency, MSN France, and The Guardian.

The quarter's visibility was shaped by tributes to His Holiness Pope Francis and reflections on global religious leadership, KAICIID's advocacy to counter hate speech, racism, and religious intolerance, and coverage of the Centre's cross-regional work in Africa, the Arab Region, Asia and Europe on inclusive dialogue and conflict prevention. Geographic insights revealed strong resonance in key European contexts, with Italy (32.6%), Spain (16.3%), and France (15.6%) accounting for over 64% of all mentions. Additional significant engagement came from the United Kingdom (12.6%) and Portugal (3.6%), while emerging

Read more:



Incorporating Dialogue into the Scouts Programme

KAICIID sees young people as future changemakers; therefore, the DfP programme aims to equip participants with the tools needed to meaningfully participate in building a culture of dialogue

mentions from Türkiye (1.3%) and Azerbaijan (1.1%) reflected KAICIID's growing presence in high-profile events and partnerships across Africa and the Arab Region.

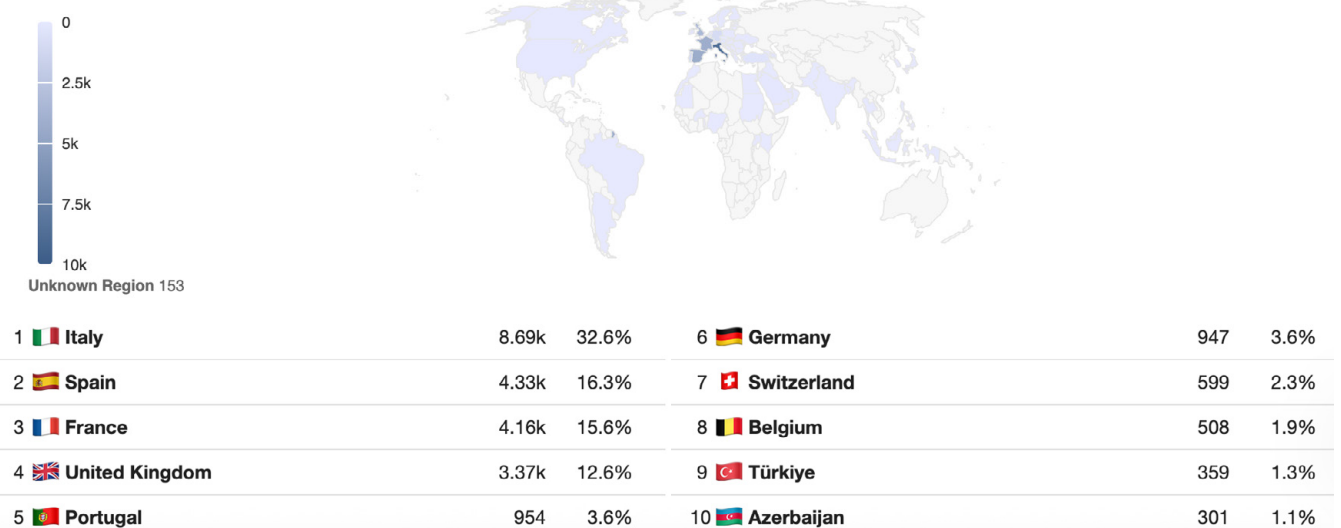
#Interfaith, #Dialogue, #Peace, and #WeAreKAICIID remained the most prominent hashtags, further strengthening KAICIID's narrative on bridging divides and fostering mutual understanding.

Top Hashtags:

#interfaith #Dialogue
#peace #WeAreKAICIID



Top Geographies of Digital Visibility:



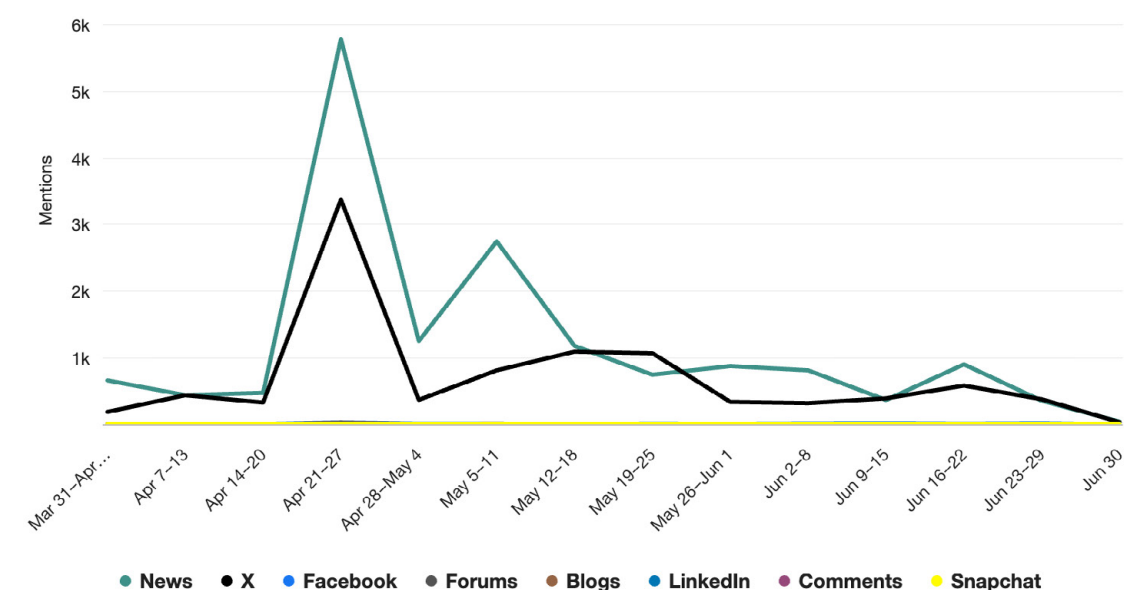
Top Keywords

proche des communautés communicant efficace
colonisation occidentale islamiser de force
notable positions cardinale filippino
war crimes and genocidenations armées musulmanes
deepest condolences passing
dialogue interreligieux wars

peaceinterfaith dialoguefutur pape
date de finworld chiesa cattolica long journey
hatred and racism late pope francis
opposition understanding and peace
colonisation islamique mondo intero
approche pastorale vagues de conquêtes musulmanes
presidente francese

dialogo interreligioso

Mention Source Type



KAICIID IN THE MEDIA

Cementing Global Leadership and Driving the Narrative for Dialogue and Peace

In Q2 2025, KAICIID’s presence across global media outlets continued to grow, affirming its reputation as a leading voice for interreligious and intercultural dialogue. Coverage spanned major international and regional platforms, with over 284 media mentions across Europe, the Arab world, Africa, Asia, and the Americas, underscoring the Centre’s relevance in shaping conversations on tolerance, coexistence, and sustainable peace.

The Arab Region once again led global visibility, contributing over 40% of all media coverage in this quarter. Stories emerging from Amman, Cairo, and Mosul resonated strongly across Arabic and international media, reflecting the high-level engagements and grassroots initiatives anchored in KAICIID’s Dialogue Journalism Programme and support for the Interreligious Platform for Dialogue and Cooperation (IPDC).

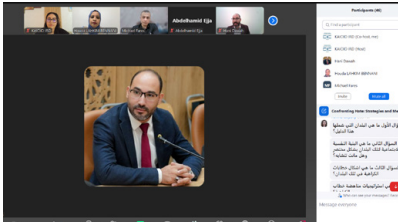
Q2 Key Media highlights:



Tributes to Pope Francis: Media outlets across the Middle East and Europe referenced KAICIID’s statements, positioning the Centre as a moral authority in global interfaith conversations.



Sacred Spaces Documentary Launch in Rome: A major media driver across European platforms such as Vatican News and ANSA.it, highlighting KAICIID’s cultural diplomacy work.



Dialogue360 Programme: Featured prominently in Jordanian and Gulf news outlets, reinforcing KAICIID’s impact on countering hate speech and fostering inclusive societies.



The KAICIID EPDF Expert Metting in Rome, extensively covered by Vatican News, Portugal’s SAPO, and Saudi Press Agency, emphasizing KAICIID’s leadership in fostering social cohesion through faith-based diplomacy.



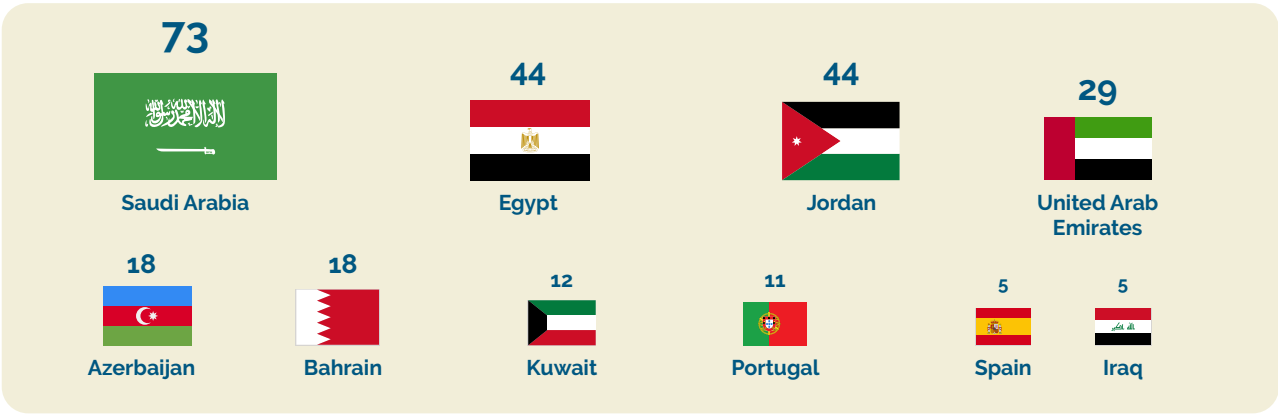
Coverage on KAICIID’s condemnation of attacks on places of worship (Syria and Iraq), positioning the Centre as a moral authority advocating for the protection of sacred sites.



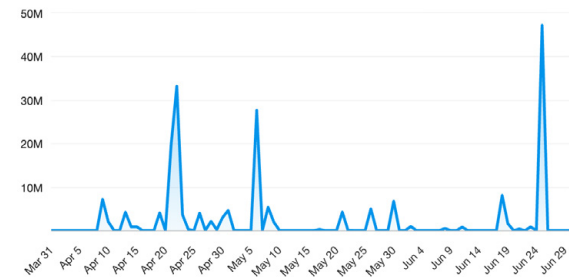
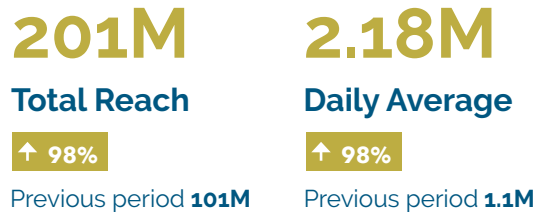
Dialogue Journalism Fellowship in Amman, spotlighted by Jordan News and regional agencies, reinforcing KAICIID’s role in countering hate speech.

These stories cumulatively reached millions of readers, positioning KAICIID as a central actor in shaping global narratives around peace, tolerance, and coexistence.

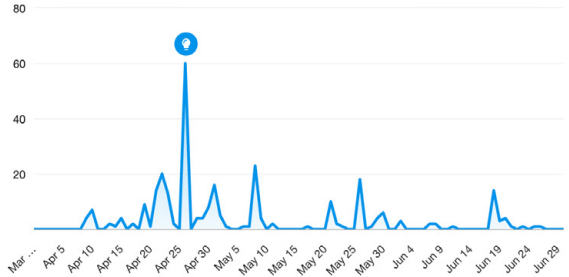
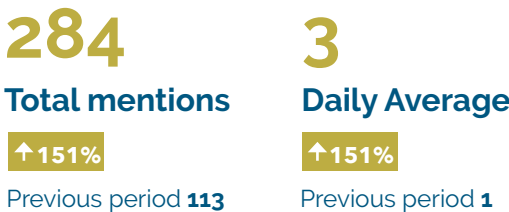
Top 10 Locations: Online Media Mentions



Reach Trend



Mentions Trend



Portugal: Strengthening Our Host-Country Presence

Q2 marked a breakthrough for KAICIID's visibility in Portugal, presenting unique opportunities to anchor the Centre's narrative locally. The death of Pope Francis in April triggered widespread coverage in Portuguese media, with KAICIID's tributes prominently cited in outlets like SAPO, Sete Margens, and Diário do Distrito alongside TV interviews from SIC, TVI and RTP. These moments positioned the Centre as a key thought leader on faith and intercultural understanding during a sensitive period for the global Catholic community.

The Arab Ambassadors' Roundtable in Lisbon further amplified KAICIID's profile as a hub for intercultural diplomacy. Coverage in Rádio Renascença and Observador portrayed the Centre as a convenor for dialogue between Europe and the Arab world.

Other stories, including KAICIID's youth initiatives and climate-focused programmes, gained traction across Portuguese and European platforms, embedding KAICIID's relevance in discussions on social cohesion and environmental justice.

MEDIA SPOTLIGHT



KAICIID MULTIMEDIA HUB



KAICIID Fellows 10th Anniversary Arabic Teaser



KAICIID About Video for the Ambassadorial Roundtable



Dialogue 360 - ASG Welcoming Remarks



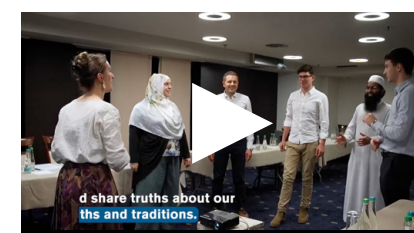
DJF Kick-Off ASG Welcoming Remarks



Rome Expert Meeting Recap Video



KAICIID Fellows 10th Anniversary Campaign - Father Stephano



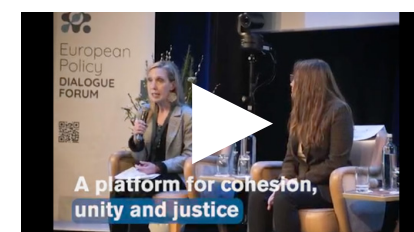
MJLC Graduation Video



N4D Strategic Planning Retreat Video



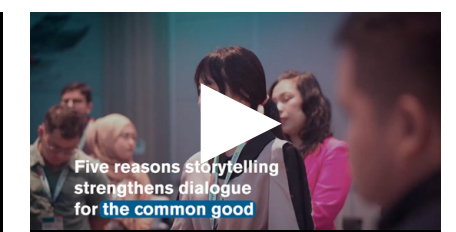
6th EPDF Promo Video



6th EPDF Teaser



CERITA Storytelling Training of Trainers Reel



Five Reasons Storytelling Strengthens Dialogue



The Power of Storytelling



NextGen TALKS Webinar: Scouts in Action Episode



NextGen TALKS Webinar: Yalla! Walking, Talking and Building Bridges



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#WeAreKAICIID

