

Religious Leaders Dialogue on Peace, Human Dignity, and Shared Responsibility

The Fourth Tokyo Peace Process

13-14 October 2026

Declaration

We, religious leaders, representatives of diverse faith traditions, gathered in Tokyo on 13-14 October 2026 for the “Religious Leaders Dialogue on Peace, Human Dignity, and Shared Responsibility” under the Tokyo Peace Process.

We came from different contexts, religious traditions and communities, including those profoundly affected by ongoing conflicts. We have brought with us different experiences, perspectives, and understanding of the circumstances confronting our families and communities. Yet we gathered, sharing the conviction that, even amid profound disagreement, dialogue remains a key imperative for religious leaders who bear particular responsibility to pursue peace.

We are deeply saddened by the suffering that people are experiencing in conflict zones around the world, in Ukraine and Russia; the Middle East; Haiti, Myanmar, Sudan, and others, many of which have escalated since we last met for the Third Tokyo Peace Process.

We declare emphatically and in unison: Wars of aggression are unacceptable. We call on political leaders to silence the guns and immediately return to the negotiation table to end these horrific conflicts.

Our Shared Moral Responsibility

Our religious traditions affirm the immeasurable value of human dignity, and the importance of confronting injustice and cherishing life. We, therefore, reaffirm our commitment to use our spiritual assets to promote respect for human dignity and to oppose violence against civilians. We seek to cease the abuse and weaponisation of religion and, rather, to use religion to build trust among our people. We encourage peaceful engagement to strengthen conditions necessary for a just and sustainable peace.

We reaffirm that human dignity must never be conditional upon nationality, ethnicity, religion, political allegiance, or any other distinction. No community's suffering should render us indifferent to the suffering of another.

What We Recognise

Restoring trust and dialogue is a prerequisite to achieving peace. We recognise the difficulty in maintaining trust and dialogue and the need to engage in a sustained process to restore dialogue. We recognise, too, the power of moral and religious narratives to overcome our limitations and shape communal behaviour, legitimacy, and the boundaries of the possible.

Taking the Tokyo Peace Process Forward

Building on our discussions and reflections in Tokyo, we recognise the importance of translating dialogue into sustained engagement.

Sustaining relationships and channels of communication: We commit to practical means of continuing dialogue, even amid heightened tensions -- and preserving our efforts to build bridges to increase understanding and promote reconciliation.

Advancing dialogue in conflict-affected contexts: We commit to promoting dialogue within our communities to develop mutual understanding on conflicts, as well as between our communities, via interreligious dialogues, to drive action in favour of just peace.

Strengthening the role of women and youth: We commit to exploring and advocating for more opportunities for women and youth to be integrated in peace process efforts.

As religious leaders, we extend our heartfelt prayers and steadfast solidarity to all those bearing the weight of ongoing war and violence, especially the most marginalised among us. We recognise that our actions must be future thinking, to build a peaceful world with children at its centre. We reaffirm our commitment to unite through this peace process, across faiths in prayer and direct action, striving to build a culture of peace rooted in the sanctity of life, human dignity, and the pursuit of Shared Sacred Flourishing.