

## Invitation

# 2. International Parliamentarians' Conference **An Embattled Right: Protecting and Promoting Freedom of Religion or Belief**

Dear Member of Parliament

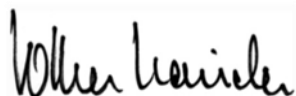
It is an honour and a privilege to invite you to participate in the political conference that marks the final day of this year's International Parliamentarians' Conference on the Freedom of Religion or Belief -IPPFoRB.

After two days of intense debates and deliberations, whereby only parliamentarians will be participating, the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag will host a public and high-level political event to present the current debate on Religious Freedom to the general public. This political event, to be opened by Germany's head of government, Dr. Angela Merkel, will bring together voices from international leadership, leading academic figures and, most importantly, parliamentarians from all over the world. The event aims to sum up the current debate and, of course, highlight the necessity to further defend and promote a crucial human right.

We all agreed in New York in 2015 that there was the need to intensify cooperation in this area and to continue our debate on this subject. In Berlin, we will now have a chance to do exactly this.

The event will take place on **Wednesday, 14th September 2016**, from **11.30 am** until **7.00 pm** in the German Bundestag, Reichstag building, Room **3N001**, Berlin. The CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag is looking forward to welcoming you in the Reichstag building.

Yours sincerely



Volker Kauder MdB

Chairman of CDU/CSU-Parliamentary Group  
in the German Bundestag



# Programme

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The conference will be covered live at [www.cducsu.de/veranstaltungen](http://www.cducsu.de/veranstaltungen) on the internet.

- 11:30 am      **Opening**  
*Volker Kauder MP*  
Chairman of the CDU/CSU-Parliamentary Group  
in the German Bundestag
- 11:40 am      **Note of Welcome und Statement**  
*Dr. Angela Merkel MP*  
Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany
- 12:00 am      **Welcoming Address**  
*Johannes Singhammer MP*  
Vice President of the German Bundestag
- 12:10 am      **Welcoming Address**  
*Baroness Elizabeth Berridge of the Vale of Catmose*  
Steering Committee IPPFoRB
- 12:20 am      **Welcoming Address**  
*N.N.*  
Norwegian Government

- 12:30 am      **Keynote**  
**Freedom of religion as a part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: A report on the UN Realities**  
*N.N.*  
United Nations
- 1:00 pm      **Lunch**
- 2:00 pm      **Keynote**  
**Religious Freedom as an individual human right and a founding pillar of the democratic constitutional order.**  
*Prof. Dr. Christian Walter*  
Ludwigs-Maximilians-Universität, Munich
- 2:30 pm      **Intervention**  
**Protecting Article 18 through governments' actions**  
*David Saperstein*  
United States Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom  
*Ján Figel*  
Special Envoy for promotion of Freedom of Religion or Belief Outside the EU
- 3:00 pm      **Podium 1**  
**The challenge of religious freedom – a chance for parliamentarians from religious minorities**  
*Asyia Nazir MP*  
Pakistan (Christian)  
*Vian Dakhil MP*  
Iraq (Jesidi)  
*U Shwe Maung former MP*  
Myanmar (Muslim)  
**Moderator**  
*Johannes Singhammer MP*  
Vice President of the German Bundestag
- 4:00 pm      Coffee-Break

4:30 pm

**Podium 2**

**The challenge of religious freedom – regional parliamentarians' networks as a chance for parliamentary foreign policy**

*Peter van Daalen MdEP*

*Charles Santiago MP*

ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights (APHR)

*N.N.*

South American Parliamentarians' Association for Religious Freedom

**Moderator**

*Dr. Franz Josef Jung MP*

Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU-Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag

5:30 pm

**Podium 3**

**The challenge of religious freedom – lessons learned**

*Baroness Elizabeth Berridge of the Vale of Catmose*  
House of Lords, United Kingdom

*Mr. David Anderson MP*  
Canada

*Abid Raja MP*  
Norway

*Leonardo Quintao MP*  
Brasil

**Moderator**

*Prof. Dr. Heribert Hirte MP*

Chairman of the Stephanus-Circle of the CDU/CSU-Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag

6:30 pm

**Closing Statement**

*Volker Kauder MdB*

Chairman of the CDU/CSU-Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag

6:40 pm

**Reception**

**Moderator**

*Tanja Samrotzki, Journalist*

Further Information: [www.cducsu.de/veranstaltungen](http://www.cducsu.de/veranstaltungen)

