

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE الجمعيــة البرلمانيــة للبحــر الأبيـض المتوســـط

3rd Standing Committee on Dialogue amongst Civilisations & Human Rights

Special Task Force on Dialogue of Cultures and Religions

Drafted in Lisbon, Portugal Signed in Istanbul, Turkey

Letter of Commitment

Given that the Mediterranean is the cradle of rich and diverse civilisations,

Given that the Mediterranean gave birth to the three monotheistic religions,

Given that the Mediterranean is a region of intense social and cultural interactions and trade exchanges,

Given our shared common history,

Given that the Mediterranean identity is rich, diverse and plural,

Believing that our cultural, ethnic and religious differences are our assets,

Believing in equal dignity for every individual,

Deeply committed to human rights and freedom of expression,

Given that mutual respect and understanding are necessary to bring about a culture of peace,

Believing in dialogue as the most efficient tool to bring about a culture of peace,

Stressing the importance of intercultural and inter-religious dialogue among political, religious and spiritual leaders as well as among common citizens,

Condemning all sorts of discrimination, intolerance and xenophobia in speech or in action,

Committing to fighting cultural stereotyping of mutual suspicion, tension and intolerance that facilitates the victimisation and exclusion of religious and ethnic minorities,

Believing in the importance of education and of role models for today's Mediterranean youth,

Attached to our shared fundamental values, our common heritage and our cultural diversity,

We, Representatives of the Peoples of Mediterranean countries, are committed to promoting a culture of dialogue and peace in our region and decide to:

Pursue work on intercultural and inter-religious dialogue in our respective parliaments – including Youth parliaments - and local communities,

And call for the holding of full debates on intercultural and inter-religious dialogue before our own national parliaments.

Signatories

Parliament of Albania	Parliament of Algeria	Parliament of Bosnia- Herzegovina
Parliament of Croatia	Parliament of Cyprus	Parliament of Egypt
Parliament of France	Parliament of Greece	Parliament of Israel
Parliament of Italy	Parliament of Jordan	Parliament of Lebanon
 Parliament of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	 Parliament of Malta	 Parliament of Monaco
Parliament of Montenegro	Parliament of Morocco	Parliament of Palestine
Parliament of Portugal	Parliament of Serbia	Parliament of Slovenia
Parliament of the Syrian Arab Republic	Parliament of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	 Parliament of Tunisia
 Parliament of Turkey		