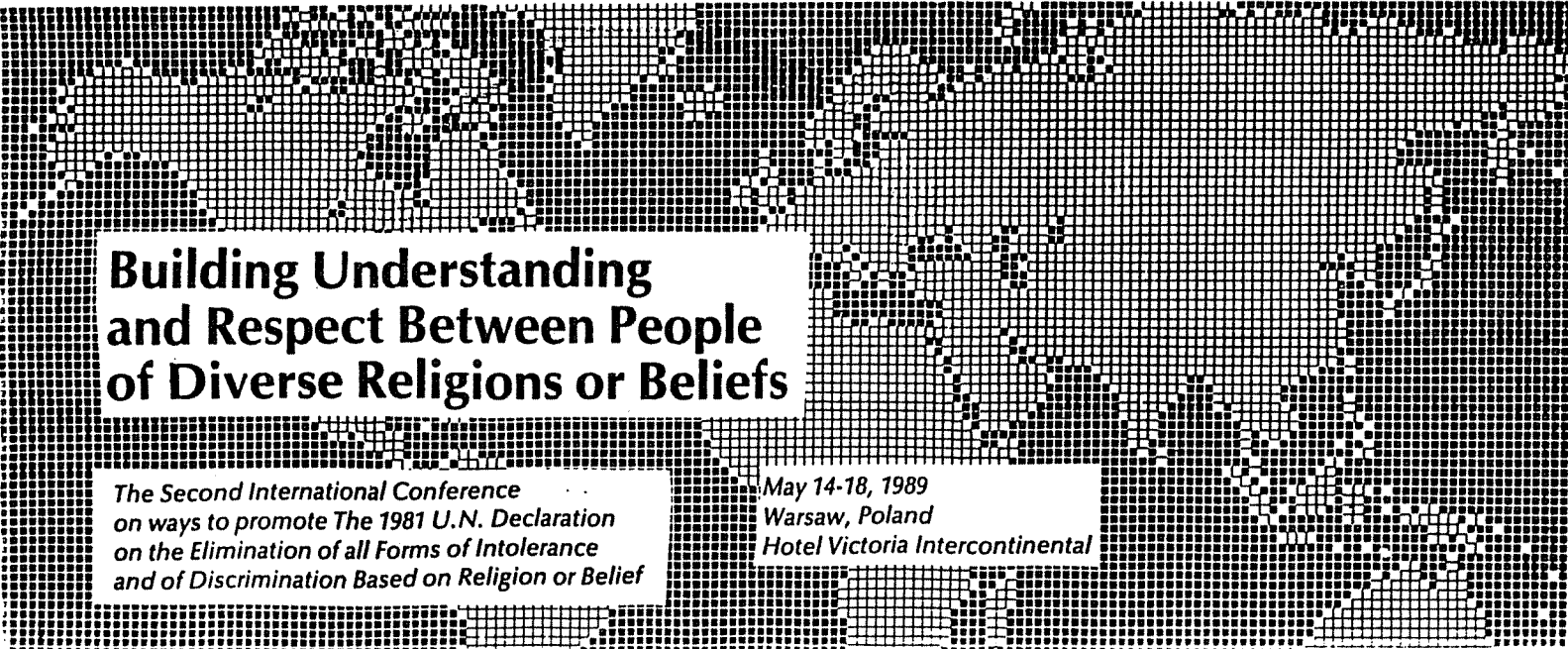


# Building Understanding and Respect Between People of Diverse Religions or Beliefs

Department of Professional Development  
and Conference Services  
University of Minnesota  
218 Nolle Center  
315 Pillsbury Drive S.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55455

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## Building Understanding and Respect Between People of Diverse Religions or Beliefs

*The Second International Conference  
on ways to promote The 1981 U.N. Declaration  
on the Elimination of all Forms of Intolerance  
and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief*

*May 14-18, 1989  
Warsaw, Poland  
Hotel Victoria Intercontinental*

## **Purpose**

Freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief is a right proclaimed in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. On November 25, 1981, the General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief. This Declaration proclaims support for Article 18 and specifies measures to protect freedom of religion or belief.

The Second International Conference on Ways to Promote the 1981 U.N. Declaration in Warsaw, Poland, from May 14-18, 1989, will stimulate dialogue from diverse intellectual and cultural perspectives on the root causes and contemporary manifestations of intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief. The Warsaw conference is designed to explore creative ways of conflict resolution and will combine both academic and action approaches, coordinating analysis with concrete strategies for change. The conference is calling for the presentation of academic papers and creative new programs and projects to encourage understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief.

## **Outcomes**

A major contribution of the Second International Conference on Ways to Promote the 1981 U.N. Declaration will be to continue the process of encouraging governments, religious institutions, academic institutions and nongovernmental organizations to contribute their time, thought and resources to implementing freedom of religion or belief. The conference recognizes there are a wide variety of ways in which this can occur. There are four general areas from which recommendations are expected to come:

1. **Law** — ways in which efforts can be supported to examine international structures, national constitutions, national and local legislation, to make sure there is a legal framework for the Declaration in each member-state of the United Nations.
2. **Education** — programs of education can be developed through universities, religious and non-sectarian educational institutions, churches, seminaries, governments, voluntary organizations and the media.
3. **Arts** — ways in which the "spirit" of the Declaration can be expressed in painting, sculpture, dance, music, theater, poetry and other artistic means.
4. **Development** — ways in which governments, religious institutions and non-sectarian organizations of diverse ideologies, may be able to work together on humanitarian service projects in the "name" of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 1981 U.N. Declaration, with mutual understanding, tolerance and respect for each other.

## **Sponsorship and Financial Contributions**

The Warsaw conference is being sponsored by the Institute of State and Law of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Norwegian Institute of Human Rights, the University of Minnesota, College of Liberal Arts and the World Federation of United Nations Associations. Major financial contributions have been given by the Canadian Development Agency, the Norwegian Institute of Human Rights, the United Church of Canada and the Bahai International Community. Additional requests have been made and contributions will be acknowledged at a later date. The University of Minnesota, College of Liberal Arts, is providing all in-kind administrative support. The Institute of State and Law of the Polish Academy of Sciences has arranged a reduced price for accommodations and will host two evening events. The conference is being organized and facilitated by Project Tandem, Inc.

## **Location and Accommodations**

The conference will be held at the Hotel Victoria Intercontinental. This is a modern, full-service hotel within five minutes walking distance from "old town" Warsaw and the Vistula River. Airline services and shops are located in the hotel.

## **Travel Information**

The official conference travel agency, Group Travel, Inc. has been designated as the official conference transportation provider. Please call 612-881-7811 or 1-800-222-7907 or Telex 4950462 for airline information and ticketing. Specific information will be available through them for the pre-conference trip to Auschwitz.

## **Pre-Conference Activity -- A Memorial Tour to Auschwitz** **Thursday-Sunday, 11-14 May, 1989**

A special tour has been arranged to Krakow, Poland. Participants will leave Warsaw on Thursday afternoon by bus, stay in Krakow Friday and Saturday nights return to Warsaw on Sunday in time for the conference opening. Cost for two nights lodging, two meals per day, bus transportation and tour is \$300. Payment should be sent with registration for the conference with the attached registration form.

### **Program Schedule**

\* Indicates the speaker has been invited but not confirmed at time of brochure publication.

#### **Sunday, 14 May, 1989**

1:00 p.m. Registration

5:30 p.m. Reception and Dinner

Invocation

Rev. David Preus, Vice President

Lutheran World Federation, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Welcome

Adam Lopatka, Chief Justice

Supreme Court of Poland, Warsaw, Poland

Adam Lopatka was elected Chair of the 1984 U.N. Seminar on the Encouragement of Understanding, Tolerance and Respect in Matters Relating to Freedom of Religion or Belief, in Geneva, Switzerland.

6:30 p.m. Tolerance for Diversity of Religion or Belief: It's Importance for Social and Economic Development

Introduction of Topic

Rev. Howard Mills, Secretary-General

United Church of Canada, Toronto, Canada

Dinner Address

Sulak Sivaraska,

Buddhist lay theologian, Bangkok, Thailand

Sulak Sivaraska is a trained lawyer and founder of the Asian Forum on Development. He has lectured extensively throughout the world on the relation of religion to development.

8:00 p.m. Rights of Women in Religious Traditions

Introduction of Topic

Einar Vetvik, Professor of Political Science,

Diakonhjemmet Sosialhogskole, Oslo Norway

Einar Vetvik was the representative of Norway to the 1984 seminar on the 1981 U.N. Declaration in Geneva, Switzerland.

Evening Address

Raffat Hassan, Professor of Religion

University of Kentucky, Louisville, Kentucky

Raffat Hassan is a Muslim woman born in Pakistan. She has published widely in Pakistan and the United States and is the author of a major book on women in Islam and in the Qur'an.

**Monday, 15 May, 1989**

9:15 a.m.

**The Historical Focus: The U.N. Declaration Before 1981 and Since**

**Introduction of Topic**

**Soria Picado, Executive Director  
Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, San Jose, Costa Rica**

**Address**

**Jaap A. Walkate, Deputy-Director  
International Organizations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
The Hague, The Netherlands-**

Jaap Walkate is an international lawyer active in the field of human rights since 1975. As a member of The Netherlands delegation to the U.N. Commission on Human Rights he was involved in the final negotiations on the 1981 U.N. Declaration in the Commission and the General Assembly.

10:30 a.m.

**The Legal/Constitutional Focus: Problems and Possibilities**

**Introduction of Topic**

**Kevin Boyle, Executive Director  
Article 19, London, England**

Kevin Boyle is a lawyer who served as the representative of Ireland to the 1984 U.N. Seminar in Geneva on the 1981 U.N. Declaration. He was elected Rapporteur of the Seminar.

**Address**

**Donna J. Sullivan  
The Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights, New York, New York**

Donna Sullivan is a lawyer, a member of the California Bar and a former Law Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. She is project director for a legal Commentary on the 1981 U.N. Declaration which will serve as an analytic and interpretive guide for jurists and government officials charged with implementing the Declaration.

12:30 p.m.

**Lunch**

**Working Groups**

Conference participants will be assigned to Working Groups of 8-10 persons each. They will sit together at lunch to become acquainted and review their schedule for the conference. Each group will have an assigned chair.

2:00 p.m.

**The Theological/Philosophical Focus: Internal Obstacles and Mandates to Tolerance**

**Introduction of Topic**

**\*Aviezer Ravitzky, Professor of Philosophy  
Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel**

Aviezer Ravitzky was the representative of Israel to the 1984 U.N. Seminar on the 1981 U.N. Declaration in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Address**

**Tamas Foldesi, Dean  
University of Budapest Law School, Budapest, Hungary**

Tamas Foldesi is a Marxist philosopher and active participant in Christian-Marxist dialogue. He has written four books and several articles on the philosophy and concept of justice and has recently published a book in Hungary on human rights.

**Address**

**Franklin Littell, Emeritus Professor of Religion  
Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

Franklin Littell has given lectures on religious pluralism on over 300 campuses throughout the world. He is the author of 23 books on the subject and serves as a consultant to the Center for the Study of World Religions.

4:00 p.m. Working Groups meet to discuss the day's topics

6:15 p.m. Reception and Dinner

8:00 p.m. Presentation of Papers

Conference participants who wish to present papers must bring 100 copies of their paper to the conference. Sessions will be held Monday and Wednesday evening.

## Tuesday, 16 May, 1989

9:15 a.m. The Polish Experience

Introduction of Topic

\*Andrzej Stelmachowski, Chair

Warsaw Catholic Intelligentsia Club, Warsaw, Poland

Andrzej Stelmachowski is a professor at Warsaw University. He will introduce Warsaw religious and humanist leaders who will guide conference participants during the day.

9:30 a.m. Warsaw Visits

Conference participants will be divided into five groups to visit local churches, synagogues, atheistic institutes and government offices. A program for each of these visits will be arranged by local Warsaw religious and humanist leaders. Visits will include luncheons hosted by Warsaw religious and humanist organizations.

3:30 p.m. Return to Hotel Victoria Intercontinental

4:00 p.m. The Empirical Focus: How to Implement the 1981 U.N. Declaration in a Practical Way

Introduction of Topic

Ndam Njoya

Executive Committee of Unesco

Yaounde, Cameroon, Africa

Ndam Njoya is a leading Muslim from West Africa and a member of the UNESCO Executive Committee and a member of the world Muslim Congress committee for Africa.

Address

Arun Ghandi

Independent Scholar (Memphis, Tennessee), Bombay, India

Arun Ghandi is the grandson of Mohandas K. Gandhi. He will speak on a practical 60 village self-help program in India to overcome hatred and violence based in part on the caste system.

Moderator

4:45 p.m. John Taylor, Secretary-General

World Conference on Religion and Peace, Geneva, Switzerland

John Taylor formerly worked with the World Council of Churches. He will moderate questions and discussion from conference participants directed to Arun Ghandi and their own experiences during the day in visits to local churches, synagogues, atheistic institutes and government offices.

6:15 p.m. Reception and Dinner

The Tuesday evening dinner and evening entertainment will be hosted by the Institute for State and Law of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

## Wednesday, 17 May, 1989

- 9:15 a.m.      Working Groups: Future Plans and Projects  
Introduction of Topic  
Sister B.K. Jayanti, Director  
Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, London, England
- 9:30 a.m.      Working Groups  
Working groups will begin discussions of future ways to promote the 1981 U.N. Declaration. Rapporteur's will record deliberations for report to plenary session.
- 12:00 p.m.      Lunch
- 12:30 p.m.      Ways in Which a Majority Religion Within a Nation-State Can Promote the 1981 U.N. Declaration  
Introduction of Topic  
Juliet Sheen, Research and Policy Coordinator, Anti-Discrimination Board, New South Wales, Sidney, Australia  
  
Juliet Sheen was the representative of Australia to the 1984 seminar on the 1981 U.N. Declaration in Geneva, Switzerland.  
Luncheon Address  
\*A representative of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Poland, Warsaw, Poland
- 2:00 p.m.      Working Groups  
Working groups will continue discussions of future ways to promote the 1981 U.N. Declaration.
- 5:45 p.m.      Reception and Dinner
- 8:00 p.m.      Presentation of Papers  
Conference participants who wish to present papers will have posted room numbers for presentation.

## Thursday, 18 May, 1989

- 9:15 a.m.      Reports by Working Group Rapporteurs  
Introduction of Topic  
Liu Ze Hua, Chair  
History Department, University of Nankai, Tianjin, China
- 9:30 a.m.      Reports by Rapporteurs  
Working group rapporteurs will present brief recommendations for future plans and projects to promote the 1981 U.N. Declaration.
- 10:45 a.m.      Introduction of Topic  
Margaret Kenyatta, former representative  
U.N. Environment Program, Nairobi, Kenya, Africa
- 11:00 a.m.      Summary Report: General Rapporteur of the Conference  
B.G. Ramcharan  
Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, New York, New York
- 12:00 p.m.      Adjourn

### **Registration Information**

The fee for the entire conference is \$350, which includes single accommodations for four nights at the Hotel Victoria Intercontinental, 12 meals from Sunday evening through Thursday noon, handout materials, translation costs, refreshment breaks and the Sunday evening and Tuesday evening events hosted by the

Institute of State and Law of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Participants are expected to pay their own local transportation costs.

**For Further Information Contact**

Lori Graven, Program Director, Professional Development and Conference Services, 217 Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Drive S.E., University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455, U.S.A., (612) 625-9023.

Michael Roan, Executive Director, Project Tandem, Inc., 2000 South 5th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55455, U.S.A., (612) 627-4978.

Anna Szklennik or Stanislaw Jedrusiak, The Institute of State and Law of the Polish Academy of Sciences, ul Nowy Swiat 72 Palac Staszica, 00-330 Warsaw, Poland.

**REGISTRATION FORM (Detach and Mail)**

The Second International Conference on Ways to Promote the 1981 U.N. Declaration  
May 14-18, 1989

63-86LG

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Middle

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Position Title \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ I enclose \$350 for the registration fee.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will pay my own airline fee but request assistance in making the arrangements.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will make my own travel arrangements.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I enclose \$300 for my pre-conference trip to Auschwitz.

Return registration form and payment to: Lori Graven, Department of Professional Development, 217 Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Drive S.E., University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

*The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, religion, color, sex, national origin, handicap, age, veteran status, or sexual orientation.*