

Match the SDGs



GROUPWORK

Statements on freedom of religion or belief:



There is a proven statistical correlation between high degrees of freedom of religion or belief and high economic development. (*"The Price of Freedom Denied"* Grimm and Finke 2011)

The right to freedom of religion or belief is a prerequisite for an innovative research community and a flourishing commercial sector. (Grimm, Clarke and Snider *IJJR* vol 10, 2014)

There is a proven statistical correlation between high degrees of freedom of religion or belief and peaceful societies. (*"The Price of Freedom Denied"* Grimm and Finke 2011)

Governmental restrictions on freedom of religion or belief contribute to the global trend of shrinking civic space. (*UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief* 2016)

Governmental restrictions on freedom of religion or belief as part of anti-terrorist measures easily result in a negative spiral consisting of shrinking civic space, reduced freedom of opinion (freedom of religion or belief, freedom of expression and freedom of assembly), radicalisation, violent extremism and further governmental restrictions. (SMC in line with Grimm and Finke 2011)

Governmental restrictions of freedom of religion or belief often lead to increased social hostilities in society. (*"The Price of Freedom Denied"* Grimm and Finke 2011)



Protecting and promoting freedom of religion or belief for all equals protecting and promoting the right of women to self-determination in relation to their lives, their beliefs and how to manifest those beliefs.

(UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, on several occasions)

Freedom of religion or belief violations often lead to the discrimination of minority groups both from the government and from society at large. This results in social and economic vulnerability. Women, LGBTI-persons, disabled youth and refugees often suffer from related intersectional discrimination in relation to freedom of religion or belief violations.

(UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, on several occasions)

Violations of freedom of religion or belief often manifest themselves through physical, psychological, symbolic, structural and cultural violence. In the case of very severe violations these manifestations of violence can easily complement each other contributing to a high risk for very destructive conflict cycles resulting in genocidal tendencies.

(SMC Faith in Development)