



*Embassy of the
Islamic Republic of Iran
Copenhagen*

March 13, 2025

Excellency,

With the forthcoming observance of the "International Day to Combat Islamophobia," as designated by the United Nations General Assembly through Resolution A/RES/76/254, adopted on March 15, 2022, I take this opportunity to highlight the importance of fostering a global dialogue based on mutual respect, tolerance, and understanding, as outlined in the United Nations resolution, while emphasizing the need to combat all forms of discrimination and violence based on religion or belief.

It is undeniable that in recent years, the world has witnessed the rise of extremist factions, including some in the Middle East, who falsely claim to represent Islam. Their violent actions, which violate fundamental human rights, stand in stark opposition to the true essence of Islam and its noble values. Groups such as ISIS (Daesh), its affiliated factions, and similar organizations have not only distorted the image of Islam but have also contributed to the alarming rise of Islamophobia on a global scale.

In this regard, it is crucial to recognize that my country, Iran, has been at the forefront of the battle against ISIS and its affiliates, as well as other terrorist entities that operate under various names but adhere to the same extremist ideology. The sacrifices made by Iran in this struggle reflect its unwavering commitment to safeguarding the true values of Islam and protecting the global community from the threats posed by extremism.

The United Nations Resolution "International Day to Combat Islamophobia." underscores the importance of fostering a global dialogue based on tolerance, peace, and respect for human rights and religious diversity. It vehemently condemns all acts of violence targeting individuals based on their religion or belief, including attacks on places of worship, and calls for collective action to challenge stereotypes and prejudices.

As we commemorate this day, let us reaffirm our collective commitment to fostering a world rooted in peace, mutual understanding, and respect. The fight against Islamophobia is not solely the responsibility of Muslims, but of all humanity. Together, we must strive toward a future where diversity is celebrated, and no individual or community is persecuted for their faith.

For your reference, please find attached, the full text of the Resolution A/RES/76/254.


Seyed Mohammad Reza Sajjadi

Ambassador



Seventy-sixth session
Agenda item 16
Culture of peace

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 15 March 2022

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/76/L.41 and A/76/L.41/Add.1)]

76/254. International Day to Combat Islamophobia

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 75/187 of 16 December 2020 on combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief, and resolution 75/188 of 16 December 2020 on freedom of religion or belief,

Recalling also its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, and its resolution 73/296 of 28 May 2019, in which it decided to designate 22 August as the International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief,

Emphasizing that freedom of religion or belief, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to peaceful assembly and the right to freedom of association are interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and stressing the role that these rights can play in the fight against all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Recognizing with deep concern the overall rise in instances of discrimination, intolerance and violence, regardless of the actors, directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, antisemitism and Christianophobia and prejudices against persons of other religions or beliefs,

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).



Encouraging activities aimed at promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue in order to enhance peace and social stability, respect for diversity and mutual respect and to create, at the global level, and also at the regional, national and local levels, an environment conducive to peace and mutual understanding,

Reiterating that terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Taking note of the statement entitled "A call for mutual respect" by the High Representative of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations,

Recalling all the heinous and cowardly terrorist attacks and acts of violence, incitement to violence and discrimination against people of all religions or beliefs, including Muslims, in various parts of the world, and expressing deep condolences to the families of the victims and appreciation for the sympathetic response of several Governments, communities and civil society organizations,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 15 March the International Day to Combat Islamophobia;
2. *Calls for* strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue on the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and for the diversity of religions and beliefs, and strongly deplors all acts of violence against persons on the basis of their religion or belief and such acts directed against their places of worship, as well as all attacks on and in religious places, sites and shrines that are in violation of international law;
3. *Invites* all Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, and civil society, private sector and faith-based organizations to observe the International Day in an appropriate manner;
4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

*61st plenary meeting
15 March 2022*