THE NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR TOLERANCE

CO-EXISTENCE

TOLERANCE

PEACE

TOLERANCE
Introduction

The United Arab Emirates (UAE), Leadership and people is a melting pot of tolerance, cohesion, respect and acceptance of the other. Tolerance is an intrinsic value and a key trait of the UAE social fabric. It is built on the concept of “Middleness” (Moderation) in Islam, inspired by the genuine Arabian noble traditions and cultural heritage, and is enlightened by the wisdom and legacy of the Founding Father the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan. The National Program for Tolerance will make every effort to promote and craft these values based on solid structures towards ensuring their future sustainability, under the guidance of a wise leadership that caters to building human being and making the world a better place for humanity.
Muslims are intolerant? This is quite strange!
A true believer should be merciful and tolerant.
Only the heart-hardened can be ruthless.
The United Arab Emirates is based on well established, time-honored values that seek to promote the country’s relations on the basis of mutual respect, dialogue, cooperation and renounce all forms of terrorism, violence and fanaticism.
There is no future for this region without intellectual restructuring that consolidates the values of tolerance, pluralism and acceptance of others intellectually, culturally and in terms of sect and religion.
The UAE has always been, and still is, a proponent of peace and a symbol of tolerance among people.
The definition of tolerance as stated in the UN General Assembly Resolution No.51/201 on the “Issues of Human Rights including the Various Approaches to Improve the Actual Enjoyment of Human Rights and Basic Freedoms”:

- Tolerance is respect, acceptance and appreciation of the endless richness of our world’s cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human.

- Tolerance is harmony in difference. It is not only a moral duty, it is also a political and legal obligation.

- Tolerance is the virtue that makes peace possible and contributes to the replacement of the culture of war by a culture of peace.

- Tolerance is not concession, condescension or indulgence. Tolerance is, above all, recognizing the universal human rights and fundamental freedoms of others.

- The practice of tolerance does not mean abandonment or weakening of one’s convictions. It means that one is free to adhere to one’s own convictions and accept that others adhere to theirs.
Themes of the National Program for Tolerance

Enriching the scientific and cultural content on tolerance

Strengthening the Government’s role as an incubator of tolerance

Contributing to international efforts to promote tolerance and highlight the UAE’s role as a tolerant country

Promoting tolerance among youth and protecting them from fanaticism and extremism

Consolidating the role of cohesive family in building a tolerant society

The UAE Constitution

Islam

Zayed’s Legacy
UAE Ethics
The Pillars of Tolerance

- Contributing to international efforts to promote tolerance and highlight the UAE's role as a tolerant country
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Common Values

- International Conventions
- Archeology and History
- Human Nature
The Pillars of Tolerance Values

Islam
Evidences and examples that encourage and commend tolerance and stories that reject fanaticism, extremism and racism are abundant in the Holy Quran, the Prophet’s Sunna and Islamic history.

The UAE Constitution
The UAE Constitution encourages equality, freedom, respect and indiscrimination, notably in Articles 40 & 25.

Zayed’s Legacy: UAE Ethics
The UAE society has been known for its genuine traditions in terms of tolerance, peace, cultural pluralism, openness and coexistence. This legacy was further nurtured by the late Sheikh Zayed and the founding fathers. In their footsteps, the wise Leadership continues to follow.

International Conventions
The UAE is committed to the conventions of the United Nations which proclaimed 1995 the Year for Tolerance and declared its principles. A special day, November 16, was set to mark the International Day for Tolerance every year.
Archeology and History

The UAE is rich in archaeologies and testimonies, and the collective memory of the UAE people is abundant with historical stories that highlight tolerance as a genuine value of the people, before and after the Federation.

Human Nature

It is a human intrinsic sense to get to know, accept and live with the other without hate, malice or enmity. The Holy Quran says: (O mankind, indeed we have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another).

Common Values

Nations share many values, principles and interests that ensure understanding, cooperation, solidarity, respect and tolerance for all.
Themes of the National Program for Tolerance

Strengthening the Government’s role as an incubator of tolerance
Consolidating the role of cohesive family in building a tolerant society
Promoting tolerance among youth and protecting them from fanaticism and extremism
Enriching the scientific and cultural content on tolerance
Contributing to international efforts to promote tolerance and highlight the UAE’s role as a tolerant country
Partners

• Ministry of Interior
• Ministry of Presidential Affairs
• Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation
• Ministry of Culture and Knowledge Development
• Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation
• Ministry of Justice
• Ministry of Education
• Ministry of Community Development
• Office of the Minister of State for Happiness
• Office of the Minister of State for Youth
• The National Federal Council
• The National Media Council
• Emirates Identity Authority
• The General Authority for Youth and Sports Welfare
• The General Authority of Islamic Affairs & Endowments
• The Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority
• Emirates Scientists Council
• State Security Service
• Muslim Council of Elders
• Family Development Foundation

• Kelna UAE Association
• Zayed National Museum
• The Armed Forces – National Service Program
• The Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood
• Sawab Center
• Hedayah Center - Countering Violent Extremism
• Emirates Foundation – Takatof - Sanid
• Al-Azhar Al –Sharif
• The Vatican
• UAE Students Union
• Students Clubs in Universities
• UAE Universities
• Education and Human Resources Council
• Emirates School Education Foundation
• Emirates Association of Lawyers and Legal
• Emirates Center for Strategic Studies & Research
• Al Mesbar Studies & Research Center
• Human Rights Organizations
• International Organizations
• Communities’ Clubs
• Embassies and Consulates
• Local, regional and international research centers
• Non-Muslim religious organizations in the UAE
• Prominent role models for the public
The Key Initiatives

Strengthening the Government’s role as an incubator of tolerance

The Main Initiatives:

- **International Day for Tolerance 16 November:** Organizing events and activities with different bodies to celebrate the International Day for Tolerance.

- **Voice of Tolerance:** It is the voice of people who will undertake the UAE’s mission in spreading tolerance, locally and globally.

- Revise UAE laws and regulations to promote tolerance and renounce violence, extremism and fanaticism.

- Set national indexes and consolidate the UAE’s position in global competitiveness indexes.
• Launch the Corporate Tolerance Responsibility (CTR) program for public and private organizations as an index and indication to estimate organizations’ Commitment support and promotion of tolerance.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
**Corporate Tolerance Responsibility (CTR)**

• Launch the Tolerance, Co-existence and Peace Charter in public organizations and for individuals in society (Teacher’s Charter, Student’s Charter, Citizen’s Charter, Expat’s Charter, Employee’s Charter, etc.).

• **Specialized workshops:** develop participants’ skills and spread awareness on the concepts of tolerance, whilst rejecting racism and fanaticism. These workshops target stakeholders, such as media persons, religious sects, and others.
Consolidating the role of cohesive family in building a tolerant society

- Launch mutual initiatives in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior addressing various segments of society, especially people serving sentences.

- Launch mutual initiatives with the Ministry of Community Development addressing various segments of society, mainly married couples.

- Launch mutual initiatives in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and Knowledge Development addressing various segments of society.

- Launch mutual initiatives in collaboration with the Ministry of Education addressing teachers and students.

- Launch mutual initiatives in collaboration with the General Authority of Islamic Affairs and Endowments addressing various segments of society.

- Launch mutual initiatives in collaboration with the Family Development Foundation addressing various segments of society, especially mothers.
Promoting tolerance among youth and protecting them from fanaticism and extremism

- Review curricula in cooperation with competent bodies and follow up on the preparation of topics that promote tolerance and instill Islam genuine values among youth.

- **A cartoon character:** Create an animated spoke-character and influential children’s cartoons series embodying the values of tolerance and in children’s printed literature.

- Promote the principles of tolerance among sports and students’ clubs, universities, colleges and schools in theory and in practice in cooperation with the concerned bodies.

- **A Tolerance Volunteer Association:** Cooperate with Emirates Foundation to set up an association that focuses on promoting communication across the various communities in the UAE based on tolerance.

- Launch initiatives to consolidate the culture of tolerance among youth in cooperation with other stakeholders.
Enriching the scientific and cultural content on tolerance

- **The UAE Guide to Tolerance**: A publication that includes tolerance relevant key terms, as well as local and international laws. This Guide aims to be a future local and international reference for researchers in the field.

- **Cultural and Media Content**: Launch a campaign for the purpose of publishing, copyrighting and printing 1971 books, scientific researches, students’ stories, TV & radio programs and short-length movies (to reflect the year of the UAE Federation) as a medium to disseminate and promote the values of tolerance.

- Develop a website for trustful references on tolerance.

- Launch a TV program on tolerance recounting the UAE’s rich history before and after the Federation and related impacts.

- Launch a TV program to showcase stories of tolerance inspired by Islamic history.
Contributing to international efforts to promote tolerance and highlight the UAE’s role as a tolerant country

- **Mohammed bin Rashid Tolerance Award**: a global initiative to encourage tolerance, and honor the champions of tolerance on global level in the fields of human thought, creative literature and fine arts.

- **International Institute for Tolerance**: offer advice and expert views on policies to promote the values of tolerance among nations, publish studies and research reports on Tolerance, and collaborate with relevant cultural institutions in the Arab region.

- **Tolerance International Conference**: organize an annual international conference that addresses countries’ policies on tolerance and come up with recommendations to address the challenges of each implemented phase.

- Participate in international events, activities and meetings related to tolerance and combating racism, extremism and discrimination.

- **Launch the World Charter for Tolerance, Co-existence and Peace.**

- **Launch common regional and international initiatives to promote tolerance in cooperation with global partners.**
TOLERANCE IS HAPPINESS

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