

Standing together in times of war

A shared statement

The war against Ukraine is a crime. The main victims of the war are the people in Ukraine. Moreover, the people in Russia and other parts of the world – especially the poorest – are suffering from its consequences.

The Russian military, religious leaders, such as the Russian Orthodox Patriarch and the Russian Grand Mufti, are partly responsible for the developments.

The key purpose of religious communities is to promote peace and encourage mutual understanding.

1. Religions shall take a clear stance against wars of aggression, regardless of where in the world they occur.
2. Religions shall advocate for peace unitedly.
3. Religions shall strengthen inner peace and establish places of encounter between different groups. They shall promote peaceful solutions through dialogue, negotiation and diplomacy. They shall advocate for refugees and employ international connections to do so. Thereby they may strengthen social cohesion.

A global peace order, to which religious communities should contribute, is essential.

signed

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Ihsan Dilber, Chairman of the Alevi Communities in Hesse

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Dr. Andreas Herrmann, Senior Church Council of the Protestant Church in Germany (EKD)

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(The shared statement is translated and circulated in English, Russian and in Ukrainian.)