

Miraismo International Association

For absolute renovation

**Sixth session of the Forum on Minority Issues**

**United Nations**

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The Universal Right to Freedom of Worship, Belief and Expression: A Privilege of Few

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen...

Despite the fact that rights, such as the freedom of religion and belief, are considered universal human rights, situations concerning their infringement and violation have augmented this, thus mitigating human dignity and consolidation for respectful communal living.

The actions of different states, as well as that of individuals, add to a situation that has unleashed a series of unfortunate events that threaten all consciousness and diversity. Regarding political and religious beliefs, gives evidence to the dominant arbitrariness and belief of absolute truths, which are indifferent to any type of tolerance and comprehension or recognition of differences.

To speak of these situations becomes a little unreasonable in a world where it is presumed that social growth opens the door to free thought and the consolidation of a critical posture based on respect and the existence of heterogeneity.

But, how far are those countries where despite not having an official policy of restricting religious freedom still have victims of other types of harassment, resulting in a lack of tolerance in spaces like social networks?

Social networks have become the perfect scenario where it is possible to, in an open, disrespectful, intolerant and harassing manner, offend and reject the existence of multiculturalism that characterizes the citizens of the world.

The concept of “bullying” has been known around the world. The cases of bullying, harassment and physical and psychological aggression are more common each time in children and adults, being especially visible in scenarios like educational centers, but this concept is transcending territorial spheres,

and taking great relevance in virtual spaces, where it is possible to talk now about something called *cyber bullying*.

This phenomenon creates a social disequilibrium in an individual or group, taking advantage of discreditation as a tool, but also counts with various severe holes when it claims a defense for these types of infringements.

This reality being lived out in social networks is backed by a study developed by Harvard University that affirms that individuals overlook their ethics and considerations towards others when commenting through a social network.

In these moments *cyber bullying* counts with a strict control for all themes related to child pornography and related matters, which is considered decisive and necessary. Similarly, groups like LGBT ones count with important support from support networks within Facebook. Nevertheless, for the themes related to the liberty of religion, such regulation does not exist, which gives free reign to destructive criticism and sharp offenses.

By investigating social networks, we have observed that there are not enough adequate restrictions related to the publication of information that manifests or incites hatred towards religious groups.

It becomes imperative that the States clearly inform on how they protect and defend the freedom of expression of citizens; and social networks must propel action to incentivize respect and tolerance in matters of religious liberty.

Additionally, it is necessary to continue shaping individuals with that share common values, with the goal of fomenting harmonious communal living.

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