

International Interculturel et Interconvictionnel Groupe

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Interconvictionality, an opportunity for Europe

A call for its implementation by the European Institutions

Europe is a continent shaped by thousands of years of history. Her heritage, which comprises peoples, cultures, religions and philosophies is extremely diverse. The violent events of the twentieth century have led to the desire to create conditions for long term peace. Today the populations of Europe are increasingly diverse, particularly in respect of their world vision !

In this context, so as to make it possible to live in peace with all the differences present in Europe and to revive the commitment of citizens to Europe, the signatories call on those who are committed to specific responsibility in the European Union to give effect to an "interconvictional" approach!

Such an approach, set in the framework of human rights and democracy, entails organising constructive dialogue among people whose world vision is based on a range of convictions (beliefs, religions, atheism, agnosticism...) The process of inter convictional involvement leads each person engaged with it to seek, through mutual recognition, to enrich each other's points of view when they are expressed entirely freely and without seeking a position of domination.!

It is in this sense, convinced that the process of divided consultation runs the risk of exacerbating disagreement and initiating conflict, that the signatories call on the European Institutions to :

- make a solemn proclamation of this principle of interconvictionality
- in the framework of article 11 of the TUE and article 17 of the TFUE, to make arrangements for structured and open consultation for dialogue, both of which should be interconvictional.
- more generally to further the development of participative democracy constructively linked to representative democracy.
- with a view to doing this, to support education for responsible citizenship and inter convictional education.

In this way the European Institutions would contribute to further fulfillment of Jacques Delors' wish that there should be a soul of Europe. !

7th April 2014: The G3i represented by its President Francois Becker.

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The G3i is an intercultural, international and interconvictional working group (hence the name G3i.) It is an "interconvictional think tank orientated towards action" established as a "charity" in French law (the law of 1901)." It brings together men and women from different countries of Europe, from different cultures, from different religious convictions whether atheist or agnostic, who wish to work on the development of European citizenship while favouring international dialogue, intercultural dialogue between all kinds of cultures - whether territorial or "diasporic" - and inter convictional dialogue among those whose perceptions of the world are atheist or founded on religious convictions. In this respect the G3i seeks to work for the creation of new laïque public spaces distinct from those of the religious institutions. The aim is to facilitate dialogue and sharing among individuals who perceive themselves as having a humanist identify - whether atheist, agnostic or religious.