

**Declaration**  
**Of the international conference**  
**“Islam in a Modern Secular State”**

*Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic*  
*September 29, 2017*

We, participants of the international conference “Islam in a Modern Secular State”, based on the common desire to achieve lasting peace and sustainable development of national states, to find a balance between observance of human rights and freedoms, including freedom of conscience and religion and ensuring security in the society:

- Note the advantage of a secular state to create and maintain a balance of interests of representatives of different religious communities, believers and non-believers;
- Believe that the values of Islam in modern conditions make harmonious development of religion possible in secular states without opposing religious canons to the legislation of countries;
- Note the growing influence of Islam on the socio-political life of states and international relations;
- State that social and economic problems, issues of social justice create prerequisites for activation of people with radical ideology; alongside with that destructive groups, sheltering themselves behind Islam use religious rhetoric to achieve their own goals;
- Consider it important to preserve Muslim people’s cultural identity.

We refer to all government bodies, public organizations and religious actors of states - participants of the conference with the appeal:

1. To broaden international cooperation and sharing experiences of states in regulating processes in area of religion.
2. To support the initiative of the Kyrgyz Republic on establishment of a permanent international platform in Bishkek to discuss the place and the role of Islam in modern states, interaction between the state and religion, development of the interconfessional dialogue.
3. To support establishment of the scientific center for Islamic Studies in Bishkek with international expert and trusteeship councils, expand experience sharing practices between Imams, theological educational institutions as well as between women and youth organizations working in the religious sphere.
4. To initiate implementation of complex scientific researches with involvement of representatives of scientific, cultural, humanitarian organizations, development programs and Islamic communities.
5. To establish an international advisory council of representatives of government bodies of member-states responsible for religious activities.
6. To organize issuance of an international scientific print and electronic magazine "Islam and Secular State" for publication of relevant studies.
7. To actively cooperate with mass media in popularization of humanistic values of Islam in the social life of the state.
8. Prevent provision of any form of safe haven, information space and political support to persons or groups holding radical and extremist ideas and inciting to commit terroristic and violent actions.