

ADYAN OVER TWO YEARS

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T O G E T H E R F O R  
D I V E R S I T Y  
S O L I D A R I T Y  
D I G N I T Y

adyan

# The First Steps towards Achieving the Pledge of the Year 2026

**90**

Lecturers

**268**

Members in Adyan's  
Networks

**52**

Short Films

**2,270**

Participants in  
Awareness Activities

**270**

Trainers and Teachers  
from 13 Countries

**2,636**

Trainees from 14 Countries

**30**

Projects in  
18 Countries

**57**

Participations  
to International  
Conferences &  
Meetings in  
24 Countries

**13**

Journalists

**16**

Team  
Members

**27,500**

Students Participating  
in 1108 Community  
Service projects

**10**

Publications

Reached

**64,778,015**

Users on Social Media Platforms

**73**

Experts and  
Authors

**1,655**

School Students

**82**

Policymakers

**31**

Opinion Piece  
Writers

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## **Adyan: Foundation for Diversity, Solidarity and Human Dignity**

Adyan is a foundation for diversity, solidarity and human dignity that works locally, regionally and internationally for pluralism, inclusive citizenship, and spiritual solidarity, through home-grown solutions in education, media, policymaking, and intercultural and interreligious relations.

Adyan is registered in Lebanon as a non-profit and non-governmental organization (NGO), under registration number 1103 by a ministerial decree dated September 18, 2008.

# Numbers are a responsibility, as are achievements and awards!

It is true that our mission is not measured by numbers, and not evaluated according to quantitative calculations. For the quality of our presence with each and every person is as significant as universal ideas and positions. The opposite is true also. For what is the use of our solidarity with the entire world and our fight for the dignity of the oppressed in the far reaches of the earth if we do not also see or rectify the inequities in our own backyards and inside our hearts?

As our values are indivisible, so are our hearts and our struggles; even as we prioritize, we do not discriminate.

Witnessing what we have accomplished during the two years since we launched Adyan's Pledge for the year 2026, we celebrate this progress, which again has exceeded our expectations and revived our hopes and aspirations.

We hold ourselves to our promise to you!

The progress we achieved over these last two years, some features of which you will discover in this report, increases our confidence in our mission and ourselves, and our determination to move forward towards realizing our four goals and more. The dream has turned into a vision, the vision into a strategy and the strategy into a persistent work fueled by our conviction of serving the causes of peace and the common good.

Upon receiving the International Niwano Peace Prize in Tokyo, I felt that we had reached a summit. But the goal is not to place a flag there, as if asserting ownership of our achievement, but rather to meet with colleagues who had preceded us there and were waiting for us to join their convoy towards the next summit, where someone else



awaits us all. I feel now that Adyan – the recipient of the 35<sup>th</sup> Niwano Prize – is advancing alongside 34 giants in peace making. Together we can go far and take the world with us to beautiful horizons.

Adyan will continue on its journey with every one of you, and with those who will join it down the line. I thank you one by one for everything we have accomplished together in these two years, and for what we have learnt from our successes and failures.

Adyan will remain a space where diversity, solidarity and human dignity are realized and where these values are fermented so they may reach the farthest corners of hearts, minds and nations. And so we now look towards the year 2019, which will be the year when the institutionalization of Adyan in all its dimensions will be completed, uniting development with sustainability. For the greater the harmony between the doers and the tools of their mission, the greater the joy and creativity they will find in their work.

**Fadi Daou, Adyan Foundation President**

# Adyan receives the International Niwano Peace Prize

One of the most significant events for Adyan Foundation in 2018 and for its general trajectory was its selection to receive the 35<sup>th</sup> Niwano Peace Prize in Tokyo, Japan, in recognition of the foundation's work towards fostering coexistence, valuing interfaith spiritual solidarity and education for inclusive citizenship.

This international recognition came from the Niwano Peace Foundation. It included a certificate and medal, in addition to an award of 20 million yen. The prize was given in appreciation of Adyan Foundation's deep-seated faith in the crucial role of diversity education in achieving reconciliation and building peace, and of its numerous programs to this end targeting youth, educators and religious leaders. Adyan received the prize at an international ceremony dedicated to the occasion, held on May 9, 2018 in Tokyo.

The Italian newspaper La Stampa deemed that by receiving this award, Adyan has brought "the Religious Nobel Prize for Peace" to Lebanon.

We are proud of this international recognition and gladly share it with all our partners and everyone working with us, to foster citizenship and coexistence, reconciliation and spiritual solidarity in diverse societies. We hope that this recognition will strengthen the faith of the Lebanese people in the universal message of their country, and that it will renew their determination to continually strive to fulfil the responsibility of living together in peace.

This international prize is an addition to Adyan's record, which is rife with awards and successes prompting us to multiply our efforts in the service of the foundation's mission, and to face every challenge with courage and hopefulness.



**"Our world will continue to grow and thrive in peace and development if we follow the example set by this wonderful institution and those who founded it."**

President of the International Niwano Peace Prize Committee, Dr. Nomfundo Walaza (South Africa).

**"Your undertakings have greatly contributed to developing the educational system in Lebanon. We deeply believe that these achievements will constitute a roadmap for people from different religions to build peaceful societies not only in the Middle East, but in the entire world."**

Honorary president of Niwano Foundation and President of the Buddhist organization Rissho Kosei-kai, Rev. Nichiko Niwano (Japan).



# Adyan's Pledge for 2026

During the celebration of its ten year anniversary in 2016, Adyan Foundation made a commitment to achieve clear and precise goals over the next ten years in Lebanon, the Levant, the Arab world and the world at large. Here we are today completing the first two years of this trajectory, which aims at achieving the following by 2026:



## On the Lebanese level

To contribute to making the historic path of moving Lebanon from its sectarian reality to citizenship inclusive of diversity within a modern and democratic state.



## On the Levant level

To contribute to empowering and building the capacities of new leaders who would realize a renaissance in Levantine, multicultural countries, with a special focus on Iraq and Syria.



## On the Middle Eastern and North African level

To contribute to the acceptance of cultural, political and religious diversity and to fostering the adoption of pluralism as a socio-political value.



## On the global level

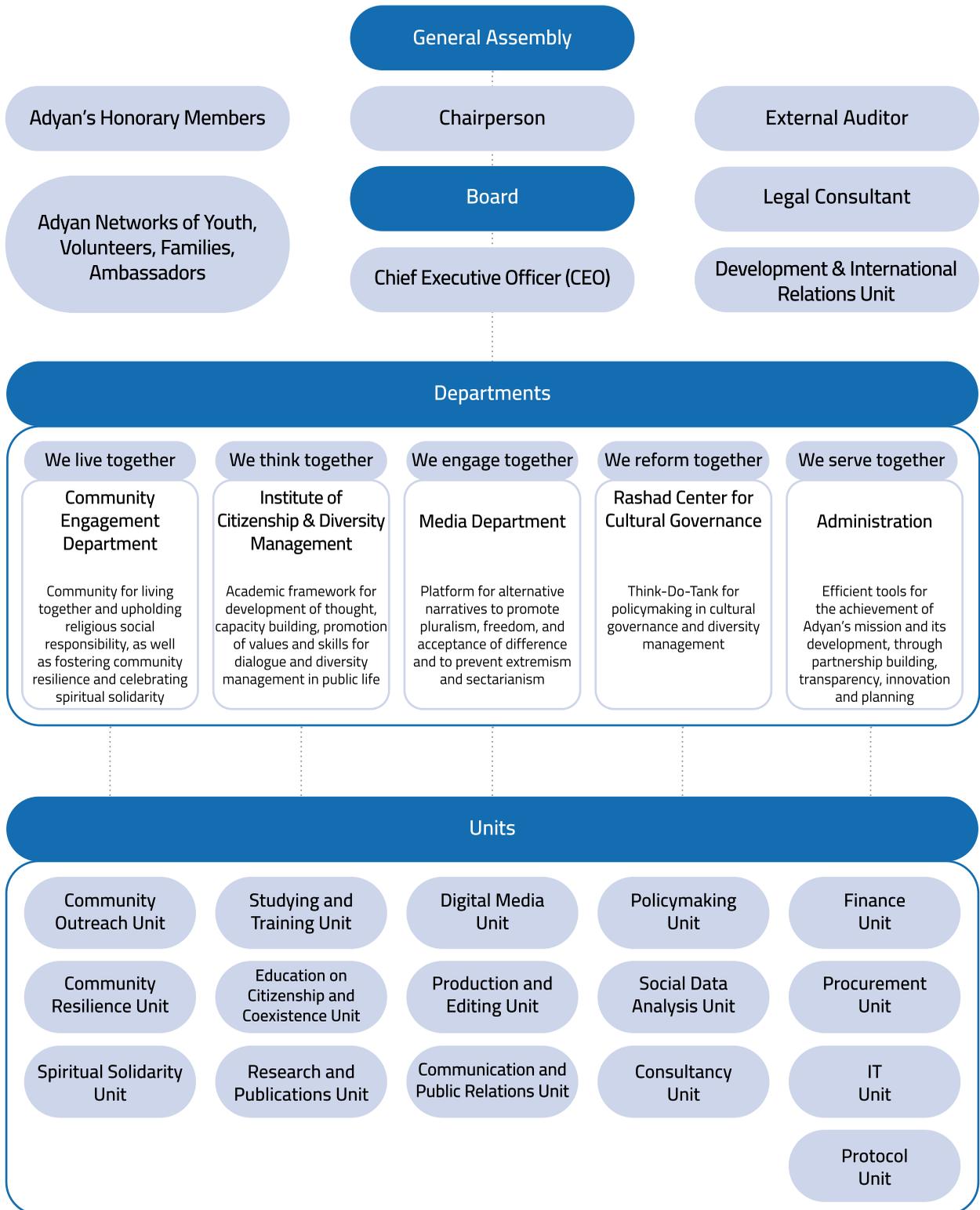
To contribute to the development of policies for resilience against all forms of extremism, and to fostering social cohesion and stability.

## Adyan and Sustainable Development Goals

Adyan contributes to the achievement of the following sustainable development goals:



# Adyan Foundation's Structure





## Inclusive Citizenship

Adyan Foundation developed the concept of “inclusive citizenship” and presented it initially in the “National Charter for Education for Living Together in Lebanon” (2013). Inclusive citizenship requires the recognition of a citizen’s cultural rights that take on a collective dimension, in addition to his/her individual civil, political and social rights.

One’s personal cultural, religious and ethnic affiliations play a far from marginal role in shaping one’s personality, ideas and behaviour, and in affecting interpersonal relationships and public social life. Inclusive citizenship provides the appropriate framework to experience this diversity of ideas, beliefs and self-expression on the individual and collective levels in a way that enriches

collective national culture (languages, official religious feasts, shared values, religious heritage and sites, etc...).

In this sense, the respect for cultural diversity becomes a dimension of the social contract, and the consolidation of coexistence between citizens with their different affiliations becomes one of the goals of public institutions. A citizenship inclusive of diversity rejects the melding of the cultural components of society into a supposed ideological identity. At the same time, it prevents insularity and isolationism of cultural or religious groups, through their integration in the public realm, which encourages interaction, complementarity and partnership among citizens, with the aim of realizing the common good and sustainable and innovative development.

# Opinion

Minister of Higher Education  
and Scientific Research in Iraq,  
Dr. Qusai Al-Suhail



● **What is the significance of the concept of inclusive citizenship in Iraq?**

There is no doubt that the concept of inclusive citizenship is extremely important in Iraq, as it goes without saying that our country abounds with religious, cultural and ethnic diversity. Iraq has never been an environment reserved for one group at the expense of another or a sect at the expense of another. Historically, it has always attracted people's interest and has been a hub for immigrants throughout time. Hence the importance of developing a concept of citizenship that guarantees the establishment of a cultural and legal environment where this wide-scale diversity can thrive.

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● **What role can Adyan Foundation play in Iraq in this field?**

From following Adyan Foundation's work in Iraq, I find that it has played a positive role in investing its experience towards supporting dialogue and promoting a culture of reconciliation, tolerance and coexistence. Adyan has and continues to implement these goals through effective programs with Iraqi organizations and centers in a successful joint effort that goes beyond theorizing in conferences and workshops to training programs that have created remarkable Iraqi cadres.

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● **What is expected from Adyan Foundation in the upcoming phase in Iraq?**

I hope that Adyan Foundation will continue its activities, holding discussions, conferences and training workshops in Iraq. For it shares the same goals as those of Iraqi institutions when it comes to matters of dialogue and people living together with their differences. As for Adyan Foundation's experience, accumulated over a decade, its perseverant leadership and its experienced team, we are confident that they will provide what our country needs in terms of programs that uphold civil peace and develop Iraqi capacities that will prove instrumental in cementing a culture of peace, tolerance and coexistence.

# Adyan Networks: a Model of “Living Together”

Societal change cannot happen without community forces that are actively pursuing it, and embodying the model of this hoped-for change. Adyan’s networks in Lebanon and Iraq represent living examples of the richness of coexistence and cross-cultural, cross-regional and cross-religious interactions. They also constitute an arena for building capacities, for societal initiatives and for participation to public debates and public affairs, in line with the values of the foundation.

These networks are divided as follows: The Youth Network | The Volunteers and Ambassadors Network | The Families Network | The Iraqi Network for Inclusive Citizenship

- The Adyan Youth Network includes female and male university students who receive capacity building in the fundamental concepts of Adyan. These youths are involved in activities concerned with spiritual solidarity and community engagement.
- The Volunteers and Ambassadors Network includes young men and women who are professionally engaged or are completing their higher studies – among them Youth Network graduates. They receive advanced training and represent Adyan Foundation in local and international activities related to diversity, solidarity, and human dignity. The Families Network includes a group of families from different religious and sectarian backgrounds that hold



regular meetings to exchange experiences and discuss issues related to the values of public life, married life and child education in a trans-sectarian and trans-religious spirit.

- The Iraqi Network for Inclusive Citizenship is a recent initiative launched in 2017. Its members received a training package aimed at communicating to them Adyan’s experience and concepts, in light of which the network members have determined the main challenges facing Iraq on several levels, and have drawn a plan of action to tackle them together.

Community Engagement Department – Community Outreach Unit



250 members in Lebanon (from Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and Yemen) and 18 members in Iraq

Donors: Secours Catholique - Caritas France (SCCF) and Danmission



# The “Different Voters for One Nation” Project

Rashad Center launched the project “Different Voters for One Nation” to help ensure a healthy electoral environment for parliamentary elections by working on reducing the impact of sectarian discourse on the performance of young voters in particular, encouraging instead decisions based on inclusive citizenship and public interest.

The center conducted a pre-election field study around “The Effects of Sectarianism on the Voting Practices of Lebanese Youth” and targeted a sample of 1,000 young men and women (between 21 and 28 years of age). This field study elucidated the basic motivations that direct the electoral choices of the youths, the extent to which they are affected by sectarian discourse, and their aspirations for change. Based on the results of the field study, a workshop was given to 36 trainers on “Electoral Performance based on Inclusive Citizenship and Public Interest”. These trainers then imparted their experience to the associations they are affiliated with in order to raise the awareness of the youths about political and electoral participation based on non-sectarian citizenship principles. In parallel, a widespread media campaign was conducted under the hashtag #VoteForCitizenship.

The project’s third phase was implemented after the elections with a new field study that showed how the young voters acted upon their choices and learnings in the ballot boxes. The study was followed by a conference that brought together experts, civil society and political figures who read

and analyzed the results of the study, and proposed ways in which to capitalize on them during the next stage.

## Facts from the field around the impact of sectarianism on the electoral choices of Lebanese youths and their desire for change

Adyan Foundation shared the results of the two field studies with civil society organizations concerned with elections as well as with media institutions and political parties, so they may integrate the outcomes of the report in their future work plans, to activate and strengthen the role of youths in the voting process and to transform their electoral performance from one based on sectarian principles into one that is built on inclusive citizenship and public interest.

Rashad Center for Cultural Governance – Social Data Analysis Unit, and Policymaking Unit



Training 36 coaches; training 418 coaches; 140 persons participated in the public debate

The campaign “Vote for Citizenship” reached 763,245 users on social media

Donor: Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI)

You can access the results of the two field studies in the publications section of the Adyan Foundation website: [www.adyanfoundation.org](http://www.adyanfoundation.org)



# The National Conference "From the State of Greater Lebanon 1920, to Lebanon the Message 2020"

On the eve of the first centenary of the Declaration of the Republic of Greater Lebanon and in the context of the civilizational turmoil experienced by the region in its struggle against terrorism, extremism and sectarianism, Adyan Foundation organized the national conference "From the State of Greater Lebanon 1920, to Lebanon the Message 2020" under the patronage of the President of the Lebanese Republic General Michel Aoun. The conference was held on November 28-29, 2017 with the participation of political, spiritual, military, social, academic, diplomatic and civil society figures.

Based on Adyan Foundation's commitment to contributing to Lebanon's transition from its sectarian reality to inclusive citizenship in the framework of a modern democratic state, the conference sought to advance the development of scientific and politically inclusive dialogue around the Lebanese experience, from the Declaration of the State of Greater Lebanon until today.

The aim was to benefit from the lessons of the past, and

to identify the successes achieved and prepare to work for the desired change: achieving a state in which the human person and his/her dignity are pivotal and the goal is a secure society and its sustainable development.

The President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, sent the conference a moving letter in which he wrote: "Greater Lebanon may be a mere memory, but today's Lebanon is a message, an icon for desired peace in the Near East."

The proceedings of the conference were published in a volume available at Adyan Foundation: "Proceedings of the National Conference "From the State of Greater Lebanon 1920, to Lebanon the Message 2020"; a publication by Rashad Center for Cultural Governance – Adyan Foundation, 2018.

Rashad Center for Cultural Governance – Policymaking Unit



34 speakers and 120 participants in the conference

Donor: The British Embassy in Lebanon



# Iraqi Dialogue for Citizenship and Nation Building

Based on its belief in the richness of Iraqi society with its cultural, ethnic and religious diversity, and driven by the desire to contribute to Iraq's exit from its accumulated crises, Adyan Foundation launched in 2018, through its Rashad Center for Cultural Governance, the project "Iraqi Dialogue for Citizenship and Nation Building." This national policy dialogue project brings together 32 leading Iraqi figures from different political and religious backgrounds, and aims at diagnosing current challenges, drawing policies and presenting recommendations to strengthen the capacity of Iraqi society to achieve inclusive citizenship and to set the country on the course of sustained reconciliation, development and prosperity.

The first conference for this dialogue was held in Beirut from October 11 - 13, 2018, and was followed by a second conference in Baghdad from December 21-22, 2018. The two meetings resulted in a report entitled "Identifying Challenges and Prospects for Solutions", articulated around three axes and 31 headings detailing the issues that

need to be addressed. The report represents the work tool for 2019, for formulating recommendations and working on their adoption and implementation by the relevant decision-makers.

## Report Axes:

- First Axis: The Challenges of Identity, Pluralism and Citizenship
- Second Axis: Constitutional Challenges, Democracy Building and National Sovereignty
- Third Axis: The Challenges of Development and Social Justice

Rashad Center for Cultural Governance – Policymaking Unit



32 Policymakers, Civil Societies Leaders, Academics and Religious Leaders

Partner: Iraqi Al-Amal Association

Donor: Church of Sweden



# Training for Trainers on “Active and Inclusive Citizenship of Religious and Cultural Diversity”

Training trainers is an important part of our work at the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management. In 2017 and 2018, 110 trainers from 13 Arab countries received training in “Active and Inclusive Citizenship of Religious and Cultural Diversity” over the course of five regional workshops held in Morocco, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon. At the end of their trajectory, by which time each had successfully organized two training sessions under the personal supervision of senior trainers at Adyan, and had participated in another training course in 2019, these trainers became eligible to receive a certificate as an “Accredited Trainer on Inclusive citizenship” with the Foundation’s Institute, meaning they can in turn train others in this area.

The training program includes the following components:

- 1 Uniqueness, Individual Identity and The Other
- 2 The Active Citizen and His/Her Fields of Influence
- 3 The Social Contract and the Public Sphere
- 4 Diversity and Religious Freedom in the Arab World
- 5 Inclusive Citizenship

Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management – Studying and Training Unit



109 trainers in inclusive citizenship who coached 2,043 trainees

Partners: UNESCO Chair for Inter-Religious Dialogue Studies in the Islamic World (Iraq)  
Royal Institute for Interfaith Studies - RIIFS (Jordan)

Donors: The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (Canada) and Church of Sweden



# The Wilton Park Dialogues on Inclusive Citizenship

The partnership between Adyan Foundation’s Rashad Center for Cultural Governance, Wilton Park (UK) and the Forum for Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies (UAE) produced the launch of a series of conferences aimed at generating a dialogue between religious and political leaderships on inclusive citizenship, and methods to religiously mainstream and apply this concept, particularly in Arab countries. The first conference was held in Abu Dhabi from November 12-14, 2018 with the participation of 50 religious leaders and policy makers from 18 regional and international institutions, and 11 different countries.

Speakers at the public opening ceremony included: The President of the Forum for Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies His Excellency Shaykh Abdallah Bin Bayyah, British Prime Minister’s Special Envoy on Freedom of Religion or Belief Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon, Secretary-General of the Muslim World League Sheikh Muhammad Bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa, Secretary-General of the Middle East Council of Churches Dr. Thuraya

Bachaalani, Secretary-General of King Abdullah’s International Dialogue Center in Vienna His Excellency Mr. Faisal Bin Muammar, and President of Adyan Foundation Father Fadi Daou. The discussion is to be resumed in subsequent conferences, with the aim of launching “The Arab Charter for Inclusive Citizenship.”

Rashad Center for Cultural Governance – Policymaking Unit



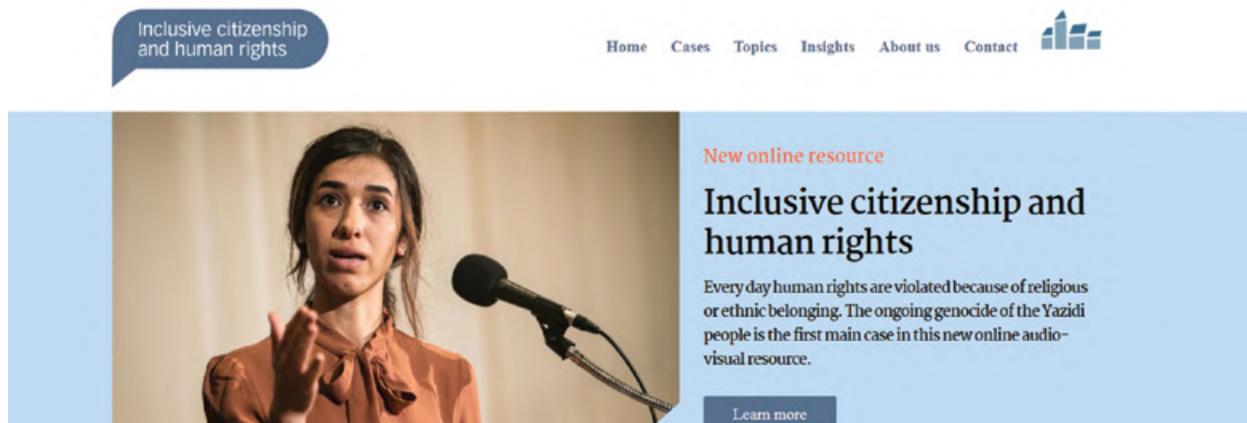
50 leaders and experts in religious affairs and the public sphere representing 18 regional and international institutions from 11 countries

Partners: Wilton Park (UK), and The Forum for Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies (UAE)



# International Adoption of the “Inclusive Citizenship” Concept

Minority Rights Group International adopted the concept of “inclusive citizenship” and organized an international conference in partnership with the Norwegian Nobel Institute in Oslo on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. The conference was held between June 17 and 19, 2018, under the title “Human Rights and Inclusive Citizenship”. Adyan Foundation President Father Fadi Daou and Director of the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management Dr. Nayla Tabbara participated in the conference, and Adyan Foundation joined the alliance network that bore the title of the conference. A website dedicated to promoting the concept of inclusive citizenship on a global scale was launched: [www.inclusive-citizenship.no](http://www.inclusive-citizenship.no)



- The Arab League conference to follow up on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 in the cultural field was held in the Secretariat headquarters in Cairo on November 1-2, 2017. The conference’s closing statement affirmed its adoption of “active and inclusive citizenship as the basis of sustainable development”, based on Adyan Foundation’s contribution in the person of its President Father Fadi Daou.
- Dr. Nayla Tabbara presented and discussed the concept of inclusive citizenship in the talk she gave on February 28, 2017 at the Al-Azhar international conference on “Freedom and Citizenship: Diversity and Integration”.
- At the World Tolerance Summit in Dubai on November 14, 2018, Father Fadi Daou chaired the session entitled “Positive Messages around Tolerance and Diversity”, where he expounded the importance of evolving from tolerance to inclusive citizenship for disseminating the culture of diversity and peaceful coexistence.

# United Nations Special Coordinator Celebrates International Day of Peace with Adyan

United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Ms. Pernille Kardel visited the headquarters of Adyan Foundation on the International Day of Peace (July 21, 2018) to celebrate the occasion and express her appreciation of Adyan's work towards fostering peace and social cohesion through promoting the culture of inclusive citizenship. Ms. Kardel said that "Lebanon is known worldwide for its diversity, and it is a standing example of the possibility of coexisting in a diverse context."

On this occasion, Ms. Kardel was presented with the Adyan Foundation shield, which carries its motto: "Diversity Builds Unity".



**"Lebanon is a source of inspiration when it comes to diversity, and Adyan's work shows the capacity of citizens to move forward to new levels, which strengthens hope in difficult times."**

United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon  
Ms. Pernille Kardel





## Education on Living Together

Adyan Foundation bases “Education on Living Together” first and foremost on building the capacities of citizens, in particular children and youth, towards respecting the right to difference, and dealing with the different registers of diversity with an open mind and with positivity in thought and behavior. Secondly, this education aims at strengthening the spirit of initiative and active participation in public life, within a framework of cross-cultural and cross-sectarian partnership in view of collaborating towards realizing the common good, and building an effective and inclusive citizenship. This educational track includes developing tools for dealing with issues of identity, belonging and memory, diversity management, positive communication, social impact and partnership in the public sphere.

This educational approach falls under target 7 of goal 4 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,

which focuses on ensuring “that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development.”

Education on Living Together targets persons of all ages; we consider it a pillar of pre-university education, to be included in curricular as well as extra-curricular activities, while stressing the necessity of including it in university education. It should also represent a main axis of informal education in view of building the capacities of civil society members, and raising public awareness about its implications and its ethical and behavioral dimensions.

# Opinion

President of the Educational Center  
for Research and Development,  
Dr. Nada Oweijane



● **How can educational policies and curricula contribute to Education on Living Together?**

The Lebanese National Pact of 1943 formulated the basis for coexistence, but it did not succeed in entrenching mutual agreements or a life of unity. In 1994 came the plan for educational reform and in 1997 the public educational curricula and goals to assert the value of respecting diversity and coexistence were launched. The new curricula were a means to manifest competencies, to implement goals and measure outcomes. Schools are spaces for experiencing diversity and living together, as well as grasping the rules of social life, experiencing it and interacting with it.

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● **How do you evaluate Adyan Foundation’s contribution in this field?**

Adyan Foundation has played a central and supportive role in meeting this challenge over a period of five years starting in 2013 with the signing of the “National Charter for Education on Living Together in Lebanon”, which reaffirmed conceptual frameworks, educational policies and mechanisms. The charter was comprehensive and integral, and paved the way for the following actions: 1) the curriculum for civil education on citizenship inclusive of religious diversity, which resulted in the training manual for teachers; 2) the Community Service Manual, used for training in public and private schools; 3) three field studies on education, philosophy and history; 4) festivals, conferences and workshops; 5) a project methodology for the subjects of civic education and philosophy.

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● **What are the challenges that still need to be tackled in this context?**

In light of what Lebanon and the world are experiencing from the spread of extremism and violence and the confusion of value systems, the main challenge remains to re-humanize every educational action through tying together the different elements of the educational operation, its components and outcomes. Additionally, detrimental practices like blind affiliation and subordination to politicians or other leaders need to be erased, as does the discrepancy between theory and its practical applications. And finally, it is necessary to disseminate the culture of living together in the relevant institutions and administrations, and among decision makers and their assistants.

# Alwan Program for Education on Living Together in the Framework of Active and Inclusive Citizenship

The Alwan program for Education on Living Together in the Framework of Active and Inclusive Citizenship is one of the most notable projects by the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management. It aims at fostering citizenship and coexistence via non-formal education and community service in both public and private schools in Lebanon.

The program targets the first and second grades in secondary education. In the first year of the program, students are trained in the concepts of diversity, citizenship and living together; they then carry out a common excursion between several schools and an awareness-raising project. In the course of the second year, the Alwan clubs in 40 public and private schools all over Lebanon implement joint community service projects.

The Alwan program helps develop young people's ability to confront extremism and sectarianism, and foster their entrepreneurial spirit and patriotic sense through discovering the richness of cultural and religious diversity, experiencing participation in public life, working on upholding human dignity, promoting social cohesion and building peace.

In 2008, the Alwan program added to its pedagogical resources an educational guide for touristic trails about national, cultural and religious heritage in Lebanon, to help learners organize the joint trips between the different clubs and to use the trails to discover Lebanon's varied cultural and religious heritage.

Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management –  
Education on Citizenship and Coexistence Unit



1,404 students and 69 educators

Partners: 40 public and private schools in all regions of Lebanon in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE)

Donor: U.S. Embassy in Lebanon



# Alwan Junior Program

After the wide success of the Alwan program over many years, the Alwan Junior program was designed to target third and fourth graders in elementary school, to bolster their capacity to positively interact with religious diversity in a way that reconciles their own personal beliefs with openness towards the other.

Educational materials and tools around religious and cultural diversity and living together were developed for young children, to promote understanding of religious and cultural diversity and respect for the religious symbols and beliefs of other religions. This was followed by the training of a group of teachers who have become pioneers of this unique educational experiment in Lebanon, and then implemented in five partner schools.

This program offers children the opportunity to learn about different religions, to overcome sectarianism and stereotypical images of the other, and to develop communication skills as well as empathy and solidarity.

The Alwan Junior program produced an educational interactive module on religious diversity for third and fourth graders in elementary school; innovative and unconventional in form, it is well-suited for this age group.



Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management –  
Education on Citizenship and Coexistence Unit



251 learners and 5 educators

Partners: 5 private schools

Donor: KinderMissionsWerk



# National Strategy for Citizenship and Coexistence Education

Adyan Foundation carried out this project between April 1, 2012 and March 31, 2018 in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) and the Center for Educational, Research and Development (CERD) in collaboration with private education institutions. The project aimed to develop education on active and inclusive citizenship in Lebanon on the levels of policies and curricula, as well as capacity building for teachers and learners. In addition to numerous awareness raising campaigns, national festivals, field and documentary studies around the educational material concerned, the main outcomes of the project were the following:

Date	Outcomes
September 30, 2012	A book entitled <b>"Education for Living Together in the Framework of Citizenship Inclusive of Religious Diversity"</b> , resulting from the proceedings of the conference "Citizenship and Coexistence in Lebanon" (American University of Beirut - March 15, 2012) and the field study on "Diversity Management and Citizenship among Lebanese Youths"
March 15, 2013	<b>"The National Charter for Education on Living Together in Lebanon in the Framework of Citizenship Inclusive of Religious Diversity"</b> , endorsed and signed by the Minister of Education and Higher Education, the President of CERD, the coordinator for the Union of Private Educational Institutions and the President of Adyan Foundation, resulting from a series of workshops undertaken with the sectors concerned with education on coexistence: public and private education sectors, university education sector, religious institutions and civil society institutions Youths".
April 14, 2014	<b>"Auxiliary Curriculum on Education for Living Together in the Framework of Citizenship Inclusive of Religious Diversity"</b> published by Ministerial Decree Number 8/M/2014 (to be applied specifically as integrated material in Civic Education classes in elementary and secondary education, and Philosophy and Civilizations and Social Sciences classes in secondary education).
March 31, 2015	<b>"Pedagogical Guidebook for Inclusive Citizenship Education"</b> and training for trainers, followed by training for educators in the different Lebanese regions.
August 31, 2016	The report: <b>"Dialogue with Civil Society around Citizenship and its Scope in Lebanon: From Challenges to Desired Change"</b> , based on the outcomes of the two workshops conducted with civil society organizations and the resulting recommendations from them (the workshops were held on June 24 and July 18, 2016).
August 27, 2016	<b>"Community Service Guidebook"</b> , promulgated with the injunction to include "community service" in secondary education through Ministerial Decree Number 607/M/2016 by the Minister of Education and Higher Education. The guidebook was distributed to all secondary public and private schools, and coordinators were trained to this effect.
September 30, 2016	<b>"Beirut Declaration on Educational Reform to Prevent Extremism in Arab Societies"</b> , resulting from a regional symposium around the topic with the participation of 50 pedagogic experts from Arab countries.
March 31, 2017	<b>"Guidebook for Active Citizenship and Voluntary Work in Lebanon: Associations in the Service of Society"</b> , issued by 121 associations that expressed their willingness to collaborate with schools over the application of community service projects according to the eight fields specified in the <b>Community Service Guidebook</b> .
October 30, 2017	The report of the national workshop <b>"The Challenges of Teaching History in Lebanon and its Prospects"</b> , with the participation of actors from the private and public education sectors, as well as political parties and local and international experts.
January 30, 2018	A proposed <b>Civics Education Curriculum</b> for General Pre-University National Education.
January 30, 2018	A proposed <b>Philosophy Curriculum</b> for the second and third grades of secondary school.



Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management and Rashad Center for Cultural Governance – Policymaking Unit



In 2017 and 2018, 28 curriculum experts participated in the project alongside 39 trainers; more than 500 teachers received training; 27,500 learners from 470 public and private secondary schools implemented 1,108 community service projects

Partners: Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the Center for Educational Research and Development in collaboration with the private education sector

Donors: British Embassy in Lebanon

## Forming Responsible Citizens

Adyan Foundation participated alongside the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO and in collaboration with a number of partners from the public sector and civil society, particularly the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the Center for Educational Research and Development, in performing a detailed evaluative study

on the way in which school curricula and school textbooks for the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade deal with gender and violence.

The study endeavored to provide scientific data to develop school curricula and textbooks with the aim of empowering women and combating all forms of violence and discrimination, particularly against girls and women; and also to turn schools into major actors of social change, of realizing gender equality and the principles of comprehensive and sustainable development.



Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management – Education on Citizenship and Coexistence Unit



4 pedagogic experts

Partners: Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the Educational Center for Research and Development, the National PVE Coordination Unit of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the National Commission for Lebanese Women and KAFA organization.

Donors: Idea Born (Spain)



# The Role of Christianity and Islam in Fostering Citizenship and Coexistence

For the first time in Lebanon, a joint collaboration brought together the Middle East Council of Churches, Lebanese Islamic Dar el Fatwa, the Higher Islamic Shiite Council, the Unitarian Druze Council and Adyan Foundation. They issued a joint pedagogical guide entitled "The Role of Christianity and Islam in Fostering Citizenship and Coexistence".

The guide was produced as part of Adyan's program for religious education on inclusive citizenship and constitutes a unique resource for educators, speakers and preachers, to refine their understanding of the values of human dignity, acceptance of the other, trust, justice, respect for laws and covenants, pardon and forgiveness and the common good.

The content of the guide was developed by a group of experts endorsed by the official religious institutions and partners in the program. Together they collaborated over a period of three years to complete its text. The guide came in two volumes, one Muslim and one Christian, in addition to an appendix including the official speeches

delivered at its launching ceremony under the patronage of the President of the Lebanese Republic General Michel Aoun on May 20, 2017 represented by the Minister of Education and Higher Education Mr. Marwan Hamade. The ceremony was attended by a large group of national, religious, educational and media figures.

Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management –  
Research and Publications Unit and Education on Citizenship and Coexistence Unit



8 expert authors; 13 speakers; 110 participants

Partners: Middle East Council of Churches, Lebanese Islamic Dar el Fatwa, Higher Islamic Shiite Council and the Unitarian Druze Council.

Donors: the Danish Arab Partnership Program - Danmission



# Adyan's Contribution to Education on the International Level



- Together with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Adyan Foundation took part, via the contribution of Dr. Nayla Tabbara, Director of the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management, in developing a training manual on human rights for faith-based actors. The project's first workshop was conducted in France from December 13 - 14, 2018.

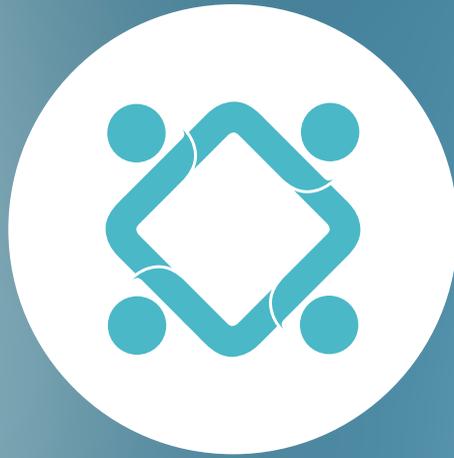


- Adyan Foundation also participated in the person of its president Father Fadi Daou alongside UNICEF in launching its initiative "Life Skills and Citizenship Education" (LSCE) in Amman Jordan on October 10, 2017. Father Daou spoke during a session entitled "Education for Citizenship: Life Skills for Social Participation and Integration" about Adyan's active and participatory approach to citizenship education, as well as about the experience of applying this approach whether on the level of teaching through Alwan program, or on the level of educational reform policies through the National Strategy for Citizenship and Coexistence Education (NSCCE).



- Father Fadi Daou also participated in the regional forum organized by the UNESCO Regional Office for the Arab World entitled "Global Citizenship Education: Solidifying Arab Regional Action and Partnerships" in Luxor, Egypt on October 13-14, 2017.

- Ms. Tania Awad Ghorra, member of Adyan's Board shared Adyan's experience in Citizenship and Living Together in post-war countries such as Lebanon and Iraq in the framework of the "Peace and Beyond" conference in Belfast, Ireland from April 10 - 12, 2018. The conference was organized by the British Council in partnership with Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University and in association with the Center for Democracy and Peace Building.



## Religious Social Responsibility

Adyan Foundation formulated the concept of “religious social responsibility” to shed light on a two-fold requirement: on the one hand, urging religious groups and believers to consolidate their discourse and performance in relation to social issues and the values of public life; and on the other hand encouraging civil and international organizations as well as governments to collaborate with religious institutions and faith-based actors, considering their significant contributions to peace building initiatives, guarding against radicalism, the consolidation of social cohesion, and solidarity with the poor and oppressed. Religious teachings provide incentives to get involved in the service of these public issues, and religious platforms have the capacity to deliver this message to large sections of the public.

This notion of religious social responsibility transports the faith experience from the private sectarian sphere to the public social sphere, where the believer can translate his/her values into a sincere engagement in the service of others to achieve justice and peace. Activists from different religious or civil backgrounds meet around their common belief in human dignity and the social good without discrimination. For this reason, the concept of religious social responsibility strengthens the bonds of cooperation between the different social components on the basis of respecting diversity and fostering solidarity, proceeding from shared values and universal human responsibility. Through religious social responsibility, religions are no longer seen as narrow sectarian groups but as part of the social context and the broader humanistic framework.

# Opinion



President of the Forum for  
Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies,  
Shaykh Abdallah Bin Bayyah

● **What are the main challenges that religious leaders must confront today?**

Major challenges threaten the human race today, such as climate change, wars, poverty, immigration waves and rising hostilities. Religious leaders must – and can- contribute effectively to facing these issues. Religion wields great influence, and as the challenges of our age are global in nature, efforts need to also be global and comprehensive. But in order to achieve this, it is crucial to upgrade our coordination in terms of programs and orientations. Many among us do not pay attention to the commonality of our goals, which would allow us to circumvent much effort and benefit from the experiences of religious leaders around the world. Raising the level of coordination between us can increase the competency of our works and improve their results.

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● **How do you evaluate Adyan Foundation’s work in this regard?**

Adyan Foundation has been exerting exceptional efforts on the academic and practical levels, through both the Foundation and its Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management. These are the two wings upon which any serious work must be based, for practical application must be based on knowledge and research, and knowledge must not remain without actual application on the ground. Adyan Foundation’s contribution is in offering a model that proves that Lebanon and the Arab world are able to offer high-level institutions that can collaborate with others in trust, and implement competent initiatives.

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● **How do you see the partnership between Adyan Foundation and the Forum for Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies developing?**

The partnership between Adyan and the Forum for Promoting Peace goes back to the Forum’s beginnings, where Adyan was present throughout our various activities such as our annual forums, the Marrakesh Declaration and so on. We exchange ideas and our debates yield results on the ground. I would like to point out here that we would like to intensify this collaboration in the areas of inclusive citizenship and in shedding the light on diversity and cultural wealth.

# Political Literacy for Religious Leaders

The Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management carried out this project between April 2017 and March 2018 with the aim of building the capacities of religious leaders in preventing extremism through a religious discourse built on a clear understanding of the dynamics of public life and the meeting points between the political and religious fields.

Participants to this project came from various denominational and regional backgrounds; this proved to be an agent of enrichment for the project, embodied in their interactions and the exchange of their apprehensions and experiences. Participants received training in developing their religious discourse in service of a public life based on democracy, inclusive citizenship, human rights and religious social responsibility. The project also addressed the ways to fight digital extremism through disseminating a humanitarian religious discourse on social media that would reach a wide range of users.

Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management – Studying and Training Unit



42 faith-based actors

Donor: British Embassy in Lebanon



# Religious Leaders for Diversity and Coexistence

This is one of the most significant projects of the Community Engagement Department at Adyan Foundation. As a follow up to the Political Literacy for Religious Leaders project, it targets faith-based actors from different denominational and regional backgrounds in Lebanon who work within their own communities in the fields of religious media and education.

The project's timeline is from April 2018 to March 2019. It includes three training workshops on introduction to political science and the concept of citizenship inclusive of diversity. This will be followed in 2019 by media, social and religious education initiatives designed with the aim of being implemented in the different Lebanese regions by the faith-based actors themselves.

Community Engagement Department – Community Resilience Unit



60 faith-based actors

Donor: British Embassy in Lebanon



# Religious Social Responsibility for Citizenship and Coexistence

Over the course of 2017 and 2018, this project brought together in the Research and Publications Unit of the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management a group of 18 Arab and European Islamic figures (researchers and experts) who conducted a series of meetings where they worked on establishing a joint network and discussed the production of a Guidebook on Religious Social Responsibility for Citizenship and Coexistence.

The beneficiaries of the project and manual, expected to be published in 2019, are higher education level students specializing in Islamic Religious Affairs, as well as youths affiliated with civil society institutions for young people involved in the religious field.

Additionally, the experts involved in the project published the conclusions of their research and ideas in written and audiovisual form on the "Taadudiya" website.



Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management –  
Research and Publications Unit



9 authors and 9 researchers in contemporary  
Islamic thought

Donor: Danish Arab Partnership Programme -  
Danmission



# “We Can Talk About Religion” Show

The show “We can Talk About Religion” represented a new success story for the “Taadudiya” website. This media campaign constituted a milestone through its two seasons of short videos, via which 16 episodes brought together 16 religious leaders and experts in the religious field, men and women from different sects and faiths from Lebanon and the Arab world. They contributed to disseminating awareness and breaking the stereotypical images set in the minds of people about other sects and faiths through a positive religious discourse and a manner both simple and profound that suits the users of social media platforms, particularly the young among them. These videos raised rich debates and a several of these episodes aired on numerous television stations.

The program created a space for discussing religious topics with openness and sincerity, and for asking important questions and bravely exposing problems with daring. It has been a remarkable success, as reaching over 5 million users, and got 2.7 million views on Facebook.

Media Department – Taadudiya Website



Top countries reached through social media platforms



5 million users reached; 2.7 million video views on Facebook

Donor: British Embassy in Lebanon



## Adyan contributes to promoting the role of religious leaders in serving human dignity

Adyan participated in numerous international meetings and conferences aiming to foster religious responsibility in promoting social cohesion, development, peace and human dignity.

- Father Fadi Daou expounded on the foundation's experiences at the conference "Interreligious Dialogue and Religious Tolerance" organized by the German Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Berlin on May 22, 2017.
- Throughout 2017 and upon the request of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Adyan trained the CRS team in Lebanon on religious diversity, a religious approach to pluralism, and religious social responsibility.
- Dr. Nayla Tabbara gave a presentation entitled "Recasting the Agenda of Interreligious Dialogue Towards Religious Social Responsibility" during the Consultation on Interreligious Dialogue and Liberation meeting held by the World Council of Churches in Cambodia from 27 - 31 August, 2018.



- Adyan also took part - via the contribution of Dr. Nayla Tabbara - in the UNDP's regional meeting of experts around "Activating the Role of Women Religious Leaders in Consolidating Social Cohesion in Arab Societies" on November 6 - 7, 2018.
- In affirmation of the importance of cross-religious solidarity for the protection of human rights and dignity and for sympathizing with the causes of the oppressed, and in view of the persecution and injustice that befell the Yazidi community at the hands of ISIS, Adyan took the initiative to send a delegation to visit the spiritual and secular leaders of the community in the Nineveh Plain and Lalish Temple on December 22, 2018.





## Preventing Violent Extremism

Violent extremism can be defined as the dissemination of hatred on both the individual and collective levels, leading to the rejection of diversity, expressed through violence and the adoption of a course of behavior that threatens social stability. Violent extremism combines extremism as ideology with violence as agency. Its source is often either a sense of grievance resulting from injustice and the inability to affect change with peaceful means, or a belief in racial or religious superiority, or a combination of both factors.

And because extremists employ discriminatory, hostile and destructive strategies, we need strategies to safeguard diversity, promote solidarity and achieve the

dignity of every human being, including those most vulnerable to isolation and to victimization. So, and in response to the United Nation's "Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism" (2015), Adyan Foundation has been working to reach those susceptible to being drawn into violent extremism through a network of mediators who are active in their communities either in education or religion, as well as on digital and social media. Our strategy requires that we do not limit ourselves to rectifying ideas but to also work on offering models and opportunities to these young people to work constructively, so they may channel their potential for commitment to radicalism towards realizing justice and peace for all.

# Opinion



Facebook's Policy Lead for Counterterrorism and Dangerous Organizations in Europe, the Middle East and Africa,  
Dr. Erin Saltman

● **What is the most updated Facebook strategy for facing extremism and hate speech on its platform?**

Facebook continues to evolve and build global partnerships around its counterterrorism and counter-extremism policies and practices. Facebook continues to support a range of global efforts through programs like Peer to Peer, the Online Civil Courage Initiative and the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism. Facebook also continues to develop and support useful toolkits and open-access resources such as [counterspeech.fb.com](https://counterspeech.fb.com), [socialgood.fb.com](https://socialgood.fb.com) and [campaigntoolkit.org](https://campaigntoolkit.org) - providing activists, NGOs and civil society groups with practical advice and support on how to develop, launch and evaluate online campaigns.

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● **Do you consider the content published by Taadudiya on your platform (Facebook) to be impactful?**

We know that counter speech is most impactful when it comes from credible, local networks that fully understand the audiences they are trying to reach. It is important that the message, messenger and tone are authentic. That is why efforts by Taadudiya and others globally are so important.

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● **What do you think Facebook and Adyan can do more to counter extremism online?**

People use our platforms to speak out against hatred and extremism. They counter hateful content by responding to it directly, raising awareness on important issues, and supporting positive and moderate voices. We believe these efforts to resist and stand up to racism, violence, extremism, and hate are essential. That is why we work closely with local communities, experts in civil society and academia, and policymakers to support counter speech initiatives across the globe. Civil society organizations like Adyan are important for providing a voice to challenge and provide alternatives to hate and bigotry. Facebook will continue to help upscale and optimize efforts that challenge hate-based extremism.

# Active Coexistence for Extremism Prevention (ACEP)

The Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management implemented this project over the course of two years starting in 2016. However, its practical results materialized in the first quarter of 2017. In its first phase, 64 young men and women between 18 and 35 years of age received a five-day intensive training on inclusive citizenship and leadership in reform and development work. The participants were selected from three regions where young people are vulnerable to radicalization: Baalbeck, Akkar and Sidon.

The trainees designed projects to be implemented in their areas, and were successful in carrying out five local projects. The project also contributed to the opening of two centers for youth activities: The Youth Cultural Forum in Akkar and the Forum for Renewed Hope in Baalbeck.

Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management – Studying and Training Unit



Partners: USpeak (Baalbeck), Hadatha Association (Akkar) and Hariri Foundation for Sustainable Human Development

Donor: U.S. Embassy in Lebanon



# Restoring Coexistence in Displacement

Lebanon's poorest areas were the ones to receive the largest number of Syrian refugees, often because of their proximity to the border. This reality has in time come to pose a challenge, due to population increase and its pressure on infrastructures and to competition in the labor market. This project came as a consequence of this situation; it spanned four months from September to December 2017, and focused on the Akkar region in northern Lebanon.

The project succeeded in creating an atmosphere of familiarity and cooperation between the Syrian refugees and Lebanese locals through educational activities for children, which fostered the spirit of peace and mutual respect. Twelve animators carried out these activities for 150 children after receiving the necessary training and educational tools.

This coincided with activities that brought together parents in educational and social workshops on exchanging culinary traditions between Syria and Lebanon and on the dialogue around memory and interfaith and inter-sectarian relations. This atmosphere of lively relationships built a true resilience in the face of discord and clashes between the refugees and the locals of the area.

Community Engagement Department – Community Resilience Unit



12 animators; 150 Syrian refugee children in Lebanon, their parents and the Lebanese host community

Donor: European Union through Pharos Observatory



# Journalists for Inclusive Citizenship and Religious Freedom

The Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management, in association with Adyan's Media Department and in partnership with the Jordanian organization Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism (ARIJ), offered specialized training for journalists in combating extremism and hate speech in Amman from October 13 - 15. Thirteen journalists took the training, giving them the opportunity to share their local experience in using the "Code of Conduct for journalists concerning media coverage of issues related to religious affairs and freedom of religion and belief", which they had previously formulated in 2016. The training also included activities focused on media, extremism and hate speech, and on the existential discourse used by Taadudiya platform for its positive impact on extremism prevention.

The project's activities came as an extension to the training of trainers from the Arab world on inclusive citizenship and religious freedom.

Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management and Media Department



13 journalists

Partner: Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism (ARIJ)

Donor: Church of Sweden



## "What's Your Story?" Media Campaign

The media campaign "What's Your Story?" is one of Adyan's Media Department's success stories over these past two years. The campaign was launched through the Taadudiya platform to highlight the stories of active youths in countering terrorism and extremism. It aimed to change the stereotypical image of the 'hero' in Arab societies impacted by the terrorist actions of ISIS, through putting forth the model of the 'hero' as an ordinary person who lives and serves peace and coexistence in her/his daily life according to "existential narrative" strategy. Thirteen short videos were produced, which promoted a positive discourse around pluralism and living together in the Arab world; these videos reached over 12 million users.

"What's Your Story?" was selected as the most impactful campaign in the Middle East and North Africa by Hedayah Center for countering violent extremism, and contributed to the success of some of its protagonists and to the spread of their initiatives on a larger scale, such as Sameh and Hanaa who received the "Best Local Initiative Prize" in Egypt.

Media Department – Taadudiya Website



Top countries reached through social media platforms



Reached 12,698,439 users on Facebook

Partners: Facebook and Sawab Center

Donor: U.S. Embassy in the United Arab Emirates

# Adyan contributes to international dialogue and to developing resources for preventing violent extremism

- The Director of the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management at Adyan, Dr. Nayla Tabbara, participated in the symposium “Extremism and its Negative Impact on the Future of Arab Cultural Heritage” organized by Al-Azhar and the League of Arab States, held in Egypt on December 4, 2017. Her intervention addressed “the impact of cultural heritage diversity in consolidating social identity and cohesion”.
- Adyan took part in the Global Coalition meeting held in the UK Government's Foreign and Commonwealth Office London on March 6, 2018. Media Manager Dalia Al-Mokdad presented Adyan's approach to digital counter-terrorism, based on the foundation's special experience in the field through its website Taadudiya and its targeted campaigns.



- Dalia Al-Mokdad also represented Adyan in the workshop “Countering Violent Extremism and Incitement: the Role of Gender” organized by UN Women and Hedayah Center on April 17, 2018 in Abu Dhabi.

## Adyan partners with the UK's Wilton Park and the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue to organize the international Rome meeting “Tackling Violence Committed in the Name of Religion”

- Forty-eight Policymakers and Religious leaders from different national and religious backgrounds met in Italy (Frascati and Rome) from January 31 to February 2, 2018 to discuss ways to face the phenomenon of violence committed in the name of religion, and to build joint initiatives to this end. Participants met with Pope Francis in the Vatican, and he addressed them, saying:  
“It is highly significant that political authorities and religious

leaders can meet to discuss how to respond to acts of violence committed in the name of religion. There is a need, then, for a common commitment on the part of political authorities, religious leaders, teachers and those engaged in the fields of education, training and communications, to warn all those tempted by perverse forms of misguided religiosity that these have nothing to do with the profession of a religion worthy of this name”.



# White Paper for Interreligious Collaboration & Policy Making in Addressing Radicalization & Violent Extremism

The Rashad Center for Cultural Governance published in February 2017 the “White Paper for Interreligious Collaboration & Policy Making in Addressing Radicalization & Violent Extremism” in Arabic and English, as part of the partnership between Adyan Foundation and University College London.

The paper aimed to launch essential debates around the policies and initiatives required for countering terrorism, based on successful trials and experiences.

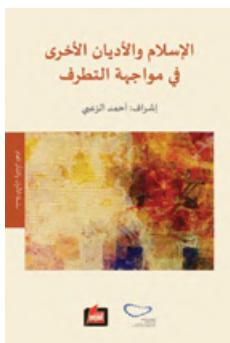
This paper resulted from a multidisciplinary team of 14 international experts who met on two occasions in Abu Dhabi and London to exchange ideas and experiences, and to draw lessons and formulate them in the white paper, benefiting from its review by 29 young male and female leaders and Adyan trainees from 15 different countries.

The White Paper is composed of three parts:

- 1 The concept of extremism and the trajectory towards radicalization
- 2 The relation between religion and extremism
- 3 Identifying four priority areas for interreligious cooperation to counter radicalization and violent extremism



## Book: “Islam & other Religions facing Extremism”



The book “Islam and other Religions Facing Extremism - A Foundational Reading” (2014-2017) was edited by Dr. Ahmad Zohbi and contains chapters by Dr. Amer Al-Hafi (Jordan), Judge Abbas Al-Halabi (Lebanon), Dr. Jawad Al-Khoei (Iraq), Dr. Mohammad Al-Sammak (Lebanon) and Dr. Samir Morkos (Egypt). It constitutes the fourth

publication in the series “Religions and Public Affairs” by Adyan’s Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management and Dar al-Farabi publishing house.

The book includes documents issued by major religious institutions and important interreligious bodies between 2014-2017, among them: Al-Azhar’s Declaration on Citizenship and Coexistence; Al-Azhar’s Universal Statement Against Extremism and Terrorism; the statement of Shaykh Abdullah Ben Bayyah, head of the Forum for Promoting peace in Muslim Societies; the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of KAICIID; the text of Sayyid Al-Sistani’s fatwa on fighting ISIS; and Adyan’s White Paper for Interreligious Collaboration and Policy Making to Address Radicalization and Violent Extremism. These documents are introduced and commented on by the experts mentioned above.

The book was launched during the Arab Book Fair in Beirut in December 2017 in the framework of a seminar that opened the debate around the publication.





## Freedom of Religion and Belief

Freedom of religion and belief is at the core of public freedoms, a pillar of citizenship and of the recognition of others and their right to difference, as stated in article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948): “Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.”

When addressing the notion of “freedom of religion and belief”, we at Adyan Foundation use the conjunction ‘and’ rather than ‘or’ to point out that this freedom also

includes freedom of belief within a given religion; as using the conjunction ‘or’ might connote that the freedom in question means choosing between religion or belief. Religious freedom remains truncated if limited to the possibility of building places of worship and practicing rituals and ceremonies there. It is inseparable from individual and collective freedom of expression of the beliefs of individuals and groups on one hand, and from freedom of thought and conscience on the other. For in addition to choosing whether to believe or not, freedom of religion and belief gives individuals the right to critique and to question, as it also gives them the right to attune to their own thought; it keeps religious teachings open to interpretation, and to multiple perceptions and exegeses.

# Opinion

Envoy for the Promotion of Freedom  
of Religion or Belief (FoRB)  
outside the European Union,  
Mr. Jan Figel



● **What are the most important current challenges for FoRB in the world?**

I would distinguish different but interwoven dimensions. First of all, the political dimension: You cannot work on FoRB without addressing a broader perspective. FoRB violations are very often linked or even generated by abuse and misuse of religions in politics, as the politicization of religion is a very diffuse trend cutting across all continents.

Secondly, the legal component. FoRB is in many cases deeply constrained by constitutional and legal issues. In this perspective, in many cases is important or even necessary to rethink the relationship between religion and State. FoRB is deeply intertwined with building a concept of fair, equal and dignified citizenship for all.

Thirdly, there is a cultural and diffuse dimension. Here the challenge is to promote and protect a culture of respect for diversity, among non-state actors including religious ones and the broader population.

This is just one way to look at the challenges. Most important is that this is a global and civilizational challenge. We desperately need each other to address it. We must raise awareness about the importance of FoRB for living together in peace and diversity.

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● **Why do you think the work that Adyan is doing in this field is important and needed?**

Adyan offers a very precious "meeting space" where actors, coming from a different backgrounds and cultures/affiliations can meet and interact constructively. I was particularly interested in Adyan's contribution to highlighting the misunderstandings and resistances to FoRB within Muslim and Christian perspectives. I appreciate Adyan's capacity to formulate in a simple language, accessible to all, theological concepts and arguments. I think that Adyan has demonstrated a remarkable capacity to deal with the soft and cultural dimension of FoRB, building on deep and "courageous" understanding of the context, reaching out to religious and political actors.

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● **How do you think the Arab countries and other countries on the global level can benefit from Adyan's work in promoting FoRB?**

I think that Adyan's work can inspire many actors. For instance, Adyan's governance and business model is deeply inclusive. I share Adyan's concept of 'religious social responsibility'.

Work done in the area of education (revision of the curriculum) and social media are also exemplary and can be replicated in other contexts.

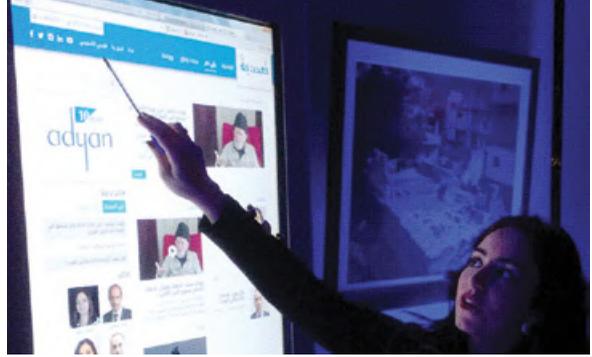
# Taadudiya Website

(www.taadudiya.com)

After its launch on February 7, 2017, the Taadudiya website became one of the most important projects of Adyan's Media Department. The site works on consolidating the culture of accepting difference and valuing diversity to guarantee creative interactivity, social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between the different parts of society. The website is committed to an editorial policy that presents a media discourse built on stimulating critical thinking and the respect for freedoms, especially freedom of expression and of belief. It endeavors to disseminate accurate knowledge of diverse cultural, spiritual and religious heritage, and to monitor problematic issues related to diversity in the context of Arab and international public realms, in order to contribute to shaping a responsible public opinion capable of confronting extremism and obscurantist trends.

In collaboration with the Swiss Agora Foundation, which publishes annually its Calendar of Religions, Taadudiya website launched its "Interfaith Calendar" in Arabic. It is the first of its kind in the Arab world, as it indicates according to both the Gregorian and Hijri calendars the most important religious feasts pertaining to 14 religious traditions, with a description of their significance, in addition to main international civil feasts or days.

The site also includes a "Public Opinion" section where 19 male and 12 female writers from 12 countries had



contributed 569 articles by the end of 2018, presenting critical thought on public affairs and local issues. The "Unity and Diversity" section deals with shared topics across religions and cultures, by highlighting the particularities and commonalities of prominent religious, spiritual and cultural traditions.

Both the "We Can Talk About Religion" and "What's Your Story?" shows were also produced by Taadudiya. By the end of 2018, the website and its social media platforms reached more than 55 million users (views, engagement and reach).

## Media Department



## Top countries reached through social media platforms



Reached 55,711,299 users through the site's Facebook page

Partners: Agora and Fondation pour le Progrès de l'Homme

Donors: British Embassy in Lebanon and Fondation pour le Progrès de l'Homme



# “Naseej”: Media and Diversity in the Levant

Monitoring the approach of the media’s discourse on cultural and religious diversity allows the possibility of supporting media outlets in rectifying their discourse and improving their approach to diversity. For this reason, Adyan Foundation collaborated with Samir Kassir Foundation’s SKeys Center for Media and Cultural Freedom and Agence Française de Développement Médias (CFI) to publish a report on media coverage of cultural and religious diversity in Lebanon, Iraq and Syria.

“Naseej” project monitored what had been published and aired by Lebanese, Syrian and Iraqi media during a specific time period in 2017. After analyzing the language and concepts used and the groups represented - taking into account the absence of certain groups from media coverage - the report presented its conclusions on the role of the media in these countries in the portrayal of diversity (as a richness or a threat), and the possible practical and methodological suggestions to the media in each country to cover all aspects of cultural, ethnic and religious diversity with objectivity.

Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management – Research and Publications Unit, and Media Department



Partner: SKeys Center for Media and Cultural Freedom

Donor: Agence Française de Développement Médias (CFI)

You can access the report in the publications section of the Adyan Foundation website: [www.adyanfoundation.org](http://www.adyanfoundation.org)



# “Religions and Public Affairs in Lebanon” Course

In the course of 2018, the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the educational program “Religions and Public Affairs” were held, each for the duration of a complete academic year, from September 2016 to June 2017 and from September 2017 to June 2018. The program attracts university students and adult learners who take the courses and participate in practical application workshops given by specialized instructors. The tutorship centers around three topics: world religions, pluralism and dialogue, and religion, sectarianism and public life in Lebanon.

The tutorship is special for its academic delivery of information, in addition to its participatory atmosphere and the interactivity between instructors and learners on the one hand and among the learners themselves on the other. This enriches the content through personal and contextual experiences. Eight learners graduated from this program in 2017 and 10 learners in 2018.

Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management – Studying and Training Unit



18 students

# Adyan at the Heart of the International Debate around Freedom of Religion and Belief

Adyan gives great importance to freedom of religion and belief as it is at the core of the foundation's mission and values. This issue was given top priority with the launching in 2016 of a series of related activities.

of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Father Daou presented the "White Paper for Freedom of Religion and Belief in the Framework of Civil-Religious and Christian-Muslim Dialogue", issued by Adyan Foundation.



- Adyan also accompanied international trajectories and discussions around this issue. The foundation participated, via its President Father Fadi Daou in the consultative meeting on "Interreligious Engagement and Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB): Towards a New Approach to Policymaking in the Mediterranean Region", held on July 12, 2018 at the UK Parliament in London at the invitation

- Adyan was also among the institutions invited to take part in the Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom organized by the US State Department in Washington, D.C. from July 24 - 26, 2018. Father Fadi Daou represented the foundation in this international meeting, which brought together foreign affairs ministers, political and religious leaders and civil society leaders from 80 countries. Father Daou elucidated Adyan's approach in this area, and also spoke at the United States Institute of Peace about the role of religion in combating violent extremism.

- Dr. Nayla Tabbara, Director of the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management, participated in the conference held by the Collège des Bernardins around "Freedom of Religion and Belief in the Mediterranean Basin" in Paris on November 11, 2018.



# White Paper on Freedom of Religion and Belief in the Framework of Civil-Religious and Muslim-Christian Dialogues



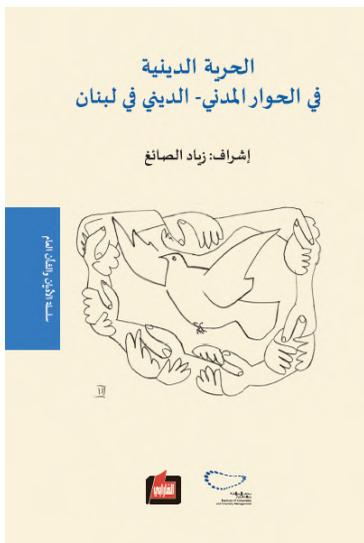
The “White Paper on Freedom of Religion and Belief in the Framework of Civil-Religious and Muslim-Christian Dialogues” is a 2018 publication by Adyan’s Rashad Center for Cultural Governance and the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management.

The paper was published in Arabic, French and English to contribute to developing religious and political discourse around freedom of religion and belief and the policies related to them.

The paper is in four parts, addressing respectively: conceptual, religious and political definitions of freedom of religion and belief; and presenting a conclusion putting forth two lists of recommendations: the first addressed to political decision makers and the second to those in charge of religious institutions and discourse. Its aim is to contribute to the urgent and necessary progress in this area for the achievement of human dignity, development, citizenship and stability, particularly in Arab states. The paper resulted from three conferences organized in 2016 by the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management that brought together religious experts and scholars as well as policy makers of both sexes from Lebanon, the region and the world.

You can access the white paper in the publications section of the Adyan Foundation website: [www.adyanfoundation.org](http://www.adyanfoundation.org)

## Report on Religious Freedom in Civil-Religious Dialogue



In 2017, in the context of the collaboration between the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management and Al-Farabi publishing house, two books were published to launch a collection on “Religions and Public Affairs”. These were entitled “Religion and Democracy in Europe and the Arab World” (edited by Prof. Fadi Daou) and “Islamic Studies and the Challenge of Cultural Diversity in the Arab World” (edited by Dr. Nayla Tabbara).

The third publication within this collection was launched in March 2017 under the title “Religious Freedom in the Religious-Civil Dialogue in Lebanon” (edited by Ziad Al-Sayegh). The book addresses religious freedom and its problematics from the religious, philosophical, legal and political perspectives, and is intended as a reference book that can contribute to raising awareness about the current situation related to FoRB..

This publication falls within the project “Civil-Religious Dialogue Around Freedom of Religion”. It highlights references to documents issued by religious authorities on religious freedom in the previous decades; such as the Beirut Declaration on Religious Freedom issued by Al-Makassid Philanthropic Islamic Association of Beirut, the Document on Freedoms issued by Al-Azhar, and the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on Religious Freedom.



## Spiritual Solidarity

When people from different faiths experience spiritual solidarity together, it means that they enjoy a vision that sees unity at the heart of diversity. For spiritual solidarity is both a faith-based position and an experience lived and shared with others, where the partners in interreligious exchange do not face each other like strangers, but as brothers and sisters standing before God who is the source of their unity, as well as before a shared human yearning. In their third Pastoral Letter issued in 1994, The Council of Catholic Patriarchs of the Orient declare that “Spiritual solidarity is one of the best ways to consolidate relations between Muslims and Christians and to attain thus the best types of coexistence. (...) For if we want to place ourselves in front of the divine presence, God wants us to present

ourselves in front of Him with all our brothers, those who believe as we do and those who believe differently.” Spiritual solidarity provides a space to experience spiritual union and partnership in the values that bring together the various religious paths and experiences. This requires a mutual acknowledgement of the authenticity of the spiritual experience of all believers, in the respect of their religious differences. Spiritual solidarity does not require merging with others nor does it call for syncretism with the aim of cancelling differences; rather it seeks sincere encounters, mutual enrichment from the various experiences of believers, and a common partaking in aspiring for the Good and the Divine through fasting, prayer or work, in an atmosphere of trust, transparency and kinship.

# Opinion

President-Designate of Rissho  
Kosei-kai Buddhist movement  
Rev. Kosho Niwano



● **What is the concept of spiritual solidarity in Buddhism?**

The most fundamental and beautiful teaching of Buddhism is the notion of “codependent origination”, which is about interrelatedness. This means that in every being there is interdependency and interrelatedness. For example, I ate a banana at breakfast and this banana was harvested by children in a big plantation in the Philippines, so the children who harvested this banana I ate become part of my being, and live in me because I live thanks to the banana that they harvested.

No being can exist without other people. This is the spiritual solidarity in Buddhism teachings, which is based on “codependent origination”. I am being sustained by other beings so, in turn, I myself, can support the existence of others. This is how we are interdependent. By believing in the Buddha Nature, or having a seed that brings us closer to God, I would like to use my life to contribute to the happiness of others. This is the meaning of spiritual solidarity.

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● **How does Buddhism see diversity and difference between people?**

Different beings exist in the world. I see their differences in their nationalities or religions, etc. But we co-exist on the same road, since the common wish and common hope of all humanity is happiness or prosperity. So to ensure a happy life for all people, we must overcome these differences. To achieve this, we must first encounter and understand others, to also understand ourselves. By understanding others and ourselves, we can find the way to cooperate together to achieve the happiness of everyone.

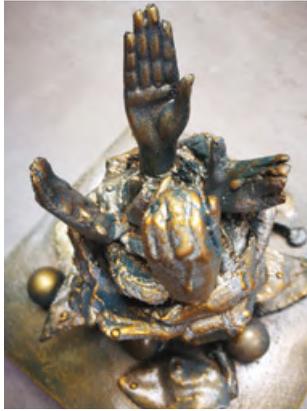
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● **What do you say to young men and women about dealing with differences?**

Encountering differences might generate some fears; but I hope that young people will overcome such fears, and open their minds to new and different things. To encounter new things and a “new world” does not mean that we lose anything from ourselves, but on the contrary it helps in deepening the understanding of ourselves and also our own religion.

From a filmed interview on Taadudiya Website with the President-Designate of Rissho Kosei-kai Buddhist movement, Rev. Kosho Niwano  
[www.taadudiya.com](http://www.taadudiya.com)

## Spiritual Solidarity Award 2017



The “Spiritual Solidarity Award” is given annually by Adyan to honor those who understand their faith and live it as an incentive for solidarity and unity between people without discrimination, particularly in contexts rife with tension and violence.

On the Spiritual Solidarity Day of 2017, Adyan presented its 10<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Solidarity Award to the Little Sisters of Jesus for the role they play in the Levant, for living their monastic vows and daily lives in total solidarity with others and offering up their lives for the sake of their Muslim brothers and sisters and all humanity.

The award was also granted to Sheikh Abdel Rahim Hasyan, a Syrian refugee in Lebanon who despite the pain of displacement from his home and town, chose to be a messenger of peace in the face of violence and extremism with an unshakable faith in spite of meager means. He taught young refugees to open up to others and commit to shared values. He believed in them, and so they believed in themselves.



## Spiritual Solidarity Award 2018

In 2018, Adyan granted its 11<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Solidarity Award to the International Federation of L’Arche Communities (L’Arche International), which are dedicated to bringing disabled and non-disabled people to live together in an atmosphere of kinship. Adyan saw in L’Arche a sign of our time for a renewed humanity. The prize was awarded to the community in its headquarters in the town of Trosly in France.

Adyan had worked in partnership with L’Arche for five years. A research entitled “Islamic Theology of Disability” constituted a joint project between L’Arche and the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management.

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Community Engagement Department –  
Spiritual Solidarity Unit

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3 Award Grantees

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Image source: [www.larche.org](http://www.larche.org)

# 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Solidarity Days

Since 2007 and following the example of the historic meeting in Assisi in 1986, Adyan marks the Day of Spiritual Solidarity on the last Saturday of October of each year with an interreligious meeting to celebrate common values, between Islam and Christianity in particular.



- In 2017, the occasion was celebrated in the International Antonine School in Ajaltoun with the slogan "Together we Renew Faith, so It May Renew Us". The meeting included a special song for spiritual solidarity by Adyan's choir, discussion circles around faith, religious commitment and spiritual solidarity, and prayers and invocations for peace.



- In 2018, the celebration took place in the city of Tripoli, Lebanon with the slogan "Together We Revive Human Dignity". The event included interactive dialogue and testimonies on human dignity, discussion sessions and art activities inspired by the occasion. It was closed by the reading of the mission of the meeting, which insisted

on the solidarity and kinship between all those present, and especially between the city locals who transcended divisive sectarian positions.

Community Engagement Department –  
Spiritual Solidarity Unit



250 participants

Partners: Antonine School Ajaltoun – Offre Joie – Funun Mutaqati'a Cultural organization – Dialogue for Life and Reconciliation

## Annunciation Day

As customary, Adyan celebrated in partnership with Carmel Saint Joseph Monastery, Mechref the shared national feast of the Annunciation. The celebration was held on March 24, 2017 under the title "The Annunciation in Art". On March 23, 2018, the celebration was held in Mechref as well with the participation of the school choir. On the following day, March 24, 2018, Adyan also celebrated the feast in the town of Sham' inside the UNIFIL headquarters in South Lebanon.

Community Engagement Department –  
Spiritual Solidarity Unit



400 participants

Carmel Saint Joseph Monastery and School Mechref –  
UNIFIL



## Solidarity with Al-Quds (Jerusalem)



The Palestinian Cause in general and the question of Jerusalem in particular was not absent from Adyan's activity. In this framework and as part of the project "Political Literacy for Religious Leaders", the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management organized a seminar on December 28, 2018 entitled "Solidarity with Jerusalem, Capital of Religions and Qibla for Humanity". The seminar was attended by many religious leaders from different denominations, and scholars spoke of the religious significance of Jerusalem and the ways in which to resist the assaults against the sacred city from different perspectives.

Community Engagement Department –  
Community Resilience Unit



30 religious scholars participating



## Beirut Sings Diversity

In Association with Al Fayha Choir, Adyan organized an international recital in the Saint Elias Church in Antelias on May 17, 2017 entitled "Beirut Sings Diversity". Many choirs participated, from Lebanon, Morocco and Armenia, in the presence of around 400 audience members. The proceeds from the event went to support Adyan's activities in Iraq.



Community Engagement Department –  
Spiritual Solidarity Unit



400 attendees and 70 choir members

Partners: Fayha Choir



# Adyan Spreads the Notion of Spiritual Solidarity Internationally

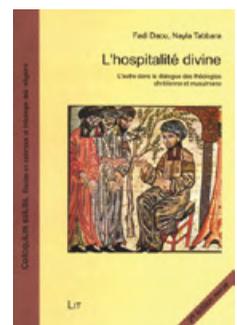
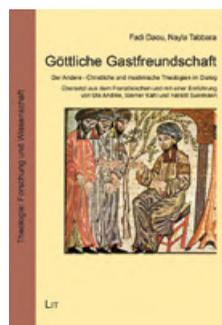
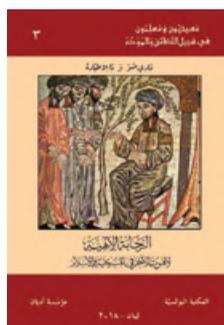
## Participation to the Pre-Synodal Meeting of Youth in Rome

Dalia Al-Mokdad, Manager of Adyan’s Media Department, represented Muslim youth in the Pre-Synodal Meeting for Youth held in Rome from March 10-24, 2018. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for young persons to produce a document expressing their vision, thoughts and recommendations, based on issues affecting young people, their faith and the discernment of the call. The document, which was presented to the Synod fathers, adopted the notion of inclusive citizenship and emphasized the importance of the engagement of the youth in public life in a cross-religious manner, rather than surrendering to fear and preconceived ideas. Three hundred young people took part in the meeting, representing young Christians, youth from other religions and non-religious youth from five continents.



## The book "Divine Hospitality" now in four languages

The book "Divine Hospitality: The Theology of the Other in Christianity and Islam" by Father Fadi Daou and Dr. Nayla Tabbara was first published in 2011 in Arabic language by Adyan Foundation and St Paul Editions. Its French version (the language in which it was originally written) was published in 2013 (then in 2014 as second edition), followed by publications in German and English in 2017.



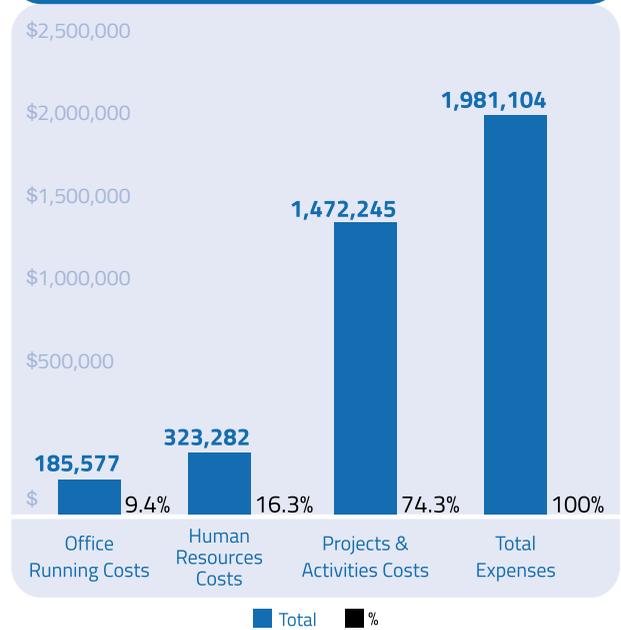
# Financial Report 2017-2018

Effectiveness and transparency are guiding principles of our work at Adyan Foundation. We are fully aware of the importance of each and every donation, and are committed to using them in the most productive way possible. As such, we would like to thank each individual and governmental or non-governmental organization that has contributed to our securing the necessary resources for realizing our mission in the years 2017-2018.

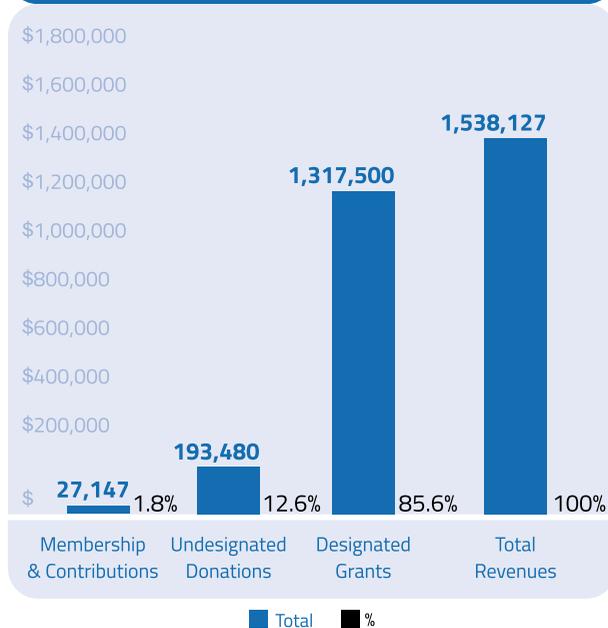
## Revenues of 2017 in US dollars



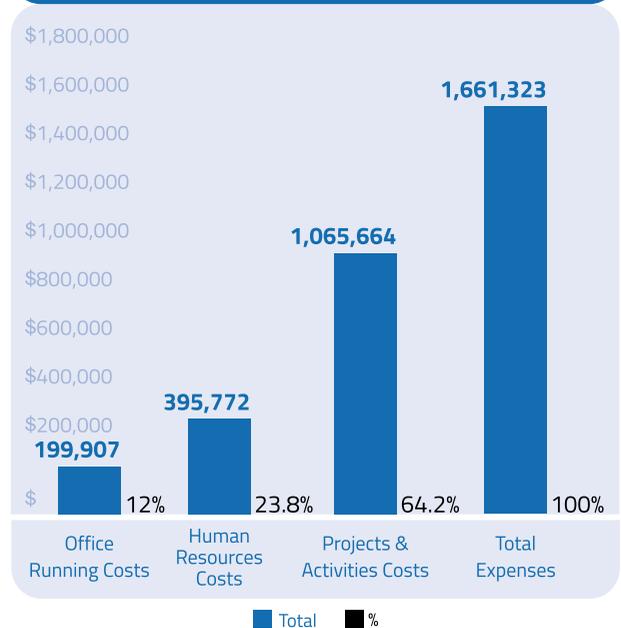
## Expenses of 2017 in US dollars



## Revenues of 2018 in US dollars



## Expenses of 2018 in US dollars



# Thank you to all the donors who contributed in financing our programs during these 2 years



British Embassy  
Beirut



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Danish-Arab  
Partnership Programme



Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer  
pour le Progrès de l'Homme



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Pluralisme des cultures  
et des religions

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DANMISSION 



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