



Refuse to Hate!

SWE: Vägra hata!

A manifestation arranged by the National Interfaith Council of Sweden

Religions in Sweden unite against hatred and for peace in the manifestation Refuse to Hate! During the weekend of 30 January to 1 February 2015, rolls with a statement from the National Interfaith Council of Sweden was handed over and read in connection with prayer or worship in mosques, synagogues, churches and other sacred place in Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmö, Umeå and in more places in Sweden. The statement has so far been read in more than a hundred places around Sweden.

Leaders of eight religious groups in Sweden rejected, through National Interfaith Council of Sweden, the use of religious arguments to legitimize hatred, violence and aggression. Hostility towards religions, anti-Semitism and hatred towards Islam may not continue to be spread in Sweden.

To emphasize the common fight against hatred, representatives of different religions handed over the manifestation rolls with the statement to each other's sacred place during. In the Stockholm Mosque, the statement was read out loud by Bishop Eva Brunne, Church of Sweden, Diocese of Stockholm and Sudhagar Ragupathy, Hindu forum Sweden and Daniel Öhrwall, Executive Director, Saint Anna of Novogrods Orthodox Parish, Stockholm.

In Stockholm Cathedral the statement will be read out loud during Worship on Sunday by Lena Posner-Körösi, chairperson of the Jewish congregation in Stockholm and Lamia Elamri from the Muslim Council of Sweden.



Photographer Magnus Aronsson

The manifestation roll was handed over by the National Interfaith Council to the Swedish Minister of Democracy and Culture Alice Bah Kuhnke on February 4. and to the Prime Minister of Sweden Stefan Löfven on February 11 by representatives from Official Council of Swedish Jewish Communities, Muslim Council of Sweden and Christian Council of Sweden.



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The manifestation is held during the start of World Interfaith Harmony Week, a UN-initiative which is celebrated worldwide. The manifestation was and continues to be inclusive - all who wants to participate can join. It is possible to read out the statement from the National Interfaith Council of Sweden in connection to prayer, worship and assemblies anywhere to join the manifestation Refuse to Hate!

The manifestation has also got a Facebook-page: <https://www.facebook.com/vagrahata>
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Left to right

Sudhagar Ragupathy, Hindu Forum Sweden
Elvir Gigovic, Muslim Council of Sweden
Karin Wiborn, Christian Council of Sweden
Phra Boonsee Kongjok, Council Swedish
Buddhist Cooperation Council
Hans Ulfvebrand, Church of Sweden
Maira Åkermark, Swedish Bahá'í
Lena Posner-Körösi, Official Council of
Swedish Jewish Communities

Photographer: Dan Hansson