

Resolution on the consolidation of a global consensus regarding key ethics and values that should guide the exercise of power so that the geopolitical landscape of the 21st century may be characterized by a truly just and harmonious world order

The CDI:

- Recognizing that the spiritual, philosophical and historical origins of the Centrist Democrat International (CDI) lie in the traditions of Christian humanism, and the response of Christian Democratic political movements to the profound moral and geopolitical crisis that European and Latin American nations faced after World War II, including the imminent threat posed by communism;
- Recalling that the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10th, 1948, as a concrete means to promote “universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.” (*United Nations Charter*, Article 55);
- Acknowledging the central role of the humanist tradition, and of Christian Democratic political movements, which helped inspire and secure the adoption of UDHR;
- Affirming that this humanitarian agenda and the universal norms associated therewith represent a uniquely valuable effort to abolish the primordial cycle of hatred, tyranny and violence that has plagued humanity since time immemorial;
- Noting that key spiritual and philosophical principles that animate Christian humanism may be regarded as universal, and have found expression in other religious traditions, including Islam;
- Realizing that within the Malay Archipelago, this kindred tradition—rooted in the principle of *ukhuwwah basyariah*, or universal human fraternity—is widely described as *Islam Nusantara* (“East Indies Islam”);
- Acknowledging that the principles which underlie and animate Islam Nusantara have inspired the emergence of a global movement known as “Humanitarian Islam,” which reflects the vision and legacy of former Indonesian president and long-time Nahdlatul Ulama Chairman H.E. Kyai Haji Abdurrahman Wahid (1940 – 2009);
- Noting that President Wahid’s burial site in Jombang, East Java, is visited annually by millions of men, women and children, who read and absorb the significance of the words engraved upon his tombstone in Indonesian, Arabic, English and Chinese: “Here Rests a Humanist”;
- Recognizing that Abdurrahman Wahid and other spiritual leaders of Nahdlatul Ulama established the National Awakening Party (PKB) in 1998, as a vehicle to infuse politics with *rahmah* (universal love and compassion), and thereby foster respect for the equal rights and dignity of every human being;



- Considering that PKB has played a crucial role in the transition of Indonesia from authoritarian rule to become the largest Muslim-majority democracy in the world today;
- Recalling that in 2001 the CDI changed its name from Christian Democrat International to Centrist Democrat International due to the expansion of its membership base to also include non-Christian political parties;
- Affirming that the diverse political parties that belong to the CDI embrace a common set of humane and universal values, rooted in their respective religious and cultural traditions;

The CDI states the following:

- We believe that Humanitarian Islam and the diverse strands of humanist philosophy that historically emerged in the West are kindred traditions, whose spiritual and philosophical values are consonant with—and, in the case of Western humanism, helped to shape and secure the adoption of—the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)*;
- It is our belief that the spirit of universal human fraternity that animates UDHR, Christian humanism and the global Humanitarian Islam movement represents a compelling moral, ethical, religious and, indeed, political basis for close cooperation between CDI member parties, and between people of goodwill of every faith and nation;
- Therefore, we resolve to systematically foster the emergence of a global consensus regarding key ethics and values that should guide the exercise of power, so that the geopolitical landscape of the 21st century may be characterized by a truly just and harmonious world order founded upon respect for the equal rights and dignity of every human being.

Rome, October 11th, 2019.