

# Liviu Olteanu, Ph.D.

+41 763 160 729

[liviuicaolteanu@yahoo.com](mailto:liviuicaolteanu@yahoo.com)

[liviu.olteanu@aidlr.org](mailto:liviu.olteanu@aidlr.org)

[www.aidlr.org](http://www.aidlr.org)

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

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- Doctor of Laws on the UN Diplomacy for Human Rights and FoRB, *Summa Cum Laude*
- Master's Degrees in: Education, Human Rights, Theology, Laws
- Visiting Researcher at Oxford University and Harvard Law School
- 25 years experience in public affairs and human rights
- 20 years as human rights expert
- 16 years expertise as academic researcher
- 10 years experience on UN system and regional organizations
- 12 years humanitarian projects experience
- 8 years of experience of organizer of international top events
- 30 years of experience as journalist and 10 years as editor-in-chief
- **Secretary General of the International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty (AIDLR)**, Bern, Switzerland. Also Public Affairs & Religious Liberty Director, the EUD.
- **Observer, Representative to the UNITED NATIONS in Geneva, New York and Vienna** on behalf of the AIDLR
- **Participatory Status representative of the AIDLR to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg and to the European Parliament in Brussels and Strasbourg and to the O.S.C.E.**
- **Author and coordinator of the multidisciplinary and multi-institutional project** named "*Dialog Five Framework*" (Governmental- Diplomatic – Religious – Academic – Civil Society/NGOs/media representatives), - Liviu Olteanu ©2013 - which have been materialized into the **First Global Summit on Religion, Peace, and Security**, held at Palais des Nations, in Geneva, in November 2016
- **Academic director, diplomatic spokesperson with Member State's officials and coordinator of the Second Global Summit Religion, Peace, Security** on: "Building Bridges, Fostering Inclusivity and Countering Hate Speech to Enhance the Protection of Religious Minorities, Refugees and Migrants", co-organized too with the UN Office of Genocide Prevention and Responsibility to Protect and held at the UN Palais des Nations in Geneva from 29 April to 1 May 2019

- Excellent communication skills
- Extensive experience in teaching on education for human rights, peace and security
- Experience in intercultural and inter-religious dialogue
- Multilingual, International working experience
- Intermediate computer literacy
- Highly dynamic, creative and detail-oriented
- Team spirit, Proactive in projects, Vision and integrity

- **Initiator and co-signer** with H.E. Adama Dieng, the Under-Secretary-General, Special Adviser of the UN Secretary-General on Genocide Prevention, **of the global document “Roadmap to Implementation A Summary Report & Recommendation to the United Nations Plan of Action on Hate Speech”**.
- **Director & Editor-in-chief** of ‘Conscience and Liberty’ magazine published in French, German, and English.
- **Founder & Director** of the journal “Ambassadors for Liberty, Hope and Peace”, 2016.
- **Founder of the “International Award of Excellence ‘Ambassador for Liberty and Peace’ - Jean Nussbaum and Eleanor Roosevelt”**. Since 2016, 14 people of culture, experts in education, statesmen, ambassadors, religious leaders were awarded with this Prize of Excellency Ambassador for Liberty and Peace.
- **Extensive experience in organizing and managing international top events** (conferences, summits, workshops and seminars) on topics like “Education for Human Rights”, “Dignity, respect, dialog for diversity”, “Religion, Peace and Security”, “Sustainable Development Goals” etc., held at different universities and the United Nations Office in Geneva and New York.

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

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### **Secretary General**

Since Nov’11

*International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty*

AIDLR is an International Non-Governmental Organization founded in 1946 by Dr. Jean Nussbaum (Mrs. Eleanor ROOSEVELT was the first president of Honorary Committee of AIDLR. Other former Presidents of Honorary Committee: Dr. Albert SCHWEITZER, Paul Henry SPAAK, Rene CASSIN, Edgar FAURE, Leopold Sedar Senghor, Mrs. Mary ROBINSON; H.E. ADAMA DIENG is the current president of the Honorary Committee). Also Dr. Liviu Olteanu is Director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty at the Inter-European Division (EUD), Bern Switzerland. Also Director of Public Affairs & Religious

Liberty at the EUD.

**Observer and Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Main Representative to the Council of Europe** Since Nov'11

*In behalf of International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty*

Permanent Representative at the United Nations in Geneva, New York and Vienna, and the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

**Participatory Status Representative to the European Parliament** Since Jan'12

*In behalf of International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty*

Permanent Representative to the European Parliament in Brussels and Strasbourg.

**Founder & Director** Since Sep'16

*"Ambassadors for Liberty, Hope and Peace" Journal*

**Director & Editor-in-Chief** Since Apr'12

*"Conscience and Liberty" Magazine*

Director & editor-in-chief of 'Conscience and Liberty' magazine published in French (since 1948), German (since 1971), and English (since 2010).

**Observer, permanent representative to the UNITED NATIONS** Since Nov'11

*International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty*

Observer, permanent representative to the UNITED NATIONS in Geneva, New York and Vienna on behalf of the International Association for the Defence of Religious Liberty

**Attorney at Law** Since 2008

*Licensed member of the Madrid Bar, Spain*

**Vice-President** 2008 to 2011

*"PRO VIVERE DIGNUM" Foundation, Spain*

Training & Education for Leaders Programme, Uganda. Training African leaders on values and human rights. Project coordinator (local and international) – preparing and coordinating on-site operations (HR, transportation, supplies, visas, permits and partnership with authorities, etc.); program implementation; compliance with SOP's and safe working practices).

**Editor and journalist** 1990-96

*"Hope" Magazine, Romania*

Editor and journalist of "Hope" Magazine of Culture and Education. Member of the Romanian Federation of Journalism (SZR), and of the International Federation of Journalists.(FIJ).

**Human Rights and Religious Liberty Expert** 2000-12

*UICASDE, Spain*

Human rights and religious liberty expert, as well as Director of Ethnic Communities, an executive position within UICASDE, Spain, at the invitation of the Ministry of Justice of this country and the afore mentioned institution.

## **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

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**Doctor of Laws ”Summa Cum Laude on UN Diplomacy for Human Rights and FoRB”** May 2015

*Law School, Complutense University of Madrid with doctoral scholarship and research made at Oxford University*

The doctoral dissertation on: “Origins and Horizons of the struggle for Religious Liberty. **The United Nations Diplomacy in Action for the Protection of Human Rights and Religious Freedom**”.

**Researcher and Professor, Human Rights Institute & Law School** 2004-2015

*Law Philosophy Department, Law School, University Complutense of Madrid*

Since 2013 Liviu Olteanu was the creator of and started to promote and develop internationally the “**Dialogue Five Framework**” as a solution to the international concerned issues, with the participation of 5 categories of actors: a) Diplomats, b) Politicians, c) Religious Leaders, d) Academia and e) Civil Society (International NGOs, Media, Business) Representatives.

**Diploma / Certificate of Advanced International Studies** 2010

*Rey Juan Carlos University of Madrid*

“International Relationships in the 21st Century”. Rey Juan Carlos University of Madrid, the Society of International Studies (SEI) and the Ministry of Culture of Spain.

**Master’s Degree in Theology (M.Th)** 2009

*Andrews University, Michigan, USA*

Andrews University, Michigan, and School of Theology, Collonges France/UAE Sagunto Valencia.

**Complementary Researches of Doctoral Studies** 2008

*Oxford University*

Scholarship conceded by Oxford University (Balliol College - Prof. Joseph Raz) and British Council.

**Diploma in Advanced Legal Studies / Master of Laws (M.A.S.)** 2007

*Law School, Complutense University of Madrid*

**Diploma of International Human Rights Expert** 2005

*Law School, Complutense University of Madrid*

**Master’s Degree in Education** 1998-2000

*Universidad Adventista del Plata, Argentina*

Universidad Adventista del Plata, Argentina. Courses delivered at UAE Valencia Spain (1998-2000)

**Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) with Master Dissertation on “The Council of Europe and International Protection of Human Rights”** 1999

*Law School, “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu, Romania.*

**Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.)**

1998

*with Dissertation on Case Study: Confluence of Theology with History Babes Bolyai“  
University of Cluj Napoca, Romania*

Other courses attended by Liviu Olteanu, see in Annex: Training Education

## **ACHIEVEMENTS**

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Exchanges of official letters and/or meetings with statemen, policymakers and officials

- **27 and 29 May 2020, Brussels and Geneva, Exchange of letters with H.E. MICHELLE BACHELET, the High Commissioner of OHCHR and Dr. Liviu Olteanu.** Based on the UN Secretary-General message that “Covid-19 pandemic is a public health emergency — but it is far more. It is an economic crisis. A social crisis. And a human crisis that is fast becoming a human rights crisis”, Liviu’ letter directed to the High Commissioner, expressed that “there is a danger of hate speech pandemic too” and growing violence and discrimination against vulnerable groups as women, children, religious minorities, and the big risk of social insecurity, terrorism and famine too”. The High Commissioner in her prompt answer described the constant actions the OHCHR, Special Procedures and Treaty Bodies have produced” ensuring that “the struggle for equality and justice is at the heart of human rights agenda and at the heart of the UN’s work”.
- **3 May and 2 July 2020, Brussels. Exchange of letters of H.E. URSULA VAN DER LEYEN, the European Commission (EC) President, with Dr. Liviu Olteanu.** In his letter of 3 of May, Dr. Olteanu argued to President Leyen on the importance of religious freedom and its influence of the EU policy for a better world without discrimination, and requested to maintain the mandate of Special Envoy for FoRB outside the EU. H.E. Leyen assured Dr. Olteanu in her letter of 2 of July that: “Promotion and protection of Freedom of Religion or Belief continues to feature among the priorities of the external agenda of the EU on Human Rights” and stated too: ”I would like to encourage you to continue to contribute to the debate on how best to promote the freedom of religion or belief in the context of Covid-19 and in its aftermath”. On 8 July 2020, the European Commission communicated: “we decided today to renew the function of Special Envoy for FoRB”.
- **May 2020, Brussels. STATEMENT of the AIDLR Secretary-General on the “Violence and Abuse of Power”.** Dr. Liviu Olteanu condemned the “cruelty of the American law-enforcement officer” against George Floyd, but condemned also the “street violence, destroying property and committing robbery”. Looking to find pacific solution to all kind of violence, he proposed in attention of all people “the attitude of Desmond Tutu who said: “If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor.” Also Dr. Olteanu “urged governments towards the fair and equal treatment of all people and to heal our broken communities with the empathy, love and compassion of Jesus, because, as

Martin Luther King stated, “hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that”. Yes, every person matters!”.

- **4 March 2020, in Geneva at the United Nations during the 43rd Session of the Human Rights Council**, the Secretary-General of the AIDLR met and talked with **Dr. Ahmed SHAHEED**, the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief. The focus of their discussions was on how do we can cooperate to find practical solution for a discriminatory issue having a religious liberty bias.
- **5 March 2020, Palais des Nations, in Geneva. During the UN Human Rights Council, 43rd session, Mr. Pekka METSO, the Ambassador-at Large** for the Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue Processes at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of **Finland**, requested and had a meeting with Dr. Liviu Olteanu and exchanged points of views on international challenges and threats that affect worldwide religious liberty that could seriously impact religious communities during this ‘coronavirus’ period and its possible consequences on the horizon for religious liberty.
- **27 January 2020, Strasbourg France. H.E. David ZALKALIANI Minister of Foreign Affairs for Georgia, and the President of the Council of Ministers of the Council of Europe** (from November 2019 to May 2020), **talked with Dr. Liviu Olteanu**, Secretary-General of the AIDLR, during the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe held in Strasbourg in January 2020. Dr. Liviu Olteanu offered his expertise to Foreign Affairs Minister of Georgia in fostering the importance of education and the active role civil society can play on behalf of human rights and democracy, and as a solution in favor of peace for our region.
- **9-11 December 2019, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, the Sixth Assembly of the Forum for Promoting Peace**, held in Abu Dhabi from 9-11 December 2019. During this Forum, organized by the Foreign Affairs Minister of Emirates and **Shaikh Abdullah Bin Bayyah**, Dr. Olteanu highlighted and appreciated the important document proposed for all Muslim countries - the Charter of Virtue - with core values as education for tolerance and religious liberty. Dr. Liviu talked in Abu Dhabi on the need to give a special attention to freedom of religion and freedom of conscience that must start by fostering respect, empathy, knowledge between people of other cultures and religions, and affirming the common commitment on defending together the values of freedom and harmony among all.
- **10 December 2019, Abu Dhabi. H.E. Vice President of Nigeria, Professor Yemi OSINBAJO** met Dr. Liviu Olteanu. Vice President underlined at the ‘Forum for Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies on “whom does the responsibility rest to bear the torch of tolerance and illuminate new pathways to a shared future”, and the answer of Dr. Olteanu expressed to him was that “all actors had a well-defined place in this puzzle of peace for humanity”. Finally, Dr. Olteanu offered to Vice-President the expertise got by the AIDLR during the almost 75 years and the AIDLR Calendar and talked on the need of continuing education for fundamental rights everywhere.
- **16-18 November, 2019, the 11th Advisory Group Meeting (AGM) of the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers held in Jakarta.**

Invited by Oman to the International Day for Tolerance, celebrated in 16 November 2019, in Jakarta, Dr. Liviu Olteanu talked **with Oman's Minister of Endowments and Religious Affairs Sheikh Abdullah Bin Mohammed AL SALMI** on the need of a constant campaign of education of all actors that must start by training the trainers on how to promote religious tolerance, mutual understanding and peaceful coexistence.

- **13 -14 November, 2019 Dr. Liviu Olteanu talked in Dubai with H.E. Dr. Hamad Bin Al Sheikh Ahmed AL SHAIBANI**, Managing Director of the International Institute for Tolerance and Chairman of the Higher Committee of WTS who organized from 13-14 November 2019 under the Patronage of His Highness, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai the international event focused on how education and knowledge-sharing can be a powerful tool to raise awareness on tolerance in diversity.
- **1 of October 2019, Strasbourg, French President EMMANUEL MACRON.** At the 70th Anniversary of the Council of Europe, held in Strasbourg, **Dr. Liviu Olteanu talked with the Honorable Emmanuel Macron.** As answer to the speech delivered by President Macron on how do we “preserve the individual rights and freedom” and “how do we defend freedom of expression while hate speech is spreading”, Dr. Olteanu exchanged ideas with President Macron and shared options of collaboration and offering to the French President three books edited by Liviu on international concerned topics: “Agents and Ambassadors for Peace. Protecting Freedom of Religion and Freedom of Expression Against Violence in the Name of Religion”, “Religious Freedom's Influence on Peace and Security”, “Diplomacy and Education for Religious Freedom. The role of preventive diplomacy and education on changing mindsets and fostering sustainable development goals (SDGs).
- **2 October 2019, COUNCIL OF EUROPE, Strasbourg France, meeting of H.E. Marija PEJCINOVIC BURIC, Secretary-General of the Council of Europe** with Dr. Olteanu. On the importance of the pillars of the Council of Europe - Human Rights, Democracy and Rule of Law - and how to provide international support, was the subject of the meeting between the Honorable Marija PEJCINOVIC BURIC, the new Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, and Dr. Liviu Olteanu, Secretary-General of the AIDLR. During their meeting, Dr. Olteanu expressed his strong support on the mandate of the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, and appreciated the regional role of education on the pillars of the Council of Europe in all 47 Member States as the solution for peace and harmony.
- **14 June 2019, DOSHISHA UNIVERSITY from Kyoto Japan.** Dr. Liviu Olteanu has participated in an academic meeting at **Doshisha University in Kyoto** where he spoke about the “Dialogue Five” framework he launched internationally. During this meeting Dr. Liviu Olteanu talked with **Prof. Dr. Hisae NAKANISHI, Dean** and Professor of the Graduate School of Global Studies, Doshisha University and with Prof. **Dr. Ada TAGGAR-COHEN, Director** of the Center for Interdisciplinary Study of the Monotheistic Religions (CISMOR) on the academic work of CISMOR and also on the Global Summits on Religion, Peace and Security as international project opened to all actors.

- **10 to 13 June, 2019, KYOTO JAPAN, The G-20 Interfaith Forum.** At the G20 Interfaith Forum held in Kyoto politicians and experts joined the religious leaders both within and outside Japan to make policy recommendations from the religious point of view and will deliver their voices to the G-20 Summit in Osaka through the Japanese government. Dr. Liviu Olteanu who was invited as a special guest delivered a keynote speech on: “Global Compact Based on Human Dignity and Being A Part of Solution, Shaping Together All (Dialogue Five) Actors A Sustainable Future”. The international event was co-organized and supported by Kyoto Prefecture, City of Kyoto, The United Nations Association of Japan, Osaka UNESCO Association, Kyoto Chamber of Commerce and Industry among others, with an opening ceremony in the Kyoto Prefectural Parliament House by Patriarch of Shingon Buddhism Omuro Sect Most Venerable Taishu Segawa, Most Rev. Masanori Yoshimura Patriarch of Shinshu-kyo, Rev. Hideo Ishibashi President of Japan Confederation of Christian Churches, Cardinal Man’yo Maeda Archbishop of Osaka, Most Ven. Shunro Morita Chief Abbot of Shiten’noji Temple, Ambassador Alvaro Albacete from KAICIID, etc. Rt. **Rev. Yoshinobu MIYAKE** Chair of the Board of Int’l Shinto Studies Association the mind behind the conference prepared the conference at the highest level.
- **At the 2019 G-20 INTERFAITH FORUM, held June 7 to 9 at the New Otani Makuhari Hotel in TOKYO,** a Japanese audience of over 2,000 attended the sessions that were open to the public. **The G-20 Interfaith Forum** had as theme: Peace, People, Planet: Pathways Forward -Theme: “Violence and Religion: addressing root causes of violence linked to religious identities”. **Dr. Haruhisa HANDA**, a Japanese Shinto leader and philanthropist, and Worldwide Support for Development, which he chairs and **Dr. W. Cole DURHAM** Jr. from the International Center for Law and Religion Studies (ICLRS) at Brigham Young University, were key organizers of the 2019 event. The keynote speech delivered by Dr. Liviu Olteanu at G-20 meeting was on: “Addressing Root Causes of Violence Linked to Religious Identities by Fostering the Protection of the Fundamental Freedoms Based on Human Dignity”. The main organizers of the G-20 Interfaith Forum have been: Among the illustrious participants which delivered keynote speeches in Tokyo have been **H.E. David CAMERON**, former prime minister of the United Kingdom, **H.E. Sir John Key**, former prime minister of New Zealand. During the meeting Dr. Liviu Olteanu had a special dialogue with **H.E. Enda KENNY**, former prime minister of Ireland, **H.E. Graça MACHEL**, the first education minister of Mozambique, **Dr. Jan FIGEL**, the EU Special Envoy for FoRB and with the religious leaders, Lord Carey of **CLIFTON** (103rd archbishop of Canterbury) and **Gunnar Stålsett** bishop emeritus of Oslo.
- **29 April to 1 May 2019, Dr. Liviu Olteanu coordinated and co-organized at the United Nations “The SECOND GLOBAL SUMMIT ‘RELIGION, PEACE, SECURITY”**, and as academic director he prepared the summit structure on: “**Building Bridges, Fostering Inclusivity and Countering Hate Speech to Enhance the Protection of Religious Minorities, Refugees and Migrants**”, held at the UN Palais des Nations. The second global summit was co-organized together with the United Nations Office of Genocide Prevention from New York and getting the special support of the UNOG, OHCHR, UNESCO, UNFPA, OSCE, UN Missions, scholars and researchers, politicians, religious leaders



and civil society organizations. The keynote delivered by Dr. Olteanu during the Opening Ceremony of the summit was on “Let be those Ambassadors that make a stance for the other”.

- **May 1 to June 30, 2019, Geneva, New York and Brussels, ROADMAP TO IMPLEMENTATION A SUMMARY REPORT & RECOMMENDATION TO THE U.N. PLAN OF ACTION ON HATE SPEECH.** Dr. Olteanu coordinated the work of three committees of international experts, held at the United Nations Palais des Nations in Geneva, New York Headquarters and Brussels, preparing the Roadmap to Implementation A Summary Report & Recommendation to the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech. This Document was signed in behalf of the UN by H.E. Adama Dieng Under-Secretary-General Special Adviser of UN Secretary-General on Genocide Prevention and in behalf of committees of experts by Dr. Liviu Olteanu.
- **3-7 April 2019, Jerusalem and Rehovot, Israel. Meeting with JUDGE DAPHNE BARAK-EREZ at the Supreme Court of Israel,** former Israeli Law Professor, talking on “The Common Approach of All Actors on Education for Dignity and Defense of Conscience as a Core Principle for All People”. Meetings with the Rector, Vice-Rector and Dean of Shimon Perez Law School **Dr. ASHER MAOZ** and with **MICHAEL KARAYANNI**, the Dean of Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- **20 November 2018, Brussels, European Parliament, High Level Conference of the 70th Anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights.** **Dr. Liviu OLTEANU** who talked with **President Antonio TAJANI, Pier Antonio PANZERI, David MCALLISTER** from the **European Parliament staff, Katarzyna GARDAPKHADZE** from the **OSCE** and other officials, receiving the floor, he highlighted in his speech: “I would like to stress that we need to defend ‘the other’ more that defending ourselves; if we do that, we will defend our own peace, security and our society”. Also Dr. Liviu Olteanu reminded the audience how **Madame ELEANOR ROOSEVELT** – who was the First President of Honorary Committee of the AIDLR, said: “Basic human rights are simple and easily understood: freedom of speech and a free press; freedom of conscience and worship, etc. The immediate test is not only to the extent to which human rights and freedoms have already been achieved, but the direction in which the world is moving.”
- **June 22, 2018: HARVARD Law School, Cambridge US.** At the International Conference organized by Real Colegio Complutense at Harvard, The Harvard Institute for Global Law and Policy, The Harvard Law School Criminal Justice Policy Program, and Harvard Medical School, Columbia University, Dr Olteanu delivered at Harvard Law School the keynote: “*At the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Fostering the Protection of the Fundamental Freedoms Based on Human Dignity*”.
- **May 23, 2018, Geneva, UN PALAIS DES NATIONS.** Invited as a keynote speaker at the Symposium held at the United Nations in Geneva and organized by the **UN Special Rapporteurs on Cultural Rights and Freedom of Religion or Belief**, and Muslims for Progressive Values from New York. Liviu

delivered a keynote on *“Freedom of Religion or Belief, Cultural Rights and Women on Education’s Role for Changing Public Mindset on Women and Girls in the Field of Freedom of Religion or Belief by Coordinating International (Dialogue Five) Actors on Fostering ‘Gender Equality’”*.

- **April 23, 2018, Madrid, III INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE held at University Complutense.** Dr Olteanu organized the III International Conference on *“Fostering Peace! Educators’ s Ways to Stop Discrimination and Extremism that Affect Freedom, Life and Practice of Freedom of Religion and Freedom of Conscience”*. The Conference was co-organized by AIDLR and University Complutense and co-sponsored by Ministry of Foreign of Affairs and Ministry of Justice of Spain. Liviu talked on *“Education Against Violence”*. Also he launched two books: *“Religious Freedom Influence on Peace and Security”* and *“Diplomacy and Education for Religious Freedom, A Priority for Public Policy”*.
- **March 5, 2018, Geneva, UN PALAIS DES NATIONS. During the HRC 37th Session** Liviu organized a side-event where he spoke at the UN Human Rights Council on *“Religious Freedom’s Influence on Peace and Security”*. The event was co-sponsored by the UN Permanent Missions of Colombia and Spain. Guests speakers have been: H.E. Dr. Ahmed Shaheed Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief; H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Salama, Head Chief, Huma Rights Treaties Branch Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights; H.E. Ambassador Belen Alfaro, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain; Dr. Cole Durham, Law Professor at Brigham Young University; Dr. Bruno Vertallier former President of AIDLR; Ms Diane Alai, Representative to the UN, Baha’i International Community. Moderator was H.E. Ambassador Beatriz Londono Soto, Mission of Colombia.
- **February 27, 2018, Brussels European Parliament, TV CHANNEL TALK-SHOWS.** Liviu moderated two talk-shows of 45 minutes each one. Guests have been: scholars, religions leaders and international actors. The guests of these talk-shows have been: Dr. Asher Maoz, Dean Law School Israel; Dr. Rik Torfs, Rector KU Leuven; Revd Bonnie Evans, Church of England; Imam Razawi UK; Mrg Dr. Elisabeta Kitanovic, Judge Dr. Harald Mueller, Gulnara Akhundova, Head of Global Response Department International Media Support; Hajar AL-Kaddo, Forum of European Muslims Youth and Student; Hans Noot, Human Rights Without Frontiers. The topic debated was on *“Challenges for Freedom of Religion and Conscience in Europe”*. The second talk-show was on *“If do we look Peace, let’s Have a Different Approach: How Religion or Belief Should Empower us to Work for our Common Humanity”*.
- **February 27, 2018, Brussels, INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR.** In behalf of the AIDLR Liviu Olteanu organized at the **European Parliament** in Brussels the International Seminar on *“Challenges for Freedom of Conscience & Religion in Europe and. . . Security”* where he delivered a keynote on the same topic. The Seminar was co-hosted by MEP Hannu Takkula (ALDE) and MEP Csaba Sogor (EPP).
- **19 March 2018, JERUSALEM. The 6th Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism** has been convened at the International Convention Center in Jerusalem. Dr. Liviu Olteanu was invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of

Israel to participate at The Forum for Combating Antisemitism. The international event was focused on the continuing challenge of web antisemitism and cyberhate, the rise of political antisemitism on the far right and far left in Europe and elsewhere, faith leadership as a resource for tolerance. GFCA 2018 was attended by more than 1500 people participating in three days of meetings and discussions, along with senior government ministers from Israel, Europe and Latin American, Jewish organizational leadership, Christian and Muslim leadership, journalists, diplomats, researchers and public figures from around the world. During this Forum Dr. Olteanu had many meetings with policymakers and statemen such as the **Bulgarian President H.E. RUMEN RADEV** and also with the Ministries of Justice participating to Jerusalem and with the Dean of Law School Asher MAOZ The Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism is organized by the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with the Israel Ministry of Diaspora Affairs.

- **September 14, 2017: Rome. Under the Auspices of the ITALIAN PRESIDENCY of G7**, was organized in Rome an International Conference by Consiglio Nazionale Forense on *“Security and Hate Speech”*. Dr Olteanu delivered a keynote at the International Conference organized by CNF Under the Auspices of the Italian Presidency of the G7 focused on: *“Actors’ Education and its Role on Legality, Hate Speech and Security”*.
- **September 19, 2017: Warsaw. Under the Working Session 12 & 13 of the OSCE/ODIHR**, Liviu delivered a keynote on *“A Special Attention to the Protection of Human Rights, Fighting Terrorism, the Right to a Fair Trial and Democratic Law-Making”*.
- **July 14, 2017: New York, United Nations Headquarters. The Honorable Antonio GUTERRES , UN Secretary-General talked with Dr. Liviu Olteanu after his speech delivered at the UN Headquarters.** At that historical event, Dr. Liviu Olteanu delivered a keynote on: *“Modernity and Preventing Incitement to Violence Begins with Acknowledging the Rights, Dignity and Perspectives of Everyone and Treating Others As One Would Like To Be Treated”*. Dr. Liviu Olteanu, the Secretary General of the AIDLR have been invited by **H.E. Adama DIENG, Under-Secretary-General** Office of Genocide Prevention and Responsibility to Protect, the Special Adviser of Secretary-General, to participate and deliver a keynote at the *“Launch of the Plan of Action for Religious Leaders and Actors to Prevent Incitement to Violence that Could Lead to Atrocity Crimes”* that has been chaired by The Honorable Antonio Guterres, the United Nations Secretary-General and hosted in ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters.
- **June 22-23, 2017: Vienna, Austria. At the O.S.C.E./ODIHR Supplementary Human Dimension** on *“Freedom of Religion or Belief: Issues, Opportunities and the Specific Challenges of Combating Anti-Semitism and Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians, Muslims and members of other Religions”*, Dr. Liviu Olteanu delivered the keynote on: *“Three Proposals Addressed to the O.S.C.E.’ Members States as Contribution for Security and Peace on Combatting Anti-Semitism, Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Muslims and Members of Other Religions”*.
- **June 15-17, 2017: Potsdam University, Germany. At the G-20 INTER-FAITH SUMMIT** on *“Religion, Sustainable Development and the Refugee Cri-*

sis”, Dr. Liviu Olteanu was invited and delivered on 16 of June the keynote on: “Dialogue Five Framework for Human Rights, SDGs, Religious Liberty, Peace and Security - How to combat the Shrinking space of civil society”.

- **June 2, 2017: Geneva, Palais des Nations United Nations.** At the 9th International NGO Forum on Economic, Social and Economic Rights of Women, Dr. Liviu Olteanu delivered a keynote address on: “Women for a better world on development, peace and security in the 21st Century”.
- **Abril 3-6, 2017: Brasilia Brazil. Dr Liviu Olteanu was Invited by the Religious Liberty Partnership (RLP)** United States and ANAJURE Brazil as special guest at the meeting with President of Brazil and members of Congress, and where Dr. Olteanu delivered a keynote on: “Multiculturalism, Secularism, Security and Religious Freedom”.
- **November 23-25, 2016: Geneva, The I GLOBAL SUMMIT on RELIGION, PEACE, SECURITY, Palais des Nations.** Conception and organization of the first Global Summit on Religion, Peace and Security. Entities: The International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty in partnership with the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and Responsibility to Protect, and co-sponsored by the European Union, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Spain and other non-governmental institutions or companies. Among the most prominent participants: H.E. Mr. Adama Dieng, UN Under-Secretary General; Dr. Azza Karam, Senior Adviser on Culture, UN Population Fund; Belén Alfaro Hernández, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain. The Summit is a follow-up of the previous international conferences organized and coordinated by Dr. Liviu Olteanu on academic, diplomatic and logistic levels. See website for more details: [aidlr.org](http://aidlr.org). Dr. Liviu Olteanu prepared the Declaration on the Summit, which included a proposal for the creation of the International Platform on Peace, Security and Religion, as a further step to assure the continuity of this project.
- **August 29 to September 2, 2016: Beijing G-20 Interfaith Summit.** Keynote speech delivered in Beijing by the AIDLR Secretary General on “International Trends on Human Rights and Religious Liberty”
- **September, 5-9, 2016: Sevilla, Spain.** Organization of the Training Seminar on Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for European leaders.
- **May 12-13, 2016: The Second International Conference in Madrid on “Freedom, Religion, and Security in the Context of International Insecurity. Security by Education on Prevention against Violence, Terrorism and Genocide in the Name of Religion – Developing a Holistic Framework”**, organized by Dr. Liviu Olteanu at Complutense University of Madrid, Law School, with the collaboration of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Spain, and the participation of H.E. Mr. Adama Dieng, UN Under-Secretary General, Special Adviser on Prevention of Genocide; **H.E. Dr. Katrina Lantos Swett, United States Commission International Religious Freedom USCIRF**; Dr. Kishan Manocha, Senior Adviser on Freedom of Religion and Belief, Human Rights OSCE/ODIHR; **H.E. Rafael Catala Polo, Minister of Justice of Spain**; as well as many other prominent figures on the international and national arena.

- **December 10, 2015: European Parliament, Brussels Belgium.** Keynote speech delivered by Dr Liviu Olteanu at the European Parliament, on “**Religion, Security and Human Rights**”, together with **Dr Heiner Bielefeldt – the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion at the UN**, Dr Kishan Manocha Senior Adviser on Freedom of Religion and Belief at the OSCE-ODIHR, and Dr Cole Durham – Director of the International Center for Law and Religious Studies US.
- **November 19, 2015: Romanian Parliament, Bucharest.** Keynote speech delivered by Dr. Liviu Olteanu at the international conference organized by the Romanian Parliamentary Commission on Justice and the “Conscience and Liberty” Association.
- **November 16-18, 2015: participant at the G-20 Interfaith Summit on Religion, Harmony and Sustainable Development, Istanbul, Turkey, 2015.**
- **September 18-20, 2015: International Conference organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy.** Keynote speech on “Human rights and freedom of religion in today’s world. Some proposals on global trends and attitudes”.
- **September 2014, BAKU, Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan,** “Intercultural dialogue: interaction between culture and religion”. Baku, Azerbaijan. Liviu Olteanu has been invited as a keynote speaker, and talked on “Human rights and religious liberty”.
- **June 2014, PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA. During the 26th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (OHCHR)** a Side-Event was organized by Dr. Liviu Olteanu and co-sponsored by the missions of Canada, Norway, Uruguay, Spain and the Council of Europe to the United Nations in Geneva. Liviu launched during the event held at the United Nations the book: “Conscience and Liberty - Worldwide Human Rights and Religious Liberty”.
- **January 17-18, 2014: Organizing and coordinating (also a keynote speaker at) the First International Conference in Madrid,** on “Human Rights, Religious Liberty and Religious Minorities in the World: A new balance or new challenges for the freedom of religion”, followed by a classical concert “Ambassadors of Liberty, Hope and Peace”.
- **November 2013: Two Oral Statements submitted to the UN Human Right Council,** Forum on Religious Minorities, hosted in Geneva on religious liberty and religious minorities.
- **June-November 2013: Author and coordinator of the multidisciplinary and multi-institutional project “Dialog five framework”:** Governmental - Diplomatic - Religious - Academic - Civil Society/NGOs representatives of AIDLR on “Human Rights, Religious Liberty and Religious Minorities”.
- **September 2-3, 2013, YEREVAN, The Rencontre 2013 du « Conseil de L’ Europe sur la dimension religieuse du dialogue interculturel: Liberte de religion dans le monde d’aujourd’hui - defis et garanties ».** Dr. Liviu

Olteanu being invited as international expert on human rights, has delivered a keynote speech in YEREVAN as a special guest of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia. The international conference has been organized by the Council of Europe, Committee of Ministers and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, M. Edward Nalbandian, (Armenia as the presidency of COE).

- **13-18 June 2013: Co-organizer of the Conference on Religious Liberty.** Held in Brasov and Bucharest, Romania, in partnership with the “Conscience and Liberty” Association.
- **Summer sessions, 2007 to 2011: Conferences on Human Rights for leaders,** as well as coordinating humanitarian projects **in Uganda**

## **PUBLICATIONS, STUDIES, ARTICLES & DOCUMENTS**

- **Book: DIGNITY, RIGHTS, JUSTICE. Building Bridges, Fostering Inclusivity and Countering Hate Speech to Enhance the Protection of Religious Minorities, Refugees and Migrants.** The book was coordinated and edited by Dr. Liviu Olteanu and was based on the Second Global Summit on Religion, Peace and Security, co-organized by the UN Office of Genocide Prevention and the AIDLR, and held at the UN Palais des Nations in Geneva. Bern, Switzerland, 2020.
- **Article: “Let be Those Ambassadors that Make A Stance for the Other”.** Published in the book: Dignity, Rights, Justice, edited by Liviu Olteanu and published in Bern in 2020.
- **Research (published in the book): “At the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of United Nations: Fostering the Protection of the Fundamental Freedoms Based on Human Dignity”**, with an introduction to a Case Study on Human Dignity and Rule of Law in Romania. The study of Dr. Olteanu, later published in the book coordinated by Dr. Jose Maria PUYOL Montero: “New Challenges for law: Studies on the dignity of human life”, delivered at Harvard Law School by international scholars. Published by Tirant Lo Blanch, Valencia 2020.
- **UN Document: ROADMAP TO IMPLEMENTATION – A SUMMARY REPORT & RECOMMENDATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS PLAN OF ACTION ON HATE SPEECH.** Coordinated and edited by Dr. Liviu Olteanu and co-signed by H.E. Adama Dieng and Liviu Olteanu. November 2019, Geneva, Brussels, New York.
- **Paper delivered by Liviu Olteanu in KYOTO Japan at G-20 Interfaith Forum**, organized for scholars and religious leaders: “Global Compact Based on Human Dignity and Being A Part of Solution, Shaping Together All ‘Dialogue Five’ Actors A Sustainable Future”. 11 June 2019.
- **Paper delivered by Dr. Liviu Olteanu at the G-20 Interfaith Forum, TOKYO, Japan** during the panel “From Vile to Violence: Freedom of Religion and Belief and Peacebuilding: “Addressing root causes of violence linked to religious identities by fostering the protection of the fundamental freedoms based on human dignity. 7 June 2019.
- **Keynote delivered at HARVARD Law School, Cambridge US on: At the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Fostering the Protection of the Fundamental Freedoms Based on Human Dignity** (Cambridge Mass, US June 22, 2018).
- **Research (published in book): “ACTORS’ EDUCATION and its Role on Legality, Hate Speech and Security”.** Published in the book “Security and Hate Speech” Personal Safety and Data Security: Rights in the Age of Social Media”, book edited by Salvatore Sica and Giorgio Codiglione, Societa Editrice Il Mulino, 2018.

- **Keynote** delivered at Palais des Nations on: **Freedom of Religion or Belief, Cultural Rights and Women on Education’s Role for Changing Public Mindset on Women and Girls** in the Field of Freedom of Religion or Belief by Coordinating International (Dialogue Five)‘ Actors on Fostering‘ Gender Equality’ (Geneva, May 23, 2018).
- **Keynote** delivered at the III International Conference organized in Madrid at Complutense University on: **Fostering Peace! Educators’s Ways to Stop Discrimination and Extremism that Affect Freedom, Life and Practice of Freedom of Religion and Freedom of Conscience.** (Madrid, April 23, 2018).
- **Book “Religious Freedom’s Influence on Peace and Security”** coordinated and published by Liviu Olteanu. (Geneva, March 2018).
- **Book “Diplomacy and Education for Religious Freedom, A Priority for Public Policy”** coordinated and published by Liviu Olteanu. (Bern, Switzerland (2018).
- **Keynote** delivered at the European Parliament in Brussels on: **Challenges for Freedom of Conscience & Religion in Europe and... Security.** (Brussels, February 27, 2018).
- **Keynote** delivered Under the Auspices of the G7 at the International Conference organized in Rome, on: **“Actors’ Education and its Role on Legality, Hate Speech and Security”.** (Warsaw, September 2017).
- **Keynote** delivered at the OSCE on: **“A Special Attention to the Protection of Human Rights, Fighting Terrorism, the Right to a Fair Trial and Democratic Law-Making”.** (Warsaw, September 2017).
- **Keynote** delivered at the UN Headquarters on: **“Modernity and preventing incitement to violence begins with acknowledging the rights, dignity and perspectives of everyone and treating others as one would like to be treated”** (New York, July 14, 2017)
- **Keynote** delivered at the O.S.C.E on **“Three Proposals Addressed to the OSCE’ Members States as Contribution for Security and Peace on Combatting Anti-Semitism, Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians, Muslims and Members of Other Religions”** (Vienna, June 22-23, 2017)
- **Keynote** delivered at **Potsdam University, Germany,** on: **“Dialogue Five Framework’ for Human Rights, SDGs, Religious Liberty, Peace and Security - How to combat the Shrinking space of civil society”** (at G-20 Interfaith Summit, June 15-17, 2017)
- **Keynote** delivered at the Palais des Nations United Nations on: **“Women for a Better World on Development, Peace and Security in the 21st Century”** (Geneva, June 2, 2017)
- **Keynote** delivered on **“Multiculturalism, Secularism, Security and Religious Freedom” at Religious Liberty Partnership, Brasilia, Brazil”** (April 2017)



- **Written Statement - A/HRC/34/NGO/42 - “Declaration and Concluding remarks on “Global Summit Religion, Peace and Security” How to foster better understanding between civilizations, cultures and religions, for the purpose to enhancing peace, security and human rights.** Declaration on Global Summit prepared and submitted by Dr. Liviu Olteanu on behalf of the AIDLR at the United Nations General Assembly, Human Rights Council, 34th Session, agenda item 3 (February 22, 2017).
- **Book: Se souvenir du passé. 70 anniversaire de l’ Association Internationale pour la Defense de la Liberte Religieuse 1946-2016** (book - December 2016 - January 2017)
- **Founded the JOURNAL: Ambassadors for Liberty, Hope and Peace** - journal for diplomats, statesmen, religious leaders, and scholars (September 2016).
- **Book: Agents and Ambassadors for Peace.** Protecting Freedom of Religion and Freedom of Expression against Violence in the Name of Religion. Published in English, French, and German (book - 2015).
- **O.S.C.E. Warsaw Poland, Official Documents: HDIM. NGO/0376** from 30 September 2015, Conference Meeting Document submitted by Dr Liviu Olteanu on behalf of the AIDLR on: **“Challenges & Statesmen Attitudes? – Let us look to solutions”**.
- **Research: Origins and Horizons of the Struggle for Religious Liberty. The United Nations and Diplomacy in Action for the Protection of Freedom of Religion** (Ph. D. Dissertation, 860 pages, 2015).
- **Written Statement - A/HRC/28/NGO/164** submitted by Dr. Liviu Olteanu at United Nations General Assembly Human Rights Council (HRC) Session 28th, on: **“United for liberty, peace & security and against violence & terrorism in the name of religion”** (March, 2015).
- **Book: History of Liberty and Respect for Differences**, focused on Great Masters of Humankind on Liberty and Liberty of Conscience and Religion. Coordinator and editor. Issued in English, French, and German. Bern Switzerland (December 2014).
- **Book: After the Edict of Milan - Human Rights and Religious Liberty: A new balance or new challenges.** Conscience and Liberty, Nr. 74, Bern, Switzerland. (article - 2014).
- **Research: What colour is the Spirituality?** – University of Transylvania, Brasov. Published by Universitara (article - 2014).
- **Book: Worldwide Human Rights and Religious Liberty** (book - 2014).
- **O.S.C.E. HDIM Warsaw Poland, Official Documents O.S.C.E. HDIM NGO/0392/14** submitted by Liviu Olteanu, on: **“Freedom of thinking, conscience and religion - Challenges and Perspectives.** Appeal to release Adventist pastor abducted during church service in East Ukraine”, working session 14 (October 1st, 2014).

- **Written Statement - A/HRC/27/NGO/26** submitted by Liviu Olteanu at United Nations HRC Session 27th on: **“United Nations and international community to act immediately and decisively by coordinated response to provide protection** against the persecution of Christians and other minorities in Iraq and Syria, which are being perpetrated by the Islamic State” (September, 2014).
- **O.S.C.E. - Official Documents: OSCE HDIM. NGO/0314/14** from September 30, 2014. Conference Meeting Document submitted by Mr. Liviu Olteanu, Secretary General of the AIDLR on: “Urgent Appeal - Let’s work for no more intolerance, discrimination and persecution in O.S.C.E region and worldwide”, working session 13 (September, 2014).
- **Written Statement - A/HRC/25/NGO/121** submitted at United Nations HRC Session 25th, by Mr. Liviu Olteanu on behalf of the International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty on: “Religious Liberty and Religious Minorities - ‘Dialog five’-Developing a holistic framework” (March, 2014)
- **Article: Values education and the role of religion in promoting a culture of peace in the 21st century**, Conscience and Liberty, Nr. 73, Bern Switzerland. (Article - 2013)
- **Book: Worldwide Human Rights and Religious Liberty – A New Equilibrium or New Challenges** on the anniversary of 1700 years since the Edict of Milan (313-2013). Coordinated and edited by Dr. Liviu Olteanu, along with articles belonging to ambassadors to the UN and international experts as H.E. Laura Dupuy, H.E. Petre Dumitriu, professor Heiner Bielefeldt, or Mary Robinson, Bern Switzerland - 2013.
- **Article: Human Rights and Universality: A Necessary and Continuous Relationship**, Conscience and Liberty (article - October 2012).
- **Research: A Key Triangle in the International Law: Freedom, Security, and Dignity**. Their Confluences in the International Context. (International Study Society, Rey Juan Carlos University (study - 2010).
- **Article: The Role of Values Education: Moral Values and Conflictive Multiculturalism**. (Association for the Defense of Religious Freedom, article - 2009).
- **Article: “Education and religious freedom” and “Education subjected to values and dignity”**. (Complutense University of Madrid, article - 2007).

## **RECOGNITION - SOME REMARKS**

H.E. Mr. Adama Dieng, the Under-Secretary-General, Special Adviser of Secretary-General of the UN on the Prevention of Genocide, underlined in his official letter from December 2016:

*“Dear Liviu, The year 2016 will be remembered as the cornerstone in the cooperation between us and our two institutions (The UN Office on Genocide Prevention*

*and Responsibility to Protect and the International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty (AIDLR)). The Global Summit on “Religion, Peace and Security” was also a turning point in our search for a better world, immune of atrocity crimes, a world which will celebrate the Freedom of religion, a world without any form of discrimination. It is my sincere hope we and our organizations will continue together their Journey for Peace. Once again, allow me to congratulate you for the success of such memorable event (The Global Summit on Religion, Peace and Security) and I look to discuss future plans as a follow-up to the Global Summit and identify other potential areas of cooperation (. . .)”*

**In the interview offered to Dr. Liviu Olteanu in 2019, Adama Dieng said too: I would also encourage Internationale Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty (AIDLR) team to keep up their excellent work and focus now on their work on the engaging with the Dialogue Five platform to implement the recommendations of two Global Summits. A wise man once said that “The price of freedom is eternal vigilance”. I feel that I can speak confidently on this principle because it is one whose breach I faced the consequences of every day in my work at the ICTR. The international catastrophically compromised its duty to prevent mass atrocity and genocide when it failed Rwanda in 1994 and Srebrenica in 1995. And now, I feel it is my duty to remind the international community that the values of the Association internationale pour la defense de la liberte religieuse (AIDLR) embodies and has promoted and advanced require continuing and constant vigilance.**

**The Secretary General of the Council of Europe The Honorable Mr. Thorbjorn Jagland**, after the meeting of Council of Europe co-organized with the Government of Armenia and hosted at Yerevan, wrote to Liviu Olteanu:

*“Dear Secretary General, Your personal contribution to the exchanges, in particular last year in Yerevan, was very much appreciated and I’m confident that this dialogue will be continued both in your Association (AIDLR) and in Council of Europe.”*

**The Former UN Secretary General The Honorable Mr. Ban Ki-moon** wrote:

*“Dear Secretary General Mr. Olteanu, I appreciate your support for the United Nations. I hope your organization will continue to work with the UN for world peace and human rights.”*

According to the **UNESCO’s Letter** sent to Liviu Olteanu:

*“On behalf of Mrs Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, I wish to thank you for the letter that you addressed to the Organization. . . The defense of religious liberty is an integral part of efforts to protect and promote cultural diversity; a central priority for UNESCO. It is an ethical imperative that is inseparable from respect for human dignity and that should be pursued in full conformity with the human rights and fundamental freedoms guaranteed by international law. As you rightly stress in your letter, the creation of an environment of tolerance, mutual respect and understanding, one which guarantees the full enjoyment of the freedom of conscience and religion, requires that all concerned actors and stakeholders work together closely. . .”*

**Dr Heiner Bielefeldt, Former UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief**, after the launch of the “Dialogue Five Framework” by Dr. Liviu Olteanu at International Conference hosted in Madrid in 2014 at the University Complutense wrote:

*“I attach great importance to the design of Madrid Conference - proposed by Dr. Liviu Olteanu as “Dialogue Five Framework - for the systematic consideration to have ‘five’ different actors, different institutions’ presence but also at various levels of Human Rights Institutions”. We have human rights obligations at different levels: national, regional and international and religious beliefs and human rights develop in different directions and can mutually undermine each other. We have the Council of Europe approach, the EU approach, various national approaches, the UN approach. We need coordination: one purpose is to avoid a mutual undermining of the authority of human rights standards and for that reason we have to know one another better. The structure of Madrid Conference was demonstrating how to avoid damage, risky situations or a loss of authority because one institution could be played off against other institutions. The Madrid Conference really sets an example, this is something we have to do, is really something we should copy, it is a good and useful; we should establish that on a regular basis in fact. The project of IADRL /AIDLRL needs developing a consistence holistic framework at various levels, institutions and elements of infrastructure to fit together. (A/HRC/25/NGO/121).”*

**Dr. Ahmed Shaheed, the current UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief** in a recent interview he gave to Dr Liviu Olteanu Secretary General of the AIDLR that published in the book “Diplomacy & Education for Religious Freedom, A Priority for Public Policy” (2018) he underlined:

*“My predecessor Professor Heiner Bielefeldt took full advantage by recommending and stressing initiatives such as the ‘Dialogue Five’ framework created by the AIDLR Secretary General Dr Liviu Olteanu. I very much intent to continue this approach and I believe that without it we will never be able to fully realize the right to freedom of religion or belief. This is why I have encouraged all stakeholders - including states, faith leaders and civil society – to fully engage with (...).*

*It has been my privilege and honor to have this opportunity to discuss the priorities of my mandate and exchange ideas with the distinguished members of the AIDLR, an association that has been more critical to the promotion and realization of the right to freedom of religion or belief that perhaps any other since its founding in 1946. It is no exaggeration to say that without the vision, efforts and persistence of Dr Jean Nussbaum, Eleanor Roosevelt and other members of AIDLR the development of the normative framework related to the protection and promotion of this foundational right would not be where it is today. And that is to say nothing of the critical and exemplary role that AIDLR has played in bridging the gap between civil society and human rights bodies both at the national and international levels, including UN human rights mechanisms such as my mandate.”*

According to **Dr Bruno Vertallier, the Former President of the International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty (AIDLR)**,

*“Liviu Olteanu is a suitable person to work in the field of international rela-*

*tions, especially with the United Nations, because of his personality, academic background, integrity, capacity and competency in public affairs and human rights. At the core of his personality, I recognize moral values in Liviu Olteanu. I would identify them as respect for men of all faiths and beliefs. I recognize in him a strong will for dialog and a search for balance and honesty in the quest for human dignity. (Conscience & Liberty 73/2012, p. 7)."*