



OIC/ICIM-12/2022/DEC/FINAL

Istanbul Declaration

12th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers

(Combating Disinformation and Islamophobia in the Post-Truth Era)

Istanbul, Republic of Türkiye

22 October 2022

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We, the Information Ministers of the OIC Member States, participating in the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Istanbul, Republic of Türkiye, on 22 October 2022;

Welcoming the Resolution No. 76/254 on “International Day to Combat Islamophobia” adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 15 March 2022

Welcoming the Resolution No. 76/227 on “Countering disinformation for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms” adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 24 December 2021;

Being cognizant of the importance of combatting disinformation, which poses a serious threat for our countries and societies in the new digital era, as encapsulated in the theme chosen for the Conference (Combating Disinformation and Islamophobia in Post-Truth Era);

Considering that media and information in all its forms are among the most important tools in shaping the local, regional, and international public;

Underscoring the perils of disinformation as a destructive weapon, which is easy to wield and requires complex measures to counter, targeting the noble religion of Islam and the need to combat this phenomenon and highlight the risks it poses particularly in countries with Muslim communities and minorities;

Recognizing the necessity of raising awareness against disinformation and fake news through social norms;

Affirming the principle of consolidating joint Islamic actions among OIC Member States, especially in the area of media and information, and of its constant support for the Palestinian cause and Al-Quds in international fora;

Recognizing that terrorism has no particular identity and that correlating this term with other identities is a product of disinformation;

Condemning all manifestations of violence, extremism, fanaticism and terrorism which distort the noble messages of human cultures;

Taking into consideration the Final Report of the 12th Islamic Conference of Information Ministers, which aims to promote OIC Member States’ contributions and cooperation in the area of media and information:

1. **Emphasize** the importance of cooperation among Member States in developing necessary mechanisms to fight disinformation and other related challenges of the Post-Truth era, and devising short, medium and long-term strategic processes in the total fight against disinformation.

2. **Recognize** the importance of focusing on specific issues and possible scenarios in the short term, multidimensional crisis communication and management and mechanisms to check the accuracy of information in the medium term, and news content, media literacy and digital media literacy in the long term.
3. **Underscore** the need to combat Islamophobia/hatred against Islam in all its manifestations by presenting the truth about the magnanimous religion of Islam in an effective manner, utilizing new and emerging platforms and technological innovations.
4. **Stress** the crucial role of media in Islamic countries in exposing the Israeli aggression against the Palestinians and **call for** illuminating the legitimate cause of the Palestinian people to end the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories.
5. **Highlight** the importance of international solidarity and assistance to support refugees, people seeking shelter, particularly in the OIC Member States.
6. **Commend** the efforts of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation towards the advancement of the mission of Islam and **promote** dialogue between the Islamic culture and the world's other cultures.
7. **Commend** the constant efforts and initiatives of the OIC Secretary General and his contacts within and outside the Islamic world, contributing thereby to giving the Islamic voice a prominent position in international fora, and **request** that he renders his good offices and fully utilize the capacities of OIC and its organs to coordinate implementation of decisions and recommendations adopted by this Conference towards combating disinformation and Islamophobia in the Post-Truth era.
8. **Call for** a renewed commitment to the noble objectives of the OIC and support for all its initiatives and activities, particularly in the communication and information domains with a view to encouraging unity, solidarity and cooperation in the Islamic World.
9. **Call for** Media outlets in the Member States to raise global awareness about deliberate acts of destruction and desecration of Islamic cultural and religious heritage in non-Muslim countries, especially in those areas where indigenous Muslim communities were subjected to ethnic cleansing.
10. **Welcome** the progress towards the operationalization of the OIC Media Forum (OMF) and calls upon media entities and institutions in the Member States to join the OMF.
11. **Extend** appreciation to the People and Government of the Republic of Türkiye for their generous hospitality during the 12th Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers.

