

Freedom of Belief

We believe that every human being has an absolute right to believe—or not believe—in any spiritual, religious, philosophical, or political ideas they choose. No person should ever be forced to adopt or profess beliefs they do not truly hold.

Human history shows countless injustices committed through the coercion of belief. We believe it is our responsibility to oppose all efforts to suppress freedom of belief.

Freedom of belief is foundational. Without it, there can be no true freedom of religion, freedom of speech, or freedom of the press.

Although nearly eight billion people live on Earth, we question how many truly enjoy freedom of belief. This right is affirmed in the U.S. Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations in 1948.

Even when we strongly disagree with certain beliefs, we affirm the right of others to hold them. Tolerance is only required when we disagree—and we choose tolerance.