

ARTICLE 17 OF THE TREATY ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



The Union respects and does not prejudice the status under national law of churches and religious associations or communities in the Member States.

The Union equally respects the status under national law of philosophical and non-confessional organisations.

Recognising their identity and their specific contribution, the Union shall maintain an open, transparent and regular dialogue with these churches and organisations.



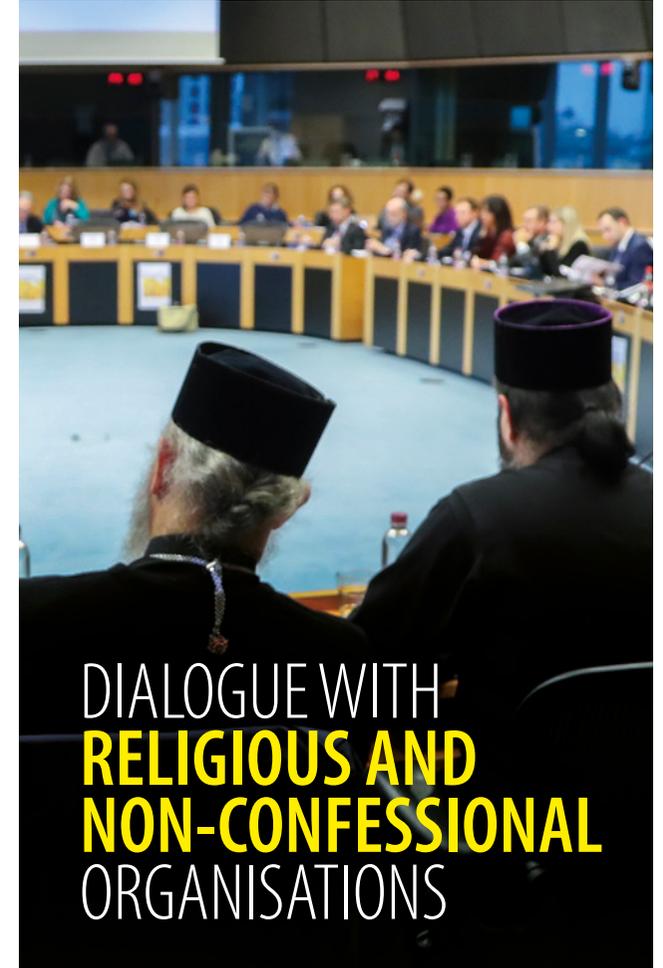
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In today's diverse Europe, many different churches, religions and philosophical organisations make an important contribution to society. The European Union institutions are committed to an open dialogue with these religious and non-confessional organisations. The European Parliament actively engages with them on EU policies.

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ART 17 TFEU



DIALOGUE WITH
**RELIGIOUS AND
NON-CONFESSIONAL**
ORGANISATIONS

ART 17 TFEU

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#Religiousdialogue #Art17Dialogue



ARTICLE 17 of the **Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU)** was introduced by the Treaty of Lisbon in December 2009, and provided for the first time a legal basis for an open, transparent and regular dialogue between the EU institutions and churches, religious associations, as well as philosophical and non-confessional organisations.



Organisation

After being elected President in January 2017, Antonio Tajani assigned First Vice-President **Mairead McGuinness** responsibility for implementing Article 17 dialogue.

Vice-President McGuinness is assisted in this task by the Bureau secretariat and other relevant Parliament services.

Seminars

Every year, Parliament hosts a series of high-level seminars, open to all dialogue partners, on themes connected to ongoing parliamentary work and debates. The seminars are open to the public, and are webstreamed.



Article 17 dialogue seminar with religious leaders "The Future of Europe" 27 June 2017



Article 17 dialogue seminar with non-confessional leaders "Discrimination and Persecution of Non-Believers around the world" 11 April 2018

Other activities

The Parliament also hosts a series of book and study presentations on topics of interest to Article 17 dialogue partners.

Each year, the Parliament hosts events in cooperation with individual Article 17 dialogue partners. This include a **Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration**.

