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Ecumenical Patriarch from Abu Dhabi: There is no peace in the world, without peace between religions



The Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, on Tuesday referred to the very significant role that religion can play in reinforcing peace around the world, and in promoting respect of human dignity, through a spirit of solidarity and the safeguarding of fundamental rights and freedoms, as he emphasized.

His All Holiness addressed the Human Fraternity Conference in Abu Dhabi, an inter-religious assembly hosted by the International Committee of Human Fraternity, which is based in the Gulf State. This year's conference comes on the first anniversary of the signing, in the same Gulf State, of the Document on Human Fraternity, between the Pope of Rome Francis and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar last February.

In his address, among others, the Ecumenical Patriarch noted "... Never before have we possessed so much scientific knowledge and acted so violently and destructively against nature and our fellow human beings ...The autonomy of science and technology from man's vital needs together with globalization along with scientism and a lack of respect for nature constitute a great danger not only

for a society based on solidarity, but even more for the survival of the life on earth."

He added "…Religions cannot replace politics and do not aim to do so. However, they can inspire civic and political activities, and raise awareness to enhance social cohesion, the protection of creation, sustainable development and the establishment of a culture of fraternity. They can persistently propose solutions that reject war and violence, and fight instead for tolerance and solidarity…there is no peace in the world, without peace between religions, and no peace between religions, without interfaith dialogue."









