HOW CAN INTOLERANCE BE COUNTERED?,

- 1. Laws: Governments are responsible for enforcing human rights laws, for banning and punishing hate crimes and discrimination, as well as for ensuring equal access to dispute settlement.
- 2. Education: Laws are necessary but not sufficient for countering intolerance, greater emphasis needs to be placed on better education.
- 3. Access to information: The most efficient way to limit the influence of hatemongers is to promote press freedom, in order to allow the public to differentiate between facts and opinions.
- 4. Individual awareness: Intolerance breeds intolerance. In order to fight intolerance, we should become aware of the link between our behavior and the vicious cycle of mistrust and violence in society.
- 5. Local solutions: When confronted with an escalation of intolerance around us, we must not wait for governments and institutions to act. We are all part of the solution.



International Day for Tolerance Tuesday, November 16th



"Anger and intolerance are the enemies of correct understanding."

- Mahatma Gandhi

In 1995, for their 50th anniversary, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) member states adopted a Declaration of Principles on Tolerance. This declaration defines Tolerance as, "...respect, acceptance and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human. It is fostered by knowledge, openness, communication, and freedom of thought, conscience and belief. Tolerance is harmony in difference..."

In 1996, the *UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence* was created and rewards significant activities in the scientific, artistic, cultural or communication fields aimed at the promotion of a spirit of tolerance and non-violence. A ceremony and cash prize are awarded every two years on the International Day for Tolerance, November 16th.





