



Indonesia Civil Society Forum 2022
Advancing Inclusive Democracy in Indonesia
Jakarta, 30 - 31 March 2022



Day 1: Plenary Keynote Address and Panel Discussion

Social Inclusion, Diversity and Civil Society

March 30, 2022, 08:45 – 10:45

Participants at the ICSF 2021 noted during the past few years a rise of “uncivil society” and challenges to freedoms of association and expression. Speakers highlighted increasing polarization and religious and ethnic intolerance that risk democratic backsliding. Cyber-bullying, online abuse, and discrimination have become common on social media. Several laws include vague terms such as “defamation” that, when interpreted broadly, risk narrowing freedom of expression and the right to assembly. Participants agreed that emerging new forms of civil society organizations are needed, led by a new generation, and using new forms of communication and social media, while forms of citizen participation need to be revitalized to reflect civil society in the 2020s.

This first day of the ICSF 2022 will focus on “*Social Inclusion, Diversity and Civil Society*” and highlight what civil society can and have done to address issues of increasing intolerance and to promote social inclusion and diversity. Civil society organizations have a crucial role to play representing and promoting the diversity of society, ensuring that the voices of the marginalized are represented in public policy, and that no group of citizens are excluded from human development. Since intolerance often takes place at the community level, the solutions need local. This situation has underlined the important role of local CSOs holding the government to account and promote broad participation and inclusion.

This session on “*The Role of Civil Society in Fighting Intolerance and Exclusion*” will open with two keynote speeches: by Muhadjir Effendy, Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Cultural Affairs, Republic of Indonesia (under confirmation) and by Dwi Rubiyanti Kholifah, Asian Muslim Action Network. The follow-up panel discussion will cover the context and the key issues faced by the Indonesian social inclusion movement, what have been the achievements, the issues and challenges and on potential collaboration in the effort to fight social exclusion from both government and CSO perspectives, featuring prominent civil society activists and government reformers.

Guiding Questions

1. What are Indonesia’s social inclusion values in the 2020s, including religious-based, community-based and local knowledge/wisdom, and what are the norms that can cause social exclusion?
2. What is government doing to promote religious tolerance and pluralism? Background on the proposed Presidential Regulation on Freedom of Religion and Beliefs (*Kebebasan Beragama dan Berkeyakinan*)?
3. From a government perspective, what have been the pros and cons of working with CSOs in fighting intolerance?
4. What have been the achievements and setbacks of CSOs to promote diversity and social inclusions?

5. What can the national and subnational government do to promote diversity and social inclusion.
6. What is the role of public participation in fighting intolerance?
7. Smart practices of women and youth in fighting intolerance.
8. How have recent pressures on freedoms of association and expression affected the social inclusion efforts? What are recent developments in politics and oligarchy that may impact CSO social inclusion work?

Keynote Speech:

Muhadjir Effendy, Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Cultural Affairs, Republic of Indonesia

Dwi Rubiyanti Kholifah, Asian Muslim Action Network

Moderator Plenary Panel Discussion:

Renata Arianingtyas, The Asia Foundation

Panelists:

- Allisa Wahid, GusDurian and PBNU
- Ayu Kartika Dewi, Special Staff Presiden
- Zainal Abidin Bagir, Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies, University of Gadjah Mada
- Pdt. Jacky Manuputty, Secretary-General, Persatuan Gereja Indonesia
- Devi Anggraini, Perempuan AMAN