

**Press Release**

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## Living Together: A Muslim International NGO Takes Action.

The International Association Sufi Alāwiyya\* takes the initiative. It calls on the United Nations General Assembly in New York to create an International Day of Living Together. It is convinced that action must be taken now to ensure that Living Together does not become just words in vain. Last Friday it convened a panel of experts in Paris at the UNESCO House consisting of representatives from states, civil society and local governments.

The [International Association Sufi Alāwiyya](#) is convinced that fear of the other person feeds intolerance. Conversely, a strong culture of [Living Together](#) will help open a path that leads to peace, prosperity and harmony for the human family. It therefore takes the initiative of a first step on this path: [an International day of Living Together](#).

The Honorary President of the Association is none other than [Sheikh Khaled Bentounes](#), spiritual guide of the Sufi Alāwiyya Confraternity. For him: "The International Day of Living Together is a plan of the future for a world to come. The objective of which is to gather together without the need to resemble one another, to gather together as an assembly."

A view shared by the dignitaries of diverse backgrounds gathered [last Friday at UNESCO House](#). The "[Declaration of Paris](#)" emerged from this workshop. It calls on the United Nations General Assembly in New York to put an "[International Day of Living Together](#)" on its Agenda.

The objective is ambitious. The aim is to develop individual and collective initiatives, with a view, in particular, to early management of the factors leading to radicalization and violence. The International Association Sufi Alāwiyya relies on education, art, culture, science, communication, spirituality and the reduction of inequalities between men and women in order to establish an authentic [Culture of PEACE](#).

The International Association Sufi Alāwiyya has created an informal network "[Synergy 17 ODD](#)" which has already received the support of an NGO having "special consultative status" with ECOSOC of the United Nations and that of a member State of the UN.

It calls on other NGOs and member States to join the "[Synergy 17 ODD](#)" network.

\* The International Association Sufi Alāwiyya, AISA International NGO is recognized by the UN as having "special consultative status" with ECOSOC.