

2015 EAST ASIA SUMMIT DECLARATION ON THE GLOBAL MOVEMENT OF MODERATES

Adopted in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 22 November 2015

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia, the People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States of America on the occasion of the 10th East Asia Summit (EAS) held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia,

UNDERLINING our common vision of the EAS as a Leaders-led forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic, political and economic issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability and prosperity,

WELCOMING the ASEAN Leaders' adoption of the Langkawi Declaration on the Global Movement of Moderates at the 26th ASEAN Summit in April 2015, further reinforcing moderation as an ASEAN value,

RECALLING the 2011 Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations which calls for the recognition and respect for the diversity of ethnic, religious, cultural traditions and values as well as diversity of views and positions, including by promoting the voices of moderation,

RECALLING FURTHER that during the 7th East Asia Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in 2012 the Leaders welcomed the progress made in the Global Movement of Moderates (GMM),

RECOGNISING that ancient wisdom described *the middle way* and the *golden mean* as a path of moderation,

RECOGNISING FURTHER that moderation guides action which emphasises tolerance, understanding, dialogue, mutual respect and inclusiveness and is a tool to bridge differences and disputes,

COGNISANT that the EAS Member States are ethnically, culturally and religiously diverse and welcoming efforts at the community, national, regional and international levels in promoting cohesion of the multi-racial, multi-religious and multi-cultural community, whose diversity is a source of strength in promoting moderation,

EMPHASISING the important role that the EAS can play in furthering the moderation agenda, which promotes a culture of peace and complements other initiatives, including the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations,

ACKNOWLEDGING that moderation, as a means to promote tolerance and mutual understanding, includes engaging in dialogues on political, economic and socio-cultural issues,

RECOGNISING that moderation is an all-encompassing approach not only in resolving differences and conflicts peacefully but also for ensuring sustainable and inclusive development and equitable growth as well as promoting social harmony and mutual understanding within the country and region,

FURTHER RECOGNISING that moderation is a core value in the pursuit of long-lasting peace and a tool to diffuse tensions and counter violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations,

EMPHASISING that violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, should not be associated with any culture, civilisation or religion and should be neither tolerated nor condoned,

ENCOURAGED that the Global Movement of Moderates has received widespread support from the international community, academic institutions and civil society organisations,

DO HEREBY DECIDE TO:

1. Promote moderation as a universal value that promotes peace, security, development and social justice;
2. Further promote the approach of moderation and uphold the rule of law in the conduct of relations among states, including in the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law;
3. Elaborate a common agenda for peace and prosperity, which promotes political and social stability and inclusive political processes; sustainable growth which provides opportunities for all and upholds dignity; and social justice with emphasis on mutual respect, balance and moderation;
4. Reaffirm our commitment to democratic values, good governance, rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, equitable and inclusive economic growth, tolerance and mutual respect as well as adherence to social justice, which are vital to countering terrorism and violent extremism and addressing their root causes;
5. Empower civil society, community and religious leaders as well as encourage the business sector and the media to promote and strengthen the voices of moderation through inclusive dialogue and awareness raising;
6. Work with regional and international institutions to counter the voices of extremism and encourage academic discourse and exchanges to amplify the voices of moderates;
7. Reaffirm our commitment to promote education as an effective means of instilling respect for life, for diversity and the values of moderation, tolerance, non-violence and mutual understanding towards preventing the spread of violent extremism and addressing its root causes;
8. Organise outreach programmes, inter-faith and cross-cultural dialogues as well as the sharing of best practices on moderation in various formats at the national, regional and international levels, including supporting the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation and the ASEAN Foundation to conduct seminars, workshops and training programmes in promoting the voices of moderation; and
9. Endorse the observance of a Year of Moderation at the United Nations to underscore the importance of moderation.

ADOPTED in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on the 22nd Day of November in the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen.