



Foto: Erlend Sevend

The Council for Religious and Life Stance Communities in Norway

Who?

The Council for Religious and Life Stance Communities in Norway (STL), established in 1996, is an umbrella organisation bringing together sixteen religious and life stance communities:

- The Bahá'í Community of Norway
- The Buddhist Community of Norway
- The Catholic Church in Norway
- The Christian Community
- The Christian Council of Norway
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons)
- The Church of Norway (Lutheran)
- Gurwara Sri Nanak Dev Ji (Sikh)
- The Holistic Community
- The Islamic Council of Norway
- The Jewish Communities in Norway
- The Norwegian Humanist Association
- The Norwegian Hindu Culture Centre
- Sanatan Mandir Sabha, Norway (Hindu)
- The Muslim Dialogue Network
- Ahmadiyya Muslim Yamaat Norway

What?

- ❖ The two main goals of the work of the Council are: to promote equal treatment of religious and life stance communities in Norway (political engagement), and to promote respect and understanding among religious and life stance communities (dialogue).
- ❖ The work of the Council for the promotion of equality focuses on the areas of education (kindergarten, school, university), work place, health institutions (hospitals and homes for the elderly), detention centres, the military and graveyards.
- ❖ The Council is currently engaged on a number of ethical issues such as protection of the environment (Interreligious Rainforest Initiative), biotechnology (particularly in the area reproductive health), aid, gender equality and the issue of sexual harassment within religious communities, and the rights of refugees.

How?

- ❖ In its decision making processes, the Council employs the principle of consensus: the opinion of each of the members has the same weight independently of the size of each community. In the spirit of consensus, regular meetings are held among the members of the Council, its council of members and its board.
- ❖ The Council works in close cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and research institutions.