



## Mission Statement

1. We are forming the Community of Conscience – A Coalition of Mutual Respect as free people of good will. Coming from different religious, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, we want our voice to express unity out of concern for fundamental human and civil rights.
2. Our involvement in the Coalition of Mutual Respect is based on the experience of our own communities and on the values that are our heritage. At the same time, we emphasize the fact that many of these values unite us and make us speak with one voice on matters that are important to us.
3. Our cooperation is based on mutual respect for the identity of the religious, ethnic and cultural communities to which we belong, and on respect for the dignity of every human being, regardless of their ancestry, religion or beliefs.
4. We declare our willingness to take a joint position on issues that we consider important for our communities and for the entire Polish society. This is how we understand our roles and responsibilities as people trusted by the communities we serve and the milieus we come from. This also is how we understand the call to seek what unites us.
5. In our commitment to the Community, each of us is guided by his or her own conscience and acts in accordance with his or her own convictions while respecting the beliefs of those with whom we co-create this Community.
6. Our goal is to counter hateful acts and hate speech which we continue to face in various spheres of social life, and to support efforts taken to further dialogue, understanding, mutual respect and community-building despite differences. We appeal to all people of good will to be sensitive to other human beings and to respect their dignity. “Otherness” mustn’t exclude, it mustn’t be a reason for humiliation or discrimination. Each person is in some sense different and unique - and deserves our respect and solidarity.
7. Our Community is based on openness and on the principle of equality. Among us are both women and men, lay people and clergy. We perform different functions, but each of us in his or her conscience decides to sign on to a common position.
8. By creating this Coalition of Mutual Respect, we want to tell all our fellow citizens that democracy needs conscience. People of conscience - able to choose good and distinguish it from evil – are the most important social capital. To be a person of conscience is to be demanding towards oneself in the first place.

*Imam Rafał Berger, Common Council of Catholics and Muslims, Co-President from the Muslim side*

*Dr. Ewa Józwiak, Evangelical Reformed Church in Poland, President of Synod*

*Rabbi Małgorzata Kordowicz, Jewish Community of Warsaw*

*Prof. Stanisław Krajewski, Polish Council of Christians and Jews, Jewish Co-Chair*

*Mufti Tomasz Miśkiewicz, Muslim Mufti in the Republic of Poland*

*Zbigniew Nosowski, Polish Council of Christians and Jews, Christian Co-Chair*

*Rev. Prof. Henryk Paprocki, Orthodox Christian Faculty, University of Białystok*

*Dr. Sebastian Rejak, Acting Director, AIC Central Europe*

*Bp. Jerzy Samiec, Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland*

*Rabbi Michael Schudrich, Chief Rabbi of the Republic of Poland*

*Prof. Agata Skowron-Nalborczyk, Common Council of Catholics and Muslims, Co-President from the Catholic side*

*Rev. Prof. Andrzej Szostek, President, the Catholic University of Lublin (1998-2004)*