

## **Pokja Inclusive Religious Education / Costly Tolerance 2023**

### *Quran and Holy Bible Website Development and dialogue groups*

A complete text of Bible and Qur'an in Dutch was made available by Marlies ter Borg and the website was for some time online. Unfortunately, she withdrew her permission to use it because she wanted to cooperate with another party. Since the consortium had already made costs and the pokja did not want to apply for more money to start a translation all over again, in the Netherlands the pokja decided to approach some theologians and requested to come up with another concept and write parallel texts using Bible and Quran with explanations and questions for the dialogue groups. We reached an agreement with the Catholic Bible Foundation in The Netherlands for using its bible translation. We found a Muslim and a Christian theologian who want to discuss the selected texts. So far, the Muslim theologian has delivered around 10 pages texts. The Christian theologian has received these texts and is writing parallel texts at the moment. Hopefully in February 2024 we will have enough texts to put the website online again.

In the meantime, during the interfaith programme in Jogjakarta we have discussed the website with the members of our pokja from Indonesia. They decided to do the same and we are applying for money for them to produce the texts and to build the website.

The initiation of dialogue groups that we planned has been postponed because the website has been offline. We will start with them as soon as the website is online again.

### *CT/IRE Annual Symposium*

One of the annual agendas of the Pokja CT / IRE is an annual international conference on prevention of radicalization through religious education. In 2023, the conference has taken place on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May. The theme of the conference was 'Religion and citizenship – Addressing educational challenges: Contextual hermeneutics and dialogical competencies as solutions to conflicting dilemmas.'

The conference included 8 speakers who discussed 4 topics across 4 panels, each panel comprising 1 speaker from Indonesia and 1 from the Netherlands. The conference's central theme was elaborated upon in each individual panel.

Drawing from the conference records, the following plan of action and policy recommendations are presented:

1. The imperative to document seminar discussions in a narrative format to facilitate the exchange of experiences within each country as resources and reading materials for religious educators in both Indonesia and the Netherlands.
2. The necessity of periodic events that bring together religious educators from the Netherlands and Indonesia, fostering the exchange of experiences and religious pedagogical practices in multi-faith societies.
3. The significance of reciprocal teacher and student exchanges between both countries, affording educators and students the direct experience of interacting and coexisting with individuals of differing religious beliefs and perspectives.
4. The essential nature of state-endorsed policy support, which in the Indonesian context involves the Ministry of Education and Research overseeing the daily activities of educational institutions where religious educators operate, alongside the Ministry of Religious Affairs' sub-directorate of Islamic Education, which formally organizes religious educators, thereby facilitating the aforementioned recommendations. Corresponding support is likewise crucial for analogous institutions tied to religious educators within Dutch schools.

5. Support for item 4 can be delineated through two avenues: 1.) financial assistance to enable teacher and student mobility for points 2 and 3; 2.) a policy framework enabling the review and potential revision of religious education materials and practices in multi-faith societies, encompassing the proposal outlined in item 1 above.

Link: <https://nicmcr.org/educational-challenges-in-religious-education/>

#### *Short Video Competition 2023*

This activity aimed to encourage the participation of students from all over Indonesia in expressing their views on themes related to tolerance, humanity, and democracy through video medium. Through this activity we wanted to promote these values and enhance students' understanding of the importance of respecting differences, advocating for human rights, and actively participating in the democratic process.

The main theme of this activity is "Tolerance, Humanity, and Democracy". Participants were expected to address issues related to these values, such as respecting differences, rejecting discrimination, social justice, active involvement in the democratic process, and the protection of human rights. Participants were encouraged to provide a creative, innovative, and inspiring perspective through the videos they create.

The competition has taken place in October and ended in November. The best 5 had received prizes. Link: [Short Video Competition 2023 – NICMCR](#)

The videos of the winners can be watched via the following link:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/184ihGK\\_jGroEnAKaiOSsb0tRa1N\\_VdJj](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/184ihGK_jGroEnAKaiOSsb0tRa1N_VdJj)

#### *Contribution to the NICMCR Conference and Interfaith programme in Jogjakarta*

From the Netherlands 4 new people who are interested in the activities of our pokja came to Jogjakarta to join the conference and the interfaith programme. Furthermore, Alper Alasag presented a paper in the conference.

#### *Presentation at AGPAIL*

On 8<sup>th</sup> of June Alper Alasag gave a speech on Pancasila from Islamic point of view.