

Ethics Charter Template

Purpose

The Ethics Charter Template is designed to assist facilitators in creating a shared ethics charter that formalizes the values, principles, and commitments emerging from interfaith and inter-spiritual dialogues within the Religious & Spiritual Dialogue Framework. It ensures that charters are inclusive, culturally sensitive, and actionable, reflecting diverse spiritual, religious, and ethical perspectives while fostering collaboration, accountability, conflict resolution, and long-term sustainability at global, regional, or local levels, in alignment with the framework's principles of inclusivity, respect, equity, collaboration, and knowledge integration.

Intended Audience

- Facilitators leading global summits, regional workshops, or local dialogue circles
- Community leaders, spiritual practitioners, and advocates formalizing dialogue outcomes
- Regional Hubs and the Global Council for Religious & Spiritual Dialogue (GCRSD) promoting ethical governance

Core Principles

This template aligns with the framework's five core principles:

1. **Inclusivity:** Ensuring the charter reflects diverse traditions and prioritizes marginalized voices.
2. **Respect:** Honoring the sacred values and cultural boundaries of all participants.
3. **Equity:** Addressing systemic inequalities through ethical commitments.
4. **Collaboration:** Co-creating charters with stakeholder input for shared ownership.
5. **Knowledge Integration:** Embedding spiritual and cultural wisdom into ethical principles.

Template Overview

The Ethics Charter Template includes:

- **Preamble:** Sets the context and purpose of the charter.
- **Shared Values:** Outlines core ethical principles from the dialogue.
- **Commitments:** Details actionable pledges and responsibilities.
- **Implementation Plan:** Specifies timelines, roles, and monitoring mechanisms.
- **Conflict Resolution:** Guides signatories in addressing implementation disputes.
- **Signatures and Consent:** Ensures stakeholder agreement and ethical use.
- **Renewal Process:** Outlines steps for charter evolution and sustainability.
- **Customization Guidelines:** Adapts the charter to regional and cultural contexts.

Ethics Charter Template

1. Preamble

Purpose: Introduces the dialogue, its participants, and the charter’s purpose.

Template:

Ethics Charter

Dialogue Title: [Insert Title, e.g., Pacific Islands Dialogue on Climate Change]

Date: [Insert Date, e.g., May 19, 2025]

Location: [Insert Location, e.g., Hybrid – Fiji & Virtual]

We, the participants of the [Insert Dialogue Title], representing [Insert Stakeholders],

This charter reflects our collective wisdom, rooted in [Insert Values, e.g., respect, equity, and sustainability].

Customization Notes:

- Include a land acknowledgment for in-person dialogues (e.g., “Held on Fijian lands”).
- Tailor context to regional priorities (e.g., peacebuilding in conflict zones).

2. Shared Values

Purpose: Articulates the core ethical principles derived from the dialogue.

Template:

Shared Values

We affirm the following principles, drawn from our diverse traditions

1. [Insert Value, e.g., Stewardship]: We honor our responsibility to
2. [Insert Value, e.g., Equity]: We prioritize [Insert Focus, e.g., ma
3. [Insert Value, e.g., Collaboration]: We commit to [Insert Focus, e

These values were identified using the [Cross-Tradition Values Mapping

Customization Notes:

- Use culturally resonant terms (e.g., “ubuntu” in African contexts, “dharma” in South Asian settings).
- Ensure marginalized traditions are represented (e.g., Indigenous, non-theistic).

3. Commitments

Purpose: Outlines actionable pledges and responsibilities to enact the shared values.

Template:

Commitments

We pledge to uphold our shared values through the following actions:

1. [Insert Commitment, e.g., Advocate for Policy]: We will [Insert Ac
2. [Insert Commitment, e.g., Community Action]: We will [Insert Action
3. [Insert Commitment, e.g., Education]: We will [Insert Action, e.g.,

These commitments align with the [Wisdom Documentation Templates](/fra

Customization Notes:

- Align commitments with dialogue outcomes (e.g., peace initiatives in Middle Eastern contexts).
- Include roles for youth and marginalized groups to ensure equity.

4. Implementation Plan

Purpose: Specifies timelines, roles, and monitoring mechanisms for the commitments.

Template:

Implementation Plan

1. Timeline:

- [Insert Milestone, e.g., Policy advocacy campaign launched: July 2024]
- [Insert Milestone, e.g., First clean-up campaign completed: August 2024]
- [Insert Milestone, e.g., Workshop series concluded: December 2024]

2. Roles and Responsibilities:

- [Insert Role, e.g., Interfaith Task Force: Coordinate advocacy, manage dialogue]
- [Insert Role, e.g., Youth Leaders: Manage social media campaign, engage community]
- [Insert Role, e.g., Women's Groups: Deliver workshops, document experiences]

3. Resources:

- [Insert Resource, e.g., Funding from Regional Hub for campaign materials]
- [Insert Resource, e.g., Community venues for workshops]

4. Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Method: [Insert Method, e.g., Track progress via [Representation metrics]]
- Feedback: [Insert Method, e.g., Collect community input via [Digital surveys]]
- Reporting: [Insert Contact, e.g., Submit quarterly updates to community leaders]

Customization Notes:

- Adapt timelines to local governance cycles (e.g., annual festivals in South Asia).
- Use accessible reporting methods (e.g., verbal updates for rural communities).

5. Conflict Resolution

Purpose: Guides signatories in addressing disagreements during charter implementation.

Template:

Conflict Resolution

To ensure respectful and equitable resolution of disputes during implementation:

1. [Insert Process, e.g., Dialogue]: Convene a facilitated dialogue among all parties.
2. [Insert Process, e.g., Mediation]: Engage a neutral mediator, approved by all parties.
3. [Insert Process, e.g., Consensus Review]: Revisit the charter’s values and principles.
4. Contact: [Insert Contact, e.g., Regional Hub mediator, resolution@ethics.org]

Disputes will be approached with cultural sensitivity and trauma-informed practices.

Customization Notes:

- Adapt processes to cultural norms (e.g., elder-led mediation in Indigenous contexts).
- Ensure mediators are trained in trauma sensitivity for sensitive disputes.

6. Signatures and Consent

Purpose: Ensures stakeholder agreement and ethical use of the charter.

Template:

Signatures and Consent

We, the undersigned, affirm our commitment to this Ethics Charter and agree to the following terms:

1. Approved Uses: [Insert Uses, e.g., Public sharing in [Multimedia Resources]]
2. Restrictions: [Insert Restrictions, e.g., No commercial use, no alteration]
3. Duration: [Insert Duration, e.g., Consent valid until May 2027]

Signatories:

- [Insert Name, Role, Tradition, e.g., Elder Kaimana, Polynesian Spirituality]
- [Insert Name, Role, Tradition, e.g., Sarah Patel, Hindu Youth Advocate]
- [Insert Name, Role, Tradition, e.g., Anonymous, Secular Humanist]

Consent Method: [Insert Method, e.g., Written signatures, verbal consent]

Storage: [Insert Storage, e.g., Secure database, per [AI Ethics Guide
Contact for Inquiries: [Insert Contact, e.g., climatedialogue@example

Customization Notes:

- Allow anonymous signatures for sensitive contexts (e.g., conflict zones).
- Use verbal consent for oral traditions, ensuring secure recordings.

7. Renewal Process

Purpose: Outlines steps for reviewing and updating the charter to ensure long-term sustainability.

Template:

Renewal Process

To ensure the charter remains relevant and impactful, we commit to:

1. [Insert Process, e.g., Annual Review]: Convene signatories annually.
2. [Insert Process, e.g., Community Input]: Invite dialogue participants.
3. [Insert Process, e.g., Revision]: Revise the charter via consensus.
4. Timeline: [Insert Timeline, e.g., Review by May 2026, revisions by ...]
5. Contact: [Insert Contact, e.g., Regional Hub, charterrenewal@example]

Revisions will respect the original values and cultural sensitivities.

Customization Notes:

- Adjust review frequency to local needs (e.g., biennial for smaller communities).
- Ensure accessible input methods (e.g., verbal feedback for rural participants).

Customization Guidelines

- **Cultural Sensitivity:**
 - Adapt language and values to local norms (e.g., Islamic concepts of mercy in Middle Eastern contexts, Indigenous reciprocity in North America).

- Example: In a South Asian dialogue, incorporate Jain ahimsa and Sikh seva in the values section.
- **Power Dynamics:**
 - Prioritize contributions from marginalized groups (e.g., Indigenous, women, youth) in values and commitments, per the [Representation Assessment Tool](#).
 - Example: In a Latin American dialogue, center Indigenous voices in land restoration commitments.
- **Accessibility:**
 - Provide the charter in accessible formats (e.g., audio, translations, plain language), per the [Digital Access & Inclusion Audit](#).
 - Example: In an African dialogue, offer Swahili audio charters for rural participants.
- **Youth Engagement:**
 - Include youth in drafting, advocating, and renewing the charter, leveraging their perspectives.
 - Example: In a European dialogue, engage youth to lead social media outreach for the charter.
- **Remote and Rural Engagement:**
 - Use offline methods (e.g., printed charters, radio broadcasts) to share with rural communities.
 - Example: In a Pacific Islands dialogue, distribute printed charters via community leaders.
- **Ethical Considerations:**
 - Obtain informed consent for using sacred wisdom, per the [Cultural Appropriation Prevention Checklist](#).
 - Example: In an Australian dialogue, secure Aboriginal elder consent for Dreamtime references.
- **Trauma Sensitivity:**
 - Handle commitments addressing historical wounds with care, per the [Truth & Reconciliation Toolkit](#).
 - Example: In a Canadian dialogue, frame residential school reconciliation commitments sensitively.

Appendices

- **Sample Ethics Charter:**

Ethics Charter

Dialogue Title: Pacific Islands Dialogue on Climate Resilience

Date: May 19, 2025

Location: Hybrid – Fiji & Virtual

Preamble

We, the participants of the Pacific Islands Dialogue, representing

Shared Values

1. Stewardship: We protect the ocean, inspired by Polynesian navig
2. Equity: We prioritize marginalized island communities, reflecti
3. Collaboration: We act collectively, guided by Indigenous commun

Commitments

1. Policy Advocacy: Promote coastal conservation funding, led by a
2. Community Action: Organize interfaith clean-up campaigns, led b
3. Education: Develop climate ethics workshops, led by women's gro

Implementation Plan

Timeline:

- Advocacy campaign: July 2025
- Clean-up campaign: August 2025
- Workshops concluded: December 2025

Roles:

- Task Force: Coordinate advocacy
- Youth Leaders: Manage #SacredOceans campaign
- Women's Groups: Deliver workshops

Resources: Regional Hub funding, community venues

Monitoring: Via [Representation Metrics Dashboard](/framework/tool

Conflict Resolution

1. Dialogue: Facilitated discussion using [Conflict De-escalation
2. Mediation: Neutral mediator if needed, prioritizing youth and e
3. Consensus Review: Revisit values to resolve disputes.

Contact: resolution@example.org

Signatures and Consent

Approved Uses: Public sharing, advocacy

Restrictions: No commercial use

Signatories:

- Elder Kaimana, Polynesian Spirituality

- Sarah Patel, Hindu Youth Advocate

Consent Method: Written signatures

Storage: Secure database

Contact: climatedialogue@example.org

Renewal Process

1. Annual Review: Assess effectiveness by May 2026.

2. Community Input: Invite new stakeholder feedback.

3. Revision: Update via consensus by July 2026.

Timeline: Review annually

Contact: charterrenewal@example.org

- **Facilitator Checklist:**

- Review dialogue outcomes to draft the charter.
- Co-create values, commitments, and conflict resolution processes with stakeholders.
- Develop an implementation plan with clear roles, timelines, and renewal steps.
- Obtain consent and signatures for ethical use.
- Share, monitor, and renew the charter, refining based on feedback.

- **Resources:**

- [Dialogue Facilitation Guide](#)
- [Representation Assessment Tool](#)
- [Cultural Appropriation Prevention Checklist](#)
- [Conflict De-escalation Protocols](#)
- [Regional Customization Framework](#)
- [Sacred Space Setup Guide](#)
- [Truth & Reconciliation Toolkit](#)
- [Wisdom Documentation Templates](#)
- [Digital Access & Inclusion Audit](#)
- Contact: spiritualdialogue@globalgovernanceframework.org