<p>Hitler’s speech to the German Reich Parliament, March 23, 1933 (excerpts):

<p>. . . The National Government perceives in the two Christian denominations the most important factors for the preservation of our <em>Volk</em>. It will respect any contracts concluded between these churches and the states. . . .

<p>. . . It will be concerned for an upright coexistence between Church and State; the fight against materialistic ideology and for a real <em>Volk</em> community [<em>*Volksgemeinschaft</em>]* serves equally the interests of the German nation and the well-being of our Christian faith …

## <p>The National Government, seeing in Christianity the unshakable foundation of the moral and ethical life of the Volk, attaches utmost importance to the cultivation and maintenance of the friendliest relations with the Holy See . . .

<p>Source: <http://archive.org/details/Hitler_Speeches> and Max Domarus, ed., *Hitler’s Speeches and Proclamations, 1932-1945*, trans. M. Gilbert (1990-1997).</p><br>