

Report of the Workshop on the U.S. State Department's Report on the State of Religious Freedom in the World.

The National Council for Human Rights in Egypt (NCHR) held a roundtable on Sunday, 25 August 2024, at the Diplomatic Club in Cairo, to discuss the U.S. State Department's 2023 International Religious Freedom Report, particularly its section on Egypt.

The event was opened by NCHR President Ambassador Dr. Moushira Khattab, former Grand Mufti Dr. Ali Gomaa, Vice President Dr. Mahmoud Karem, and other council leaders. Participants included religious leaders from Al-Azhar and Egyptian churches, politicians, civil society representatives, and media professionals.

Key Recommendations:

- Support the establishment of a Commission on Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity.
- Integrate values and human rights education into school curricula.
- Resolve the issue of mosque leadership and consider linking imams to Al-Azhar rather than the Ministry of Religious Endowments.
- Include messages of tolerance, cleanliness, and peaceful coexistence in Friday sermons.
- Launch human rights awareness campaigns in rural areas to promote tolerance and respect for diversity.
- Involve civil society in promoting interfaith understanding at the grassroots level.
- Expedite the issuance of the new Personal Status Law for both Muslims and non-Muslims.