UNAOC
United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

ابن رشد
AVERROES
1126 - 2026

رابطة العالم الإسلامي
MUSLIM WORLD LEAGUE

FINAL STATEMENT

of the Event

"The International Year of Ibn Rushd / Averroes: An Opportunity for Reason"

Held in Cooperation Between

The Muslim World League (MWL)

And

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)

Córdoba, Kingdom of Spain
Tuesday, 10 November 2026

The event entitled “The International Year of Ibn Rushd / Averroes: An Opportunity for Reason” was held at the Palacio de Congresos in Córdoba on Tuesday, 10 November 2026, commemorating the 900th anniversary of the birth of the distinguished scholar and Imam Abu al-Walid Muhammad ibn Ahmad ibn Rushd Al-Qurtubi (1126–1198 CE). The event was organized in cooperation between the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the Muslim World League (MWL), with broad participation from international and cultural institutions, a distinguished group of scholars, academics, and intellectuals, and representatives of religious institutions and civil society organizations.

Participants affirmed the distinguished scholarly standing of Imam Ibn Rushd Al-Qurtubi as a prominent figure in Islamic civilization and human thought. He brought together jurisprudence, medicine, astronomy, philosophy, and mathematics, and his encyclopedic legacy contributed to enriching the advancement of knowledge across civilizations. They also emphasized that his scholarly heritage constitutes an integral part of the shared human heritage and an intellectual and knowledge-based bridge between East and West.

Participants highlighted the historical role of Córdoba as a space for interaction among Muslim, Jewish, and Christian scholars, and how its experience stands as a civilizational testament to the possibility of peaceful coexistence, the exchange of knowledge, and constructive interaction among cultures, within an environment that respects differences and provides space for reason, knowledge, and dialogue.

Participants recalled Imam Ibn Rushd’s vision, which brought together sound rational argument and established Sharia principles, affirming that reflection, observation, and experimentation are among the means of attaining wisdom. They noted the growing need to draw inspiration from this vision in a world undergoing unprecedentedly rapid transformations, where polarization, intolerance, and hate speech are on the rise. This calls for upholding the value of reason, promoting a culture of dialogue, and restoring balance between knowledge and values.

They also emphasized the importance of integrating the roles of religious, educational, and media institutions in building environments that foster creativity and responsibility, and in consolidating critical thinking and ethical awareness, while making prudent use of the opportunities offered by modern technologies and mitigating their intellectual, cultural, and social risks.

Participants affirmed that the sound management of human diversity, on the basis of mutual respect and shared values, can transform differences from a source of tension into a source of enrichment and complementarity, thereby contributing to building more cohesive, harmonious, and peaceful societies.

Participants reached the following recommendations:

- **Establishing a permanent global platform** inspired by Ibn Rushd's intellectual and methodological legacy, moving beyond the commemorative nature of this anniversary towards a sustainable institutional framework that provides a regular space for exchanging ideas, launching joint initiatives, and discussing the major intellectual and ethical issues facing humanity.
- **Promoting studies on Imam Ibn Rushd's heritage**, encouraging their translation and publication, and enriching research in this field through scholarly approaches that explore his methodology in addressing issues of reason, religion, knowledge, and civilizational dialogue.
- **Calling for the incorporation of aspects of Ibn Rushd's intellectual and methodological legacy into educational and academic curricula**, and expanding the scope of scholarly exchange and joint research projects between universities and think tanks in the Islamic and Western worlds.
- **Calling for the consolidation of a balanced relationship between reason and faith**, moving beyond rigidity and blind imitation, and promoting critical thinking and the scientific method in religious and educational discourse, in a manner that develops the capacity for questioning, research, and reasoning, and makes reason an instrument of sound understanding without conflicting with established principles and fundamentals.
- **Drawing inspiration from Ibn Rushd's heritage in confronting hate speech, intolerance, and exclusion**, through integrated intellectual, educational, and media approaches that address the roots of these phenomena rather than merely their manifestations, and promote the values of compassion, love, benevolence, and mutual respect among followers of religions and cultures.
- **Strengthening integration among scholarly institutions, think tanks, international organizations, and media outlets**, in a manner that facilitates the exchange of expertise and knowledge, broadens prospects for cooperation, and enhances understanding among peoples.
- **Harnessing digital media and modern technologies to disseminate positive messages**, raise awareness, promote the values of tolerance, coexistence, and moderation, curb polarization, and build trust among societies.
- **Developing effective tools to enhance digital verification skills and critical thinking**, thereby contributing to building a more informed, secure, and responsible knowledge and media environment.
- **Promoting the prudent and responsible use of artificial intelligence**, harnessing its applications to serve humanity, knowledge, and development

within ethical frameworks that safeguard human dignity, respect privacy, mitigate bias, misinformation, and misuse, and ensure that human beings remain at the center of decision-making and responsibility. Participants call upon the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations to develop a guiding code of ethics for artificial intelligence.

- **Developing humanitarian diplomacy and promoting dialogue among civilizations** as two effective avenues for enhancing understanding and cooperation, while broadening participation to include young people, academic communities, and civil society institutions, leading to effective partnerships in addressing shared challenges.
- **Translating the outcomes of this event into practical initiatives and programmes** with clearly defined responsibilities and timeframes, ensuring the sustainability of the initiative's impact and translating its objectives into an ongoing course of action and cooperation.

At the Conclusion of the Event, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations expressed its profound appreciation to His Excellency Sheikh Dr. Mohammed bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa, Secretary-General of the Muslim World League and Chairman of the Organization of Muslim Scholars, commending his efforts in supporting the Organization's mission and developing the partnership and cooperation between it and the MWL. It also expressed its appreciation for his continued and effective contributions to promoting a culture of dialogue, building bridges of understanding among followers of religions and cultures, and strengthening the values of human fraternity and rapprochement among peoples—values that Ibn Rushd upheld throughout his intellectual and scholarly journey.

Participants also expressed their sincere gratitude to the Government of the Kingdom of Spain and the City of Córdoba for hosting the event, and to the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, the Muslim World League, and Espacio Tierra Creativa, as well as all partners, supporters, and those involved in its preparation and organization. They expressed their hope that this event would serve as a starting point for joint action that contributes to building a brighter future of greater understanding and prosperity for all humanity.

Issued in Córdoba, Kingdom of Spain, on Tuesday, 10 November 2026.

ابن رشد

AVERROES

1126 - 2026

UNAOC

United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

رابطة العالم الإسلامي

MUSLIM WORLD LEAGUE