



# Mouvement international de la Réconciliation

## Branche française

### Press release on the occasion of the parliamentary elections

In the name of their Christian faith, the members of our movement, now a century old, have mobilized at various times against wars, colonialism, state racism and anti-Semitism, and to give concrete support, along with many others, to the victims of such violence.

Today, on the eve of the forthcoming parliamentary elections, we wish to reaffirm our commitment to human rights, justice and peace through non-violence, and our opposition to all ideas of racism, rejection of others and hatred. We hope that our fellow citizens will vote to build an inclusive, open and supportive society, and reject policies of exclusion, discrimination and inequality, unworthy of the democratic and social values of our country and our Republic.

We are calling for the preservation and reinforcement of the rule of law, guaranteeing public freedoms, the maintenance and reinforcement of public services (hospitals, schools, police, justice, culture), the protection of the most vulnerable and the poorest, a dignified welcome for migrants, the fight against all forms of discrimination and the violence they engender, an economy focused on the common good and not on the super-profits of a few, and a proactive policy of environmental protection, nuclear phase-out and adaptation to climate change.

We call for the abandonment of the Universal National Service for young people, and an end to the militarization of schools (Ministry of National Education - Ministry of the Armed Forces Protocol, defense and global security classes). We call for the development of genuine education in non-violence and peace in schools (in line with the new UNESCO recommendation on the subject) and the strengthening of Civic Service.

We hope that France will rethink the principles of its security policy, resume a process of respectful dialogue with the Kanak people, find the diplomatic means to allow peace to return with justice in Ukraine, commit itself to peace in Israel-Palestine by recognizing the State of Palestine and working for the security of all the peoples of the region, revises its policy towards African countries to meet the expectations of the continent's peoples for development and democracy, supports UN reform projects, and signs the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

We are delighted by the position taken by the United Protestant Church of France (Epuhf) and by the French Protestant Federation (FPF), and the thousands of Christians who have signed the petition "In the name of our faith, we will vote against the extreme right", drawn up by the Justice et Espérance collective and which we have signed as a movement.

We call on all Christian churches to take a clear stand in the same way, and on Christians to choose to vote in favor of candidates who propose a political project compatible with the values of love and non-violence as we read them in the Gospel.

National Committee of the French branche of the Mouvement international de la Réconciliation/International Fellowship of Reconciliation (MIR/IFOR) June 27, 2024