

SITUATION OF HATE SPEECH AND FoRB VIOLATIONS

Introduction

As of 2025, Indonesia's population is estimated at around 279 million people. Approximately 87% of the population adheres to Islam. Christians comprise around 10%, Hindus about 2%, while Buddhists, Confucianists, and those following Indigenous or animist belief systems make up roughly 2%. Although Indonesia is home to diverse religions and belief systems, only six religions are officially recognised: Islam, Protestant Christianity, Catholic Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism and Confucianism.

Hate Speech Incidents

Bullying of Religious Minority Students

Students adhering to minority faiths experience verbal abuse and discrimination, such as mocking of rituals, religious slurs or humiliation from peers and educators, reflecting broader societal intolerance and efforts to delegitimise non-majority religions.

Inflammatory Public and Online Narratives

Public discourse and social media often contain derogatory narratives framing religious minorities that express grievances against mistreatment as threats to social values and religious harmony. Such rhetoric heightens inter-community hostility and reinforces religious prejudice.

FoRB Violations

Obstruction of Minority Religious Practices

Legal barriers put bureaucratic restrictions that mandate how many religious sites can be built close to one another, while social barriers imposed by religious majoritarian groups obstruct religious building construction, limiting the ability of religious minority communities to build and access places of worship.

Harassment and Criminalisation of Minority Beliefs

Religious minorities face harassment, discrimination and criminalisation under broadly-defined blasphemy and security laws, which authorities can use to punish dissent or non-conformity.