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Recent acts of violence in the Middle East carried out in the name of religion highlight the urgent need for open minded citizens prepared to meet the challenges of our time.

Discussing the protests this week, Tony Blair said:

"One element of resolving this is about a view of religion that is open minded and pluralistic. What you actually require for democracy to function properly is a view of religion in which religion has it place... I believe ultimately those people with the open mind will win". <u>Hear his full interview here</u>.

Our global education programme, <u>Face to Faith</u>, is one way the Foundation tackles misunderstanding and close-mindedness. It builds understanding between different religions and cultures, tackling ignorance, often the root cause of intolerance and conflict.



Students in the United States and Philippines took the challenge to learn more about each other, the day after the anniversary Sept. 11. They took part in an fascinating discussion over videoconference exploring how they feel about their own identity and those of others.

<u>Read more about the student's discussion and videoconference</u> which was attended by representatives of the U.S. Department of Education who praised Face to Faith as an innovative programme with the potential to meet the challenges of the future.

For more information about Face to Faith please contact Leila Walker, Face to Faith Manager at Leila.Walker@tonyblairfaithfoundation.org.

Thank you Stephanie Vogelzang

You can also keep up with <u>Face to Faith online</u> or through Twitter <u>@TonyBlair_TBFF</u> #Face2Faith