



Translating the Unitarian Universalist Principles & Sources

Thank you for volunteering to contribute to this project to make translations of the UUA Principles and Sources into many languages available on the UUA's website so that the Principles of our faith can reach the broader world. We've got a few languages already up and several more in the works; you can see those already published [here](#).

Requirements for Volunteer Translators

Volunteer should:

- Read English at a native or bilingual proficiency
- Write in the language in question at a native or bilingual proficiency
- Have a thorough understanding of and commitment to Unitarian Universalism

About this project

The 7 Principles and 6 Sources were written and adopted by the Unitarian Universalist Association in the United States. They describe Unitarian Universalism in the United States, but not in other countries, as different Unitarian, Universalist, or Unitarian Universalist churches, communities, and other bodies differ culturally and theologically from country to country, and from city to city. Let it be understood that this project to translate the Principles and Sources is an initiative of the UUA and does not claim to represent U/U traditions in any other country. Where possible, on each language's translation webpage we will share a link to allow readers to find information about where further community can be found in countries where that language is spoken.

Process

In order to create translations that are true to the spirit of Unitarian Universalism, and to the languages themselves, a procedure is in place to accept translations from volunteers that are then reviewed in collaboration with the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists.

1. Volunteer sends translated text and additional content (see below) to Allison Hess, UUA International Engagement Associate (ahess@uua.org)
2. Volunteer's translation is sent to the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists; translators from ICUU member groups review the volunteer's translation.
3. Any ICUU comments are sent back to the volunteer, and the final translation is published online.

In the event that a language is not spoken in any countries where ICUU has member groups, the translator will need to confirm that they have a firm grounding in Unitarian Universalism and the target language. Here are some examples of acceptable scenarios:

- Translator is an ordained UU minister who is native in the target language.
- Translator is native in the target language and works closely with an ordained UU minister who is at least intermediately proficient in the target language.

Text to be translated

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The living tradition which we share draws from many sources:

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion and the transforming power of love;
- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
- Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

Additional Content

Titles

The Title of each page will include “Principles in [name of language]” in that language as well as in English – so for example, the French page is titled “Principes en français – Principles in French” and the Menu bar lists a shorter version “Français (French)”

Please send the text that should be used for the Title and for the Menu.

Author

The volunteer translator will be credited as the “author” of the translation page so we will need to create an “author page” for you. Please send a brief bio and photo of yourself. Contact information is not necessary. The bio can be as short or long as you want. (For reference, here’s [Allison’s “author page”](#))

Non-Latin Alphabets

Many languages are written using an alphabet that cannot be easily copied/pasted into a webpage. If you are translating into such a language, please send your translation of the Principles and Sources as a .pdf file, as well as two .jpg files: one of the Principles and one of the Sources. These can just be screenshots of the pdf and should have a white background. The .jpg files will be viewable as images on the page, but unfortunately not readable by a screen-reader.

**For more information, please contact the UUA International Office at
international@uua.org**