

**Press release issued by**

**The Irish Council of Imams on 13/01/2015**

We have been informed by some sources that some Irish media outlets are republishing the offensive cartoons against the Prophet Muhammad.

We would like to state that while we respect the right for freedom of expression, we nevertheless, believe that other people's beliefs and values should also be respected; a value which is protected by Irish law

As an integrated part of Irish society, we would like to state that we highly respect Irish values and we appeal to all the people of Ireland to stand for protection and respect for all religious values and the concept of pluralism.

We do not accept violence as a way to deal with issues and at the same time we do not accept offences.

We appeal to the entire world to live in peace and mutual respect and shun violence.

We pray to God to spread his peace all over the world.

Ends

Sheikh Hussein Halawa

The Chairman of the Irish Council of Imams