

TO: *Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe*

FROM: *Matthew Grech, Co-worker, Core Issues Trust*

TOPIC: *Malta Government's public denial of Ex-Gay minority and viewpoint discrimination in Chapter 567 Affirmation of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression Act.*

DATE: *24 Sep 2019, Working Session 12: 10:00a.m. - 1:00p.m. (Tolerance and non-discrimination 2, including address by the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities):
- Rights of persons belonging to national minorities*

Back in 2011, my church in Malta, called River of Love, organised an event called: "Gay No More, Made New by the Power of Christ". Several individuals from our church experienced real change from unwanted homosexual desires and practices through faith in Jesus Christ and the working of the Holy Spirit. It was our desire to share our inspiring stories with our church family, and to re-affirm our earnest commitment to Christian biblical marriage between one man, and one woman.

Contrary to secular ideology, our church is one among thousands of churches around the world that believe that same-sex attractions are not exclusively inborn, but are rather a result of a combination of biological and environmental factors. Local gay activists found no place to tolerate our freedom of conscience, and a different narrative on human sexuality. As a result, they gathered in front of our church premises to express their utter disapproval. For several years following, our church was publicly slandered by the media, and smudged with a series of false accusations, some of which continue on to this day.

In 2016, a new law was enacted in Malta, called '**Chapter 567 - Affirmation of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression Act**'. Several statements in this law trample fundamental human rights:

- a) The affirmation that all combinations of sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions are to be accepted and celebrated contradicts several worldviews, one of which is the Christian faith as taught in the Holy Bible.
- b) Individuals who experience freedom from homosexual desires and practices are condemned by this law as having undergone harm and deception, and depicted as repressed persons.
- c) The only professional help offered to people in sexual confusion is not only regulated by the government, but seeks to affirm their thoughts and feelings as natural and healthy. This reasoning goes against God's revealed will in the Holy Bible, where believers are told by apostle Paul:

"Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions." - Romans 6:12.

Because of secular humanist morality being legislated, thousands of people are now experiencing further pain, confusion and heartbreak (eg. sex change regrets, unwanted same-sex attractions).

Last year in 2018, I shared my story on X-Factor Malta. I stated that I committed my life to Jesus Christ and moved away from homosexual practice. In response to my claims, my broadcasted interview and audition were pulled from Youtube due to external pressure. Human Rights and Integration Directorate, Silvan Agius, publicly stated on Twitter in February 2019 that "Ex-Gay is a Hoax", and tagged Malta's P.M. (Joseph Muscat), Malta's Minister for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties (Helena Dalli), as well as international LGBT web-sites. The Malta Gay Rights Movement actively threatened people who resist LGBT ideology with police reports, jail time and fines. Helena Dalli also stated that my beliefs and story should not have been aired.

All of the above mentioned have worked persistently to persuade my countrymen that people like myself are hateful and harmful, and that we should not be allowed to express our views - therefore silencing us. A dangerous culture of intimidation has been fostered, resulting in the domination of the LGBT minority over other minorities - now oppressing many Maltese people, and the further persecution of Ex-LGBT persons.

Core Issues Trust requests the participating states of the OSCE, and the ODIHR to:

- 1) Carry out a serious investigation into Chapter 567 in Maltese law, and its violation of freedom of conscience and freedom of expression, with an urgent appeal for it to be revoked.
- 2) To publicly affirm 'Ex-Gay' as a recognized and respected minority that consequently acts as a protector and preserver of the original family as instituted by God in the Holy Bible.
- 3) To work on an ethical framework among European governments that seeks to protect Ex-Gay reality and that leaves no room for authorities to misuse their power against this minority.
- 4) To ensure that all respectable minorities are equally represented in government and to bring an end to minority discrimination and LGBT supremacy.

Now is the time to overthrow political correctness, with the understanding that where legislation is, morality is always expressed and imposed. Such morality is either Godly or secularly humanistic. As a citizen of the Republic of Malta, I urge you fellow European members: let us humble ourselves before God, pray, seek His face and repent from our wicked ways. If we do this, God will heal our nations, and restore righteousness to our communities, in the light of Jesus Christ.

May God bless Europe.