

**OSCE - HDIM 2011**

Session 13 – Combating intolerance and discrimination against Muslims.
(Warsaw, 4 October 2011)

Varsovie, 4 October 2011

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Colleagues,

The fruitful side-event that we just had here about the terrorist attacks in Norway has enabled us to take stock of the shock that we all experienced in the month of July 2011. Our bitterness is even stronger that we had, both through this forum several times announced the danger that came over us. Should we lived such a trauma to explain ourselves? Was it necessary to die to shout our will to live in peace in Europe? Should we still dying by hundreds to explain that this plague will affect all of us? We hope that you will think now to react more vigorously without tolerating any ounce of weakness.

Dear friends, today we are all Norwegian, our hearts were broken in Oslo and Utoya on 22 July. A part of our soul was mowed in this country, which was exemplary in many ways. We congratulate the Norwegian leaders who have shown exemplary restraint in the early hours of the tragedy so as not to refer to Muslims as it is customarily done by some media. We must review the habits that have registered in our reflexes in such circumstances. These are the results of anti-Muslim discourses conveyed through various channels for many years.

That's why, we congratulate on and fully support ODIHR and Lithuanian Chairmanship joined initiative to organize the High Level OSCE Conference on countering intolerance and discriminations against Muslims in public discourse.

We encourage the OSCE Ministerial Council to adopt a decision on countering intolerance and discriminations in public discourse.

We hope the upcoming Irish Chairmanship will follow-up the High Level Conference on countering intolerance and discriminations against Muslims in public discourse by organizing an expert meeting on this issue to develop concrete projects.

We encourage ODIHR to support the upcoming Irish Chairmanship in these efforts in designing and implementing projects countering anti Muslims public discourse including in media and political speech.

Thanks a lot.