



## EUROPEAN RAE LIAN MOVEMENT

International headquarters Non-profit Organisation

27 Holyweel Row  
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England

Website <http://rael.org>

**Contribution of the European Raelian Movement of Religion or Belief  
in the case studies on Freedom of Religion and Belief  
at the Human Dimension Meeting in Warsaw  
in 2014**

My name is Eva PONTY from the International Raelian movement, a new atheist religion, born over 40 years ago, which has members in 90 countries on the five continents. We bring a third hypothesis for the origin of life on earth.

We've been participating in conferences around the world, including OSCE for over ten years to defend our rights as peaceful citizens, however we regret to inform the public that the situation in France, Belgium and Switzerland is increasingly more discriminatory, largely due to the list of 172 minority religions, also called the list of "dangerous sects", which let me remind you has no legal value, but which is regularly evoked in courts, giving people who attack Raelians the tools to win custody battles, Human rights offenses, refusing to rent conference rooms or even give application for a job based on our adherence to the Raelian Movement in these above mentioned countries. All this backed by organizations like the MIVILUDES and UNADFI in France and the CIAOSN in Belgium.

I present 3 new case studies since our last attendance at the OSCE conference:

On December 7th, 2012, the wife of a Raelian Priest had her 4 year old daughter ripped from her arms in a court in Paris in a custody battle with the biological father, and put in a Catholic foster home, where her mother could not speak, see or even have news from her daughter for three days. This extreme measure was justified on the grounds that her daughter was potentially at risk because she lived with a Priest in the Raelian Movement, which figures on the list of 172 minority religions, which the French Parliamentary commission injuriously named "dangerous cults". (Please see verdicts and letter).



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Despite the young girl's pleas to return to her mother and step-father's home, despite no evidence being found against her step-father, the French courts continue to evoke the name of the Raelian Movement in their refusal to let the daughter return to her home for nearly two years.

The courts went so far as to request that the mother divorce the Raelian priest in order to recover her daughter. By not complying with this request, this Chinese born woman had her residence papers in France revoked and a letter addressed to her from the local Police (see letter attached) stating that she should leave the country and had nothing to do in France.

While invoking the interest and safe guard of a child, the justice system, relayed by government organizations like the MIVILUDES in France, have created a terrible human injustice, which is unfortunately not an isolated case.

In 2014, the case of a member of the Raelian Movement in Switzerland, married to a Swiss and living in Switzerland since 2006 was asked to withdraw her request for Swiss nationality by the Federal Office for Migration, based on the grounds of her beliefs. We cite: *"Although no criminal action can be charged against you, the fact remains that the Raelian movement advocates ideas that contradict the values and principles set out in the Federal Constitution, such as support for genocracy, cloning, sexual freedom and sexual education of children based on a sensual education. The fact that you adhere to this ideology is therefore not compatible with the acquisition of Swiss nationality. (...) We therefore advise you to withdraw your application for naturalization without charge."*

Moreover, the authorities invented crimes supposedly committed by members of the Swiss Raelian Movement to justify their refusal, but had to withdraw their accusations when asked to provide proof, which they naturally could not do. Her naturalization was finally admitted as there were no legal grounds to refuse it.

Another illustrative case of discrimination in France took place on April 2, 2013. The Judge of the High Court of Paris acknowledged that a post on the Internet which stated that: "Killing a Raelian is not a crime but a service to the community", was offensive, however it dismissed the case against the author of the statement and the website, on the grounds that the International Raelian Movement had not provided proof of its legal status, and its legal representative had not demonstrated his ability to file a complaint by vote of a general assembly of the association. The Court of Appeal of Paris decided that the plaintiff was inadmissible.



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These have become common standards and procedures in the Courts of law not only in France, but also in Belgium, Switzerland and even Canada, since these countries relay cases and jurisprudence against members of the Raelian Movement, thus refusing to protect our rights as equal citizens.

Indeed, it has become systematic in France for the MIVILUDES, the UNADFI and even the French justice system to refuse basic Human rights to members of the Raelian Movement, purely based on contempt for the Raelian Movement's ideas, which let me remind you prones absolute non-violence, freedom of thought and speech, and absolute responsibility for one's acts and therefore does not impose any religion on a child, who is not of age to choose freely.

Therefore, we ask that government institutions, especially French courts, judge facts in accordance with the Constitution, and no longer **BASED ON CONTEMPT AND SUSPICION**.

There is such a lack of information on the Raelian Movement and other new and aspiring groups that bring people together for personal and spiritual development, that we feel it is our duty to educate people in order that Freedom not be a vain word, only applicable to some and not to others.

The Raelian Movement exists, its sympathizers persist in gathering at seminars and sharing their inner development, which is a life-long process, and will continue to do so because spiritual development and religious sentiment are at the core of Human existence. To refuse this is as ridiculous as trying to stop a baby from walking and growing.

If the MIVILUDES, a government institution financed with French taxes, genuinely aims to protect its citizens, then they should be the first to come meet religious minorities in their gatherings and inform the public of their purpose rather than spread fear and non-founded claims

The Raelian Movement's requests are the following:

1. That the French governments stop financing anti-cult movements with tax payers' money unless they protect the rights of all their citizens and sponsor meetings to support universal understanding.



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2. That the MIVILUDES' and the CIAOSN's (equivalent of MIVILUDES in Belgium) mission become that of reviewing all religious books, including those of major religions, to promote universal Peace and remove passages that incite to hatred.

3. That the legislative arsenal against minority religions, notably the About Picard Law, be replaced by a reminder of the Declaration of Human Rights.

4. That the governments in Europe change the terms « cults » and « sects » in all the new official and administrative documents by less ambiguous terms like « minority religions ».

5. That civil servants (magistrates, police officers, teachers, educators, etc.) no longer be trained to fight and single out members of religious minorities as they do in France within the CAIMADES, a sub-organization of the UNADFI, but rather promote the protection of universal beliefs and thus more tranquil communities.

6. We ask the OSCE to intervene with the National Education Board to encourage French and Belgian universities to create a fully independent body to study each spiritual movement. This body could be composed of sociologists, psychologists, historians, theologians, and other experts in human behavior, lawyers and representatives of each group.

We feel, as Rael, our founder confirms, that the level of violence on the planet demonstrated through the current number of wars, the suicide rate among teenagers across the planet being now 45 per second, the abusive use of drugs and other afflictions demonstrate the need for people on the planet to connect to a deeper dimension and to find inner peace.

The European Raelian Movement thanks this worthy meeting and its members, in hopes that the OSCE will play its full role as mediator.

Thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your attention.

## References:

(1) Letter from the judge

(2) Letter from the Prefecture (French police)

(3) A website in French to inform the public of all the case studies involving the International Raelian Movement: <http://rael-justice.org/osce-2010-vienne-session-travail-libertes-religion->



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(4) The CIAOSN Belgium (Belgian Centre for Information and Advice on Harmful Sectarian Organizations) <http://www.ciaosn.be/>

(5) The list of 172 Dangerous sects : [http://atheisme.free.fr/Religion/Sectes\\_liste.htm](http://atheisme.free.fr/Religion/Sectes_liste.htm)

We can supply a list of municipalities that have motivated their refusal because of this list.