

FEMYSO - Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations

Islamophobia impacts Muslims communities, but also those who are perceived as such. Indeed Sikh or persons with an ethnic background have reported being victims of Islamophobic acts.

To tackle this phenomena of Islamophobia, FEMYSO has been involved in a pan-european project that connects connects and build cooperation of grassroots ngo's. This project is supported by Open society Foundation and the European Commission. The aims of the project are to record and report Islamophobic discrimination and support victims in 8 countries:

UK

France

Belgium

Italy

Hungary

Sweden

Germany

Netherlands

The firsts results of the projects are illustrating worrying trends of Islamophobia. In Belgium, the CCIB (Collective against Islamophobia in Belgium) records an Islamophobic act every 2 days. In France, a report from the CCIF states that 78% of the victims of Islamophobic acts are women. Intersectional discrimination are also to be taken in account when tackling discrimination.

To counter these worrying trends FEMYSO urges:

EU institutions and Member Sates (MS) to officially recognise of Islamophobia and discrimination as being an aggravating circumstances in hate crimes

Member States to adopt national strategies to tackle and address discrimination faced by Muslims.

Member states to collect disaggregated data on gender, ethnicity, religion an belief with the aim to better implement anti-discrimination law and shape policies to undermine disadvantages faces by Muslims.

UE institutions and MS to monitor hate speech in the political, media and social media in order to address them strongly as they create a favourable environment normalising Islamophobic violence and discrimination.

Empower ngo's by supporting them financially to provide training on grassroots organisation, law enforcement bodies and professionals and the victims themselves.

UE institutions and MS to implement and improve EU directives aiming to tackle discrimination (race equality directives, employment framework).

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