

SCHEDULE OF SIDE EVENTS

To take place during the

**HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON
TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION
ASTANA
29 - 30 June 2010**

The Helsinki Document of 1992 (Chapter IV) called for increasing the openness of OSCE activities and expanding the role of NGOs. In particular, in paragraph (15) of Chapter IV the participating States decided to facilitate during OSCE meetings informal discussion meetings between representatives of participating States and of NGOs, and to provide encouragement to NGOs organizing seminars on OSCE-related issues. In line with this decision, NGOs, governments, and other participants are encouraged to organize side meetings on relevant issues of their choice.

HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION
Astana, 29 - 30 June 2010

Schedule of Side Events

Tuesday, 29 June 2010 Side hall 1, 3rd floor	Tuesday, 29 June 2010 Side hall 2, 3rd floor	Tuesday, 29 June 2010 (change of room!!!) Press Briefing Room, 6th floor
<p><i>Time:</i> 12.00 - 14.30</p> <p><i>Title:</i> Situation of LGBT People in Central Asia</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Chair: Beth Fernandez, ILGA Europe Speakers: Ms. Valentina Rogoza, Amulet Kazakhstan Ms. Syinat Sultanalieva, Labrys Kyrgyzstan Ms. Gulnara Kurmanova</p> <p><i>Convenor:</i> ILGA Europe</p>	<p><i>Time:</i> 13.00 - 14.00</p> <p><i>Title:</i> The Impact of Hate Crimes on Victims</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Moderator: Ms. Floriance Hohenberg, Head of TND Department ODIHR Speakers: Ms. Stacy Burdett, Associate Director, Anti-Difamation League Mr. Roland Eissens, General Director, Magenta Foundation</p> <p><i>Convenor:</i> ODIHR</p>	<p><i>Time:</i> 13.15 - 14.30</p> <p><i>Title:</i> ART - Acceptance, Respect and Tolerance Initiative to promote mutual understanding and tolerance (English/Russian translation)</p> <p>Moderators: Hannah Rosenthal, Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, USA Farah Pandith, Special Representative for Muslims Communities, USA</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Speakers: CIVITAS, Bosnia and Herzegovina Public Movement Multinational, Georgia Center for Interethnic Cooperation, Russia Sources of Tolerance and Tolerance Clubs for Teenagers, Ukraine The Thee Faiths Forum, United Kingdom Interfaith Youth Core, USA</p> <p><i>Convenor:</i> USA</p>
Wednesday, 30 June 2010 Side hall 1, 3rd floor	Wednesday, 30 June 2010 Side hall 2, 3rd floor	
<p><i>Time:</i> 12.30 - 14.00</p> <p><i>Title:</i> Freedom of religion or belief in Kazakhstan&Kyrgyzstan Presentation of report and discussions on how to overcome extremism (English/Russian interpretation)</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Moderator: Ed Brown, Norwegian Mission to the Est Introducers: Dutch Representative Kazakh Representative John Kinahan, Forum18 Ninel Fokina, Almaty Law Academy Vera Tkachenko, Legal Policy Centre, Artur Artemyev</p> <p><i>Convenor:</i> Netherlands</p>	<p><i>Time:</i> 12.30 - 14.00</p> <p><i>Title:</i> Combating Discrimination against Muslims and Islamophobia - A Normative Approach</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Moderator: Amb. Ömür Orhun, Adviser and Special Envoy of the OIC SG Introducers: Mr. Doudou Diene, Former Rapporteur of UN on Racism Amb. Adil Akhmetov, PR of the CIO of the OSCE Mr. Bashy Quraishy, Co-ordinator of EMISCO Mr. Bulent Senay, Diyanet Foundation - Netherlands</p> <p><i>Convenor:</i> EMISC - COJEP</p>	



**OSCE HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE ON
TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION**

(Astana, 29 –30 June 2010)

SIDE EVENT ON 30 JUNE WEDNESDAY AT 12.30-14.00

***“COMBATING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MUSLIMS AND
ISLAMOPHOBIA – A NORMATIVE APPROACH”***

ORGANIZED BY EMISCO, CO-SPONSORED BY THE OIC

Room: Atrium Side Hall 2

**Moderator: Ambassador Ömür Orhun,
Adviser and Special Envoy of the Secretary General of the OIC**

**Introducers: M.Doudou Diene
Former Rapporteur of United Nations on Racism 2002-2007**

**Ambassador Adil Akhmetov,
Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE on
Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims**

**Mr. Bashy Quraishy,
Co-ordinator of EMISCO**

**Mr. Bulent Senay
Diyanet Foundation - Netherlands**

(Side event will be conducted in English. Refreshments will be available.)

**Contact: Veysel Filiz (COJEP International
Tel: +336.89.84.52.27
Mail: veyselifiliz@cojep.com**



CONCEPT PAPER

Islamophobia has been defined as ‘fear or suspicion of Muslims and Islam and matters pertaining to them’. As such, Islamophobia is prejudice, intolerance and discrimination against Muslims and Islam.

Academicians have also defined Islamophobia as ‘anti-Muslim or anti-Islamic racism’ and as ‘hostility towards Muslims and Islam’.

It is evident that whatever definition is to be accepted, Islamophobia is an affront to the dignity and human rights of Muslims. It also represents an irrational attitude, based on unfounded fear, prejudice and hostility.

As the British Runnymede Trust had underlined in its well known report on Islamophobia, this phenomenon is an outlook or world view involving an unfounded dread or hatred of Islam and therefore fear and dislike of all Muslims. Islamophobia, according to the same report, also refers to the practice of discriminating against Muslims by excluding them from social, political and economic life.

It is evident that Islamophobia connotes to a social anxiety about Muslims and Islam, one of the three Abrahamic religions. Islamophobes, however, wrongly consider Islam as a political ideology rather than as a religion.

On the other hand, there are academicians, human rights activists and international organizations, like the OSCE itself, which prefer to use the term “intolerance and discrimination against Muslims”, to underline the human rights angle of the problem.

The aim of the side event will be to look to this issue from a normative perspective, reviewing the existing international norms, relevant academic literature and legislation, with an objective of proposing a well-rounded definition to cover all aspects.

EMISCO

(European Muslim Initiative for Social Cohesion)

is a vibrant network of individuals and organizations with the involvement and support of many stakeholders who work and believe that participation of Muslim communities in the societies they live requires new thinking, and extra resources through a very close consultation process. We also know that active participation of minorities is possible through mutual integration, sense of belonging, judicial protection and abiding the law. The network is a non-religious, non-party political and non-governmental body.

Contact : FILIZ Veysel
Tel : +336.89.84.52.27
E-Mail : veysel@cojep.com

EMISCO - 18 rue du Chemin de Fer - 67200 STRASBOURG
Tél. : +333 88 84 49 30 - Fax : +333 88 34 75 94
bashy@mail.dk



OSCE HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE ON TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

(Astana, 29 –30 June 2010)

Side Event organized by
EMISCO, CO-SPONSORED BY THE OIC

**COMBATING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST
MUSLIMS AND ISLAMOPHOBIA
A NORMATIVE APPROACH**

Wednesday, 30th June 2010

12.30 - 14.00

Room: Atrium Side Hall 2

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Programme

Moderator :
Ömür Orhun

Adviser and Special Envoy of the Secretary General of the OIC

Introduction on the Side Event :
Ambassador Adil Akhmetov

**OSCE Chairperson-in-Office's Personal Representative on
Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims**

Keynote Speakers :

M. Bashy Quraishy

Coordinator of EMISCO

M. Kareem Shora

Section Chief of the Community Engagement Section
US Department of Homeland Security

M.Doudou Diene

Former Rapporteur of United Nations on Racism 2002-2007

DISCUSSION

Side event will be conducted in English