



Christian Solidarity Worldwide

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ENGLISH only

Christian Solidarity Worldwide is a human rights charity working on behalf of those persecuted for their Christian beliefs. We also promote religious liberty for all.

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OSCE Conference on Anti-Semitism and on Other Forms of Intolerance Cordoba June 8-9, 2005

RECOMMENDATIONS ON CENTRAL ASIA

CSW asks the OSCE and its member states to urge the Central Asian governments, in particular those of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan,

- **To ensure that their national legislation and practise complies with international guarantees and rights for freedom of religion and belief and prevention of discrimination on the basis of religion and belief.**
- **To permit religious groups to conduct their activities without government interference or harassment.**
- **Where applicable, to take immediate steps to reform restrictive registration laws governing practices of religious groups which prevent religious groups from practising their belief.**
- **To investigate and, where necessary, bring to justice local government and security officials who violate the right to freedom of religion or belief.**

CSW also asks the OSCE to consider ways in which to

- ❑ **Offer to assist the Central Asian national government authorities (particularly Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan) in drafting appropriate legislation, which complies with international rights and guarantees of freedom of religion and belief.**
- ❑ **Encourage OSCE fieldmissions to proactively contact and work with human rights defenders focusing on religious freedom violations and religious leaders in countries where there are religious freedom concerns.**
- ❑ **Provide training to national government authorities and the security officials in international provisions for freedom of religion and belief.**
- ❑ **Assist initiatives which promote better understanding of various religious groups and build relationships between religious leaders from other OSCE memberstates on one hand and Central Asian authorities and religious leaders on the other hand.**

CSW also endorses recommendations made by the European Platform on Religious Intolerance and Discrimination.

For further information please contact Joanna Chellapermal at joanna@csw.org.uk.

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