

Statement presented by Memet Kilic
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We can only fight racism, xenophobia, anti-semitism and islamophobia effectively, if we strengthen the rights of the victimized groups.

To achieve these goals, the following five measures can be enumerated on a non-exclusive basis:

1.) The naturalizations of migrants must be facilitated. There ought not to be inadequately high expectations concerning language skills. The Federal Republic of Germany has for the second time in two years increased the hurdles for naturalization. The figures concerning naturalizations have dropped significantly in the last years. This is the wrong way in terms of integration policy.

2.) The right to vote on in local communities must be granted to all non-Germans, who legally live in Germany for more than three years. In the Federal Republic of Germany, non-EU-citizens who form the majority of migrants, still do not have this right. The political integration of migrants must also have a high level of importance for the OSCE member states.

3.) Family unifications to migrants and also with regard to the new migrant must be facilitated. If the affected persons have to wait more than three months for family unification to happen, this is not acceptable and is a violation of basic human rights. Recently, the states of France and Germany increased the hurdles for family unification inadequately. Such measures deprives migrants from their rights and make them targets of racism, xenophobia and discriminative actions.

4.) The policies of the member states regarding work and staff must be changed in the sense that migrants and their children can adequately participate in the working sector. The member states have to develop policies in this respect, giving migrants the opportunity and fostering their employment in demanding jobs like as police officers, teachers, journalists etc. The member states must present annual statistics concerning the employment of migrants in the state service.

5.) The educational systems of the member states must develop special supportive measures for children of migrants. The OECD report has again invited Germany to take action in this area.

The support of the mother tongues of migrant children is essential for the development of the identities of these children. In a globalized world it is no longer understandable that the skills of the children concerning their mother tongues is rather perceived as a threat.