Intervention by Ronald Eissens, representing Magenta Foundation, during the OCSE HDIM 2009 working session 10 on Tolerance and non-discrimination II (continued), October 5, 2009

Ladies and gentlemen,

Today I am here for the purpose of violating the 11th commandment. The 11th commandment says 'Thou as an NGO should never criticise other NGOs in public'

However, there are times that Civil Society MUST violate the 11th commandment, and whatever its differences, agree to never allow itself to become infested by those who hate others and seek to speak evil.

We should not accept hate in the name of whatever cause, in order not to end up becoming what we criticize: racists, bigots, human rights abuser, planters of the seeds of intolerance.

Sadly, at this HDIM there is an organization that calls itself the Citizens' Movement Pax Europe. This NGO that calls itself a 'European Civil Rights Movement and Human Rights Organisation' is out for war against fellow Citizens, Muslim citizens. To quote from the flyer that they disseminated here at the HDIM, their objectives are to:

repatriate un-employed non-EU Citizens, oppose Turkey as a future EU member because of its 'high reproduction rate and dangerous neighbours', to tighten naturalization requirements for non-EU immigrants and to accept only freedom of worship according to European standards.

They furthermore equate fundamentalist rhetoric with all of Islam, warn for 'not only the terrorists but also for Muslims that focus on the contents of the Koran', 'the Islamization of Europe' and are horrified about the number and height of Mosques in Germany'

Civil Society has a moral obligation to counter organisations that come under the guise of pro democracy movements but are nothing less than hate mongers that are trying to divide us. We have a moral obligation to speak out whenever Civil Society groups engage in any kind of hate or discrimination, be it Hate against Muslims, antisemitism, hate against GLBT groups, against Roma, Christians, or against any other group.

We are not questioning the right of the Citizens' Movement Pax Europe to be here or their right to speak, but we are taking our right to expose them for what they are, in the interest of respectful dialogue and the furthering of tolerance and acceptance amongst the groups in the societies of the OSCE Participating states, and we hope for the support of all of civil society active at this HDIM in firmly turning our backs on parts of us which are plainly Uncivil Society.

Thank you for your attention.