

Sea Jay Foundation

David Petteys

Combatting Racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination

Human Dimension Implementation Meeting

Warsaw Poland, Sept 20, 2018 Session 17

The Sea Jay Foundation recommends that the OSCE participating states re-examine the Commitments that treat xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination as absolutes in light of the understanding that they are not.

One hears a lot about “Combatting xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination” as if they were absolute evils. But realistically, they are human reactions to events and situations that present themselves, not absolutes. We may “tolerate” a visiting relative, but we may be “intolerant” of an employee who is stealing from us. This person may even “suffer discrimination” by getting fired! But in such a case it’s richly deserved.

It may be wrong to be intolerant of a person solely because of religion or skin color. But if an ideologically driven group harms citizens, we retain the right to disapprove. We retain the right to hold them accountable to our laws and to remove them from society if necessary.

No one likes to be attacked or likes the attackers or wants them in their society! Yet these basic human reactions are labeled “intolerance, xenophobia and discrimination”! What an Orwellian absurdity!

Such human reactions are not an irrational “phobias” but rational common sense! To try to criminalize such is to criminalize the instinct for self-preservation! A bad idea!