



## OSCE HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING

### Working Session 8

#### Fundamental Freedoms Including Freedom of Thought, Conscience, Religion or Belief

Warsaw, 13 September 2018

Freedom of thought cannot be synonym of disowning its own belief. There are countless examples where the right to free speech has been used to sow division , hate , or confusion.

The very fundamental rights to belief, worship and assembly are closely linked to cultural policies run by public authorities.

We cannot help but notice that is shameful that we still have to talk about not restricting these rights in the midst of our vision of Law, order and Human Rights.

This is exactly what Muslim individuals and communities in OSCE region are experiencing their relation to Fundamental Rights through intolerant cultural policies and political rhetorics.

What happens online and offline in terms of intolerance, discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes towards Muslim individual and communities is closely linked to our failure in managing public civility.

We expected more focused work on these issues in the OSCE region.

#### **We call upon the participating States to:**

- Reexamine their laws, governmental practices and societal trends to combat the discrimination against Muslim communities and minorities.
- Implement a monitoring on the level of hate speech against Muslim communities especially under the cover of Freedom of Expression.

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