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Human Dimension Implementation Meeting 2012

Wednesday, 3 October 2012

Working Session 14: Tolerance and non-discrimination II

- Prevention and responses to hate crimes in the OSCE area
  - Combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination
- Combating intolerance and discrimination against Muslims.

Dear ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to start my statement primarily thanking to the OSCE for the given opportunity to us to share our ideas and views in an international area. As we know, this meeting we will share our views on tolerance and non-discrimination. **We would like to explain our ideas and points of view on this matter as Academicians, who are located in Dresden, Germany.**

**Dresden, which is a one of the most beautiful cities in Germany, has lived a giant destruction during the Second World War. People are organized events to commemorate this destruction day every year but in recent years these commemorations turns into racist and fascist meeting by the racists and neo-Nazi groups, who took the chance of disclosure of nationalist sentiments. Authorities of the state describe these events as freedom or democracy; nevertheless these marches encourage the xenophobia and racist activities. However, the sensitive and peaceful citizens of Dresden create human chains to try to block these activities and to prevent the city against to those people. Although this prevention is described as lawlessness by the German judgment, the behavior, attitude and effort of German people is a hope for all of us.**



Picture 1. Racist March – (by lautgegennazis.de)



Picture 2. Human chain against to the Racist activities 14.02.2012 (by Adam Taylor)

**In 2009 we have witnessed to the murder of Marwa El'sherbini in German Court, which stays still fresh on our minds.** Marwa El'sherbini was an Egyptian woman and German resident, who lived in Dresden with his family. She was in German Court to defend her right against to the verbal abuse of a one racist person. She was killed during the court in front of her husband and child. In the meantime, instead of catching the killer policeman was shot her husband and he stayed 2 days in coma. This tragedy shows us the point, where xenophobia and Islamophobia are reached in Europe.



Picture 3. Marwa El'sherbini

**On the other hand I want to take the international community's attention to the serial foreigner Crimes in Germany, which is commonly known as Bosphorus Serial Murders. German journalists exposed that there is a deep state behind this crimes in Germany.** This is a very anxiety situation for all of us. German governors stay silent against these findings. But we cannot ignore these problems in Germany. **The questions and organizations behind these serial hate crimes are still waiting solution.** German Government must be determined and clamp down over these illegal organizations courageously.



Picture 4. People who killed by Xenophobia crimes (by trthaber.com)

**Although we are trying to refuse Xenophobia and Islamophobia, some German political parties can use racist slogans and posters like “foreigners out-auslaender raus”. This could be evaluated as freedom by the laws but this type of opinions can find some response and this brings out hates against to the foreigners. For example two weeks ago a German High Court gave a decision that this political party have right to send this type of brochures or flyers with post services. This type of contradictions forces us to the pessimistic ideas about the future of Europe.**

I also want to add our opinions as academicians in another subject. **Germany uses a definite politics under the name of integration against to the foreigners. We are also participating to the main idea of this integration. We believe that the foreigners must be adapted to the German Culture and social life. But this does not mean that they have to lose their own culture and identities. But German Laws are forcing foreigners in this matter. For example 18 years old young people are forced to choose a citizenship. This means German Laws are asking to the people are you German or not? Choose your country! We believe that this causes an identity depression and personality problems over young people. Now I’m asking to you that forcing people to the selection for citizenship isn’t it a forcing to the discrimination? A couple of months ago I was personally exposed to the discrimination by my House Owner Company. I did not stay silent against this injustice and the company had to apologize from me. Although I don’t want to think that the reasons of situation are based on discrimination, they are using unfair conditions against to you obviously.**

**Before our suggestions I want to say couple of on another discrimination subject, which is Visa between European Union and Turkey. Even there is an agreement between countries and court decisions in this subject, some European countries still force the Turkish citizens for Visa, which is a violation of rights of Turkish people.**

#### Suggestion to the German Authorities;

- Clamping down over the illegal organizations courageously and solving the serial hate crimes with all perpetrators.
- Reconsideration of the contents of “INTEGRATION” and prevention of problems, which are based on the legal arrangements.
- Financing and supporting intercultural activities and events.
- Investing to the academically cooperation researches not only for the technology, but also in education and psychology and other sciences. Foundations are very limited for this type of researches.
- Reconsideration of education system and solving the problems of opportunity inequality and discrimination in education.
- To remove Visa obligation for the Turkish citizens.

#### Suggestions to the OSCE;

- OSCE should observe the behavior of German government against to the hate crimes and illegal organizations and also should encourage the German government for combating with these illegal structures.