

OSCE HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING
2012
Warsaw, 3 October 2012

Session 14 - Tolerance and non-discrimination II: Review of the implementation of commitments on promotion of mutual respect and understanding

Thank you Mme Moderator,

The trust of Muslims in the German State is fundamentally distressed. Let me just mention the last two cases in Germany: first the selective killings of Turkish Muslims while the role of the German States Police has not been clarified yet, and second the latest campaign of the Ministry of Interior which stigmatizes Muslims as potential radicals and hence dangerous for the society. These developments encourage Islamophobia and Muslim-hatred in the German society.

The Turkish Community in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region has the following recommendations:

- 1) We are very grateful to OSCE/ODIHR's work on preventing xenophobia and we strongly encourage them to continue with their work. OSCE participating States should work with OSCE, ODIHR and NGOs to work out training programmes for their whole representatives and employees on what xenophobia is, on what that means for their work and on how to prevent it.
- 2) A further necessity is to discuss about laws, prohibiting Muslim-hatred and Islamophobia saying similar to Antisemitism.
- 3) OSCE participating States should support NGO work on hate crimes, and especially on the not yet adequately explored Islamophobia-phenomenon.
- 4) We ask the upcoming Ukrainian presidency to organize a high level conference on Islamophobia. As some NGO representatives in this session asked for definitions for Islamophobia, I'm sure that this high level conference will be in their interest, too.

Finally I believe that mankind is a family, and if some family members suffer, the others of the family have the responsibility to search for solutions to bring this suffering to an end.

Thank you.

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