



BRUSSELS, 1-2 October 2015

Annual Colloquium on Fundamental Rights 2015

"Tolerance and respect: preventing and combating antisemitic and anti-Muslim hatred in Europe"

A steady rise in antisemitic incidents observed in recent years, culminating in fatal terrorist attacks in several EU countries, has added to the mounting fear and security concerns of European Jews. Worrying trends have also been observed with regard to anti-Muslim hatred, with growing evidence of an increase in verbal and physical violence. The two phenomena, different in origins, history, manifestations and impacts, both exemplify a worrisome increase in hate incidents in Europe.

The Colloquium will look at trends and underlying reasons for antisemitic and anti-Muslim incidents in the European Union, their impact on people's lives and rights and will explore ways to counter indifference in society at large. It will explore the most relevant avenues to address these phenomena, and examine to what extent they require specific or common responses. Focus will be placed on projects, policies and legislation designed to combat hate crime, hate speech and discrimination.

This Colloquium meets in the form of a round table which will allow key stakeholders to discuss on an equal footing and in an interactive manner the role of EU and international institutions, Member States, local authorities, civil society, community and religious leaders, the media, education and the world of employment in developing a culture of inclusive tolerance and respect in the European Union.

Each session will be introduced by two keynote statements. Personal testimonies will also be shared and some best practice and concrete avenues presented. The floor will then immediately be opened to the round table participants. To ensure that the diversity of voices around the table can be heard and in order to allow for a lively debate and an open exchange of views, the intervention of each participant will be limited to two minutes.

Meeting venue: Palais d'Egmont, 8 bis Rue des Petits Carmes, Brussels

Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/justice/events/colloquium-fundamental-rights-2015/>

Twitter: [#NoPlace4Hate](https://twitter.com/NoPlace4Hate)

Thursday 1 October 2015

13:00 – 14:15

Registration

14:30 – 15:00

Welcome and introduction: (Salle Europe)

- **Frans Timmermans**, First Vice-President of the European Commission
- **Felix Braz**, Minister of Justice, Luxembourg Presidency of the Council of the EU
- **Claude Moraes**, Chair of the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee, European Parliament

15:00 – 18:30

Afternoon opening plenary session: A fundamental rights based approach of tackling antisemitic and anti-Muslim hatred in Europe: specificities, commonalities and responses. (Salle Europe)

Based on a fundamental rights approach, the opening session will look at how antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred can be addressed through the same legal and policy framework and explore targeted actions to address specificities. The aim of this panel is also to mark the fact that the responsibility of preventing and combatting antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred lies not only with Muslim and Jews, but also and foremost with society at large.

- **Testimony by Mette Bentow (Denmark)**, followed by a discussion on specific challenges linked to antisemitism, including **Moshe Kantor**, President of the European Jewish Congress, **Jane Braden-Golay**, European Union of Jewish Students – EUJS and **Rabbi Albert Guigui**, Chief Rabbi of Brussels

16:00 – 16:30

Coffee break (Atrium Europe)

- **Testimony by Zaynab Ouahabi (Sweden)**, followed by a discussion on specific challenges linked to anti-Muslim hatred, including **Aicha Haddou**, co-founder of the EMRID Network - European Muslim Research on Islamic Development, **Sayed Ali Abbas Razawi**, Joint Secretary of Majlis Ulema-e-Shia Europe and **Imam Yahya Pallavicini**, Imam of the Al-Wahid Mosque in Milan and Vice-President of the Italian Comunità Religiosa Islamica

- General concluding discussion including intervention by **Sarah Isal**, Chair of ENAR, European Network Against Racism

Moderator of the plenary session: **Jacki Davis**

18:30 – 19:30

Networking reception (Galerie des Marbres)

19:30

Dinner (Galerie des Glaces)

- Speech by **Koen Geens**, Minister of Justice, Belgium
- Music performance by **Joëlle Strauss** and **Karim Baggili**

Friday 2 October 2015

MORNING PARALLEL SESSIONS I: TOWARDS AN OPEN AND RESPONSIBLE SOCIETY

8:45 – 10:30

Session I.a: Stepping-up action to prevent and combat antisemitic and anti-Muslim hate crimes (Salle Europe)

This session will look into hate crime more specifically and focus on the enforcement of legislative and policy tools developed by the EU that can contribute to combat this phenomenon in particular by means of criminal law (the Framework Decision on Racism and Xenophobia) as well as by ensuring support to victims of crime (the Victims' Rights Directive). It will also address the phenomenon of radicalisation and the security threats facing the Jewish community.

- Speaker 1: **Mark Gardner**, Community Security Trust, United Kingdom - Director's Spokesperson
- Speaker 2: **Marco Perolini**, Researcher on hate crime, Amnesty International
- Discussion including intervention by: **Gilles de Kerchove**, EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, **Guy Muller**, Centre for Information and Documentation on Israel – CIDI, the Netherlands, **Fatima Doubakil**, Muslim Human Rights Committee – MHRC, Sweden

Moderator: **Jonathan Faull**, European Commission

8:45 – 10:30

Session I.b: The role of local authorities, education and grass-root projects (Salle Arenberg)

This session will look at the role of schools (i.e. education and training, citizenship and human rights education, Holocaust remembrance, teacher-training and exchanges), municipalities (best practices from cities) and local youth NGOs (including non-formal learning through volunteering and participatory projects) to foster diversity, intercultural and interfaith dialogue, mutual understanding and inclusion.

- Speaker 1: **Ilja Sichrovsky**, Secretary General of the Muslim Jewish Conference, Austria
- Speaker 2: **Simone Kukenheim**, Deputy Mayor of Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Discussion including interventions by: **Alice Bah Kuhnke**, Minister for Culture and Democracy – Sweden, **Barry van Driel**, Secretary General of the International Association for Intercultural Education, International Director for Teacher Training and Curriculum Development (Anne Frank House), **Marjan de Groot-Reuvekamp**, President of Euroclio (European Association of History Educators), **Khalissa El Abbadi**, Project Manager at CRVI – Centre Regional de Verviers pour l'intégration, **Merel Hollander**, Platform for Islamic Organisations in Rijnmond - SPIOR, the Netherlands

Moderator: **Robin Sclafani**, Director at CEJI – a Jewish contribution to an inclusive Europe

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee break (Atrium Europe)

MORNING PARALLEL SESSIONS II: TOWARDS AN INCLUSIVE AND RESPECTFUL SOCIETY

11:00 – 12:30

Session II.a: Tackling hate speech in a connected world (Salle Europe)

This session will look into the specific issue of hate speech with a focus on online hate speech. The Internet has become a platform for verbal violence and hatred which is a growing concern and poses specific problems. Recent surveys, such as the Fundamental Rights Agency's 2013 report on Jewish experiences and perceptions of antisemitism and the 2009 first ever EU-wide survey on immigrant and ethnic minority groups', show that the Internet is seen as the main locus of hate speech today. Dealing with online hate speech in the digital age raises several dilemmas linked to the nature of the Internet, the limits of freedom of expression in a democratic society, the liability and responsibility of internet service providers, social and other media, anonymity, and a host of other issues. This session will look at existing tools and possible further avenues to combat hate speech, in particular online. This session will also look at how media literacy can contribute to counter stereotypes and encourage a tolerant and open society.

- Speaker 1: **Ian Buruma**, Journalist and writer
- Speaker 2: **Stephanos Stavros**, Executive Secretary to European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)
- Discussion including interventions by: **Jean-Paul Philippot**, President of the European Broadcasting Union, **Sacha Reingewirtz**, President of the French Union of Jewish Students - UEJF, **Fiyaz Mughal**, Director of Tell MAMA and Faith Matters, United Kingdom, **Audrey Herblin-Stoop**, Head of Public Policy, France, at Twitter, **Siobhan Cummiskey**, Policy Manager EMEA, at Facebook

Moderator: **Shada Islam**, Journalist, writer, Director of Friends of Europe

11:00 – 12:30

Session II.b: Fostering equality legislation and promoting non-discrimination policies (Salle Arenberg)

This session will look at the role of employment in fostering social inclusion and integration, diversity, mutual understanding and non-discrimination, as well as the importance of ensuring equal treatment in social protection, education and in access to goods and services, as proposed by the Commission in the draft Horizontal Equal Treatment Directive. Latest available surveys suggest that discrimination on the grounds of religion has overall increased in Member States. Muslim women are reported by civil society to be particularly at risk of racially motivated discrimination. This session should serve to highlight how key governmental and business stakeholders can decisively contribute to fight against discrimination in employment and beyond by applying existing legislation in everyday life and by embracing diversity charters.

- Speaker 1: **Mansour Zoberi**, Supermarkets Group Casino, Director of promotion of Diversity and Solidarity and President of AFMD, Association Française des Managers de la Diversité
- Speaker 2: **Christine Lüders**, Director of the Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency of Germany
- Discussion including interventions by: **Marianne Thyssen**, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, **Henri Malosse**, President of the European Economic and Social Committee, **Marie-Claire Foblets**, Professor at Max Planck Institute, Chairman of RELIGARE project, **Yasser Louati**, Spokesperson, Head of International Relations, Collectif Contre l'Islamophobie en France – CCIF

Moderator: **Friso Roscam Abbing**, Head of Communications Department, FRA – Fundamental Rights Agency

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12:30 – 13:00

Networking time and finalisation of reports – finger food will be served
(Atrium Europe)

13:00 – 14:00

Plenary concluding session (Salle Europe)

Moderator: **Paraskevi Michou**, European Commission, acting Director-General for Justice and Consumers

- Reporting from the four sessions by rapporteurs:
 - **Session I.a** - Stepping-up action to prevent and combat antisemitic and anti-Muslim hate crimes: **Morten Kjaerum**, Director of the Raul Wallenberg Foundation
 - **Session I.b** - The role of local authorities, education and grass-root projects: **Samia Hathroubi**, Director of the European Foundation for Ethnic Understanding
 - **Session II.a** - Tackling hate speech in a connected world: **Paul Giannasi**, Manager of the UK Government Hate Crime Programme
 - **Session II.b** - Fostering equality legislation and promoting non-discrimination policies: **Evelyn Collins**, Chief Executive of the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland
 - Concluding remarks by **Věra Jourová**, Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality
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14:00

End of the Colloquium
