EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE AND CONSUMERS

Directorate C : Fundamental Rights and Union Citizenship
Unit C1 : Fundamental Rights and Rights of the Child

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

Annual Colloquium on Fundamental Rights

1-2 October 2015

The Commission would like to **collect input** on a number of questions which will be at the centre of discussions during the Colloquium. Input will be welcome until **31 May 2015**.

Contributions should be sent to **JUST-Colloquium@ec.europa.eu**

QUESTIONS FOR CONSULATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

1 – Can you inform about new trends showing an increase in anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim incidents? What are to your mind the underlying factors for each of these phenomena: religion, culture, socio-economic or political circumstances, prejudices, etc.?

2 – To which extent do you think anti-Semitism and Muslim hatred require a specific or a common response?

3 – Beyond security measures, which are necessary to ensure the security of people and sites, how can the feeling of security of Jewish and Muslim communities in European States be improved?

4 – Which measures do you think would be most effective in tackling the issue of hate speech, including online, with a particular focus on expressions of anti-Semitism and islamophobia?

5 – What are the main challenges and gaps in effectively combatting racist, anti-Semitic and islamophobic speech and crime in terms of legislation and its implementation? What should be done to overcome these challenges and how do you think the EU could facilitate this?

6 – What would be the most effective avenues of cooperation to ensure greater effectiveness in preventing and combating anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim discrimination and hatred (i.e. in the area of investigation, prosecution, data collection, victims' reporting and support, etc)? What would be the role of civil society and national and local authorities and communities?

7 – How can social inclusion and inter-cultural cooperation contribute to actively combat anti-Semitic and Anti-Muslim discrimination and promote equality? What can be done at local level to contribute to actively combat such discrimination? Could you give some examples of best practices? What are in your opinion the most effective tools to counter amalgams, stereotypes and negative perceptions?

8 – What are the main gaps and obstacles (legislative, political, administrative, or financial) to fill at national/local level to counter discrimination based on religion, belief and/or ethnic origin in practice? How can such gaps be tackled at EU level?

9 – What role could leaders, including religious and community leaders, play in proposing social representations and a narrative which are inclusive, based on common values and mutual understanding? Which are the most effective practices taken that have effectively evidenced a

positive impact and a potential for replication, in particular at local level and amongst and by young people? What could be the role of the media in this respect?

10 – What type of discriminatory obstacles Jewish and Muslims experience most frequently in the field of education and employment?

11 – How could the society adjust to an increasing diversity? What is the society at large ready to accommodate for a better "living together"?

12 – What are/could be concrete measures with the greatest impact to be taken by businesses (in public and private employment) and social partners to facilitate and encourage inclusion of ethnic and religious minorities and foster mutual understanding, and how could they be disseminated?

13 – Which further initiatives could Member States, EU institutions and international organisations take in order to promote common values and mutual understanding and counter stereotypes in the educational sphere (e.g. citizenship education; education about the EU history, its fundamental values and EU rights; intercultural workshops in school, training for teachers, guidelines for educators, etc.). What are already existing best practices in this respect?