

Item 9. General Debate

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence

Islamophobia in the United Kingdom (UK)



Mr. President,

In the UK, Islamophobia has been on the rise for the past 20 years, subjecting Muslims to widespread discrimination and violation of their rights.¹ Anti-Muslim hatred has escalated to a point that survey even reveal non-Muslim men harassment including, verbal and physical abuse, intimidation and damages to their properties, because of looking like Muslims. The studies prove that the on-going hate crimes against Muslims make the victims suffer from psychological stress, as well as marginalizing them in the society, limiting their chances of social and political participation.

Also, anti-Muslim racism affects the Muslim employment rate in the UK. The available research findings prove Muslim house-holds to be in poverty in comparison to the overall population. In addition, research reveals under presence of Muslims in managerial, administrative and professional jobs and indicates that the employment rate of Muslims is lower than the whole population in the UK.

Mr. President,

Being seriously concerned about the on-going hatred and discrimination against Muslims, the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV), calls on the NGOs in the United Kingdom to study ways of convincing the decision makers to move toward social inclusion of minorities specially Muslims.

ODVV calls on the United Kingdom to review the country s' hate crime laws and strategies to control the rise in the crimes. In addition, the UK is recommended to address the factors that drive the perpetrators to committing crimes and develop new preventive measures.

¹. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/11/islamophobia-changed-20-years-171116120107753.html>