

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV)

Item 4: General Debate



Racism and Insulting Muslims

Mr. President

I would like to draw the Council's attention to the following points:

1) We note the adoption of a resolution titled "Combating religious hatred that incites discrimination, hostility, or violence", the objection of human rights activists to any insult against the Quran and the high commissioner's condemnation of any provocative act against Muslims and followers of other religions. However, in Europe, especially Sweden and Denmark, insulting religions any continue under the pretext of freedom of expression. We believe that spreading insults against religions will lead to extremism and the gaining of power of extremist groups with little respect for human rights, endangering Europe more than other regions. We call on the countries to establish a mechanism to encourage dialogue among religions.

2) Widespread negative representations of Islam, and so-called counterterrorism policies have served to normalize and discrimination and violence toward Muslims. We call on the countries in Europe and America to increase efforts to promote religious freedoms. We strongly encourage states to take all necessary measures to combat all forms of discrimination against Muslims and prohibit any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to violence.