

## **6th session of the Forum on Minority Issues**

### **II. Legal framework and key concepts**

#### Faith Matters on item II

Thank you, Madame chair,

I represent Faith Matters which is a conflict organisation that works internationally to reduce both extremism and religious hatred. Since 2012, we have been implementing the mono project for measuring anti-Muslimism attacks, we work with Muslim communities and individuals across the UK to record details of anti-Muslim attacks meet against them. We provide support to victims of anti-Muslim prejudices, we map, measure and analyse hotspots of hate. We work with peace forces to (...) hate crimes prosecutions and inform peacemakers of anti-Muslim prejudices. Many of the attacks that took place where online, where many Muslims are subject of threats, intimidation, and abuse on a daily basis purely because they are Muslims. Many of these attacks take place on the streets, in the workplace, in schools, and even in people's own home, as they are abused, humiliated, threatened, intimidated, harassed, and even physically assaulted on their own door steps. Many of the cases that have been reported to us by young children aged as young as 11, who tell us how they have been targeted, or how their hijabs have been pull-off, spit out, and all this would have happened when they walk home from school.

Across all these categories of anti-Muslim hatred, we have identified one common threat: that is that many individuals, including the majority of children who have reported to us, have not reported these incidents to police, they told us that there is no point. There is a strong feeling that as a community, Muslims are profiled, that Muslims are subjected to unfair treatment by the police and other authorities for no good cause. That as Muslims, their voices and complaints are no taken seriously. As a result, many in the Muslim-British community do not report Islamophobic or anti-Muslim attacks against them because their direct experience or the that of their parents of being profiled because of their religious belief, has let them to have no faith in authorities. For some, that feeling is so strong, that they even ask us not to report the incident to the police on their behalf.

Resolution 16/18 cause on states to make a strong effort to counter religious profiling, which is understood (...) the use of videos the use of religion as a criterion in conducting questionings, searches, and other law enforcements (...) procedures. As I have indicated, the impact of religious profiling, including the withdrawal from authorities, and the unwillingness to seek out from (...) these authorities are significant and multifaceted. What is the UN doing to ensure that states adhere to their obligations to encounter religion profiling?

Thank you.