

Former Fellow of the OHCHR in Serbia

Thank you, madame Chair. My name is Amina, I'm a minority fellow, and today I'm speaking on behalf of my colleagues, respected scholars, experts, and social activists who stand behind a project called the European Islamophobia Report.

We have worked really hard to collect all data on Muslim hatred that mostly represents itself in a form of hate speech, hate crime, and various discriminatory policies. This report covers 39 countries, and the most common thing is that the legal framework to fight against hate speech and hate crimes online, as well as offline, exists, but there is a lack of willingness or a lack of practice.

In this regard, madame Chair, I really have to raise strong concerns over ambiguous attitudes of European governments over Muslim communities. On one hand, they really effectively fight against far-right terror groups, but on the other hand, security policies are really targeting mainly Muslim people, which leads directly to the normalization of Islamophobia in Europe and the exclusion of Muslims from the European 'we' as well.

In conclusion, I want to say that regardless all these hate crimes we survive, Islamophobia is not recognized as a concept from relevant institutions, and I really do encourage this forum to take our published recommendations for more effective future policies. Thank you very much.