

Gabooye Minority Organisation for Europe and North America

Thank you Madame Chair and good morning everyone.

My name is Gabrielle, a researcher of Gabooye Minority Organisation in Europe and North America.

Freedom of speech, a privilege with responsibility.

With a global transmission increasing access information, communication is yielding in the face of word line. The beauty is, people of all background can share their journey, through conflict or consensus. We can learn from each other and view the world through the eyes of someone else's reality, someone else's true. It is [?] when it overpowers one another, when power and hate collaborate, when individuals are weaponized and demonized against themselves. Speech should open the door for minority groups, those already under the thumb of domination. These imbalances in power relations have a deeply rooted history. They restrict, constrict and restrain minority voices and their stories. In the age of information, you think our world of increasing freedom would finally tip the scales. Yet hate speech is on the rise. People are kind hearted, but when they're set false information on one side of the coin, the worst side of human history can arise, victimizing and ostracizing the unheard. [?] rhetoric spreads like a wildfire. Influencing [?] of liberty to impede from others and minorities are frequently at the forefront. Free speech has a power for getting evil, exacerbated by elected representative, the next generations' role model. The recent response to the tragic beheading of French school teacher Samuel Paty, has sadly further [?] hate speech towards Islamic communities.

Global outreach means global impact, and communities as far as the [?] people in Somalia having protesting. The symbols of Christian faith are publicly disgraced and defamed, they're also being actual. The call to end hate speech is not to set their regulate or control expression, but to redefine free speech today, in a highly digitalized and interconnected world. We have a duty with our words and actions, so I invite you to remember compassion and respect, to rebalance the scales that have been set. Let us empower minorities, let their voices be more than an echo.

Thank you!