

OSCE - Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting:

FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION: Discrimination of Pro-Life Associations in Germany by Leftist Extremists and the Media

The speaker represents two Pro-Life organizations as their president: the Lebenszentrum in Munich and the international Christian association EuroProLife. They help women in crisis situations and also organize peaceful public prayer events. In more than 2500 public events in seven countries there was never a breach of a peaceful conduct. Police and some politicians confirmed to us that we have proven to be a state supporting initiative because we follow the law completely.

Since 2007, left extremists are fighting us who falsely claim that we sympathize with neo-Nazis etc.! Very often media take over the virulent press declarations of the anti-demonstrators without ever speaking with us. They block roads, resist and provoke the police. They have destroyed the windows of our life center in Munich four separate times, robbed and destroy white crosses we carry in some peaceful prayer processions. They insulted our religious faith with blasphemous chants like: "If Mary had aborted, we would have been spared with dealing with you" or "Eat a queer fetus for Jesus!"

In Muenster, our spokesperson was surrounded and isolated by a large number of troublemakers of the unannounced counter-demonstration.

Our government continues accepting these anti-life associations as non-profit organizations although they foster anti-democratic and law-breaking behavior, touting: "No God, No State, No Fatherland!"

Police in Berlin said they feel forsaken by state and city government in fighting against left radical violence.

The TV station under public law ARD Berlin-Brandenburg aired a report wherein peaceful Christians were called "radical anti-abortionists" doing a "bizarre spectacle". There were no images or any information about the violent counter protests. The official police report with 35 arrests (in the year before 133!) was completely suppressed by the media. The attached DVD "Programmauftrag Desinformation" shows what happened.

We were surprised and shocked that our constitution and the German Broadcasting Law, which was installed after World War II to prevent media from ideological abuse, was so flagrantly ignored. A penal report against ARD at the public prosecutor in Berlin came to nothing. The Broadcasting Council did not react.

Our concern regarding our own work and our country is: if our government does not show interest to stop ideological abuse of media under public law and to protect peaceful, law-abiding associations more, the violent anti-demonstrators and their partly even state funded associations feel justified to continue. Unfair state broadcasting creates negative stereotyping and results in a violation of our freedom of assembly.