Written Statement for Working session 15 (specifically selected topic): Hate crime

Dr. Balazs Bako, Hungarian Muslim Defense League

Recommendations for Hungary:

- In order to better address toxic phenomena such as discrimination, xenophobia, racism and islamophobia, we ask that the Hungarian government enter into dialogue with muslim organizations in Hungary.
- Muslim organizations should be partners in training professionals whose profession pertains to combatting hate crimes and discrimination, so that these can be more effectively prevented and remedied.
- Hate speech against muslims should be firmly condemned and the perpetrators punished, while emphasizing that Hungarian muslims are an integral part of Hungarian society. To better identify manifestations of islamophobia (anti-muslim hatred), we refer to the key recommendations (accepted on the 25th of June, 2019, in Madrid, at a workshop organized by the European Union) that we have already forwarded to the Ministry of Interior (BM/12193-5/2019).
- It would be of great importance that the Hungarian muslim community have a cemetery of its own, so that the problem of muslim funerals could be solved in the long run.