

Tuesday, 30 September 2014

10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 12: Tolerance and non-discrimination II, including:

– Preventing aggressive nationalism, racism and chauvinism, including the rise of political parties, movements and groups advocating violence and hatred on ethnic, racial and religious grounds

The matters of preventing aggressive nationalism are not addressed in any way by Estonian authorities – on the contrary, for the practice of the aggressive nationalism, different and new justifications are continuously invented, for example “preservation of the Estonian people, the Estonian language and the Estonian culture”. Altogether, the Estonian nationalism is so aggressive that, taking into account other factors, it is already possible to speak about evolution into Estonian Nazism.

The direction for aggression of Estonian nationalism is beyond doubt. It is a Russophobia, for which the development of countermeasures has to be added to the agenda of OCSE for a long time. The aggression of Estonian nationalism is revealed practically in everything, in particular, in pursuit of activists of the Russian community of Estonia, preventing contacts with Russian compatriots and, last but not least, in the simulation of human rights institutions by Estonian officials.

Russian community activists are often persecuted in Estonia through the fabrication of criminal cases - for example, I myself was prosecuted on an absurd charge of forging my own signature. The statement to the police was signed and sent by the Minister of Education in reaction to the petition received by the Ministry asking to preserve Russian language of instructions, which was sent by the board of trustees of our school, where I am a member. In addition, we are constantly dealing with persistent violations of the privacy of correspondence, spending many hours of humiliating body searches at the border, facing dismissals from work, etc.

I should add that also speeches given here in this room do not remain without attention of the Estonian authorities. A last-year speech given here by the Russian Ombudsman in Estonia - Sergei Seredenko - was assessed as ‘defamatory to Estonia’ in the annual book issued by the Estonian Security Police, which is an equivalent to receiving a "black mark", and it is also a prosecution.