



Thinkout

THINKOUT Recommendations

04 July 2014

Thinkout is a Belgian based non governmental organisation.

Thinkout has for challenge to include, integrate and enforce the different cultures in Europe in the mainstream society while respecting the human rights.

Thinkout attended the session II of the meeting of OSCE concerning **“The Responsibilities in the framework of Freedom of Speech.”**

The freedom of speech is very important and is a condition for a succesfull democracy where tolerance is essential for the survival and therefore is an undisputable human right.

Thinkout wants to appraoch this, not in a technical way but in a human way.

To speak of absolute freedom of speech, an individual should be minimally directed by external forces. Nowadays the most powerfull external forces are on the one hand politics and on the other hand the media.

- Every member state has already basic legislation that guarantees the freedom of speech but when this legislation is not efficiently applied it becomes an empty box.

Osce should be a firum to discuss this matter with the member states to improve the freedom of speech.

- We observe that the freedom of speech is applied more restrictive in one of the memberstate while in another memberstate this same form of freedom of speech is unrestrictedly applied.

As thinkout we expect from OSCE to assure that all the member states should uniformly handle in implementing freedom of speech so that there wouldn't be double standarts.

- We oppose free speech extremism, the idea that even incitement to murder can be considered free speech, as was the case with the Nuremberg files or the abuse of free speech as a means of propagating hate speech and incitement to violence.

People tend to think that freedom of speech and the prohibition of hate speech are contradictory. They are not. If we look at the UN international covenant on civil and political rights,we will see that article 19 and Art 20 confirm this vieww as they were quoted today by Mr. Monroe Price.

As a lawyer i would like to add the fact that the law punishes someone who steals, so it is only natural that it should also punishes someone who can use the right of the freedom of speech to spread hate speech because hate speech steels the right of recipient to co- exicst peacefully in the society.

- The expression of freedom of speech is only possible if it isn't influenced in advance by particualar authorities, political views or mainstream media.
- At last Thinkout wants to recommend that all member states should express themselves at the OSCE meeting in their native languages while a person can express himself the best in his native language.

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