



Association of Youth Centers of Crimea  
"Youth for Peace and Development"



European Youth Campaign on Diversity,  
Human Rights and Participation  
"All different, All equal"

## **OFFICIAL RESOLUTION INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE "YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE BLACK SEA REGION AGAINST ISLAMOPHOBIA, DISCRIMINATION AND FANATICISM"**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The International Youth Conference "Young people of the countries of the Black Sea region against Islamophobia, discrimination and fanaticism" was held in Simferopol from 15 to 17 May 2006 on the basis of Crimean Industrial and Pedagogical University.

The Conference was organized by the Association of Youth Centers of Crimea "Youth for Peace and Development" within the framework of the European Youth Campaign for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation "All different, All equal" under the direct support of the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe.

Over 35 representatives of youth non-government organizations from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine participated in the Conference with the aim to:

- identify the causes abetting in dissemination and expansion of Islamophobia in the countries of the Black Sea region through the analysis of the existing facts of demonstration of Islamophobia and discrimination towards Muslims;
- increase involvement of young people into the public and political life through preparation of recommendations for the governments of the Black Sea region countries for conducting specific activities aimed at increasing the level of understanding in the society, development of interreligious dialogues as well as at preventing dissemination of Islamophobia and discrimination of Muslims in the countries of the Black Sea region.

The Resolution of the Conference was prepared on basis of recommendations elaborated in the course of the seminar "Islamophobia and its consequences on young people" held in Budapest in June 2004. The seminar was organized by the

## **RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE**

**WE**, participants of the International Youth Conference “Young people of the countries of the Black Sea region against Islamophobia, discrimination and fanaticism”,

**define** Islamophobia as the fear of and prejudiced viewpoint towards Islam and Muslims.

**state** that Islamophobia must be considered as a threat to social cohesion of the society and actions (or inaction) of the state and individual people based on the prejudicialness and preconceptions towards Muslims as a violation of human rights.

**believe** that the governments of the countries of the Black Sea region, young people and youth non-government organizations can and must play an essential role in preventing dissemination of Islamophobia and raising awareness of the society on the negative impact of prejudicialness and discrimination.

**note** that an example of this can become the development of the European Youth Campaign against Racism, Anti-Semitism, Xenophobia and Intolerance “All different, All equal”, which is directly supported by the Council of Europe as well as the activities conducted in the context of the given campaign on preventing dissemination of Islamophobia in the European countries.

**RECOMMEND** the governments of the Black Sea region countries and youth non-government organizations to participate intensively in conducting various activities directed to strife with Islamophobia and discrimination, namely of:

### ***Jural nature:***

Provide for the measures within the framework of national legislation to combat illegal restrictions of liberty of religion, conscience and speech as well as various forms of intolerance and discrimination;

Support and expand the mandate of the existing international or national remedial organizations on struggling with Islamophobia, Discrimination, Racism and Anti-Semitism.

### ***Political nature:***

Initiate and develop a dialogue with religious leaders of various Muslim communities;

Do not hamper creation of the representative bodies of Muslim communities at the national level;

Prohibit speeches and statements in political campaigns aimed at discrimination of people based on religion;

Create parliamentary commissions on religious issues where such haven't been formed yet.

National and local governments should involve representatives of Muslim communities into decision-making process pertaining to the issues of their interests and needs;

National and local governments should contribute to the implementation of rights of Muslims to work, to rest, to education, etc. taking into consideration the traits of their way of style.

***Educational nature:***

Guarantee teaching an impartial history by taking into account an official opinion of various sides including towards Muslims and the development of Islam religion in different educational institutions;

Improve the skills of young people and public leaders in critical thinking and objective appraisal of information provided by Mass Media;

Encourage researches in the sphere of Islamophobia, Racism, Anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination;

Introduce a practice of conducting subject days in the schools curricula to learn the religion, culture and traditions of various nations including those of national minorities;

Organize and conduct trainings for the young people on striving with Islamophobia, Racism, Anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination;

Train state employees, social and youth workers on religious issues and peculiarities of work with diverse national minorities.