



# Nourhene Mahmoudi

## European Network Against Racism

NICRE 5<sup>TH</sup> AGM SEMINAR

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# Introduction:

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- ENAR is a network of around 150 anti-racism countries across the EU.
- Islamophobia and anti-muslim hatred
- Why victims of racism?
- intersectional approach



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# Manifestations

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- Why systemic/structural and institutional?
- Hate crime/speech
- over-representation/under-representation of Muslims (or perceived as such) in poor neighborhood
- Structural exclusion of Muslim women
- Criminalisation of Muslims (or perceived as such)
- Shrinking of the civic space – Defamation.



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# Manifestations

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- Structural discrimination appears with more exceptions for this group
  - Lack of education and understanding about racism, in all our political parties
  - Weak conclusions from the French Presidency at the Council of the EU
  - Position of EU Anti-Muslim Hatred Coordinator vacant for more than a year
  - Public narratives against Muslims (esp through media and public figures), associating Islam with violence and abuse
  - Legacy of colonialism and post colonialism
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# Manifestations

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- Counter-terrorism context
- Since 2001, the European Union has adopted over 200 counter-terrorism measures.
- EU's counter-radicalisation policies
- Pre-emptive offences that criminalise actions that occur



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# About ENAR

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- Est. 1998
- 150+ members across Europe
- Championing the voice of the anti-racist movement
- Strengthening bonds between civil society organisations
- Building a Europe that is more inclusive



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# ENAR's work

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ENAR as a network is advocating for recognition of islamophobia as a form of racism so that policies/legislation against racism address its specific manifestations. In order to achieve that:

1. We have compiled data to show the reality: Forgotten Women and Impact of Counter Terrorism
2. increasing the understanding of the mechanisms of racism: working definition of islamophobia and contributing to ECRI revised General Policy Recommendation No. 5
3. Support in countering narratives against Muslims
4. Building capacity of civil society + solidarity: work in coalition with anti-racist org./HR org/across groups + other social movements



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# Collaborate with ENAR

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With new EU action plan against racism and framework for NAPAR, it is key that:

- Islamophobia is recognised as a form of racism
  - Develop National Action Plans Against Racism
  - Policing and law enforcement
  - Equality Bodies could work more with ENAR and CSO organisations to better understand the dynamics of racism and jointly look for solutions.
  - Progressive implementation of equality directives and diversity strategy
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# Resources

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- Forgotten women: The impact of Islamophobia on Muslim Women,
- Council of Europe's ECRI's General revised Policy recommendations n.5 on on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination;
- Council of Europe's – Islamophobia Report.
- European Islamophobia Report (Farid Hafiz and Enes Bayrakli)



