

Statement from Fraternite Notre Dame

Representative: Sister Marie Sabine, snd.

25th Session of the Council on Human Rights in Geneva
June 10th – 27th, 2014

Fraternite Notre Dame and her Founder, His Excellency Bishop Jean Marie Roger Kozik, thank you for allowing them to give this statement.

A recent US report shows how religious freedom has shrunk around the world: 76% of the population is persecuted in their freedom to practice their religion, against 68% in 2007. Religious freedom is essential when it comes to human dignity.

In Syria, Christians, including priests and nuns, were abducted, threatened and tortured. In North Korea, owning a Bible is unlawful. In Mongolia, persecutions no longer allow Christian teachers to teach the Christian faith to children: constant site inspections, obligation to remove crosses and religious statues, absurd and sly, frustrating red tape. Only communist education is welcome there. Fraternite Notre Dame has experienced it.

In Europe, as it happened for instance in Kosovo, the Christians are eliminated from their own territories. Christians in Central Africa are compelled to flee to refugee camps.

We have witnessed a dramatic increase of persecutions in the 50 countries surveyed to assess world persecution.

In the West, notably France, the media, under State control, fuel a climate of denial and mockery which targets Christianity. Persecution always starts with mockery but it soon deteriorates into full-blown persecution. France's State Secretary to the Family publicly wrote, around Christmas time: "Christmas was cancelled; Joseph has admitted". This rises serious concerns on the intentions of State Representatives, when it comes to religious freedom in France.

What does the French Republic do, to tackle Christianophobia, planned church building destructions or insulting language against the Pope? Blood-thirsty revolutionaries had said it at the time: what makes up a Republic is the destruction of all the assets that are opposed to it. This certainly offers food for thoughts when applied to the situation in France. People start by mockery, then, they utter insults and start destroying; and finally, they decapitate whatever does not support their case.

France is strongly opposed to antisemitic and antimuslim behaviors, but she fails to oppose antichristian deeds, even though they are more numerous, the media do not actually cover them.

There are two sets of weights and measures here, when you see violent antichristian demonstrations, called: "Blasphemy at Every Level and Satanic Mass"; "May Satan be Extolled; Femen Akbar" and such riots enjoy favorable treatment and public fundings, and they benefit from impressing police protection deployments?

Fraternite Notre Dame has been working around the world, to promote peace and tolerance among all men, doing her share to help her neighbor, with no distinction of race, social status, gender or creed.

I thank you all for spending this time, listening to me.

[End of the Statement from Fraternite Notre Dame]