



**MINISTÈRE
DE LA JUSTICE**

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*



Paris, 27 January 2022

PRESS RELEASE

COMBATTING HATE AND ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION: TOWARDS STRENGTHENED JUDICIAL COOPERATION IN EUROPE

Under the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Eric Dupond-Moretti, Keeper of the Seals and Minister of Justice, will open a videoconference on Thursday, 27 January 2022 aimed at assessing contemporary forms of intolerance and addressing prospects for strengthening cooperation and judicial response.

In the European Union, studies by the Fundamental Rights Agency, the European Commission and the European Parliament depict a rise in hate crimes and hate speech within the European, both online and offline, as well as increasingly widespread discrimination in all of its forms. Therefore, the French Presidency wishes to examine how the justice system can respond to this problem in the field, at the videoconference held on 27 January.

In light of the Commission's proposal to the Council to step up EU action against hate speech and hate crimes by extending the list of EU crimes in Article 83 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the event will be organised around three round tables, which will give the floor to representatives of the Member States, the EU institutions and the Council of Europe, as well as judges and legal experts from several Member States.

The first round table will engage in assessing new forms of intolerance and provide an overview of current prospects for the European Union. The discussions, which will benefit from the insight of the Fundamental Rights Agency on the reality of hatred in Europe today, will specifically address the issue of anti-Semitism and hate against the LGBT+ community. Representatives of the EU and the Council of Europe will also speak, further contributing to these considerations.

The second round table will more specifically focus on the role of the Internet in the spread of hate and discrimination. At a time when the Internet and social networks seem to provide fertile ground for hatred and rejection of the "other", discussions will seek to define online hate and analyse the challenges of Internet regulation in this regard. Participants in this round table will include representatives of the German Ministry of Justice, the European Commission, the Paris Public Prosecutor's Office and the French Central Office for Combating Information and Communication Technology Crime (OCLCTIC).

The third round table will focus on criminal justice responses to violence against women. Addressing a shared issue faced by all the EU Member States, the dialogue between professionals will help to better objectivate findings, compare practices and promote the development of best practices within the EU.

The videoconference will be opened by Eric Dupond-Moretti and attended by the justice ministers of the Presidency Trio, Pavel Blažek, the Minister of Justice of the Czech Republic, and Morgan Johansson, the Minister for Justice and Home Affairs of the Kingdom of Sweden, as well as by the Vice-President of the Commission Margaritis Schinás, Commissioner Helena Dalli and Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) of the European Parliament.

Press contacts

Cabinet of the Minister of Justice
Tel.: +33 1 44 77 63 15
secretariat-presse.cab@justice.gouv.fr
presse-justice@justice.gouv.fr

All press releases:
www.justice.gouv.fr/presse

This videoconference will take place on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, 27 January 2022. Tribute will be paid in memory of the victims, offering a strong reminder of the Union's steadfast commitment to combatting anti-Semitism as well as the values of humanism and tolerance on which it is built.

The conference will also feature illustrations created by the association Cartooning for Peace. Founded in 2006 at the initiative of Kofi Annan, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize and former Secretary-General of the United Nations, and of the press cartoonist Plantu, Cartooning for Peace is an international network of cartoonists committed to promoting freedom of expression, human rights and mutual respect between people with different cultures or beliefs, through the universal language of press cartoons.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME
Thursday 27 January 2022 (remote)

Hate, Discrimination and Gender Violence: Justice in the face of contemporary forms of intolerance

In partnership with Cartooning for Peace

9:30 - Opening of the Working Session

Eric Dupond-Moretti, Keeper of the Seals, Minister of Justice

Margaritis Schinás, Vice President of the European Commission

Helena Dalli, European Commissioner for Equality

Juan Fernando Lopez Aguilar, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs at the European Parliament

Pavel Blažek, Minister of Justice of the Czech Republic

Morgan Johansson, Minister of Justice and Home Affairs of the Kingdom of Sweden

Ana Gallego Torres, Director General – Directorate General Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) at the European Commission

11 a.m. - European justice in the face of new forms of intolerance, assessment of the new forms of intolerance and prospects for the European Union.

Joanna Goodey, Head of Research and Data Unit, European Agency for Fundamental Rights

Claudia Luciani, Director of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance at the Council of Europe

Malin Björk, European Deputy, Member of the LIBE Commission of the European Parliament

Katharina Von Schnurbein, European Commission – European Coordinator on combatting Anti-Semitism

Flora Bolter, Co-Director of the LGBT+ Observatory of the Jean Jaurès Foundation, France

2 p.m. - The Internet, an amplifier of hate and discrimination

Grégory Weill, Head of the National Unit of Online Hate, Paris Public Prosecutor's Office

Cécile Augeraud, Head of the French central office of the fight against criminality related to information technologies and communication

Alexander Schäfer, Head of Division, German Minister of Justice

Louisa Klingvall, European Commission – DG JUST – Fundamental Rights Unit

3:15 p.m. - What judicial answers to respond to violence against women?

Isabelle Rome, senior official for equality between women and men, Ministry of Justice

Teresa Peramato Martin, prosecutor at the Spanish public prosecutor's office specialised in violence against women

Gyrithe Trautner Ulrich Deputy Manager at the office of the State Prosecutor's Office in Copenhagen

Catherine Sorita-Minard, Public Prosecutor at the court of Colmar

4:30 p.m. - Close of the Working Session

Olivier Christen, Director of Criminal Affairs and Pardons, Ministry of Justice