



ODVV

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence

**An NGO
Committed to Promote a
Non-Violence Culture,
Associated to UNDPI
In Special Consultative
Status to the ECOSOC**

**UPR Oral Statement: Human rights violations in Germany
11th session of HRC**

Mt. President,

I am speaking on behalf of the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a nongovernmental organization that has the defence of human rights in its working agenda.

In the 21st Century, in an age where all of mankind is still faced with human rights and human dignity challenges, there are still serious concerns on the extensive and repeated human rights violations in various parts of the world. Injustice, moral gaps, identity crisis, and double standards approach are the most serious elements in human rights violations in different societies.

According to existing reports, in view of their extent and different cultures, human rights violations in developed and developing countries have a particular diversity. Germany is not an exemption from this, and there are a number of human rights violations that take place in that country. They are:

- 1 – Discrimination against Muslim women with regards to the Hejab or veil.
- 2 – Neo-Nazis violence and a rise in attacks against migrants and minorities.

According to a 2009 Human Rights Watch report, the claim that the banning of the Hejab is not discrimination is not justified. German teachers that observe the Hejab are discriminated against based on their gender and religion, and their rights are violated.

This is while there are some exemptions for Christians and western cultural traditions. The ODVV believes that in accordance with international human rights principles individuals that follow different religions are free to observe their religious rules and laws.

Mr. President,

Another alarming issue is the increase of 15% in Neo-Nazi criminal activities in 2008, which has been reported by the German interior minister and the director of the Internal Security Organization.

The ODVV expresses concern on the conditions of the migrant population of Germany, and calls upon this country to show more sensitivity towards this problem.

The ODVV calls upon the Human Rights Council to call upon the German government to increase its human rights commitments and duties, and in the Universal Periodic Review of this country, for the Council to pay attention towards the neglect of freedom of expression and belief that turns into discrimination.