

CAP Freedom of Conscience 2021 Activity Report



Article 18 : Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

What is “Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience” (CAP Freedom of Conscience)?

CAP Freedom of Conscience is a secular European NGO with United Nations Consultative Status, created in 1995 and dedicated to protect the Right of Freedom of Religion and Belief.

CAP Freedom of Conscience combats all forms of discrimination based on religion or belief by alerting European and International bodies.

CAP Freedom of Conscience collects testimonies of discrimination and human rights violations affecting religious or belief communities in order to disseminate them to international bodies, and in order to raise awareness and inform them as well as to generate debate on the protection of Freedom of Religion and Belief.

CAP Freedom of Conscience also advocates for any religious or spiritual group facing discrimination to have their right to Freedom of Religion and Belief recognized.

CAP Freedom of Conscience is a member of the European Federation for Freedom of Belief (FOB), European Network Of Religion and Belief (ENORB) and participate to the Civil Society Platform of Fundamental Rights created by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency.

SAVE THE DATE

THE PERSECUTION OF AHMADI MUSLIMS WORLDWIDE

DATE: TUESDAY, 13TH JULY 2021

TIME: 4PM - 6:30PM UK TIME
5PM - 6:30PM CET
11AM - 12:30PM EST

SPEAKERS:
Sir Edward Davey: Leader of the Liberal Democrats
Dr Ahmed Shaheed: UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion and Belief
Dr Fernand de Varennes: UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues
Ms Irena Khan: UN Special Rapporteur on promotion and protection of freedom of opinion and expression

REGISTER AT:
www.freedomofconscience.eu/side-event-on-the-persecution-of-ahmadi-muslims-worldwide/

Logos: UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS SPECIAL PROCEDURES, HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE, CAP

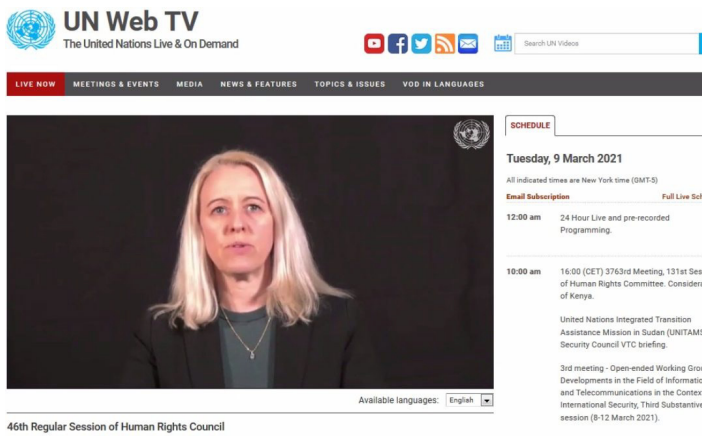


WORLD SUMMIT ON COMBATING AND PREVENTING FORCED ORGAN HARVESTING

Logos: TTRC (Transplant Tourism Research Committee), CAP (Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience), TTRA (Transplant Tourism Research Association), TALCOT (Taiwan Association for International Care of Organ Transplants), KAEOT (Korea Association for Ethical Organ Transplants)

CAP Freedom of Conscience has participated in the 3 annual sessions of the Human Rights Council.

In September 2021, we participated in the 48th session of the Human Rights Council. During this session, we made several written and oral statements. We also supported joint statements in defense of human rights and freedom of religion and belief.



a) The Baloch community

The Baloch people have been suffering from persecution by the Pakistani government for years. Despite the appeals of the international community their situation is deteriorating in an alarming way.

In contact with Baloch and European NGOs we have submitted a written statement and made two oral statements to the session to alert the Human Rights Council. (1, 2 and 3). As early as the 46th session, our NGO coalition highlighted

the human rights violations suffered by the Baluchs. (3a)

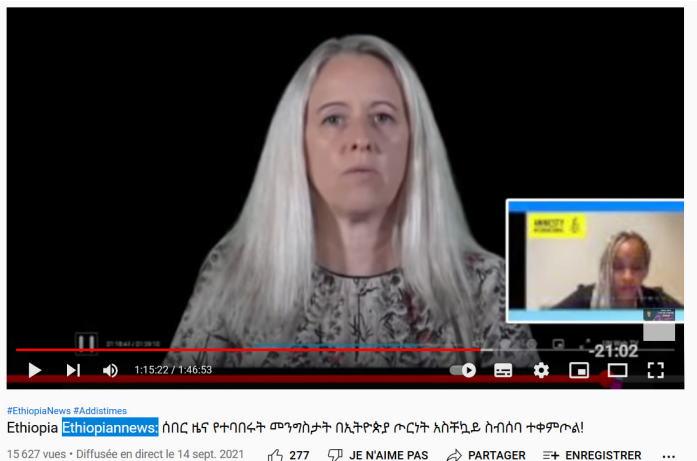
b) The Ahmaras community

Among the areas of conflict of concern, a war is currently raging in Ethiopia. The Ahmaras region, caught in the crossfire of the belligerents, is the subject of a genuine ethnic cleansing that some do not hesitate to call genocide.

International NGOs are concerned about the crimes that are being committed in this “Tigrayan” war. In December, the Human Rights Council, in a special session, voted for a resolution to set up a commission of inquiry to make an accurate report on the crimes committed.

Alerted by Ethiopian NGOs, we spoke up during the session with the High Commissioner on the human rights situation in the Tigray region.

For the first time, the crimes perpetrated against the Ahmaras were highlighted at the United Nations. (4) The session was broadcast on a Youtube news channel “Ethiopiannews” and viewed more than 15,000 times. (5)



c) The Sikh community

CAP Freedom of Conscience and United Sikhs have been cooperating for years to denounce the persecutions suffered by Sikhs in the world. If we had already denounced the situation of the Sikh community in Afghanistan, this year the return of the Taliban has made their condition even more dramatic.

We have submitted a report to alert the Human Rights Council to take urgent measures for the Sikhs and other religious minorities in danger in Afghanistan. (6)



CAP Freedom of Conscience and United Sikhs responded to his call and we sent him a report on the dramatic conditions of religious communities in Afghanistan. (7)



The international community is mobilized to denounce the violations of freedom of religion and belief in the Middle East. Pakistan with its blasphemy law does not respect its international commitments to human rights. This iniquitous law affects all religious groups but the Ahmadiyya Muslim community is particularly affected. Not a month goes by without CAP Freedom of Conscience in coordination with the International Human Rights Committee reporting on crimes committed against Ahmadis and their places of worship.

In July, representatives of CAP Freedom of Conscience and the International Commission on Human Rights (ICCPR) had been invited to co-organize a conference with the Office of the United Nations Special Rapporteurs on the persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan (9). Following the conference, three United Nations Special Rapporteurs issued a statement calling on Pakistan to comply with international human rights standards. (10)

Ahmadis who arrive in Thailand are also discriminated against and denied refugee status. In May, at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) on Thailand, we submitted a report that was taken into account in the UPR recommendations on Thailand. (10a)

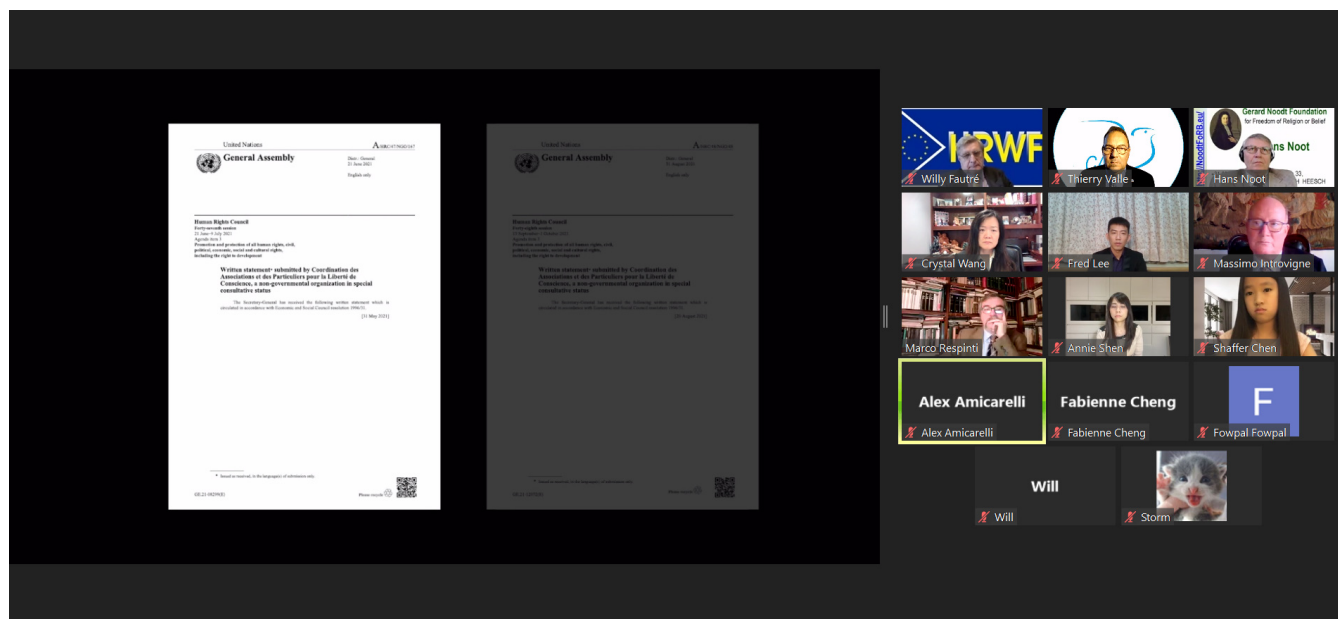
In Europe, Germany denies Ahmadis their refugee status and sends them back to Pakistan where they face the death penalty because of their belief. Despite our repeated appeals to the German government, Ahmadi refugees continue to be sent back to Pakistan. (10b) (10c).

CAP Freedom of Conscience regularly joins the call of dozens of NGOs for countries to abolish the blasphemy law. (10d)



e) The Tai Ji Men community

Freedom of religion and belief is also under attack in Taiwan, where the Tai Ji Men have been subjected to religious persecution for 25 years.



Dozens of NGOs, academics and human rights activists have spoken out on behalf of the Tai Ji Men to denounce the injustice they face in Taiwan

CAP LC has been the voice of the Tai Ji Men at the UN (11) for years. In the year 2021, we have made several oral and written statements. (11a)(12)(13)

We have also been invited by this coalition of experts to participate in international conferences to defend and denounce the injustices suffered by Tai Ji Men. (14)(14a)(15)(16)



f) Discrimination in Europe

Europe seems to be a safe place for human rights and freedom of religion and belief, but we must be vigilant. Indeed, some European countries violate this freedom of religion and belief by attacking religious minorities.

This 48th session of the Human Rights Council has been the occasion to renew our concerns about the respect of the Freedom of Religion and Belief in Hungary. (17).

We had already expressed our concerns about Hungary during the 39th session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) where we had submitted a report to the attention of the UPR Bureau (18) and during the 47th session of the Human Rights Council. (19)

Germany is also on the list of European countries whose freedom of religion and belief is being undermined by authorities who are targeting religious minorities including the Church of Scientology.

Written statements were submitted to the Human Rights Council during the 46th and 48th sessions of the Human Rights Council. (20)(21)

We also alerted the Human Rights Committee during their 133rd session. (22)

France is one of the European countries with the most virulent policies against religious minorities. For more than 40 years, the French government has funded associations that stigmatize and propagate stereotypes about religious minorities.

The 133rd session of the Human Rights Committee was an opportunity to table a report on the financing of “anti-cult” associations (23) by the French government, and more particularly FECRIS, whose vice-president, Mr. Dvorkin, is one of the main instigators of hate speech against minorities in the Russian Federation.

In June, at the 47th session of the Human Rights Council, we had already submitted a report on the financing of FECRIS by France. (24) (25).

During the 46th session, we made a statement on the danger in France of hijacking the anti-terrorism law to attack peaceful spiritual minorities. (25a)



We were invited by an Italian organization (LIREC) specialized in the defense of religious minorities to present the case of France and the financing of FECRIS. (25b).

This year, we filed a report with the French Cour des Comptes to denounce the financing of UNADFI by the French government. (25c).

g) Other actions

On the occasion of these sessions of the Human Rights Council and the Human Rights Committee, CAP Freedom of Conscience was asked to join coalitions of NGOs to defend human rights. Thus, we joined :

a coalition of 192 NGOs to denounce the genocide of the Tamils in Sri Lanka, (26)



a coalition against the nomination of a Somali representative to the UN. Somalia shows no willingness to reform human rights in its country, especially the blasphemy law that punishes blasphemy with the death penalty. (27)

We have supported more than a dozen human rights initiatives during the year. (27a) The Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Modi, had announced land reforms in the country in the year 2020. This had raised a rare protest in the country and Sikh farmers mobilized to protest against this iniquitous reform.

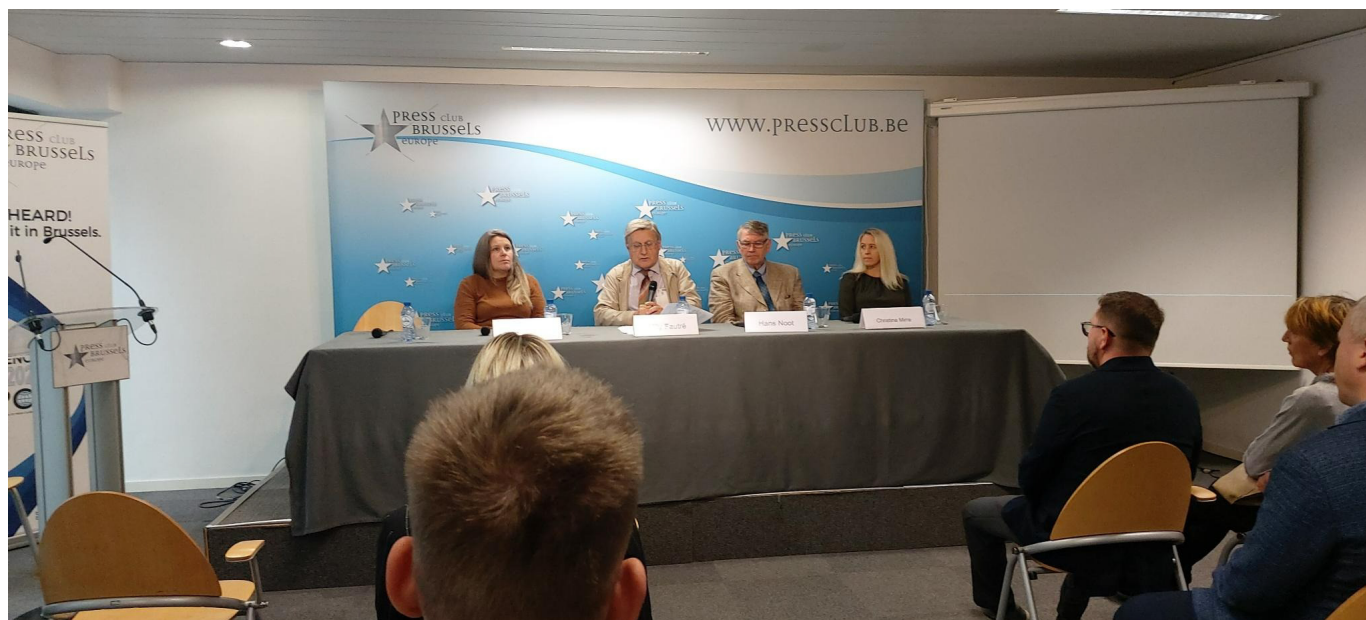


The Sikhs' Protest (from Twitter).

Mr. Premi Sing, a Sikh lawyer based in London, with whom we had already cooperated during the UPR session on Afghanistan, asked us to be the voice of Sikh farmers at the UN. We submitted a report to the Human Rights Council in June (28) and before that we had an interview with Mr. Premi Sing published in the magazine Bitter Winter. (29)

Finally, after more than a year of peasant protest, the Indian Prime Minister has announced the repeal of the agricultural reforms.

In October 2020, with the help of Human Rights Without Frontiers, we provided expertise at the UN to a Ukrainian blogger who had to flee Ukraine under threat from the government and far-right Ukrainian groups. (30) The representative of CAP Freedom of Conscience was invited to the Press Club of Brussels to speak about the situation of bloggers and whistleblowers in Ukraine and in the Russian Federation. (31)



Tai Ji Men protests in Taiwan.







In September, five nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) organized a global summit to combat organ transplants from non-consenting prisoners, mainly Falun Gong practitioners. (32)

The main initiator of the event was Doctors Against Forced Organ Harvesting. The other four co-organizers were CAP Freedom of Conscience in Europe, Transplant Tourism Research Association in Japan, Korea Association for Ethical Organ Transplants, and Taiwan Association for International Care of Organ Transplants. (33)

This summit was seen by thousands of people around the world. It concluded with the Universal Declaration on Preventing and Combating Forced Organ Procurement. (34)(35)



Thierry Valle
President, CAP Freedom of Conscience
France

First of all, I would like to thank the organizer of this world congress on forced organ harvesting.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was

WORLD SUMMIT
ON COMBATING AND PREVENTING
FORCED ORGAN HARVESTING

Sources CAP LC 2021

- 1 HRC 48 Written Statement The worsening Human Rights situation in September 2021
- 2 HRC 48 oral statement General Debate item 4 human rights situation in Balochistan September 2021
- 3 [HRC 48 oral statement General Debate on item 3 human rights situation of Sindh September 2021](#)
- 3a [Item 3 Human Rights Council 46th Session 22 February to 23 March 2021 : Balochistan is facing a humanitarian crisis March 2021](#)
- 4 [HRC 48 Item 2: Enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update by the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in the Tigray region of Ethiopia September 2021](#)
- 5 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ny-oViyRDpA>
- 6 [HRC 48 Written Statement Evacuation of Religious Minorities of Afghanistan September 2021](#)
- 7 UN SR FORB report The Rights of Persons Belonging to Religious or Belief Minorities in Situations of Conflict and Insecurity December 2021
- 8 [HRC 48 Written Statement International community must pay attention to the state-sponsored persecution of Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan and worldwide September 2021](#)
- 9 13th July conference the persecution of Ahmadi Muslims Worldwide July 2021
- 10 International Community must pay attention to the persecution of Ahmadi Muslims worldwide July 2021
- 10a SUBMISSION 39th session UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW 2021 – Thailand May 2021
- 10b REQUEST TO IMMEDIATELY HALT DEPORTATION OF AN AHMADI MUSLIM FROM PULHEIM, GERMANY TO PAKISTAN June 2021
- 10c All deportations of the Ahmadis from Germany should be stopped December 2021
- 10d This World Day Against Death Penalty: OIC States Must Repeal the Death Penalty for Apostasy or Blasphemy 10 October 2021
- 11 An NGO's Fight for the Tai Ji Men Case at the United Nations November 2021
- 11a [A written submission exposed a growing international problem, quoting the Tai Ji Men case in Taiwan September 2021](#)
- 12 A/HRC/47/NGO/167 Misusing Taxes for Discriminating Against Religious and Spiritual Minorities: A Global Problem June 2021
- 13 Misusing Taxes Against Religious Freedom: A Statement Was Filed at UN Human Rights Council July 2021
- 14 After 25 Years: Solidarity with Tai Ji Men December 2021
- 14a [Administrative Violence and the Tai Ji Men Case Seminar 1 22 August 2021](#)
- 15 [Administrative Violence and the Tai Ji Men Case Seminar 2 22 August 2021](#)
- 16 January 2021 : Conference 24th January 2021 : Education Conscience and Tax Justice reflecting on the TAI JI MEN case in Taiwan
- 17 HRC 48 Written Statement Hungary: inappropriately using tax legislation and data protection to harass a well-established minority religion September 2021
- 18 SUBMISSION 39th session UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW 2021 Hungary May 2021
- 19 A/HRC/47/NGO/29 Freedom of Religion and Belief Scientology in Hungary A situation report UDHR article 12 and Article 18 June 2021
- 20 HRC 48 Written Statement Germany violates its Constitution by discriminating against a peaceful religious minority September 2021
- 21 HRC 46 Item 3 Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief : GERMANY SECT FILTER March 2021
- 22 CPR – International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 133 Session : Germany violates its Constitution by discriminating against a peaceful religious minority September 2021
- 23 CPR – International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 132 Session : State Funding of anti-religious associations in France May 2021
- 24 FECRIS Denounced at the United Nations' Human Rights Council July 2021
- 25 A/HRC/47/NGO/178 : State Funding of anti-religious associations in France June 2021
- 25a HRC 46 ID Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering

25b January 2021 : Confrence : Freedom of Religion: From the USCIRF Report on Persecutions in Russia to Violations in Europe

25c UNADFI, a FECRIS founding association, denounced for alleged financial mismanagement and discriminatory activities November 2021

26 Coalition of 192 ECOSOC Accredited NGOs Calls for New United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution to Protect Tamils from Genocide, to name a Special Rapporteur for Sri Lanka and to Recognize Tamils' Right to self-determination September 2021

27 [18 Organizations and Individuals Call for the Review of Somalia's VP Position at the Human Rights Council Bureau Given Their Apostasy Law July 2021](#)

27a <https://freedomofconscience.eu/category/signing-letters-2021/>

28 A/HRC/47/NGO/2 The Religious Factor in the Farmers Bills Protests in India June 2021

29 January 2021 interview : The Religious Factor in the Farmers Bills Protests in India: A Sikh Voice

30 CPR – International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 133 Session : Freedom of expression under threat in Ukraine the case of Anatoliy Sharij October 2021

31 Ukrainian blogger Anatoliy Sharij facing 15 years in jail on “trumped up” charges October 2021

32 World Summit on Organ Harvesting Presented by Five NGOs

33 World Summit draws over 400,000 viewers; Universal Declaration Released World Summit on Forced Organ Harvesting, Second Week

34 <https://universaldeclarationcpfoh.net/become-a-supporter>

35 Experts and dignitaries gather in Brussels to condemn CCP for organ harvesting October 2021

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NGO with ECOSOC consultative status United Nations

Registration on EU Transparency Register 628479527756-78

Civil society platform of Fundamental Rights created by the EU FRA

French non-benefit association register : W751082307

Member : European Federation for Freedom Of Belief - FOB

Member : European Network Of Religion and Belief - ENORB