# DATABASE 2012-2024 ON ANTI-MUSLIM HATRED

## Cases and rulings

| Country Code | Year | Reference details title | Reference details URL | Hate Bias motivation | Court / Body | Key facts of the case | Results (sanctions, outcome) and key consequences or implications of the case | Main reasoning / argumentation | Key issues (concepts, interpretations) clarified by the case | Key quotation in original language and translated into English with reference details |
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| Bulgaria | 2018 | Bulgaria / Commission for Protection against Discrimination / Decision No 170 of 23 April 2018 on case file No 38/2016 | http://kzd-nondiscrimination.com/layout/images/stories/2015/otchet/KZD-ot4et-2018-bg.pdf | Religion | Commission for Protection against Discrimination (Комисия за защита от дискриминация) | The case concerns harassment on the grounds of religion. The defendant (K.F.) was found guilty of harassment on the grounds of religion for posting online an interactive map showing the 'invasion of hordes of orcs of Islam in Europe'. The map, based on UNHCR data, was showing the 'exact number of terrorists' each European country had received between 2012 and 2015. | The Commission for Protection against Discrimination declared that the publication was an act of harassment on the grounds of religion and ordered the defendant to refrain from committing similar acts in the future. | The defendant argued that his purpose was to express his own opinion on terrorism and to present information about the terrorist organisation Islamic State and about the way it infiltrated its own members among the peaceful refugees so that they could organise terrorist acts in Europe. The Commission for Protection against Discrimination concluded that, irrespective of its original purpose, the project had resulted in humiliating the dignity of the persons identifying themselves as Muslims and could provoke negative attitudes and feelings, ignorance and hatred against such people. | The key issue clarified by the case is the interpretation of harassment of the grounds of religion. According to the Commission for Protection against Discrimination the purpose of the act had no mitigating effect on the gravity of the offence and despite the alleged purpose to inform the public about a terrorist organisation, the publication contributed to the construction of a stereotype against persons of Islamic religion. | "Твърдението на ответната страна е, че целта на статия е не да се засегне определен кръг лица, а да се представи информация относно терористичната организация Ислямска държава, която инфилтрира в редиците на мирните бежанци свои представители, които организират терористични актове в държави от ЕС. Според настоящия състав този факт сам по себе си не омаловажава нарушението на ЗЗДискр., тъй като за да изрази собственото си отношение по проблема, авторът на публикацията е използвал изразни средства, като цитираните по-горе, които заклеймяват и внушават враждебност спрямо лицата, изповядващи посочената религия, като им дава оценка за нещо вредно. Използваните изрази ("орди орки на исляма", "терористи", "главорези") е в достатъчна степен ясен и оскърбителен, за да създаде обидна среда по отношение на всяко лице изповядващо посоченото вероизповедание и да го заклейми като обществено неприемливо." "The argument of the defendant is that the purpose of the article is not to affect a certain circle of persons, but to provide information about the Islamic State terrorist organisation, which infiltrates its representatives among peaceful refugees in order to organise acts of terrorism in EU countries. According to the present panel, this fact does not in itself diminish the violation of the Protection against Discrimination Act, since the author of the publication has used to expressed his own opinion on the issue using expressions, such as those cited above, that condemn and incite hostility to those who profess that religion, giving them the appreciation of something harmful. The expressions used ("hordes of orcs of Islam", "terrorists", "thugs") are sufficiently clear and abusive to create an offensive environment for any person professing that religion and to brand it as socially unacceptable." |

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