

THE “ISLAMOPHOBIA” SCAM

David Rand
2022-05-14



www.atheology.ca
www.atheologie.ca

“‘*Islamophobia*’ is *Blasphemy*”

- Position paper adopted by AFT
- Main idea: Accusations of “Islamophobia” are the 21st century equivalent of the “crime” of “blasphemy.”
- Purpose of both:
To condemn and repress criticism of religions.
- Our Goal: Encourage those fight for the repeal of anti-blasphemy laws to recognize this equivalence between “Islamophobia” and “blasphemy.”

End Blasphemy Laws Campaign

The screenshot shows the website's header with the title "END BLASPHEMY LAWS" and the tagline "The campaign to abolish blasphemy laws, worldwide". Below this is a search bar labeled "SEARCH BY COUNTRY" with the example "e.g. United Kingdom". A world map is displayed, color-coded according to a key at the bottom: DEATH (dark red), PRISON (red), FINES (orange), LOCAL RESTRICTIONS (yellow), and REPEALED (green). The map shows that 8 countries are currently sentenced to death for blasphemy (dark red), while many others are in the prison, fines, or local restrictions categories. Some countries, like Canada and parts of Europe, are marked as repealed (green).

END BLASPHEMY LAWS .
The campaign to abolish blasphemy laws, worldwide

You can be sentenced to death for blasphemy in 8 countries, worldwide.

SEARCH BY COUNTRY
e.g. United Kingdom

PUNISHMENT COLOUR KEY
■ DEATH ■ PRISON ■ FINES ■ LOCAL RESTRICTIONS ■ REPEALED

end-blasphemy-laws.org

A campaign to repeal all anti-blasphemy laws, globally, in all countries.

Partnership between:

- Humanists International
- European Humanist Federation

Charter of the End Blasphemy Laws Coalition

We argue that blasphemy laws are harmful:

- 1) They violate freedom of expression and deny equality.**
- 2) Actively enforced blasphemy laws infringe on and violate human rights around the world.**
- 3) Passive blasphemy laws reinforce active blasphemy laws.**
- 4) They have been repudiated by international law and governance bodies.**
- 5) Blasphemy laws are sometimes hidden under other language.**

Humanists International (IHEU) & “Islamophobia”

Declarations before the United Nations Human Rights Council:

- **2008:** The accusation of “Islamophobia” is now widely used as an ad hominem weapon to silence opponents by equating any criticism of Islam with racism.
- **2015:** The isolationist term “Islamophobia” encourages divisive identity politics.

L'ISLAMOPHOBIE

Sous la direction de
Jérôme Blanchet-Gravel

Avec la collaboration
d'Éric Debroise

CAROLINE FOUREST
HASSAN JAMALI
ISABELLE KERSIMON
RENART LÉVEILLÉ
FIAMMETTA VENNER
CLAUDE SIMARD
ANNIE-ÈVE COLLIN
ALBAN KETELBUTERS

Préface de
Waleed Al-husseini

NORD/SUD

“When the notion of Islamophobia does not serve to censor any criticism of Islam by restoring the crime of blasphemy, it serves to prevent any reform or modernization of this religion....”

– Jérôme Blanchet-Gravel,
Foreword

Quotation by Hassan Jamali, in the same book

“The notion of Islamophobia exists for the sole purpose of restricting freedom of expression and scaring those who defend secularism and dare to speak out against religious accommodation. [...] Public institutions in Quebec have fallen into the trap.[...]”

– Hassan Jamali “‘Islamophobia,’ a weapon to counter any reform of Islam”

Henri Pena-Ruiz

French philosopher, an authority in matters of secularism.
His approach is universalist, against essentialization of religious affiliation.

“But no one can be reduced to just one’s religion.
One has a religion, But one is not one’s religion.
The same is true for a people. Even if one
belongs to the majority, a religious or spiritual
affiliation is necessarily an individual attribute and
may not be forced upon everyone in the group.”

— « **Islamophobie** »

in his *Dictionnaire amoureux de la Laïcité*



**“But the fear of Islamism is...
eminently justifiable, natural and
normal. So Islamophobia is in my
opinion an ideological imposture
which, in Western democracies,
ultimately amounts to imposing
the crime of blasphemy.”**

Zineb El Rhazoui
« Les Terriens du samedi »
2019-05-11

Quebec Bill 21 & “Islamophobia”

- 2019-04-26, Two health professionals at McGill: Bill 21 could have regrettable consequences for Quebecers’ health. “Racism” & “Islamophobia” may cause depression, anxiety & psychological stress.
- 2019-03-29, Michael Coren in *Maclean’s*: Bill 21 is “repugnant” & “The strain and stain of Islamophobia runs deep in Canada, and arguably stronger in Quebec than elsewhere.”
- 2019-03-28, Dan Bilefsky, *New York Times*: Associates Bill 21 with murderous anti-Muslim violence, fomenting hatred & “Islamophobia.”
- 2020-11, Court challenge: According to Bill 21’s opponents, Quebecers support for secularism is caused by “Islamophobia” & “racism.”

Organizations which promote criminalization of “Islamophobia”

- CCIF = Collectif contre l'islamophobie en France
 - Affinities with *Muslim Brotherhood*.
 - Published dubious statistics about “Islamophobic” events.
 - Disbanded 2020, after assassination of Samuel Paty.
- CCIB = Collectif contre l'islamophobie en Belgique

Hani Ramadan, brother of Tariq

https://twitter.com/_HaniRamadan/status/1375958473301766148



Hani Ramadan
@_HaniRamadan

Les musulmans sont en droit d'établir la liste de ceux qui encouragent l'islamophobie en France, sous prétexte de s'en prendre à l'islamisme, concept dangereusement fourre-tout. Y compris en relevant les noms des élus qui s'illustrent en ce sens. L'islamophobie est un délit.

7:50 PM · 27 mars 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

22 Retweets 43 Tweets cités 63 J'aime

“Muslims have the right to draw up a list of those who encourage Islamophobia in France, under the pretext of attacking Islamism, a dangerously catch-all concept. Including by noting the names of elected officials who stand out in this regard. Islamophobia is a crime”

Mohamed Sifaoui

Franco-Algerian investigative journalist and writer
who specializes in reporting on Islamism and organized crime

**“Islamophobia is an intellectual scam that
aims to atrophy debate.”**

Les Fossoyeurs de la République, Islamo-gauchisme : l'enquête inédite
(“Gravediggers of the Republic, Islamoleftism: an original investigation”),
Éditions de l'Observatoire.

Erdoğan's dream of becoming Caliph



“tomorrow, no European, no Westerner, will be able to take a step in safety, with peace of mind in the street, anywhere in the world,’ this is what Recep Tayyip Erdogan declared in March 2017 [...] The Turkish President takes more and more seriously his role as Caliph, taking on the costume of the protector of Muslims against a Europe that he qualifies as Islamophobic and racist and that he accuses of trampling on human rights because it refuses Sharia and the veil on its soil, while Erdogan is allied with the militias of Daesh and massacres the Kurdish people in Iraq and Syria.”

- Céline Pina, « [L'Hypocrisie de la maire de Strasbourg face à l'entrisme islamiste](#) », 2021-03-25

Demonstration, Paris, 2019-11-10

Point of view of Riss, editor-in-chief *Charlie Hebdo*:

“The so-called demonstration against Islamophobia, where part of the left met last Sunday, is a significant date in the history of the left. In the story of its disintegration. The fight against racism and discrimination is a key issue for democracy. But to be combated effectively, racism and discrimination must be precisely identified. It is not enough to wrongly designate supposed racists to obtain an anti-racism certificate. Nor is it justified to point the finger at all Muslims for fighting Islamism, as unfortunately far-right parties in Europe do. ‘War is too important a thing to be entrusted to soldiers,’ said Clemenceau. When we hear certain self-proclaimed anti-racism activists accuse anyone of anything, we think that the fight against racism is too important a thing to be entrusted to such irresponsible people.”

« [Un bel enterrement de la gauche](#) » (“A lovely burial of the left”), *Charlie Hebdo*, 2019-11-12

Two Types of Censorship

- Legal censorship, imposed by the State, using laws against blasphemy, hate speech, etc.
- Social censorship, imposed by media and one's peers:
 - Gratuitous accusations of “xenophobia,” “Islamophobia,” etc. in traditional & social media, in social interactions, leading to self-censorship.
 - Legislative motions, without force of law but which endorse social censorship.

Motions Against “Islamophobia”

- 2015-10-01: National Assembly of Quebec, resolution by Françoise David (Québec Solidaire). Rassemblement pour la laïcité (RPL) declares its disagreement.
- 2017-03-23: Parliament of Canada : [M-103](#) which condemns “Islamophobia and all forms of systemic racism and religious discrimination.”
- “Taking Action Against Systemic Racism and Religious Discrimination Including Islamophobia,” report of Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage, mandated to follow up on Motion M-103.
Blog by Louise Mailloux:
“Ottawa Throws its Doors Wide Open to Religions”

Accusations of “Islamophobia” can have Very Serious—Even Deadly—Consequences

- Mila: Death threats, under police protection.**
- Samuel Paty: Assassinated and decapitated.**

In a country where neither “blasphemy” nor “Islamophobia” is a crime, a violent or even deadly repression of these non-crimes can occur. Extreme examples of social censorship.

Extrajudicial Violence Against “Blasphemers”

- Pakistan, 1987–2017: more than 75 extrajudicial executions of people accused of “blasphemy.”
- Examples:
 - Sajjad Maseeh & Shama Bibi
 - Rashid Rehman
 - Mashal Kahn
- Recent example: Deborah Yakubu killed by mob in northern Nigeria, for “blasphemy.”

In a country where the “crime” of blasphemy exists, violent extrajudicial repression of this [non-]crime can also occur.

Apostasy

- **Apostasy (renounce one's religion) forbidden in Islam, severely punished, even death penalty. No respect for freedom of conscience.**
- **Accusations of "Islamophobia" = approximate synonym of "racism." Conflate race with religion, racializing religious affiliation. Similar to ban on apostasy, denial of freedom of conscience.**
- **Race-Islam conflation is the light version of Islam's ban on apostasy.**

Justin Trudeau confuses “Islamophobia” with Homophobia

“But why does the word Islamophobia scare us? No one complains about the word homophobia. There’s even a day for that. But Islamophobia bothers us, why?”

– Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, 2018-01-29

[Press Release, 2018-02-02](#), AFT denounces Trudeau’s assertion:

- Islam and its variant Islamism are ideologies. Homosexuality is not.
- An insult to the dignity of homosexual persons.
- Demeaning for Muslims, preventing them from criticizing their own religion.
- Trudeau essentializes religious affiliation, as if it were biologically determined. This amounts to an endorsement of Islam’s ban on apostasy and thus a denial of Muslims’ freedom of conscience.

Definition of “Islamophobia” by British APPG (All Party Parliamentary Group)



The inquiry into a working definition of Islamophobia

“Islamophobia is rooted in racism and is a type of racism that targets expressions of Muslimness or perceived Muslimness.”

– *Islamophobia Defined*,
APPG on British Muslims, 2018.

Two major problems:

- Confuses ideology (Islam) with people (Muslims)
- Essentializes (racializes) religious affiliation by conflating it with race.

Batley Grammar School

The Abject Cowardice of Authorities



- March 2021, teacher suspended after presenting a cartoon of Muhammad.
- Demonstrations demanding his firing.
- Cowardly apology from headmaster.
- Teacher fears for his life. His career is probably over.
- The foolishness of the APPG and the cowardice of school authorities are two manifestations of the same Islamolatric madness.

Three Neologisms

- **Islamolatry** = extreme attitude of respect for, admiration of or submission to Islam or even Islamism, but not as a believer; rather, as a non-Muslim who opposes frank criticism of Islam.
- **Islamocomplacency** = an attitude of complacency with regard to political Islam, underestimating or ignoring its danger.
- **Islamoleftism** = A degenerate form of left-wing politics in which the priority which the left traditionally accorded to questions of class is now replaced by the defence of minorities, especially Muslims, as if Muslims constituted the new working class (as in Marxist ideology) or the new chosen people (as in Abrahamic mythology).

United Nations: A Major Victory in 2011

- 1999 & 2010: OIC succeeds in passing resolutions condemning “defamation of religion” and “Islamophobia.”
- 2010: Last of such resolutions, with weakened support.
- 2011: Resolution 16/18 protects human beings rather than ideas. Reaffirmed in 2012 & 2013.
- 2011: Declaration that laws against blasphemy are contrary to the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*.

United Nations: A Major Setback in 2022

- Resolution proclaiming 15th March as **International Day to Combat Islamophobia** unanimously adopted by the General Assembly
- Resolution introduced by Pakistan, whose representative said: “Islamophobia has emerged as a new form of racism that includes, among others, discriminatory travel bans, hate speech and the targeting of girls and women for their dress.”
- Thus, secular legislation such as Quebec Bill 21 and French bans on religious symbols are targeted by this retrograde measure.

New US Law Against “Islamophobia” Internationally

- New law proposed by Ilhan Omar passed by US House of Representatives. Not yet adopted by Senate.
- **Bill H.R.5665: Combating International Islamophobia Act**
“establishes within the Department of State the Office to Monitor and Combat Islamophobia and addresses related issues.”
- Congresswoman Omar wears hijab, including when in House of Representatives. Headgear banned there for almost two centuries (1837—2019). Omar obtained exception for religious reasons, thus violating separation between religions and State.
- See: [Masih Alinejad Opposes Ilhan Omar’s Islamophobia Bill](#)

Conclusion

- **“Islamophobia” is like criminalization of “blasphemy.”**
(See AFT position paper “‘Islamophobia’ is Blasphemy”)
- **Social censorship & threats of extrajudicial consequences add to threats from legal (judicial) censorship.**
- **We denounce conflation of race and religion which implies denial of freedom of conscience: Racialization of religion.**
- **Importance of right to apostasy & defence of ex-Muslims.**

Resources

(in English)

- **“Islamophobia” in the Atheist Repertory**
- **“Islamophobia”: a weapon against reforming Islam**
Quotes from Hassan Jamali
- **Blog 022: Rethinking “Islamophobia”**
by J. Doughart & F. S. Al-Mutar.
- **Blog 094: Islamophobia: There Is No Such Thing** by Bio.
- **Blog 109: British Secularists Reject “Islamophobia” Definition**
by D. Rand.

Ressources

(en français)

- « Islamophobie » dans le Répertoire athée
- Livres
 - *L'ISLAMOPHOBIE* sous la direction de Jérôme Blanchet-Gravel, Éditions Dialogue Nord-Sud, 2016 – Recension
 - *Un racisme imaginaire : Islamophobie et culpabilité*, Pascal Bruckner, Grasset, 2018.
 - *Islamophobie : Intoxication idéologique, anatomie d'une imposture*, Philippe D'Iribarne, Albin Michel, 2019.
- « Islamophobie imaginaire » de Hassan Jamali
- Blogue 022 : Repenser l'« islamophobie » de J. Doughart et F. S. Al-Mutar.
- Blogue 094 : L'islamophobie, ça n'existe pas de Bio.
- Blogue 109 : Des sécularistes britanniques rejettent la définition d'« islamophobie » de D. Rand.
- Nouveau livre de Djemila Benhabib: *Islamophobie, mon œil !*