

President's Closing remarks

Cult undue influence and the process of radicalization, a question for debate?

I would like to thank all the speakers who, throughout this exceptional day, brought, each in its field of competence, additional insights into the complex phenomenon of cultic undue influence and radicalization in all its forms.

If, as Jean-Pierre Jouglu, President of our Scientific Committee, pointed out, the choice of today's theme seemed to us to be irrefutably pertinent, it is because "our associations dedicated to helping cult victims knew, through their local and international experience, that the violent radicalism of Islamic pretense had to do with the cults. "

The various speakers of different nationalities in Europe and beyond, who succeeded one another on this rostrum, each specialized in different disciplines, some spokesmen of governments, have developed, through their historical, legal, sociological, and psychological experience, an analysis of the causes and motivations that lead to radicalization and subjugation.

In particular, I would like to thank our two witnesses, Véronique Roy and Sophie Poirot, both who had the courage and generosity to come and expose their painful experience, one of them having lost her son in Syria, the other having lived enslaved for 12 years under intolerable conditions, but who won his trial against the guru.

This symposium was meant to show that "any radicalized cultic group carries a political project, that of seizing power, not only on the individual, not only on one group, but to impose an utopian and archaic ideology, on all mankind.

Danièle Muller-Tulli
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