



Members of the European Parliament

To Antonio Tajani  
President of the European Parliament

Concerns: Marcel de Graaff

Brussels, 14th March 2018

Dear President Tajani,

I am writing to you as a fellow Member of the European Parliament and as Co-President of the European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup (ARDI) to call for dispensary measures against Marcel de Graaff MEP for his speech in plenary this morning.

Mr. de Graaff accused Muslim people of systemically launching Europe straight back into the Middle Ages by stating that Islam is the definition of gender inequality, polygamy, child marriage, slavery and honor killings. His speech was clearly based on Islamophobic rhetoric and is an unacceptable behavior for a Member of European Parliament.

Therefore, I would urge you to take immediate action against Mr. de Graaff using the EP's Rules of Procedure. Such behaviour should not be tolerated and should be sanctioned. His actions are all the more irresponsible and dangerous given that he is a Member of the European Parliament and in the current context in Europe where the rights of migrants and Muslims have come under attack.

Racism and xenophobia are direct violations of the principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law. It is imperative that all of us fight intolerance and we hope you take action.

I look forward to receiving your reply and how you will take action.

Yours sincerely  
Cécile Kyenge  
Asim Ademov  
Marina Albiol Guzman  
Nedzhmi Ali  
Martina Anderson  
Bashir Amjad  
Brando Benifei  
Lynn Boylan  
Mercedes Bresso  
Renata Briano

European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup (ARDI)

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