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PRESS RELEASE

French President Emmanuel Macron attended a meeting on "separatism" in the Les Mureaux commune in his country's Yvelines region. Here, he used scandalous expressions that target Islam, "Islam is a religion that is in crisis all over the world today." In the name of the fight against radical Islam, "Islamists aim to demonstrate a methodical organization against the laws of the Republic and establish a parallel order of other values." "Those who act against the laws of the Republic will not be tolerated." "From 2024, imams from countries such as Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia will not be admitted; employees working in private companies for the public benefit cannot carry any religious symbols, the headscarf will be banned, and associations that do not sign the secularism specification will be closed immediately".

We strongly condemn the words of the President of France, one of the countries that form the backbone of the European Union. With these words, Macron discriminates between people and commits hate crime by provoking one part of the society against another part of it. France, this time, tries to apply the practice of secularism in its own country, which it has applied in colonial countries for years. We would like to remind Macron of the ECHR ruling that prohibits religious symbols in public institutions. Soile Lautsi, an Italian citizen of Finnish origin, filed an application to the ECHR against Italy with the allegation of violating the freedom of religion and conscience by "crucified Christ figures and cross signs in schools", and the Court ruled on the violation in 2009. The Vatican and European states reacted greatly to this decision, and the Grand Chamber abolished this decision. On the other hand, in the case of Leyla Şahin, a student at the Faculty of Medicine whose right to university education was denied due to the headscarf ban, the same court decided that there was no violation of rights. It is known that the ECHR, which is one of the value-producing centers of the European Union, distinguishes between religions and negatively discriminates in the applications of Muslims not only in this case but in many of its decisions. Is Mr. Macron sincere in his words that religious symbols will be banned? Will the decision to ban the headscarf include signs of the cross? Placing the Terms of Secularism before non-governmental organizations is a clear violation of freedom of association. The limits of rights and freedoms are clear. Rights and freedoms cannot be restricted as long as they do not

threaten public safety, public order and general health. In cases requiring restrictions, the restriction should be made by law, be temporary, and the essence of the right should not be touched. The European Union is passing its biggest test after the second world war. Following the terrorist act of September 11, 2001, Europe is rapidly moving away from the ideal of a "state of law". Before Islam, during pre-islamic age of ignorance, polytheists made idols out of halva and ate these idols when they were hungry.

Macron's statements also evoke the polytheists of the pre-islamic age of ignorance. This explanation of Macron consists of the expression of hatred, discrimination, hostility and hatred (Islamophobia) of the Western world towards Muslims. We invite Macron to respect human rights, the principle of equality, the prohibition of discrimination, freedom of expression, freedom of association, and freedom of religion and conscience. After more than half a century of experience, we strongly warn Europe not to turn to Nazi-like practices.

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Att. at Law

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