

Column “Anti LGBT+ censorship on Twitter, under pressure from Islamists”

Following the announcement of the participation of a representative of the LGBT+ Muslim community, doctor and imam Ludovic-Mohamed Zahed¹, at *Brand Week* in Istanbul², we witnessed last week an outpouring of hatred and anti-LGBT+ and queer death threats, from patriarchal, fascistic ideology's supporters, claiming to be Islamists.

As a result of this pressure from this minority described as "Islamist," Brand Week organizers cancelled (and then postponed) Zahed's talk; and the social network Twitter suspended his account "permanently," with no compelling justification (today, the Twitter account of L. Zahed has been put back online). Threats and hate messages, posted on the same social network, Twitter, are still very visible to everyone's eyes³.

We, Muslims and non-Muslims alike, citizens committed to progressive and inclusive philosophies of life, would argue today that the cancellation of events, or the censorship of social media accounts belonging to activists and intellectuals fighting for human rights, is not conducive to the emergence of truly egalitarian societies in the future.

At a time when Arab peoples are struggling for their rights, when feminists in Iran and France are mobilizing to freely dispose of their bodies, Twitter is clearly on the wrong side of history, and these so-called "Islamists" boast that they are now "stronger together", thanks to Twitter's support for their campaign of hate, death threats and discriminatory pressure against LGBT+ and queer Muslim; a campaign which is now unjustly, although momentarily, validated by Twitter.

Thus, after this discriminatory incident, we ask Twitter, in the future, to proactively protect of the freedom of expression of those who fight against fascist ideologies of all kinds. We also ask the social network Twitter to carry out an inclusive moderation of its contents, so that its AIs⁴ are no longer on the side of those supporters of fascist ideologies, but on the side of those who fight for universal human rights, without discrimination based on gender, HIV-AIDS status, or religion.

#queertwitter #inclusive_islam #progressive_islam #ludovic_mohamed_zahed #queerimams #peacemakers

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¹ Director of the CALEM Institute in Marseille (France) and membre of the international network INImuslim : <https://www.calem.eu/INImuslim.html>

² Which is promoted as a platform to: "talk about the major changes and innovations on the horizon". <https://brandweekistanbul.com/en/>

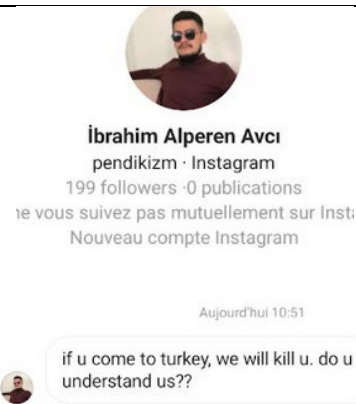
³ See some extracts in the appendix or on request: calem.france@gmail.com

⁴ Artificial Intelligence.



[EN] "The conference in Istanbul by Ludovic Mohamed Zahed, who was financed as a "Gay Imam" in Europe, has been canceled. We are strong together".

[FR] « La conférence que devait donner à Istanbul Ludovic Mohamed Zahed, financé comme "Imam gay" en Europe, a été annulée. Nous sommes forts ensemble ».



Kasım ayında yapılacak konuşmaya davet edilen Ludovic Zahed, "gerçek bir 'imam', yani din adamı mı?" araştırması yaparken ilginç bilgilerle karşılaştım.

Bu yazı dört bölümden oluşacak. 1- ++

Traduire le Tweet



[EN] "At least, you should have said on the flyer that Zahed is HIV positive".

[FR] « Au moins, vous auriez dû écrire sur l'affiche que Zahed est séropositif ».



[EN] "When the Imam of Hagia Sophia, Mehmet Boynukal, spoke, those who moved the floor (= the LGBT+ community) call for "Freedom" for the program in which the so-called Imam (!) Ludovic Mohamed Zahed slandering

LGBT people supported by France will speak. This program is unacceptable (Ibrahim Ceylan)".

[FR] « Lorsque l'imam de Sainte-Sophie, Mehmet Boynukal, a pris la parole, ceux qui ont fait bouger le sol (= la communauté LGBT+) appellent à "Liberté" pour l'émission dans laquelle s'exprimera le soi-disant imam (!) Ludovic Mohamed Zahed calomniant les LGBT soutenu par la France. Ce programme est inacceptable (Ibrahim Ceylan) ».



[EN] "The speech of the so called gay imam Ludovic-Mohamed Zahed has been canceled".

[FR] « Le discours du soi-disant imam gay Ludovic-Mohamed Zahed a été annulé ».



[EN] "LGBT pervers used Islam as a tool! Gay so-called imam Ludovic-Mohamed Zahed to speak at Brand Week in Istanbul".

[FR] « Les pervers LGBT ont utilisé l'Islam comme un outil ! Le soi-disant imam gay Ludovic-Mohamed Zahed s'exprimera lors de la semaine de la marque à Istanbul ».