Conference on Sharia law, apostasy and secularism

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The Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain is hosting a day-long conference on 7 February 2015 in London.

The conference will include discussions on freedom of expression and blasphemy codes, which are particularly relevant after the attacks on the Paris office of satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo*. Following the attack, National Secular Society President Terry Sanderson <u>said</u>: "We cannot, as a society, place religion beyond the reach of satire or critical examination." Terry will host a panel discussion on "apostasy, free expression and hate speech" at the conference in February.

Furthermore, the conference will examine Islamism, Sharia, the religious right, education and public policy, as well as secularism and citizenship more generally.

The conference will also consider recent campaigns against the Law Society's <u>Sharia guidance</u>, and the gender segregation advice issued by <u>Universities UK</u>.

Speakers will consider equal rights and discrimination against ex-Muslims, and the "urgent fight against Islamism and the religious-Right."

Other confirmed speakers include: Activist Ahmed Idris, Campaigner for Secular Education Aliyah Saleem, Spokesperson of the Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain Amal Farah, Activist Atoosa Khatiri, Secular Activist Chris Moos, Director of the Centre for Secular Space Gita Sahgal, Founder of the Council of Ex-Muslims of Morocco Imad Iddine Habib, Spokesperson of One Law for All Maryam Namazie, Spokesperson of the Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain Nahla Mahmoud, Human Rights Campaigner Peter Tatchell, Southall Black Sisters Director Pragna Patel, Founder of Ex-Muslims of Scotland Ramin Forghani, Nari Diganta's Rumana Hashem and Women's Rights Campaigner Yasmin Rehman.

The full agenda and booking information can be found here

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