

Hodan A. Mohamed recommendation - Second UN-PFPAD Session - June 02, 2023

Afrophobia / anti-Black racism is insidious in every facet of our lives; thus, naming it is critical in addressing and combating it...which includes identifying what hate crimes look like and the various ways they impact Black lives.

People of African descent experience widespread racism and discrimination across the globe and in all areas of life, including employment, education, policing and the criminal justice system. In Canada, for example, the criminal code makes no distinction between an assault and an assault motivated by anti-Black racism / Afrophobia. And as we know, the US supreme court unanimously has ruled there is no 'hate speech exception to the First Amendment...Matal v. Tam in 2017.

In the Declaration on the human rights of People of African Descent, I called to include the following:

Affirming that racism, racial discrimination, Afrophobia and all related intolerance constitute an explicit denial of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and that equity and non-discrimination are fundamental principles of international law.

This recommendation is essential to affirming our fundamental human rights to attaining and maintaining national and international protection without fear of racial reprisal and discrimination. It is about adopting an assets-based approach around the response to Afrophobia / anti-Black racism to inform disaggregated race-based data that centres PAD across the board. An expanded framework of what hate crimes encompass/include.