
ENAR STATEMENT

2ND SESSION OF THE PERMANENT FORUM ON PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK 30TH – 2ND JUNE 2023

31st May 2023

Good afternoon, your excellencies, and distinguished colleagues...I'm Shaban Jah a recent law school graduate Co-founder of the European Network of Women of African Descent and a board member of the European Network against Racism.

I'm honored to be here today and make a statement on behalf of the European Network of Women of African Descent in support of ENAR.

We are a Pan-European network based in Brussels consisting of some 150 grassroots organizations working for racial justice and Equality policies.

There are an estimated 15 million people of African descent and black Europeans making them one of Europe's largest marginalized communities.

People of African descent experience widespread racism and discrimination across the EU and in all areas of life, including in housing, employment, education, and the criminal justice system.

We very much welcome the initiative by the Spanish Government on data collection

- We call on EU nations to adopt specific data collection policies that are geared towards PAD and the impact of racism on economic and social outcomes for people of African descent including employment, housing, education, health, political participation, and the criminal justice system.
- We call on all member states to include data collection with new indicators on far rights and white supremacist movements and the impact on black and racialized Europeans who are sometimes attacked and blackmailed for simply wanting to be visible or wanting their rights to be protected like any other European.



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- We call on all member states to put politics aside and stop using migrants' people for political purposes and agree to a unified approach on immigration. People of African descent and African migrants fleeing arm conflict must be treated as humans with all their rights and dignity preserved.
- No one should have to die because of fleeing a conflict or seeking economic equality.
- We call on member states to support a second decade for people of African descent.

I thank you for your attention.