

# Islam in Europe

News and Opinions about the Islamic Community in Europe and the West, focusing on Belgium, the Netherlands and Scandinavia.

## UK: Muslim tribunal proposal to combat forced marriage

Despite what the article says, forced marriage is illegal in the UK. There's just no special law about it.

In any case, isn't every immigrant who comes in as part of marriage immigration already interrogated?

-----

*A group of British Muslim barristers and judges have come up with a proposal to help address the problem of forced marriage, a common practice seen as going against the very essence of Islam.*

*"Coerced and forced marriages are a reality for many young Muslims directly or indirectly," the Muslim Arbitration Tribunal (MAT) said in a report on Thursday, June 12.*

*"Young Muslims in Britain are under siege from their elders and parents because of the generational and cultural gap."*

*The "Liberation from Forced Marriages" report argues that more than 70 percent of marriages among British Muslims involving a foreign spouse have some element of coercion or force.*

*MAT is proposing a voluntary system under which a Muslim citizen seeking to bring a foreign spouse into Britain would voluntarily provide testimony before a panel of Muslim judges.*

*"The voluntary deposition, if successful would result in a written declaration from the Judges of MAT, that they were satisfied that the marriage entered into was without any force or coercion."*

*The Muslim citizen can then use this declaration to support the application of the foreign spouse to settle in Britain.*

*"If however, the foreign spouse fails to produce such a declaration from MAT or any other appropriate evidence, then it would be open for the ECO at the entry clearance point, to draw such inferences deemed appropriate as to the status of the marriage."*

*Britain is home to a multi-ethnic Muslim minority of more than two million, mainly from Pakistani, Bengali and Indian backgrounds.*

*Britain's Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) says 65 percent of its cases involved Pakistani nationals and 25 percent involved Bangladeshi nationals.*

*Forced marriage is not outlawed in Britain, but rape, domestic violence and kidnap laws are used to prosecute instead.*

### No Law Change

*MAT, established last year to help British Muslims resolve disputes in accordance with Islamic Shari`ah while within English law, stressed the voluntary nature of its proposal.*

*"The British citizens are not forced to make themselves available to the MAT Judges," it said.*

*It suggested that British Muslims can also show up in front of other Muslim judges or groups to do the same job.*

*"MAT need not be the only arbitration tribunal that the British citizen can refer the matter to. There will be people of other faiths and orientations that may find comfort in referring the matter to other tribunals."*

*The Muslim group, whose Governing Council is chaired by Shaykh Faizul Aqtab Siddiqi, stressed there should be no interference on the part of British authorities into the issue.*

*"One of the outstanding factors of this proposition is that there needs to be no changes made to the current immigration legislation."*

*MAT said there should be no interference on the part of British authorities into the issue.*

*"One of the outstanding factors of this proposition is that there needs to be no changes made to the current immigration legislation," it maintained.*

*"Any such attempts would be deemed by the community as infringement of their civil liberties of the community and / or the government placing further obstacles prejudicing the Asian community."*

Source: [Islam Online](#) (English)

Permalink: [4:19 AM](#)

### 1 comments:

[Amjad Hussain](#) said...

At last an initiative that may resolve a real and complex issue!

These guys are certainly led by some heavyweight grassroot leaders but will the government do anything to support them? If not I can't see anything happening!

[June 13, 2008 3:28 AM](#)

[Post a Comment](#)

[Newer Post](#)

[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

Subscribe to: [Post Comments \(Atom\)](#)

### Should Muslim extremist groups be banned or debated?

Banned	171 (77%)
Debated	51 (22%)

Votes so far: 222  
Poll closed

### About Me

Esther  
Email: [IslamBlog@gmail.com](mailto:IslamBlog@gmail.com)

[View my complete profile](#)

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Academic Disucssion List

I'm currently setting up a discussion list for academics, students and anybody else who is interested in research on Islam in Europe. To join the list, click [here](#) (opens up email) or visit the [mailing list site](#)

#### Get Islam in Europe by mail

Islam in Europe has a related mailing list. Subscribers can get all posts by email.

Click [here](#) to subscribe (opens up email) or visit the [mailing list site](#)

Additional options:

\* [email subscription \(Feedburner\)](#)

\* [RSS feed](#)

\* [RSS feed for 'In Other News'](#)

### Advertisements

[Thoughts](#) - Blogging Community

#### Research Paper

[www.a1essays.com](#) - We are a team of professional writers, whose main goal is to provide you with excellent assistance in essay writing. custom research paper, college research paper, buy research paper, research paper help, research paper writing, research paper editing.

[webhosting](#) - Web host directory and guide.

[Advertise here](#)

#### Meet Islam Women

Islam Marriage And Dating Site. 499,000 Members. Join 100% Free!  
[www.Muslima.com](#)

### In Other News

[New poll: Sweden Democrats on the rise](#) - Jun 15, 2008

[Kosovo's new constitution in place amid deep divisions](#) - Jun 15, 2008

[Turks say Germans would not pass citizenship test](#) - Jun 14, 2008

[An angry minister for the angry margins of France](#) - Jun 14, 2008

[Italy to patrol streets with soldiers](#) - Jun 14, 2008

### Recent Comments

[Reliapundit](#) commented:

yup: these people aren't immigrants; they're colonizers...

[Anonymous](#) commented:

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/foreign/brun> agendas pose a...

[Esther](#) commented:

Hi jdamn13, Not going into the evolution vs. creationism argument, what you're describing is natural ...

[jdamn13](#) commented:

A career in common sense requires the assumption of evolution. It's not like it necessarily takes c...

[Anonymous](#) commented:

Let the slum burn to the ground, with the whole lot of them in their buildings.

[Pedric@aol.com](#) commented:

Virtually all the important jurists of classical and modern Islam agree with Prof. Jansen. The curse...

Widget sponsored by:

#### Loads of fantastic women

waiting to chat to you now - have you got the animal instinct?  
[www.BarkingAlready.com](#)

### Resources

[Research - Books and Studies](#)

[Resources](#)

[News Sources](#)

[Blogs](#)

[Forums](#)

[People](#)

[Euphemisms](#)

[The Muslim Veil in Europe](#)

[Muslim population in European cities](#)

[Muslim population in European prisons](#)

[Miscellaneous Links](#)

[Videos](#)



### Posts of Interest

[Antwerp: "A Belgian Family"](#)

[Asmaa Abdol-Hamid - A Question](#)

[Belgian marriage-immigration Fact and Fiction](#)

[Norway, Rape and Muslims - A Study](#)

[Sweden: Don't give Islamic laws a place in Sweden](#)

[The smile, the veil and the urban legend](#)

[UK police: you can't fight terror without working with extremist Muslims](#)

[Why are there still all those questions?](#)