



REFUGEE RIGHTS ASSOCIATION

WHO WE ARE?

Refugee Rights Association is a non-governmental organization founded in 2009 to combat the lack of asylum rights and violations of asylum rights in the northern part of Cyprus. Refugee Rights Association actively works on the legal, social and social aspects of refugee rights, human trafficking and racism in the northern part of Cyprus.

WHAT WE DO?

- We carry out advocacy, awareness and information activities on refugee rights, human trafficking, racism and hate crimes in the northern part of Cyprus.
- We established the Network Against Racism in the northern part of Cyprus with the participation of various civil society organizations and communities and organise regular meetings and events.
- We provide social and legal solidarity depending on the needs of refugees, victims of human trafficking and racism living in the northern part of Cyprus.
- We collect and analyse data and prepare research reports on refugee rights, human trafficking and racism/discrimination (you can access our publications on our website).

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- You can become an RRA Volunteer
www.mhdkibris.com



- Donate to RRA
www.mhdkibris.com



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RACISM DISCRIMINATION HATE CRIME



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WHAT IS DISCRIMINATION?

Discrimination means arbitrarily treating a person or group of people unequally, preventing them from enjoying their rights, or victimizing them because of language, religion, race, race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, a difference in political opinion or other reasons.

WHAT IS RACISM?

Racism can be defined as a doctrine that asserts the superiority of one race over others by reducing people's social characteristics to their biological and racial characteristics. Racism is a set of beliefs, learnedness and prejudices that ignore equality between people and harm social integrity.

WHAT IS RACIST DISCOURSE?

It is defined as any statement that spreads, encourages and justifies hatred and intolerance based on a racist mindset.

WHAT IS HATE CRIME?

Crimes of racist and discriminatory violence committed against a person or group of people for various reasons such as race, language, religion, ethnic origin, colour, political opinion, gender and sexual orientation.

WHAT IS HATE SPEECH OR HATEFUL DISCOURSE?

In general, hate speech can be defined as "any expression of thought that spreads, promotes, supports or attempts to justify racial hatred, discrimination, marginalization, hostility and intolerance". "Hate Speech" or "Hateful Discourse" is often directed against historically repressed, socially and politically marginalized and targeted identities.

WHY RACIST DISCOURSE?

A few racist words commonly used in the northern part of Cyprus and their explanations:

HALAYIK:

1. *Female slave, concubine. (Noun)*
2. *A female servant who was captured or enslaved in wars. (Noun)*

Over time, words settle into our language and can acquire new meanings. These words that gain new meaning and purpose over time may not be used with negative connotations.

However, this does not mean that the origin of the word, its dictionary definition, the situation it represents, or its intended use has changed.

ZENCI:

A person of the black race. (Noun)

Some words are defined as racist discourse not by their dictionary meaning, but by their connotation, intention and usage. However, especially when words are considered to be an insult by members of a society and community, **this is racist discourse. Its determinants are the feelings, thoughts and sensitivities of the people who are the subjects of this discourse.**

FELLAH:

1. *farmer. (Noun)*
2. *Egyptian villager. (Noun)*

Racist discourse is the use of discriminatory, condescending and derogatory meanings attached to words that define an occupational group or community for the purpose of marginalization.

ARAB:

1. *A person who is from or a descendant of the people living in the Middle East and most of North Africa. (Noun)*
2. *That which is peculiar to these people. (Adjective)*

Racist discourse is the use of words to describe an ethnic group, people or community by attributing hate, hostility, humiliation, discrimination, marginalization and derogatory meanings.

CIRA:

A name given to widowed women of Greek ethnic origin. (Noun)

It is also racist discourse when a word used specifically for an ethnic community has a negative and derogatory meaning and intended use, especially through gender identity/roles.

