

# Self-presentation: The Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain (CEMB)

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**Self-presentation of the CEMB taken from its website, October 14, 2016.**

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## Manifesto

### **Manifesto of the Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain**

We, non-believers, atheists, and ex-Muslims, are establishing or joining the Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain to insist that no one be pigeonholed as Muslims with culturally relative rights nor deemed to be represented by regressive Islamic organisations and ‘Muslim community leaders’.

Those of us who have come forward with our names and photographs represent countless others who are unable or unwilling to do so because of the threats faced by those considered ‘apostates’ – punishable by death in countries under Islamic law.

By doing so, we are breaking the taboo that comes with renouncing Islam but also taking a stand for reason, universal rights and values, and secularism.

Whilst religion or the lack thereof is a private affair, the increasing intervention of and devastation caused by religion and particularly Islam in contemporary society has necessitated our public renunciation and declaration. We represent a majority in Europe and a vast secular and humanist protest movement in countries like Iran.

We demand:

- Universal rights and equal citizenship for all. We are opposed to cultural relativism and the tolerance of inhuman beliefs, discrimination and abuse in the name of respecting religion or culture.
- Freedom to criticise religion. Prohibition of restrictions on unconditional freedom of criticism and expression using so-called religious ‘sanctities’.
- Freedom of religion and atheism.

- Separation of religion from the state and legal and educational system.
- Prohibition of religious customs, rules, ceremonies or activities that are incompatible with or infringe people's rights and freedoms.
- Abolition of all restrictive and repressive cultural and religious customs which hinder and contradict woman's independence, free will and equality. Prohibition of segregation of sexes.
- Prohibition of interference by any authority, family members or relatives, or official authorities in the private lives of women and men and their personal, emotional and sexual relationships and sexuality.
- Protection of children from manipulation and abuse by religion and religious institutions.
- Prohibition of any kind of financial, material or moral support by the state or state institutions to religion and religious activities and institutions.
- Prohibition of all forms of religious intimidation and threats.

<http://ex-muslim.org.uk/manifesto/>

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## **Contact**

*Spokespersons:* Imad Iddine Habib, Nahla Mahmoud, Maryam Namazie, Rayhana Sultan and Sadia Hameed

*CEMB Forum Coordinators:* Kiran Opal and Forum Moderation Team  
(Please note that opinions expressed in the CEMB forum do not necessarily represent the views of the Council of Ex-Muslims.)

*CEMB Twitter Account Coordinators:* Kiran Opal

*CEMB Facebook Coordinators:* Halima Begum, Imad Iddine Habib and Rayhana Sultan

*Monthly Meet-Up Coordinator:* Sandbad Behzad

*Case Coordinator:* EileenRose McFadden

### **Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain**

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Company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales under company name Committee of Ex-Muslims in Britain and number 8059509.

## **International affiliates**

Below are groups affiliated with the Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain:

### **Austria**

Council of Ex-Muslims of Austria

### **Britain**

Ex-Muslim North Meetup Group

Ex-Muslims of Scotland

### **France**

Council of Ex-Muslims of France

### **Germany**

Council of Ex-Muslims of Germany

### **Iran**

Iranian Atheists Association

### **Ireland**

Ex-Muslims of Ireland

### **Middle East and North Africa**

Atheist Alliance Middle East and North Africa

### **Morocco**

Council of Ex-Muslims of Morocco

### **New Zealand**

Council of Ex-Muslims of New Zealand

### **North America**

Ex-Muslims of North America

Muslimish

## **Norway**

Ex-Muslims of Norway

## **Pakistan**

Atheist & Agnostic Alliance Pakistan (AAP)

## **Scandinavia**

Council of Ex-Muslims of Scandinavia

## **Singapore**

Council of Ex-Muslims of Singapore

## **Turkey**

Ateizm Dernegi

<http://ex-muslim.org.uk/affiliates/>

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## **P.S.**

\* <http://ex-muslim.org.uk>