

3 December 2009

Comments on the statements of CVP President Christophe Darbellay

The Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities (SIG) and the Platform for Liberal Jews in Switzerland (PLJS) view with great bewilderment and concern the opinions expressed by CVP President Christophe Darbellay against the cemeteries of religious minorities.

The statement issued by the President of the CVP parliamentary party casts doubt over religious freedom and more importantly over the rights of religious minorities.

We note with deep regret that the President of a party committed to tolerance and inclusive benevolence should be induced to make statements such as these.

Religious cemeteries, some of which have been existence in Switzerland for centuries, do not put integration at risk and have no impact on Swiss national values.

The Jewish umbrella organisations expect CVP Switzerland to comment on the statements of their President and hope that the party will declare itself firmly on the side of religious freedom in Switzerland.

The current wave of activism solves no problems. Instead, it threatens the peaceful co-existence between the various cultures and religions in our country.

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