



## **European Citizens' Initiative "Stop Extremism" condemns the Barcelona Attacks**

### **It's now time to fight Extremism in Europe says Seyran Ates**

Vienna, 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017 – "Stop Extremism" is tired of empty phrases and calls upon European society to take action against Extremism.

Seyran Ates, co-founder of "Stop Extremism" says: "I want to express my sympathy to the relatives of the deceased and I wish a speedy and full recovery to the injured. It is unbearable that so much hate, terror and violence is being spread in the name of Islam. Another terrorist attack in the name of Islam, and again it's innocent people who were injured and lost their lives. We don't have to accept either this hate or this violence. We in Europe, have to fight together. This is why I call on all of you to support the European Citizens' Initiative "Stop Extremism" – especially in these testing times."

"It is obvious that the terror has us in a stranglehold. It is important to rise our voice together. This is why I initiated the European Citizens' Initiative "Stop Extremism" with Sebastian Reimer and many others. We want to discuss the cause of the incidents in Barcelona. There are backers who support and finance these atrocities and who help create a breeding ground for terrorism. This isn't something we have to accept. We have to point out all of these malign foreign influences in Europe and we have to push them back. We should not allow ourselves to become divided on those topics, and solidarity is the order of the day. Terrorism can happen to all of us and this is why it is necessary that every one of us tries to do something to halt it. Everyone can contribute the cause by supporting "Stop Extremism". This way we send out a clear signal – we are going to protect our liberal way of life and our democratic values we fought hard for", said Efgani Dönmez, co-founder and spokesperson of the European Citizens' Initiative "Stop Extremism".

### **One Million Signatures for the Fight against Extremism**

With the help of at least one Million Signatures from European Citizens', "Stop Extremism" is lobbying the European Commission for a legal package of measures that includes some radical changes in dealing with extremism. We demand a European anti-extremism directive which covers for the following points:

1. A definition of extremism based on the EU Fundamental Rights Charter
2. A warning list of extremist organisations and individuals
3. Improved intelligence exchange between security agencies
4. A European Single Market seal ("extremism-free")
5. Changes in employment law (simplified giving of notice to extremists)
6. (Simplified) compensation against extremists
7. Extended Imprint & Disclosure of Foreign Financing
8. Fines.

The Statement of Support can be filled here <http://www.en.stopextremism.eu/support>.

ENDS