



PES Presidency declaration on SMER-SD Adopted by the PES Presidency on 16th June 2016

We firmly condemn the recent statements by Robert Fico on the role of Islam in Slovakia. We also have concerns and serious questions regarding his policy on refugees, minorities, especially LGBT people.

For the PES freedom of religion and faith in a plural and open society is a fundamental value. We therefore expect Robert Fico to clarify and revise his position. We also expect him to outline a clear programme for a strong and united Europe during the next Presidency of the EU.

The PES will launch a process of critical evaluation to decide whether further formal steps are needed. In case of no progress, proposals for sanctions are part of the process up to and including suspension. The PES Prime Ministers and Leaders need to be involved in that process.

There is a need for a critical assessment at the beginning of the Slovak Presidency. In the light of that the PES Presidency will decide about every further political or statutory step up to and including suspension.

