

Table of Contents

- ***Muslim full face veil to be banned in public places in Austria***
 - ***Horror as Christian woman stabbed for reading the Bible in migration centre***
-

Muslim full face veil to be banned in public places in Austria

Austria is planning to ban Islamic full-face veils in courts, schools and other public places.

By Samuel Osborne

World-Wide Religious News (31.01.2017) - <http://bit.ly/2kpUV6B> - The prohibition will apply to the niqab and burqa, the full-face or face-and-body coverings worn by some Muslim women.

It comes as part of a package of reforms drawn up by the country's governing coalition to counter the rise of the far-right Freedom Party, which has topped opinion polls for months.

"We believe in an open society that is also based on open communication. Full-body veils in public spaces stand against that and will therefore be prohibited," the agreement said.

The country's coalition also agreed to prohibit police officers, judges, magistrates and public prosecutors from wearing head scarves in the interest of appearing "ideologically and religiously neutral" while serving the state.

The French parliament passed an act more than six years ago that made France the first European Union country to ban the niqab and burqa in public places.

Belgium and some parts of Switzerland followed France's lead and similar bans have been considered in other European countries.

Horror as Christian woman stabbed for reading the Bible in migration centre

A Christian woman was stabbed by an asylum seeker after he heard her reading from the bible

HRWF (04.01.2017) - The 50-year-old woman was only saved by her winter coat when she was attacked with a knife in the accommodation in Timelkam in Voecklamarkt in Upper Austria.

Her alleged attacker is a 22-year-old man from Afghanistan who had taken offence to the fact that the woman had been invited by Christian residents of the property to discuss the bible.

When he found out what she was doing, he stormed into the kitchen where the woman was standing and tried to plunge the knife into her upper body.

Luckily her thick winter coat protected her from serious injury, but she did injure her ear when she fell backwards from the force of the man's violent blows.

He was ordered remanded in custody and taken to Wels Prison in Upper Austria. It is unclear if he has been charged yet.

The horror attack happened just days after a [teenager was battered by a group of migrant men](#) in the Austrian capital of Vienna.

And on Christmas day the [migrant crisis](#) issue was addressed by the [Archbishop of Vienna when he said Austria could not cope](#) with the huge numbers arriving.
