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## **FECRIS, atheism, and support for the Russian war against Ukraine**

***The leader of an association "created" by a French FECRIS affiliate to deal with radical Islam and subtly propagate atheism continues to root for Putin. (The titles in the text are from HRWF)***

[Version en français](#)

by Massimo Introvigne



*Turquoise Freedom's president Khaled Slougui in Brussels on June 11, 2022, for a FECRIS conference. From X.*

[Bitter Winter](#) (11.03.2024)- FECRIS is the European Federation of Centers of Research and Information on Cults and Sects, an international anti-cult umbrella organization largely supported by French taxpayers. It has been criticized [by scholars](#) and even by the

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom ([USCIRF](#)) for spreading discriminatory attitudes against groups it stigmatizes as “cults.” “Bitter Winter” has documented its dangerous connections and support for the bloody repression of minority religions [in Russia and China](#).

### ***FECRIS’ support to Russia’s war on Ukraine***

One of the largest and most active FECRIS affiliate operated in Russia. Since 2014 (and in fact even earlier), it systematically supported [the aggression against Ukraine](#) by Putin’s regime. When Putin invaded Ukraine in February 2022, this support became a source of embarrassment for FECRIS. Yet, FECRIS [waited until March 2023](#) to sever its connection with its Russian branch. This means that for more than one year the Russian FECRIS leaders supported Putin’s crimes against the Ukrainian people while remaining members of FECRIS in good standing, which caused [strong reactions in Ukraine](#).

FECRIS was compelled by international pressures to put an end to this in March 2023. However, FECRIS has now another problem with the war of aggression against Ukraine, this time not in Russia but in France.

GEMPPI is a French FECRIS affiliate whose acronym stands for “Groupe d’étude des mouvements de pensée en vue de la protection des individus” (Group for the Study of Thought Movements for the Protection of the Individual). GEMPPI representative Didier Pachoud is (or was, since the FECRIS is sometimes slow in updating its official records) FECRIS’s treasurer. As late as July 15, 2022, almost five months after the war of aggression against Ukraine had started, GEMPPI organized an anti-cult symposium in [Paris featuring among the speakers Roman Silantyev](#), one of the most fanatically anti-Ukrainian Russian anti-cultists.

### ***Turquoise Freedom: pro-Eric Zemmour (extreme right), anti-NATO, anti-Macron***

So far, we are still talking of Russians. However, a French (not Russian) association “created” by GEMPPI, and which had a direct relation with FECRIS before being dissolved on March 21, 2023, called Turquoise Freedom had a president that continues to support Putin’s aggression against Ukraine to this very day. In the 2022 yearly report, of GEMPPI, the FECRIS affiliate admitted that “we [GEMPPI] have worked to create an association specialized in this field [radical Islam], Turquoise Freedom.”



Les demandes liées aux dérives sectaires supposées de groupes religieux se maintiennent, hormis l'islam radical au sujet duquel la demande augmente sensiblement malgré que nous ayons œuvré à la création d'une association spécialisée dans ce domaine (Turquoise Freedom).

*And GEMPPI created Turquoise Freedom: from GEMPPI 2022 yearly report.*

In fact, Turquoise Freedom had its own direct connection with FECRIS as well. At FECRIS' General Meeting of May 20, 2016, Turquoise Freedom, following a proposal by Didier Pachoud, was unanimously welcomed to the FECRIS Scientific Council for one year.

The former President of Turquoise Freedom, Khaled Slougui, is a [regular participant](#) in FECRIS activities and conferences. In 2018, Slougui became [a member of the GEMPPI Board of Directors](#).

PROCÈS-VERBAL  
de l'ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE de la FECRIS  
du vendredi 20 mai 2016 à SOFIA  
[www.fecris.org](http://www.fecris.org)  
Le vendredi 20 mai 2016, de 16h10 à 18h30  
Au State University for Library Studies and Information Technologies (SULSIT)  
119, Tzarigradsko Shose SOFIA BULGARIA

1045  
WASA  
Didier

#### 8. CANDIDATURES

8.1 Candidatures pour le statut de CORRESPONDANT FECRIS

8-1-1 Candidature de TURQUOISE FREEDOM (France) 35, rue Saint-Sébastien 13006 Marseille-France, présentée par Didier PACHOUD (GEMPPI)

Créée le 10/06/2015 TURQUOISE FREEDOM, Association des victimes de l'islam radical et de pratiques anachroniques, a pour but de faire de la prévention, de la formation, de l'information, d'accueillir, assister en toute confidentialité et promouvoir la cause des personnes morales et physiques confrontées ou victimes des dérives sectaires ou autres liées au radicalisme islamique ou à des pratiques coutumières anachroniques et dommageables.

Son Président : Khaled SLOUGUI.

L'association est laïque, humaniste et politiquement neutre et s'interdit de faire la promotion directe ou indirecte d'un parti politique et de toute religion ou croyance qu'elle aborde de manière rationnelle. Les membres de cette association sont tenus à cette même neutralité dans le cadre de l'association.

Cette association a une vocation internationale.

La structure d'accueil est composée essentiellement de personnes sensibilisées par le problème et de personnes ayant des compétences diverses.

Après échanges sur la spécificité de l'association, proposition: accueillir pour un an Turquoise Freedom dans le Comité Scientifique FECRIS.

à main levée : approuvé à l'unanimité, moins une abstention

Vote

*May 20, 2016: Turquoise Freedom presided by Khaled Slougui establishes an official connection with FECRIS.*

Before coming back to why GEMPPI needed to create Turquoise Freedom, let's have a look at Slougui's position on the Ukrainian conflict. February 2022: Putin starts its criminal aggression against Ukraine. Slougui loses no time in tweeting his support—for Putin. "[I just listened to Éric Zemmour](#) on the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and he was imperial in going back to the root of the problem. American provocations are unbearable, and NATO no longer has any reason to exist. France should therefore leave the integrated command." "[Macron seems furious](#), and with good reason: Putin has laughed at him, and his internal plan for the presidential election is collapsing. The man who refused to enter the arena to defend his record. At Rothschild, 'you don't think, you count.' The KGB prefers action." "[A unipolar world](#) is the greatest danger to humanity. As a shrewd strategist, Putin is doing something about it, and the great Russia is back for a

multipolar world. The rest is just sterile agitation, and the game is up. It would be better if NATO disappeared."



**SLOUGUI Khaled**

@KhaledSlougui

...

Un monde unipolaire c'est le plus grand danger pour l'humanité. En stratégie avisé, Poutine est en train d'y remédier, et la grande Russie est de retour pour un monde multipolaire. Le reste n'est qu'agitation stérile, et les jeux sont faits. L'OTAN doit disparaître, ce serait mieux

[Translate post](#)

9:23 AM · Feb 22, 2022

*One of Slougui's tweets hailing "the great Russia" and "Putin the shrewd strategist" after the invasion of Ukraine.*

The war continues as do the tweets of the the president of Turquoise Freedom. On May 19, 2022, he posts: "[Instead of using French taxpayers' money](#) to arm the clown [Zelensky] and please the senile U.S. [Biden]... the French government must realize that this is not its war, and preserve its relations with Russia."

Slougui keeps working with the French-supported FECRIS but at the same time slanders the "Macronie" (the country and government of Macron) as being "cultic" itself. On June 11, 2022, he tweets "[I'm taking part in the FECRIS](#) (Fédération Européenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur les Sectes) congress in Brussels. In the past, I had put forward the idea that in Macronie, the cult spirit is dominant. So the cult spirit is also present in 'secular' environments."

In short, for the former president of the FECRIS-connected Turquoise Freedom Zelensky is "[a corrupt comic dictator](#) used to wage war by proxy." And while he publicly expresses his support for Putin, he continues to attend the FECRIS events and there is no evidence that either FECRIS or GEMPPI have disassociated themselves from him or Turquoise Freedom.

### ***Turquoise Freedom, the fight against radical Islam and religion in general***

In fact, why GEMPPI needed to create Turquoise Freedom is not connected with Russia but is a fascinating story in itself. One can start understanding it by reading [an article published in "La Provence" on May 16, 2015](#), explaining that Pachoud announced to a FECRIS conference that the emergence of radical Islam "necessitated the creation of Turquoise Freedom," since in this field, the "job" of GEMPPI under its name was "not, for example, to bring [Muslims] back to a moderate Islam. We are secularists!"

But the cat comes out of the bag in two "confidential" pages of FECRIS' own website. They are there but are not easy to spot and access. A friendly suggestion to FECRIS: don't waste your time in removing them from your website, [as you did with other embarrassing texts before](#). Of course we at "Bitter Winter" have preserved them for the posterity.



Although on FECRIS' website there is also a small text in both [French](#) and [English](#), the clearest explanation is offered by a PowerPoint presentation offered in PDF, again both in [English](#) and [French](#).

Pachoud explains that GEMPPI has a "method" targeting relatives of followers of radical Islam (and other religions), who are at risk of being "radicalized" themselves. This method attacks directly and brutally the Holy Qu'ran and the Bible. While paying a lip service to the fact that these holy scriptures also include positive elements, Pachoud states that "No religion is innocuous and harmless, it always contains radicality in its sacred texts, extreme thought." The Bible and the Holy Qu'ran are deconstructed in two hours as "contrary to science," "anachronistic," "violent" and "undemocratic."

What is the purpose of this "procedure" created by GEMPPI? The cat comes out of the bag in slide #18: "This process highlights the idea that it is not God who creates man in his image, but the reverse. (We observed on the groups that took part in the procedure that the results are at the rendezvous: relativization of texts and truths)."

This is an important slide because it shows that when FECRIS tells us that it is not against religion it is simply lying. "The idea that it is not God that creates man in his image, but the reverse" is a classic, if outmoded, statement of atheism. The "procedure" aims at transforming in two hours religious believers, persuaded that God creates humans, in atheists who claim that it is the other way around and God is just a human creation. And "the results are at the rendezvous," the FECRIS executive assured its audience.

But what about Turquoise Freedom? Its role is explained in a separate slide in English and in the second sentence of slide #18 in French. Obviously the procedure has "rational and desacralizing contents" (read, it promotes atheism). It is possible that some Muslims and others "are not interested, especially because of their religious sensibilities." If the GEMPPI method, practiced under the name of GEMPPI, is rejected by some who, after all, do not want to become atheists, then an ostensibly separate organization, "Turquoise Freedom, supports them directly without using the ideological protection process proposed by GEMPPI."

# Sens et finalité de la procédure

Ce procédé met en exergue l'idée que ce n'est pas Dieu qui crée l'homme à son image, mais l'inverse. (Nous avons observé sur les groupes ayant participé à la procédure que les résultats sont au rendez-vous: relativisation des textes et des vérités)

D'où la nécessité d'informer précisément les familles ou proches du contenu rationnel et désacralisant de la démarche. S'ils ne sont pas intéressés, notamment en raison de leurs sensibilités religieuses, l'association des victimes de l'islam radical, *Turquoise Freedom* les prend directement en charge sans utiliser ce procédé de protection idéologique proposé par le GEMPPI

## Meaning and purpose of the procedure

This process highlights the idea that it is not God who creates man in his image, but the reverse. (We observed on the groups that took part in the procedure that the results are at the rendez-vous: relativisation of texts and truths)

# Meaning and purpose (continued)

Hence the need to specifically inform families or close friends on the rational and desacralising contents of the approach. If they are not interested, especially because of their religious Sensibilities, the association of the victims of radical Islam, *Turquoise Freedom* supports them directly without using the ideological protection process proposed by GEMPPI

*Atheism and dissimulation: a clear explanation of why GEMPPI needed to create Turquoise Freedom (French original and English version).*

Make no mistake, Turquoise Freedom and Slougui have no sympathy for God either. When Macron mentioned God, Slougui [tweeted](#): "It's a heresy in our secular Republic!" Simply, they hide the atheism and the name of GEMPPI that is too obviously connected with the secular humanist anti-religious propaganda to enroll some naïve believers in their anti-cult and anti-"separatism" crusade. The "rendezvous" with atheism is just postponed.

Slougui and Turquoise Freedom were also utilized to keep the Putin aficionados within the French anti-cult circuit. There is no way out: the more one looks at FECRIS, the more its "liaisons dangereuses" with Putin and anti-Ukrainian propaganda keep popping out from all sides.

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## **Sarkozy urges Macron to recognize the genocide of the Assyro-Chaldeans**

***While France officially recognized the Armenian genocide in 2001, the former president calls on the state not to forget the massacre of 250,000 Christians between 1915 and 1918 by the Ottoman Empire.***

By Marion Mourgue

[Le Parisien](#) (27.02.2024) - This Tuesday, the former President of the Republic Nicolas Sarkozy delivered a major speech in support of this community of some 40,000 members present on the national territory.



On the occasion of the Grand annual dinner of the Assyro-Chaldeans of France, organized this Tuesday, February 27 in Paris, the former President of the Republic Nicolas Sarkozy delivered a major speech in support of this community of some 40,000 members present on the National territory. The Assyro-Chaldeans continue to demand official recognition by France of the genocide of over 250,000 of their ancestors perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire between 1915 and 1918. And this, as other European countries have already done.

"Today the Armenian genocide is recognized. Justice has been served to the dead. The genocide of your ancestors is still not recognized by our laws," declared Nicolas Sarkozy from the podium in front of more than 150 guests, including parliamentarians from all sides. "You demand this official recognition of the misfortunes of your people. My presence among you is the mark of my complete support for this recognition," continued the ex-president who had already taken a stand in 2011, then at the Élysée, against "religious purges". And to insist again, this Tuesday evening: "Half of a population disappearing in a few months is not a massacre, as History is punctuated by it, it is a genocide, planned and orchestrated. »

***"The government must decide and the President of the Republic must do so"***

Precisely a year ago, senators LR Bruno Retailleau, present in the room, and Valérie Boyer, tabled a proposed resolution for France to recognize this genocide. A text then largely voted on by the upper house. Today, Nicolas Sarkozy, who calls himself a "Christian by training, culture and heart," is urging the French state to go further.

"This resolution which directly challenges the government therefore awaits a response," the former president firmly pointed out. "The Armenian genocide was recognized in 2001, it has been twenty-three years and this long wait has lasted too long. It is time that the equality in death and misfortune of the Armenian and Assyro-Chaldean peoples is finally recognized. The government must pronounce itself and the President of the Republic must do so," said Nicolas Sarkozy, adding that the Assyro-Chaldeans could "count on his support to tell him so".

An "essential" recognition for all Eastern Christians who aspire to regain their lands. "Our duty is to tirelessly defend the right of Christians to live at home," concluded Nicolas Sarkozy, much applauded, calling for "awakening consciences." Before heading to the Élysée where the state dinner was held in honor of the Emir of Qatar.

[Version en français](#)

*Note: In charge of this HRWF project: Nail Beth Kinne, member of the board*