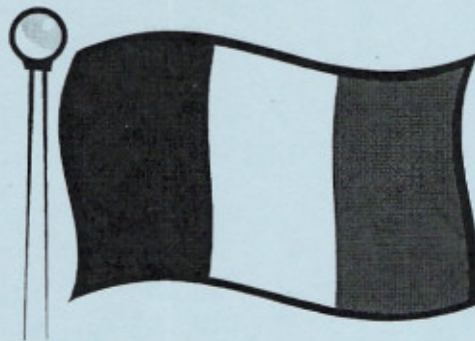


# France, Secularism and the Hijab: Banning Religious Signs In Public Space



*A Roundtable Discussing With:*  
*Jean-Francois Fourny (Ohio State University)*  
*Nacira Guenif Souilamas (Universite de Paris 13)*  
*Stephane Spoiden (University of Michigan- Dearborn)*  
*Moderated By: Moulouk Berry (University of Michigan- Dearborn)*  
*This event is open to the public*

**WHERE: 1030 CASL Building**  
**WHEN: Tuesday, January 18, 2005, 4:00 pm**

The recent French law banning ostensible religious signs, such as Islamic veils and head scarves, Sikh turbans, Jewish skullcaps and large Christian crosses, from public High School classrooms and official state buildings has created an international debate and raised concerns in the Arab-Muslim communities around the world. The relation between Islam and Europe is currently the most discussed issue in the intellectual and political spheres in Europe. Two renowned scholars, Nacira Guenif Souilamas (University of Paris-13) and Jean-Francois Fourny (Ohio State University), will be talking about the new law, the status of immigrants in Europe in general, and the status of young Muslim women in particular. Stephane Spoiden (UMD-French) will join them in a roundtable discussion moderated by Moulouk Berry (UMD-Arabic).

Sponsors: Center for Arab-American Studies (Mapping Arab Diasporas Project); Humanities Department; French Studies; Women's Studies; and the Center for the Study of Religion and Society and the Pluralism Project

APPROVED BY SAO JAN 19 2005