**End 2000 years of discrimination against women & Jews**

 by Jacqueline Widmar Stewart

To: EU President Ursula von der Leyen, First Minister of Scotland Nicola Sturgeon, US President Joe Biden and US Vice-President Kamala Harris

We seek the following remedies:
• Guarantee freedom FROM religion
• Conduct fact-based, science-based governance
• Treat all individuals equally and fairly regardless of gender or cultural affiliations
• Acknowledge Christianity’s past and present suppression of women and Jews
• Reinstate to common European property ownership all property wrongfully apprehended for religious purposes - including but not limited to former Celtic festival halls, castles, abbeys, hot springs resorts, and artifacts
• End all subsidies, tax credits and deductions to religious organizations that discriminate against people because they are women or Jewish
• Enjoin permanently any and all such further discrimination, abuse and persecution
• Acknowledge past and present wrongful loss of life to both female and Jewish populations of Europe
• Acknowledge the past and prohibit the future wrongful seizure of public and private lands by government under religious auspices
• Prevent these discriminations from being carried forward to future generations
• Fully and justly compensate and remedy harms committed by discrimination

**Why is this important?**

Discrimination against women and the Jewish population in Europe traces back to the advent of Christianity. Discrimination against these two groups has become entrenched - as indiscernible as the air we breathe. Without understanding and eliminating the root causes, the world again risks subjugation by elitist male-only supremacists.

Archaeological evidence shows that before the advent of Christianity in Europe women were treated as equals. Since the advent of Christianity in Europe, Christian intolerance and exclusivity has proximately caused the denigration of women. Females have been persecuted under heresy laws which criminalized secular expression for 1400 years – by massive witch hunts, mock trials and burning at the stake, both in Europe and the United States. From the beginning Christianity excluded and maligned women, denouncing women as the gates of hell and falsely accusing them as responsible for original sin and loss of paradise. Christianity adopted Roman laws that cast women as chattel, without rights to own property, to inherit, or to have a political voice - with few exceptions.

Under the auspices of Christianity, armed attackers seized and overtook Celtic Europe’s common festival halls, abbeys and castles and artifacts and destroyed or repurposed them as religious. As part of that initiative, Christianity has conducted a 2000 years campaign to erase the role of women in achievements and valor, even to the point of claiming as Christian altarpieces those memorials to women that had been burned as witches.

The on-going religious suppression of thought and false narrative still negatively reinforces the wrongful and malicious treatment of women as inferiors to men.

Likewise, the Church State has subjugated Jewish populations, refusing them property ownership and carrying out campaigns to annihilate them, wrongfully endangering Jewish possessions, rights and lives. As a direct result of religious doctrines and practices of intolerance and exclusivity, Jewish people have suffered injustice and undue physical harm.

**Europe’s Celtic ancestry**
In the thousand years before the Year 0, that is also known as pre-Christian Europe, a vibrant Celtic population inhabited the lands that are now Hungary, Slovenia, Austria, Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg and the British Isles, and beyond. From evidence collected all across that area, a network of roads, trade, textiles, iron smelting, gold, salt and iron mining, farming hamlets, villages with market squares and festival halls formed the backbone of this society that was based on two major pillars: the preeminence of family and nature.

Just before the advent of the Christian Era, Roman Emperor Julius Caesar described how he slaughtered and enslaved entire swaths of these Celtic populations. He and his legions came, saw, invaded and occupied, beginning with southern Gaul which is now modern France. As confirmed by archeological excavations, he starved the entire town of Alesia, which is now in Burgundy, France, and is estimated to have numbered in the tens of thousands at the time.

In the fifth century, Europe’s resident Celts led by the Frank and Burgundian families defeated Romans to regain the former Treveri capital of Trier, and the former Burgundian capital at Worms which had been overtaken for Rome’s European headquarters. The Celts thereby freed Europe from Roman enslavement.

Starting in about the 10th century, imperial Rome again attacked Europe, this time as Holy Romans, or Crusaders. By concentrating their sieges on specific targets like the 13-year onslaught on Carcassonne and the Baltic-Lithuanian campaign, and by making public spectacles of torture and killing of their victims, they sharpened their terrorism tactics.

Over time church officials repurposed public Celtic festival halls into religious institutions, and installed their exclusively male priests. They appropriated the learning and production centers known as abbeys that previously had been open to all, and made them male-only private religious institutions. The church state took over Celtic refuge castles and transformed them into royal residences.

By the 15th century the entirety of Europe had fallen under the feudalist, imperial, Roman, master-servant-based church state. By then heresy laws - that had been in effect for a millennium - effectively criminalized secular expression. From about the 13th to the 17th centuries, the church state led the hunting, mock trying and burning at the stake of witches, most of whom were women. During this era, too, the church state accused, punished and displaced Jews for spurious accusations, such as holding them criminally responsible for the 14th century Bubonic Plague. Anyone who refused to profess the basic tenets of the Christian religion – worshipping a god for making his son a human sacrifice or partaking of communion in which the supplicants pretended to drink the blood and eat the flesh of the son, as examples – could be subject to death, expulsion, torture as a public spectacle and divestment of property, among other things.

At the end of the 18th century, the aftermath of the French Revolution partially reversed Christian takeover of lands and reinstated a judicial system. Historical writings since that time continue to be unreliable, a narrative controlled by slave-owners and monarchs. The time has come for honest accounting of a very complicated past, but that must start with a free and open society that includes justice and liberty for all.

[**https://sign.moveon.org/petitions/end-2000-years-of-discrimination-against-women-and-jews-1?just\_launched=true**](https://sign.moveon.org/petitions/end-2000-years-of-discrimination-against-women-and-jews-1?just_launched=true)Petition filed with Moveon Jun 3, 2021