

French National Developments/ Islamophobia

Marianne funding scandal claims head of CIPDR propaganda department

- The senatorial commission in charge of investigating the "Marianne Fund" scandal led its first hearings, and heard from Christian Gravel - head of the CIPDR, which was accused of allocating public funding to Gravel's allies.
- The commission unveiled the lack of "administrative rigour" during the selection process of the funded organisations.

As a result of an internal report published by the Interior Ministry which proved how toxic cronyism influenced the selection process, Christian Gravel resigned.

 It is not yet clear who will replace Gravel.

French government expands plan to pay reparations to pro-French Algerian harkis

- French government has <u>expanded its</u>
 <u>plan</u> to pay reparations for its historical
 abandonment of the harkis Algerians
 who remained loyal to France during
 the Algerian War of Independence.
- In doing so the French State, which generally refuses to pay reparations for its colonial and slavery legacy, demonstrates here the underlying reasoning behind its reparation policy: reparations are granted to reward subservience and allegiance to France.

Under-fire Muslim high school facing further attacks from local authorities

• The Muslim high school 'Averroès' has been singled out by authorities since 2019.

Its public grants are under strict scrutiny as the state wants to cut structural ties with any Muslim institution run by individuals with links to the Muslim Brotherhood, past or present.

The School lost its Qatari funding in 2016. French public grants are now essential to its survival.

- An official report was published indicating that a course on "Islamic ethics" might oppose "Republican values". The report also questions the well-being of Averroès' financial governance.
- <u>Local authorities announced</u> they will use the findings of this report to justify future financial obstruction of the school.

FRANCE BRIEFING 2023