

Member of the European Parliament

Luc Ferier
President
Forgotten Heroes 14-19 foundation

14th August 2015

Dear Chairman Ferier,

It is with great pleasure that I offer my endorsement to the Forgotten Heroes 14-19 Foundation.

Too often the contribution made by the hundreds of thousands of Muslim soldiers who served in Europe from around the world and the more than 1,000,000 Muslim labourers from North Africa, many of whom were highly decorated, goes unrecognized.

Many of these soldiers and laborers paid the ultimate price with their lives during the First World War. Many were gassed to death in horrendous circumstances. Even today, although the names of some of these soldiers appear on the memorials at Ypres, they are largely forgotten.

So I welcome this project as a way, not only of raising awareness of the courage and sacrifice made by many Muslims during this period, but also as a way of beginning the healing process between different cultures and faiths and stemming the worrying rise of Islamophobia which is becoming all too prevalent in some European countries.

I wish you every success with this worthwhile project.

Yours sincerely,

Afzal Khan

Member of the European Parliament Vice-Chair of the Security and Defence Committee Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee