



NRO Symposium

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Western Civilization on Trial
Why we should be watching Geert Wilders.

As the Geert Wilders case goes into pre-trial, NATIONAL REVIEW ONLINE asked our experts: Is there any legitimate reason he's in court? What are the implications of such a trial being held, nevermind its outcome?

BAT YE'OR

Geert Wilders is a hero for those countless Europeans who cherish a free and democratic Europe — a Europe proud of its Judeo-Christian and humanistic values, its civilization, and its achievements in the field of human rights. But this is not today's Europe. In today's Europe, synagogues, Jewish schools, clubs, and cemeteries need to be guarded — as if going to a Jewish school or praying in a synagogue were a crime punishable by death as in Nazi-occupied Europe. Intellectuals, scholars, and those who protest the creeping Eurabization of culture and society are threatened, boycotted by their colleagues, thrown out of their jobs, forced to leave their families and go into hiding, or obliged to live with bodyguards. Wilders has devoted his life to freeing Europe from Eurabia's clutches. To this titanic struggle he has sacrificed the security of his life and the joys of family. Threatened by a desert whirlwind blowing hatred upon Europe from the south, spending days and nights shielded by bodyguards, persecuted and tormented by his feckless Eurabian opponents, Geert Wilders incarnates the free soul of an unbending Europe.

— *Bat Ye'or is author, most recently, of Eurabia: The Euro-Arab Axis.*