More about the complaint against Dr Rogozov

I wrote <u>the Star</u>, with a little more of Dr Rogozov's description of the conditions and incidents in Sheffield.

A formal complaint has been made against Dr Vladislav Rogozov, a consultant cardiac anaesthetist for Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, following comments attributed to him on a Czech website.

Dr Rogozov is said to have claimed that 'Muslim doctors regularly abandon their patients to go to pray' and that a Muslim anaesthetist 'was reading out from the Koran during an operation and was trying to persuade all the other staff to read along with him'.

A translated version of his interview quotes the doctor adding: "It must be noted that in our teaching hospital, this problem is much less pronounced than in many smaller hospitals. There it is even worse."

In the interview, Dr Rogozov is also quoted as saying that 'many places here look like the streets of Pakistan' and that the 'Islamisation' of the UK 'is already irreversible'.

The trust has confirmed it is investigating a complaint against Dr Rogozov that has been made by Dr Jan Culik, a senior lecturer in Czech studies at the University of Glasgow. *More about Culik below.*

In his letter of complaint sent in January, Dr Culik said he believed Dr Rogozov, who has worked in Sheffield for ten years, has been making 'biased, Islamophobic public statements'.

He said the comments 'seem to be inappropriate from a

professional point of view' and has also highlighted a number of blog posts that appear to have been written by Dr Rogozov in which other comments relating to Muslims are made.

Dr David Throssell, Medical Director at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, said: "We have received a complaint which makes allegations about a member of staff. We are now looking into the allegations as part of our formal complaints process. We are proud to have a diverse patient population and work force and on that basis we have a code of conduct which recognises this.

In relation to the national newspaper article, he added: "The member of staff has not been excluded from work for raising patient safety issues as we take these very seriously. However since the publication of articles, attributed to the member of staff, we have received concerns about the tone he has used. On this basis the content and nature of the views published are currently being investigated."

Harry's Place says of him

"Culík's efforts to broaden Czech horizons sometimes look all too much like rants at the reluctance of Czechs to embrace certain quite debatable Western left progressive approaches. . . but oh dear, Culík has now appointed himself apostle of multiculturalism to the benighted Czechs, and has brought out a most peculiar piece entitled "Islam, Israel and the Czech Republic" in OpenDemocracy.

Criticism of bigotry among Czech anti-Islam activists is one thing, but this is something else… but then he writes:

"The inactivity of Czech authorities with regard to Islamophobia and anti-Arab racism may be connected with the strong and uncritical support which Czech politicians tend to show to Israel. A group of international celebrities including Ken Loach, Roger Waters, Noam Chomsky, Alice Walker and Hedy Epstein have recently protested against

"Jerusalem Days", a Jewish Festival organised to be held in the West Bohemian city of Pilsen, which presents Jerusalem as an Israeli city. The Festival has gone ahead anyway and its organisers called the protesters "antisemites". The anti-Islamic statements repeatedly made by the Czech President Miloš Zeman, who calls Islam "an ideology" and compares it to Nazism, have recently led to a reduction of trade links between Saudi Arabia and the Czech Republic.

...it is seriously dismaying to see a Czech intellectual preaching that in order to become suitably advanced, progressive, western people, the Czechs need to get away from that primitive, backward, ignorant sympathy for Israel.