

Speakers' Profiles

Welcoming words



Zoltán Balog
Hungarian Minister of Human
Resources

Zoltán Balog is Minister of Human Resources of Hungary. The Ministry of Human Resources is responsible for the functioning of the national healthcare and welfare system in Hungary, the development of school education from nursery to university, the protection of cultural heritage, promotion of the interests of children and the young, and the realisation of government aims related to sport in Hungary.

Opening session



Thorbjørn Jagland
Secretary General of the Council
of Europe

Thorbjørn Jagland is the 13th Secretary General of the Council of Europe. The Secretary General has the overall responsibility for the strategic management of the Organisation. Mr Jagland was elected in September 2009. The former Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Norway, Thorbjørn Jagland, aged 62, was also the President of the Storting (Norwegian Parliament) and the leader of the Norwegian Labour Party. He is currently the Chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, which awards the Nobel Peace Prize.



George Soros
Founder of the Open Society
Foundations

George Soros is Chairman of Soros Fund Management, LLC. He was born in Budapest in 1930. He survived the Nazi occupation and fled communist Hungary in 1947 for England, where he graduated from the London School of Economics. He then settled in the United States, where he accumulated a large fortune through an international investment fund he founded and managed. Mr. Soros has been active as a philanthropist since 1979, when he began providing funds to help black students attend Capetown University in apartheid South Africa. He has established a network of philanthropic organizations active in more than 50 countries around the world. These organizations are dedicated to promoting the values of democracy and an open society. The foundation network spends about \$400 million annually. Mr. Soros is the author of nine books, including most recently, *The Age of Fallibility: Consequences of the War on Terror*. His articles and essays on politics, society, and economics regularly appear in major newspapers and magazines around the world.

Session 1: Reality on the ground – the nature and extent of hate speech today



Snežana Samardžić-Marković
Director General of Democracy
Council of Europe



Carl Miller
Research Director
Centre for the analysis of Social
Media
Demos



Louiza Louhibi
Newspaper columnist

Snežana Samardžić-Marković is Director General of Democracy of the Council of Europe. She took up office in Strasbourg on 2 April 2012 from her previous position as Minister for Youth and Sport of Serbia. During the period of nearly five years in which she served as Minister for Youth and Sport in the Serbian Government, she focused in particular on the strategic, legislative and budgetary activities of her ministry. In this context, she worked in co-operation with civil society, the municipal and institutional authorities and the media. Before this, she worked for the Serbian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on improving relations between neighbouring states and she was the first ever female Deputy Minister of Defence.

She will lead the Session “Reality on the ground – the nature and extent of hate speech today”.

Carl Miller is interested in exploring the new digital social commons created by the explosion of social media. He is working on combining computational approaches with the humanities to create new ways of using social media to understand everything from why people join extremist groups to purchasing decisions. Carl has written reports with Demos on critical thinking skills in the digital age and the role of conspiracy theories in extremist groups. He is currently involved in projects using ‘social media science’ to crowd-source solutions in a number of areas, from political polling to public policymaking. He is especially interested in the overall evolution of this discipline, and the ethical, methodological and practical challenges that are encountered along the way.

He is currently a Researcher at the King’s Policy Institutes, King’s College London, where he specialises in open source intelligence and counter-proliferation. He teaches on the Advanced Internet Skills course for the King’s Graduate School, and has produced work for the United Nations, European Commission and a number of academic outlets. He read History at Cambridge, and has a Master’s in War Studies from King’s College, London.

Louiza Louhibi is a newspaper columnist and a member of the Norwegian Labour Party’s Gender Equality Committee. She has attracted front-page attention in Norway, first for speaking out on behalf of rape victims. In 2012, Louiza Louhibi was awarded the Freedom of Expression Fritt Ord Foundation Tribute for her courage in the debate about sexualised violence against women and for actively opposing extreme attitudes that are based on religious and political prejudices.



Zeljko Jovanovic
Director of the Open Society
Roma Initiatives

Zeljko Jovanovic is director of the Open Society Roma Initiatives. Before joining the Open Society Foundations in 2006, Jovanovic worked for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). From February 2005 to August 2006, he was an officer in the OSCE Mission to Serbia, working with the government of Serbia on EU-funded municipal projects for Roma and the introduction of Roma teacher's assistants and Roma municipal coordinators. Before that, from April 2003 to May 2004, he served in the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights as manager of the regional project "Roma Use Your Ballot Wisely!" From 2000 to 2003, Jovanovic worked with Catholic Relief Services on local Roma initiatives and project-management training for Roma organizations.

Of Roma ethnic background, Jovanovic comes from a family that, through determination and a belief in education, moved from extreme poverty to the middle class. He has an academic background in law and has completed the Harvard University Executive Education program on Strategic Management for Leaders of Non-Governmental Organizations. In secondary school and during his university studies, Jovanovic was involved in protests against the Milosevic regime. During this period, he also volunteered as journalist for a Roma radio magazine broadcasted on B92, the only independent broadcaster in Serbia at the time, and was an activist for a Roma political party.



Dr Henri Nickels
Programme Manager -Social
Research
Equality and Citizens' Rights
Department
European Union Fundamental
Rights Agency

Dr. Henri Nickels is currently Programme Manager at the Equality and Citizens' Rights Department of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. His areas of expertise include: racism, xenophobia and related intolerances; hate crime; and social and media representations of minorities. He was previously a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of European Transformations at London Metropolitan University, United Kingdom, where he worked on a comparative study of the impact of counter-terrorism on Irish and Muslim communities in Britain. Prior to that, he worked as a Research Officer at the Department of Politics, University of Surrey, United Kingdom – on a project analysing representations of Islam as a security threat in Britain, France and Russia. He has published extensively in the area of media and the representation of minorities, and is – together with Christopher Flood, Stephen Hutchings and Galina Miazhevich – the co-author of *Islam, Security and Television News: A Comparative Study* (2012), co-editor of *Islam in the Plural: Identities, (Self-)Perceptions and Politics* (2012), and co-editor of *Islam in its International Context: Comparative Perspectives* (2011).

His contribution will focus on the findings of two new reports by the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) on hate crime in the European Union.

Session 2 : Self-regulation and online moderation as tools for tackling hate speech



Nick Higham
British Broadcasting Corporation

Nick Higham is a BBC News correspondent, working on television, on radio and online. He covers a wide range of subjects, including transport, environment, science, consumer issues, the media and arts and culture. He joined the BBC in 1988 and spent 14 years as arts and media correspondent. He presents Meet the Author each week on the BBC News Channel.

Nick Higham will moderate the panel discussion "Self-regulation and online moderation as tools for tackling hate speech".

Gabriella Zsofia Cseh
Head of Policy CEE
Facebook

Gabriella Zsofia Cseh is a lawyer and Head of Policy CEE of Facebook. Currently, Gabriella works on regulatory relations in the region, focusing on issues related to data protection, safety, privacy, the open Internet, and more broadly the social value generated by Internet-related services. Prior to joining Facebook, she was the executive director of Hungarian Public Service Radio for four years and the external relations director for PanTel telecommunications Ltd for seven years. Gabriella has also served as a diplomat and a civil servant.

Her intervention will focus on Facebook guiding principles when regulating hate speech? How can a global company find the right balance between regulating hate speech and ensuring freedom of speech; what are the rules Facebook oblige users to adhere to. And what about the speech which does not amount to hate speech but still offends and hurts others? How does Facebook empower users against such speech, what more can be done outside the scope of regulating and removing hate speech?



Giacomo Mazzone
Head of Institutional Relations
European Broadcasting Union

Giacomo Mazzone is currently Head of Institutional Relations at the European Broadcasting Union (EBU). EBU is the largest association of national broadcasters in the world, promoting cooperation between broadcasters and facilitate the exchange of audiovisual content. He is in charge of coordinating the presence broadcasters into the IGF - Internet Governance Forum (consultative body to the UN Secretary General for the Internet) and of the relations with Arabic broadcasters. Formely, he worked as journalist, manager and media analyst. He was media specialist for RAI TG2 during 10 years, the Author of the TV documentary "Il cielo in una stanza" 1989, the first ever made news magazine made in HDTV co-produced by Rai and NHK, deputy director at Euronews, deputy director at RAI, and chairman of the EBU all news TV channels group for 5 years.

He will present how the progressive shift of broadcasting into an on line world increase the complexity and the difficulties to deal with anti-social behaviours. From the "one-to-many" message we switch into a more complex relation where you have a combination of broadcasting ("one to many") with telecommunication ("one to one") and an interaction among both ("social network environment").



Ronald Eissens

Board Member, International
Network Against Cyber Hate
(INACH)

Ronald Eissens (1963) is General Director and co-founder of the International Human Rights and antiracism NGO Magenta Foundation. He has been responsible for national and international anti-racism and Human Rights projects since 1992. Along with Co-founder Suzette Bronkhorst, Ronald instituted the world's first Complaints Bureau for hate on the Internet, created the First Sailing Internet connection (as part of an international anti-racism education project), co-founded the International Network Against Cyber Hate (INACH), organized food and medicine transports to the besieged city of Sarajevo, did live reporting through I CARE for the World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa, web-casted the name-reading of all Dutch Jews murdered during the Holocaust and created awareness campaigns on extremism, antisemitism and Holocaust denial. He has published extensively on the subject of Cyber Hate, is an expert on online Antisemitism and Holocaust denial. He is an OSCE expert on Cyber Hate and a board-member of the International Network Against Cyber hate and he is a member of the Online Antisemitism Working Group of the Global Forum to Combat Antisemitism.

His contribution will focus on 10 years of INACH experience with best practices like hate speech removal by several methods, training moderators and other approaches, like counter speech and possible ways to integrate. He will give ample examples of contemporary cyber hate in social media and on other parts of the Internet.



Frank La Rue

UN Special Rapporteur on
freedom of opinion and
expression

Frank La Rue is a lawyer and current Director of the Centro-American Institute for Social Democracy Studies (DEMOS) in Guatemala. He holds a degree in law from the University of San Carlos, Guatemala, and a postgraduate degree in U.S. foreign policy from Johns Hopkins University. He was also a professor of human rights at the University of Rafael Lavinder de Guatemala. Mr. La Rue has worked extensively on human rights issues, and as founding member and Director of the Centre for Legal Human Rights Action (CALDH), he was involved in presenting the first Guatemalan human rights case before the Inter-American Court for Human Rights. Mr. La Rue also brought the first case of genocide against the military dictatorship in Guatemala. As a human rights activist, he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004. Mr. La Rue has previously served as Presidential Commissioner for Human Rights in Guatemala (2004 – 2008), Human Rights Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, President of the Governing Board of the DEMOS, and consultant to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Mr. La Rue has been serving as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression since August 2008.

On 5 November 2012, he submitted a report to the UN General Assembly highlighting the phenomena of hate speech and discussed State responses to this challenge.

Benjamin Thull
Landesanstalt für
Kommunikation Baden-
Württemberg

Benjamin Thull works for the LFK (Landesanstalt für Kommunikation Baden-Württemberg). The LFK is the Media Authority of Baden-Württemberg responsible for the licensing and supervision of private radio stations and tv channels. It assigns the broadcasting capacities to private and public broadcasters. It sets up the ranking of radio and tv programs broadcasted via cable. The LFK plays an active role in media pedagogy and initiates research projects. The LfK has handled several cases of neo-Nazi hate on the Net successfully.

Session 3: Looking ahead – how best to create an environment which promotes tolerance and respect for fundamental rights?



Stine Andresen
Director for the Financial
Mechanism Office, EEA and
Norway Grants

Since 2004, **Stine Andresen** has been Director for the Financial Mechanism Office that manages the EEA and Norway Grants on behalf of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. The Grants operate programmes in 15 EU countries to reduce social and economic disparities and to strengthen bilateral relations with the three EEA EFTA countries. Previously, she worked for the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) a member of the World Bank Group promoting private sector development through investment guarantees. In MIGA, she held various managerial positions including head of Europe and Central Asia, head of the country development group and senior advisor to the Executive Vice President. She started her career in the Norwegian Guarantee Institute for Export Credit providing political country risk assessments and representing GIEK in bilateral and multilateral debt rescheduling.

She will lead the session “Looking ahead – how best to create an environment which promotes tolerance and respect for fundamental rights?”



Jenő Kaltenbach
Chair
European Commission against
Racism and Intolerance,
Council of Europe

Jenő Kaltenbach is currently Chair of the Council of Europe’s Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI). He is also Lecturer at the Department of Public Administration at the Faculty of Law of the University of Science “Loránd Eötvös” and Chair of the Independent Police Complaint Board of the Parliament of Hungary.

His presentation will focus on ECRI’s Contribution on how to respond to hate speech online. ECRI’s 5th monitoring cycle, starting in 2013, will closely scrutinise measures taken by States to deal with hate speech including forms of expression that should be criminalised or, in general, intolerant and inflammatory discourse targeting groups of concern to ECRI’s vulnerable groups.

Nicole Currie
European Roma Rights Centre

Nicole Currie participated in the training workshop “Action and Campaigning against Hate Speech” which took place from 22 to 24 November 2012 at the European Youth Centre Budapest. She works with the European Roma Rights Centre and has experienced working with minorities. Her presentation will focus on the results of the training workshop.

Shannon Stephens
Member of the Advisory
Council on Youth



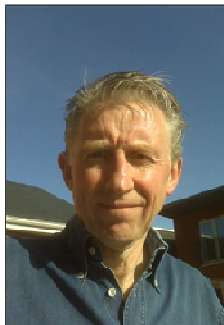
Benjamin Ward,
Deputy director of Human
Rights Watch's Europe and
Central Asia division

Shannon Stephens is a member of the Council of Europe's Advisory Council on Youth. The Advisory Council is made up of 30 representatives from youth NGOs and networks which provide opinions and input on all youth sector activities. It also ensures that young people are involved in other activities of the Council of Europe. She will present the Online Youth Campaign against Hate Speech (The No Hate Speech Movement) to be launched on 21 March 2013.

Benjamin Ward, deputy director of Human Rights Watch's Europe and Central Asia division, supervises research on the EU region, the Western Balkans and Turkey. Since 2004, he has been closely involved in the organization's work in Europe on counter-terrorism measures and on asylum and migration policy. Before becoming deputy director, Ward researched Bosnia, Croatia, and Kosovo for the division. He has written extensively on Kosovo and the use of diplomatic assurances against torture. Before joining Human Rights Watch, Ward worked for the United Nations in Somalia and New York, and in Bosnia for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. He was admitted to practice as a barrister in England & Wales in 2003, and holds a Bachelor's in government from the London School of Economics and a Master's in international affairs from the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs.

His presentation will look at ways to respond to hate speech and hate violence in Europe, without compromising the right to free expression. It will draw on examples from Human Rights Watch's work in Italy, Greece, Germany, UK and elsewhere in Europe.

Closing session



Dr Robin Wilson
Researcher and policy
analyst

Dr Robin Wilson is an experienced policy analyst who works with public bodies and non-governmental organisations, with intellectuals and practitioners. In recent years he has been to the forefront in debates in Ireland, Britain and the wider Europe on the future of progressive politics, and in particular the prospects for a renewal of social democracy after the demise of the 'Third Way'. He is a leading European expert on intercultural dialogue, or how diverse individuals can share a society on a basis of equality of human dignity, which has quickly become a ubiquitous challenge in today's world. He has worked on this issue for many years with pioneer organisations at all levels, from the Council of Europe to a shared-neighbourhood association in Belfast. His academic formation has been at the Universities of Cambridge, Birmingham and Queen's (Belfast). He has a deep intellectual hinterland, covering inter alia 'identity politics', nationalism, governance and social exclusion, which he deployed in addressing the gamut of policy issues as director of Democratic Dialogue, the think tank he established and ran for 11 years. For eight years he was editor of the current-affairs magazine *Fortnight*, which had a wide international readership, and he has contributed as an op-ed writer and analyst to a plethora of press, broadcasting and new media worldwide.

Dr Robin Wilson will present the main outcomes of the discussion.



Christos Giakoumopoulos
Director of Human Rights in
the Directorate General
Human Rights and Rule of Law
of the Council of Europe

Christos Giakoumopoulos was appointed Director of Human Rights in the Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law of the Council of Europe in 2011. He was Director of Monitoring in the same Directorate General since 2006. Before joining the Directorate General of Human Rights, he was General Counsel and General Director for Legal and Administrative Affairs of the Council of Europe Development Bank (Paris). Since joining the Council of Europe in 1987, he held posts in the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights, the Venice Commission and Director in the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, A. Gil Robles.



Torgeir Larsen
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Norway

Torgeir Larsen is Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway since 2011. From 2010 to 2011, he served as Ambassador of Norway in Spain. Prior to this, he was the Chief of Staff in the Secretariat of the Foreign Minister (2006-2010). He is a former journalist and editor.