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(1) Campaigning for Human Rights online



Young People for Human Rights Seminar

On 21-22 February, representatives from ministries for youth affairs, youth organisations and National campaigns from [the Visegrad Group](#) and Eastern Partnership countries met in Warsaw. The participants developed youth activities and projects to promote Human Rights online. The event was organised under the [Polish Ministry of National Education](#) and Polish National Agency of Erasmus+.

14 March – A side event on Sexist Hate Speech – A violation of women’s human rights

At the 61st session of [the Commission on the Status of Women](#), [the side event](#) will take place in the UN Headquarter to raise awareness and knowledge of the Council of Europe standards and action to tackle sexist hate speech. It is organised by [the Council of Europe Gender Equality Unit](#) and the Permanent Missions of Cyprus, Bulgaria, Belgium, Andorra and Liechtenstein to the United Nations.

20 March Launch of “We CAN! Manual”

The manual ‘We CAN! taking action on Hate Speech through counter and Alternative narratives’ will be launched by [the Secretary General of the Council of Europe](#) in Strasbourg. The manual will become available on www.coe.int/youthcampaign after 20 March.

EuroDIG 2017: registration opens

The [registration](#) and [request for travel support](#) for EuroDIG 2017 opens on 1 March. The yearly event brings together Internet Businesses, Governments and Civil Society. It’s an opportunity to call for coordinated action on Hate Speech and strengthening of youth participation in Internet Governance processes. [EuroDIG 2017](#) is held 6-7 June in Tallinn, Estonia.

NATIONAL CAMPAIGNS

Austria: New resources

National campaign partners have published 3 new resources. [CounterACT!](#) provides information on hate speech, tools and guidance to take action against hate speech online. The brochure [“Fake News”: Wahr oder Falsch: Hoaxes, Bilder und Fake News](#) (True or False: Hoaxes, Images and Fake News) by ISPA and a study on [“Rumors online”](#) (Gerüchte im Netz) by Safer Internet Austria

Lithuania: 10th Anniversary of Living Library

On the occasion of the Action Day for Better Internet, 7 February, the National Institute for Social Integration [launched the 10th Gyvoji Biblioteka/Human Library program](#). [Living Libraries](#) are a successfully tested campaign tool that helps reduce hate speech through intercultural dialogue.

Norway: training course on Bookmarks

On 6-10 February the [course gathered youth leaders](#) and campaign activists from Europe to learn new tools and methods to address hate speech, including from [Bookmarks](#) and the campaign online tools. Read also a [personal report](#) from a Flemish campaign activist. The event was organised by the Norwegian National Agency of Erasmus+ '[Aktiv Ungdom](#)'.

Netherlands/Portugal/Bulgaria: long term project on hate speech targeting refugees

The '[All in the Same Boat - Becoming an Activist against Hate](#)' project aims to response to the increased hate speech online by host communities affected by the "refugee-crisis". The first training takes place March 2017 in Porto, Portugal followed by two more trainings. All youth workers and partner in the project will campaign against hate speech on 20th June - [World Refugee Day](#). The project is initiated by a coalition of campaign partners including Youthnet Hellas, Alternativi International, Movimento SoS RAcismo, Stichting CAAT Projects.

(2) Council of Europe – main developments

For up-to-date CoE news please check the [CoE website](#) and the [CoE Journal](#).

The fifth edition of [the European Moot Court Competition](#) on the European Convention on Human Rights was organised on 16 February by the European Law Students Association ([ELSA](#)) with the support of the Council of Europe. The Moot Court Competition aims to give law students, who are future lawyers or judges, practical experience on the European Convention on Human Rights and its implementation. Students from the National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" (Ukraine) were declared the winners of the competition, and awarded a traineeship at the Court.

At its [1276th meeting](#) on 1 February, the Ministers' Deputies took note of a report on the Council of Europe's [co-operation activities in Kosovo](#)^{*} outlining the project's activities. These activities focus on promoting human rights, anti-discrimination, diversity and freedom of expression into which youth and children issues were mainstreamed.(All reference to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.)

At the [1278th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies](#) on 22 February, the Ministers' Deputies held an exchange of views with Mr Nils Muižnieks, Council of Europe [Commissioner for Human Rights](#). Following his recent country visits, he presented the [4th quarterly activity report 2016](#) that concentrates particularly on children's rights, women's rights, gender equality, migration and upholding human rights and the rule of law in the struggle against terrorism.

On 21 February, the [Commissioner for Human Rights](#), Nils Muižnieks, urged the member States to take the necessary steps towards eliminating discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation in the area of family rights. The [Commissioner issued a statement](#) underscoring that the 20 member states of the Council of Europe that still do not provide any legal recognition to same-sex couples to ensure that the privileges, obligations or benefits available to married or registered different-sex partners are equally available to same-sex partners.

On 2 February, the Council of Europe published the [2016 annual report](#) on the implementation of its [2014-2017 Gender Equality Strategy](#) by its member states. The report highlights the importance of the inclusion of a gender perspective in the activities of youth NGOs with the support of the [EYF](#). The report also underscores the increasing vulnerability of refugee women as victims of sexist hate speech and other forms of violence as barriers to the effective implementation of gender equality policies and standards.

A conference on "[Online Hate, Conspiracy Theories and Declining Confidence in the Media](#)" was arranged by [the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe \(PACE\)](#) in Berlin on 13 February.

This [No Hate Parliamentary Alliance](#) activity addressed hate speech and conspiracy theories on the internet on the basis of sources, manifestations, the impact and remedies for such challenge in societies.

The joint project between [the North South Centre \(NSC\) of the Council of Europe](#) and the European Commission, [iLegend](#) (Intercultural Learning Exchange through Global Education, Networking and Dialogue), aims to include global development education in school curricula and enable teachers and youth workers to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills. In 2017 new capacity-building opportunities for youth organisations and young people will be offered. Read more [here](#).

(3) Youth Department update

“A Follow-up seminar to the synthesis report on national youth policy reviews” took place on 14-15 February in Strasbourg. It took stock of the wide and rich experience of the last 7 international youth policy reviews (Latvia, Moldova, Albania, Belgium, Ukraine, Greece and Serbia), and explored how some of the lessons learnt could be adapted within the new assistance measures proposed to member States. A reflection was also initiated on whether or not the Council of Europe's youth sector should start developing benchmarks for youth policy in Europe. The outcome of this meeting will be examined by the CDEJ at its next plenary meeting in Budapest on 27 March 2017.

“A Meeting of the Management Committee on Co-operation with Ukraine” convened in EYCS on 17 February to evaluate activities in 2016 held under “the Framework Programme on Co-operation in the field of Youth Policy in 2016-2020”. A new programme of activities for 2017 was also adopted to further impact co-operation on youth policy development in Ukraine.

On 20-22 February 2017, EYF staff members visited the international activity “Lead 2017” in Kimito, Finland. This activity was organised by the Nordic Youth Association (NYA) for youth workers and leaders. At a time when Europe is experiencing a dramatic refugee crisis, NYA decided to address this sensitive issue through skills' development of youth workers and leaders in order to improve intercultural dialogue and thus contribute to peacebuilding.

The call for youth representatives on the Council of Europe's [Advisory Council on Youth](#) (2018-2019) will soon be published on www.coe.int/youth. Representatives of non-governmental youth organisations or networks not members of the [European Youth Forum](#) are invited to apply for a seat on the Advisory Council on Youth for a two-year mandate, from January 2018 to December 2019. The Council of Europe's youth sector works on the basis of a partnership between non-governmental youth organisations and governments, in what is known as the [co-management system](#). This means that representatives from non-governmental youth organisations (NGYOs) and youth networks cooperate closely with government officials ([European Steering Committee for Youth](#)) to establish the standards and work priorities of the Council of Europe's youth sector and make recommendations for future budgets and programmes.

Activities in March:

- European Youth Foundation (Re)wind seminar (EYF, 1-4 March)
- No hate practitioners meeting (Bucharest, 1-3 March)
- Study session on Building a socially inclusive world through personal empowerment International organised in cooperation with [International Federation of Hard of Hearing Young People](#) (EYCB, 6-11 March)
- Study session on Welcome to education: all included! organised in cooperation with [Organising Bureau of European School of Student Unions](#) (EYCB, 6-11 March)
- Study session on Children on the move – how youth organisations can support young refugees and migrants organised in cooperation with [International Falcon Movement – Socialist Educational International](#) (EYCS, 6-11 March)
- Information session for youth NGOs (EYF, 13-14 March)
- Activities on local level against discrimination and participation of young people in cooperation with the city of Strasbourg (EYCS, 16-17 March)
- Training course for trainers on working with the manual on counter-narratives to hate speech (EYCS, 20-24 March)

- Statutory bodies meetings of the youth sector ([the Joint Council on Youth](#), the [European Steering Committee for Youth](#) and the [Advisory Council on Youth](#)) (EYCB, 27-29 March)

EU-CoE youth partnership

The Steering Group of the Symposium on 'Youth Policy Responses to the Contemporary Challenges Faced by Young People' took place in Strasbourg on 15-16 February. The aim was to discuss the issues related to the organisation of the Symposium to take place in Prague on 12-14 June.

The expert group meeting on developing an online learning tool on youth policy discussed the aims and expected results of the tool on 17 February in EYCS.

(4) DG II - Education Department

The first Joint coordination meeting with representatives from 20 partner organisations in 17 countries took place in Strasbourg on 31 January to implement the projects under the EU/Council of Europe Joint Programme "Human Rights and Democracy in Action". One of the projects to be implemented under this programme is "[Instruments for implementation of the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture](#)" to develop practical tools with the participation and involvement of students and teachers for the implementation of [the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture](#). One activity planned under this programme includes student-made videos where students explain what they think is meant by "democratic culture" and what it is not meant by this term.

(5) Other news

[The 55th session of the Commission for Social Development \(CSocD55\)](#) convened at the United Nations Headquarters from 1 to 10 February. The priority theme for the 2017-2018 review and policy cycle is "**Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all**". The review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to:

- (i) [World Programme of Action for Youth](#)
- (ii) [World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons](#)
- (iii) [Standard Rules on Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities](#)

On 2 February, a High-level panel discussion dedicated to [Promoting Integrated Policies for Poverty Eradication: Youth Development in the 2030 Agenda](#) addressed how existing and newly adopted frameworks for development can contribute to and enhance development efforts and outcomes for youth. The [European Youth Forum](#) gave a [statement on youth development in the context of the 2030 Agenda](#) during this panel discussion.

[A discussion](#) on how to empower youth with disabilities to strengthen their participation in political and public life was hosted by [the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights \(ODIHR\)](#) in Warsaw on 9 February. "Enhancing the political participation of youth with disabilities is the key to self-determination and the concept of independent living," said guest speaker Tuomas Tuure from [the Finnish Threshold Association](#), who also serves as deputy councillor at [the Helsinki City Council](#).

The [European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights](#) published the report on "[Child-friendly justice – perspectives and experiences of professionals on children's participation in civil and criminal judicial proceedings in 10 EU Member States](#)" on 22 February. It highlights that children and young people often feel scared, ignored, and ill-informed in court proceedings. It proposes indicators that Member States can use to measure the effectiveness of their efforts to ensure that children's voices are really heard and at the same time that they feel safe and protected.

On 17 February, the [Council of the European Union](#) adopted the conclusion on [Investing in Europe's youth](#), focusing on the European Solidarity Corps (5860/17). The conclusions underline that greater opportunities to take an active role at community level will significantly contribute to the development of the social and civic skills and competences required for young people's active participation in building more inclusive and democratic societies.

Moreover, the [European Commission](#) launched a [public consultation](#) to further shape the [European Solidarity Corps](#) on 6 February. The main objective of this initiative is to generate opportunities for young people to volunteer or work in projects that benefit communities and people around Europe. The results of the consultation will further shape and consolidate the European Solidarity Corps by feeding into the Commission's work on a legislative proposal.

The [European Commission](#) embarked on a [public consultation](#) on [the review of the 2006 Recommendation on Key Competences for Lifelong Learning](#) Framework on 22 February. With the help of those competences, the Commission aims to equip young people at the end of their compulsory education and training for adult life. The Commission encourages stakeholders [to use the on-line questionnaire](#) to provide their inputs on the framework by 19 May.

On 9 February, [the European Committee of the Regions \(CoR\)](#) made a [proposal](#) for providing fuller access to legal support for migrants, stronger legal protection for migrants aged under 18 and greater financial support for local and regional authorities in the Middle East and Africa. The advice of the CoR on the EU was based on strengthening the working relationship between the EU and non-EU cities and regions by raising awareness of issues relating to migration as well as providing local authorities outside the EU access to EU funds.

The Secretariat of the [Union for the Mediterranean \(UfM\)](#) hosted [the first General Assembly meeting of the Mediterranean Youth Climate Network \(MYCN\)](#) in Barcelona on 24 February to promote sustainable development in the Mediterranean region. The network consisting of seven youth associations of the Mediterranean region aims to alleviate the adverse effects of climate change in the region.

On 7 February, the [YO!Fest](#), which is the annual youth-led festival of the [European Youth Forum](#), took place in Maastricht with the participation of 3,000 young people from all over Europe including representatives of [the Advisory Council on Youth](#). To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Maastricht Treaty provided an opportunity for young people to rethink and to reinvent the European citizenship.

In support of 21 March [International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, UNITED](#) – the European campaign partner - launched preparations for its [European Action Week Against Racism which will take place](#) on 18-26 March. The [information website](#) provides links to social media channels to follow, suggests for community activities and how to order campaign materials.

(6) Publications

[List of Youth Department publications](#) (updated February 2017)

YOUTH POLICY

- [The Council of Europe and Youth policy](#) - Support, assistance and resources for youth policy development in Member States (*French under preparation, available in March 2017*)
- [Youth policy reviews](#) are available on line. The youth policy review on Serbia is now available from the [CoE online bookshop](#)
- The [Advisory Council on Youth leaflet](#) in English; the former version of the Advisory Council on Youth leaflet available in [French](#) and [Russian](#).

YOUNG PEOPLE & SOCIAL RIGHTS

[TAKING IT SERIOUSLY - Guide to Recommendation CM/Rec\(2015\)3](#) of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to member States on the access of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods to social rights

NEW! [A PRENDRE AU SERIEUX – Guide de la Recommandation CM/Rec\(2015\)3](#)

- [Access of Young People from Disadvantaged Neighbourhoods to Social Rights](#) (Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)3 adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 21 January 2015) (in [French](#)) – German, Russian, Turkish, Spanish and Italian now available on the ENTER! [Portal](#)

YOUNG PEOPLE & HUMAN RIGHTS

- The updated [Russian version of “Compass”](#) is available online
- [Islamophobia and its consequences on young people / L’islamophobie et ses conséquences pour les jeunes](#) (reprints)
[Former AC member, Thomas Leys (IFLRY) has published an article [“Where is our European Bill of Rights”](#) in a new publication [“Redrafting Europe - The Young Liberals' White Paper on the Reform of the European Union”](#)].
El Petit Compass has been translated and disseminated in Catalan. You can find the translated version of Compass [here](#).

YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Youth portal [dedicated page on youth participation](#): Have your say! manual on the Revised European Charter on the participation of young people in local and regional life. Also available in French, German, Russian and Turkish, as well as the Plain language version and Introduction leaflet on the Charter in the same languages.

NEW! The Italian version is now available on-line: [“Di La Tua!” Manuale sulla Carta Europea Riveduta della Partecipazione dei Giovani alla Vita Locale e Regionale](#) (or [can be ordered on the Council's Bookshop](#))

The Portuguese version of the Have your say! manual under preparation.

YOUTH INFORMATION

- **NEW!** [Compendium des structures nationales pour l’information et le conseil des jeunes](#)
- The [Compendium of national youth information and counselling structures](#) available on-line and in print. *The French version “Compendium des structures nationales pour l’information et le conseil des jeunes” will be published at the end of 2016.*
- [Young people’s access to rights through youth information and counselling](#) was produced in partnership with ERYICA. Also available in [Russian](#) and [French](#)
- The [Youth information starter kit](#) is available in [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Italian](#), [Turkish](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#), [Makedonski](#), [Polish](#),

YOUTH WORK / NON FORMAL EDUCATION

The [Council of Europe Youth Work Portfolio](#) has now its own website with updated English & French versions. *The Russian version of the website coming soon!*

Presentation brochure of the Council of Europe Youth Work Portfolio in [English](#) and in [French](#)
The Russian version of the Portfolio presentation brochure to be published early November 2016

- [European Portfolio for youth leaders and youth workers](#) is available in English, French, German, Dutch, Russian and Turkish

- The French version of the Manual for facilitators in non-formal education [“Manuel de l’animateur en éducation non-formelle”](#) available in [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#).

ROMA YOUTH RIGHTS

- **NEW!** Edition 2016 of [Right to Remember – A Handbook for Education with Young People on the Roma Genocide](#)

- [Mirrors](#) – A Manual on combating antigypsyism through human rights education. The French version, [Miroirs](#) – Manuel pour combattre l’antitsiganisme par l’éducation aux droits de l’homme is also available

The Russian version of Mirrors will be published early 2017; also a Castilian and Catalan versions will be published in partnership with the Municipality of Barcelona

- [Barabaripen](#) - Young Roma speak about multiple discrimination

- [Right to Remember](#) – A Handbook for Education with Young People on the Roma Genocide (2014)

YOUTH MOBILITY

The leaflet presenting the [Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card](#) available in English, French and Russian, is also available in Albanian, Bulgarian, Estonian, German, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Spanish, Turkish and Ukrainian.

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/Partners/2016_JAN_Partial_Agreement_Youth_Card_en.asp

YOUTH DEPARTMENT PUBLIC RELATIONS MATERIALS

Requests to youth@coe.int Subject line: PR materials order

- The leaflet on the Youth Department is available in [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#)
- The [European Youth Foundation leaflet](#) is available in 5 languages: English, French, German, Russian and Turkish. Online versions now offer the following [languages versions](#) : Albanian, Bosnian, Croatian, Estonian, Finnish, Italian, Lithuanian, Makedonski, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovenian, Spanish, Serbian and Ukrainian; *recently published: Bulgarian and Greek (In preparation: Armenian & Georgian).*
- [Compendium](#) of Council of Europe approaches to key youth policy and youth work issues; in [French](#)

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[Recent and upcoming EU-CoE youth partnership publications:](#)

NEW [Coyote #24 – “Learning Mobility: opportunities for all?”](#)

NEW [Youth Knowledge book 19 – “History of Youth Work” volume 5](#)

NEW [Perspectives on youth, volume 3 – “Healthy Europe: confidence and uncertainty for young people in contemporary Europe” – English and German versions available](#), French version – *forthcoming*

NEW Youth knowledge book – Youth policy manual – now available in [Arabic](#) and [Russian](#)

- Youth Knowledge book 20 – “Thinking seriously about Youth Work” – *forthcoming*
- T-kit No. 8 on Social inclusion – revised version - *forthcoming*
- Youth Knowledge book 21 – Learning Mobility – *forthcoming*
- Perspectives on youth, volume 2 – “Connections and disconnections” – [English](#), [German](#) and [French](#) versions available now
- [T-Kit No.12](#) – Youth transforming conflicts – *Now available in French*
- [Visegrad Youth](#) – Comparative review of the situation of young people in the V4 countries”, a contribution to knowledge based youth policy development
- [Leaflet](#) on the EU-CoE youth partnership 2014-2016
- [Getting there...](#) a publication on the recognition of youth work and non-formal learning (reprint available)
- [T-Kit No.11](#) Mosaic: Training kit for the Euro-Mediterranean youth work - available also in [French](#)
- Perspectives on youth, volume 1: ["2020 - What do you see?"](#) – available also in [French](#) and [German](#)
- Youth knowledge book 17 ["Learning mobility and non-formal learning in European contexts"](#)
- Youth knowledge book 18 ["History of youth work" volume 4](#)
- [Coyote #20](#) – “What’s Xtreme about youth?!” – electronic and printed versions available
- [Coyote #21](#) - Know what? – electronic and printed versions available
- [Coyote #22](#) – “Discriminating(,)me?!” available in [pdf version](#) and [e-book format](#)
- [Coyote #23 – Finding common ground \(2nd European Youth Work Convention\)](#) available in [e-pub format](#)

[New EU-CoE youth partnership online resources:](#)

- [Report](#) of the 12th EKCYP Annual Meeting, 5-9 September 2016
- [Key Messages](#) of the Expert seminar “Journeys to a New Life: Understanding the role of youth work in integrating young refugees in Europe”; Brussels, 23-24 November 2016
- [Report](#) of the Symposium '(Un)Equal Europe? Responses from the youth sector', 30 May - 2 June 2016

- [Report](#) and [conclusions](#) from the second EPLM conference: Learning mobility in the youth field, towards opportunities for all. Evidence, experience, discourse.
- New country information on youth policy in [Georgia](#) and [Malta](#).
- Contribution of non-programme countries to EU Youth Wiki. Chapter I: Youth policy governance: [Serbia](#), [Montenegro](#) and [Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

Films

- ["100%" \(Giving 100% of young people 100% of information on their opportunities and potential\)](#)
- ["What is youth work today"](#)

ERYICA

- [Compendium of national youth information and counselling structures](#)

Past issues of *Think Youth!* are available on the [website of the Youth Department](#).

Facebook pages:

[Advisory Council on Youth](#)
[Council of Europe - Youth](#)
[European Youth Centre, Budapest](#)
[EU-CoE youth partnership](#)
[European Youth Foundation](#)
[No Hate Speech Movement](#)

Abbreviations:

CCJ: Advisory Council on Youth
 CDDH: Steering Committee for Human Rights
 CDEJ: European Steering Committee for Youth
 CDMSI: Steering Committee on Media and Information Society
 CDPPE: Steering Committee for Education Policy and Practice
 CM: Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
 CMJ: Joint Council on Youth
 CoE: Council of Europe
 Congress: Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
 CPJ: Programming Committee on Youth
 DG: Directorate General
 ECHR: European Court of Human Rights
 ECRI: European Commission against racism and intolerance
 EDC: Education for Democratic Citizenship
 EURODIG: European Dialogue on Internet Governance
 EYCB: European Youth Centre Budapest
 EYCS: European Youth Centre Strasbourg
 EYF: European Youth Foundation
 ncc: National campaign coordinator
 NSC: North-South Centre of the Council of Europe
 NHSM: No Hate Speech Movement
 ODIHR: Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
 OSCE: Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe
 PACE: Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
 UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
 UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
 YFJ: European Youth Forum

For comments and suggestions, change of address or if you no longer wish to subscribe to this service, please contact: Tolga.DUYGUN@coe.int