



North-South Centre

of the Council of Europe

INTERIM REPORT of ACTIVITIES

January – September 2017



Dear members of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe

Following the interim report I sent to you on the 30th of June 2017, where in the introduction part I outlined the main priorities for the “new” Centre, most of them already achieved within a certain degree of sustainability, and to look at the immediate future with real perspectives of growing, I would like this time to highlight and share with you some of the work we are doing to lay down the Centre foundations for 2018 and 2019, and beyond.

The Global Development Education dimension has been an essential part of our mission. After the signing of the Joint Programme with the European Commission on the Intercultural Learning Exchange through Global Education, Networking and Dialogue (iLegend), the first of the three implementation years was already concluded. The facts and figures speak for themselves. The association of our Eastern European member states, in particular its civil society organizations, to this programme, especially in the regional seminars, as well as the participation of the Southern Mediterranean representatives in these activities, clearly shows its relevance and the need to update it for the future. I would like to thank the European Commission for trusting the North-South Centre with this very important task and I am looking forward to deepen and enlarge this important cooperation.

The Youth cooperation dimension, another relevant part of our work, is enhancing its scope in terms of activities, increasing its audiences in terms of participation and social networks feedbacks, multiplying its effects if we take a look at the number of beneficiaries its reaching out to and is becoming a platform for other organizations that share the same values of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe. Again, facts and figures speak for themselves. The network of the Universities coordinated by the North-South Centre - the Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship, which took place in Tunisia, and the University for Youth and Development, which was held in Spain - are the living examples on how the Centre, in working with the young people and youth organizations, is assisting them to be more participative in democratic processes and more involved in the discussion and decision making of Youth related policies. Our knowledge is also being requested by third partners, in particular from the neighbours of our Southern Mediterranean neighbours, the sub-Saharan Africa, to work with them. Out of courtesy and with a view to explore possible avenues for cooperation we were invited and participated in the 4th AU-EU Youth Summit recently held in Ivory Coast.

The reinforcement of the empowerment of women dimension is also progressing, in particular in the Southern shore of the Mediterranean. At the same time we organise events to uphold the universal and inalienable rights of women, to protect and to empower them, we work with civil society organizations to develop a two-way street dialogue and set the conditions to create a regional Pool of Experts for the North-South Centre in this domain, which will facilitate our mission, both in getting better local knowledge, in providing better training and in multiplying the effect of our actions on the ground. Facts and figures will also help us to understand how we are growing in this segment.

Diasporas and migration are cross-cutting issues in all our activities as you can see in the different actions we have been developed in 2017 and in our flagship events.

Speaking of them, the North-South Prize of the Council of Europe and the Lisbon Forum continue to attract the attention of a wider range of personalities and organisations from the Quadrilogue (Governments, Parliaments, Local and Regional authorities and Civil Society) and international organizations, in particular from Europe, the Mediterranean and Africa, and are inspiring us to transpose into our activities or in new projects a number of ideas presented by the Laureates of the Prize or by the participants of the Forum.

A quick word on the management of the Centre. As you are aware, our financial statements until the end of 2016 are in order. Auditors from the external audit team of the Council of Europe were in Lisbon from the 9th until the 20th of October. We are still waiting for their findings and recommendations. With the accession of Tunisia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Algeria, (contacts with other potential members are underway) the ordinary budget has increased, giving us the possibility, to focus, develop and get more impact and visibility from our programmes. With the contribution of the European Commission and the Voluntary Contribution of Portugal we hired two more persons to reinforce the staff on the Global Education and Youth programmes, respectively, allowing us to perform and deliver better. The ratio between programme expenditure and running costs vs staff costs is very significant. On the organisational side, we now have a set of rules and guidelines which allow us to work better, internally and externally. As far as the communication is concerned, we now have a new website, we are more active in the social networks, we analyse better our data, we have a new newsletter format (where some of you have already participated) and our public materials and publications are more modern and adapt to what is the Centre today. And of course, the alignment with the Council of Europe values, standards and priorities and the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals continues as well as the inter-action between the North-South Centre and the representatives of the Quadrilogue.

A final word on the relations between the Centre and other Council of Europe Secretariat structures. As you probably are aware, the Centre has moved within DG II from the Directorate on Democratic Governance and Anti-Discrimination to the Directorate on Democratic Citizenship and Participation. The migration was very smooth and entered into force on the 1st of September. It makes sense in view of the main areas both structures are dealing with: Global Education and Youth Cooperation. The new Director, Ambassador Matthew Johnson, Director General Snezana Markovic and the Deputy Secretary General Gabriela Battaini-Dragoni assured that this migration will not change in anyway the nature, the position, the programmes and the specificities of the Enlarged Partial Agreement that created the North South Centre of the Council of Europe 28 years ago.

You will find below the second interim report my team and I have produced to you. Let me assure you our continuing commitment to the North- South Centre of the Council of Europe and its members.

Antonio Gamito

Executive Director of the North-South Centre

Ambassador

The European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity, more commonly known as the "North-South Centre", was created in November 1989, as a follow-up to the European public campaign on North-South Interdependence and Solidarity launched in 1988 by the Council of Europe in cooperation with the then European Community.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the North-South Centre is to empower civil society, in particular youth and women, through intercultural dialogue and global citizenship education, in Council of Europe member states and neighbouring regions.

To this aim, and in particular through its multilateral activities, the North-South Centre responds mainly to four priority areas: global education, youth cooperation, empowerment of women and migration.

MEMBER STATES

Algeria, Andorra, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Holy See, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Spain and Tunisia.

OUR METHODOLOGY

Under the principles of dialogue, partnership and solidarity, through a bottom-up approach, the North-South Centre brings together representatives of governments, national parliaments, local and regional authorities and civil society. This quadrilogue methodology helps build bridges between relevant actors with different cultures, from diverse backgrounds and multiple approaches.

PRIORITY REGIONS

The North-South Centre is an instrument for multilateral cooperation of the Council of Europe policy towards its neighbouring regions. Its activities target Council of Europe member states and eastern and southern Mediterranean countries.

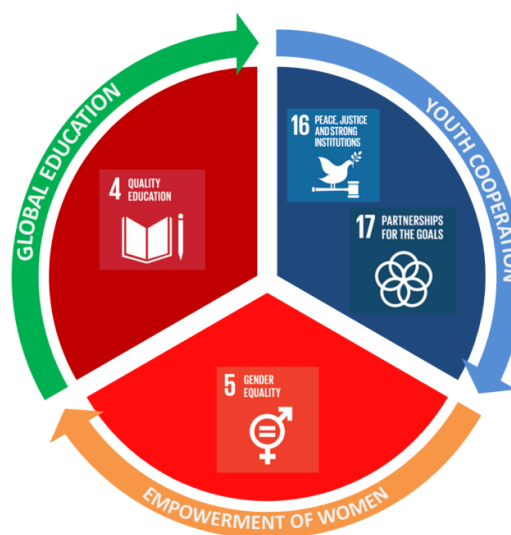
Since its inception the North-South Centre has developed a solid network and close partnerships with representatives of the quadrilogue in Europe and beyond.

PROGRAMMES AND GOALS

The programme of the North-South Centre responds to three priority areas - global education, youth cooperation and empowerment of women - and three main types of actions - advocacy, capacity-building and awareness raising. Migration was added to the work of the North-South Centre in 2016.

The North-South Centre programmes are in line with the Council of Europe values, standards and priorities and the UN 2030 Global Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular:

- I. **Goal 4:** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all (particularly target 4.7.)
- II. **Goal 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- III. **Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
- IV. **Goal 17:** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.



STATUTORY MEETINGS

GR-EXT (GROUPE RAPPORTEUR - RÉLATIONS EXTERNES)

The North-South Centre participated in the GR-EXT meeting, which took place on the 19 January in Strasbourg, France.

Council of Europe member states, observers and guests, including Morocco and Tunisia, were presented with an overview of the current work of the North-South Centre and at least 20 member states intervened in the debate: 13 countries either supported or made a positive assessment of the North-South Centre and the relevance of its work and other non-members of the North-South Centre - such as Germany or Russia - showed interest in cooperating with the North-South Centre in the future in topics such as migration.

FACT-FINDING MISSION - PACE COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION, REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

A fact-finding mission took place on the 21-22 February in Lisbon, headed by Mrs Susanna Huovinen, from Finland, Rapporteur for the Pace Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced persons, whose aim was to evaluate the integration mechanisms for migrants and refugees in Portugal. The North-South Centre supported her mission by identifying relevant NGOs on the field and housing a meeting with them at the NSC headquarters.

VISIT OF COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, TO THE NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE



The Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr Nils Muižnieks, visited the North-South Centre premises on the 6 March and met with the Executive Director, Ambassador António Gamito.

During the meeting both parties presented their current work and identified synergies for future collaboration.

BUREAU AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Bureau and Executive Committee Meetings took place in Strasbourg, France, on the 10 March 2017.

The Executive Committee approved the adjusted Programme of Activities for 2017 and the new regulations for the North-South Prize of the Council of Europe. Other topics discussed: Algeria's request to join the partial agreement of the North-South Centre, the concept note of the upcoming Lisbon Forum (1-2 June) "Interconnecting People", the new bi-annum programme 2018-2019, the future of the Neighbourhood Policy and the South Programme, and the Intercultural Cities Milestone event (28-29 November).

PACE CULTURE, SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND MEDIA COMMITTEE

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Culture, Science, Education and Media Committee meeting took place on the 22 March in Paris, France. The work of the North-South Centre was introduced to European members of parliament stressing its principles of dialogue, partnership and solidarity, through a bottom-up approach that brings together representatives of governments, national parliaments, local and regional authorities and civil society. The relevance of Global Development Education as a tool to build more inclusive and peaceful societies in our current world was highlighted, as well as the importance of working directly with young people and Diasporas in Europe.

The iLEGEND project (Intercultural Learning Exchange through Global Education, Networking and Dialogue) was presented to the parliamentarians. The role of the European Union supporting the efforts of the North-South Centre in promoting Global Development Education in Europe were show cased.

European members of parliament were invited to actively follow and to be involved in the activities of the North-South Centre for the promotion of Global Education.

CURRENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The North-South Centre participated in the current affairs committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities on the 14-15 June in Belgrade, Serbia. A presentation was made by the North-South Centre about its work, from Global education to Youth, envisaging greater cooperation between the North-South Centre and the Congress.

MISSION TO BRUSSELS

A North-South Centre Mission took place on the 28-29 June in Brussels, Belgium, whose main goals were:

- Continue the contacts already initiated with the representatives of Lebanon and Jordan in view of joining the North-South Centre, thus reinforcing its South flank;
- Coordinate the North-South Centre message with the representative of the Council of Europe in Brussels and seeking his assistance for the continuation of the work launched in the course of this mission;
- Discuss the possibilities of the Belgian accession to the North-South Centre;
- Initiate the discussion with different structures of the European Commission of future programmes to be implemented by the North-South Centre.

PACE LAUNCHING CONFERENCE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK ON DIASPORA POLICIES

To launch the Parliamentary network on diaspora policies, which will promote political and legislative reforms regarding the role of diasporas in countries of origin and host societies, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) organised a conference, on 7 and 8 September in Lisbon, upon the invitation of the Portuguese Parliament. This new network will operate as a platform bringing together parliamentarians from countries of origin and host countries and diaspora associations, fostering information exchanges on good practices, promoting the role of these associations in the integration of migrants in host societies and, finally, developing political cooperation between countries of origin and host countries.



The conference opened by Mr Eduardo Ferro Rodrigues, Speaker of the Portuguese Parliament, Mr René Rouquet, Vice-President of the PACE, and Mr Tomáš Bocek, Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on Migration and Refugees, covered several themes enhancing the role of Diasporas in European societies. Mr William Lacy Swing, Director General of the International Organisation for Migration gave a keynote address for the audience.

The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe has contributed to the sessions on the promotion of intercultural dialogue, moderated by the Executive Director of the North-South Centre, Ambassador António

Gamito and the role of Diasporas in building cohesive societies, which was moderated by the Chair of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre, Mr Jean-Marie Heydt.

Members of the Parliaments of European and Southern Mediterranean States issued a final statement agreeing to focus the activities of the network on promoting democratic participation, political cooperation between countries of origin and host countries and strengthening dialogue between members of the network and diaspora associations.

MISSION TO STRASBOURG

A North-South Centre Mission took place on the 11-12 September in Strasbourg, France, whose main goals were to:

- Review the process of its integration as from 1 September in the Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation (DGII)
- Register the progress achieved by the North-South Centre since September 2016 until now.
- Present the objectives of the North-South Centre to 2018/19 and beyond, showing the sustainability of the North-South Centre.
- Guarantee the North-South Centre governance after January 2018 and for the next two years.
- Prepare the next Bureau and Executive Committee meetings of the North-South Centre.
- Engage with the EU and some member States of the North-South Centre regarding its activities for 2018/19 and beyond.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FROM OCTOBER - DECEMBER

9-11 OCTOBER	Participation in the Africa-Europe Youth Summit, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
NOVEMBER	Bureau meeting and Jury of the North-South Prize Executive Committee Meeting
24 NOVEMBER	Council of Members of the European Youth Forum, Cascais, Portugal



Global Education

The Global Education (GE) programme is transversal to the work of the North-South Centre. It aims to foster comprehensive and equitable quality education to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, mainly through global development education and intercultural dialogue.

The GE Programme promotes the inclusion of global development education in school curricula, enabling teachers and youth workers to educate on knowledge and skills to understand, participate in, interact critically with our global societies, and increase the general public understanding of what is global development education.

DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION & AWARENESS RAISING (DEAR) MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING (MSG)

The Development Education & Awareness Raising (DEAR) Multi-Stakeholder Group Meeting (MSG) took place on the 27 January, Strasbourg, France. It involved 26 delegates representing the major stakeholders in DEAR in the European Union (EU). The renewed MSG, of which the North-South Centre is part of, plans to support and

promote dialogue and collaboration between different stakeholder groups engaged in EU focussed awareness raising, education and public engagement for global development.

Following the meeting, the MSG will develop a document with suggestions on priorities for different DEAR stakeholder groups in addressing the UN SDGs, in particular in respect of target 4.7 to do with the SDG on Education. Since this was the first meeting of the MSG, the gathering also established modus operandi, discussed opportunities to include other parties relevant to DEAR in the EU, and established how constituents of the different stakeholder groups will be informed of, and enabled to collaborate in, the work the MSG.

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE "EDUCATION: A SAFE OPTION FOR DEMOCRACY"



The Ministerial Conference, organised under the Cyprus Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, was held in Nicosia on 22-23 March 2017 in Strasbourg, France. The main themes were "competencies for a democratic culture", but also "promoting diversity and dialogue in a safe learning environment", and "the refugee crisis - short-term solutions for sustainable integration". The North-South Centre intervened to present its work, specificity and unique expertise in this field.

The roundtable on "dialogue in the Mediterranean area" presented the occasion to insist on the issues, which are currently emerging, aimed at achieving a high quality societal inclusion of migrants, especially the youngest ones. The nature of the quadrilogue, characteristic of the North-South Centre, facilitates the missions of these different actors.

Undoubtedly, the conclusions of this work will define to which extent factors such as intercultural dialogue, understanding differences and the consideration of the social situation of individuals are essential in achieving educational action. As the Deputy Secretary-General stated, "if education is the central pillar of democratic citizenship ..." then, it needs solid foundations and must be built as early as possible among the children.

STEERING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

The North-South Centre participated for the first time in the Steering Committee, which took place on the 19-21 April in Strasbourg, France. The activities of the North-South Centre related to education, underlining its contribution in the field of global education and intercultural learning, were presented. The presentation was followed by an exchange of views with the Committee.

SIDE EVENT - 4TH WORLD FORUM FOR INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE: "FROM INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE TO GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP" (WFID)



At the request of the Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General, the North-south Centre organised a side event during the 4th World Forum For Intercultural Dialogue: "From Intercultural Dialogue To Global Citizenship (WFID), on the 5-6 May in Baku, Azerbaijan. This side-event show-cased the North-South Centre methodological approach developed in the framework of North-South Centre training scheme, which is based on an intercultural peer learning process.

Two members of the pedagogical teams and two participants involved in previous North-South Centre trainings for trainers (Global Education Training Course for Youth multipliers and Structured Participation in Democratic Processes) shared the pedagogical method and content used during the preparation phase of the trainings and during the trainings, as well as the impact of such training on the participants' professional development.

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION BAL TIC REGIONAL SEMINAR FOLLOW-UP MEETING

The Global Development Education Baltic regional seminar follow-up meeting took place on the 30 May 2017 in Vilnius, Lithuania. 25 participants attended the follow-up meeting from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, representing Ministries of Education, Associations of Local Authorities, NGDO platforms, Schools Students Union, education development centres, universities and UNESCO national commissions.

National coordinators from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania presented the situation of GDE in respective countries in terms of challenges, opportunities and potential areas of cooperation, considering the fact that i) curricula reform processes are undergoing in the three countries, ii) there is a favourable context to introduce the UN SDGs in new curricula and iii) Estonia is holding the EU Presidency.

Participants were able to go deeper in this exchange during the working sessions related to policy making and curricula development; professional development of educators and quality support; awareness raising and pedagogical tools, building on a peer-learning process, sharing of experience and prospection of possible regional cooperation.

WISEGRAD REGIONAL SEMINAR ON GLOBAL EDUCATION



The Visegrad Regional Seminar on Global Development Education took place on the 7-8 June in Prague, Czech Republic, gathering 53 participants. It is part of the cycle of regional seminars with the specific purpose of monitoring the recognition and implementation of GDE in different European regions.

In particular, as part of the monitoring process planned to assess the implementation of the Strategic Recommendations of the 3rd European Congress on Global Education (Zagreb, 2015), the Seminar represented an opportunity for the various regional actors to jointly discuss existing perspectives and further developments on the concept and practice of Global Development Education in terms of policy making, curricula development, pedagogical support and advocacy and in accordance with UN 2030 Agenda and SDG 4, 4.7.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "THE CHALLENGE OF INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION - YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW"



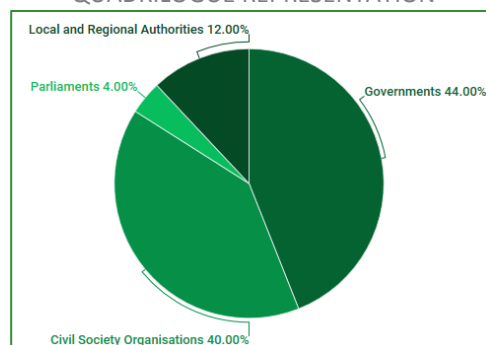
The North-South Centre was invited to present the Intercultural Dialogue (ICD) dimension of its Global Education and Youth programme activities in this conference, which took place on the 8-10 June in Tallinn, Estonia. The aim was to promote the encouraging of creative solutions and advancing of intercultural education among young people of the Euro-Mediterranean region, to increase communication and building trust to motivate young people cross borders to take charge of the development of the Euro-Med region and recognize the benefits of working together across cultural boundaries.

The North-South Centre presentation highlighted how ICD can be promoted through global education methodologies based on intercultural and peer-learning processes and practice. It further developed on why GE contributes to intercultural understanding and intercultural dialogue, and how GE contributes to the consolidation of a democratic culture. The keynote presentation was followed by a debate with participants on the complementarities between the different approaches developed in the EUROMED region.

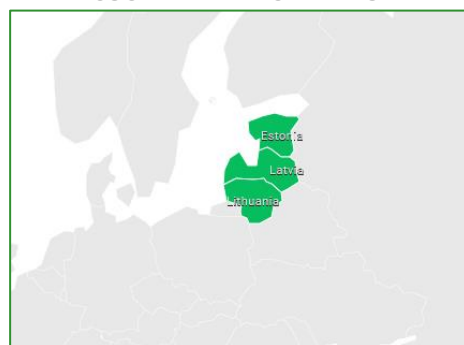
FACTS & FIGURES

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION BALIC REGIONAL SEMINAR FOLLOW-UP MEETING

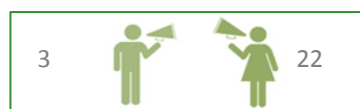
QUADRILOGUE REPRESENTATION



COUNTRY REPRESENTATION

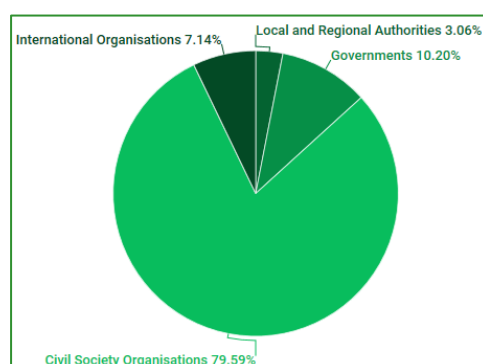


GENDER REPRESENTATION



VISEGRAAD REGIONAL SEMINAR ON GLOBAL EDUCATION IN PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC MEETING

QUADRILOGUE REPRESENTATION



COUNTRY REPRESENTATION



GENDER REPRESENTATION



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FROM OCTOBER TO DECEMBER

4 SEPTEMBER - 1 OCTOBER	One Online training course on the Intercultural Dimension of Global Education (ICD) <i>Currently ongoing</i>
2-29 OCTOBER	Two Online training courses on the Citizenship and Human Rights dimension of Global Education (DC & HR)
30-31 OCTOBER	Balkan regional seminar on Global Education in Belgrade, Serbia
END OF NOVEMBER	Global Education Social Media Task Force meeting to promote principles of global citizenship in Lisbon, Portugal
16 NOVEMBER	South East Europe & Mediterranean follow-up regional seminar on Global Education in Bucharest, Romania
18-26 NOVEMBER	Global Education Week

9 OCTOBER - 5 NOVEMBER	Two Online training course on the Human Rights dimension of global education (HR) at the beginning of November
28-29 NOVEMBER (tbc)	Annual Meeting of the Global Education Week Network, Lisbon, Portugal
ANNUAL	Revision of Global Education Guidelines in English and French



Youth Cooperation

The Youth Cooperation programme promotes youth participation through training and capacity building. These empowering activities, aimed at young people and youth organisations, facilitate their participation in decision and policymaking processes at all levels of governance.

The Network of Universities is the focus of the Youth Cooperation Programme and consists of a platform that gathers youth partners from all over the world in an effort to develop a coordinated system of capacity-building activities that contribute to strengthen the interregional and global youth cooperation.

For 17 years the different universities have offered a space where young people and youth workers come together as part of a global youth movement that works against exclusion and discrimination and for inclusion and diversity.

NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES ON YOUTH AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

The 2017 theme “Developing Global Identities”, allowed participants and political representatives to reflect on how youth organisations and youth work can empower young people as global citizens. Celebrating their diverse identities and facing their vulnerabilities, participants unleashed their potential to contribute to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the United Nations Global Agenda 2030.

6TH ARAB-EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: “THE MEDITERRANEAN CROSSROAD OF CIVILIZATIONS BETWEEN AFRICA, THE EAST AND THE WEST”

The North-South Centre participated in the 6th Arab-European Youth Forum and International Conference, which took place on the 26-27, May in Fez, Morocco, under the theme “The Mediterranean crossroad of civilizations between Africa, the East and the West: towards making youth, peace and security a reality”.

The North-South Centre presented its activities in the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Youth Cooperation, in particular the MedUni, and identified potential synergies and cooperation with other stakeholders active in the field of youth in the Southern Mediterranean.

PARTNERS MEETING 18TH EDITION OF THE UNIVERSITY ON YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT



The partners meeting for the 18th edition of the University on Youth and Development (UYD) took place on the 6 April in Madrid, Spain. The partners of the UYD met to prepare the next edition of the UYD, which then took place in Mollina, Spain, 17-23 September, on the topic “Developing Global Identities”.

5TH EDITION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY

The 5th edition of the Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship (MedUni), in Hammamet, Tunisia from the 3-9 July, gathered a total of 154 participants. Five capacity building activities were organised:

ACTIVITY	CONTENT OF THE ACTIVITY	ORGANISER
6th Global Education Training Course for Youth Multipliers	20 youth multipliers from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean region gathered to further develop their practices of GE and their understanding of intercultural education, intercultural learning and intercultural competences. Various tools and principles were shared with them to support their work and the dissemination of GE in light of the SDGs.	North-South Centre
4th Training Course on Structured Participation in Democratic Processes	20 youth actors highly involved in structured participation and/or democratic processes gathered to share their experience and reinforce their capacities through networking, appropriation of tools and the development of collaborative projects.	North-South Centre
Mediterranean Youth Together!	With the financial support of Erasmus +, 29 participants members of the EuroMed Youth Network gathered to strengthen the capacities of youth councils and organisations from Europe and MENA countries on the areas of communication, internal organisation, conflict resolution, funding and networking. The Annual Meeting of the EuroMed Youth Network also took place.	Regional Youth Council of Catalonia
No Hate Makers - Taking actions against Hate Speech through Counter and Alternatives Narratives in EuroMed	20 participants from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean gathered to share and increase their knowledge about hate speech and narratives, and develop their skills to counter them. They discovered various tools to support their work and be encouraged to develop and strengthen the No Hate Speech campaign. Follow-up collaborative actions are foreseen and were prepared during the training course.	No Hate Speech Movement
Youth for the achievement of the SDGs - 2030	24 young people from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean region involved in a reflection process about an innovative implementation of the SDGs through an assessment of the situation and of the current practices. Synergies between public parties, the Deputies Chamber, youth organisations and civil society were encouraged and a youth task force created in order to efficiently assess the process of SDGs implementation by the stakeholders and to share suggestions regarding their methodology and reflections processes.	Observatoire National de la Jeunesse de Tunisie

Outcomes of the University :

- Participants from Global Education training course acquired tools and methods to act as youth multipliers of Global Citizenship Education;
- Networking and multilateral cooperation projects between participating organisations and between youth organisations and institutional/international partners took place;
- A stakeholders meeting organised during the MedUni offered the opportunity to share projects and ideas with a view to developing synergies and common activities to promote youth cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean area.
- Stakeholders committed to work on common calendar to have an overview of the different actions developed in the Euro-Med region;
- Partners recalled the relevance of the Africa-Europe Youth Cooperation facilitated by the North-South Centre and the African University on Youth and Development



The 18th Edition of University on Youth and Development (UYD) took place in Mollina, Spain from the 18-23 September and gathered a total of 230 participants. Ten activities were organised:

ACTIVITY	CONTENT OF THE ACTIVITY	ORGANISER
7th Global Education Training course for Youth Multipliers	20 youth multipliers mainly from Europe further developed their practices of Global Development Education and their understanding of intercultural education, intercultural learning and intercultural competences. Various tools and principles were shared with them to support their work and the dissemination of Global Development Education in light of the SDGs.	North-South Centre
Seminar on Diaspora Youth as agents for inclusive societies	20 leaders from different Diasporas backgrounds gathered with the aim to promote and enhance the capacity of diaspora youth to create more inclusive communities through quality initiatives and policies in the framework of Global Development Education.	North-South Centre
Training course: Preventing Radicalization, Hate Speech and Building Alternative Narratives	25 participants from all around Spain explored in depth the reality and impact of hate speech and intolerance in media in order to understand how these phenomena affect young people in our societies. The group gained competences based on non-formal education methodologies to counter argue hate speech.	Spanish institute for Youth (INJUVE)
Campaign 70 Já – Promoting young people’s rights	25 youth workers and youth leaders deepened the defense of the rights of young people, as enshrined in the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic and strengthening the 70 Já campaign for young people’s rights, while promoting its national and international visibility.	Portuguese Institute for Sports and Youth (IPDJ)
Training course: Building capacities from global to local, not to leave anyone behind	Kick-off meeting of an Erasmus+ Key Action 2 project for the cooperation North-South (Panama, Spain, Argentina, Brasil and Portugal) for innovation and the exchange of good practices in the development of youth structures and dialogue with decision makers.	Spanish Youth Council/Portuguese Youth Council and Latin American Youth Forum – AYNi
Training course: Building Bridges: a Mediterranean partnership for youth participation and active citizenship at the local level	20 partners from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean gathered to establish a Euro-Mediterranean Youth partnership for an effective and sustainable involvement of youth in decision making with and in cooperation with local authorities.	Developing Youth Participation at the Local Level (DYPALL) Network
Seminar on Seeds for Integration	15 participants gathered in the framework of the project “Seeds for Integration” that promoted the inclusion of young refugees and young migrants in the school system. They shared experiences and challenges in order to compile best practices that will support the development of the project.	Organising Bureau of School Students’ Unions (OBESSU)
Feminist Working Group on Gender and LGBT working groups	25 youth representatives gathered in two working groups tackling different dimensions of identity such as gender and LGBT in order to define a roadmap for the organization in these topics.	International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY)
Working Group on Together, Moving Forward	Working group meeting of the project “Together, moving forward” small grants programme that supports 13-student-led projects which provided youth answers to issues such as exclusion, discrimination, hate speech focusing on mentoring and peer-learning, non-formal education and the defense of human rights	European Students’ Unions (ESU)

Outcomes of the University :

All participants and organizations represented i) increased their knowledge about the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) ii) developed in a participatory way the concept of global identity and iii) acquired more competences related to democracy and youth participation.

- Participants from Global Education training course acquired tools and methods to act as youth multipliers of Global Citizenship Education;
- Participants from the Diaspora Seminar contributed to i) map diaspora youth organisations in Europe ii) assess their capacity building needs iii) understand their role in promoting Global Development Education;
- Networking and multilateral cooperation projects between participating organisations and between youth organisations and institutional/international partners took place;
- Several organisations, including the Portuguese Institute for Youth and Sports, the Spanish Institute for Youth, the Portuguese Youth Council, the European Youth Forum and the African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe underlined the relevance and their willingness to relaunch the process of the African University on Youth and Development.

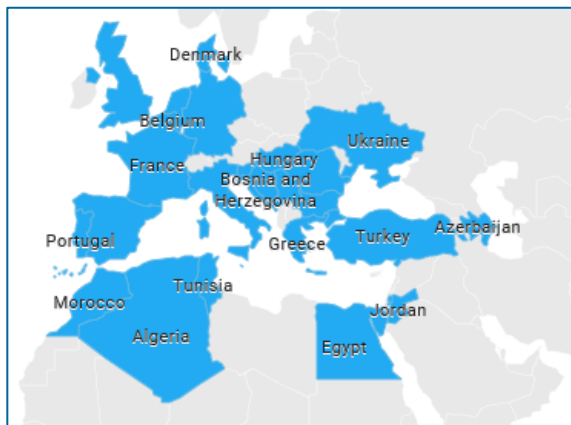


UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FROM OCTOBER TO DECEMBER

16-18 OCTOBER	Steering Committee and Joint Council on Youth in Strasbourg, France
4-5 DECEMBER	Network of Universities, Lisbon, Portugal

MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY ON YOUTH AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP (MEDUNI)

COUNTRY REPRESENTATION

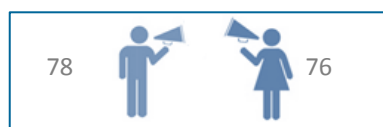


+ Other: Canada, Ivory Coast and Mexico.

QUADRILOGUE REPRESENTATION



GENDER REPRESENTATION



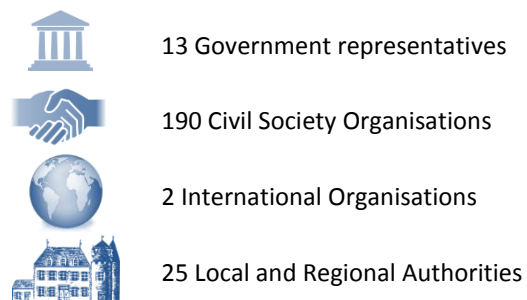
UNIVERSITY ON YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT (UYD)

COUNTRY REPRESENTATION

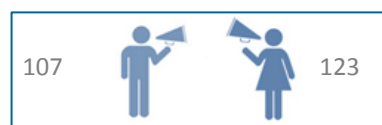


+ Other including Diaspora in Europe: Angola, Argentina, Brasil, Cameroon, Colombia, Chile, Ghana, Honduras, India, Israel, Kenya, Mexico, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, South Africa.

QUADRILOGUE REPRESENTATION



GENDER REPRESENTATION



Empowerment of Women

This programme aims at empowering and protecting women at all levels of society, through the promotion and dissemination of CoE tools, in particular in the Southern Mediterranean region.

EURO-MED WOMEN NETWORK

The Euro-Med Women Network (EMWN) is a fundamental tool to support the EoW Unit by providing its members with a platform, supported by an online website.

Additionally, the platform provides a Good Practices Database, which gives visibility to the work of the EMWN members and allows the exchange of experiences and good practices between them. Videos, photos and articles promoting good practices are published on the online platform.

CONFERENCE “JOINT ACTION: WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN THE MENA REGION”

On the 3 March in Brussels, Belgium, the North-South Centre participated in the debate “Joint action, Women Empowerment in the Middle East and Northern African (MENA) region: a celebration of Union”. The conference was organised by the Womenpreneur Initiative and MC Academy for International legal Studies in Brussels, Belgium. The event gathered 50 participants from governments, local authorities and civil society.



During its presentation on “the role of female entrepreneurship and the status of women in Southern Mediterranean countries”, the North-South Centre focused on entrepreneurship as a growth lever to respond to the current economic challenges and to contribute to the reinforcement of democratic and peace processes in the region. The North-South Centre stressed the relevance of female entrepreneurship in enhancing women’s rights and gender equality in the current context.

The work of the North-South Centre, in its respective fields of expertise (violence against women, women’s participation in public and political life and women in media) reinforces the capacities of women encouraging and enabling them to engage in entrepreneurship.

The conference was also an occasion to present the Womenpreneur initiative whose aim is to increase the access of female entrepreneurs to knowledge and opportunities through an international network. Finally, participants highlighted the decisive role entrepreneurship can play as a means of integrating refugee and migrant women.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY CAMPAIGN

On the occasion of the International Women’s Day 2017, the North-South Centre launched its campaign “8 March, 8 Days to celebrate Inspirational Women”. Through this campaign, the North-South Centre gave visibility to role-model women from the EMWN and to their words and commitment in order to promote a non-stereotyped image of women and to raise awareness on equality between women and men and on the need of preventing and eradicating sexism and gender discrimination.



- 124 shares on the campaign posts
- 1 751 likes in the campaign posts
- 145 comments on the campaign posts

GENDER EQUALITY COMMISSION MEETING

The North-South Centre participated in the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), which took place on the 5 April in Strasbourg, France. The North-South Centre shared its work in the field of gender equality with the GEC delegates, allowing for a better understanding of the contribution of the North-South Centre to the priorities of the Gender Equality Strategy (current and upcoming one). Synergies and contacts were reinforced as well as cooperation between the GEC and the North-South Centre.

COLLOQUIUM « LES FEMMES DES DEUX RIVES DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE FACE À L'EXTRIMISME »



The North-South Centre participated in a symposium on "Women from both shores of the Mediterranean facing extremism," organised by the Association of Arab Women of Press and Communication and the International Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), which took place on the 26 April in Paris, France.

The North-South Centre was responsible for the conclusions of the symposium.

TRAINING OF EXPERTS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH IN COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

From the 12 to 14 July, in Tunis, Tunisia the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe organised a training session on the Council of Europe tools and methodologies. Fifteen participants from the Southern Mediterranean countries were trained on Council of Europe's standards on preventing and combating violence against women, including the co-ordinated and multi-agency methodology, as well as the victim-centred and human rights-based approach.



The participants, originating from Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Morocco, Palestineⁱ and Tunisia discussed the use of these reference tools in their respective contexts and the benefits of the participatory approach promoted by the North-South Centre. Additionally, they defined the current challenges and needs of the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal number 5 to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

The Training of Experts constitutes the first step of the next North-South Centre's project for the Empowerment of Women in the European and Southern Mediterranean regions. To reinforce the multilateral and regional cooperation among the relevant stakeholders and foster women's rights, the North-South Centre is creating a network of Pool of Experts in charge of assessing the needs and identifying the common challenges.

This Q&A event was organised by Global Shapers Tunisia, a partner of the North-South Centre.

ⁱ This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of Council of Europe member States on this issue

SESSION ON POLITICAL IDENTITY OF WOMEN AND THE NEW CHALLENGES IN MEDITERRANEAN (WITHIN THE 18TH EDITION OF UNIVERSITY ON YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT)



Within the 18th edition of University on Youth and Development, the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe organised a workshop for breaking stereotypes and raise awareness on the role of women in the global challenges.

Under the theme of “Developing Global Identities”, two experts in women rights issues, Ms Soumeya Lerari - Women's Earth, Climate

Action Network International and Mediterranean Youth Climate Network - and Ms Jennifer Philippa Eggert - from Warwick University - addressed young participants of the UYD about the “Gender equality perspective in (re-) defining global identities”.

With this workshop, the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe promoted a reflection on women political identity, based on best practices and role models, both in European and Middle Eastern regions and on the international instruments such as the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention).

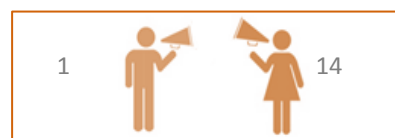
FACTS & FIGURES

TRAINING OF EXPERTS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH IN COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

COUNTRY REPRESENTATION



GENDER REPRESENTATION



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FROM OCTOBER TO DECEMBER

24-25 OCTOBER | National workshop on Strengthening Capacities of Women Organisations in Amman, Jordan



Flagship events

XXII AWARD CEREMONY OF NORTH-SOUTH PRIZE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE



Awarded each year since 1995 to two candidates, one for the North and another from the South, who have stood out for their exceptional commitment to promoting human rights, pluralistic democracy and North-South solidarity, the North-South Prize 2016 distinguished Ms Giuseppina Nicolini, Mayor of the Italian municipality of Lampedusa and Linosa, and Ms Mbarka Brahmi, Tunisian Member of Parliament.

Ms Nicolini was awarded for her commitment to the reception of migrants and to the defence of refugees' rights, by welcoming and sheltering them and by through lobbying the Italian and the EU authorities to provide appropriate support and assistance and Ms Brahmi, founder of the 'Centre Brahmi pour la paix et la solidarité', has been awarded for her direct engagement in the Tunisian democratic process and in the fight for social justice and in the Tunisian democratic process.

The Award Ceremony organised by the North-South Centre took place the 31 May 2017, at the Senate Chamber of the Portuguese Parliament, in Lisbon. The Ceremony was attended by over 170 guests, among which Prof Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, President of the Portuguese Republic, Mr Eduardo Ferro Rodrigues, President of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal, Ms Gabriella Battaini-Draconi, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Ms Ana Catarina Mendes, Head of the Portuguese Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and Mr Jean-Marie Heydt, Chair of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre.

XXIII EDITION OF THE LISBON FORUM



The 23rd edition of the Lisbon Forum, "Interconnecting People - Managing migration, avoiding populism, building inclusive societies and reinforcing North-South dialogue" took place on 1-2 June at the Ismaili Centre of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN). The event was opened by Mr Augusto Santos Silva, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Portugal and Ms Gabriella Battaini-Draconi, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and counted on the participation of more than

130 high representatives of governments, parliaments, local and regional authorities, civil society organisations and international organisations, from both shores of the Mediterranean.

In addressing the theme, that had people at the core of the discussions, reference was made to the key priorities of the Council of Europe and the UN SDGs of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as guidelines to implement the North-South Centre's work.

The strengthening of the role of the quadrilogue was stressed and, perhaps most important, the concerns regarding the situation of the migrants and refugees in different perspectives. Four different panels addressed how these can contribute to promote interdependence, create partnerships and foster solidarity between the North and the South. The work of the North-South Centre will integrate its conclusions.

The 23rd Lisbon Forum was held once again, in the framework of the South Programme II: “Strengthening democratic reform in the Southern Neighbourhood,” an EU-funded initiative, carried out by the Council of Europe.



COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

All the relevant information regarding the Lisbon Forum and the North-South Prize are in the [North-South Centre website](#).

The **Lisbon Forum 2017** was featured in printed and broadcast media outlets in Europe and in the Southern Mediterranean region

9 days (28 May - 5 June 2017)



- 24 articles in online, TV and print media
- 9 media outlets
- 3 countries
- 3 languages

Lisbon Forum on Facebook	Lisbon Forum on Twitter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 13 posts ➤ 12 432 page views ➤ 956 views per post ➤ 182 interactions ➤ 11 new page likes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 31 tweets ➤ 97 tweets with mentions ➤ 341 likes ➤ 266 retweets ➤ 13 new followers 

The **North-South Prize 2016** was featured in printed and broadcast media outlets in Europe, Southern Mediterranean region and Asia

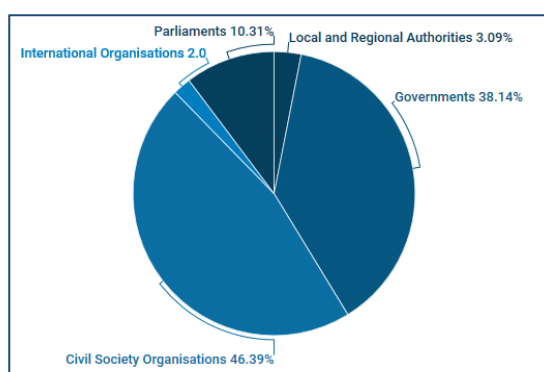
9 days (24 May - 1 June 2017)*

- 39 articles in online, TV and radio media
- 28 media outlets
- 8 countries
- 6 languages

North-South Prize on Facebook	North-South Prize on Twitter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 7 posts ➤ 3 495 page views ➤ 500 views per post ➤ 53 interactions ➤ 9 new page likes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 7 tweets ➤ 7 tweets with mentions ➤ 39 likes ➤ 27 retweets ➤ 10 new followers 

FACTS & FIGURES

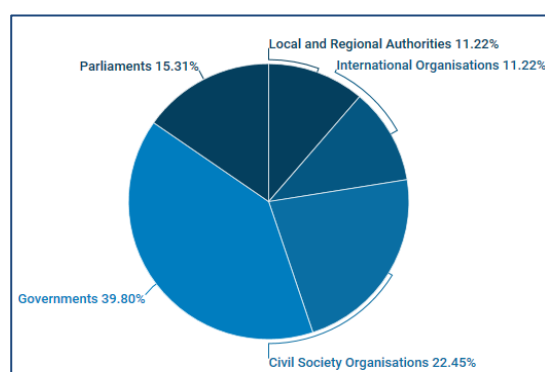
NORTH-SOUTH PRIZE
QUADRILOGUE REPRESENTATION



Gender representation is not relevant for the North-South Prize award ceremony

GENDER REPRESENTATION

LISBON FORUM
QUADRILOGUE REPRESENTATION



COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

During this first semester, the North-South Centre continued to develop its online presence. All relevant information regarding the programmes and activities was publicised in the North-South Centre website: www.nscentre.org.

Formerly composed of three websites, www.nscentre.org, www.nscgloaleducation.org and www.euromedwomennetwork.org, the online presence of the North-South Centre was refocused and integrated in a single website which encompasses now the four main dimensions of the organisation.

Launched in early 2017 and successfully concluded by the end of the first semester, the migration of the website harmonised the online presence of the North-South Centre, aligning it with the new Council of Europe graphic and style guidelines.

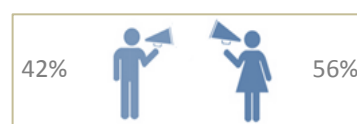
The modernised look and feel of the website and the array of interactive tools it features, improves the experience of all visitors - donors, beneficiaries and other stakeholders - making it easier to understand the work of the North-South Centre, benefiting its corporate image and reputation.

SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

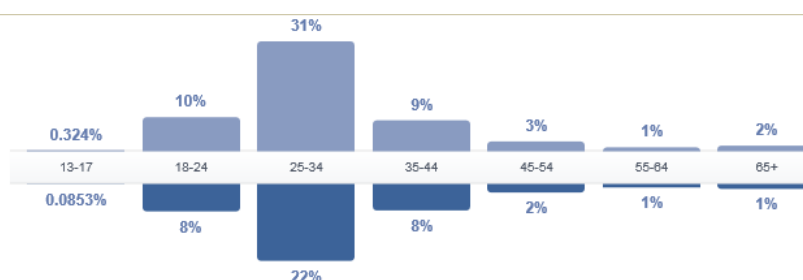
From January until September, the total number of fans of the North-South Centre [Facebook page](#) reached a total of 5 849 users. The number of page likes in this period reached a total of 5 922 by the end of September.

Country	Followers	Fans	Reach
Portugal	614	618	1 461
Italy	364	365	617
Tunisia	356	353	295
France	229	234	648
Egypt	215	215	225






GENDER REPRESENTATION

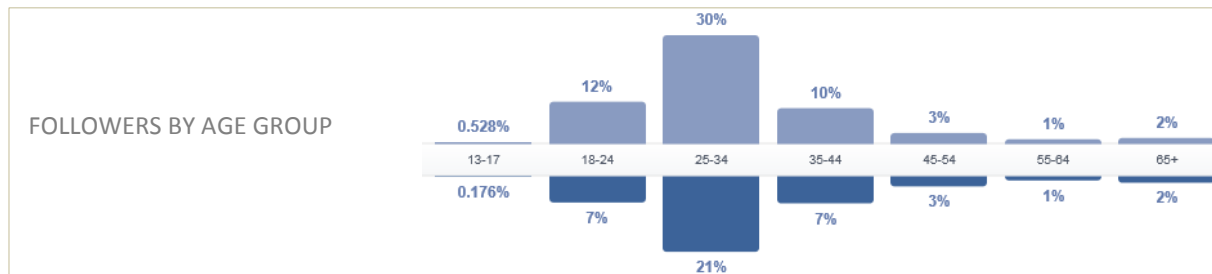
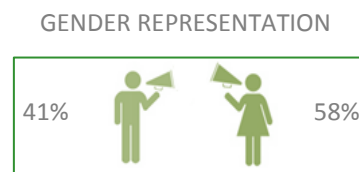


FOLLOWERS BY AGE GROUP








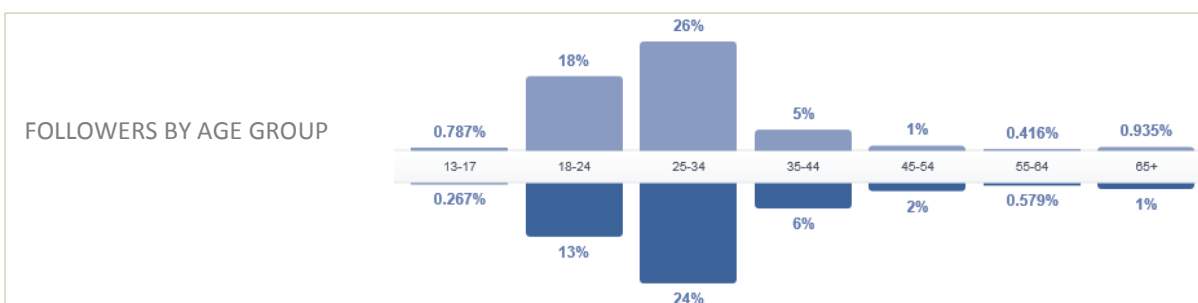
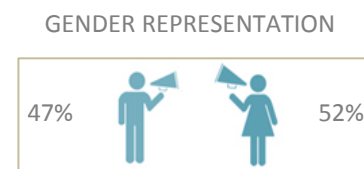
The Global Education network was reinforced through its [Facebook page](#) with over 2 829 fans.

Country	Followers	Fans	Reach
 Portugal	222	222	198
 Tunisia	176	176	732
 Italy	103	104	208
 Morocco	97	99	526
 France	90	90	247








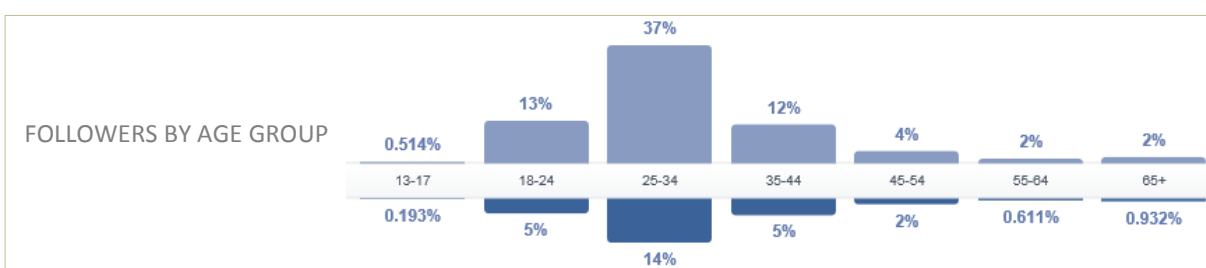
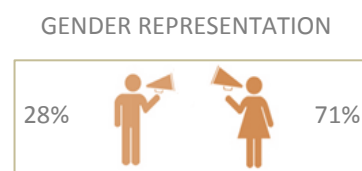
The [Facebook page](#) of the Youth Cooperation Programme has reached a high of 6 714 followers, making it page of the North-South Centre with most fans.

Country	Followers	Fans	Reach
 Tunisia	595	591	1 124
 Egypt	429	430	483
 Spain	373	373	9 837
 Turkey	304	304	1 112
 Portugal	286	291	5 406



The EuroMed Women Network is supported by a [Facebook page](#) which has over 3 110 fans.

Country	Followers	Fans	Reach
 Tunisia	428	432	232
 Italy	228	227	720
 Portugal	186	185	752
 Egypt	184	185	116
 Morocco	171	169	217



Further information:

Fan: a user who likes a particular Facebook page and receives updates from that page's administrator.

Follower: a user whose newsfeed will display the followed page posts.

Reach: the number of people who have seen any content associated with your page.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FROM OCTOBER TO DECEMBER

16 NOVEMBER | 28th Anniversary of the North-South Centre

FINANCES

INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENT (January-September 2017)

	Article	Source	Amount
Receipts	9999000	Contrib Member States	417.800,00
	9999005	Voluntary contributions (Member States and other)	150.000,00
	9999011	European Union	401.622,13
	9999021	Contrib New Accessions	37.298,92
	9999030	Financial Products	3.000,00
	9999200	South Programme II dotation	72.800,00
		Total	1.082.521,05

	Article	Type of Expenditure	Budget	Spent / Committed	Unspent
Expenditure	0000001	CDI Staff	87.400,00	65.015,22	22.384,78
	0000003	Temporary Staff	163.440,00	161.850,51	1.589,49
	0000013	Secondements	860,00	860,00	,00
	0000263	Activities financed by VCs and EU funds	624.422,13	404.154,00	220.268,13
	0000378	Contributions to Council of Europe OB	24.200,00	20.166,00	4.034,00
	0000379	Contributions to Pensions	12.700,00	9.599,13	3.100,87
	6511001	Running Costs	89.098,92	41.321,37	47.777,55
	6511002	Programme Expenditure	80.400,00	70.663,59	9.736,41
		Total	1.082.521,05	773.629,82	308.891,23

Group of Expenditure	Budget	%
Staff Costs	352.328,00	32,55%
Programme implementation	616.894,13	56,99%
Running Costs	113.298,92	10,47%
Total	1.082.521,05	100,00%

Notes:

1) Expenditure figures are still subject to variation after final closing of Purchase Orders that were still open at the date of production of the financial statement.

The 2016 Financial Statements and Budgetary Management Accounts of the North-South Centre were submitted and approved by the 1292nd Committee of Ministers meeting held on the 6 September 2017 [CM/Res(2017)16]. The draft budget for the next biennium will be submitted for approval at the 1300th (Budget) meeting of the Ministers' Deputies that will take place in Strasbourg on 21-23 November 2017.



From left to right: Narimen Beneditine, Grazziano Tulio, Filipa Perestrello, Miguel Silva, Snezana Djurisc, Filipa Ferreira, Mário Rodrigues, Rocio Cervera, Amb. António Gamito

In September 2017 the secretariat of the North-South Centre was composed of ten staff members: The Executive Director (secondment), the Deputy Executive Director; a financial officer, a programme manager for global education; a project assistant for youth, a project assistant for empowerment of women, a communication assistant, a project assistant, a project assistant for global education and an administrative/financial assistant.

In addition, the team of the Centre was reinforced by the valuable presence of seven trainees that throughout the year greatly contributed to the implementation of the programme of activities. The traineeship programme of the North-South Centre received 288 applications (115 first semester, 151 second semester) in 2017 (59% female, 41% male), from more 26 different nationalities (17 first semester, 20 second semester). It aims at contributing to fulfilling the mission of the NSC, in terms of capacity building of young people, by providing a real professional experience in an international environment.



Follow the North-South Centre on:

<https://www.facebook.com/NSCentre/>

<https://www.facebook.com/uyd.me/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Global-Education-networkers>

<http://www.nscentre.org>

30 September 2017