

ECRI

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance
Commission européenne contre le racisme et l'intolérance

Seminar with national specialised bodies to combat racism and racial discrimination on positive action

22 – 23 February 2007
Strasbourg, Human Rights Building
Salle de la Direction

PROGRAMME

Moderator: Ms Winnie SORGDRAGER, Vice-Chair of ECRI

SESSION 1: Setting the frame

9:00	Welcome by Professor Eva SMITH ASMUSSEN, Chair of ECRI
9:05 – 9:25	The concept of positive action - Ms Isil GACHET, Executive Secretary to ECRI
9:25 – 10:15	Discussion

10:15 – 10:30 Coffee Break

Moderator: Mr Mikko PUUMALAINEN, Ombudsman for Minorities (Finland)

SESSION 2: Positive action - legal and political framework

10:30 – 10:50	The international legal and political framework for positive action - Professor Marc BOSSUYT, Professor of international law at the University of Antwerp and Judge at the Belgian Court of Arbitration
10:50 – 11:30	The national legal and political framework for positive action in a selected number of countries - UK: Mr Mohammed AZIZ, Commissioner at the Commission for Racial Equality - France: Ms Alexandra PALT, Director for the promotion of equality, <i>Haute autorité de lutte contre les discriminations et pour l'égalité</i> (HALDE) - Slovakia: Ms Alexandra POLÁKOVÁ, National Centre for Human Rights
11:30 – 13:00	Discussion

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch Break

Moderator: Mr Mohammed AZIZ, Commissioner at the Commission for Racial Equality

SESSION 3: Positive action – the role of national specialised bodies

ECRI

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance
Commission européenne contre le racisme et l'intolérance

14:30 – 14:50	The significance of positive action to combat racism and racial discrimination and the role of national specialised bodies in this field - Mr Marc LEYENBERGER, member of ECRI
14:50 – 15:45	Discussion

15:45 – 16:00 Coffee Break

Moderator: Mr Georges KAMINIS, Ombudsman (Greece)

SESSION 4: Positive action – practical examples I

16:00 – 16:45	<u>Employment:</u> - Diversity management in the public civil service, by Mr Michel VANDERKAM, <i>Centre pour l'égalité des chances et la lutte contre le racisme</i> (Belgium) - The Charter for Diversity – a tool for promoting “positive equality” in private companies, by Mr Laurent BLIVET, researcher associated with the <i>Montaigne Institute</i> and consultant for the Boston Consulting Group - Xenos – living and working in diversity, by Mr Michael HEISTER, project leader of XENOS, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Germany)
16:45 – 18:00	Discussion

Moderator: Ms Beate GANGÅS, The Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombudsperson (Norway)

SESSION 5: Positive action – practical examples II

9:00 – 9:30	<u>Education:</u> - Positive action for Roma children in the national education system, by Mr Adrian BUNOAICA, National Council for Combating Discrimination (Romania) - Promoting diversity and combating segregation at school, by Professor Paul ZOONTJENS, Professor in Educational Law at the University of Tilburg (The Netherlands)
9:30 – 10:15	Discussion
10:15 – 10:45	<u>Participation in social and political life:</u> - Enhancing the participation of cultural and ethnic minorities in society, by Ms Anastasia CRICKLEY, Chairperson of the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism (Ireland)

ECRI

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance
Commission européenne contre le racisme et l'intolérance

- Practical initiatives for the integration of immigrants and ethnic minorities at the local level, by Ms Elisabeth MØLLER JENSEN, Director of the Danish Centre for Information on Women and Gender (Denmark)

10:45 – 11:30

Discussion

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee Break

Moderator: Professor Eva SMITH ASMUSSEN, Chair of ECRI

CLOSING SESSION

12:00 – 12:20

Presentation of the main findings by the Rapporteur of the seminar
- Mr Giancarlo CARDINALE, member of the Secretariat of ECRI

12:20 – 13:00

Discussion

13:00

Closing of the seminar