

**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON YOUTH****Remembering the victims of hate crime****The Advisory Council on Youth supports the Action Day for Victims of Hate Crime****Statement on the Action Day for Victims of Hate Crime by the Advisory Council on Youth**

On this Day for Victims of Hate Crime, the Advisory Council on Youth, ie the representatives of youth NGOs and networks in the Council of Europe youth sector's co-management system, remembers the victims of hate crime who have died or were injured (physically and psychologically) for being who they were or for their perceived identity. We understand the importance of remembering such hate crimes.

On 22 July, atrocious attacks were perpetrated in 2011 on Utøya island and in Oslo claiming the lives of 77 people, including 66 young people in a youth camp. We remember all of these victims by marking this date.

The youth NGOs and networks of the Advisory Council support the initiative of the No Hate Speech Movement to commemorate victims of hate crime on 22 July as a means of giving recognition to the scourge of hate crime in Europe, to give voice to the victims and targets, to express solidarity and to re-affirm our commitment to monitor, educate and raise young people's awareness so that such crimes are reported and prevented. Crimes motivated by hatred and prejudice happen in every country in Europe. Hate speech provides the context for hate crime as it dehumanizes its targets and provides justification for physical abuse, violence and heinous crimes, such as genocide and ethnic cleansing.

On the occasion of the Action Day for the Victims of Hate Crime, as the Advisory Council on Youth, we:

- remember and recognise the suffering of all victims of hate crime, many of whom are young people, in Norway and elsewhere;
- raise awareness of the existence of hate crime, its causes (racism, discrimination and intolerance; along with other connected phenomena such as hate speech);
- recall our obligation to ensure a society where everyone's human dignity is respected, where human rights can be exercised equally and where everyone can fully achieve their human potential.

Furthermore, we, as the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe:

- call upon states to investigate and unmask the motivation behind hate crimes under Article 14 of the European Convention on Human Rights as it affects the entire society;
- invite youth NGOs and networks, as well as European organisations and institutions to join the commemoration and its action;
- encourage everyone to sign and support the [declaration of commitment for 22 July Day for Victims of Hate Crime](#).

The Advisory Council on Youth is committed to the ideas behind the Action Day and to promoting the message of the No Hate Speech Movement.

22 July 2017