



Strasbourg, 23 November 2012

DGIV/EDU/CIT (2012) 13 rev 6

Human Rights and Democracy in Action - Looking Ahead

The impact of the Council of Europe Charter on
Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human
Rights Education

Room G03, Agora Building
Strasbourg, France
29 – 30 November 2012

EDC/HRE Conference 2012
Draft Concept and Programme

*Learning and living
democracy for all*



29 November 2012

08.00-09.00 Registration, Agora building

09.00-10.30 Opening session (Plenary), G03, Agora building

Chairs: Mr Jorma Kauppinen, Chair of the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE) and Ms Seija Astala, Chair of the Joint Council on Youth

Welcome address by Mr Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General Council of Europe (10 minutes)

Welcome address by Mr Jan Trzuszczński, Director-General, European Commission (10 minutes)

Welcome address by H.E. Ms Roser Suñé, Minister of Education and Youth of Andorra, on behalf of the Andorran Chairmanship of the Council of Europe (10 minutes)

Council of Europe's work in the field of citizenship and human rights education – Ms Ólöf Ólafsdóttir, Director of Democratic Citizenship and Participation (15 minutes)

Citizenship Education in the Europe 2020 strategy - Mr Pierre Mairesse, Director, DG Education and Culture, European Commission (15 minutes)

Discussion (30 minutes)

10.30-11.00 Opening of the exhibition "Human rights at school: example of four pedagogical projects" organised by the Andorran Chairmanship of the Council of Europe followed by a coffee break

Agora building, ground floor, in front of room G03

11.00-11.30 Opening session (Plenary), G03, Agora building

Chairs: Mr Jorma Kauppinen, Chair of the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE) and Ms Seija Astala, Chair of the Joint Council on Youth

Presentation of the Questionnaire report on the implementation of the Charter in the member states – Mr David Kerr, Citizenship Foundation, United Kingdom (15 minutes)

Reflections on the implementation of the Charter by non-governmental partners (15 minutes) – Mr Rui Gomes, Youth Department, Council of Europe

Introduction to Workshop 1

11.30-12.30 Workshop 1: Report on the implementation of the Charter: key findings, follow up and examples of good practice (6 parallel groups A-F)

Group A: Moderator: Ms Elisabeth Fröchen, France
Rapporteur: Ms Oana Nestian, Romania

Group B: Moderator: Mr Dariusz Grzemny, Poland
Rapporteur: Mr Bernard Wicht, Switzerland

Group C: Moderator: Mr Kurt Edler, Germany
Rapporteur: Ms Kataryna Shalayeva, Luxembourg

Group D: Moderator: Ms Ljubov Lissina, Spain
Rapporteur: Ms Siyka Chavdarova-Kostova, Bulgaria t.b.c.

Group E: Moderator: Mr Petr Cap, Czech Republic
Rapporteur: Ms Tatevik Margaryan, Armenia

Group F: Moderator: Ms Elisabeth Kasa, Estonia
Rapporteur: Ms Nevenka Loncaric, Croatia

12.30-14.00 Lunch break – Buffet offered by the Council of Europe in front of room G03

13.00-14.00 A path to dignity: the power of human rights education

Side event with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Room G01

14.00-15:30 Workshop 1: Report on the implementation of the Charter: key findings, follow up and examples of good practice - continued

15.30-16.00 Coffee break

Agora building, ground floor, in front of room G03

16.00-16:40 Plenary session I (continued), G03, Agora building

Chair: Ms Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General of Democracy, Council of Europe

Interactive feedback on Workshop 1 (30 min)

Examples of innovation in practice and cooperation:

Putting the Charter into practice: The Swiss-Ukrainian Pilot Initiative – Mr Rolf Gollob, Switzerland, and Ms Raisa Yevtushenko, Ukraine (10 minutes)

16.40-17:00 Break

Plenary session I (continued):

Democracy and human rights in action: regional Summer Academies in Poland and Montenegro (10 minutes) – Ms Bojka Djukanovic, Montenegro, and Ms Marlena Falkowska, Poland

Citizenship education in Europe, Eurydice survey 2012 – Ms Isabelle De Coster, Education Policy and Systems Analyst, Eurydice and Policy support, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (10 minutes)

Educational materials “Compass - A manual on human rights education with young people” (Compass 2.0) and “Charter for All” – a child-friendly version of the Council of Europe Charter on education for democratic citizenship and human rights education (10 minutes) – Mr Rui Gomes, Youth Department, Council of Europe, and Ms Danica Bojic, Organising Bureau of European School Students Unions (OBESSU)

18.00 Reception and Information Market

Agora building, ground floor, in front of room G03

30 November 2012

09.00-09.30 Plenary session II, G03, Agora building

Chair: Ms Ana Perona, Director, European Wergeland Centre

Citizenship and human rights education in the context of the Interlaken Declaration and Action Plan - Mr Derek Walton, Chairman of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) (10 min)

Introduction to Workshop 2

09.30-10.30 Workshop 2: Current challenges, possible solutions and future priorities under the articles of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education (8 parallel groups as follows)

Group G: Formal general and vocational education (including curriculum development) (Article 6)

Moderator: Ms Sesselja Snaevarr, Iceland
Rapporteur: Ms Oana Nestian, Romania

Group H: Higher Education (Article 7)

Moderator: Mr Krzysztof Ostrowski, Poland
Rapporteurs: Mr Thierry Doufur, Belgium

Group I: Democratic governance (Article 8)

Moderator: Mr Dariusz Grzemny, Poland
Rapporteur: Ms Elisabeth Backman, Sweden

Group J: Training (Article 9)

Moderator: Ms Olena Styslavskaya, Poland
Rapporteur: Ms Anna Dobrovolskaya, Russia

Group K: Role of non-governmental organisations, youth organisations and other stakeholders (Article 10)

Moderator: Ms Elisabeth Kasa, Estonia
Rapporteur: Mr Georg Pirker, Germany

Group L: Criteria for evaluation (Article 11)

Moderator: Mr Cesar Birzea, Romania
Rapporteur: Ms Tatevik Margaryan, Armenia

Group M: Research (Article 12)

Moderator: Mr Mitja Sardoc, Slovenia
Rapporteur: Ms Kataryna Shalayeva, Luxembourg

Group N: Skills for promoting social cohesion, valuing diversity and handling differences and conflict (Article 13)

Moderator: Ms Ljubov Lissina, Spain
Rapporteur: Ms Josephine Vassalo, Malta

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

Agora building, ground floor, in front of room G03

- 11.00-12.30 Workshop 2 – continued, G03, Agora building**
- 12.30-14.00 Lunch break – Buffet offered by the Council of Europe in front of room G03**
- 13.00-14.00 Guidelines on human rights education**
- Side event with the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE/ODIHR), Room G01
- 14.00-15.00 Plenary session II – continued, G03, Agora building**
- Chair: Mr Pierre Mairesse, Director, DG Education and Culture, European Commission
- Feedback on Workshop 2 (40 minutes)
- Reactions and discussion of follow-up action (20 minutes)
- 15.00-15.15 Break**
- 15.15-16.00 Plenary session II – continued, G03, Agora building**
- International Contact Group on EDC/HRE – Round table discussion on the role of international cooperation in the promotion and development of EDC/HRE (30 minutes):
- Ms Elena Ippoliti, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
 Ms Romina Kasman, Organisation of American States (OAS)
 Ms Jun Morohashi, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
 Mr Pavel Chacuk, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR)
- Discussion (15 minutes)
- 16.00-16.30 Coffee break**
- Agora building, ground floor, in front of room G03
- 16.30-17.30 Closing session**
- Chairs: Mr Jorma Kauppinen, Chair of the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE) and Ms Seija Astala, Chair of the Joint Council on Youth
- Summing up of conference by the General Rapporteur: Prof. Audrey Osler, Buskerud University College, Norway (10 min)
- The role of education in protecting human rights - Mr Nils Muižnieks, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (15 minutes)
- Discussion (25 minutes)
- Concluding remarks by Mr Pierre Mairesse, Director, DG Education and Culture, European Commission (5 minutes)
- Concluding remarks by Ms Ólöf Ólafsdóttir, Director of Democratic Citizenship and Participation, Council of Europe (5 minutes)

Background Information

In recent years, important developments in the field of citizenship and human rights education have taken place both in Europe and beyond. In particular, on 11 May 2010, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and representatives of the 47 Council of Europe member states adopted Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)7 on the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education at the 120th Session of the Committee of Ministers. The Charter will be an important reference point for all of Europe and will be used as a basis for the Council of Europe's work in this field in the coming years.

The decision to adopt the Charter was one of a series of decisions taken by the Committee of Ministers as a follow-up to the High-Level Conference on the Future of the European Court of Human Rights held in Interlaken on 18-19 February 2010, with a view to implementing the Declaration and Action Plan agreed there. These decisions are all concerned, in one way or another, with improving the credibility and effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights and the system for its implementation, and with reducing the pressure on the Court from its excessive caseload. The Charter takes its place among these decisions because citizenship and human rights education is a primary way, of "equipping learners with knowledge, skills and understanding and developing their attitudes and behaviour" so that they promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Charter marks a turning point in the Council of Europe's work in promoting citizenship and human rights education and is the culmination of the project on Education for Democratic Citizenship and of the Human Rights Education Youth Programme.

Two years on after the adoption of the Charter, the Council of Europe is focusing on its dissemination (which includes the production of a child-friendly version) and on learning about its potential to make learning citizenship and human rights a reality for everyone in Europe. To this end, member states and non-governmental partner organisations (including youth organisations) will be invited to share experiences and results in using the Charter. A questionnaire report will be prepared on the basis of replies to be received from the member states. Feedback from civil society organisations will also be collected.

In this framework, the Council of Europe will organise a conference on "Human Rights and Democracy in Action - Looking Ahead" in 2012, in co-operation with the European Commission and the European Wergeland Centre, with a view to take stock of the developments in the member states since the adoption of the Charter and to discuss future co-operation and strategies for the promotion of education for democratic citizenship and human rights.

Date and place

29-30 November 2012, Strasbourg, France

Organisers

The Conference is organised and funded by the following organisations:

- Council of Europe, Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation
- European Commission
- European Wergeland Centre

Aim and objectives

The aim of the Conference is to bring together representatives of the States Parties to the European Cultural Convention, education practitioners, youth and civil society representatives and other partners to take stock of the results achieved and to plan future co-operation and strategies for the promotion of EDC/HRE through the implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education.

On the basis of the report on the implementation of the Charter and in the framework of the follow-up to the Interlaken Declaration and Action Plan

The objectives are as follows:

- To discuss challenges and opportunities in the field of citizenship and human rights education;
- To exchange information on the impact and implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education in the member states by public institutions and NGOs;
- To discuss how to further enhance EDC/HRE through the use of the Charter in the coming years, and to contribute to the development of sustainable mechanisms for the implementation of the Charter both in member states and the Council of Europe;
- To discuss concrete future co-operation initiatives among national and international institutions and organisations and between formal and non-formal education sectors.

Expected outcomes

At the policy level:

- Strengthening Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights based on the Charter through a better understanding of effective ways of promoting EDC/HRE in all educational settings;
- Increased visibility of the role of EDC/HRE for the future of democratic societies and of the work of the Council of Europe in this field;
- Strengthening co-operation of all involved parties on the international and national level to capitalise on synergies and ensure complementarity, and initiate plans for concerted actions.

Specific outcomes:

- A conference report, including feedback on the questionnaire report, conclusions and recommendations;
- A conference website, including speeches, presentations and multimedia products (ex. interviews with participants).

Participants

The participants of the Conference will be officials from the 50 States Parties to the European Cultural Convention, representatives of international institutions, civil society organisations (including youth organisations and foundations active in the field of EDC/HRE). Two hundred participants are expected to attend the Conference.

Request for nominations will be addressed to the States Parties to the European Cultural Convention asking them to nominate one high-level official dealing with citizenship and human rights education.

Also will be invited:

1. Moderators, rapporteurs, chairs and a general rapporteur
2. EDC/HRE coordinators
3. International NGOs
4. Youth organisations active in EDC/HRE
5. National human rights institutions
6. Regional and international institutions
7. Foundations dealing with EDC/HRE
8. Council of Europe bodies concerned, including:
 - a. Committee of Ministers
 - b. Parliamentary Assembly
 - c. Congress of Local and Regional Authorities
 - d. Human Rights Commissioner's Office
 - e. INGOs Conference
 - f. North South Centre
 - g. Programme "Building Europe for and with Children"
 - h. Directorate General of Legal Affairs and Human Rights
 - i. World Forum for Democracy
 - j. European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML)
9. Education professionals
10. Media representatives

Organisation and working methods

Reporting and decision making: The Conference is organised under the supervision of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE) and the Joint Council for Youth. A small preparatory group was set up with a view to provide in-depth guidance and advice on the concept and programme of the Conference¹. The Conference report will be submitted to relevant committees for information and follow up.

Programme: The first day will be devoted to taking stock of what has been done, and the second one to ideas for future action. The concluding session will allow the summing up of the conclusions and will give floor to a prominent personality for inspirational remarks. In general, the number of speeches will be kept to a minimum, and the workshops will aim to produce practical conclusions and recommendations. Some high-profile interviews will be sought.

Gender equality and participation of children and young people: The issues of gender equality and participation of children and young people will be duly taken into account in the organisation of the conference.

Communication: A conference website will be developed and launched in September 2012. The website will be used for the preparation of the Conference and to disseminate its outcomes. Potentially, it could also be used for on-line participation (ex. video transmission of debates), collection of comments from a broader audience and for video connections with other locations. Possible co-operation in this respect with the Council of Europe Directorate of Communication will be explored. The possibility to use the social networking tools will be explored in co-operation with the European Wergeland Centre.

An Information Market will be organised in parallel with the meeting (i.e. materials and publications will be put on display, promoted and distributed by the organisers and participants). Regional tables and an informal opening event could be organised the night before.

Working languages: English and French (for Workshop 1 and Workshop 2 there will be a Russian-speaking group).

Working documents

- Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education (Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)7)
- Questionnaire report on the implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education

Background documents

Council of Europe

- Conclusions of the Forum on Human Rights Education with Young People (Budapest and Strasbourg, 2009)
- Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2012-2015)
- Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the participation of children and young people under the age of 18
- Recommendation CM/Rec(2007)13 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on gender mainstreaming in education

European Commission

- Citizenship Education in Europe, Eurydice survey 2012
- Study on "Participatory Citizenship in the European Union" 2012

Other

- Plan of Action for the second phase (2010-2014) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education (A/HRC/15/28), with the adopting resolution 15/11 of the Human Rights Council
- United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training A/RES/66/137

¹ The group includes 2 representatives of the (former) Steering Committee for Education, 2 representatives of youth statutory bodies and 2 NGO representatives.