



NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE OF THE
COUNCIL OF EUROPE



2003

Activities

Report

North-South Centre of The Council of Europe

European Centre for Global Independence and Solidarity

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The mission of the North-South Centre

In Recommendation 1616 (2003)¹, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) recalls that "after the events of 11 September 2001, it has become even more urgent for the Centre to fulfil its unique mission, consisting of making Europe aware of the issues of development and the deep causes of poverty in the world and of the need for real North-South dialogue on these issues".

The creation of the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity (commonly known as the North-South Centre) by the Council of Europe in 1989² was a response to these concerns.

Managed under a "quadrilogue" structure (governments, parliaments, local and regional authorities and non-governmental organisations), the Centre has the following mandate: "to provide a framework for European cooperation designed to heighten public awareness of global interdependence issues, and to promote policies of solidarity complying with the Council of Europe's aims and principles - respect for human rights, democracy and social cohesion".

The North-South Centre is often described as the Council of Europe's window to the world, because its purpose is to assert the validity of the values upheld by the Council beyond the European continent. Recommendation 1616 (2003) of the PACE therefore feels that it is "essential for the Centre to strictly follow the objectives and policies followed by the Council of Europe".

Since its creation, the North-South Centre has never ceased to plead for fair, balanced globalisation founded on policies of solidarity for peace social cohesion, pluralistic democracy, and respect for human rights, which are fundamental elements of sustainable development.

Its approach is therefore global, and education for global solidarity plays a central role in its programme of activities, with young people as its priority target. Moreover, the North-South Centre has made geopolitical choices in order to make its actions more effective and so priority has been given to Africa and the Mediterranean basin.

The North-South Centre's work is based on three principles: dialogue, partnership and global solidarity.

DIALOGUE: dialogue is mutual learning based on listening and acquiring new knowledge. It is in this spirit that the North-South Centre is a platform for discussion between North and South and between the partners in its quadrilogue.

PARTNERSHIP: the North-South Centre brings together players from different countries and walks of life who are concerned with common issues. It encourages them to set up networks so as to increase their impact.

¹ Adopted by the Permanent Committee acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 8 September 2003 (Doc. 9879, Report of the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development, rapporteur: Mr Frey).

² Resolution (89)14 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe 16 November 1989.

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY: the North-South Centre’s aims and principles reflect the Council of Europe’s commitment to the universality of human rights and its acknowledgement that Europe’s future is closely bound to that of other continents.

The North-South Centre’s activities revolve around two main areas of activity:

Global education: promoting and strengthening global education (which includes development education, education for sustainable development, human rights, peace, the prevention of conflicts and intercultural dialogue). This work includes a particular focus on **young people**, and their organisations.

Dialogue and capacity-building for solidarity in an interdependent world:

- Europe-Africa Dialogue: creating forums and platforms for concertation and dialogue between partners from North and South about policies on democracy, human rights, social cohesion and capacity building;

- Transmed: developing and strengthening the partnership and cooperation between the Council of Europe and the Arab world in a number of ways: intercultural dialogue, the promotion and protection of human rights, especially women’s rights, the reinforcement of democratic processes, migrations and their socio-cultural corollaries and the role of the media.

In addition, the **Multimedia Sector** is responsible for publications, the Centre’s website and the North-South Centre’s public relations.

The 20 member states of the North-South Centre

	Cyprus		Luxembourg
	Finland		Malta
	France		The Netherlands
	Germany		Norway
	Greece		Portugal
	The Holy See		San Marino
	Iceland		Slovenia
	Ireland		Spain
	Italy		Sweden
	Liechtenstein		Switzerland

Foreword

Miguel Angel Martínez

Chairman of the Executive Council of the North-South Centre

The reality of the world as it is today, places us in front of a number of challenges that we need to face urgently and honestly. The challenges of an increasingly globalised world means that every country is dependent on the stability, security and well-being of others in order to safeguard its own stability, security and well being. Our world is asking for fairer international relations, for a wider democratic engagement, for the effective globalisation of fundamental values such as freedom, human rights and the rule of law: the principles that the *raison d'être* of the Council of Europe.

The objectives of the North-South Centre reflect the commitment of the Council of Europe towards those values, and the idea that Europe's future depends highly on the fate of other continents, of other peoples. Since its creation in 1989, the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity of the Council of Europe has been working for a better understanding of interdependence issues and challenges. We are a pioneer structure, devoted to the implementation of a dialogue framework between Europe and the rest of the world, between the North and the South. We are an instrument of the Council of Europe for promoting wider discussion among our civil societies in the North and South, in the conviction that only upon dialogue and better understanding among different cultures and different peoples, shall we be able to build a better world. Thus, our Centre is both a window and a hand of the Council of Europe, which we offer to the rest of the world.

We are loyal to our mandate and conscious of our role and responsibility as agents of the oldest European political organisation, the Council of Europe. Drawing on its example we believe that only co-operation and solidarity can constitute the foundations of a peaceful and prosperous Europe and of a peaceful and prosperous world. The international context today makes our mandate even more relevant than ever. Inter-religious tensions, ethnic clashes, terrorism and war are unfortunately a daily issue. Poverty, inequality and despair are usually behind. Both our ideals and our experience show that we cannot turn our backs to this situation. Democracy cannot survive in isolation. Only by reinforcing democracy and fundamental rights and by claiming the force and validity of these values in the rest of the world, shall we reach our goal: a peaceful, prosperous, fair and balanced world.

During 2003 we have worked on a diversified range of projects aiming at promoting dialogue and debate around those main challenges that we have referred to. In that sense we have prioritised the geographical areas of the Mediterranean and Africa and as usual we have paid great attention to our young people and their perception of these themes. Education and awareness are the main instruments of our action as global education and youth are the axes of our activities. But we have not neglected other issues or other continents, as we have been involved in the main international debates such as the NEPAD development process, the Development Millennium Goals and the Barcelona process.

Now, we present you the results of one year efforts. With this Report, as we already did last year, we want to share with you our projects and our enthusiasm. And we want to invite you to critically and constructively join us in our adventure, in our struggle.

General guidelines 2003

The 2003 programme was part of the 2002-2004 triennial cycle and its activities were designed to continue those undertaken in the cycle, on the basis of two main themes:

- **Global education:** promoting and developing global education, (development education, which includes education on sustainable development, human rights, peace, the prevention of conflicts and intercultural dialogue) focussing particularly on **young people**

- **Dialogue and capacity-building for solidarity in an interdependent world:** creating facilities and platforms for discussion and dialogue between partners from the North and South on the policies to be pursued for democracy, human rights, social cohesion and capacity-building

In the context of global education, the high points of the year were **the international conference in London**, Learning for a Global Society, the aim of which was to share best practices and thinking about global education, the **Global Education Week** on the subject, "The world we're in and the world we want: conflict and human security" and the launch of the **peer review project**, as follow-up to the Global Education Statement adopted at the Maastricht Pan-European Congress in 2002. This study is intended to assess the possibilities of setting up a global education peer review programme in the Council of Europe Member States.

Encouraging young people and their organisations to be actors in development and global solidarity was the main goal of the training courses organised for youth in 2003 with **the 4th University on Youth and Development**, bringing together over 180 participants in Spain, and the **training course on Intercultural Dialogue Human Rights in the Mediterranean**" as part of the partnership agreement between the European Commission, the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe and the North-South Centre.

Where policy dialogue was concerned, the North-South Centre focused its activities on African and the Mediterranean region, in response to the geographical priorities established by the statutory bodies and recalled by Recommendation 1616 (2003) of the PACE.

The North-South Centre launched a **series of Europe-Africa meetings** (Cape Town, Nairobi and Lisbon) aimed at creating dialogue on subjects of mutual interest. During these meetings, the focus was on the role of parliamentarians and members of civil society organisations from the two continents. Parliamentarians were also honoured with the award of the **North-South Prize** to Frene Ginwala, Speaker of the South African Parliament and António de Almeida Santos, former Speaker of the Portuguese Parliament. 40 participants from Europe and Africa debated migrations and human rights in the North-South dialogue at the **10th anniversary of the Lisbon Forum**.

In the framework of dialogue with the Mediterranean, and one of the priorities established by the Council of Europe, two major conferences focused their attention on **the protection of women in the Euro-Mediterranean region** and on **intercultural dialogue in the Mediterranean**, aimed at creating dynamics between the different players in the quadrilogue on these issues. The North-South Centre continued to play an active role in COPEAM (Permanent Conference of Mediterranean Audiovisual Operators) in 2003.

Finally, where communication was concerned, in 2003, the North-South Centre focused on setting up a **database** integrated with that of the Council of Europe and on the launch of a **virtual project community** within the framework of the 4th University on Youth and Development.

Calendar of activities 2003

MONTH	DATE	ACTIVITIES	PLACE
January	23-29	Globalisation and Human Rights: Dialogue Series	Porto Alegre (Brazil)
March	18-20	Forum for Europe-Africa Dialogue on Human Rights, Democratic Governance and African Union	Cape Town (South Africa)
	28-29	GENE Working Group Expert Seminar: Evaluation of Global Education	Nuremberg (Germany)
April	11-13	International Seminar of the Global Education Week Network "The World We're in and the World we Want, Conflict and Human Security"	Brno (Czech Republic)
	30-2 May	Copeam: Annual Conference and General Assembly	Dubrovnik (Croatia)
May	19-29	"Intercultural Dialogue and Human Rights in the Mediterranean" Training Course	Mollina (Spain)
June	Postponed 2004	Colloquium "Democracy and Citizenship in the Southern Mediterranean Countries"	Beirut (Lebanon)
August	21-22	Parliamentary Expert Briefing on Nepad	Nairobi (Kenya)
September	19-26	4 th University on Youth and Development 9 th North-South Training Course for Youth Organisations	Mollina (Spain)
	26-27	GENE Conference "Learning for A Global Society - Improving Global Education in Europe: Issues of Evaluation and Quality"	London (United Kingdom)
October	10-11	Global Education Seminar	Nicosia (Cyprus)
	13-14	Seminar on Women's Rights in the Euro-Mediterranean Region: Laws, Religions and Traditions	Strasbourg (France)
	Postponed 2004	Workshop on the Improvement of the Regional Systems of Human Rights Protection	Strasbourg (France)
	23-24	Conference on the Challenges to Europe-Africa Cooperation	Lisbon (Portugal)
November	17-23	Global Education Week	Europe-wide
	Postponed 2004	World Aware Education Awards	Bonn
	23-25	Lisbon Forum 2003	Lisbon (Portugal)
	24	North-South Prize 2003	Lisbon (Portugal)
December	Postponed 2004	2 nd Asia-Europe Youth Training Course	*
	6-7	Colloquium "Intercultural dialogue in the Mediterranean: the Foundation of Peace and stability"	Amman (Jordan)

Global Education

	<p>GENE Network</p>
<p>28-29 March</p>	<p>1. GENE working group, experts' seminar: Evaluation of global education Nuremberg (Germany)</p>
<p>Objectives</p> <p>The work of the GENE network reinforces effective support, funding and coordination of global education at a national and European level by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharing strategies between existing national structures - Sharing acquis with emerging structures in other countries - Implementing a common European agenda for reinforcing global education <p>Context</p> <p>The GENE network was set up on the basis of an evaluation in 1999 recommending networking and the creation of structures to improve the effectiveness of global education.</p> <p>Thanks to its quadrilogue structure, which includes the players involved in the different types of national structures, the North-South Centre was recognised as the European organisation capable of bringing them together. The existing structures met for the first time in June 2001 in Strasbourg at the first multilateral round table and agreed that an open network should be set up to, first, share the strategies of the existing national structures and then transmit their acquis to the emerging structures in other countries. At a second meeting in February 2002, the GENE network set itself a third goal of setting up a common European platform to reinforce global education. A work agenda was also established for the six fields of common activities.</p> <p>Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NCDO (Netherlands) - Ireland Aid (formerly NCDE) - KommEnt (Austria) - Fondation d'éducation et de développement (Switzerland) - Rorg (Norway) - Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - CIDAC (Portugal) - DEA (United Kingdom) - German Ministry of Foreign Affairs (B.M.Z./InWEnt) - Other national global education structures <p>Results</p> <p>This seminar of experts on the evaluation of global education enabled the participants to share their experiences in this area on the basis of specialised documents and to prepare the Conference on Sharing Good Practice and Theory in Evaluation of Global Education, which took place in London (UK) on 26 and 27 September 2003.</p>	

26-27 September	2. Gene Conference: sharing Theory and Practice in Evaluation of Global Education London (United Kingdom)
<p>Objectives</p> <p>To share best practices and thinking throughout Europe and beyond, in particular with regard to identifying how quality global and development education can be better delivered, why it should be evaluated and how it can be better evaluated.</p> <p>Context</p> <p>An international conference - Learning for a Global Society (Improving Global Education in Europe: Issues of Evaluation and Quality), took place at the Institute of Education, London University, from 26th to 27th September 2003. The event was organised on behalf of the GENE network.</p> <p>Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development Education Association (United Kingdom) - InWEnt (Germany) <p>Results</p> <p>Over eighty leading policy-makers, thinkers and practitioners from the field of global and development education from across Europe and beyond participated in this conference to share perspectives on issues of quality, and to develop strategies to ensure that evaluation and quality improvement are part of practice in Global Education.</p> <p>The London Conference saw the launch of the GENE (Global Education Network Europe) report - "National Structures for the Organisation, Support and Funding of Development Education". This report gives an overview of the structures of support for development education in seven Council of Europe member states (Austria, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and the UK), and shows important similarities and differences between the approaches taken in each country.</p>	

	Global Education Week
11-13 April	1. International seminar of the Global Education Week network Brno (Czech Republic)
<p>Objectives</p> <p>Global Education Week is an annual event based on the work of a Europe-wide network and is devoted to reinforcing and improving global education in the Member States of the Council of Europe. Global Education Week fosters the sharing of strategies at an international level and the reinforcement of the effectiveness of global education at a national level.</p> <p>The objective of the international seminar of the Global Education Week network was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To attract Europe-wide attention and support for the reinforcement of global education at a national level in all the member States of the Council of Europe; - To identify and maintain national contacts in order to stimulate the development of national strategies for reinforcing One World Week/Global Education Week; - To share strategies for reinforcing Global Education Week between national players with a view to more effective coordination; - To provide national co-ordination points with supports like bi-monthly electronic newsletters, sources of theme information, teaching material, joint training, sharing acquis by means of field trips; - To encourage Ministers of Education to become involved and support those working in the field. 	

Context

In many member States of the Council of Europe the organisation of theme weeks to draw attention to national global education initiatives and to coordinate these initiatives has been a great success. Since 1999 and with the involvement of national structures, the North-South Centre has facilitated work in a multilateral network.

In addition, in early 2002, during the International Global Education Seminar, the networking process was reinforced was more clearly defined with the creation of three working groups consisting of national coordinators of the week. These three groups are working on the following projects:

- preparing common teaching material;
- the electronic newsletter network;
- field trips to learn more about successful strategies for Global Education Week.

Partners

Different sectors in the member States of the Council of Europe participating in the project (30 in 2001, 35 in 2002, 38 in 2003): schools (students, teachers, directors), associations, NGOs and education networks, youth organisations and networks, local authorities, ministries (Education, Interior, Social Affairs, Foreign Affairs, depending on the Member State) and the network of national Global Education Week coordinators (set up in 2001).

Results

- More countries involved - 38 in 2003 – and the hope of reaching the 44 member States in the next few years• Choice of the annual theme by consultation;
- Annual Global Education Week seminar bringing together, training and forming networks of all national coordinators so that they can share strategies for reinforcing the effectiveness of global education;
- Complete report;
- More extensive participation of youth and schools at a national level in terms of teachers and trained youth animators, management of programmes, the number of young people involved and youth initiatives;
- Provision of useful teaching material and resources, available at the Global Education Week page on the NSC website;
- Added support for global education from ministries of Education;
- Increased networking – creating three groups working in networks.

L'impact de la Semaine de l'éducation à la citoyenneté mondiale est mesuré par le biais d'un questionnaire d'évaluation envoyé chaque année à tous les contacts nationaux.

The impact of the week is also measurable thanks to new partnerships being set up locally or internationally between national contacts and resulting from the networking process and thanks to the use of the Global Education Newsletter as a means of disseminating and sharing best practices and finding partners.

10-11 October

2. Global Education Seminar Nicosia (Cyprus)

Objectives

Involve more teachers in global education throughout the Cyprus secondary school system

Context

A two-day seminar was held at the Pedagogical Institute in Nicosia, Cyprus, on global education for secondary school teachers (10-11 October 2003). It was opened with an address by the Minister of Education and Culture, and was attended by over 150 secondary school teachers. The Seminar built on the experience of the two Global Education Week pilot schools in Cyprus, which have been operating since 1999. school teachers.

Partners

- The Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus
- The Pedagogical Institute of Cyprus
- The Secondary Teachers Association (OELMEK)

Results

Much of the seminar took the form of workshops, where global education activities for secondary schools were demonstrated. The discussion groups had wide-ranging debates on how global education could be implemented in the classroom, in schools and throughout the secondary school system in general.

17-23 November

3. Global Education Week

Europe-wide (in 38 Council of Europe member states participating in the project, coordinated from Lisbon)

Objectives

- To attract Europe-wide attention to and support for the reinforcement of global education at a national level in all the Council of Europe Member States;
- To identify and support national contacts in order to stimulate the development of national strategies for reinforcing One World Week and Global Education Week;
- To share strategies for reinforcing Global Education Week between national actors with a view to more effective coordination;
- To provide national coordination points with the following kinds of support: bi-monthly electronic newsletter, theme-based sources of information, teaching material, collective training, greater sharing of *acquis* by means of study visits;
- To encourage Ministers of Education to become involved and to support those who are working in the field.

Context

The 5th edition of Global Education Week, facilitated by the by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, was held from 17 to 23 November. It was entitled Conflict and Human Security, the world we live in, the world we want.

All schools, youth organisations and associations involved in education programmes in the Council of Europe member states were invited to participate. Partnerships between schools and networking with partners in the South were strongly encouraged.

Partners

Different sectors in the Council of Europe member States participating in the project (30 in 2001, 35 in 2002 and 38 in 2003): schools (students, teachers, heads), associations, education NGOs and networks, youth organisations and networks, local authorities, ministries, (Education, Interior, Social Issues, Foreign Affairs, depending on the country), and the network of national coordinators of Global Education Week (created in 2001).

Results

Global Education Week provides an opportunity for students, teachers and youth groups to implement a global education project.

The projects addressed issues such as local and global diversity and inequality, using the Millennium Development Goals as a guiding principle to 2015 and focusing on the core issues of global citizenship:

- awareness of a wider world and of our own role as global citizens;
- respect for diversity and intercultural communication skills;
- the ability to take action to make the world a more equitable and sustainable place;
- taking responsibility for our own actions.

	Peer Review Project
10-11 October	<p>1. Nicosia (Cyprus)</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>Testing the feasibility of developing a global education peer review programme for Council of Europe member states.</p> <p>Context</p> <p>The peer review project is being coordinated by the North-South Centre as part of a feasibility study in follow-up to the Maastricht Declaration adopted at the Europe-wide Congress on Global Education in 2002</p> <p>Partners</p> <p>Ministry of Education, OELMEK, the Pedagogical Institute, the youth sector, the environmental sector and civil society organisations generally</p> <p>Results</p> <p>The Global Education Seminar in Cyprus coincided with a peer review visit to assess the state of global education in Cyprus. A series of meetings was held with relevant actors, including the Ministry of Education, OELMEK, the Pedagogical Institute, the youth sector, the environmental sector and civil society organisations generally. The review team also conducted three workshops with teachers at the seminar to hear their views on the current state of play, obstacles and opportunities for global education in Cyprus from a secondary school teacher's perspective.</p>
4 November	<p>2. Finland</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>Testing the feasibility of developing a global education peer review programme for Council of Europe member states.</p> <p>Context</p> <p>The peer review project is being coordinated by the North-South Centre as part of a feasibility study in follow-up to the Maastricht Declaration adopted at the Europe-wide Congress on Global Education in 2002</p> <p>Partners</p> <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs and «Board of Education» Global Challenge Project</p> <p>Résultats</p> <p>The North-South Centre invited to the "Global Challenge Vision Day" Seminar held on 4 November, in Helsinki, took this opportunity to carry out a number of interviews with relevant actors in the Global Education field (Ministry, Board of Education, KEPA, SASK, Allianni, Finnchurcaid and other NGOs). A concluding meeting with the Ministry led to agreement regarding the continuation of the process, with a further visit and a final report to be launched in 2004.</p>

Youth

19-29 May	Intercultural Dialogue and Human Rights Education in the Mediterranean Mollina (Spain)
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To develop the participants' knowledge and competence in key concepts of intercultural learning, global education and human rights education with young people; - To develop a common understanding of the situations and challenges faced by young people across the Mediterranean; - To provide tools for analysis of the present challenges to closer co-operation among partners across the Mediterranean, including xenophobia and racism, prejudice and ignorance, social exclusion and poverty, and unequal opportunities for social and political participation; - To familiarise the participants with the approaches and activities of COMPASS (the manual on human rights education with young people) and on how best to use and adapt it to their local contexts and realities; - To provide information about existing possibilities and conditions for the development of Euro-Med youth co-operation projects; - To identify common criteria and approaches for follow-up projects and initiatives and to support participants in developing them; - To develop an informal network of youth workers and youth leaders in the European and Mediterranean regions. <p>Context</p> <p>This course falls within the framework of the Convention on Euro-Mediterranean Youth Training, set up for two years (2003-2005) and whose main goal is providing additional, high-quality training to youth workers and animators interested in Euro-Mediterranean youth projects.</p> <p>This goal is pursued in part by organising workshops: an intercultural training course on human rights in the Mediterranean region, a training course on issues of citizenship, a training course on projects for youth participation and intercultural exchange, and a teacher training course, and the other part by producing teaching and training material.</p> <p>The participants were youth workers and youth leaders from European and Mediterranean countries, active in youth work and interested in developing co-operation projects and to extend their competence in intercultural learning and human rights education. Twelve came from Mediterranean countries, the others from a representative variety of the member States. The participants corresponded well to the profile.</p> <p>It should be noted that some invited participants could not attend due to difficulties in getting a visa. The participants from Morocco and Palestinian Authorities were refused the right to leave their country due to the terrorist attacks at the time of the course.</p> <p>Partners</p> <p>The European Commission Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe</p> <p>Results</p> <p>The activity was a training course for youth workers and youth leaders active in the Mediterranean youth co-operation, notably within the EuroMed youth programme.</p> <p>The training course provided the following results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Twenty eight trained multipliers/youth workers, including 12 from Mediterranean countries, motivated to act as multipliers for human rights education; 	

- Eight youth work and training projects for Euro-med youth cooperation, out of which two pilot projects to be submitted to the European Youth Foundation;
- Guidelines for future projects in EuroMed training cooperation;
- An informal network of multipliers for EuroMed youth work;
- Development of the Council of Europe's expertise and role in the field of EuroMed youth work, particularly in matters related to human rights education, intercultural learning, training of youth workers and conflict resolution.
- Successful start of the co-operation between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of EuroMed youth training.

19-26 September	4th University on Youth and Development Mollina (Spain)
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To create spaces for debate for young people and youth organisations from north and south, enabling them to discuss their realities and learn from the experience of others and reinforce their role as actors in local, national, regional and international development - To encourage and lead the discussion and analysis of the role of youth in global development, to encourage and lead reflection on and analysis of the role of youth in development policies and development cooperation and to facilitate the preparation and implementation of development projects in the youth sector. <p>Context</p> <p>University on Youth and Development, which was held for the first time in 1999, is a meeting place for players from different movements and institutions and civil society working with young people on issues of global development. It represents a key moment in the reinforcement of the capacities of youth multipliers and of action focussing on youth and development policy.</p> <p>Nearly 180 participants representing youth organisations from different geographical, cultural, social and political environments met in Mollina in Spain, from 19 to 26 September 2003 for the 4th edition of the University on Youth and Development. Youth Building a Peaceful World, was the motivating theme of this year's University.</p> <p>Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spanish Youth Council - Youth for Development and Cooperation YDC - European Youth Forum - Spanish Youth Institute <p>Results</p> <p>The impact of this activity is the reinforcement of the know-how of 180 multipliers in youth organisations. It also provides training to over 100 young trainees specialising in youth work.</p> <p>Surrounded by a team of international trainers, 40 participants were thus able to take part in the 9th edition of the North-South Training Course for youth organisations. Others had the opportunity to participate in the Workshop on Youth and Development, the Introductory Course on the Role of Young People in Global Interdependence, the 6th Euro-Latin-American Civil Forum or the Project for Latin-American Citizens of the World. In the joint programme, the participation in the Peace Café, the round table Youth Building a Peaceful World, the spaces "Art and Development" and "Storytelling" enabled them to continue debating and exchanging ideas in a more informal atmosphere.</p>	

Europe-Africa Dialogue

	<p>Europe-Africa Meetings</p>
<p>18-20 March</p>	<p>1. Forum for Europe-Africa Dialogue: Human Rights, Democratic Governance and the African Union: the role of parliamentarians Cape Town (South Africa)</p>
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To promote regional dialogue on human rights; - To provide an open, pluralistic space for discussion and strategic proposals on the reinforcement of Europe-Africa dialogue for representatives of civil society, parliaments, local authorities and governments of the two continents; - To favour the participation of parliamentarians and members of civil society organisations from the two continents in official discussions; - To enrich official talks with proposals from parliamentarians and members of civil society organisations; - To facilitate the creation of a platform for Europe-Africa dialogue, bringing together parliamentarians and members of civil society from the two continents. <p>Context</p> <p>In 2003, the North-South Centre launched a series of meetings aimed at promoting dialogue between the quadrilogue partners of the North-South Centre from Europe and Africa on matters of common interest. The first meeting took place in Cape Town (South Africa) from 18 to 20 March 2003.</p> <p>The majority of the 40 participants in the forum consisted of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - representatives of different national parliaments of the SADC and representatives of European parliamentarians; - leaders of the national NGO platforms of the region and representatives of religious institutions, social movements and university students networks. <p>Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AWEPA - the SADC Parliamentary Forum <p>Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The setting up of a Europe Africa dialogue network of parliamentarians and members of civil society organisations from the two continents; - The preparation of a document on the proposals and strategies drawn up by the participants in order to extend the Europe Africa dialogue to parliamentarians and members of civil society; - The establishment of dialogue links between the Pan-African Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE); - Implementation of a dynamic of Europe-Africa dialogue consisting of a series of meetings. 	

21-22 August	2. Parliamentary Expert Briefing on NEPAD Nairobi (Kenya)
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow-up of the Europe-Africa Forum for regional dialogue on "Human rights, democratic governance and the African Union: the role of parliamentarians" (Cape Town, South Africa, 18-20 March 2003); - Creation of a process of actively involving parliamentarians in the realisation of the NEPAD. <p>Context</p> <p>As follow-up to the Europe-Africa Forum for regional dialogue on "Human rights, democratic governance and the African Union: the role of parliamentarians" (Cape Town, South Africa, 18-20 March 2003), a Parliamentary expert briefing on NEPAD was organised in Nairobi (Kenya) from 21 to 22 August 2003 with the participation of almost 30 participants.</p> <p>Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AWEPA - The NEPAD Secretariat <p>Results</p> <p>High-level participants, such as Wiseman Nkhulu, Secretary General of NEPAD and 3 African Ministers, as well as parliamentarians from Europe and Africa, discussed the role of parliamentarians and human rights in NEPAD.</p> <p>This Nairobi meeting reinforced the dynamic launched in Cape Town and allowed the North-South Centre to strengthen its network with African parliamentarians.</p>	
23-24 October	3. Conference on the Challenges to Europe-Africa Cooperation Lisbon (Portugal)
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow-up of the Cape Town Forum and Nairobi debate; - To discuss the main challenges posed by African development and possible European responses with a view to defining an agenda of priorities. <p>Context</p> <p>In the follow-up of the Cape Town Forum and the Nairobi debate, a conference entitled Challenges of Europe-Africa Relations: An Agenda of Priorities was held on 23-24 October in Lisbon. There were 367 participants, including the former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, Adebayo Adedeji.</p> <p>Partners</p> <p>Instituto de Estudos Estratégicos Internacionais (Lisbon).</p> <p>Results</p> <p>A Forum for Euro-African dialogue was set up. It will have the support a network of experts and institutions and will help to reinforce the dialogue between the two continents.</p>	

23-25 November	10th Anniversary of the Lisbon Forum "Migrations and Human Rights: North-South Dialogue" Lisbon (Portugal)
<p>Objectives</p> <p>Organised every year since being launched in 1994 by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, the Lisbon Forum serves as a platform for North-South Human Rights Dialogue. Bringing together actors from different backgrounds - government representatives, international organisations, parliamentarians, civil society organisations and local and regional authorities - dealing with human rights protection in Europe and in Africa, the Forum facilitates dialogue and contributes to better co-operation between these different actors.</p> <p>Context</p> <p>The 10th session of the Lisbon Forum took place from 23 to 25 November 2003. It was attended by 40 participants from Africa and Europe, including parliamentarians and civil society leaders, as well as representatives of governments and international organisations.</p> <p>The participants discussed key issues of migrations and human rights including the history of migratory flows, the causes and scale of migration, the relationship between migration and development, the political, social and economic challenges which both generate and result from migration in Africa and Europe, the impact of migrations on the socio-economic and cultural identity of Europe, migrants' rights, and the need for North-South dialogue on migratory flows.</p> <p>Results</p> <p>The participants called on the North-South Centre, through its quadrilogue structure, to facilitate NGO coordination at a regional level in Africa on issues of migration (sharing European models of NGO coordination in this regard) and to bring together governments and NGOs for the development of policy coherence on the issue of migrations using the North-South Centre framework.</p> <p>A specific proposal was made to the NSC to convene a high-level quadrilogue meeting in Europe on migration issues and to promote national quadrilogue seminars with all the member states of the North-South Centre and beyond. It was further proposed that the process should culminate in a corresponding quadrilogue meeting in Africa convened by the North-South Centre and pursued in close partnership with the African Union and the Government of South Africa, both represented in the Lisbon Forum.</p>	
24 November	North-South Prize Lisbon (Portugal)
<p>Objectives</p> <p>To distinguish two candidates for their exceptional commitment to the protection of human rights, the defence of pluralistic democracy, partnerships and North-South solidarity</p> <p>Context</p> <p>The 2003 North-South Prize represented a tribute to parliamentarians, as it was awarded to Frene Ginwala, Speaker of the South-African Parliament and to António de Almeida Santos, former Speaker of the Portuguese Parliament.</p> <p>The North-South Prize has been awarded every year since 1995. The official North-South Prize award ceremony was held on 24 November 2003 at the Portuguese Parliament and was attended by the President of Portugal, the Speaker of the Portuguese Parliament and many national and international personalities.</p> <p>Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To draw attention to the role of parliamentarians in the promotion of human rights; - To highlight the actions of defenders of human rights. 	

Trans-Mediterranean Dialogue

23-29 January	Globalisation and human rights: series de dialogues Porto Alegre (Brazil)
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To continue to contribute towards the progress of human rights in the debate on globalisation and in the context of the Global Social Forum, with the publication of "Globalisation and Human Rights" on the occasion of the 2003 Global Social Forum, participation in the working group on human rights at the forum and membership of the forum's international organising committee; - To participate in the regional preparation and follow-up of the Global Social Forum in accordance with its priorities and introduce the Council of Europe's experience into this global debate. <p>Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reinforcement of the role played by the North-South Centre in terms of respect for human rights in the more global framework of fairer globalisation; - preparation of a regional group among the North-South Centre's partners in order to reinforce the promotion and protection of human rights, based on universality and indivisibility in the Euro-Mediterranean region. 	

30 April - 2 May	Annual COPEAM Conference and General Assembly Dubrovnik(Croatia)
<p>Objectives</p> <p>The goal of COPEAM is to strengthen cooperation and partnership between the countries on the two sides of the Mediterranean (Europe/Maghreb/Mashrek/southern and eastern Europe). It is also a tool of this cooperation through exchanges and partnerships between the different audiovisual bodies, the media and civil society.</p> <p>Context</p> <p>COPEAM (Permanent Conference of Mediterranean audiovisual operators) was set up in 1994 and was reinforced by the European Commission after the implementation of the Barcelona Process.</p> <p>The North-South Centre, a founder member and Vice President of COPEAM, was a partner in the organisation of the 10th conference, in particular with the content preparations. The 10th conference was held in Dubrovnik, with the support and participation of the President of Croatia. The theme of the conference was "the Media as partners in the Sustainable Development of the Euro-Mediterranean Region". The conference brought together 450 participants from the southern, northern and eastern Mediterranean. This made it a veritable forum of professionals working towards the construction of a peaceful, pluralistic Mediterranean, with respect for all its cultural, political and religious diversities.</p> <p>Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Croatian Government - Croatian TV - FAO <p>Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The crucial role of the media was highlighted, together with their great responsibility in opinion building in the north and south; 	

- Public authorities should regard the media as vectors for the dialogue between the people of the Mediterranean;
- It is necessary to create synergies with other actors in society in order to take into account the diversity of cultures and points of view and increase their objectivity.

13-14 October

Seminar on Women's rights in the Euro-mediterranean region: laws, religions and traditions
Strasbourg (France)

Objectives

- To pursue the points developed by the UNDP report on the Arab world, focusing on non-respect for women's rights in this region and, at the same time, their lack of participation in the development of their societies;
- To ascertain the state of affairs of the dynamics propitious and hostile to the development of women's rights in the Maghreb and Middle East regions;
- To focus on the work done by national, regional and international networks towards the promotion of women in the region;
- To create synergies between the different players concerned;
- To draw up strategies designed to develop laws leading to the recognition of women's fundamental rights in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Context

Among the main weaknesses listed in the Arab Report on Human Development 2002, the question of the reinforcement of women's competences figures as one of the main challenges in the region. Even though laws governing their status are enshrined in the constitutions of the different countries, women's fundamental rights are violated every day. Their marginalisation from citizenship and political life contributes even more to the tendency towards their exclusion. They do not have a forum where they can assert their rights, although they are recognised in international law. What can be done so that women can fully enjoy their fundamental rights? What strategies should be adopted to reinforce their capacity to achieve emancipation in religious and traditional frameworks? Given that their legal status is a major obstacle, what role can civil societies and international, regional and local networks play in improving this status and reinforcing their capacities?

In order to answer these questions, the North-South Centre organised a seminar on Women's Rights in the Euro-Mediterranean Region: laws, religions and traditions on 13 and 14 October 2003 at the Council of Europe's headquarters in Strasbourg.

Opened by the Deputy Secretary General of the COE, Ms Maud de Boer Bucchiquio, and the Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr Alvaro Gil Robles, the seminar brought together 80 participants representing European and southern Mediterranean governments, parliamentarians from the Parliamentary Assembly and the European Parliament and NGOs involved in the fight for human rights.

Results

Four main issues were on the agenda:

- The protection women's rights and regional and international legal instruments;
- The issue of citizenship in the Arab world and its impact women's rights and participation;
- The dynamics between constitutions and family codes in the Euro-Mediterranean area;
- The role of parliamentarians and civil societies in reinforcing partnerships in the region.

The focus was on the inferior status of women in the Maghreb/Mashrek region, the roots of which lie in family laws, also called "codes of personal status". These codes govern what is typically considered to be in the private sphere but which also affects women's public lives, acting as a powerful means of control of women's economic, political, social and civic activities.

The North-South Centre considers women's rights to be a very important issue in the development and opening up of the Arab countries. It has placed it among the priorities of the Transmed programme, in order to combat the social norms that spread discrimination and violence against women.

6-7 December	<p>Conference on Intercultural Dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region: the foundation of peace and stability Amman (Jordan)</p>
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To reinforce the intercultural dialogue between Mashrek, Maghreb and European countries as a response to the concerns of the Council of Europe regarding the importance of an intercultural and inter-religious rapprochement between the Arab Muslim civilisations and Europe; - To focus on the historical and cultural ties and the shared values binding these countries rather than the differences that separate them and that are most of the time fuelled by erroneous perceptions and negative stereotypes; - To reduce the antagonisms, misunderstandings and extremisms by means of open, permanent dialogue between decision makers and public opinions in Europe and the Arab world. <p>Context</p> <p>The increased tensions in the international context require a deeper reflection on international dialogue and peace. The constant search for the roots of the ruptures, violence and extremisms and the solutions that should be found is a powerful tool for neutralising conflicts. The Council of Europe insists on the importance of an intercultural and inter-religious rapprochement between the Arab Muslim civilisations and Europe.</p> <p>The urgent need to establish this dialogue on solid foundations was stressed by the events of 11 September and in the Middle East.</p> <p>It was in this spirit that the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe organised the international conference, Intercultural Dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region: the foundation of peace and stability, on 6 and 7 December 2003, in Amman, Jordan. This conference, which had the support of the Royal Cabinet of Jordan, brought together 120 participants, including Jordanian ministers, the Moroccan Minister of Human Rights, intellectuals, parliamentarians from Europe and most of the Arab countries and dignitaries of the three religions</p> <p>Partners</p> <p>Jordan Institute for Diplomacy.</p> <p>Results</p> <p>After recognising that the clash was of civilisations rather than of cultures, the conference participants stressed the importance of establishing a permanent dialogue in the region. It was pointed out that this dialogue should not constitute just an occasional response in times of crisis; it should, above all, be a means of prevention establishing sustainable, mutual trust between Euro-Mediterranean societies. The proposed means of establishing solid, mutual trust was to target players with a considerable multiplying effect and the ability to mould public opinion. Examples of these actors are education systems and the media, some of which need to assess and modify the way in which they represent the other. They must show respect for diversity in Arab and European societies, based on the solid foundations of common universal values such as human rights, the reinforcement of the democratic process and individual participation.</p> <p>The European and southern Mediterranean participants highlighted the crucial importance of this dialogue. They asked the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe to act as a more sustained catalyst in this field, through its networks in the Euro-Mediterranean region and to take action to reinforce this dialogue, which is the foundation of stability.</p>	

Communication

In 2003, the communication sector pursued its principal remit, which is to facilitate partners' access to the Centre's activities and its expertise, with the following sources of information:

- publications (see list of publications produced in 2003 overleaf): with more systematic publication (on line and/or in print) of the Centre's activities, systematic reminders that the North-South Centre belongs to the Council of Europe in all documents and publications and on the website and improvement and systematisation of the visibility of the European Commission's support in publications and on the website;

- the website: weekly updates of the North-South Centre's home page, systematic despatch of information to the Council of Europe to facilitate the publication of information from the North-South Centre on the Council of Europe's site;

- the Multimedia Documentation Centre: continuation of phase 1 of the cataloguing of its database.

The North-South Centre also launched a virtual community pilot project during the University on Youth and Development as a useful tool excellent way of communicating and sharing experiences with the university's different partners.

Finally, to make this communication even more effective, the North-South Centre's key partners were identified and updated in 2003 using the new Gesint database.

Publications 2003

The Interdependent

N° 111 – 8 pages (5700 copies in English / 2500 copies in French)

N° 112 – 8 pages (3000 copies in English / 1700 copies in French)

N° 113 – 8 pages (1850 copies in English / 1100 copies in French)

N° 114 – 8 pages (1650 copies in English / 1150 copies in French)

A4 Format

“The partnership on Euro-Mediterranean Youth Co-operation in the field of Training” leaflet

6 pages

16x24 cms format

1000 copies in English / 500 copies in French

North-South Centre presentation brochures

16 pages

10x21 cms format

1000 copies in English / 1000 copies in French

Maastricht Report

“Global Education in Europe to 2015 – Strategy, policies, and perspectives”

194 pages

A4 Format

600 copies in English

2002 North-South Prize Ceremony

68 pages

A5 format

Trilingual - 500 copies

Cape Town Report

“Human Rights, Democratic Governance and the African Union”

264 pages

A5 format

500 copies in English

Gene Study

“National Structures for the organisation, support and funding of development education”

120 pages

A4 format

300 copies in English

Alexandria Report

“Strategies for Social Development and Social Cohesion in the Euro-Mediterranean Region”

112 pages in French / 300 copies

104 pages in English / 300 copies

A4 format

2002 Activities Report

40 pages - A4 format

Bilingual - 1000 copies

**THE NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003³
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

	2003 €	2002 €
OPERATING REVENUE		
Contributions from member states	1 158 700	1 118 400
Voluntary contributions	807 143	810 356
Total Operating revenue	<u>1 965 843</u>	<u>1 928 756</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Staff	(451 625)	(429 237)
Other expenditure	(278 173)	(278 668)
Interpretation, translation and documents	(22 862)	(36 390)
Contribution to the General Budget	(124 485)	(104 189)
Grant to "Programme Activities" special account	(999 926)	(1 008 336)
Total Operating expenses	<u>(1 877 071)</u>	<u>(1 856 819)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) from operating activities	88 772	71 937
NON-OPERATING REVENUE		
Interest on late payment of contributions	5 042	190
Bank interest	10 888	25 324
Miscellaneous	0	3 597
Total Non-operating revenue	<u>15 930</u>	<u>29 111</u>
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	<u><u>104 702</u></u>	<u><u>101 048</u></u>

³ The financial figures shown are extracts from a document presenting the accounts of the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity for the financial year ending December 2003 which will be subject of a recommendation from the Board of Auditors and will be submitted to the Committee of Ministers. Only the final version of this document issued by the Committee of Ministers has any official value.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2003

	2003 €	2002 €
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash at bank	596 253	577 406
Receivables - member states	0	190
Other receivables and prepaid expenses	40 853	102 269
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>637 106</u>	<u>679 865</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Payables and accrued expenses	(150 594)	(234 014)
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>(150 594)</u>	<u>(234 014)</u>
NET ASSETS / EQUITY	<u>486 512</u>	<u>445 851</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Reserve to cover commitments pending receipt of voluntary contributions	91 469	91 469
Surplus (deficit) for the year	104 702	101 048
Balance of the special account - programme expenditure	290 341	253 335
	<u>486 512</u>	<u>445 851</u>

	2003 €	2002 €
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBER AND NON-MEMBER STATES		
MEMBER STATES		
Cyprus	9 848,95	9 506,40
Finland	29 967,47	29 078,40
France	191 185,50	184 536,00
Germany	191 185,50	184 536,00
Greece	33 375,19	32 992,80
Ireland	21 760,39	19 907,52
Iceland	9 848,95	9 506,40
Italy	191 185,50	184 536,00
Liechtenstein	9 848,95	9 506,40
Luxembourg	9 848,95	9 506,40
Malta	9 848,95	9 506,40
Netherlands	91 350,75	88 129,92
Norway	34 909,31	33 216,48
Portugal	30 819,10	29 749,44
San Marino	9 848,95	9 506,40
Slovenia	9 848,95	9 506,40
Spain	151 513,93	145 503,84
Sweden	55 390,49	53 571,36
Switzerland	57 265,27	56 591,04
	<u>1 148 851,05</u>	<u>1 108 893,60</u>
NON-MEMBER STATES		
Holy See	9 848,95	9 506,40
	<u>9 848,95</u>	<u>9 506,40</u>
	<u>1 158 700,00</u>	<u>1 118 400,00</u>
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS⁴		
Germany	15 000	20 000
Austria	3 150	0
Cyprus	2 000	0
Commission of the European Communities	428 228	350 547
EFIL	0	2 056
Finland	30 000	10 000
Ireland	7 000	0
Netherlands	90 149	26 319
Luxembourg	75 817	217 600
Norway	0	33 794
Norway	0	305
Portugal	145 218	140 019
Slovenia	9 150	9 140
Sweden	1 432	0
Switzerland	0	576
	<u>807 143</u>	<u>810 356</u>

⁴ Certain member states and partner organisations have made substantial contributions-in-kind, which are not reflected in this table. The figures are limited to financial contributions by member states, NGOs, and other institutions based in these countries.

