

# The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe

## General presentation

Implementation of the  
programme of activities

2014



## The Council of Europe

---

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It includes 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

The Council of Europe advocates freedom of expression and of the media, freedom of assembly, equality, and the protection of minorities. It has launched campaigns on issues such as child protection, online hate speech, and the rights of the Roma, Europe's largest minority. The Council of Europe helps member states fight corruption and terrorism and undertake necessary judicial reforms. Its group of constitutional experts, known as the Venice Commission, offers legal advice to countries throughout the world.

The Council of Europe promotes human rights through international conventions, such as the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and the Convention on Cybercrime. It monitors member states' progress in these areas and makes recommendations through independent expert monitoring bodies. All Council of Europe member states have abolished the death penalty.

## The North-South Centre

---

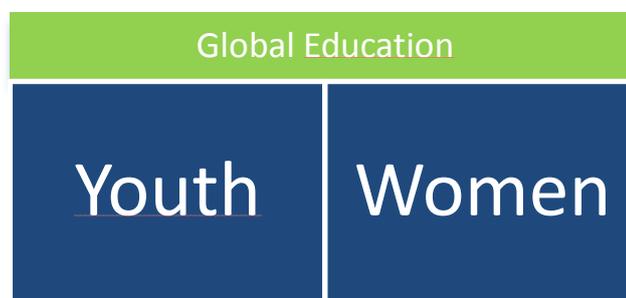
The North-South Centre (NSC) is an enlarged partial agreement of the Council of Europe. Its new statutory resolution was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 5 May 2011, confirming the NSC's relevance and importance, as well as refocussing its priorities: global education, intercultural dialogue and youth. The NSC has close to 25 years recognized expertise in these fields.

Created in November 1989, the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity (more commonly known as the "North-South Centre"), was set up in Lisbon in May 1990, as a follow-up to the European public campaign on North-South Interdependence and Solidarity launched in 1988 by the Council of Europe in co-operation with the European Community. The NSC is often described as a Council of Europe's window to the world, because its purpose is to spread the universal values upheld by the Council – human rights, democracy and the rule of law - beyond the European continent.

In 2013 and following a reflection regarding the future and the potential of the Centre, the Committee of Ministers (CM) entrusted the Centre with a mission in the framework of the Council of Europe neighbourhood policy and in agreement and co-ordination with the activities developed by other sectors of the Organisation.

*“The objective of the North-South Centre is to contribute to processes of democratic consolidation in member states and neighbouring regions, mainly through education to global democratic citizenship and intercultural dialogue. The main target is to strengthen civil society, in particular with regard to youth and women.”*

In 2014, the North-South Centre had 17 Member States: Andorra, Azerbaijan, Cape Verde, Cyprus, Greece, Holy See, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia and Spain.



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

**DIALOGUE:** this means a mutual learning process based on listening to others, sharing experience, knowledge and good practice - the approach that makes the North-South Centre a platform for discussion between North and South and between the partners in its quadrilogue. Conclusions and recommendations from conferences, debates and workshops organised by the Centre are used to promote core values, impact on national policies and facilitate processes of democratic consolidation in member states and neighbouring countries.

**PARTNERSHIP:** the North-South Centre brings together actors from different countries and walks of life to promote human rights, democracy and the rule of law through intercultural dialogue and education. Building networks together increases the impact of our work. The Centre has close working relations with the European Union and other international organisations such as the OECD, the UN and the AU. An added value is that members of the Centre from neighbouring regions can meet and exchange with their European counterparts on an equal footing.

**SOLIDARITY:** "Globalisation has compressed space and time"<sup>2</sup> and the new challenge is living together while respecting our diversity. The North-South Centre works on the premise that globalisation based on principles of solidarity is important to ensure universal respect for the Council of Europe's core values of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

---

<sup>2</sup> Council of Europe White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue (7 May 2008)

## Overview of North-South Centre in 2014

---

In 2014 the North-South Centre made significant strides to implement the new line action given to it by the Committee of Ministers in May 2013 by contributing to the neighbourhood policy of the Council of Europe, strengthening civil society, in particular youth and women, and developing synergies and closer links with Council of Europe headquarters in Strasbourg.

The 2014 Lisbon Forum organised by the Centre in the context of the South Programme, funded by the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe, brought together more than 200 high-level participants from Europe, neighbouring regions and other continents to share experience, good practice and expertise on the theme: “Electoral processes and Democratic Consolidation in the South of Mediterranean.”

This year’s Forum was chaired by Mr Fayçal Gouiaa, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia. Demonstrating the added value of the Centre as a platform where quadrilogue actors from beyond the Council of Europe can exchange on an equal footing with their European partners, Mr Gouiaa declared the intention of Tunisia to accede to the partial agreement establishing the North-South Centre.

The conclusions adopted at the Forum, addressed to all actors of governance, highlight the need for electoral processes with integrity and transparency based on solid judicial and legislative instruments, conducted in an ethical manner as a cornerstone for democracy. The conclusions will be the object of follow-up activities to be organised in Morocco and Tunisia in 2015.

In the field of Youth, the Centre organised the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship in Hammamet, Tunisia. Participants in the capacity-building activity on “Structured Participation in Democratic Processes” used the skills and knowledge learned on the course to contribute to the establishment of National Youth Councils in Tunisia and Algeria.

The 15<sup>th</sup> University on Youth and Development in Mollina, Spain, on the theme of Youth Opportunities brought together over 300 participants for 13 activities including training of trainers for Global Education and Youth and for Youth Leaders of the African Diaspora in Europe.

In the Women’s programme of the Centre, national workshops were organised in Tunisia and Morocco contributing to the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of the North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women held in Rabat, Morocco 17-18 June 2014.

Global Education activities organised by the Centre included 6 online training courses on the Human rights dimension of Global Education, the Intercultural Dialogue Dimension of Global Education, and on Democratic Citizenship. A national kick-off seminar for Global Education was organised in Skopje, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and a regional seminar in Riga, Latvia for the Baltic Sea region. The Global Education Week Network Seminar was organised in the context of Mollina, University on Youth and Development.

### GLOBAL EDUCATION



The objective of the global education programme is to develop, enhance and sustain common and national strategies and capacity-building for global education, targeting institutions and practitioners in the field of global education in the formal and non-formal education sector.

#### *Dimensions:*

- Policy-making
- Capacity building
- Awareness-raising

#### *Activities and meetings organised in 2014:*

- **Translation of Global Education Guidelines**  
The guidelines were translated into four more languages: Arabic, Bulgarian, Greek and Montenegrin. The handbook is now available in 12 languages and accessible from NSC website<sup>3</sup>
- **17 February –16 March:** Global Education on-line training course: The Human Rights Dimension.  
120 applications, 39 accepted, 20 successful participants  
Profile of applicants:  
Female (25), Male (14)  
Education (13); Civil Society sector (21); Government (5)  
Europe (25); Africa (12); Rest of the world (2)
- **24 March – 20 April:** Global Education on-line training course: Intercultural Dimension.  
120 applications, 56 accepted, 35 successful participants  
Profile of applicants:  
Female (42), Male (14)  
Education (24); Civil Society sector (25); Government (7)  
Europe (43); Africa (5); Rest of the world (8)
- **1-3 May 2014 :** Preparatory meeting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship, for the launch of the GEG in Arabic and for the working meeting with Moroccan and Tunisian stakeholders to extend the GE programme to these countries.

---

<sup>3</sup> <http://nscglobaleducation.org/index.php/resource-center/item/126-global-education-guidelines>

- **12-13 May:** Regional seminar: global/development education in Baltic Sea Region (Riga).  
Nº of participants: 64  
Background: International guests, representatives from Ministries of Education and Ministries of Foreign Affairs, academia, civil society organisations and formal and non-formal educators.
- **30 May:** Global Education Kick-off Seminar, Skopje, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- **9 June - 6 July: Global Education on-line training course: The Human Rights Dimension -**  
219 applications, 51 accepted, 32 successful participants  
Profile of participants:  
Female (35), Male (16)  
Education (16); Civil Society sector (29); Government (6)  
Europe (30); Africa (16); Other regions (5)
- **3 June:** Focus Group Meeting on Global Education: This activity was a working meeting between the North-South Centre and educators from Morocco and Tunisia. Global Education concept and methodology were discussed as well as the work developed by the North-South Centre in this field. This meeting also assessed the possibilities of extending activities of the Global Education Week Network to both countries.
- **7-11 June:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Alexandria Education Convention. The purpose was to gather feedback from educators in the region on the contents of the draft "Education Handbook on Intercultural Citizenship in the Euro- Mediterranean region" - the NSC contributed to the drafting process.
- **24-25 June:** European Conference on Global Citizenship Education and the Post-2015 Framework (Brussels).
- **25 August-21 September :** Global Education on-line training course: Intercultural Dimension  
97 applications, 56 accepted, 34 successful participants  
Profile of applicants:  
Female (33), Male (23)  
Education (24); Civil Society sector (24); Government (5)  
Europe (41); Africa (12); Rest of the world (3)
- **22-24 September:** Global Education Week network seminar (in the framework of the University on Youth & Development, Mollina, Spain): 25 participants from across Europe and the Southern Mediterranean to discuss GE kick-off seminars, GE regional seminars, GE networking mechanisms, preparation of the GEW 2014 on Food Security (November) and proposed themes for 2015; new website; preparations for the 3<sup>rd</sup> GE Congress in 2015.
- **22-28 September:** Global Education & Youth Training for Trainers (in the framework of the University on Youth and Development, Mollina, Spain) 22 participants.

- 10 November – 7 December: Global Education on-line training course: Intercultural Dimension**  
 356 applications, 55 accepted, 32 successful participants  
 Profile of participants:  
 Female (41), Male (14)  
 Education (23); Civil Society sector (30); Government (2)  
 Europe (39); Africa (10); Other regions (6)
- 17 November-10 December: Pilot on-line training course on Democratic Citizenship**  
 45 invitations, 26 selected, 18 successful participants  
 Female (14), Male (12)  
 Europe (16); Africa (8); Other regions (2)
- 15-23 November: Global Education Week: “Food Security!”**
- 15 November: new Global Education website<sup>4</sup> launched**
- NSC participation in the drafting of Anna Lindh Foundation education Handbook on Intercultural Citizenship in the Euro-Mediterranean region was completed in 2014.
- In 2014 the NSC was invited to take part in the Expert Advisory Group for the drafting of UNESCO Global Citizenship Education Guiding Framework.



## WEBSITE

Downloads	Full download	Partial download
Global Education Guidelines (GEG)	8 780	19 094
GEG/French	5 465	31 000
GEG/Italian	3 756	11 925
GEG/Spanish	2 831	26 174
GEG/Portuguese	2 701	28 473
<b>Webpages</b>		<b>Hits</b>
Global Education programme website		2 932 <sup>5</sup>
Global Education Guidelines webpage		3 818
Global Education Week webpage		3 302
Global Education on-line training-course introduction webpage		1 930

<sup>4</sup> <http://nscgloaleducation.org/>

<sup>5</sup> Statistics comprising the NSC institutional website and the GE website launched in November 2014

## Global Education

Activity	Total Cost	Source of Funding
Regional seminar: global/development education in Baltic Sea Region	23 456,26	JMA/BL
Kick off seminar for GE policy development in Macedonia	9 712,98	JMA/BL
Multi-stakeholder meeting on the implementation of the strategic recommendations of the 2nd European Global Education (GE) Congress with Council of Europe institutions	6 246,97	JMA/BL
Global Education Week Network Seminar	17 842,69	JMA/BL
Global Education and Youth Training of Trainers	34 693,77	JMA/BL
Adaption and Translation of The Global Education Guidelines	6 000,00	JMA
On-line training courses (HR, IC, DC)	48 888,58	JMA
<b>Total</b>	<b>146 841,25</b>	

## YOUTH CO-OPERATION

The objective of the Youth Co-operation Programme of the Centre is to promote youth participation through training and capacity-building activities aimed at young people and youth organisations with a view to facilitating their participation in decision-making and policy-making processes at all levels of governance.

This work is developed in close co-operation with youth organisations, the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, the EU-CoE youth partnership and other relevant institutions working in the youth field.

### *Dimensions:*

- A Euro Arab and Mediterranean dimension: Capacity-building focused on “Structured Participation in Democratic Processes.” A pilot training course was organised at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship, Hammamet, Tunisia (2-9 June 2014).
- The Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship: Bringing the different Universities of the network together in a coherent and articulated structure and facilitating networking between the relevant youth organisations and institutions working in regional co-operation processes, global education and global youth work; The 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the University on Youth and Development was organised in Mollina, Spain (21-28 September 2014).
- The Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation: Organisation of training activities, Online Resource Centre ([www.aeyco.com](http://www.aeyco.com)), Seed Funding grant programme and meetings of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform.



*15<sup>th</sup> University on Youth and Development (Mollina, Spain – 2014)*

- **Annual: Seed Funding for Africa Europe Youth Co-operation:** The Seed Funding for Africa Europe Youth Co-operation is a grant allocation presented in the framework of the Joint Management Agreement between the European Commission – EuropeAid Co-operation Office and the North-South Centre (NSC). The call for the 5th round, under the topic “Youth Leadership, Youth Entrepreneurship and Youth Peacebuilding,” was closed on the 23 February.

- 40 applications received;
- 27 different countries (14 African and 13 European);
- 9 projects selected;
- Implementation period 15 April – 15 November 2014;
- Grants between 1 300 to 2 500 €.

- **Annual: On-line Resource Centre for Africa Europe Youth Co-operation**

The On-line Resource Centre for Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation (AEYCO) was developed and launched in May 2013, in the framework of the 2012-2015 Action Plan. For 2014 the priorities were the translation of contents and the development of a smartphone application and of an online survey/registration tool.

- N° of unique visitors (Jan-Dec): **21 072**
- N° of visits (Jan-Dec): **35 405**
- N° of hits (Jan-Dec): **395 400**

- **27 March:** Preparatory meeting of the 15th University on Youth and Development (Madrid).
- **28-30 April:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Africa-Europe Youth Leaders’ Summit (Brussels). NSC participated in the Summit organised by the permanent members of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform. It gathered more than 100 young representatives of African and European youth organisations to exchange on some of the key issues also discussed at the Summit of Heads of State and Government with the aim of enhancing meaningful youth participation in the Africa-EU Partnership. The conclusions of the Youth event were presented at the EU-Africa Summit.

**2-9 June: 2<sup>nd</sup> Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship** (Hammamet, Tunisia) and the capacity-building activity on “Structured Participation in Democratic Processes.” The main aims of the 2nd edition of MedUni were to launch the new capacity-building activity on “Structured Participation in Democratic Processes”, to develop synergies with other relevant actors in the region in the youth field, and to map the needs and collect ideas for further development of the Euro-Arab and Mediterranean dimensions of the Youth Co-operation Programme of NSC .

- N° of participants: 126 (from 23 countries, including Council of Europe member States and countries of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean)
- N° of parallel activities: 5

- **“Structured Participation in Democratic Processes”** training and capacity-building course for civil society and youth organisations. This activity focused on the development of competences of young people to take an active role in decision and policy-making in their communities. As concrete follow-up actions, former participants from Tunisia and Algeria have been involved with their national authorities in the establishment of national youth councils.
  - Nº of Applications: **101**
  - Nº of participants: **24**
  
- **17-18 June:** Preparatory meeting for the 15th University on Youth and Development (Mollina, Spain). The University is organised in partnership with the Spanish Government (INJUVE), the European Youth Forum, the Spanish Youth Council and other youth organisations.
  
- **21-28 September:** The 15th University on Youth and Development took place in the Euro-Latin American Youth Centre in Mollina, Spain.
  - The UYD is organised by the NSC in partnership with the Spanish Government (INJUVE), the Spanish Youth Council, the European Youth Forum, the Latin American Youth Forum and other youth organisations.
  - This edition gathered 308 participants from 70 different nationalities to participate in 13 activities.
  - In the context of the UYD, the Centre has organised the following activities:
    - 3rd Global Education and Youth Training of Trainers, the 5th Training Course for Youth Leaders of the African Diaspora Living in Europe and the Global Education Week Network Seminar (organised under the framework of the Joint Management Agreement between the Centre and the European Commission);
    - Meeting of the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship (that gathers partners of the different Universities, including the League of Arab States and the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe).
  
- The topic of this year was Youth Opportunities and participants have had the opportunity to tackle across their various activities and in the joint programme (that included creative evenings, interaction with the local community and a joint session).
  
- The Network of Universities identified “Youth.org: actors for change!” as the topic for 2015.
  
- **19 November:** Evaluation Meeting of the 15<sup>th</sup> University on Youth and Development, organised in the framework of the General Assembly of the European Youth Forum was held in Cluj-Napoca (2015 European Youth Capital). Partners adopted a report and agreed on the next steps for the organisation of the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the University on Youth and Development (20-27 September 2015).

- **25th January-1st February:** The 10th Africa-Europe Training Course for Youth Organisations and the 3rd Meeting of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform, Nairobi, Kenya.
  - Initially planned for November 2014, these activities were postponed to January 2015 following consultation with partners in order to facilitate participation and maximize impact.
  - A call for the training course was launched in October 2014 and 22 participants were selected out of 764 applications (573 from Africa and 191 from Europe).
  - The meeting of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform will gather 30 youth leaders from both Africa and Europe to discuss the outcomes of the 3rd Africa Europe Youth Leaders' Summit (April 2014, Brussels) and the regional co-operation process beyond 2015.
  - These activities are organised in partnership with the European Youth Forum, the Pan African Youth Union, the Network of International Youth Organisations in Africa, the African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe and the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe. Institutional representation from the European Commission (DEVCO), African Union Commission (Youth Division) and from the European Steering Committee for Youth of the Council of Europe (CDEJ) is expected.

## Youth Co-operation

Activity	Total Cost	Source of Funding
Seed-funding for Africa-Europe youth cooperation	18 347,12	JMA
AEYCO - On-line resource centre for Africa Europe Youth Cooperation	8 269,50	JMA/BL
2nd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship	15 646,37	BL
Structuring and capacity building of the civil society youth organisations	12 032,82	BL
15th University on Youth and Development	24 183,14	JMA/BL
Training Course for Youth Leaders African Diaspora Living in Europe	24 909,88	JMA/BL
3rd Meeting of the Africa Europe Youth Platform	24 623,92	JMA/BL
10th Africa Europe Training Course for Youth Organisations	38 822,00	JMA/BL
<b>Total</b>	<b>166 834,75</b>	



# Euro-Med Women Network

North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women

The Programme for Women aims at strengthening and developing the role of women as actors in the political process in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean region, and to promote the empowerment of women at all levels of governance so they can contribute actively to processes of democratic consolidation in this region.

### *Dimensions:*

- The participation of women in politics;
- Preventing violence against women and promoting the adoption of the CoE Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention);
- Women and the media;
- Preventing human trafficking;
- The [Euro-Med Women Network](#).

The North-South Centre acts as Secretariat and monitors the [Euro-Med Women Network \(EMWN\)](#) launched in 2012 in the framework of the [North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women](#). The EMWN aims at contributing to the empowerment of women by providing its members with a platform, supported by an online website, which will facilitate the exchange of best practices, the identification of common challenges and the sharing of experiences as well as will contribute to the identification of projects and partnerships.

### ***Activities and meetings organised in 2014:***

- **17 March:** National Workshop on **The political participation of women in Politics: Key factor for dialogue and democratic consolidation**, organised by the North-South Centre and the Centre of Arab Woman for Training and Research (CAWTAR), in Tunis. Approximately 70 participants identified operational recommendations on fighting stereotyping, raising awareness about democratic citizenship and supporting women candidates in elections. Current electoral processes in Tunisia an important indicator of the participation of women in future elections, as candidates, observers and as electors. Participants shared experience and good practices for possible replication in Tunisia. The results and recommendations of this workshop fed into the work of the 3rd International Conference of the North-South Process for Empowerment of Women (17-18 June 2014).

- N° of participants: 70
- Profile: Members of government and parliaments, representatives of local and regional authorities, international organizations, civil society, media and press, diplomatic corps.
- Countries: Belgium, Spain, Finland, France, Italy, Lebanon, Morocco, Switzerland, Tunisia, USA.
- N° of Hits on website: 246 (from the 31st of May until October).

#### Further information

- As recommended by participants, an agreement was subsequently signed between the Tunisian government and the Independent High Authority for Elections (ISIE) to develop a common strategy to enhance political participation of women in the upcoming elections.
- **28 March:** National workshop on **Enhancing women's access to political life in the Mediterranean: challenges and opportunities. The example of Morocco**, organised by the North-South Centre and the association "Voix de Femmes de Tétouan", in Tétouan. Recognising the significant progress made by Morocco, participants underlined the need to follow-up the establishment of the Authority for Equality and Fight against all Forms of Discrimination (APALD), to update the legal framework and also to launch an equality plan focused on temporary measures to promote positive discrimination and improve work-life balance. The results and recommendations of this workshop fed into the work of the [3rd International Conference of the North-South Process for Empowerment of Women](#) (17-18 June 2014).
- N° of participants: More than 100
  - Profile: CoE Secretariat, members of government and parliaments, representatives of local and regional authorities, international organizations, civil society, media and press, diplomatic corp.
  - N° of Hits on website: 274 (from the 31st of May until October)
  - Countries represented: Belgium, Cape Verde, Spain, France, Lebanon, Morocco, Portugal
- **9 April:** 2nd Meeting of the **Steering Committee of the Euro-Med Women Network** (09 April 2014) discussed preparations for the 3rd International Conference of the North-South Process for Empowerment of Women and the results achieved to date of the North-South Process. The Steering Committee is composed of representatives of the quadrilogue and members of the CoE secretariat to ensure synergies, complementarity and coherence.

- **17-18 June: 3rd International Conference of the North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women (NSPEW)** “The participation of women in political life in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries: Challenges and Opportunities” (Rabat). More than 100 participants from across the South and East Mediterranean region (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon) representing the different actors of the quadrilogue assessed the challenges and opportunities faced by women in with regard to their participation in political life.

The Conference included a joint session on Women and the media, highlighting the important role media can play in promoting a culture of equality and parity. Participants identified operational activities to be followed up and highlighted the importance of South-South Dialogue and the exchange of best practices with European states and international organisations as a focus for future work in the framework of the [Euro-Med Women Network \(EMWN\)](#): (CoE, OSCE, CAWTAR, International IDEA). The Conference received important visibility at the national level, widespread social media coverage and was the subject of special report on [Med1 Radio](#).

The Conference was the fruit of good cooperation and improved synergies across CoE departments (PACE Ad-Hoc Committee, Gender Equality Division, Conference of INGOs and ODGPROG / South Programme, CoE Office in Rabat). The conference provided a follow-up to the challenges identified during the national workshops held in [Tunis](#) and [Tétouan](#) on the same topic.

#### Further information

- N° of participants: Approx. 100
- Profile: Members of government and parliaments, representatives of local and regional authorities, international organizations, civil society, media and press, diplomatic corp.
- N° of Hits on website: 1.656 hits (from the 31st of May until October)
- Countries represented: Algeria, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, France, Gabon, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Tunisia, UK

### Women Programme

Activity	Total Cost	Source of Funding
National Workshop Tunisia “Participation of women in political life: key factor for dialogue and democratic consolidation”	10 877,59	BL
National Workshop Tetouan “Participation of women in political life: key factor for dialogue and democratic consolidation”	12 504,11	BL
International Conference of the North-South Process for the empowerment of women on « Access of women to political life » in Morocco	17 579,16	BL
Joint Session on Fighting violence against women - contribution to the promotion of the Istanbul Conv.	1 830,07	BL
<b>Total</b>	<b>42 790,93</b>	

- **31 May:** Launch of the new Euro-Med Women Network website:

<http://www.nswomennetwork.org/>

Previous platform available at: <http://www.nswomennetwork.org/old>

Updated statistics (October 2014)	
Lisbon Forum 2014: Electoral processes and democratic consolidation in the countries of the southern Mediterranean	1056 hits
Workshop "A new Strategy for Gender Equality Post 2015"	807 hits
Conclusions of the 3rd International Conference of the North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women	766 hits
June 2014	26.704 hits
July 2014	10.559 hits
August 2014	17.001 hits
September 2014	10.560 hits
Euro-Med Women Network	703 Members
Euro-Med Women Network <a href="#">Facebook</a>	916 Members

- **18 June:** Awareness-raising activity organised *en marge* of 3rd International Conference of the North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women (NSPEW) on fighting violence against women as a contribution to the promotion of the Istanbul Convention (18 June 2014), Rabat (Morocco). Session was organised in partnership with the Parliamentary Assembly, the Gender Equality Commission and the [South Programme](#)<sup>6</sup> and part funded in the framework of the joint agreement signed with the Norwegian MFA. Recommendations for action identified during this session will be considered for implementation in the context of follow-up to the North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women.
- **7 October:** The Chair of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre participated, with other members of the Euro-Med Women Network, at a symposium organised by AFACOM and ISESCO at the Senate in Paris (France). The symposium launched an appeal, *Appeal of Paris*, in order to promote the role of women as actors of dialogue and peace through education, politics, economics, culture and dialogue between religions.
- **20 December:** The Chair of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre made a key note speech at a conference on "Media and the Image of Women: Responsibility and Opportunity" in Rabat, Morocco organised by Connecting Group.

<sup>6</sup> Joint Programme CoE/EC "Strengthening democratic reform in the southern Neighbourhood".

**NORTH-SOUTH PRIZE**



The North-South Prize of the Council of Europe is awarded to two personalities who have excelled in their commitment to the defence and promotion of human rights and pluralistic democracy, the development of intercultural dialogue and the reinforcement of the north-south partnership and solidarity.

The 2013 North-South Prize Award Ceremony took place on the 12 June 2014 in Lisbon and was awarded to His Highness Prince Aga Khan, and Dr. Suzanne Jabbour.

Suzanne Jabbour is a Lebanese doctor globally recognised for her efforts in the fight against torture and the promotion of human rights in countries of the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. His Highness the Aga Khan is globally recognized for his philanthropic work, as well as initiatives for peace and support for development projects carried out by the Aga Khan Development Network.

At the NSC Executive Committee meeting of 26 of September, the Jury announced the award of 2014 North South Prize to Sr. Maura Lynch and Mr. André Azoulay.

Sister Doctor Maura Lynch is a surgeon and obstetrician of the Medical Missionaries of Mary. She has worked tirelessly her entire life to promoting and protecting the fundamental human rights of the poorest and most deprived people in society, in particular young women. After 20 years in Angola and more than 20 in Uganda, now aged 78 and despite the loss of one eye, Dr Maura Lynch continues to perform life-changing surgeries to treat obstetric fistula, at the clinic she helped found at Kitovu hospital in South West Uganda. Today, she keeps working with determination for those Ugandan women fighting for their right to access healthcare, for their dignity, for their life.

André Azoulay has been a senior adviser to His Majesty the King of Morocco since 1991. In parallel to a brilliant career in economics, Mr Azoulay devoted himself to the promotion of dialogue between cultures, populations, women and men from both banks of the Mediterranean. He is known for his highly active contribution to the peace process in the Middle East promoting reconciliation between Jews and Muslims. Moreover, he has been President of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue Between Cultures since 2008.

Activity	Total Cost	Source of Funding
North-South Prize	18 214,60	LC - Voluntary Cont. Portugal

## LISBON FORUM



The Lisbon Forum is a distinctive platform bringing together high-level participants from Europe, neighbouring regions and other continents to exchange experience, good practice, and expertise. The Forum has been organised annually since 1994, focusing on themes relevant to the programmes of the NSC and related to the core mission of the Council of Europe: to promote human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

In light of the events of the “Arab Spring”, recent editions of the Forum have sought to address key challenges faced by Arab societies and explore possibilities for renewed cooperation with Europe. The topic for the 2014 Lisbon Forum will be *“Electoral processes and democratic consolidation in the countries of the Southern Mediterranean.”*

The integrity of the electoral process is one of the conditions for the ultimate expression of successful democratic consolidation, which lays the necessary foundations for good governance. Since the uprisings in the countries on the southern shores of the Mediterranean in 2011, various elections have taken place in the region with varying degrees of success and consequences for the ensuing political balance.

It is therefore important and essential, when establishing democratic governance, to give particular attention to the entire electoral process. As witnessed at the 2013 Lisbon Forum, whose aim was to show that democratic ownership is as important for citizens as for those governing them, the aim of this year’s Forum will be to show that, in the case of elections, democratic awareness applies not only to the candidates and all the other key players in the electoral process but also to voters.

This year’s edition took place from 15-16 September 2014 at the Ismaili Centre, Lisbon and brought together over 200 participants from more than 50 countries in Europe, the Southern Mediterranean and beyond. The conclusions of the Forum were approved by the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre and are available at [www.coe.int/LisbonForum2014](http://www.coe.int/LisbonForum2014).

Activity	Total Cost	Source of Funding
Lisbon Forum 2014	9 845,78	BL / SP

## Overview of North-South Centre communication strategy in 2014

For a number of years, the North-South Centre made significant efforts to reinforce its visibility through its already existing tools (website, publications, resource Centre) and by developing new tools of communication: Facebook page, YouTube Page, videos, re-launch of the newsletter, etc.

In 2014, this development process continued and was strengthened in line with the recommendations of the GT-CNS, based on a close co-operation with the DGII services (DC and webmaster of the DGII) with the following principle objectives:

- Create a new website based on the new visual identity of the CoE, a draft version of which was presented to the statutory bodies of the North-South Centre in July 2014 and officially launched in advance of the 2014 Lisbon Forum;
- Reinforce the communication plan to give greater visibility for the activities of the NSC;
- Develop internal instruments of communication: NSC new leaflet, new line of publication, and new institutional roll up;
- Update our databases (constant work in progress);
- Innovative use of digital instruments, new media and new technologies (they are cheaper, reach a larger audience than traditional tools and are easy to keep updated). For instance: use of the live streaming on our main events, use of twitter, use of digital debates (on FB and other webpages).

### More specifically

#### 1 - The **website for the Euro-Med Women Network (EMWN)**:

It was launched with new visual identity and new features in June. The main objective was to adapt these tools to a new institutional image (logo and language used in our communication tools).

Over the coming years, the website, newsletter, publications and all the promotional material must respect this new image, more modern and adapted to the North-South Centre's activities.

#### 2 - The **website for Global Education**:

It was launched with complete new visual and new features. It was officially launched in November. The main objective was to adapt this tool to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Education Congress (planned for November 2015).

#### 3 - **Permanent processes and other activities**:

Special attention was paid to the communication aspects of our permanent processes (North-South Prize and Lisbon Forum) as well as to the University on Youth and Development, Global Education Week and others annual activities of the Centre.

New communication tools were exploited to promote the activities of the Centre: internet and new media in particular were used to increase visibility and the development of activities of the Centre (based on online training courses, digital cafés, etc.). A strategy for the Facebook page and the *Youtube* page was implemented. An external consultant was hired to develop and work on social media as well as on the *AYECO* website.

Special attention was paid to the evolution of the statistics for our Facebook page, the Twitter page and social media in general.

November 2014 marks the launch of celebrations of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the North-South Centre.

## Priorities and Achievements for 2014

- . A mission was organised in February to Strasbourg in order to meet our colleagues in DC: some decisions were taken and deadlines defined. It contributed to reinforce the relations between Strasbourg and Lisbon
- . A new visual communication strategy was defined and implemented
- . A new official website officially launched in September
- . New Roll ups for the Centre were produced in conformity with the mission of the NSC
- . Several new publications were paged in house (in line with the new visual communication strategy) and are now public and available on the website
- . A new strategy for the digital communication instruments was defined and implemented
- . An external consultant worked efficiently on social media instruments contributing significantly to improved external visibility
- . Communication strategy related to the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NSC was launched
- . Re-launch of the EuroMed Women Network
- . Re-launch of the GE webpage
- . Recycling of old material of the Resource Centre finalised
- . The general archives of the Centre are now systematically recycled (deadline to finish: end of February 2015)
- . 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mollina: an exhibition was launched (it is currently exposed in our premises)
- . Excellent press coverage of the NSP 2013 and of the LF 2014
- . The 2014 communication plan was successfully implemented.

### Official Facebook page of the NSC

#### Number of likes and people reached since January 2014:

	January	March	June	September
Total page likes	1532	1568	2208	2527
Average weekly total reached	522	1190	2575	4470

Statistics Social Media										
Facebook										
	October					November				
	22-28	29-5	6-12	13-19	20-26	27-2	3-9	10-16	17-23	24-30
<b>North-South Centre of the Council of Europe</b>										
Total page likes		2527	2600	2621	2678	2778	2836	2906	2934	2964
New likes		58	86	23	57	104	53	66	35	34
Weekly total reach		7089	3910	2009	2451	28651	3512	2087	1720	1301
People engaged		613	450	272	364	1891	318	271	235	180
<b>Euro-Med Women Network</b>										
Total page likes		881	885	914	928	942	962	973	1010	1029
New likes		11	6	29	14	15	21	12	39	19
Weekly total reach		656	1051	1993	858	1300	1333	515	552	835
People engaged		56	59	116	65	89	94	48	73	65
<b>Global Education networkers</b>										
Total page likes		637	641	644	651	653	661	977	806	823
New likes		9	5	3	8	2	9	18	135	18
Weekly total reach		181	359	195	1766	645	1762	229	946	1943
People engaged		18	46	22	108	65	120	47	180	147

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

In 2014 the secretariat of the North-South Centre was composed of 9 staff members with different types of contract of differing duration. The Executive Director (secondment), a Deputy to the Director (annual temporary contract), one programme manager for Global Education (CDD contract), one programme manager for Youth (11 months temporary contract), one programme manager for Euro-Mediterranean co-operation (9 months temporary contract), a communication assistant (CDD contract), a financial officer (permanent contract), an administrative/financial assistant (permanent contract) and an administrative assistant financed by the JMA for 6 months and by the South Programme for 2 months. The Executive Director was replaced in March and the Deputy Director in April.

In addition, the team of the Centre was reinforced by the valuable presence of 8 trainees that through the year greatly contributed to the implementation of the Programme of Activities. The traineeship programme of the North-South Centre, that received 424 applications in total in 2014 (70% female 30% male), from more than 30 different nationalities, aims at contributing to fulfilling the mission of the Centre in terms of capacity-building of young people by providing a real professional experience in an international environment.

Taking up functions as Executive Director of the North South Centre of the Council of Europe on 1 March 2014, and with the strong support of the Chairperson of the Executive Committee, I have worked diligently with the team at the Centre to implement the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers outlined in the report of the GT-CNS(2013)<sup>4</sup>. We had made significant efforts to adjust and streamline our activities to available means, reinforce links with Strasbourg, contribute to the neighbourhood priorities of the Council of Europe, and ensure that our activities have a positive impact on our target constituency, civil society, in particular youth and women.

As is testified by this report, the Centre implemented a very rich and interesting programme of activities in 2014 making a positive contribution to promoting intercultural dialogue, interdependence and solidarity while acting as a vehicle to transmit Council of Europe values and standards throughout and beyond the European continent.

Highlights of the 2014 Youth Co-operation Programme include the 15<sup>th</sup> University of Youth and Development in Mollina, Spain and the 2<sup>nd</sup> University on Youth and Global Citizenship in Hammamet, Tunisia. These activities continue to grow attracting ever more participants and partners and enabling the Centre to develop synergies with other relevant actors in the youth field and to map the needs and collect ideas for further development of the Euro-Arab and Mediterranean dimensions of the Youth Co-operation Programme. In the Women's Programme, the organisation of national workshops on the participation of women in democratic processes in Tunisia and Morocco contributed to the international conference in Rabat which also served as an opportunity to promote the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention. Global Education seminars and the online training courses organised in 2014 contributed to further the dissemination of the Global Education Guidelines and principles of global citizenship.

The 2013 North-South Prize was awarded to His Highness Prince Aga Khan and Dr. Suzanne Jabbour in recognition of their commitment to human rights, democracy and the rule of law and their promotion of North-South solidarity. The 2014 Lisbon Forum on the theme of *"Electoral processes and democratic consolidation in the countries of the Southern Mediterranean"* witnessed vibrant debates involving some 200 participants from 50 countries and led to the adoption of conclusions directed at all actors of governance on key topics related to elections.

It was with regret that we learned of the withdrawal of Italy and Slovenia from the partial agreement at the end of 2014; however we welcome the imminent accession of Tunisia as testament to the value and impact of our work in the region. A voluntary contribution from Morocco to support our activities in 2015 reinforces the added value of the Centre as a platform where quadrilogue actors from the South can meet and exchange with their European partners on an equal footing.

In 2015 the North-South Centre celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Over the course of these 25 years, the Centre has carved out a role as a platform for articulated dialogue and structured co-operation at the level of governments, parliaments, local and regional authorities and civil society transmitting and promoting the core values of the Council of Europe to benefit young people and women in particular.

In line with the decision of the Minister's Deputies at their 1171st meeting on 29 May 2013, an independent evaluation report will be prepared under the aegis of the Directorate of Internal Oversight (DIO) and submitted no later than June 2015 to facilitate further stock-taking of the Centre's activities. The challenge in 2015 will be to ensure that we continue to respond to the demands of our member states and demonstrate our added value: in doing this the Centre can attract new accessions and safeguard its long-term future.