



**Centre Nord-Sud
du
Conseil de l'Europe**

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**14th Meeting of the
Executive Committee of the
North-South Centre

Implementation of
Programme of Activities

2015**

The following report presents a brief overview of the main activities carried out by the North-South Centre in 2015. Conclusions of the 2015 Lisbon Forum and Recommendations adopted by participants at the 3rd European Congress on Global Education are available as separate documents. Detailed reports of the 3rd MedUni and the 16th UYD in Mollina will be published on the North-South Centre webpage.

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Activities

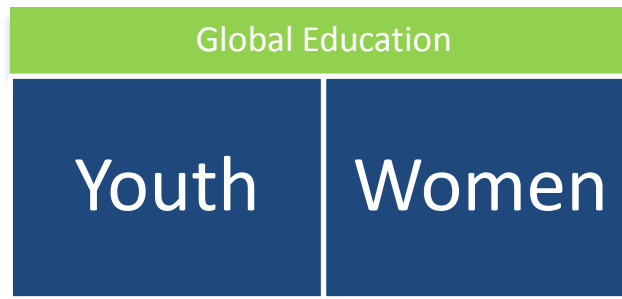
- The Euro-Med Women Network online platform
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- North-South Migration Dialogue Conference 30-31 March, Lagos
- PACE 25th Anniversary Meeting, Strasbourg 23 April 2015
- World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue, Baku, Azerbaijan 18-19 May 2015
- Council of Europe Exchange on the religious dimension of intercultural dialogue
- PACE Conference on migration and refugee crisis



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, the League of Arab States, the Anna Lindh Foundation 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"¹ 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.

"The objective of the Centre is that civil society, in particular youth and women, is empowered through intercultural dialogue and global education to play an active role in member States and neighbouring regions."

¹ Council of Europe White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue (7 May 2008)

Global Education



Policy-making

3rd Global Education Congress

The 3rd **Global Education Congress** took place in 26-28 November in Zagreb, Croatia. The Congress was organised by the North-South Centre (NSC) in partnership with the CoE Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education Unit, CONCORD Europe, UNESCO, in affiliation with GENE and in co-operation with the Croatian Center for Peace Studies, as implementing partner.

Preparation of the 3rd Global Education (GE) Congress began in the first semester. The Centre conducted two surveys among stakeholders: one among the national coordinators of the Global Education Week network to measure the work accomplished since the previous Congress in 2012 and identify issues to be tackled after 2015; the other among youth leaders to identify global skills needed for the 21st century from a youth perspective.

The Concept paper, agenda and briefing notes for the 3 workshops on Intercultural & Interfaith Dialogue, Active Citizenship, and Education & Sustainability were prepared in consultation with all stakeholders. Conclusions and recommendations emanating from the plenary session, panel discussions and workshops have been disseminated throughout the NSC GE network and uploaded onto the NSC GE website and will serve as a basis for future NSC work in this field including updating of NSC pedagogical tools (in particular the Global Education Guidelines and the e-learning courses).

GE kick-off seminars

The NSC completed the cycle of **GE kick-off seminars** in new EU member States and candidate countries. In February the seminar in Croatia was successfully held in collaboration with the Centre for Peace Studies, NSC implementing partner and national coordinator within the NSC GE network. The seminars in Serbia and Albania took place respectively in 23 and 26 October, in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Serbia, and the Institute of Education Development of the Albanian Ministry of Education and Sport.

As a first result of these seminars, the GEG is being translated in Croatian, Serbian and Albanian, while action plans for the promotion GE are under way, in conjunction of the reform process of the Educational systems in the 3 countries.

Capacity-building

Global Education e-learning course Human Rights dimension -

This global education online learning course is designed for education practitioners, social workers, youth activists, as well as policy and decision makers. The course has been designed to complement the Global Education Guidelines, a pedagogical tool for educators and policy makers to understand and implement Global Education, and share with a wider audience concepts and approaches promoted by the North-South Centre's Global Education programme. It provides an introduction to human rights education as part of the Global Education context, and deals with its concepts, approaches, strategies and action, by considering its interconnections between the global and local.

16 February–13 March

195 applications, 49 accepted, 28 successful participants

Profile of participants:

Female (35), Male (14)

Education (13); Civil Society sector (30); Government (6)

Europe (36); Africa (10); Other regions (3)

31 August–25 September

85 applications, 50 accepted, 22 successful participants

Profile of participants:

Female: 28, Male 22:

Education: 14, CSO: 32, Governments: 7

Europe: (27), Africa: (18) Other regions: (5)

Global Education e-learning course Intercultural Dialogue dimension

This global education online learning course is designed for education practitioners, social workers, youth activists, as well as policy and decision makers, local authorities and intercultural cities. The course has been designed to complement the Global Education Guidelines, a pedagogical tool for educators and policy makers to understand and implement Global Education, and share with a wider audience concepts and approaches promoted by the North-South Centre's Global Education programme. It provides an overview on why intercultural education is relevant and needed, what it means in theory and practice and how it can be improved in relation to the context of a globalised world, the local needs, its contents and methodology.

23 March-17 April

115 applications, 51 accepted, 31 successful participants

Profile of participants: Female (34), Male (17)

Education: (14), Civil Society sector: (32), Government: (5)

Europe: (33), Africa: (12) Other regions: (4)

17 August- 11 September

247 applications, 49 accepted, 26 successful participants

Profile of participants:

Female: 36, Male: 13

Education: 12, CSO: 29, Governments: 8

Europe: (32), Africa: (15) Other regions: (2)

Global Education e-learning course Democratic citizenship (DC) -

This global education online learning course is designed for educators and social transformers, thinkers and researchers, youth activists, civil society practitioners, social innovators and social entrepreneurs, new media journalists, as well as policy makers and civil servants. The course has been designed to complement the Global Education Guidelines, a pedagogical tool for educators and policy makers to understand and implement Global Education, and share with a wider audience concepts and approaches promoted by the North-South Centre's Global Education programme. It is designed to inspire and strengthen democratic citizenship aiming at transformation towards social justice and sustainability in a globalised world.

8 June-3 July

45 successful participants.

Profile of participants:

Female (25), Male (20)

Europe: (29), Africa: (12) Other regions: (4)

9 November - 4 December

246 applications, 50 accepted, 32 successful participants

Profile of participants:

Female: 30, Male: 20

Education: 22, CSO: 24, Governments: 4

Europe: (34), Africa: (14) Other regions: (2)

Consultative meeting for the creation of a Youth & Global Citizenship Training for Trainers for Southern Mediterranean educators – in the framework of the Mediterranean University on Youth and Citizenship, Hammamet 6-7 June

The NSC organised a consultative meeting with regional partners in the framework of the Mediterranean University on Youth & Global Citizenship (MedUni) to discuss the structure and content of a new Training for Trainers on Youth and Global Citizenship to be launched in the next edition of MedUni. This new TtT shall complement the NSC GE strategy developed in the region so far through the creation of the MedUni (2012), the translation of the Global Education Guidelines in Arabic (2014), the GE e-learning scheme and the extension of the Global Education Week (GEW) network to Morocco and Tunisia. The purpose of the meeting was also to explore complementarities and potential synergies with regional partners (ADYAN Foundation, Anna Lindh Foundation, League of Arab States) together with Moroccan and Tunisian national coordinators of the GEW network.

Global Education Week

The 2015 Global Education Week took place on 14-22 November under the theme of "Make Equality Real".

The GEW network annual meeting took place on the 28-29 November in the framework of the 3rd Global Education Congress held in Zagreb. *Reports being finalised*

Partnerships

The NSC participated in the 2nd UNESCO Forum on Global Citizenship Education (GCED) held in Paris in January. NSC participation in its quality of member of UNESCO GCED expert advisory group reinforces the coordinated work between the NSC and UNESCO in this field.

Youth Co-operation Programme



The objective of the Youth Co-operation Programme is to promote youth participation through training and capacity-building activities aimed at young people and youth organisations with the purpose of making them fully fledged actors of governance at all levels.

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

Dimensions:

- The **Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship**: The Network, created in 2011, includes the University on Youth and Development (Spain); the African University on Youth and Development (Cape Verde and Kenya); and the Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship (Tunisia)². The Network provides an exceptional space for young people and youth organisations around the world to meet, debate, build their capacity and co-operate on youth policy related issues. The educational model developed in these Universities has been enhanced by its various partners and largely inspired by the Global Education Guidelines, systematized by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe and by the new framework provided by Council of Europe Recommendation on education for global interdependence and solidarity
- A **Euro Arab and Mediterranean dimension**: In line with the mission of the NSC to contribute to democratic consolidation in the Neighbourhood regions, the Youth Co-operation programme recognizes the unique and the added value that youth and young people from both sides of the Mediterranean bring to democratic reforms and development. The programme implements education and awareness raising actions with a special focus on “Structured Participation of young people in Democratic Processes” (SPDP).
- The **Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation**: As a follow-up of the Africa-Europe Youth Summits in 2007 and 2010, the North-South Centre has been developing and implementing a programme in partnership with key governmental and non-governmental actors in Africa and Europe, including

² In the past it also included the University of Participation and Citizenship (Uruguay)

the African Union Commission, the European Commission, the European Youth Forum, the African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe, and the African Youth Platforms, such as the Pan African Youth Union and the Network of International Youth Organisations in Africa. A Joint Management Agreement signed with the European Commission supported the organisation of training activities, an online Resource Centre (www.aeyco.com), a seed-funding scheme for Africa-Europe youth projects and annual meetings of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform.

The Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship in 2015

The year of 2015 was a milestone in regards to Youth and the future global agenda. The process around the Post-2015 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals paid special attention to youth. Within this context, the Network of the Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship identified **“Youth.org: actors for change!”** as the common thread for 2015. The theme allowed youth organisations to reflect on and evaluate their impact and to look into what can they improve, do better or more, in order to truly fulfil their role as actors for change. The reflection centred on questions such as: What is our common vision? What kind of change do we want to achieve? What is necessary to make change happen? What are youth organisations doing currently and what can be done in order to achieve the common vision? Looking beyond youth organisations, what relevant partners should be there to co-operate with in order to maximize the impact we want to have?

The three following Universities facilitated a space for reflection on the topic: “Youth.org: actors for change!” based on regional and sub-regional understandings and practices, providing space for building a common ground, sharing of best practices and discussing future opportunities for co-operation, in order to contribute to a common vision of the global youth movement and of other relevant actors.

Social media campaign **#actors4change** was developed during these activities. Video accessible here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=APrroe9rVTU>

The 3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship (MedUni)

Dates: 1-8 June 2015	
Location: Hammamet, Tunisia	
Nº participants: 150	
Nº of activities: 7	
List of activities:	
1	2 nd Training Course on Structured Participation in Democratic Processes North-South Centre of the Council of Europe – 2-7 June
2	Consultative Meeting - Training for Trainers on Global Education North-South Centre of the Council of Europe – 6-7 June
3	Workshop on Human Rights from a Youth Perspective League of Arab States and NSC – 2-5 June
4	Closing meeting and joint assessment of the project “Structured Participation in Democratic Processes” CNJC - National Youth Council of Catalonia (co-ordinator of the activity) - 4-7 June
5	Empowering Networking and Youth Partnerships in the Euro-Arab Mediterranean Process FNG - Italian National Youth Forum – 3-8 June
6	Meeting of stakeholders and partners - Euro-Arab and Euro-Mediterranean Youth Co-operation – 6 June
7	Meeting of the Diaspora National Youth Observatory of Tunisia , African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe and International Organisation for Migrations - Tunisia – 2-5 June

The **3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship (MedUni)** was organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe (NSC-CoE) in co-operation with the National Youth Observatory of Tunisia (ONJ) and in partnership with the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, the EU-CoE youth partnership, the League of Arab States (LAS), the European Youth Forum, the Italian National Youth Forum and the National Youth Council of Catalonia

The University contributed:

- To promote youth work and youth participation in the Mediterranean region;
- To foster political mainstreaming of the youth-related issues and youth policy development in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean based on shared experiences, standards and mechanisms of the Council of Europe and in light of regional needs and initiatives;
- To reinforce the capacity-building of different “quadrilogue” actors in the field of youth at both regional and national levels;
- To promote Euro-Arab and Mediterranean youth co-operation and Global Youth Work and foster the development of networks that can serve as trans-Mediterranean communities of practice;
- To mainstream human rights, intercultural dialogue and democratic citizenship as essential dimensions of global education and the work with young people, in the framework of Euro-Arab and Mediterranean Youth Co-operation;
- Identify good practice and shared experience to be incorporated in concrete follow-up activities to ensure sustainable outcomes from MedUni.

At the same time, in light of the recent events in Paris, Copenhagen, Tunis and Garissa and of the growing concerns about radicalisation and violent extremism, the joint programme sought to tackle issues associated with the radicalisation of young people and their involvement in non-democratic and violent movements. Within this context, the joint programme acted as a stimulus for partners and participants to reflect on the role of youth organisations as actors for change. It also attempted to stir the debate and answer to questions such as:

- What contribution can they make to bringing about change that is more inclusive, respects human rights and promotes democratic practices?
- How can youth organisations engage with marginalised and excluded young people to promote their inclusion, combat hate and extremist speech and advocate for their peaceful and active participation in democratic processes?



The 2nd Training Course on Structured Participation in Democratic Processes

The course targeted 20 young participants from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean.

Main outcomes:

- 20 young activists trained and equipped with tools related with Structured Participation;
- Participants exchanged ideas individual and organisational practice to promote global democratic citizenship (participation and representation in decision/ policymaking);
- Mapping of good practices of youth structures development and Structured Participation in Europe and Southern Mediterranean region;
- Participants were provided with knowledge about different principles, tools and opportunities to further develop the organisation of the youth movement mainly in the Southern Mediterranean region and of Structured Participation initiatives and mechanisms;
- Network, partnership and peer-learning between youth organisations was reinforced
- Awareness within quadrilogue actors raised about the relevant contribution of youth organisations to democratic processes and suggestions for future improvements identified

16th University on Youth and Development (UYD)



The **University on Youth and Development** is an activity organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe (NSC) in partnership with the Spanish Government (INJUVE), the European Youth Forum (YFJ), the Spanish Youth Council (CJE) and other international youth organisations and youth serving organisations.

The UYD also contributed to:

- To promote youth work development and youth participation as well as political mainstreaming of the youth related issues and youth policy development; to reinforce capacity-building of civil society organisations;
- To foster youth co-operation and Global Youth Work; and to promote human rights, intercultural dialogue and democratic citizenship as essential dimensions of global education.

The flow of the week could be easily followed through the UYD blog and social networks: www.universityuyd.com

Dates: 20-27 September 2015

Location: Mollina, Spain

Nº participants: 250

Nº of activities: 11

List of activities:

1	4th Global Education and Youth Training of Trainers North South Centre of the Council of Europe
2	Training for Trainers on Structured Participation of Young Women in Democratic Processes North South Centre of the Council of Europe
3	Training Course on Human Rights Education Spanish Youth Council (CJE)
4	Seminar "Light your rights: Reveal the social value of youth work" Youth Express Network (Y-E-N) and ROOTS & ROUTES
5	Training Course "Youth checkpoint! Watching over the implementation of the Global Agenda" International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY)
6	Training Course "Enter the net! Digital competences in the daily life of the organization" Youth for Exchange and Understanding (YEU)
7	"NFE Valid Action" Portuguese National Youth Council (CNJ)
8	Seminar "DEAR 21" European Educational Exchanges – Youth for Understanding (EEE-YFU) and AFS and CSIV + Experiment
9	Annual Meeting of CORE Partners of the Network of Universities on Youth Global Citizenship
10	Meeting of the Permanent Members of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform
11	Preparatory Meeting of the 7th African University on Youth and Development (AUJD)

4th Training for Trainers On Global Education And Youth

The course targeted 20 participants from all 5 regions (America, Europe, Mediterranean, Africa and Asia)

Main outcomes:

- 20 young multipliers developed competences to become trainers on NSC GE methodology and programme (Global Education Guidelines and online training courses), as well as;
- Development of competences and transfer of innovation in educational strategies was facilitated in a collaborative learning approach;
- NSC has expanded its pool of global trainers

6th And 7th University African University on Youth and Development (AUJD)

Dates: 25 January – 1 February 2015

Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Nº participants: 80

Nº of activities: 3

List of activities:

1	10th Africa-Europe Training Course for Youth Organizations North South Centre, European Youth Forum (YFJ), Pan African Youth Union (PYU) and Network of International Youth Organisations in Africa (NIYOA) - 25 January – 1 February
2	3th Meeting of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform North South Centre, NIYOA, PYU, YFJ and ADYNE - 28 January – 1 February
3	Annual general meeting (AGM 2015) of NIYOA NIYOA - 27 January 2015

Dates: 8-15 November 2015

Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Nº participants: 150

Nº of activities:

List of activities:

1	11th Africa-Europe Training Course for Youth Organizations North South Centre, European Youth Forum (YFJ), Pan African Youth Union (PYU) and Network of International Youth Organisations in Africa (NIYOA) - 8-15 November 2015
2	6th Training Course for Youth Leaders of the African Diaspora Youth living in Europe: Training for Trainers North South Centre and African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe (ADYNE) - 8-15 November 2015
3	4th Meeting of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform North South Centre, NIYOA, PYU, YFJ and ADYNE - 11-15 November 2015
4	Training for Trainers of the Network of International Youth Organizations in Africa NIYOA – 8-15 November 2015
5	ADYNE Education Committee Meeting ADYNE - 11-13 November 2015
6	Annual general meeting (AGM 2015) of NIYOA NIYOA - 9 November 2015

The **African University on Youth and Development (AUJD)** was developed as a follow-up of the 1st Africa-Europe Youth Summit that took place in Lisbon in 2007, as a way to promote the contribution of Youth for the implementation of Africa-EU Strategic Partnership. Since the development of 2012-2015 Action Plan and the launching of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform (in 2012), the University has been identified as an annual and permanent feature of the Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation. Five editions were organised in Cape Verde by the North-South Centre in partnership with the Cape Verde Youth Federation, the National Youth Council of Portugal and other youth organisations. At the end of 2014, a series of activities from the Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation programme needed to be postponed to the beginning of 2015. For that reason the 6th³ and 7th editions of the African University on Youth and Development were organised in the same year. The sixth and seventh editions were hosted by the Network of International Youth Organisations in Africa in Nairobi, Kenya in cooperation with other partners such as: Pan-African Youth Union, the African Diaspora Youth Living in Europe and the European Youth Forum.

³ The 6th edition Joint Theme was “Youth opportunities”

The main objectives of the African University on Youth and Development are:

- Promoting a space for preparation and follow-up of the Africa-Europe Youth Summits and reinforcement of the Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation, Pan African and Global Youth Work;
- Strengthening and support the role of networks, non-governmental youth organizations and civil society responding to their needs in terms of capacity building;
- Developing joint efforts to address the major challenges faced by young people in the light of the priority areas identified as regards youth development;
- Increasing the opportunities for networking, information sharing, capacity building and training for young people and youth organizations;
- Capacity-building for the young people.



The Africa Europe Youth Co-Operation

The following activities were organised in the framework of the Joint Management Agreement (2012-2015) and in the context of the African University on Youth and Development:

10th Africa-Europe Training Course for Youth Organisations – 25 jan – 1st feb2015

11th Africa-Europe Training Course for Youth Organisations – 8-15 november 2015

The course targeted 20 participants each time (10 from Europe + 10 from Africa) and offered an opportunity to strengthen the role of youth leaders and youth workers from Europe and Africa, to empower and promote their capacity to organise, network, take action and foster their political participation in Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation and Global Youth Work.

6th Training Course for Youth Leaders of the African Diaspora Youth Living in Europe - 8-15 November 2015

A group of 20 young people from Africa and Europe attended this activity.

- 20 young multipliers were empowered to further support the practice of Global Education (GE) based on NSC GE methodology and programme (Global Education Guidelines and online training courses), as well as;
- Development of competences of participants that are actively involved in organizations of African Diaspora Youth Living in Europe and contribute to a network of qualified trainers in this field.
- **3rd Meeting Of The Africa-Europe Youth Platform** – 28th January – 2 February 2015
- **4th Meeting Of The Africa-Europe Youth Platform** – 11-15 November 2015

The Africa-Europe Youth Platform gathers 30 representatives of the Africa-Europe youth co-operation as detailed in the table on the following page.

The core mission and objectives are as follows:

- Preparation/co-ordination of the Africa-Europe Youth co-operation;
- Monitoring of the Africa-Europe youth co-operation;
- Evaluation/follow-up of the Africa-Europe youth co-operation;

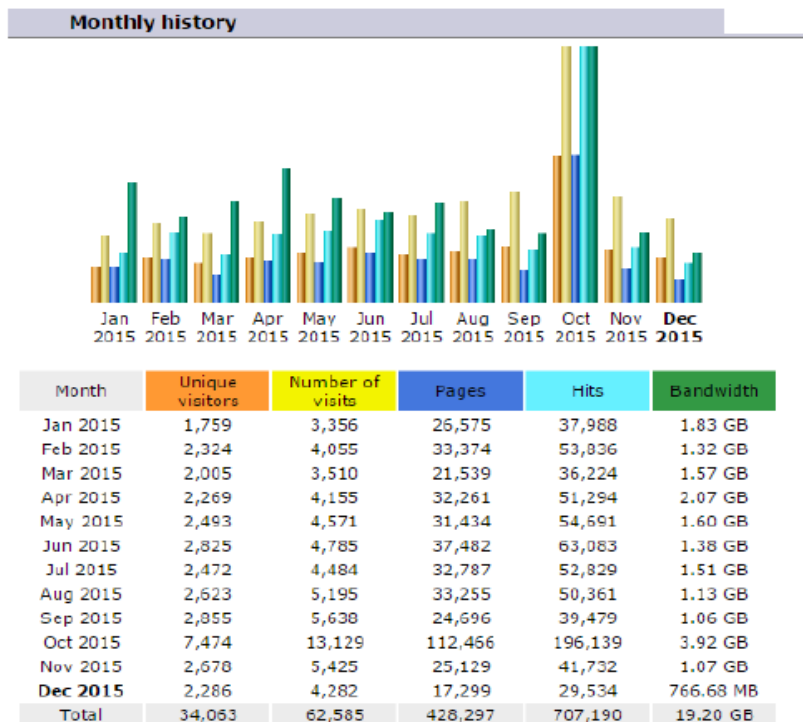
Both meetings focused on:

- The follow-up on the 3rd AEYP and the work of the different working groups of the platform (i.e. communication, capacity-building, etc.)
- The assessment of the implementation of the 2012-2015 AEYC Action Plan and plan the next Action Plan as from 2016;
- The reflection about the role of the AEYP and its members.

Organisation/Institution		Acro.
Pan African Youth Union		
1	Pan African Youth Union	PYU
2	Representative of West Africa Sub-region	PYU
3	Representative of North Africa Sub-region	PYU
4	Representative of Southern Africa Sub-region	PYU
5	Representative of Central Africa Sub-region	PYU
6	Representative of East Africa Sub-region	PYU
Network of International Youth Organisations in Africa		
7	Board Member/Secretariat	NIYOA
European Youth Forum		
8	Board Member/Secretariat	YFJ
National Youth Councils		
9	Flemish Youth Council	VJR
10	Italian National Youth Forum	FNG
11	National Youth Council of Catalonia	CNJC
12	National Youth Council of Ireland	NYCI
13	Portuguese National Youth Council	CNJ
INGYO		
Europe		
14	European Youth Press	EYP
15	European Federation for Intercultural Learning	EFIL
16	International Federation of Liberal Youth	IFLRY
17	International Union of Socialist Youth	IUSY
18	World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts	WAGGGS
Africa		
19	Global Young Greens	GYG
20	Fédération Internationale des Mouvements Catholiques d'Action Paroissiale	FIMCAP
21	International Falcon Movement- Socialist Educational International	IFM-SEI
22	International Movement of Catholic Students - Africa	IMCS
23	World Organisation of the Scout Movement - Africa	WOSM
African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe		
24	Board Member	ADYNE
25	National Representative	ADYNE
Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe		
26	Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe	AC CoE
Institutional Partners		
North-South Centre of the Council of Europe		
27	Youth Co-operation Programme Manager	NSC CoE
28	Resource Person	NSC CoE
African Union Commission		
29	African Union Commission	AUC
European Commission		
30	European Commission	EC

AEYCO: Africa-Europe Youth Co-Operation Resource Centre – All Year Long

AYECO (www.aeyco.com) is an online resource centre that contributes to the mapping exercise of existing organisations, opportunities and the systematisation of the knowledge and best practices of the youth co-operation in both regions. It works as a resource centre and as a communication tool for the members of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform. It is being improved to be able to accommodate the reception of Seed Funding applications and to develop a smartphone application.



- The year started with less than 2000 unique visitors. From February, the number of visitors has been constantly above 2000.
- Peak of visit in October as the calls for participants for the 7th African University on Youth and Development have been published. The month of October had the highest number of visits since the creation of the website.
- December is a bit lower as less updating has been done.

Seed Funding Scheme

The seed funding aims to strengthen the role of youth organisations as civil society actors and youth leaders' ability to organise and take action as well as strengthen young people's political participation in Euro-African co-operation. Seed Funding for AEYC is a grant allocation intended to promote Africa Europe youth exchanges, networking and political participation of non-state actors. It aims at funding initiatives which provides the possibility for youth leaders, youth workers, experts and trainers to participate in Euro African Youth activities and youth exchanges projects. The grants are of a maximum 2000 € per project/organisation.

In 2015 the seed-funding contributed to the following projects:

Organisation	Name of the project	Dates	Country	Brief description
Servizio civile internazionale	Seeding exchange, picking knowledge: a peaceful world is possible!	7.09-07.10	Italy	1 month in-training for a Nigerian volunteer in the Italian organisation
Association Actions Vitales pour le Développement durable	Climate Smart Agriculture Exchange on Youth Entrepreneurship	20.04-31.07	Cameroun Germany	An exchange initiative that brought together young farmers from Africa and young agriculture entrepreneurs from Europe around two capacity-building sessions that provided them with an essential opportunity for learning, information and capacity support on how to make agriculture
Asociación para la Cooperación al Desarrollo Afric' Forum	From conflict to coexistence: Youth leadership for non-violent conflict transformation, peace building through intercultural dialogue and communication	18-25.04-16-23.05	Spain	A capacity building activity based on providing the youth from the African diaspora organizations and their members with the necessary tools and strategies with the aim to make them multipliers and actors when it comes to transforming conflicts and promoting peace and coexistence through intercultural dialogue and communication
VAS Österreich	African Diaspora Youth Forum in Europe	8-12.06	Austria	Support to an international conference that provided the opportunity to young people to discuss practical ways of actively contributing to the political, social and economic integration of Africa.
Conexão Lusófona:	Conexão Lusófona: Guinea-Bissau	28-12.05	Guinea-Bissau	A training course for young students in the Lusófona University and also for members of youth associations and youth leaders in Guinea-Bissau. The aim is to ensure capacity building in collaborative journalism and the main objectives are: give to the participants the knowledge and tools on digital journalism, give them the competences to know how to do journalism in a web platform and establish a journalism club in Guinea-Bissau.

Women's Programme



Euro-Med Women Network
North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women

The **North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women** programme (NSPEW) of the North South Centre aims to contribute to democratic consolidation in the Southern Mediterranean by enabling stakeholders to work together to promote the role of women, gender equality and women's rights in the region. It intends to support the empowerment of women at all levels of governance to encourage their role as actors of change. NSPEW, launched in 2011, is entered in its second implementation phase since the second semester 2015.

The Women's programme contributes to the empowerment of women by supporting civil society through quadrilogue engagement in the context of activities to promote:

- **Capacity-building;**
- **Policy development and advocacy;**
- **Raising public awareness and understanding, dissemination of good practices.**

Activities implemented since May 2015:

The Euro-Med Women Network online platform

- The **Euro-Med Women Network** online platform provides a public space to share good practice on the three lines of the North-south Process for the Empowerment of Women: the participation of women in political life; violence against women; and women and media. Dissemination of good practice is supported by a social media communication strategy.



More than 840 members on the Network

www.nswomennetwork.org

More than 1700 followers on facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/nswomennetwork>

Since June 2015, the women's programme collected more than 30 examples of good practice to promote the empowerment of women in the framework of the creation of the future database.

Examples of good practice have been shared as videos on the NSC Youtube channel.

The professional integration of countryside women in Algeria:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xuveY9FOgSA>

Women and youth against violence:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=96uC9fvH0AA>

International Forum “The Escalation of Violence against Women in the MENA” – 29-30 May, Fes, Morocco

The North-South Centre was invited to attend the 7th edition of the Mediterranean Women’s Forum. The event aimed at documenting and unveiling the new types of violence against women with the mounting tide of Jihadism, linking this violence to more familiar types while seeking to understand the social, economic and political ramifications.

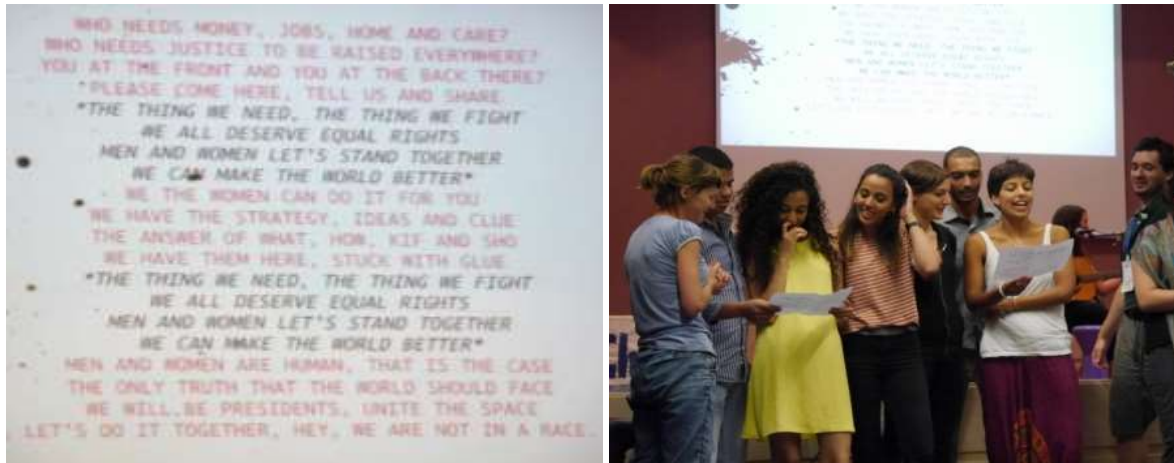


Co-organised by I.C.W.A.D (Women and Development Centre) and The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Foundation, the Forum brought together experts and researchers from more than 20 countries of Middle East, North Africa, Europe, Asia and North America, and a part of the experts are members of Euro-Med Women Network. The participation of the NSC in the event aimed to prepare the next women’s roundtable on the prevention of radicalisation and violence against women that will be held in the framework of the Lisbon Forum 2015.



1st Training of trainers on Structured Participation of Young Women in Democratic Processes – 20th-27th September, Mollina, Spain

In the framework of the 16th University on Youth and Development, the Women's programme launched a pilot training programme inspired by the successful model of the Structured Participation in Democratic Processes training course organised annually in MedUni.



18 Young trainers or educators from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean (13 females and 5 males) gathered to acquire new skills and advocacy tools to promote gender equality and women's rights that encourage and enable the active participation of women in decision-making processes. The first training of trainers of NSPEW aimed to educate young trainers and facilitators and to engage youth and women organisations in the intra and inter-regional co-operation.

In the context of the training activity, participants exchanged views and shared challenges and achievements and identified proposals. This practical teamwork on concrete projects allowed the planning of several projects during the training. The following projects are currently under development by participants since the training:

- Seminar on Conflict Management organised by YEU in partnership, for the first time, with organisations from MENA regions, including a session on women's empowerment, a tool for conflict prevention;
- Training on Media and Women organised by MENAC European Youth Press in Jordan in collaboration with EMWN members in Jordan;
- Capacity-building activities for women refugees in UK (Refugees Welcome Movement) ;
- Launch of project "Ichrak: To Motivate Young Women to Participate in Political Life" In Morocco (Laboratory of compared Democratic Transition, University Hassan 1er , Settat);
- Raising awareness activities to fight youth radicalisation by empowering women in Libya, Palestine and Jordan;
- Organisation of an Arab University in Jordan based on the model of the UYD.
- Several capacity-building activities organised in Egypt in structured dialogue on issues experimented by Egyptian women (Zagzig University, Cairo) ;
- Launch of a project for the empowerment of African rural women and development of gender equality activities by ADYNE.

The Women's Programme will follow and promote these projects through the network.

North-South Prize



The Award Ceremony of the 2014 North-South Prize was held, like in previous years, at the Assembly of the Portuguese Republic on 1st July. The Prize was awarded to Sister Doctor Maura Lynch (Ireland) and to Mr André Azoulay (Morocco). Sister Dr. Maura Lynch was chosen by the Prize Jury due to her lifelong dedication to medical care in Africa particularly her contribution towards the reestablishment of health, dignity and hope of many young women that suffered from obstetric fistula. The award also distinguished André Azoulay for his contribution to the peace process in the Middle East, for his action to promote reconciliation between Jews and Muslims, as well as his role in promoting intercultural dialogue and understanding across the two shores of the Mediterranean. Mr Aníbal Cavaco Silva, President of the Portuguese Republic, presented the awards in the presence of Mrs Maria de Assunção Esteves, President of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal, Mr Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Dr Jean Marie-Heydt, Chair of the NSC Executive Committee, Mr Mota Amaral, Head of the Portuguese Delegation to PACE and more than 150 guests. The event received wide media coverage by national and international media (Ireland, U.K, Morocco, Italy, Holy See)⁴. On the 29 June, a public seminar was organised with Sister Doctor Maura Lynch at the Catholic University of Lisbon attended by 65 participants. During her stay in Lisbon, in cooperation with the Irish Embassy, Sister Maura had several meetings with local entities to promote her work in Uganda, namely with AMI – Assistência Médica Internacional, Fundação Champalimaud, Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical and with the AKDN.



The call for candidates for the 2015 North-South Prize was launched on 14 January, with a deadline expiring on 10 July that was extended until 1 September following a Bureau decision.

Meeting on 2 October 2015, the North-South Prize Jury decided to award the 2015 Prize to Ms Lora Pappa (North) in recognition of her active role in the management of the refugees flows reaching Greece and to H.E. Joaquin Chissano (South) for his lifelong commitment to peace building and democratic consolidation in Africa. The award ceremony will be held in Lisbon, in the first half of 2016, in the presence of both laureates

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.

Following developments in the region and a refocusing of the Centre's mission to contribute to the Council of Europe's policy towards its neighbouring regions, recent editions of the Forum have sought to address key challenges faced by countries of the Southern Mediterranean and explore possibilities for renewed cooperation with Europe

Follow-up meeting of the 2014 Lisbon Forum 27-28 April 2015, Tunis

In the context of the South Programme, financed by the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe, and following an invitation from the Tunisian authorities, the North-South Centre organised a follow-up meeting of the 2014 Lisbon Forum on the 27-28 April in Tunis under the theme: "Financing of electoral campaigns: a challenge for the electoral processes in the countries of the Southern Mediterranean."

From the 2014 edition of the Forum and the reflections on the follow-up to its conclusions, the question on financing of politics and the electoral processes, emerged as a priority which inevitably affects the implementation of real democratic governance requiring the participation of citizens and institutions at all levels.

The aim of this follow-up meeting was to examine and develop the conclusions articulated at the Lisbon Forum and to formulate concrete proposals which respond to the requirements of a democratic, transparent and equal electoral process.

Lisbon Forum 2015, Lisbon 3-4 December 2015

The 2015 Lisbon Forum was organised on the theme “How to combat radicalisation and terrorism: prevention tools and shared knowledge in the Mediterranean and European space.” Contributing to the Committee of Ministers’ Action Plan and seeking to promote the “Competences for Democratic Culture” project of the Council of Europe, the Forum brought together more than 200 high-level participants from Europe, neighbouring regions and other continents to share experience, good practice and expertise on the pressing issue of radicalisation and terrorism.

Mr André Azoulay, North-South Prize Laureate 2015, was President of LF2015 which was launched by a key note speech by Dr Alaa Murabit, founder and President of the Voice of Libyan Women.

Conclusions of the Forum are available on the North-South Centre website.



The Forum is organised by the North-South Centre but in recent years has been funded principally through the Joint CoE-EU Programme, the South Programme II “Towards Strengthened Democratic Governance in the Southern Mediterranean.”

The Anna Lindh Foundation and the Aga Khan Development Network were also partner in the organisation of LF2015.

LF2016 will be held in November / December 2016 on a theme related to the mission and objectives of the North-South Centre as chosen by the Executive Committee.

Other activities

North-South Migration Dialogue Conference 30-31 March, Lagos

The Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons of the Council of Europe organised a conference on “North-South Migration Dialogue” in Lagos, Portugal on the 30-31 March 2015.

This event was organised in co-operation with the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe and the Parliament of Portugal in the framework of the activities of the joint Programme between the Council of Europe and the European Union “Reinforcing democratic reform in the Southern neighbourhood (South programme.)”

This conference brought together the parliamentarians and the NGOs working with migrants to continue the dialogue between the Northern and the Southern European countries on the possible solutions to the increased flows of migrants in Europe. Besides the members of the Committee, MPs from the Northern European countries and Southern European countries as well as the MPs from the Mediterranean countries, will participate in this conference.

PACE 25th Anniversary Meeting, Strasbourg 23 April 2015

The President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe congratulated the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe on its 25th anniversary, stressing that the Parliamentary Assembly was the Council of Europe body which was at the very origin of its creation. Taking into consideration the fact that countries of the Southern Mediterranean and the Middle East were struggling to implement democratic reforms and to establish the foundations of democratic and pluralistic societies in which the rights and freedoms of all individuals were respected, the Council of Europe, and the Parliamentary Assembly in particular, should make available its assistance to these countries, with all its relevant instruments, including the NSC.

The present and prospective role of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe and the enhancement of co-operation between the North-South Centre and the Parliamentary Assembly, namely in the framework of the Council of Europe Neighbourhood Policy were discussed. The strategic location of the NSC and the importance of the Lisbon Forum – a flagship activity – was stressed as well as the enhancement of co-operation between countries of the South of the Mediterranean which are very important for establishing greater mutual understanding and working together.

The Centre was described as a unique tool to promote the universal values of human rights, democracy and rule of law and to build up intercultural dialogue beyond Europe. It could also contribute to the challenges arising from the mixed flows of irregular migrants, asylum seekers and refugees across the Mediterranean. She encouraged all member States which were not already part of the NSC to recognise its added value in tackling these major challenges and to strongly consider joining it.

World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue, Baku, Azerbaijan 18-19 May 2015

The North-South Centre organised a workshop on “Youth Participation: the role of Global Education and intercultural competences.” The Workshop, which involved trainers and participants in NSC capacity-building activities and an academic expert from La Sapienza, enabled the NSC to share the Global Education Guidelines and a Global Education approach to promoting intercultural dialogue.

**Council of Europe Exchanges on the religious dimension of intercultural dialogue
Sarajevo 2-3 November 2015**

The President of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre, Dr. Jean-Marie Heydt, participated in the Council of Europe Exchange on the religious dimension of intercultural dialogue: "Building inclusive societies together: the role and place of religion in public space; teaching about religions and non-religious beliefs at school".

The Exchange was held in Sarajevo in the context of the Bosnian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

In his speech, Mr. Heydt emphasized the role of education in the development of "free and open thinking, promotion of respect for all beliefs and the capacity to create a space for cultural exchange and common understanding." The Sarajevo Exchange "Building inclusive societies together" associated the representatives of the religions traditionally present in Europe with the representatives of non-religious convictions and the other players in civil society. The text of Dr. Heydt's intervention is available on the website of the North-South Centre.

A comprehensive humanitarian and political response to the migration and refugee crisis in Europe, PACE Conference, Paris 16 December 2016

The President of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre, Dr. Jean-Marie Heydt, participated in this Conference organised by the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe at the French National Assembly.