



# Learning Equality. Living Dignity.

**Human Rights Forum and Fair**

**10-11 December 2016, European Youth Centre Budapest**

## **Education for Human Rights and Democratic Citizenship in Hungary - Charting a Way Forward -**

The 2016 edition of the European Youth Centre's annual Human Rights Forum & Fair (HRFF) will put the topic of education for human rights and democratic citizenship<sup>1</sup> in Hungary into the spotlight. In the wake of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Compass Forum on Human Rights Education, it is the right time to convene a wide array of Hungarian stakeholders to discuss the state of education for human rights and democratic citizenship in Hungary – to tally up the challenges, to list the achievements, and to chart a way forward.

### **Background**

Human rights education – and its “twin”: education for democratic citizenship – is the centerpiece of the Council of Europe's work with young people and consequently has been the backbone of the programme of the European Youth Centre Budapest since its inauguration 20 years ago. This year's *3<sup>rd</sup> Compass Forum on Human Rights Education* provides the ideal opportunity to organize an event to take a closer look at the state of human rights education and education for democratic citizenship in Hungary, with the explicit aim of reinvigorating, strengthening and further expanding the network of organizations, practitioners, educators, and donors who are the key stakeholders in this vital field.

The Council of Europe's Youth Department's mission and activities is built on the premise that human rights cannot be defended and promoted only through legal documents. It is crucially important to engage people – and above all, young people – in order to create a robust and resilient culture of human rights that is built on active citizens aware of their rights and the rights of others and willing and able to stand up and defend them whenever they come under attack.

We hope that this year's Human Rights Forum & Fair will serve as an effective impetus towards empowering those engaged in human rights and democracy education activities in Hungary – whether in formal or non-formal settings – helping to improve communication and to increase awareness of each other's work among practitioners, and leading to better cooperation in the field of human rights and democracy education between organisations and donors alike.

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<sup>1</sup> In its [Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education](#) adopted in 2010, the Council of Europe differentiates Education for Democratic Citizenship (EDC) and Human Rights Education (HRE). The former focuses on the exercise and defense of democratic rights and responsibilities citizens have in a given society, but also on diversity and active participation in democratic life, while the latter aims “to contribute to the building and defence of a universal culture of human rights in society”. Nevertheless, in context of this event we will address these two interlinked areas jointly.

## **PROGRAMME**

**10 December**

**16:00 – 20:00 / Film Screening**

The opening event of the HRFF will be the screening of two films from the official programme of the annual [Verzio Human Rights Film Festival](#) held between 8 – 13 November and provided to the HRFF by the organizers of the festival, the Donald and Nancy Blinken Archives.

**11 December**

### **MORNING PROGRAMME**

**10:00 – 10:45 / Plenary**

#### **Keynote Speakers**

Dr. Adam Bodnar, Commissioner for Human Rights, Poland (TBC)  
Antje Rothemund, Head of the Youth Department, Council of Europe

**10:45 – 11:00 / Coffee Break**

**11:00 – 12:30 / Plenary**

**Panel Discussion** with invited experts on the role of human rights education / education for democratic citizenship in the promotion and protection of human rights

Panelists:

Dr. Szalayné Dr. Sándor Erzsébet, Deputy Commissioner for Fundamental Rights, Hungary / Mircea Cernov, Mozaik Community Hub / Galambos Rita, Demokratikus Ifjúságért Alapítvány / Anna-Maria Biro, Director, Tom Lantos Institute / Yulia Pererva, Education Department, Council of Europe (TBC)

**12:30 – 13:30 Lunch Break**

## **AFTERNOON PROGRAMME**

### **13:30 – 15:30 Parallel Working Groups**

Depending on the number of participants at the event, 4 to 6 parallel working groups will continue to explore in-depth the key issues impacting human rights and democracy education in Hungary. The working groups will be facilitated and also provided with 1-2 resource persons to ensure that the discussions can tackle their subject effectively. The working groups shall explore/address some or all of the following issues and questions:

- The parameters of human rights and democracy education in Hungary
- Past and present good-practices in human rights and democracy education in Hungary
- Formal, non-formal, informal: the forms and methodologies of human rights and democracy education
- Human rights and democracy education in schools and role of the official curriculum
- The role of official bodies (Ombudspersons, ministries, etc.) in supporting human rights and democracy education
- Who are the target groups and how can they be reached best?
- Cooperation between stakeholders/practitioners
- Funding and support for human rights and democracy education
- Assessing the impact of human rights and democracy education
- Challenges and obstacles for human rights and democracy education
- Opportunities for improvement

### **15:30 – 18:30 / Szociopoly – Interactive Theater Play**

[Szociopoly](#) is a unique interactive board game and theatrical play in one. The play is about the life of Hungarian families who live in small settlements and suffer from poverty. The income of the families is provided only from aids, by-jobs and undeclared works. For the duration of the game every participant will be poor and feel the pressure of exclusion. The game's emotional energy is used to make the participants endure the tension of everyday life in poverty. The spectators – who are inhabitants of the village – can make decisions: Whether they want to accept an undeclared work or pay the electricity bill or address themselves for loan to the Loan Shark. If the participants face the living alternatives of poor people and realize what aids and family allowances enough for maybe they will choose the path of solidarity instead of intolerance.

### **15:30 – 19:00 / Living Library**

As in previous years, a Living Library will also be held as part of the HRF 2016. The Living Library is a unique tool to challenge everyday prejudices and to highlight social diversity through a simple one-on-one dialogue with members of various vulnerable or discriminated groups. The Living Library offers an opportunity for personal engagement and reflection through discussion. Come and take out some of our books for a reading, but make sure you don't judge them by their covers!

### **10:00 – 18:30 / Children's Corner**

Parents attending various parts of the programme can leave their children in our children's corner. They will be looked after by trained educators and participated in various age-appropriate activities centered on themes related to human rights and democracy.