



DDCP-YD/CHS (2015) 55



Youth campaign for human rights online

## **Second Meeting of National Co-coordinators**

**10-11 November 2014  
Warsaw, Poland**

### **Report**

## ABOUT THE MEETING

### Aims and Objectives

The meeting of and with national co-ordinators was organised to bring together the key actors of the national campaigns in order to co-ordinate the national and European levels of the campaign. The specific objectives were to:

1. update each other on the state of implementation of the campaign;
2. share plans and progress in relation to the strategic objectives of the campaign (Internet governance, Ratification of the Additional Protocol to the Budapest Convention, Online safety, Education and awareness-raising...);
3. exchange plans and coordinate information gathering for the evaluation and follow-up of the campaign on European and national level;
4. collect expectations towards the Council of Europe for after the closing of the European campaign;
5. coordinate common activities for the Action Days of 10 December and 21 March 2015
6. support communication, networking and co-operation among NCCs and with the European co-ordination.

## PROGRAMME

### Sunday 9 November

- ***Activists Congress 'Zone of Inter@ction' Presentation of 200 Polish Activists in the Framework of European Action Day against Fascism and Anti-Semitism In the Museum of History of Polish Jews***

The Museum of History and Polish Jews hosted on Sunday afternoon the Congress of 200 young Polish activists who met together to learn, exchange, and share about Hate Speech in its different ways. Different workshops were organised by the young people who were already part of the Polish Campaign. The Congress gathered together young activists from all around Poland. It was a great success; the final presentation showed the variety and diversity that all the activists brought, from music to design, from Graffiti to all different forms of arts, from concrete tools developed to combat the Hate Speech to collective ideas to be shared. The enthusiasm, the commitment and the efforts brought by all activists were a real inspiration.

## **Monday 10 November**

### ***- Opening of the meeting and welcome of the participants Presentation of the participants***

At the start of the Meeting the Stefan Batory Foundation was thanked for hosting the meeting and covering all the costs of travel, accommodation and meals for the participants

The first session of the meeting started with presentations of the participants. In total, .... National Coordinators were present, and countries within the Campaign were represented. A number of activists were also present.

Laszlo Foldi, moderating the meeting, then presented the aims and objectives of the meeting –see above.

This was followed by the presentation of the survey on Hate Speech carried out in Poland to assess the attitude of adult and young Poles to Hate Speech.

One of the results showed that the LGBT community is the most affected by Hate Speech. It emerged after the survey that the level of acceptance of hate speech depends on the target group; and that young people are more accepting of hate speech than older people. Accurately measuring Hate Speech still remains very difficult.

Jan Dabkowski, Coordinator of the campaign in Poland presented the great steps forward that the Polish Campaign has made: a deep involvement of more than 70 NGO's and institutions which are actively involved in the campaign, a strong commitment and clever videos were made, as well as great Educational tools which will be soon shared. As with many national campaigns, the Polish campaign is a victim of its own success and it is difficult to maintain the necessary engagements with the national activists.

One particular innovative idea was “Hate Stop” – which was working on cleaning up hate graffiti and has developed an interesting mobile telephone application in this regard.

### ***- Updates about the European campaign***

Updates about the European campaign, were presented by Bridget O'Loughlin, Campaign Co-ordinator, who introduced the Progress Report distributed as a document and Sergio Belfor, member of the Follow-up Group, who presented the new landing page for the Platform. A question was raised as to ensuring access to the Platform for the visually impaired.

In order to assess which strategic objectives have been achieved during these years within the Campaign and the extent to which the National Committees have been involved in these achievements, the plenary split into working groups, which examined the Strategic Objectives as set out in Document DDCP6YD/CHS 52014) 45 and reported back to the plenary regarding actions in their own countries and proposals in general.

It could be noted that much attention has been dedicated to the development of educational tools as well as the different training courses which were organised in most of the Countries, not only addressed to young people but also to institutions and different bodies to train them to be able to tackle Hate Speech and most of all to be able to recognise it.

**The general reflections of the NCC's in regard to the Strategic objectives focused on:**

*1.3 Preparation of a Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to member states on guidelines to address hate speech online, focusing on national monitoring mechanisms and educational strategies*

Many NCC's noted that whilst legislation against hate speech existed in their countries, there was insufficient monitoring of hate speech and a general lack of implementation of the legislation – often because police, prosecutors and judges are not sufficiently trained in how to deal with hate crime and hate speech. They strongly supported the preparation of guidelines to member states on how to address hate speech online using national monitoring mechanisms.

*1.4 Charter or "code of conduct" to be agreed or endorsed by social media networks and service providers*

It was suggested that the social media companies could be invited to a NCC meeting.

*2.1 Inclusion of media education and Internet literacy in programme and strategies for EDC/HRE in formal and non-formal education*

It is very important that tools such as Bookmarks are translated and that the issue of hate speech be incorporated into school curricula. At the level of the Council of Europe this need should be stressed.

*2.2. Support to online and off-line educational resources against hate speech online, including cyberbullying*

*2.5. Development of training modules on digital competence related to democracy online for teachers, non-formal education trainers and youth leaders*

*2.6. Promotion of 22 July as European Day of Remembrance for Victims of Hate Crimes (and related activities)*

All NCC's are interested in seeing 22 July recognised. It was agreed to promote the petition. In preparing commemoration activities care needs to be taken to avoid causing any offense to victims and their families. A special event could be co-ordinated by the Council of Europe – such as simultaneous lighting of candles.

*2.7. To support, recognize and enlarge the network of the online human rights activists leading the online campaign*

Laszlo indicated his willingness to train NCC's as to how to run online activists at the national level. An event could be organised for all activists at the end of the campaign.

### *3.1. Consultation and inclusion of youth representatives in Internet governance projects*

#### *4.1. Guidelines for warnings of hate speech and offensive content in computer games*

Finland has developed good practices in this area. All NCC's should be in contact with their national internet safety NGO.

#### ***- Evaluation and online reporting tool***

As regards the online reporting tool – it was agreed that the CoE would:

- add a question on the date of the report;
- if the report is not sent in by the NCC, will ensure the NCC validates it;
- use the reports to provide information for Flashnews

A number of countries are in the stage of planning the evaluation of their campaigns (Switzerland, Serbia, Croatia, Finland, Poland (mid –term), Lithuania). Others feel it is too soon. Belgium wants to create a “permanent” movement – particular in developing a Francophone platform.

#### ***- Sharing plans for 10 December and 21 March Action Days***

The discussion was long and productive regarding the plans of common actions for the next European Action Days, different ideas were brought up by the co-ordinators.

Finally it was agreed that, for 10 December, NCC's would be invited to prepare a “virtual” postcard, representing their country (in a positive light) and with the message “From....(country name) with love. They would be focused on the theme of Human Rights and the week's motto “Human Rights: Always ON, Never OFF” .

Each postcard should also be presented in a form which could be translated.

In the same way that the postcards reflect the photo competition, the winner of which would be announced on 10 December, the common activity for 21 March would reflect the ongoing video competition – for the March action day the NCC's would be invited to make a 30 second video, reflecting our logo, the national context, and a message re Anti-Racism and Discrimination – it was agreed that any dialogue should be in English.

Laszlo Foldi will co-ordinate these two actions as essential elements of the corresponding action days.

- ***Information and proposals about***
- ***Bookmarks regional and national training courses***
- ***Video competition***
- ***Survey prepared by the Youth Department***
- ***Collection of best practices and educational tools developed by the national campaigns***

The manual Bookmarks has received much positive feedback, and amongst the NCC's the need to develop Training Courses at a regional level was emphasised. Translations were completed or underway into Hungarian, Polish, Armenian, Montenegrin, Finnish and Swedish.

The preparation for the Video Competition will start soon ; the NCC's who had expressed an interest in being involved had already been contacted.

The Survey (distributed to the meeting) had been developed by the Youth Department and it will be very useful for the evaluation; it is strongly related Hate Speech content. A large number of NCC's volunteered to translate the survey not their national languages. It was agreed that the Youth Department would send them a revised survey in which all "open" question had been deleted – so as to make it easier to collect data on the responses to the survey.

As regards the collection of tools and best practices, the meeting took note of the existence of a wide variety of different tools developed by the NCC's , which are all concrete and useful to raise awareness on Hate Speech and to combat it. A detailed list is attached to this report.

### ***- Preparing the closing and post-closing of the campaign (Future of the Movement)***

#### ***- Presentation of the plans for the European closing, campaign conference and follow-up***

The Coordinators shared different proposal for the closing of the Campaign at the European level. They also each indicted the status of their national campaigns –see list attached).

*Proposals for European closing ceremony - the Conference should:*

- show our diversity and the richness of contributions from different countries, videos or pictures e.g. the exhibition of Ninjas and/or demonstrate the use of a common action by all the NCC's (e.g. the action planned for 21 March);
- give space to activists;
- - show the numbers and diversity of people involved;
- enhance political visibility;
- present the strategic plans of the national campaigns;
- organise a tool fair of the material used/produced during the Campaign;
- invite different Stakeholders (Government officials Politicians, Activists, Social Media, Partners of the Campaign, Celebrities who have supported the campaign at national or European levels<sup>1</sup>, Council of Europe Secretary General, Human Rights Commissioner, President of PACE, etc.)
- show how to sustain the Campaign on a national level
- present a joint action, such as a flash mob

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<sup>1</sup> Suggestions included a Croatian T.V. presenter, a Belgian singer (who recorded the Belgian NHSM song), a Slovenian rapper, a Finnish rapper and band, a Hungarian singer/song written for the campaign, a song from the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ad a Belgian flash mob choreographer

- dedicate time to show Recommendations and practical proposals to the CoE and the member states on how to go forward

The meeting expressed the hope that the final Conference would be the chance to recognise all work done by all activists and National Committees as well as a moment to find the best way to give continuation to the movement.

- ***National Campaigns after the closing of the European Campaign and expectations of the national committees towards the Council of Europe for follow-up of the campaign and links with on-going national campaigns***

Expectations from the Council of Europe:

- Monitoring the strategic objectives of the movement.
- Regular updates from the monitoring process. → renew the newsletter (more than news about events → about challenges, strategic issues.
- NCC members involved in follow-up group (presentation of the NCCs)
- Clear vision and concrete planning of follow-up and mechanisms of the support provided to the movement.
- To have the CoE website available after the campaign (to obtain tools etc. and to give visibility to best practices).
- CoE should facilitate a post campaign follow-up group (→ network of online activists, European youth organisation network)
- To maintain combating hate speech online and securing human rights online as a priority of the CoE Youth Department. → Mainstream media should be one of the target groups (journalists, editors, moderators etc.)
- Need for contact list of all NGOs involved in the European and national campaigns (NCCs or other). The list should contain the areas of expertise and the tools developed.
- CoE should maintain the partnership between social networks (Facebook, Twitter etc.)
- Bookmarks ,grants
- Personal contacts from COE
- Responsible person to collect information from the NCC's and keep the communication and support, validating national activities
- Material packages with pins and t shirts should still be available
- Professional Advisors for specific tool (Mobile apps)
- Provision of the Educational materials necessary after the Campaign
- Support on including HR Education in Schools with a specific regard to Hate Speech

Other means of maintaining the campaign (s)

- NCC's should meet on a regular basis ( the "old" ones and the "new ones – to share knowledge and expertise)
- Regional co-operation among NCCs should be developed and encouraged

- The campaign could be transferred to another international organisation
- Thinking 'out of the box' – use "Erasmus" funding for example (job shadowing)
- Keep the CoE logo and "branding"
- An annual meeting of NCC's and/or activists – possible for the CoE to maintain?
- Contact should be maintained between the NCC's and also with the activists – the European activists could be encouraged to be involved at the national level

## CONCLUSIONS

The overall perception is that "the Campaign is finishing but the Movement is starting". This means that the message from the CoE should follow this direction as well as support the Movement for its own development and take into consideration the numerous expectations and practical proposals after the official closure.

The accomplishments in the areas of the Strategic Objectives of the Campaign demonstrate the deep interest of the NCC's in regard to the Campaign with the added value of diversity.

The richness and variety of Tools and different initiatives developed by the NCC's is impressive and valuable.

The variety of those activities and collection of good examples could be the start for the Evaluation.

The role of the Council of Europe remains essential and vital as a main reference for networking and connections of the NCC's and Activists before and after the closure.

The Reporting Tool should be modified and used as a main resource to gather information on the variety of activities and initiatives of the NCC's.

*We would like to thank all the Coordinators for their motivation, creativity and strong commitment, it was an inspiring meeting and very fruitful.*

*The Council of Europe wishes also to thank the Stefan Batory Foundation for its material and financial support, without which this meeting would not have been possible.*



# EDUCATIONAL TOOLS for *NHSM*

## IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

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**POLAND :** MOBILE APPLICATION for reporting Hate Graffiti, introduced recently

**MONTENEGRO:** ANONYMOUS MESSAGE BOX IN SCHOOLS , children can put messages

**SLOVENIA:** big red heart with NH logo

**MACEDONIA:** CROWD MAP for HS

**ROMANIA:** package of educational materials printed , possibility to be printed out in English to be confirmed

**BELGIUM:** BOARD GAME, video FILM and accompanying manual

**PORTUGAL:** manual how To deal with Trolls online , exhibition of pictures by *no hate ninjas* SPEAK LOVE NOT HATE its going now around europe

**FINLAND:** package material bank for education not only schools, the exhibiton “how does it feel to be tackled”, package info HOW TO CREATE CRITICISM and raise it

**NORWAY:** book on how to be an activist, adapting bookmarks to a version more suited to teachers, algorithm with which a computer can detect HS

**UKRAINE:** Encyclopedia for Human Rights

**Czech Republic :** HANDBOOK FOR BLOGGERS - THE SAFER INTERNET

**SLOVAKIA:** videos and pictures from schools, stickers

**LITHUANIA:** book for journalists on how to recognize HS, educational manual to PEER TO PEER EDUCATION, Panda MASCOT

**UK:** exhibition of HATE CRIME

**HUNGARY:** in cooperation with FB : leaflet On how to fight cyberbullyinG - Application for android combating hate speech and cyber bullying ( developed also in English and can be used to report hate speech)

### LIST OF COUNTRIES: CAMPAIGN duration

Summary based on the list provided during the NCC meeting and the last working groups

#### **WILL END FIRST HALF OF 2015**

Finland (June)

Switzerland (March, but they plan to find volunteers to carry on the main issues)

Lithuania (Officially yes but will carry on volunteer activities)

#### **WILL FINISH SECOND HALF OF 2015:**

SERBIA – MONTENEGRO – SLOVENIA - CROATIA - MACEDONIA – PORTUGAL – RUSSIA - ROMANIA

#### **PROCESS ON GOING:**

HUNGARY (will continue, especially with Bookmarks) - POLAND (depends on funds) - BELGIUM (have projects for 2016) - MALTA (depends on funds) – IRELAND – ARMENIA – UK - NETHERLANDS (just started)

#### **WILL DEFINITELY CONTINUE OR STARTING**

FRANCE – QUEBEC – SLOVAK – UKRAINE - BELARUS

