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# Think Global – Act Local: Education for Democracy

**A Joint Meeting of the Council of Europe Network of  
Coordinators for Education for Democratic Citizenship and  
Human Rights Education  
and of the Pedagogical Club of European Capitals**

Agora Building, Room G01  
Strasbourg, France

21-22 October 2014

## Concept and Programme



# Think Global – Act Local: Education for Democracy

A Joint Meeting of the of the Council of Europe Network of Coordinators for Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education and of the Pedagogical Club of European Capitals  
(network of the Heads of Education Departments of the European Capitals)

## Objectives of the meeting:

1. To share information on the latest developments in those States party to the European Cultural Convention, in the Council of Europe and in other international organisations in the field of Education for Democracy
2. To support the implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights
3. To discuss possible synergies and cooperation, with a view to the preparation of the Council of Europe programme of activities 2016-2017
4. To facilitate partnerships and networking among and within the States party to the European Cultural Convention
5. To provide a platform for discussion on the future of the Pedagogical Club of European Capitals

# Draft Programme

## 21 October 2014:

**08.30-9.00 Registration**

**9:00-09:30 Official Opening**

Chair: Mr Jindřich Fryč, Director General for Policy Coordination and International Relations, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Czech Republic / Vice Chair of the Council of Europe's Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice

- Welcome address by Mr Jean-Christophe Bas, Director of Democratic Citizenship and Participation, Council of Europe (10 minutes)
- Welcome address by Mr Boris Zhebrovsky, President of the Pedagogical Club of European Capitals (10 minutes)
- Welcome address by Ms Gaye Doganoglu, Political coordinator of the European Local Democracy Week, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (10 minutes)

**9:30-10:30 Plenary**

- Council of Europe work on Education for Democracy – Mr Villano Qiriazzi, Head of Education Policy Division, Council of Europe (10 minutes)
- Discussion (10 minutes)
- Education for Democracy: The role and contribution of local and regional authorities - Ms Andrée Buchmann, Advisor, Regional Council of Alsace, France / Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (10 minutes)
- Discussion (10 minutes)
- Connecting policy and practice: 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Regional Academy "Democracy at School" - Ms Marlena Falkowska, EDC/HRE Coordinator for Poland (including a video projection) (10 minutes)
- Discussion (10 minutes)
- Practical information

**10.30-11.00 Coffee break**

**11.00-12.30 Workshop 1:** Exchange of information on recent developments in the States party to the European Cultural Convention in the field of citizenship and human rights education and the future development of the network of the EDC/HRE coordinators (4 parallel groups)

**12.30-13.15 Lunch break**

**13.15-14.00 Human Rights and Democracy at School**

Launch event for a series of cartoons inspired by children's comic strips  
Moderator: Mr David Addis, Journalist

**14.00-15.30 Plenary**

Chair: Mr Villano Qiriazzi, Head of Education Policy Division, Council of Europe

**Interactive feedback from the workshop 1 (15 minutes)**

**The role and contribution of local and regional authorities to Education for Democracy**

- **Building partnerships for inclusive societies** - Ms Tatiana Nagnibeda-Tverdohle, Head for Education department in Chisinau, Moldova (10 minutes)
- Discussion (15 minutes)
- **Democracy in action: promoting children's participation** - Dr. Marjo Kyllönen, Deputy Head of the Division for Basic Education, City of Helsinki Education Department, Finland (10 minutes)
- Discussion (15 minutes)
- **The role of education in rebuilding trust in divided communities** – Ms Briege Arthurs, Chief Executive Officer, South Belfast Partnership Board, United Kingdom (Northern Ireland) (10 minutes)
- Discussion (15 minutes)

**15.30-16.00 Coffee break**

**16.00-17.30 Workshop 2:** Possible synergies and cooperation between the Council of Europe network of EDC/HRE coordinators and Education Departments of European Capitals to Education for Democracy (4 parallel groups)

**22 October 2014**

**09.00-10.30 Plenary: The EU/CoE Pilot Projects Scheme “Human Rights and Democracy in Action”: achievements and future prospects**

Co-chairs: Mr Frank Pierobon, European Commission, and Mr Marc Hory, Education Department, Council of Europe

**Pilot projects 2014: progress achieved and expected outcomes**

- Pilot Project I – presentation by Mr David Kerr, EDC/HRE coordinator for United Kingdom (England) (10 minutes)
- Pilot Project II – presentation by Ms Marina Minova, EDC/HRE coordinator for Belarus (10 minutes)

Discussion (30 minutes)

**10.30-11.00 Coffee break**

**11.00-12.30 Workshop 3:** achievements and future prospects (2 parallel groups)

• **Theme 1: The Pedagogical Club of European Capitals**

Moderator: Ms Oksana Kovalenko, Council of Europe Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE), Ukraine

Rapporteur: Mr Aidan Clifford, City of Dublin Education and Training Board, Ireland

- **Theme 2: EU/CoE Pilot Projects Scheme**

Moderator: Mr David Addis, Journalist

Rapporteur: Ms Ana Perona, the European Wergeland Center

**12.30-14.00 Lunch break**

**14.00-15.30 Plenary**

Chair: Mr Bernard Wicht, Council of Europe Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE) / Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (CDIP)

Interactive feedback from Workshop 2 and 3 (30 minutes)

Preliminary conclusions of the meeting by Mr David Kerr, EDC/HRE coordinator for United Kingdom (England) / General Rapporteur (15 minutes)

Discussion (15 minutes)

Closing remarks:

- Mr Boris Zhebrovsky, President of the Pedagogical Club of European Capitals (10 minutes)
- Ms Gaye Doganoglu, Political coordinator of the European Local Democracy Week, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (10 minutes)

Closing of the meeting: Mr Villano Qiriazzi, Head of Education Policy Division, Council of Europe

# Draft Concept

## Background

Serious human rights violations including corruption, human trafficking, racism and discrimination persist across Europe, according to a report published in May 2014 by Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe. Unemployment and poverty in many countries are nurturing extremism and conflicts. That report represents the first consolidated analysis of human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe, based on the findings of the Council of Europe's monitoring bodies.

The report points out in particular "The member States widely supported the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education, adopted in 2010. However, two years after its adoption, one third of countries had not yet begun its implementation. In many cases, this results from a lack of financial support due to the economic crisis. However, we often see political prioritization on "education for employability". If this is not balanced with education on democratic citizenship, it can promote a concept of students as a labour force, rather than as active citizens".

The aim of the present meeting is to further explore the current challenges in the area of citizenship and human rights education, and in particular the role and contribution of local authorities. The participants will discuss possible avenues for future action and for strengthening cooperation and networking at different levels.

This meeting will also provide an opportunity to take stock of the preliminary results of the 2014 cycle of the EU/CoE Pilot Projects Scheme "Human Rights and Democracy in Action" and to identify priority areas for cooperation in 2015. This cooperation platform set up in May 2013 constitutes an innovative means for the implementation of the Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education in the participating countries. It also helps strengthen cooperation among and between the states party to the European Cultural Convention in the area of citizenship and human rights education.

## Participants

This meeting will bring together the Council of Europe network of coordinators for citizenship and human rights education (officially nominated representatives of the States Party to the European Cultural Convention) and Heads of Education Departments of the European Capitals of the States Party to the European Cultural Convention.

This initiative is a follow-up to the meeting of the "Pedagogical Club of European Capitals", which was held in Kyiv in 2013. The Pedagogical Club was founded in 1999 to facilitate exchanges and cooperation among Heads of Education Departments of European capitals, "with a view to supporting development of and improving the quality of education in Europe" (Declaration of the Pedagogical Club of European Capitals, 1999). Since then, conferences of the Club were organised in 11 capitals, and representatives of 36 capitals took part in these events. Many prominent leaders and personalities attended the conferences, their proceedings contain valuable information about the latest trends, achievements and concerns in the participating countries, and numerous bilateral projects were initiated.

One of the recommendations of the meeting in Kyiv was to organise the next meeting of the network in cooperation with the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, to promote synergies and cooperation. This proposal was submitted to and agreed by the Bureau of the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE) at their meeting in December 2013. Moreover, it was decided to organise this meeting in conjunction with the network of the EDC/HRE coordinators.

## **Aims and objectives**

1. To share information on the latest developments in the States party to the European Cultural Convention, and in the Council of Europe in the field of Education for Democracy
2. To support the implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights
3. To discuss possible synergies and cooperation, in preparation of the Council of Europe programme of activities 2016-2017
4. To facilitate partnerships and networking among and within the States party to the European Cultural Convention
5. To provide a platform for discussion on the future of the Pedagogical Club of European Capitals

## **Expected outcomes**

- 1) General:
  - An overview of the latest developments in the States party and Council of Europe's in the area of education for democratic citizenship and human rights
  - An overview of priority areas for cooperation specifically in the framework of the EU/CoE Pilot Projects Scheme "Human Rights and Democracy in Action"
  - Proposals for synergies and cooperation between the Council of Europe network of EDC/HRE coordinators and Education Departments of European Capitals to Education for Democracy
  - Proposals for new strategies and approaches for the promotion of education for democratic citizenship and human rights
  - A selection of examples of good practice on the role and contribution of local and regional authorities to Education for Democracy
- 2) Specific:
  - Meeting report, including conclusions and recommendation for future action
  - Webpage on the meeting on the Council of Europe website ( [www.coe.int/edc](http://www.coe.int/edc) )

## **Working languages**

English, French and Russian

## **Organisers**

Council of Europe Education Department

## **Date and place**

21-22 October 2014, Strasbourg, France