

IS THIS IT?..

Report of the Evaluation Conference of the
No Hate Speech Movement Youth Campaign



European Youth
Centre, Strasbourg
10-12 April 2018





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REPORT OF THE EVALUATION CONFERENCE OF THE
NO HATE SPEECH MOVEMENT YOUTH CAMPAIGN

European Youth Centre, Strasbourg,
10-12 April 2018

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Evaluation and Closing Conference of the No Hate Speech Movement youth campaign took place at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg from 10 to 12 April 2018. It was prepared by a preparatory group comprising representatives of the Advisory Council on Youth, the European Steering Committee for Youth, the National Campaign Committees (NCC), the online activists and the Secretariat of the Council of Europe Youth Department.

The Conference brought together 158 participants from 44 countries. These participants were representatives of national campaigns, European campaign partners, online activists, beneficiaries of the European Youth Foundation who were involved in the Campaign, local and national authorities, and different sectors of the Council of Europe working on hate speech. They came together to look back at what has been done, celebrate the Campaign achievements and reflect together on how to transform the Campaign into an active, youthful and relevant movement. Most of the plenary sessions of the Conference were also webcast in order for other Campaign activists to follow the Conference programme.

Participants gave feedback on the preliminary summary of the key findings of the evaluation and gave their insights into the achievements and weaknesses. They also shared information about their own personal learning experiences from the Campaign.

The Conference was an occasion to reflect on human rights concerns with regard to hate speech in Europe today. After listening to different perspectives brought by guest speakers, participants discussed the human rights concerns they have faced in their respective campaign experiences: an overall context averse to human rights, the challenges of bringing human rights education into the formal educational system, or the difficulties of collaborating with local or national authorities were experienced by many participants, regardless of their context. Participants shared the approaches and the tools developed throughout the Campaign which were used to meet those challenges in various fields, such as human rights education, campaigning with and for groups targeted by hate speech, or youth work. The presence of Council of Europe staff members from various departments brought in specific areas of expertise.

The Conference was a space to envision the future of the movement and discuss the next steps for continuing to work together on the Campaign topics without the support of the European co-ordination. Participants shared ideas and commitments, such as the creation of the NHSM Activists' Alliance by the online activists. They also formulated expectations towards the Council of Europe, which has been invited to provide support in the field of human rights education and to continue its involvement on the topics of Internet governance, hate speech and media literacy.

Finally, the Conference was a moment to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of the Campaign. Participants were thanked for their involvement by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Thorbjørn Jagland, who paid tribute to all the many people who made this Campaign a success. Participants were also invited by Nawel Rafik-Elmrini, deputy mayor, to the Strasbourg city hall to celebrate the fruitful collaboration between the Council of Europe and the city of Strasbourg – which had supported the Campaign since its beginning.



“Is this it?; “No it is not!” responded Anne Brasseur, Ambassador of the No Hate Speech Movement, to the title of the Conference. The Campaign is over but the work of the movement is only starting ...

About this report

This report provides an overview of the Evaluation and Closing Conference of the No Hate Speech Movement youth campaign. It is structured around the key elements of the Conference: evaluating the Campaign; exploring human rights concerns with regard to hate speech in Europe today, and sharing the responses developed within the Campaign framework to address them; envisioning the future of the Movement. The reader will find here the summaries of the interventions of guest speakers, the outcomes of the working groups, some insights into different programme elements, the recommendations from participants, and the conclusions of the Conference.



CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS

A draft text of the Conference conclusions was sent to participants a few days before the start of the Conference. Throughout the Conference, spaces were provided to participants to comment and amend the text, which was finally presented at the end of the event.

CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation conference was held from 10 to 12 April 2018 in the Council of Europe's European Youth Centre in Strasbourg. It celebrated the achievements of the No Hate Speech Movement youth campaign, reflected on emerging threats and proposed future measures to combat hate speech and safeguard human rights online. Representatives of national campaign committees and support groups, online activists, European partners, national and regional authorities, education professionals and youth activists were united by the experience of campaigning together and by the motivation of thousands of young people across Europe and beyond who made this a youth campaign.

The unhindered spread of hate speech and the rejection of diversity, pluralism, democracy and human rights in the aftermath of the terror attacks at Utøya on 22 July 2011, together with the impact of cyberbullying on young people, motivated the youth representatives in the Joint Council on Youth to propose this campaign. Their initiative was supported by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and several member states. The No Hate Speech Movement – the first online campaign of the Council of Europe – was launched on 22 March 2013.

The campaign has been rooted in the understanding that the Internet is a public commodity, a common space where human rights ought to apply for everyone and where human dignity must come first. Through awareness raising and human rights education – prompting critical thinking, media and information literacy and the ability to denounce, report and take action against hate speech – the campaign promoted freedom of expression and the full participation of young people in society, both on and offline. Young people have been the agents, the actors and the activists for the benefit of all.

The impact of terrorism and violent extremism underlined the urgency of the campaign and impelled the Committee of Ministers to prolong it until 2017. The need for counter and alternative narratives to the ideologies of hatred and fear motivated more countries, more partners and more young people to join the movement.



Hate speech can target anyone for whatever real or perceived characteristic, identity or affiliation. Solidarity with targets and victims, as well as joint action for human rights are therefore imperative; we are all potential targets and victims.

The campaign has become a movement present in 45 countries, an international community of online activists and a myriad of partners. It was supported by all instruments of the youth sector of the Council of Europe, the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg and Budapest, the European Youth Foundation, intergovernmental cooperation and co-management.

The campaign was the first broad international initiative to tackle hate speech and to address it as a major human rights issue. It also succeeded in:

- raising awareness of the extent and risk of hate speech to young people and to all of society;
- equipping thousands of educators, youth workers and youth leaders with the competences needed to empower young people to recognise, report and react to hate speech through human rights education;
- mobilising thousands of young people across Europe and beyond to take action against hate speech online;
- organising action days to mobilise activists and partners around particular issues and in solidarity with specific targets of hate speech and to draw attention to underestimated or under-reported manifestations of hate speech;
- creating a positive form of engagement and identity for young people and human rights activists across national, cultural, social, religious, ethnic or organisational boundaries;
- re-assessing the importance of media and information literacy in formal and non-formal education;
- understanding Internet governance as an area for the exercise of citizenship and youth participation as the prevention of online abuse of human rights also implies a critical review of how the Internet and Internet businesses are regulated.

The campaign has also been a stark reminder that the crisis of human rights in Europe is real and impacts negatively on the lives and aspirations of many young people.

Many national campaigns relied almost exclusively on the voluntary commitment of young people and youth organisations. Commitments to human rights and human rights education should also be translated into financial commitments. The outreach of human rights education in many educational institutions, including providers of non-formal education, is still limited and too often censored or self-censored.



Public institutions are often cautious when faced with abuses of human rights and dignity by major Internet companies. They are reluctant to act. At times, representative democracies appear powerless and this powerlessness undermines young people's belief in democracy. Hate speech is still insufficiently understood by all stakeholders of human rights online. Hate speech is the visible part of racist and supremacist views of society, not just another form of freedom of expression. Hate speech cannot be disconnected from deep-rooted prejudice and forms of social exclusion and discrimination.

It is important to denounce, address and combat discrimination and hate speech in all their forms, regardless of who is targeted. There are no acceptable forms of hate speech.

The European campaign has come to an end, but the movement for human rights online must continue. It is important that the Council of Europe, its member states, and civil society organisations be part of this movement by:

1. giving full support to and promoting human rights education programmes;
2. making widely available educational resources on combating intolerance and hate speech, and on using counter and alternative narratives to foster a culture of human rights both on and offline;
3. strengthening the competences of educational professionals in all sectors of education, including non-formal and youth work, to address hate speech, dispel misconceptions and promote human rights and democratic values;
4. supporting youth work and non-formal education activities that develop competences for a democratic culture of young people based on critical thinking, intercultural dialogue and conflict transformation;
5. strengthening redress mechanisms and reporting tools for hate speech, hate crime and discrimination on and off-line;
6. providing support to targets of hate speech and hate crimes, consistent with Council of Europe standards, including ECRI's general policy recommendation on combating hate speech;
7. providing tailored responses to hate speech targeting different groups in society by:
 - a. enabling full participation of the targeted groups in the design of the responses;
 - b. providing, where needed, capacity building and information on their rights;
 - c. publicly condemning hate speech regardless of who is disseminating it and whom it targets;
 - d. ensuring that national legislation provides protection against discrimination and hate speech on all grounds, both on and offline;



8. ensuring the privacy and safe participation of children and youth online by:
 - a. integrating media and information literacy in school curricula and youth programmes, including international youth work projects;
 - b. supporting parents, teachers, and youth workers by offering education in Internet safety;
 - c. providing easy-to-understand guidelines for seeking advice or reporting problems and ensuring a quick and tailored follow-up;
 - d. ensuring the safety and well-being of children and young people is their primary concern over, notably, commercial interests;
9. supporting the full involvement of young people in Internet governance processes with a particular concern to:
 - a. ensuring their full enjoyment of their human rights online, freedom of expression, association and participation;
 - b. informing them how human rights are protected online, how they can seek redress and receive clear and detailed information on the follow-up of reports;
 - c. understanding the impact of new technical developments on their enjoyment of human rights, including online participation, access and filtering of information, privacy, and protection from harm;
 - d. providing them with the right, the means, the space, the opportunity and the support to express their views on all Internet governance processes, especially at national level;
10. rejecting the use of hate speech for political or economic and personal gains by:
 - a. the building of cross-sectoral and cross-party alliances against hate speech mirroring the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance;
 - b. the adoption of ethical codes and self-regulatory guidelines by national and regional parliaments, media companies, Internet businesses, political parties and civil society organisations consistent with Council of Europe standards;
11. developing new and up-to-date human rights standards regarding hate speech;
12. supporting on-going national campaigns;
13. Supporting online activists to set up a network.

Hate speech is not a thing of the past; it is as dangerous as ever. We remain active, vigilant and committed to keeping the movement for human rights online alive, relevant and youthful.

Strasbourg, 12 April 2018

1. INTRODUCTION

THE NO HATE SPEECH MOVEMENT

The No Hate Speech Movement (NHSM) was a youth campaign launched by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on 22 March 2012, on the initiative of the Advisory Council of Youth. The Campaign aimed to combat racism and discrimination in the online expression of hate speech by equipping young people and youth organisations with the competences necessary to recognise and act against such human rights violations. The Campaign was co-ordinated by the Youth Department of the Council of Europe and implemented by non-governmental and governmental partners.

The No Hate Speech Movement was extended in May 2015 until the end of 2017 by the Committee of Ministers as part of the Council of Europe Action Plan on the fight against violent extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism. For the second phase of the Campaign, the Joint Council of Youth (CMJ) adopted the concept note for the campaign 2016-2017, listing four main objectives:

- to support human rights education activities for action against hate speech and the risks it poses to democracy and the well-being of young people
- to develop and disseminate tools and mechanisms for reporting hate speech, especially online, but also at a national level
- to mobilise national and European partners to prevent and counter hate speech and intolerance online and offline
- to promote media literacy and digital citizenship and support youth participation in Internet governance.

The No Hate Speech Movement is implemented through national campaign committees bringing together the main national stakeholders, online activists, and European campaign partners. Since its extension, the Campaign has grown to 45 national campaigns, over 90 online activists and 60 partner organisations.

The vast majority of the national campaign committees will carry on their work in 2018 despite the centrally co-ordinated support ending in December 2017. This commitment demonstrates that the Campaign continues to successfully mobilise a variety of actors, and that youth organisations and partners remain committed to taking action for human rights on the Internet and offline.

Taking action on hate speech also continues through the Council of Europe action plans and programmes of the Youth Department and a newly established Anti-Discrimination Department.

The Evaluation and Closing Conference of the No Hate Speech Movement youth campaign celebrated its achievements but also provided its national and European partners and activists with the opportunity of establishing a joint vision to continue combating hate speech and promote human rights together with the Council of Europe.



THE EVALUATION AND CLOSING CONFERENCE

Rationale

The Conference had the following objectives:

- To give recognition and visibility to the achievements of the Campaign
- To reflect on the findings of the external evaluation of the youth campaign for 2016-2017, and to review and validate its recommendations
- To reflect on emerging developments in hate speech and human rights online, and consider future measures to be taken in light of what has been learned
- To propose guidelines for member states and the Council of Europe on how to strengthen the role of young people in combating hate speech through policy and practice
- To identify and propose future actions by national campaigns, partners and activists that are continuing the No Hate Speech Movement.

Participants

The Conference brought together 158 Campaign stakeholders from 44 countries, including non-member states of the Council of Europe such as Canada (Québec), Mexico, Morocco and Tunisia. The participants were representatives of national campaigns, European campaign partners, online activists, beneficiaries of the European Youth Foundation who were involved in the Campaign, local and national authorities, and different sectors of the Council of Europe working on hate speech. The motivations and expectations of participants were very different, according to their role in the NHSM and to the situation of their respective national campaigns.

” *We just launched our national campaign in Tunisia, at the end of 2017. We came here to learn from the campaigns that are ending and gain new tools and good practices that could be used in Tunisia. This Conference is also for us to develop links with international partners and work as a network.*

— Rym and Hajer, NCC Tunisia

” *I am looking forward to having legacy conversations: how we could follow up, how the Campaign can become a network. I see a lot of values in being here.*

— Balint, Online activist

” *We work in different realities so it is good to see what we actually did in the Campaign.*

— Darek, Consultant

” *First of all, I would like to see the main results, or the impact of what the NHSM could reach. I also want to hear about the main challenges.*

— Barnabas, NCC Hungary

” *We consider it incredibly important to meet and learn from counterparts from other vulnerable sectors of the population and together work to build social solidarity.*

— Alina, European partner

Programme and methodology

The Conference was prepared by a team comprising representatives of the Advisory Council on Youth, the European Steering Committee for Youth, the National Campaign Committees (NCC), the online activists and the Secretariat of the Council of Europe Youth Department.

The programme was designed around three dimensions: reviewing the last two years of the NHSM campaign and celebrating its achievements, identifying current challenges encountered in combating hate speech and on the opportunities to address them, building a shared vision and developing guidelines for the future work of the campaign stakeholders in combating hate speech and promoting human rights online.

The three days of the Conference included a combination of keynote addresses, plenary panel discussions and working group sessions. The formal programme was completed with social events and informal sessions for sharing tools, networking and celebrating the end of the Campaign.





2. REVIEWING AND EVALUATING THE LAST TWO YEARS OF CAMPAIGN (2016-2017)

The first part of the programme was devoted to reviewing the last two years of the Campaign, assessing its impact and celebrating its achievements. Following the opening speeches, the external evaluators presented their preliminary findings which served as a starting point for participants to discuss the strengths and the shortcomings of the Campaign.

THIS IS NOT IT! - OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

The Conference was opened with the interventions of three speakers: Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General for Democracy, Council of Europe, Ivan Hromada, Vice-Chair of the European Steering Committee on Youth on behalf of the co-management bodies, and Anne Brasseur, Ambassador of the No Hate Speech Movement.

” *The title of this conference is, “Is this it?” but we all know that this isn’t it, that we have to continue wherever we are.*

— Anne Brasseur

The necessity to act against hate speech

The three speakers shared a common observation: the necessity to continue combating hate speech beyond the end of the Campaign.

” *Hate speech is by no means a thing of the past. It is as present as ever and just as dangerous.*

— Snežana Samardžić-Marković

” *It is more important than ever to combat hate speech because unfortunately we witness today an increase in populism in numerous countries, we witness an increase of the othering, we witness an increase in building up walls, not only physical walls but also walls in our minds, which is even more dangerous.*

— Anne Brasseur

Ivan Hromada illustrated this necessity to take action by mentioning the recent murder of the 27-year-old investigative journalist Ján Kuciak and his fiancée Martina Kušnírová in Slovakia, a murder considered as an attack on freedom of expression. In the massive mobilisation that followed, well-established non-governmental organisations (NGOs), watchdog groups and networks of youth activists played a crucial role in responding to expressions of hate and misinterpretations of facts.



Paying tribute to those who initiated and carried out the Campaign

Anne Brasseur and Snežana Samardžić-Marković looked back at the Campaign inception in 2012. They paid tribute to the engagement and vision of the young people on the Advisory Council on Youth, who had then already identified the growing phenomenon of hate speech online and the risks it poses to human rights and democracy, especially after the terrorist attack that took place in Norway in 2011. Ivan Hromada appreciated the results of the joint work of the Advisory Council on Youth and the European Steering Committee on Youth within the principles of co-management to uphold the European values of human rights, rule of law and democracy.

Ivan Hromada dedicated his last remark to the “invisible allies”, all the people from activists and young professionals, to local partners and NGOs who acted – sometimes with little or no visibility – and made the success of the Campaign. He referred to all the countless stories that will feed the reflections at the core of the Conference.

The achievements of the Campaign

Anne Brasseur reminded the audience that the youth Campaign paved the way for the creation of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance within the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe to invite parliamentarians to take a stance openly against racism, hatred and intolerance and to promote non-discrimination and respect for diversity.

Ivan Hromada shared some achievements of the Slovak National Committee which was composed of three ministries, youth councils, several grass-roots initiatives and recognised NGOs. The Slovak national campaign identified online safety as a major concern. One of their partnerships in financing an awareness-raising centre, helpdesk and hotline service resulted in training over 50,000 teachers, parents and social workers, along with 123,000 young people. Hotline operators received and processed over 11,000 reports, and, involving famous faces from Slovakian music culture, they helped make the campaign go viral.

Snežana Samardžić-Marković pointed out that the NHSM was the first Council of Europe online campaign, a campaign that has been present in 45 countries. Thanks to the No Hate Speech Movement, many young people have become familiar with the work of the Council of Europe and, more importantly, became part of it. She stressed that the Campaign has been a valuable source of learning leading to the development of new tools, and new ways of campaigning, combining online and offline dimensions. Young people have been motivated to engage in Internet governance processes, co-operating with national authorities, equality bodies, NGOs and the Council of Europe to review action plans, policies and legislation that combat discrimination, hate crime and hate speech. Finally, the Campaign allowed the Council of Europe to increase its knowledge on the risks linked to radicalisation and populism and the need to involve people who are the targets of hate speech in this work.

” *The No Hate heart has become a symbol of solidarity, a statement for human rights for everyone, every day, everywhere.*

— Snežana Samardžić-Marković

Committing to the future

Snežana Samardžić-Marković indicated that the Council of Europe will continue translating the manuals into different languages and recommending them for national training sessions, and will continue including hate speech as a priority of training programmes on human rights education. The institution will also keep working on youth participation in Internet governance processes, and on access to rights for those affected by discrimination and hate speech, with particular attention to victims of multiple discrimination. Snežana Samardžić-Marković reaffirmed the commitment of the Council of Europe to continue its work against hate speech, promote equality in dignity and act against discrimination, especially through the newly created Anti-Discrimination Department which brings together the anti-discrimination monitoring bodies, the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Unit and the Intercultural Cities programme.

” *“Do you not mock, do not lament, do not hate, but understand.”*

— Spinoza, quoted by Anne Brasseur

” *Europe looks upon us today and expects us to invent ways of keeping the movement alive, youthful and relevant.*

— Ivan Hromada





FINDINGS OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION

The two evaluators contracted for the final evaluation of the No Hate Speech Movement youth campaign, Hana Bendova and Jaroslav Valúch, presented the preliminary summary of the key findings during a plenary session. Here are some details on the methodology used for the evaluation.

Methodology of the evaluation – overall Campaign

Desk review

- Campaign concept note, reports, available strategic documents, evaluation of the first phase, analysis of central website of the Campaign, basic social media analysis via Facebook insights

Key informant interviews with:

- Key representatives of Campaign management and relevant departments of the Council of Europe
- Key European campaign partners, other potential relevant professionals and/or organisations / networks active in the field
- Sample of online activists

Two participatory group evaluation sessions (Bucharest June 2017, Strasbourg 2018)

Three online questionnaires:

- Questionnaire targeting national campaign committees (identifying effects and impacts of the campaign, as well as partnership and sustainability issues).
- Questionnaire targeting online activists (assessing the effectiveness and impact of the campaign, sustainability and potential future actions of the activists).
- Survey targeting European and national campaign partners (assessing effectiveness and impact of the campaign, partnership issues, multiplication effect of partnerships as well as sustainability and future actions of the partners).

Case studies of five national campaigns

Selection criteria applied:

- Nature of the campaign (online / offline focus, target groups, etc.)
- Institutional implementers of the campaign
- Political and socio-cultural context of the country
- Specific success and/or challenges and the ways the campaigns have dealt with them (or not).

Countries selected: Germany, Ireland, “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Portugal, Ukraine.

More extensive desk review (national campaign strategies, reports, analyses of websites, social media analysis – Facebook 2016), key informant interviews with a wider range of stakeholders (national governmental representatives, youth activists, members of campaign committees, relevant local civil society organisations, media professionals, online activists).

Things to consider

Was the NHSM really a campaign?

The NHSM has encompassed very different approaches in various countries. For example, in Ireland, the NHSM is an example of an organic youth movement with a focus on youth empowerment. In Germany, the NHSM is a campaign with a strong online component, a communication strategy in place, and a strong reach and engagement, while in many other countries, the online communication efforts were focused more on promoting the campaign as such, rather than generating vibrant conversations around the topic. Therefore, it is difficult to evaluate the NHSM as a single campaign, taking into consideration the many different approaches, contexts and perspectives included in the Campaign.

The draft evaluation findings were circulated among participants before the Conference and reviewed in working groups. The final report of the external evaluation of the Campaign covering 2016-2017 can be found on the Campaign website www.coe.int/youthcampaign.





LESSONS LEARNT FROM THE CAMPAIGN – WORKING GROUPS

The first working group session of the Conference was devoted to discussing the evaluation findings and identifying lessons learned from the perspectives of the different Campaign stakeholders.

The findings of the evaluation were, overall, well received by the participants, who saw in the presentation of the two external evaluators an accurate picture of the Campaign. Even if the method of comparing campaigning methods and approaches was deemed positive, some participants considered the choice of focusing on five case studies of national campaigns as limiting the perception of the diversity of national campaigns. Some participants would have been interested in seeing comparisons between youth-led campaigns and government-led national campaigns. Other participants expressed some disappointment regarding the limited level of responsiveness of online activists to the evaluation survey. Due to the length of the Campaign, a reflection on the Campaign achievements supported by a timeline could have brought meaningful insights. Participants agreed that the NHSM was not a single campaign but rather a ‘campaign of campaigns’, and thus one which is, eventually, challenging to evaluate.

Reflection on the Campaign strengths and achievements

- Putting hate speech on the agenda is one of the key achievements mentioned by participants; there is clearly a larger public awareness of hate speech – and of some specific issues, such as transphobia or islamophobia – and its consequences.
- The shared values, the high level of motivation and the feeling of belonging to a movement allowed for a strong commitment.

” *Mobilising people was very successful. It contributed to the creation of the network we all feel a part of. Somehow, there was a place for everybody in the movement.*

— A participant

- The tools developed (especially *We Can* and *Bookmarks*) and the quality of the capacity building provided to the Campaign stakeholders had a positive impact.
- The support provided by the Secretariat was useful to national campaigns (campaign materials, additional insights, directions to new information or contacts), even if some participants were expecting more from the European co-ordination.
- The Campaign gave reasons for young people to raise their voice and be able to stand against hate speech online. Not only did it provide tools, but also a space for youth in which they felt empowered and safe.
- The slogan of the Campaign (No Hate) “entered the language” in its everyday use. People in various situations were using it to object to hate speech. It shows how a simple slogan can be very powerful.
- The Campaign messages and tools translated a complicated issue – hate speech – into something understandable by, and relevant for young people.

- Support to marginalised or vulnerable groups of young people (e.g. young refugees, LGBT+), made them aware of hate speech, and empowered them to be multipliers through the different activities of NGOs.
- The formal education sector was also involved in the Campaign – and not only the non-formal sector.
- The Campaign opened up many relevant discussions and built competences related to many closely connected topics, such as sexism, discrimination, hate crimes, bullying and cyberbullying, media literacy, and online safety.

Reflection on the Campaign weaknesses

- The **absence of a single campaign** strategy at the European level was not seen as a weakness by participants but rather as a factor that allowed for flexibility in terms of approaches and partnerships. It helped adapt the tools to national and local contexts. Furthermore, this absence of a global strategy should not be seen as overshadowing the clear strategies and roadmaps which some national campaigns had.
- The **lack of funding** was an obstacle to the development of the Campaign at every level (local, national and European).
- **“Political correctness”** and sensitivity had a negative impact on the creativity of the online Campaign. Governmental organisations and international bodies such as the Council of Europe are seen as having the obligation to avoid being controversial or supporting controversial messages due to concerns of reputation.
- There was little or no investigation into measuring reach and engagement. Additionally, there was no exchange of views with external organisations not centred on human rights and hate speech. The NHSM largely stayed within a bubble. The Campaign would have benefited from more contact with outside organisations.
- Online security and the safety of activists were not sufficiently emphasised during the Campaign, especially when it comes to activists acting in undemocratic settings.
- There were limited spaces for following up on activities with beneficiaries due to a lack of resources or a lack of interest from some decision makers at local / national levels.
- There was no programme set to give orientation for new online activists and they were given insufficient recognition.
- The fact that the Campaign addressed so **many different issues** did not help address them in depth.
- For local organisations, it was challenging to co-ordinate and communicate with the NCCs or engage at a national level. In many cases, the NCCs did not keep them sufficiently informed.
- Changes within the political structures at a national level influenced, in many ways, the success of national campaigns.



Some of the voices from the working groups

“I am proud of...

- the involvement of social media platforms.
- the connection of various people from various professions and backgrounds.
- the engagement of young people within the Campaign, and the number of young people who got their competences built through different educative processes.
- using Human Rights Education (HRE) to deal with hate speech online.
- that wider public debate started in all our countries and we raised awareness about the importance to tackle hate speech through many stakeholders.
- hate speech entering the common vocabulary.
- national campaigns becoming a plural movement that has renewed itself with time.

“I am disappointed with...

- the No Hate Speech Movement website.
- the Hate Speech Watch.
- the unequal involvement of the different countries.
- the unequal opportunities for activists at national level.
- the Campaign being adult-led on some occasions even though it was a youth campaign.

“From the Campaign, I learnt...

- how to structure our messages when we address different issues and situations when combating hate speech (acquiring the knowledge to understand properly that some things we use in our daily life can be sexist, antigypsyist, and homophobic, and being able to identify them).
- the importance of solidarity and intersectionality.
- that authenticity naturally attracts participation.
- that hate speech is interlinked with a lot of other “bubbles” around it, such as media literacy, online safety, sexism, cyberbullying, and so on, which needs to get addressed in the right way.
- that change takes time, but it is important to be persistent.
- how important and complex it is to adapt the Campaign to national and local needs / realities and how strong an impact a campaign like the NHSM can have on people’s lives.

CELEBRATING THE CAMPAIGN ACHIEVEMENTS WITH THORBJØRN JAGLAND, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The Secretary General of the Council of Europe started his intervention by reacting to the remark of a participant who said that change takes time. He answered that change eventually takes time but it is also happening constantly, and that people are now witnessing one of the deepest changes in our societies since Gutenberg. The new technologies have an impact on the media, the way we are talking to each other and the way we are behaving:

” *The strongest transformative form in the world today is actually not the technology but it is the young people because you will be able to understand the impact it will have.*

— Thorbjørn Jagland

The No Hate Speech Movement was launched in 2013, Secretary General Jagland reminded the audience, because the impact of hate speech online had become so desperately apparent; the terrorist attacks in Norway or the suicide of the young Canadian Amanda Todd – a victim of cyberbullying – were illustrations of this impact. The Secretary General paid tribute to the members of the Advisory Council on Youth who were right to recognise that this is a human rights issue, right to call for education as a means of prevention, and right to call for this Campaign.

Thorbjørn Jagland mentioned some achievements of the Campaign over the past two years: 1,100 youth leaders and activists improved their skills, thousands of local events and courses were organised, up to 100,000 social media users were reached on each action day, and the Campaign expanding to 45 countries inside and outside Europe. The manuals Bookmarks and We Can! showed not only that education is the key to prevention but that counter and alternative narratives to hate speech are essential and that young people can themselves be the authors of these narratives, that they can become agents of human rights and democratic values, both offline and online.

The Secretary General committed to bringing the results of the Campaign and the conclusions of this Conference to the attention of the Committee of Ministers and to all Council of Europe bodies. He assured that the Council of Europe will continue its standard-setting work, its monitoring and co-operation programmes with member states, civil society and other partners, and key Internet companies including Google and Facebook.

All the Campaign stakeholders were thanked and congratulated for their efforts:

” *Your commitment has made a difference, not just a difference to this Campaign but to the lives of countless young people who have experienced hate speech online and countless more who might have never experienced that hate because your work has prevented it.*

— Thorbjørn Jagland



In the exchanges with participants following his intervention, Thorbjørn Jagland mentioned the importance of reaching out to schools and of working on media literacy and human rights education in classrooms. Responding to a question on personal data abuses, the Secretary General reminded the audience that the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data is, in this regard, the strongest legal instrument in the world. He also emphasised the importance of partnerships with Internet companies such as Facebook and Google to safeguard human rights, democracy and the rule of law online.

3. FACING HATE SPEECH AND HUMAN RIGHTS CHALLENGES: RESPONSES FROM THE CAMPAIGN STAKEHOLDERS

HATE SPEECH, HUMAN RIGHTS AND I.T. TODAY – INPUT FROM GUEST SPEAKERS

This second segment of the programme started with a series of interventions. The presentations of guest speakers reflected different perspectives – a representative of an institution, a policy maker, a practitioner, a researcher – on human rights concerns with regard to hate speech in Europe today. They built a fertile ground for the participants' discussions that followed.

The role of politicians and lawmakers

by **Gabriela Heinrich**, General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance, and Co-ordinator of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Germany, due to its history, has had one of the tightest laws on hate speech (related to Holocaust denial) since the Second World War. However, new technologies have brought about new challenges and raised the question of the means with which to take action against online hate, and how to do it without limiting the freedom of expression. Freedom of opinion and freedom of expression are concepts that are often used and twisted by people to justify the legitimacy of their hateful speeches.

Gabriela Heinrich reminded the audience that in Germany, since the beginning of 2018, there has been a law against illegal hate speech on social networks. Platform operators with more than two million users have to delete posts within 24 hours if they get complaints about illicit contents. If they do not delete the posts, they face a fine up to EUR 50 million. Besides, platforms have to publish reports every six months where everybody can follow what, how, why and how fast the posts have been deleted. The first text of the law has sparked reactions from some civil society organisations concerned with its impact on the freedom of opinion.

Leaving corporations the choice to decide what should be deleted and what not, does raise a lot of questions, especially on the criteria used to assess reported hate speech. This uncertainty and the fear of being fined may lead the platforms to over-delete contents in order to remain safe. Besides, there need to be adequate resources for the investigation of controversial contents, such as relevant experts for the related region and language. For the moment, far fewer hate speech reports have come in than expected. Deletion may be good for victims of hate speech – but hate does not just disappear. Hateful content may be relocated somewhere else. It is a tightrope walk. People have the expectation that something will be done against



online hate, but on the other hand, the law must not be a controlling instrument of freedom of expression. It is a challenge from a political point of view.

” *Inhuman positions, right-wing extremism, sexism... are social problems which cannot be banned by law. We need different measures for that, measures which have to be taken across all of Europe – we are right in the middle of discussions about that.*

— Gabriela Heinrich

Hate Speech in the agenda of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)

by **Jean-Paul Lehnert**, Chair of the ECRI

The use of hate speech has been a notable feature of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance findings in its last two monitoring cycles. In the fifth monitoring cycle, it appears as one of the four common topics for all member states. Intolerant political discourse (especially in electoral contexts), implicit hate speech or sensational coverage of the media giving rise to fear, are some examples of findings from the last monitoring cycle.

According to the ECRI General Policy Recommendation No. 15 on Combating Hate Speech (GPR No.15), effective action against the use of hate speech requires the three following elements:

- The recognition of the fundamental importance of freedom of expression, tolerance and respect for equal dignity
- The identification of the conditions that lead to the use of hate speech and taking appropriate measures to remove them
- The involvement and commitment of a wide range of private and non-governmental actors, including youth organisations, in addition to public ones.

The ECRI, while always keeping in mind the respect of freedom of expression, recommends encouraging fast reactions by public figures, promoting self-regulation of media, raising awareness of the dangerous consequences of hate speech, withdrawing financial and other support from political parties that actively use hate speech, and criminalising its most extreme manifestations.

” *Developing synergies with civil society and equality bodies based on good practices to combat hate speech.*

— Jean-Paul Lehnert

The ECRI has favoured the sharing of good practices to enhance civil society and the role of equality bodies in combating the use of hate speech. These are, in particular: data collection, raising awareness of victims' rights and to assist them, communication strategies to counter-speech that fight the misconceptions, and information on what forms the basis of hate speech.

ECRI and the No Hate Speech Movement

A network capable of responding quickly to hate speech is one of the communication strategies for countering hate speech recommended by GPR No. 15.

An effective counter narrative should not limit itself to condemning hate speech but also explain why it is wrong. Counter narrators have to be supported – also politically – and empowered with training and expert support. Unfortunately, the ECRI cannot provide the training and the expert support, but it can provide the political impetus.

Developing a programme of country-specific co-operation activities based on ECRI recommendations

There is a significant demand in country-specific Actions Plans and among donors for hate speech co-operation projects based on the ECRI's recommendations. Moreover, the Secretary General's 2017 annual report considers hate speech as a populist incitement to discrimination, and calls for a programme of such activities.

Through this programme, the NHSM should be continued in a targeted way through country-specific co-operation activities based on ECRI monitoring findings. National campaigns could be continued where the ECRI has pointed out a specific need to support awareness raising. Such a programme is being developed by the Anti-Discrimination Department of the Council of Europe to develop holistic actions tackling hate speech through criminal, civil and administrative law, policy frameworks, capacity building and awareness raising.

New opportunities and challenges for human rights education

Dr. Natalie Alkiavidou, Director of Aequitas and lecturer at the University of Central Lancashire, Cyprus.

Natalie Alkiavidou recalled that Human Rights Education (HRE) is not new. It has been embedded in international legislation developed by the United Nations, and states have legal obligation to undertake immediate educational measures to tackle racial prejudice and intolerance. If states had not fallen short of doing so, there may not have been a need for the NHSM today.

In Cyprus, the work with the monitoring of the Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online of the European Commission led to the observation that the majority of the hate speech was directed against Turkish Cypriots and Turks. This hate speech is a sign that the education system in a divided country had gone wrong, and that there is insufficient establishment and incorporation of human rights education within that formal education system.

The need for structural support

HRE needs to be an ongoing process. It must not be made of interrupted, short and random training courses conducted by NGOs because of available funding under a relevant call. There must be systematically constructed activities, according to the framework each country is in. For this, structural support is needed.



In order to raise awareness and sensitise the public, we need to bring in people who are on the margins or who are the haters. In order to incorporate those people into the education system, structural support is needed by competent authorities and competent bodies.

Broadening our horizons in terms of target groups

There is the misconceived idea that HRE is for young people. The majority of handbooks from international institutions such as the Council of Europe are directed towards young people. There is this embedded idea that the younger you are, the easier it is to change attitudes. We need to work with young people, but also with police forces, the judiciary, lawyers, and social workers.

Working with both formal and non-formal education

Human rights should be at the core of school and university curricula. We need to reconceptualise, change our targets, and change our approaches so that skills and attitudes can also be developed within the formal education system. School is *de facto* the establishment in the majority of European countries where our identity is constructed, and that is why it is important to act there. What we need is a harmonious articulation between the formal education system and the non-formal education system and also ensure non-formal learning is integrated properly into the formal education system.

Hate speech must be conceptualised within a broader context

Hate speech is not a phenomenon on its own; it is one form of manifestation of intolerance. As long as we ignore the structures at the very heart of our societies which are perpetuating intolerance and their manifestations; as long as our societies are as they are in terms of class, wealth distribution, social and economic rights, (mis-)cultivation of identity, construction of the 'other' and the 'threat', construction and perception of 'crises'; as long as these continue, all other methods taken will either be of limited use or relevant only in the short term.

” *Don't forget the link between hate speech and hate crime and don't forget the people whom we are working for.*

— Natalie Alkiavidou

Hate speech today: what is there to learn?

Keynote by **Dr. Gavan Titley**, Maynooth University

Gavan Titley has been involved in the Campaign since its inception. He delivered his presentation via video-conference because personal circumstances prevented him from travelling to Strasbourg.

His presentation looked into the question of social media, media and politics in relation to what the Campaign has done on hate speech and what it might do in the future. He considered that the Campaign is ending now just as many of the issues that have been discussed for years within the Campaign are taking over the headlines, and that the Campaign started from the idea that the online space is public space and human rights apply in that public space.

The ambivalence of the Internet

The No Hate Speech Movement has been good at recognising that online space reproduces the exclusion and marginalisation that already exist in society, and amplifies them and makes it more difficult to deal with them in some ways. Its starting point was that the Internet is ambivalent. It means that communication, dynamics, cultural forms, and practices that allow new opportunities for co-operation, for participation, and for collaboration, at the same time offer the same opportunities to various forms of reactionary or hateful politics.

The concept of hate speech

The concept of hate speech was probably the only point of departure that made sense despite the problems of translation into other languages and contexts of action. It helped to underline that communication matters in mediated societies bring together a number of issues. In the No Hate Speech Movement, the focus on education and campaigning helped to bypass the circular debate about freedom of speech and hate speech. Finally, using the concept of hate speech contributed to revealing how hate is intersectional and brought activists to reflect on how to share the burden of making digital spaces convivial.

However, using the concept of hate speech has some limitations. Expressions of hate are never hate for the haters. They understand them as the expression of something else, such as the defence of a way of life. Hate speech is also a 'boomerang' concept, and one which can easily be appropriated and used against, for example, human rights activists (e.g. extremists saying: "any criticism of us is hate speech"). Hate speech potentially reduces, for example, racism, homophobia, and misogyny, to hate speech, and misses the fact that hate is a form of expression. Finally, the concept of speech is limited in a digital world where more and more content is automated.

Social media platforms

Gavan Titley pointed out that the transnational free-to-use platforms that have allowed us to develop a new kind of transnational public sphere are also infrastructures that are privately owned. Hate speech is not just the factor of communications themselves but also relates to business models of the infrastructure owners.



Social media platforms began to take hate speech seriously when it had become an image problem that created a certain kind of business problem. The *Facebook* moderation systems raise a lot of questions and it is impossible for the content moderation strategies to be consistent, given the scale of contents.

Dr. Titley mentioned examples showing that there is a radicalisation factor built into the very structure of the algorithmic recommendations of videos on *YouTube* and that the infrastructure amplifies the opportunity for hateful politics, even if at the same time it gives opportunities for forms of response with examples of hateful mobilisation on *Twitter*.

The media environment

We cannot think of social media as separate from the media system. Social media is integrated into news making and news dissemination. Gavan reminded the audience that one has to be careful with the terminology that has developed around 'fake news', 'filter bubble' or 'post truth'. They refer to realities that are not always as new as they are made out to be.

On counter narratives

Counter narratives shall not be considered as only interventions in the media, but as something we have to build through collective action, and that people have to own and build in the ways in which they build political actions and solidarity together. Counter narratives cannot be just something that experts or marketing companies design for us. They have to be developed and owned by people acting together against racism and other forms of politics.

HATE SPEECH, HUMAN RIGHTS AND I.T: THE CHALLENGES TODAY – WORKING GROUPS

Following the input provided by the guest speakers, participants gathered in small groups to reflect on human rights concerns – whether long-lasting or emerging – with regard to combating hate speech in their respective contexts, and at the European level today.

A challenging context for human rights and human rights activists

In some countries, it is very difficult to discuss topics such as the rights of migrants or LGBTQIA people due to the sensitivity of these topics or the political atmosphere. Often, politicians resort to politically motivated hate speech and *de facto* legitimise its use at the grass-roots level. It is difficult to make politicians accountable for what they say. Sometimes, human rights are instrumentalised by politicians to justify some policies, which is confusing for the population. Due to the proliferation of information disorders, people lose trust in the legal system and are likely to turn to extremism. In some countries, members of organisations involved in human rights education are verbally and physically abused.

Formal education systems difficult to access

Participants reported various challenges related to gaining access to schools. Sometimes, the regulations are too tight for local organisations to intervene in classes. In other situations, governments do not allow certain topics such as gender and sexual orientation to be addressed in schools. There are opportunities to include HRE in civic education but the contents lack depth or are completely missing. It is very important to work with teachers as they have the power to talk directly to children and their families and spread human rights values. There is a lack of innovative and relevant HRE tools. In most cases, when HRE is integrated in curricula, only knowledge is addressed and skills and attitudes are left aside. There is a need for a structural support to make human rights education a reality in the formal education system.

Reaching out to other target groups

Some parts of the population are further away, both geographically and metaphorically from human rights education. It is particularly the case for rural areas that are more difficult to reach due to a lack of funding. There are difficulties in reaching out to haters or people likely to be the subject of media manipulation or to radicalise. Working with perpetrators and listening to their experiences would be an added value for the movement. Educational activities to develop the necessary competencies for combating hate speech should be made accessible and compulsory for the judiciary and the police.

” *Human rights education should be for all and not only for young people.*

— A participant



Hate speech versus freedom of speech

Assessing what is hate speech and what is not is sometimes difficult. It is all the more difficult to use the concept of freedom of speech to legitimise hateful rhetoric. Some guidelines for understanding the boundaries of the freedom of expression better are needed.

The difficulty in collaborating with local or national authorities

Participants reported difficulties in getting in contact with local or national authorities. When exchanges were possible, finding common ground and common priorities proved to be challenging (changing existing laws and regulations, reporting hate speech). Sometimes politicians showed some interest in topics of the campaign but did not follow this up with any type of support.

A limited understanding and practice of intersectionality

Some participants reckoned that often they had a tendency to focus only a particular issue or a specific target group while knowing little about what is going on in other organisations and sectors.

” *The notion of intersectionality in hate speech has not been emphasised enough in the campaign.*

— A participant

Combating hate speech in conflict-stricken regions

Defending a culture of peace and human rights becomes much more challenging in situations of armed conflict. Conflict-related hate speech is very difficult to combat as the image of the enemy is often used by politicians, and advocating for peace and human rights can be negatively perceived by people, putting activists in danger. Working with victims of war, and veterans also requires an experience that we do not have.

“THIS WAS IT!” – LOOKING BACK AND LEARNING FROM THE APPROACHES, PRACTICES AND TOOLS USED DURING THE CAMPAIGN – WORKSHOPS

The afternoon of the second day was devoted to thematic workshops on approaches, practices and tools used during the Campaign. The transversal aim of those workshops was to look back at the past years, and list meaningful practices – whether successful or not – and draw lessons from them. Participants worked to identify success factors and explore how these approaches, practices and tools could be used for the future of the movement.

Human Rights Education – Learning from practices in education to counter and prevent hate speech

Resource people: Lilla Nedeczky – Hope for Children Hungary / Nik Paddison – Educational professional / Katerina Toura – Education Department, Council of Europe

This working group focused on the Human Rights Education (HRE) aspect within the NHSM. Participants explored how HRE based on *Compass*, *Compasito* or *Bookmarks* had been carried out in different educational settings, and what interactions had been developed with schools, universities, other educational institutions, youth work centres and within the field of non-formal education.

Successful practices

- Working with the right stakeholders.

It is really important to choose carefully the right stakeholders and resources to use in a particular context. During the project inception phase, it is crucial to envision what changes one wants to bring about, what actors can contribute to it and how to involve them in the process. Cross-sectorial co-operation is very fruitful.

FOCUS ON A PROJECT - *Visegrád Children for digital society* – This project involved national campaigns, NGOs and governmental organisations to make children's voices heard on human rights education and digital literacy in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.

FOCUS ON A PROJECT - As HRE is not included in school curricula and youth policies, activists in the Novosibirsk region (Russian Federation) used the existing platform of the Novosibirsk Youth Forum to organise educational activities so as to bring HRE issues closer to youth policies and youth organisations.



- Empowering groups targeted with hate speech.

FOCUS ON A PROJECT - *Working with different young refugees* – raising awareness amongst young refugees on human rights and on human rights education. Refugee summer schools – supporting young refugees in getting their qualifications recognised.

- Using the Council of the Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education. The Charter, alongside its supporting documents and manuals, is a helpful tool for advocacy and for accessing schools.
- Bringing together young people from different sides of divided societies.

FOCUS ON A PROJECT - *The Youth Peace Camp* of the Council of Europe allowed for positive interactions amongst young people from conflict-stricken regions. During the activity, much was done to address feelings and emotions and bring about transformative changes. The challenge – as it is with other human rights education activities – is to know what happens afterwards and keep supporting participants.

- Adapting to national specificities and using existing resources.
- Making human rights education accessible to people who live in rural areas.

Media and Hate Speech – literacy, journalist training, guidelines and codes of conduct

Resource people: Jeff Kaufmann – Service National de La Jeunesse / Uska Umek – Media and Internet Governance Unit, Council of Europe

This working group explored how hate speech had been addressed in mainstream media, both online and offline. The group shared examples of dialogue initiatives with journalists, of educational activities directed towards media literacy, and of the development of common standards and codes of conduct.

Successful practices

- Raising awareness, and the training of media professionals.

FOCUS ON A PROJECT - *Media for change*. The target groups were journalists, editors, beginner journalists as well as community leaders. The project brought the participants together to work on their attitudes, to reflect on the language they use and to learn to identify hate speech.

- Collaborating with online media and traditional media companies.

FOCUS ON A PROJECT - In Luxembourg, it was possible to collaborate with online media and traditional media companies to discuss how to deal with hate speech and to make them aware of their responsibility for what is published on their respective platforms. As young people have little awareness of the impact of what they post online, suggestions were made on how to improve media companies' guidelines.

Campaigning with and for groups targeted by hate speech

Resource people: Robert Rustem – Council of Europe / Alina Bricman – European Union of Jewish Students

This group worked on the Campaign's success in mobilising young people to act in solidarity with those targeted by hate speech on all grounds. Campaigning against certain types of discrimination and hate speech has involved numerous partners and a variety of approaches. Participants explored what can be learnt from those approaches and whether the Campaign successfully established a broad coalition against hate speech and helped address multiple discrimination.

Successful practices

- Working on intersectionality

FOCUS ON PROJECTS - Brighton interfaith groups – working with different religious groups, having interfaith contacts and also involving non-religious people is meaningful. In Austria, working on Antisemitism while involving Muslim groups was very successful. UNITED has decided to focus on intersectional actions rather than taking actions with specific targeted groups.

Challenges

- Being an online activist was not accessible to everyone. It requires time to commit oneself, to speak English and to have strong computer literacy.
- Some action days were more challenging than others due to the target group on which the European action day was focused. Most of the time, only "privileged" people were involved in the preparation of the European action days. The preparation work was not inclusive enough.
- There was a risk of reinforcing stereotypes through the action days (e.g. the action day against Islamophobia).
- Not much has been done to address the contention between groups fighting against hate speech (e.g. there could be tensions between faith groups and LGBTQIA groups).



Recommendation

- There should be more inclusion of the people within the groups targeted by hate speech.

” *As human rights activists, we should seek for understanding and a dialogue as we tend to be forceful on conservative groups.*

— A participant

Youth work – Youth initiated, led and implemented activities at grass-roots level

Resource people: Aiste Slajute – Eurobug / Soraya Ouldji – AMSED

This working group looked into how the Campaign had reached out to young people locally, where their online and offline lives happen. Participants reflected on how working against hate speech online had managed to become part of local youth work topics and activities. They also exchanged experiences on how this work against hate speech online can continue to be part of the local youth work programmes, and which strategies are the most relevant for dealing with this topic.

FOCUS ON PROJECT - NHSM Youth Ambassadors (Ireland) - The NHSM Youth Ambassadors carry out information sessions and flash mobs in schools, universities and public places or festivals. They undertook a EYF-supported residential training course and benefited from ongoing online support through a Facebook group. They organised and took part in Erasmus+ youth projects (which allowed their members to be participants but also organisers). They keep Online Action Days alive at the local level and organise events with Campaign materials. The NHSM Youth Ambassadors have developed online contents of their own. Young people were recruited through a call, were trained and got involved in peer education, which is a key dimension of the project.

Successful practices

- Undertaking advocacy work at local and national levels to push for human rights education and non-formal education in the formal education system
- Working with role models and ambassadors to whom young people can relate
- Mobilising local youth councils to reach out to more young people
- Using the 'living library' concept to break stereotypes and prejudices
- Working with and training local and national authority staff to gain a better common understanding of the topics of the Campaign, even if it is challenging
- Using peer-to-peer education to involve young people and make the development of the Campaign an example of youth participation.

Challenges

- It is challenging to measure the impact of youth work activities and to ensure that there are follow-up and dissemination activities.

Sexism and Gender Equality online – the Campaign’s contribution now and in the future

Resource person: Debora Barletta – APICE

In this working group, participants shared examples of their work against sexism and towards gender equality within the Campaign, identifying good practices and shortfalls. They explored the effects of two specific action days (Day against online sexist hate speech, March 8th – and the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia – May 17th) as well as the engagement of different partners and their work against sexist hate speech.

Successful practices

- Developing a comprehensive approach to sexual education that includes teaching about sex, gender, aspects of sexuality, violence, how to combat discrimination against LGBTQIA people, etc.
- Providing safe spaces for young people so as they can share their experiences and ask questions.
- Working with youth campaign ambassadors (Ireland) who use peer-to-peer education to promote human rights and combat hate speech.
- Focusing on young girls and helping them identify sexist hate speech and sexist threats online.

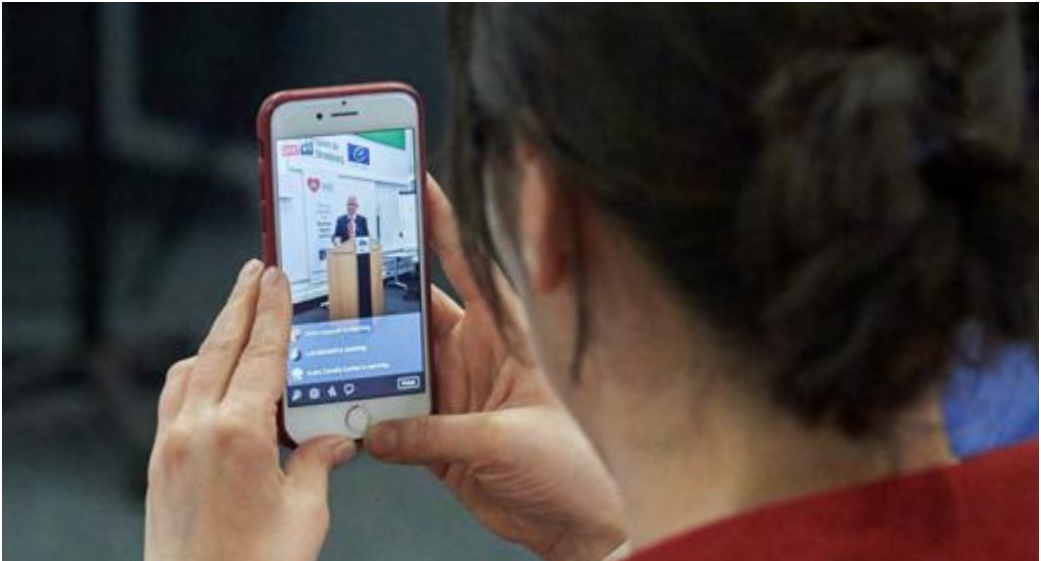
FOCUS ON A PROJECT - In Poland, young girls of school age experienced threats online from adult men; educational activities equipped them with the skills and emotional strength to react.

- Using ‘Passive messages’ of support (on stickers, pin badges, etc.) worked very well as many people connected to the Campaign thanks to those messages.
- “Masculinity” is a key issue that should have been addressed more during the Campaign.

Online safety by and for youth

Resource person: Hafthor Freyr Lindal – Home and School – the National Parents Association

This working group looked into whether the Campaign had managed to raise awareness about online safety and security, promoting safe online behaviour by young people. Participants reviewed the tools and approaches that were used, for example, to raise awareness about cyberbullying, data protection and other cyber threats. They also discussed how the Campaign co-operation with other stakeholders had improved Internet literacy and reduced violence and hate speech targeting children and youth.



Successful practices

- Investing effort into peer learning and exchange for youths is a very effective approach.

FOCUS ON A PROJECT - In Austria, youths conducted peer-learning activities with the help of supervisors whom they were able to contact on any matter, to improve on, or review their activities.

- Using theatre to address the topic of online safety with young people (example of the play Digital Identity in Portugal)
- Exchanging good practices on safer Internet use amongst National Campaign Committees (examples between Austria and Luxembourg)
- Co-operating with Youtubers and influencers on social media
- Involving parents in educational activities on online safety
- Making education fun, interactive and not very formal helps young people become more engaged in activities and learn more effectively. It is also very important to use appropriate language for particular age groups.
- Co-operating with different partners who can support the process in different ways: providing visibility, technical support, or funding. In Iceland, one of main success factors was the variety of services, partners and activities, instead of focusing only on one single approach.

The Internet and Hate Speech – Engaging with Internet businesses and other stakeholders for addressing online hate speech effectively

Resource people: Sina Laubenstein – Neue Deutsche Medienmacher e.V./Christina Lamprou – Council of Europe
This working group focused on the engagement with Internet businesses and other stakeholders, such as NGOs and governmental partners, through a multi-stakeholder approach or direct collaboration. Participants reflected on the aims, the effectiveness and the impact of such collaborations. They also discussed the opportunities for the Council of Europe to work further with Internet companies, the impact of the European Union Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online, and new legislative initiatives enforced by national governments.

FOCUS ON ENGAGING WITH INTERNET BUSINESSES – the example of NCC of Germany

After facing limited responses from Internet companies, NCC Germany managed to collaborate with Google, Facebook and Twitter. The Internet companies supported the committee in different ways: a workshop, Facebook credits and financial support, support from design companies to produce Campaign materials (Facebook), financial support (Google), and a handbook for NGOs (Twitter). Accepting support from Internet companies does not mean that the NCC endorses everything those companies do.

Successful practices

- Social media providers are approachable; patience and persistence can pay off.
- Creating easy guidelines on how to report hateful content on different platforms.

FOCUS ON PROJECTS – In Poland, the ombudsman brought together Internet services providers, NGOs, the government (ministers, police) and other institutions for round-table discussions. The initiative started some fruitful collaborations. In Germany, Google ran a campaign to raise awareness of hate speech and good use of the Internet. They chose to work with some Youtubers who had previously been hateful. They also trained some activists to become trusted flaggers, and initiated media literacy workshops in schools.

Policy and legislative action on hate speech – political and society support for legislative and policy measures on hate speech and discrimination

Resource person: Marija Andreeva – Institute for Economic Strategies and International Affairs

This workshop looked into how the Campaign had been able to mobilise political and society support for



legislative and policy measures on hate speech and discrimination. Participants reviewed the co-operation between NGOs and national, regional and local authorities, and how political bodies and social partners had been reached out to. They assessed the results of such collaboration and the role of awareness raising and education initiatives in this process.

FOCUS ON WORKING WITH YOUTH WINGS OF POLITICAL PARTIES - In “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, many young people belong to different political parties youth wings (up to 100,000 people). Educational activities were organised for future politicians on human rights (for example, some alumni are now mayors). During a public event, the presidents of all youth political wings signed a declaration for free and fair elections and committed to fighting hate speech online and offline.

Successful practices

- Focusing on local and regional levels
- Policies at the regional level can have more impact than those at the national level
- Choosing your communication carefully
- For instance, cyberbullying has attracted a lot of media and political attention due to the suicide of a teenager. Therefore, in certain cases, it could be more politically successful to raise awareness not directly through the topic of hate speech, but through the topic of cyberbullying, which is less politically sensitive.
- Working with youth representatives.

FOCUS ON A PROJECT – In Ireland, the National Youth Council of Ireland has a hearing at the parliament once a year and they used it to address the issue of hate speech.

- Resorting to a cross-sectoral approach.

FOCUS ON A PROJECT – In Norway, the NCC has worked with diverse sectors (media, police) and provided space for people to discuss measures against hate speech.

Recommendations

- The Campaign has helped reach a momentum on the topic of hate speech. Now is the moment to ensure that the commitments made by governments on hate speech actually become part of legislation.
- It is crucial to put a stronger emphasis on politicians’ engagement with the topic of hate speech, since they can influence both the followers and the policies, and that can overall stimulate a social environment orientated towards human rights.

We CAN! – CAN We? – learning and using counter and alternative narratives as a Campaign tool.

Resource people: Kateryna Zeziulina – NCC Ukraine / Eirik Rise – Stopp Hatprat

This group worked on how the Campaign has built the competences of young people to respond to hate speech using counter and alternative narratives. Participants identified different approaches and discussed their impact. They exchanged ideas on the potential of We CAN! to continue being used as an educational tool after the end of the Campaign.

Training courses based on *We CAN!*

In the Ukraine, several training courses based on *We Can!* were organised. They involved various target groups, including journalists, with one training course focusing on the theoretical background of hate speech and narratives, and the second on developing the practical skills of participants to use the step-by-step *We CAN!* guide to develop counter and alternative narratives. It appeared that the manual worked very well with some groups, and less well with others. The concept of ‘narratives’ was confusing for some participants and will be adapted.

In Norway, participants created prototypes of counter and alternative narratives quite successfully. However, participants also claimed that they were not really sure they understood the concept of ‘narratives’ very well. They also had difficulties in focusing on various steps in the *We CAN!* guide.

Good practices

- Taking narratives as a long-term effort that needs to be continuously tested and adapted, etc. rather than a one-off effort to be stopped quickly
- Adapting the definitions from the manual and choosing examples relevant to the context you are working with
- Involving the victims of oppressive narratives (and hate speech) in the process of developing counter narratives
- Emphasising the human rights based approach during the process of developing counter and alternative narratives
- Working with various stakeholders: journalists, cities, popular social media pages or companies, and with donors.

Recommendations

- The step-by-step guide of the We CAN! manual works well but it is more suited to designing a long-term narrative campaign. A more concise version of the step-by-step guide for short workshops should be developed.
- Evidence-based research on the impact of counter narratives should be included in the manual.
- Self-assessment tools for people running workshops with We CAN! are needed.



- Cases and examples of positive counter and alternative narratives are difficult to select. An online hub with various examples and cases of each narrative (counter, alternative, oppressive, etc.) would be very helpful.



4. FROM A CAMPAIGN TO A MOVEMENT: LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

The last segment of the programme was orientated towards the future, and brought the different Campaign stakeholders to envision the next steps in continuing to combat hate speech together as a movement.

NEXT STEPS FOR CAMPAIGN STAKEHOLDERS – WORKING GROUPS

This working group provided a space for Campaign stakeholders to discuss and plan the future of the movement. Participants worked on regional, thematic, online / offline forms of co-operation and activities. They also brainstormed possible roles and support from the Council of Europe in the process of moving forward as a movement.

NCCs that stopped their work

NCCs represented: Finland, Greece, Portugal, Serbia

The situation is very different from one NCC to another.

In Portugal, the NCC organised an event to close the campaign (street activities, other activities, seminars, a play about the use of the Internet, living library) involving various campaign stakeholders. The work on the Campaign topics has continued with the translation of *We CAN!*, a training course on the manual, and so on. There is an action plan for 2019-2020 that includes activities on the campaign topics financed with national and European funds. The work with the Safer Internet Centre will continue, and human rights education is included in the national youth plan.

In Finland, the closing event of the campaign took place in 2015. Youth councils and youth organisations have continued to work on the Campaign topics with the support of a pool of trainers. There are projects under the Ministry of Education based on the NHSM outcomes. The social media were kept active by activists until the end of 2017.

In Serbia, there was no proper closing of the campaign as combating hate speech is not a political priority. Some individual actions are still run by organisations related to the Campaign topics. In Greece, there is occasional co-operation between municipalities through Erasmus+ funding. Some specific activities are supported by the Bodossaki Foundation and the British Council.

Expected role of the Council of Europe

NCCs that stopped would like to see active institutional support at local level with the endorsement of activities or the sending of letters of support. Strong involvement in the field of HRE is also expected: train-



ing courses on *We Can!*, support for HRE activities at local levels, and a proper collection of good practices from the campaign. The Council of Europe is also expected to continue its involvement on the topic of Internet governance.

NCCs that continue their work

NCCs represented: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium French and Flemish speaking communities, Canada, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Morocco, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, and Tunisia

The main aim of the NCCs that continue is to keep the international movement active. The NCCs also intend to:

- translate campaign materials into different languages
- continue the collaboration between the active national campaigns
- organise training for teachers and youth workers
- continue realising national action plans that include activities, action days, online campaign, flash-mobs, production of educational material, and so on
- create new partnerships with governments, municipalities, and schools, and institutionalise the movement
- work on new ideas and projects based on the Conference conclusions
- train youth ambassadors
- focus more on cyberbullying (Armenia and Italy)
- create a monthly newsletter with news of the national campaigns co-ordinated by 3 to 4 people of the national campaigns in rotation
- set up a steering committee for those who are continuing the Campaign.

Expected role of the Council of Europe

NCCs that continue would like the existing NHSM platforms to be kept active so that all national co-ordinators can keep exchanging information and enable the Campaign to thrive. It is important to provide space to share and to keep an international dimension for the Campaign.

Online activists

The group of online activists has agreed on the necessity to keep the community of online activists active, especially in order to reach a series of goals identified as vital for the future of the NHSM. Issues and challenges connected to the continuation of the online community were also discussed.

Goals	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness • Educate • Change attitudes • Have an impact • Spread engagement • Build solidarity • Improve outreach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncertainty • How is the future going to look? • How can we work together? • How is the Council of Europe going to support us? • Loss of motivation

Participants agreed on the necessity to create a group that would be able to address these issues and bear a series of responsibilities. This group has been temporarily called the “NHSM Activist’s Alliance”. It should:

- be specific, co-ordinated and facilitated
- be informal
- be participative
- support the educational platform (see below).

To ensure the effectiveness of the work of this body, the group also agreed to create a Steering Committee that should be selected on a model similar to the one applied to select the Follow-up group of the Campaign, with co-ordination between different stakeholders involved in the Campaign. The expression of interest to join the committee should be submitted through an application form produced by the existing community of activists. The committee would have a series of basic roles:

- keep the legacy of the NHSM alive
- discuss, decide and finalise the objectives of the Alliance
- decide on the structure of the network, and the structure of the working methods
- support the development of the NHSM
- organise online actions.

An educational platform appeared to be a fundamental tool to create. It should include:

- videos, documents, images and resources
- an online pool of trainers / experts, with trainers competent in: countering hate speech, specific subjects related to the NHSM, how to design workshops
- a support system for trainers / self-care
- a collaborative discussion platform
- precise subjects
- safe activism
- an intersectional approach.

The group also agreed on creating a draft *Google document* to share among the activists in order to collect the different contributions, and to start working on the Application Form for the selection of the steering committee. To facilitate this process, they also created a Facebook group that anyone interested in the process can join.



Expected role of the Council of Europe

The online activists would like the Council of Europe to support the organisation of the first two meetings of the NHSM Activist's Alliance, preferably within one year, so that the Alliance can become efficient and operative and then be able to find other ways of sustaining itself (e.g. applying for funding such as EYF, Erasmus+ or local grants).

European partners of the Campaign

Organisations represented

A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe – CEJI, European Youth Information and Counselling Agency – ERYICA, Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations – FEMYSO, Human Rights Education Youth Network – HREYN, European Trade Union Conference, Voices of Young Refugees in Europe – VYRE

Intentions for the future

ERYICA will keep these two elements linked to the Campaign: the liaison manual (youth information work) and the Young Ambassadors Training (which always includes an angle from the NHSM).

HREYN will run activities on fighting hate speech and promoting human rights with a focus on the concept of online safe space. The aim is to create a database of good practices for young people. Some work will be done to link media literacy, fake news and hate speech.

VYRE will particularly work on intersectionality and focus on the rise of the extreme right in Europe by using counter narratives.

The European Trade Union Conference will be a partner of the European Youth Event, keeping up with the digital revolution and addressing fake news and online hate speech. The Conference plans to organise informal activities outside the European Parliament. In the longer term, the Confederation will finalise the materials from the Campaign and disseminate them to its member unions.

FEMYSO will be working on a study session and online training courses to develop a safe space and tools for creating alternative narratives for minorities (in both traditional and online media), with a focus on the European Parliament elections in 2019. The network will be the movement's vision and action for their member organisations, with initiatives such as the Believe and Do Good (offline campaign to create alternative narratives and countering hate speech) and offline mobilisation within the tools / European action days of the NHSM.

CEJI has a plan for the coming two years to work on a specific toolkit for online hate speech supported by an online training course. Get the Trolls Out – a project fighting online Antisemitism (2014–2016) by monitoring traditional and online media and creating guidelines with linguistic terminology to be able to notice when hate speech is taking place – is to expand to religious minorities (2017–2018).

Future areas of focus

- Media Literacy
- Online safety, especially for activists
- Fake News
- Online HRE tools
- Prevention and countering violent extremism
- Tackling offline hate speech
- Cyber-hygiene (being healthy and mindful online – physical, psychological, and cyber)
- Information literacy
- Involvement of new local organisations (through partner organisations).

Expected role of the Council of Europe

The Council of Europe is expected to:

- keep the topic of hate speech high on its agenda – especially for the Youth Department and the European Youth Foundation
- help set up an NHSM Database of Organisations: an accessible online database of NGOs involved in the NHSM topics with references to the activities they implemented
- leave accessible the Campaign's branding (logo, etc.).

” *Attending the Conference was not only important to honour the achievements of the Campaign, but it was a moment to understand where we (NGOs/CSOs, Online Volunteers, Partner Organisations and Institutions) are heading in the future and how this Campaign may continue to shape our activities or approaches to future topics such as cyber-hygiene.*

— Youssef, FEMYSO

GUIDELINES FOR FUTURE WORK ON HATE SPEECH BY THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND ITS PARTNERS – WORKING GROUPS

During this session, participants reflected more broadly on what the future work on hate speech and promoting human rights online should involve, especially from the Council of Europe and its partners, in the areas of youth policies, human rights, anti-discrimination, and Internet governance.

Issues to address	Stakeholders to involve	Actions / Approaches / Policies needed	Expected role of the Council of Europe
Media and information literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal education stakeholders • Organisations working with elderly • Community houses • Media Organisations / Journalists • (Involving Parents' associations) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-formal education sessions in schools • Toolboxes for youth organisations • Toolboxes / Manual for teachers • Strategic top-down approach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting media literacy / education on the agenda of the Committee of Ministers or of the Parliamentary Assembly to have this topic discussed and addressed. • Civil society organisations taking part in training activities should undertake advocacy work in member states.
Online safety and well-being for activists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activists • Support & counselling bodies • Council of Europe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who can I consult? (psychological support) • Guidelines on what to do (FAQ-type of guidelines) • Training courses • Capacity building for support / counselling bodies • Making support groups more visible • Guidelines on "How to advocate / lobby" for civil society organisations (practical skills, etc.) • Practical capacity-building training, with guidelines and online toolboxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainstreaming activism • Working with member states on mainstreaming this topic • Providing funding for capacity building and toolkits / toolboxes

Issues to address	Stakeholders to involve	Actions / Approaches / Policies needed	Expected role of the Council of Europe
Online hate speech / data hygiene / data privacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young children • Online activists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness raising: what the threats are, and how you can protect yourself • Implementation of codes of conduct • Strengthening links between national governments and information technology companies • Promotion and incorporation of the term 'cyber-hygiene' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocating for stronger privacy settings of information companies' default privacy settings. • Supporting the development with educational resources and support to activities
Online youth participation in Internet Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth not involved in decision making • Euro-sceptic youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standardised youth participation in decision making • Creation of offline environment for youth participation for discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating tools for youth participation
Human rights education in schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers, teachers' unions, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stronger partnership between formal and non-formal education actors • Mainstreaming human rights education and incorporating it into formal education curricula 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafting recommendations to stress the importance of both formal education and non-formal education
Human rights legislations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of policy guidelines • Education, awareness raising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging changes in legislation in member states



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS

General recommendations

Providing structural support to make human rights education a reality in the formal education system

- Develop the competences of teachers in human rights education
- Support advocacy work at local and national levels to push for human rights education and non-formal education in the formal education system
- Develop innovative and relevant human rights education tools to ensure that skills and attitudes are also developed, and not only knowledge
- Rely more on the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education as an advocacy tool.

Improving *We Can!*

- Develop a more concise version of the step-by-step guide for short workshops
- Include evidence-based research on the impact of counter narratives in the manual
- Design self-assessment tools for people running workshops with *We Can!*
- Set up an online hub with various examples and cases of different narratives (counter, alternative, oppressive, etc.).

Accessibility of educational resources

- Continue the translation of Campaign materials into different languages.

Hate speech versus freedom of speech

- Develop guidelines to understanding the boundaries of freedom of expression better.

Reaching out to other target groups

- Focus more on rural areas
- Propose specific educational activities for the judiciary and the police
- Work with and train local and national authority staff to gain a better common understanding of the topics of the Campaign, even if it is challenging
- Involve parents in the education process, especially on the topic of online safety.

Intersectionality and inclusiveness

- Design activities and actions that have a strong intersectional perspective
- Build links amongst groups working on specific issues or with particular target groups
- Work more with target groups to combat hate speech, especially in the preparation of action days
- Involve the victims of oppressive narratives in the process of developing counter narratives.

Youth work

- Use peer-to-peer education to involve young people and make the development of the movement an example of youth participation

- Work with role models and ambassadors to whom young people can relate
- Mobilise local youth councils to reach out to more young people
- Use the 'living library' concept to break stereotypes and prejudices.

Collaboration with local or national authorities on combating hate speech

- Propose training activities and guidelines for activists on advocacy and how to work with local or national authorities
- Put a stronger emphasis on politicians' engagement with the topic of hate speech
- Ensure that the commitments made by governments on hate speech actually become part of national legislation.

Collaboration with Internet companies

- Create spaces where representatives from Internet services providers, NGOs, media, governments, and the judiciary can meet, discuss hate speech challenges and embrace a human rights perspective
- Continue to work on the definition of hate speech so that a common definition can be used across countries and with Internet companies
- Ask for more transparency and consistency in the implementation of community standards
- Continue exploring the questions raised by hate speech laws when it comes to freedom of expression and prosecution.

Expectations towards the Council of Europe

The Council of Europe is expected to:

- keep the topics of hate speech, media literacy and Internet governance high on its agenda, especially for the Youth Department and the European Youth Foundation
- help set up a NHSM Database of Organisations: an accessible online database of NGOs involved in the NHSM topics with references to the activities they implemented
- maintain NHSM platforms as well as keep the Campaign branding (logo, etc.) accessible
- provide support for the first two meetings of the NHSM Activist's Alliance
- provide institutional support at local level with the endorsement of activities or the sending of letters of support
- provide support in the field of HRE with the organisation of training courses on Bookmarks and We Can!, and the translation of Campaign educational materials
- make available a collection of good practices from the Campaign.

CLOSING THE CONFERENCE...

The Evaluation conference of the No Hate Speech Movement ended with the closing speeches of Anja Olin-Pape, chair of the Advisory Council on Youth, and Antje Rothemund, Head of the Council of Europe Youth Department. Echoing the opening speeches, the two speakers reaffirmed the necessity to continue acting against hate speech and for human rights, both on the Internet and offline.

Anja Olin-Pape started her speech by reminding participants of the terrorist attack in Utoya that aimed at the very idea of a free and open society, where young people have safe spaces to organise themselves, dream and act for a better society and engage as active citizens. This attack, she said, will be a reminder that combating hate speech and promoting human rights count, and that it is a matter of shaping how society is supposed to function from here and now on.

Many of the reasons why the Campaign was deemed necessary six years ago are still more than valid today, Anja reminded the audience. Now, however, thanks to the No Hate Speech Movement, there is an open discussion on hate speech and how to combat it in our societies. She welcomed the burgeoning initiatives of activists to create safe spaces for discussion and safeguard human rights online.



” *Activists all over the world have stepped up their efforts in denouncing fake news, hate speech and excluding narratives.*

— Anja Olin-Pape

Anja Olin-Pape assured listeners that Campaign issues will still remain at the heart of work of the Advisory Council on Youth and the Council of Europe Youth Sector whose 2018–2019 priorities state that “the sustainability of the Council of Europe’s core values relies on the creativity, competencies, social commitment, and contribution of young people as well as on their confidence in the future”. Youth participation in Internet governance, human rights education national policy development and media literacy will be a crucial part of this work. In this regard, the Youth Agenda 2030 for the Council of Europe should integrate the values, experiences and results of the No Hate Speech Movement to enrich them and take them further.

” *The stakes are admittedly very high, and progressive results are needed.*

— Anja Olin-Pape

Anja Olin-Pape concluded her speech by expressing her gratitude towards all the people who have engaged with the No Hate Speech Movement for their commitment and hard work.

Antje Rothemund recalled the experience of the 1995 All Different – All Equal campaign as a key element to understanding the No Hate Speech Movement. The All Different – All Equal campaign indeed relied on decentralised national campaigns, a mobilising motto, a sign of identification, and a clear message of equality in dignity and equality in diversity. Yet the No Hate Speech Movement was an innovation as the Council of Europe’s first online campaign.

Gathering, bringing together, consulting, delegating, associating ambassadors, creating alliances and engaging new allies – such as bloggers – have all been at the heart of the No Hate Speech Movement development.

” *We use every single opportunity to present it, promote it, generate support for it.*

— Antje Rothemund

Antje Rothemund made a long but not exhaustive list of key events all across Europe and beyond that shaped the Campaign, emphasising that there is no campaign without interactions. The Campaign was also permanently present in the activities of the EYC, and the EYF supported 141 projects at local, national and international levels.

” *The offline dimension with personal encounters is also what has made this Campaign a movement where everyone is welcome, where everyone is useful.*

— Antje Rothemund

The Campaign ends here but the work and commitment of the Council of Europe does not stop here; the task now is to translate this into programmes, into strategies and into policies. The results of this Conference will be submitted to the Joint Council on Youth and the Committee of Ministers. The conclusions and proposals of the Conference will also be taken into account in the preparation of Agenda 2030, the new strategy on youth policy of the Council of Europe.

” *This campaign has changed the work of the Youth Department and the Youth Sector of the Council of Europe sustainably because you have brought in not only new partners but also new subjects and a new awareness that will now be reflected in our programmes.*

— Antje Rothemund

Learning is at the centre of the Council of Europe Youth Department and Youth Sector work and the Campaign generated new learning in many different ways and dimensions: intercultural learning, learning about offline and online culture and how they can complement each other, institutional learning and how to run an online Campaign, but also intergenerational learning and personal learning.



” *I am convinced that the spirit and the legacy and also the knowledge of this Campaign will live on in our programmes.*

— Antje Rothemund

Antje Rothemund closed the last speech of the Conference by thanking and paying tribute to all the many people who had contributed to making this Conference and the Campaign a success.



5. THE CONFERENCE WAS ALSO...

The Conference was a complex and dynamic process supported by a diverse programme that included plenary sessions, working groups, input from guest speakers, moments of celebrations, and spaces to network and develop future collaborations. As it was not possible to cover all the programme elements in the same depth, this section aims at giving an overview of what the Conference was beyond the work in plenary sessions and working groups.

Learning from each other's practices at the exhibition corner

The third floor of the European Youth Centre was reorganised as an open exhibition corner where participants could showcase some of the Campaign tools they had developed since the beginning of the Campaign. The exhibition featured various posters, badges with slogans or the now famous WediActivists board game – an educational tool to work with young people on the issue of hate speech, discrimination and digital citizenship.

Celebrating the end of the Campaign with the Secretary General, Thorbjørn Jagland

After delivering his speech, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe stayed with participants in the dining hall of the European Youth Centre to discuss issues informally over drinks, and take some photos with them.



Online presence

The plenary sessions of the conference were streamed online, participants blogged and posted on social media. The Thunderclap at the end of the conference had an outreach of 275534 people.

Awareness-raising actions on the streets of Strasbourg

At the end of the last plenary session on the second day, participants of the Conference collected Campaign materials from the European Youth Centre and walked the streets and main squares of Strasbourg to interact with local people and raise awareness of the Campaign topics.

Attending a reception at the Strasbourg Town Hall

Following the street action, participants were invited by Nawel Rafik-Elmrini, deputy mayor, to the Strasbourg city hall for a reception. The event was the occasion to celebrate the fruitful collaboration between the Council of Europe and the city of Strasbourg. Over the past four years, this collaboration led to the organisation of various activities, such as training courses for activists and educators for human rights education based on Bookmarks, various action days and street actions, the No Hate Sounds Festival, and so on. The collaboration between the two institutions to promote human rights and combat hate speech at both European and local levels will continue beyond the end of the Campaign. Reminding that Strasbourg was one of the homes of the Campaign, Rui Gomes, Head of Education and Training Division of the Council of Europe Youth Department, thanked the City of Strasbourg and all the local partners for their involvement in the Campaign.



Remembering victims of hate crimes

At the beginning of the third day, a participant took the floor to read the first verse of a poem written during the Second World War, on the wall of a cellar, etched on the wall, by a Jewish prisoner in a Nazi concentration camp, in Cologne, Germany. April 12 was the Jewish Remembrance Day of the victims of the Holocaust (Yom HaShoah).

” *I believe in the sun
even when it is not shining
And I believe in love,
even when there’s no one there.
And I believe in God,
even when he is silent.*

The aerial picture

In the morning of the second day of the Conference, participants of the Conference and staff members of the Council of Europe met in front of the Palais de l’Europe where they received red No Hate Speech Movement T-shirts. They gathered to form a heart shape that was pictured from above by a drone. The picture was then printed and presented to each participant at the closing of the Conference by Antje Rothmund, Head of the Council of Europe Youth Department, as an acknowledgement of their commitment to the Campaign.



The Fancy Love Speech party and its photo booth

The last evening of the Conference was a moment of celebration with the Fancy Love Speech party. A photo booth was set in the yard of the European Youth Centre and was used by participants to take original pictures as souvenirs of the Conference.



6. APPENDICES

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ALBANIA - ALBANIE

Ram Hadroj	Porta Rome per Integrim
Kaltra Toska	Youth Center «Epoka e Re»
Luis Bekteshi	Youth Center «Perspektiva»
Anjeza Bojaxhiu	Tirana Municipality - Municipalité de Tirana
Gurali Haxhillari	Roma Active Albania (RAA)

ANDORRA - ANDORRE

Joao De Melo	Coordinator - Coordinateur
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ARMENIA - ARMENIE

Nelli Gishyan	Coordinator - Coordinatrice
Jonny Kondakjian	Youth Alliance Via Networking (YAN)

AUSTRIA - AUTRICHE

Verena Fabris	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Bundesweites Netzwerk Offene Jugendarbeit
Philippe Schennach	Zivilcourage und Anti-Rassismus-Arbeit
Alexander Glowatschnig	Arbeitsgemeinschaft zum Schutz der Rechte der Kinder vor sexueller Ausbeutung
Daniela Grabovac	Antidiskriminierungsstelle Steiermark

AZERBAIJAN - AZERBAIDJAN

Aysun Zeynalova	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Azərbaycanın gənclər təşkilatlarını birləşdirən və onlara unikal imkanlar yaradan onlayn platformadır (NAYORA)
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REPUBLIC OF BELARUS - REPUBLIQUE DE BELARUS

Darya Miron	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Public Republican Student Union
Volha Krauchanka	National Campaign - Campagne nationale

BELGIUM - BELGIQUE

Joren Bellis	Tumult vzw
Manu Mainil	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Bureau International de la Jeunesse, Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles
Imre Simon	European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA)
Alina-Simona Bricman	European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS)
Julia Mozer	Facing Facts Online - A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe
Manel Sanchez	European Youth Card Association
Julia Kata	International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex Youth & Student Organisation (IGLYO)



BULGARIA - BULGARIE

Sofiya Totozova	Youth centre Plovdiv
Dzhafer Saatcha	National Campaign - Campagne nationale

CANADA (QUÉBEC)

Marie-Philippe Drouin	Coalition montréalaise des groupes jeunesse LGBT
Roxanne Locas	Maison des jeunes Le Cabanon de Lac-Beauport
Amal Hamich	Les Offices Jeunesse Internationaux du Québec

CYPRUS - CHYPRE

Oluwatodimu Bankole	Online Activist - Militante en ligne
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CZECH REPUBLIC - REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE

Zdenek Zalis	Coordinator – Coordinateur Centrum bezpečnějšího internetu (SIC CZ)
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ESTONIA - ESTONIE

Maari Poim	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Archimedes Foundation Youth Agency
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FINLAND - FINLANDE

Riikka Kaukinen	Finnish Youth Cooperation (Allianssi)
Mikko Cortes Tellez	Ministry of Education and Culture

FRANCE

Ermira Berisha	Online Activist - Militante en ligne
Varvara Karpechenkova	Online Activist - Militante en ligne
Alaw Nabila	Online Activist - Militante en ligne
Soraya Ouldji	Online Activist - Militante en ligne
Kevin Rossaro	Trainee, City of Strasbourg - Stagiaire, Ville de Strasbourg
Jonathan Braun	European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS)
Chloe Bourguignon	Online Activist - Militante en ligne
Agata De Latour	European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA)

GEORGIA - GEORGIE

Gubaz Koberidze	Human Rights Association
Nika Bakhsoliani	Youth Association DRONI

GERMANY - ALLEMAGNE

Sina Laubenstein	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Neue deutsche Medienmacher e.V.
Maryna Bohuslavska	NGO European Youth Community



GREECE - GRECE

Stella Ioannou	YouthNet Hellas
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HUNGARY - HONGRIE

Lilla Nedeczky	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Hope for Children Hungary
Mihaly Szabo	AEGEE-Europe - European Students' Forum
Barnabas Gulyas	Federation of Children's and Youth Municipal Councils
Balint Josa	UNITED for Intercultural Action

ICELAND - ISLANDE

Hafthor Freyr Lindal	SAFT Iceland - Heimili og skóli - Home and School - the National Parents Association
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IRELAND - IRLANDE

Aiste Slajute	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – National Youth Council of Ireland
Ian McGahon	Online Activist - Militant en ligne
Lorna Costelloe	National Youth Council of Ireland
Robert Nesirky	National Youth Council of Ireland

ITALY - ITALIE

Alessandra Coppola	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Agenzia di Promozione integrata per i Cittadini in Europa (APICE)
Debora Barletta	APICE
Bilel Tahar	Eurodemos Youth Mobility NGO

LATVIA - LETTONIE

Pilips Normunds	Sabiedrības integrācijas fonds
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LITHUANIA - LITUANIE

Neringa Jurciukonyte	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Nacionalinis socialinės integracijos institutas
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LUXEMBOURG

Jeff Kaufmann	Coordinator - Coordinateur – National Youth Service - Service National de la Jeunesse
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MALTA - MALTE

Isabelle Mallia	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Aġenzija Żgħażaġh
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MEXICO - MEXIQUE

Omar Ojeda	Coordinator – Coordinateur – National Council to Prevent Discrimination (CONAPRED)
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MONTENEGRO

Krsto Vukadinovic	Coordinator - Coordinateur
Nik Paddison	Odd-Socks Training and Consultancy
Jelena Fustic	Forum Mladi I Neformalna Edukacija (Forum MNE)

MOROCCO - MAROC

Yassine Isbouia	Coordinator – Coordinateur – Forum Méditerranéen de la Jeunesse (FOMEJE)
Fatima Zahra Ritab	FOMEJE

THE NETHERLANDS - PAYS-BAS

Ben Ahmed Ben Yerrou	Youth Organization Asri
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NORWAY - NORVEGE

Eirik Rise	Coordinator – Coordinateur – Norges Handikapforbund Oslo
Fatema Al-Musawi	National Campaign - Campagne nationale
Karen Sofie Pettersen	Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs

POLAND - POLOGNE

Jan Dabkowski	Coordinator – Coordinateur – Young Journalists' Association 'Polis'
Barbara Jedrzejczyk	National Campaign - Campagne nationale
Cihan Kılıç	Voices of Young Refugees in Europe (VYRE)

PORTUGAL

Margarida Saco	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Instituto Português do Desporto e Juventude (IPDJ)
Luis Andre Saldanha	Juventude da Cruz Vermelha de Braga
Sofia Rasgado	Portuguese Safer Internet Centre

ROMANIA - ROUMANIE

Irina Drexler	Coordinator – Coordinatrice Peace Action, Training and Research Institute of Romania (PATRIR)
Georgiana Rosculeț	Save the Children Romania
Marian Panait	Organizația Națională Cercetării României
Andreeas Novacovici	YouHub Association

RUSSIAN FEDERATION - FEDERATION DE RUSSIE

Elina Tabakchi	National Youth Council of Russia
Mikhail Bortnikov	National Youth Council of Russia

SERBIA - SERBIE

Ivan Despotovic	NGO Libero
Ivana Kostadinovic	Service Civil International
Ivan Zivkovic	Timok YouthCenter



SLOVAK REPUBLIC - REPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE

Martin Mlynár	Študentská rada vysokých škôl Social Up
Beata Simurdova	Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport

SLOVENIA - SLOVENIE

Maša Eržen	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – National youth council of Slovenia - Conseil national de la jeunesse de Slovénie
Barbara Hvastija Kunc	Office for Youth - Ministry of Education and Sport

SPAIN - ESPAGNE

Bruno del Mazo	Coordinator – Coordinateur – Spanish Institute for Youth (INJUVE)
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SWITZERLAND - SUISSE

Youssef Himmat	Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations (FEMYSO)
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“THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA” - “L’EX-REPUBLIQUE YUGOSLAVE DE MACEDOINE”

Marija Andreeva	Coordinator – Coordinatrice – Institute for Economic Strategies and International Affairs
Stefan Petrovski	Center for Intercultural Dialogue (CID)

TUNISIA - TUNISIE

Rym Grioui	Coordinator - Coordinateur
Hajer Araisia	National Campaign - Campagne nationale
Moez Yakoubi	National Campaign - Campagne nationale

TURKEY - TURQUIE

Sevcan Birdal	Online Activist - Militant en ligne
Mehmet Çetinkaya	Youth Work Association
Mustafa Gundoglu	Rönesans Enstitüsü Derneği

UKRAINE

Kateryna Zeziulina	Coordinator - Coordinatrice
Olha Vyhovskaya	National Campaign - Campagne nationale
Anna Laptieva	National Campaign - Campagne nationale

UNITED KINGDOM - ROYAUME-UNI

Umit Ozturk	Coordinator - Coordinateur Euro-Mediterranean Resources Network (EUROMERNET)
Matteo Haenen	EUROMERNET
Nika Jelendorf	Media Diversity Institute (MDI)
Neringa Tumenaite	UNITED for Intercultural Action (European Advisory Council on Youth)



SPEAKERS/RESOURCES PERSONS - INTERVENANTS/PERSONNE RESSOURCES

Natalie Alkiavidou	Speaker - Intervenant, Aequitas Cyprus
Hana Bendova	Evaluator - Evalueur
Mehdi Boswingel	Video Producer
Laszlo Földi	Facilitator - Facilitateur
Darek Grzemny	Consultant (campaign report)
Jimmy « JimProd »	Musical Animator - Animateur Musical
Ruxandra Pandeia	Social Media Coordinator - Coordinatrice média sociaux
Edouard Portefaix	Rapporteur
Guillaume Rudin	Video Producer
Ron Salaj	Consultant (campaign compendium)
Gavan Tittley	Keynote Speaker - Intervenant, Maynooth University
Jaroslav Valusch	Evaluator - Evalueur

COUNCIL OF EUROPE - CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY – ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE

Anne Brasseur	Ambassador of the No Hate Speech Movement Ambassadeur du Mouvement contre le discours de haine
Gabriela Heinrich	Coordinator of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance General Rapporteur on Combating Racism and Intolerance Coordinatrice de l'Alliance Parlementaire contre la haine Rapporteur Général contre le Racisme et l'Intolérance
Jean Pierre Grin	Member of the No Hate Parliamentary Assembly Membre de l'Assemblée parlementaire contre la haine

EUROPEAN COMMISSION AGAINST RACISM AND INTOLERANCE – COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE CONTRE LE RACISME ET L'INTOLÉRANCE (ECRI)

Jean-Paul Lehnens	Chair – Président
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JOINT COUNCIL ON YOUTH – CONSEIL MIXTE SUR LA JEUNESSE

Anja Olin-Pape	Chair of the European Advisory Council on Youth Présidente du Conseil Consultatif européen de la Jeunesse
Ivan Hromada	Vice Chair of the European Steering Committee on Youth Vice-Président du Comité directeur européen pour la jeunesse



SECRETARIAT – SECRÉTARIAT

Thorbjørn Jagland	Secretary General – Secrétaire Général
Snežana Samardžić-Marković	Director General of Democracy Directrice Générale de la Démocratie

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY – ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE

Giorgio Loddo	Secretariat – Secrétaire
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CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES – CONGRÈS DES POUVOIRS LOCAUX ET RÉGIONAUX

Muriel Grimmeissen	Co-Secretary to the Current Affairs Committee Co-secrétaire de la commission des questions d'actualités
Alessandra D'Arrigo	Trainee – Stagiaire

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION DEPARTMENT – DÉPARTEMENT DE L'ANTIDISCRIMINATION

Hallvard Gorseth	Head of Department – Chef du Service
Stefano Valenti	Head of the No Hate Speech and Cooperation Unit – Chef d'Unité "Non au discours de haine" et Coopération
Menno Ettema	Programme Manager – Responsable de programme
Francesca Lionetti	Intercultural cities – Cités Interculturelles
Irena Guidikova	Head of Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination programmes division Chef de division Programmes sur l'inclusion et l'antidiscrimination
Cécile Greboval	Gender Equality Unit – Unité égalité de genre

YOUTH DEPARTMENT – SERVICE DE LA JEUNESSE

Antje Rothemund	Head of Department – Chef de Service
Tina Mulcahy	Executive Director of the European Youth Centre Strasbourg - Directrice Exécutive du Centre européen de la jeunesse de Strasbourg
Mara Georgescu	Project Officer (Partnership on Youth) Responsable de projet (Partenariat jeunesse)
Marina Filaretova	Programme Officer – Responsable de programme
Marius Jitea	Programme Officer – Responsable de programme
Stefan Manevski	Educational Advisor – Conseiller pédagogique
Natalia Chardymova	Educational Advisor – Conseillère pédagogique European Youth Centre Budapest Centre européen de la jeunesse à Budapest
Nina Kapoor	Administrative Assistant – Assistante administrative
Katalin Ormos	Administrative Assistant – Assistante administrative
Jackie Lubelli	Administrative Assistant – Assistante administrative
Estelle Glessinger	Assistant to the Campaign – Assistante de la campagne
Casper Renting	Trainee – Stagiaire
Anna Conkova	Trainee – Stagiaire
Enrico Elefante	Trainee – Stagiaire
Rui Gomes	Head of Education and Training Division – Chef de Division, Education et formation



PREPARATORY GROUP – GROUPE PRÉPARATOIRE

Aysun Zeynalova	National Campaign Coordinator Azerbaijan – Coordinatrice de campagne nationale Azerbaïdjan
Manu Mainil	European Steering Committee on Youth – Comité directeur européen pour la jeunesse
Matej Manevski	Advisory Council on Youth – Conseil consultatif pour la Jeunesse
Oluwatodimu Bankole	Online Activist – Militante en ligne
Menno Ettema	Council of Europe – Conseil de l'Europe
Stefan Manevski	Council of Europe – Conseil de l'Europe
Natalia Chardymova	Council of Europe – Conseil de l'Europe
Rui Gomes	Council of Europe – Conseil de l'Europe

DAILY PROGRAMME

Tuesday 10 April

Arrival of participants
Registration and travel reimbursement

12:30 Lunch at the European Youth Centre

14:00 **Opening of the conference**

Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General of Democracy, Council of Europe
Ivan Hromada, vice-Chair of the European Steering Committee on Youth
Anne Brasseur, Ambassador of the No Hate Speech Movement

14:30 Introduction of participants and conference programme

15:00 ***Did we do it?***

Presentation of the findings of external evaluation of the No Hate Speech Movement youth campaign covering 2016-2017

Hana Bendova, consultant, external evaluator

15:30 Reflection on the evaluation findings and feedback on its recommendations in working groups

17:30 Address by **Thorbjørn Jagland**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

19:00 *Dinner and social programme*



Wednesday 11 April

- 09:15 Opening and introduction of the day's programme
- 09:30 **Hate Speech, Human Rights and IT today**
Hate Speech in the agenda of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, by **Jean-Paul Lehnerts**, Chair
The role of politicians and lawmakers, by **Gabriela Heinrich**, General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance, and Coordinator of the No Hate Alliance, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
New opportunities and challenges for human rights education, **Dr. Natalie Alkiavidou**, Director of Aequitas and lecturer to the University of Central Lancashire, Cyprus.
Hatespeech today: what is there to learn? Keynote by **Dr. Gavan Titley**, Maynooth University
- 10:45 **What next?** Reflection on achievements, present issues and future steps to address them - in working groups
- 12:15 Departure to the Council of Europe headquarters
- 12:45 Group photo and lunch at the Council of Europe headquarters
- 14:45 **This was it!**
Great ideas, plans, activities, tools and stories of campaigning – and bad ones too!
Participants-led sessions on:
Human Rights Education – Learning from practices in education to counter and prevent hate speech
Media and Hate Speech – literacy, journalist training, guidelines and codes of conduct
Campaigning with and for groups targeted by hate speech – from thematic approaches to coalitions to counter hate speech and protecting human rights for all
Sexism and Gender Equality online – the campaign's contribution now and in the future
Youth work - Youth initiated, led and implemented activities at grass-roots level
Online Safety for and by youth - Approaches and practices to encourage online safe behaviour of children and youth
The Internet and Hate Speech - Engaging with Internet businesses and others for effective addressing online hate speech
Policy and legislative action on hate speech - political and society support for legislative and policy measures on hate speech and discrimination
We CAN! - CAN We?– from learning to using counter and alternative narratives to Hate Speech narratives as a campaign tool.
- 18:00 Feedback on the day and plenary closing
- 19:00 Reception and activity at the City Hall of Strasbourg, with **Nawel Rafik-Elmrini**, deputy to the Mayor of Strasbourg
Dinner in town (self-organised)



Thursday 12 April

09:15 Opening and introduction of the day's programme

09:30 **Moving forward**

Working groups on the continuation of the movement by national campaigns, partners and activists

11:30 **We'll do it!**

Conference conclusions and guidelines for future work on combating hate speech for the Council of Europe, national campaigns, partners and activists in working groups

12:45 *Lunch*

14:30 Working groups continue

15:30 Plenary presentation and feedback on guidelines

16:30 Break

17:00 **We did it!**

Presentation of Conference conclusions and guidelines

Celebrative closing of the European youth campaign

Anja Olin-Pape, Chair of the Advisory Council on Youth

Antje Rothmund, Head of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe

18:00 Closing reception

19:30 Fancy Love Speech party

Friday 13 April

Departure of participants

LOVE HUMAN RIGHTS. REFUGEES WELCOME. NO SEXIST HATE SPEECH. I AM MUSLIM TOO. SOLIDARITY WITH VICTIMS OF HATE CRIME. COME OUT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. CHALLENGE TRANS|HOMOPHOBIA. MAKE A DIFFERENCE ON THE INTERNET. STOP ANTISEMITISM. LOVE SPEECH IS BEAUTIFUL. HATE IS NOT A RELIGION. SOLIDARITY WITH ROMA. HATE SPEECH IS NOT WELCOME. WE CAN! LOVE HUMAN RIGHTS. WE CAN!

The No Hate Speech Movement is a Council of Europe campaign which was launched in March 2013. Its aim was to combat racism and discrimination in the online expression of hate speech, by equipping young people and youth organisations with the necessary competences to recognise and act against hate speech. The European Campaign, led by the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, was closed in December 2017.

Is This It? was the title of the evaluation and closing Conference of the Campaign, held in April 2018. This report provides an overview of the work of the Conference, including the evaluation of the Campaign and exploration of human rights concerns with regard to hate speech in Europe today from the point of view of youth activists for human rights. The reader will find the summaries of guest speaker interventions, the outcomes of the working groups, insights into different programme elements, recommendations from participants and the conclusions of the Conference.

Is this it? – No, it is not! responded Anne Brasseur, Ambassador of the No Hate Speech Movement. The European Campaign is over but the work of the movement continues at a national level in many countries across Europe and beyond. Combating hate speech in all forms and in the media remains a task for anyone concerned with universal human rights

www.coe.int/youthcampaign



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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 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 European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

Council of Europe Publishing
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