Closing Conference of the Project "We Can for Human Rights Speech"
"SPEAKING HUMAN RIGHTS ON-LINE"

26-27 April 2022, Brussels and on-line

Background

The project "We can for Human Rights Speech" supports civil society to more effectively combating hate speech by developing user-friendly tools, building capacities, and consolidating cooperation at the European level.

The project is implemented by a Consortium led by the Council of Europe including four European NGOs: ActiveWatch, Agenzia di Promozione Integrata per i Cittadini in Europa (APICE), Neue Deutsche Medienmacher*innene e.V. (NdM) and A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe (CEJI). It is co-funded by the EU through its Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme and the Council of Europe. Its implementation started in February 2020 and will be completed in April 2022.

The project has produced three user friendly tools, developed via evidence-based research and previous material of the No Hate Speech Movement, including:

- Hate speech calculator: which helps assess the severity of the hate speech incident, its potential to spread online, its damage to individuals and groups, and determine best response
- Human Rights Narrative builder: which allows to define your human rights arguments on a particular topic/issue. It helps clarify what messages to use to push back against hate or to simply campaign for human rights online.
- Communication strategies toolbox: which provides step by step guidelines, checklists and specific tips for effectively using digital platform tools.

The project also provided capacity building trainings, workshops on the use of the above online tools and networking opportunities to activists.

For the project's closing conference, the implementing consortium invited other organisations and actors active in the field of combating hate speech to co-organise some of the sessions. The conference furthermore invites practitioners, educators, policy makers, researchers and others working to promote human rights online and thus to enhance the potential for networking, building synergies and future cooperation.

The event's title, "Speaking Human Rights On-line", points to an approach aiming at proactively promoting equality and non-discrimination through human rights-based narratives and making the on-line space a safer place for everyone.

The event will cover latest developments in the field of combating hate speech via research, policy, awareness-raising and education, with a strong focus on the role and potential of human rights-based narratives in advancing equality, human rights and democratic values.

Special attention will be given to how responses to hate speech evolved and adapted in the context of the Covid pandemic, as well as to issues related to adoption of new European standards and guidelines, enhancing inter-sectorial and multidisciplinary cooperation, use of human rights narratives to counter hate speech, victim support, role of media literacy, research and monitoring of hate speech to ensure a comprehensive response to hate speech, and promote human rights speech online. of hate speech.

Objectives of the event:
The joint conference provides an occasion for:
- Networking between practitioners, activists, researchers, experts and policy makers active against on-line hate speech issues.
- Showcasing and sharing results, good practices, lesson-learned and tools developed by various projects on mapping, researching, and educating about promoting on-line speech for Human Rights.
- Identifying outstanding needs and areas for potential synergies and future co-operation.

Format
To maximise outreach and to flexibly adapt to evolving covid-related restrictions, the event is conducted in a hybrid format with all plenary session available online. The afternoon workshops and open space discussions are organised in-person, while specific workshops are held online for the online participants.

Participants
60 participants will be invited to attend in-person (pending sanitary guidelines in place) including practitioners, activists, researchers, experts and policy makers engaged in addressing on-line hate speech and/or promoting human rights online. Selection of participants will take into consideration a balance of regional and gender representation and diversity of experiences with the topic. Their travel and subsistence expenses will be borne by the Council of Europe on the terms specified in the related Rules.

On-line attendance of plenary sessions and participation in on-line workshops is open for everyone on registration.

Language
Working language of the event is English.

PROGRAMME
Closing Conference of the Project "We Can for Human Rights Speech"
"SPEAKING HUMAN RIGHTS ON-LINE"

26 – 27 April 2022
COMET, Place Stéphanie 20, 1050 Brussels, 4th floor
and on-line

Format:

Hybrid	In-person	On-line

Tuesday, 26 April 2022
Morning Programme

09.00-09.30	**Participants' registration**
09-30-10.15	**Opening (hybrid)** Speakers: • Hallvard Gorseth, Head of Anti-Discrimination Department, Council of Europe • Louisa Klingvall, Team leader, Fundamental rights Policy Unit, European Union Directorate General Justice and Consumers Conference facilitator: • Menno Ettema, Council of Europe, We Can for Human Rights Project Consortium Liaison with on-line participants: • Victoria Carasava, Active Watch, We Can for Human Rights Project Consortium **Getting to know the participants and programme** **Presentation of results of the project 'We CAN 4 Human Rights Speech'**
10.15-11.30	**1st Plenary Session (hybrid) - Stock Tacking** **Latest European Developments from Policy to Practice** Speakers: • Triantafillos Loukarelis, Chair of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), Council of Europe • Jenita Rauta, Researcher at Poliisiammattikorkeakoulu - Police University College, Finland and member of the EU Working group on hate crime training for law enforcement • Alessandra Coppola, APICE, member of the We Can for Human Rights Project Consortium • Neringa Jurciukonyte, European No Hate Speech Network Panel moderator: • Tajana Graovac, Project manager, Neue deutsche Medienmacher*innen (NdM), We Can for Human Rights Project Consortium
11.30-12.00	**Break**

12.00-13.00	**2nd Plenary Session (hybrid) - Stock Tacking** **Multi-stakeholder cooperation and Interdisciplinary synergies in combating on-line hate speech - success stories and lessons learned** Speakers: • Carlos Morán Férres, Spanish Ministry of Equality, CoE partner in the Systemic Mapping of Hate Speech in Spain • Matt Henderson, Municipality of Bradford, Council of Europe's Intercultural Cities Network – Anti-rumours campaign • Astrid Eichstadt, UNIA, Belgium Equality Body • Federico Faloppa - Rete nazionale per il contrasto ai fenomeni d'odio Panel moderator: • Debora Barletta, APICE, We Can for Human Rights Project Consortium
13.00-14.30	**Break**

Afternoon Programme (two separate programmes for in-person and remote attendance)

	At the venue: attendance in-person only Three workshops for about 20 participants each will be conducted in parallel
14.30-15.45	**Workshop 1:** "The rise of, and possible responses to, anti-gender narratives on-line" *The goal of this workshop is for participants to become familiar with what the anti-gender movement is; the actors involved; and some common narratives and arguments being spread in connection to a few specific themes including sports, public spaces, and gendered language. Participants will come away equipped to respond to common anti-gender narratives should they encounter hate speech.* • Zhan Chiam, Deputy Director, TGEU • Francesca Sanders, Policy Officer, TGEU **Workshop 2:** "The use of Counter and Alternative Narratives against hate and for human rights speech on-line" *This workshop, developed by INACH in cooperation with ActiveWatch, focuses on how to build and use counter and alternative narratives for human rights online. Within the workshop, participants will work together to analyse and create their own human rights narratives, in relation to concrete case studies on anti-Asian and antisemitic hate-speech in the COVID-19 context. Participants will also gain practical advice into how to construct effective human rights narratives and what they need to take into consideration in the development process.* • Adinde Schoorl, INACH • Victoria Carasava, Active Watch **Workshop 3:** "Building and maintaining alliances against hate and for human rights online" *This workshop aims to provide participants with the opportunity of reflecting on the importance of cooperation and alliances against hate speech and for human rights online. Participants will be provided with a brief overview of the possible counter-speech actions and will reflect strategically on how to build alliances and/or how to strengthen existing ones.* • Melissa Sonnino, CEJI

15.45-16.15	**Break**
16.15-18.00	**Open Space** *Parallel "open space" sessions will be made available for participants to provide an opportunity to run a short workshop or brainstorm and exchange ideas on selected topics.* *'Open Space session' rely on self-facilitation and reporting by participants.* *Facilitation guidelines and reporting formats will be made available for all groups.*

On-line: attendance only remotely
Parallel Virtual Workshops - upon registration

14.30-16.30	**Virtual Workshop A:** "Crash course on the on-line toolkit for human rights speech on-line" *The workshop will help the participants understand what human rights-based narratives are, what are its specificities, why we talk about the narrative today. The facilitator will guide the participants through the 5 steps of the Human Rights Narrative builder tool using a concrete example and offering to jointly reflect on the steps and try working them through. Participants are invited to actively contribute to the discussion and might walk away with concrete ideas for counter or alternative narratives* • Zara Lavchyan, Independent consultant **Virtual Workshop B:** - "CoE's 'Democracy Here, Democracy Now' Youth Campaign" *The workshop will explore with participants the new youth campaign to revitalise democracy and its key themes, with a focus on questions related with equality and non-discrimination (particularly the impact of hate speech on democratic participation) and digitalisation (the new media landscape, etc). In addition, participants will learn how they can take part in the campaign and will develop together actions and initiatives in the framework of the campaign.* • Ruxandra Pandea, Youth Department of the Council of Europe

At the venue: attendance in-person only

18.00-20.00	**Social gathering** *An informal social gathering to toast on the conclusion of the 'We CAN 4 Human Rights Speech' project.*

Wednesday, 27 April 2022
Morning Programme

9.00 – 9.15	**Opening of the day - At the venue: attendance in-person only** *Explanation of programme of the day*
9.15–10.30	**Reflecting on failures and challenges: what to learn?** *In this safe space, with gentle guidance by a moderator, participants are invited to share stories of what went wrong when they were combating hate speech and reflect on what can be learned from those events.* Facilitators: • Melissa Sonnino, CEJI, We Can for Human Rights Project Consortium • Menno Ettema, Council of Europe, We Can for Human Rights Project Consortium
10.30 -11.00	**Break**
11.00 –11.30	**Recap from previous sessions (hybrid)**
11.30- 12.45	**3rd Plenary Session (hybrid) – What's Next** **How to strengthen human rights speech in the future** Speakers • Bastiaan Winkel, Ministry of Justice of the Netherlands, and deputy chair of the former Expert Committee on Combating Hate Speech of the Council of Europe • Michaela Moua, EU Coordinator on Anti-racism • Julia Mozer, EU Public Policy Manager, Twitter • Andja Stanojkovic, 'Stop the Hate – Spread the Love' Regional campaign in Western Balkans Panel Moderator: • Melissa Sonnino, CEJI, We Can for Human Rights Project Consortium
12.45-13.00	**Conclusions of the Plenary Sessions** (and information about remaining programme) • Stefano Valenti, Head of No hate Speech and Co-operation Unit, Council of Europe • Tommaso Chiamparino, Policy Officer, European Union Directorate General Justice and Consumers
13.00– 14.30	**Break**

Afternoon Programme (two separate programmes for in-person and remote attendance)

At the venue: attendance in-person only:

At the venue: attendance in-person only
Three workshops for about 20 participants each will be conducted in parallel

14.30– 15.45	**Parallel workshops (in person)** **Workshop 4: "**Critical media literacy training, against hate speech for human rights" *This workshop, hosted by TMI Academy, lets you experience how Dutch youth work together against online hate speech. A series of short exercises and assignments will introduce you to Critical Media Literacy.* *A discussion between practitioners, hosted with Media 4 Change, on application of such approaches in different sectors of society completes this session.* • Michiel Kalverda, TMI Academy, the Netherlands • Neringa Jurčiukonytė, Media 4 Change Lithuania **Workshop 5:** "Countering hate – 10 keys to effectively communicating human rights" *This workshop, hosted by the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, will focus on effective ways to counter hate and encourage a culture of respect and inclusion in communications. Drawing on the '10 keys to effectively communicating human rights', the workshop will offer practical examples of how to counter hate with communication. Participants will be encouraged to actively participate in the workshop and share their own experiences.* • Tereza Reznakova, Press & Media Officer at the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) **Workshop 6:** "Tips and tricks using Twitter" • Silvia Caneva, Public Policy Manager, Twitter *This workshop will look at strategies and tools to help participants maximise the impact of their presence on Twitter as part of their advocacy work and achieve better results. To practise together, participants are invited to download the latest version of the twitter application on their mobiles, to think of a sentence that encapsulates their mission and select a tweet from their organisations that can be shared with the group.*
15.45-16.15	**Break**
16.45-18.00	**Open Space** *Parallel "open space" sessions will be made available for participants (due to sanitary measures restrictions to group size might apply). These sessions will provide an opportunity for participants to run short workshops and brainstorm and exchange ideas on the selected topic.*

On-line: attendance only remotely **Parallel Virtual Workshops - upon registration**	
14.30 - 16.30	**Virtual Workshop C:** "Applying the UN Rabat Plan of Action" *Speakers from the United Nations Human Rights Office (OHCHR) will present how the threshold test of the Rabat Plan of Action has been used in practice, including by the UN, audio-visual authorities and social media companies (www.ohchr.org/en/freedom-of-expression). The interactive session will also be an opportunity to discuss and apply the Rabat threshold test to a case scenario on hate speech by political and religious leaders during the pandemic (see p. 96 of the #Faith4Rights toolkit, available online at www.ohchr.org/Documents/Press/faith4rights-toolkit.pdf#page=96)* • Ibrahim Salama, Chief, OHCHR Human Rights Treaties Branch • Michael Wiener, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR Rule of Law, Equality and Non-discrimination Branch
	Virtual Workshop D: "Using the On-line Observatory on Hate Speech" *Gathering data about hate speech is essential, given the overwhelming volume of online activity. But how can AI be used ethically, transparently and for societal good? This workshop will look at why and how the European Observatory of Online Hate uses data, and how to make it accessible to the general public via stakeholders like civil society, law, campaigning and academic organisations.* • Gijs van Beek, European Online Observatory on Hate Speech (EOOH), TextGain

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26—27 APRIL

AFFLERBACH	**Thorsten**	**France**	**Council of Europe, Head of Roma and Travellers Team**
BALINT	**Josa**	**Hungary**	**United for Intercultural Action, Director**
BARLETTA	**Debora**	**Italy**	**APICE**
BELLARDI	**Nadia**	**Switzerland**	**Community Media Forum Europe (CMFE), Project manager**
BRANDAO	**Xavier**	**Hungary**	**I Am Here International, Network Development Officer**
CANEVA	**Silvia**	**Belgium**	**Twitter, Public Policy Manager**
CARASAVA	**Victoria**	**Romania**	**ACTIVE WATCH**
CESAROTTI	**Francesca**	**Italy**	**Amnesty International, Senior Head of the Human Rights Education Unit**
CHAMIGNON	**Raphaelle**	**Malta**	**MINISTRY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, SECURITY, REFORMS AND EQUALITY of Malta, Manager II, Human Rights Directorate**
CHIAM	**Zhan**	**Germany**	**TGEU, Deputy Director**
CHIAMPARINO	**Tommaso**	**Belgium**	**European Union Directorate General Justice and Consumers, Policy Officer,**
CIPI	**Alketa**	**Albania**	**Youth Center Perspektiva, Junior trainer**
COPPOLA	**Alessandra**	**Italy**	**APICE, Presidente**
DI MICCO	**Patrizia**	**Italy**	**No Hate Speech Movement Italy**
EICHSTAEDT	**Astrid**	**Belgium**	**Unia**
ETTEMA	**Menno**	**France**	**Council of Europe, Programme Manager, No Hate Speech and Cooperation Unit**
FALOPPA	**Federico**	**United Kingdom**	**University of Reading**
GJYLSHENI	**Sabina**	**Austria**	**EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), Policy trainee**
GORSETH	**Hallvard**	**France**	**Council of Europe, Head of Anti-Discrimination Department**
GRAOVAC	**Tajana**	**Germany**	**Neue deutsche Medienmacher*innen e.V. (NdM)**
GUARI	**Gisela**	**Belgium**	**Assembly of European Regions (AER), Institutional Relations & Advocacy Officer**
HADROJ	**Ram**	**Albania**	**Vish kepucet e mia, Executive directorand researcher**

HEIJDT	Lukas	Netherlands	TMI trainer
HENDERSON	Matthew	United Kingdom	City of Bradford
HÜBERS	Christina	Germany	ichbinhier e.V., Managing Director
JURCIUKONYTE	Neringa	Lithuania	NHSN
KALVERDA	Kalverda	Netherlands	TMI Founder and CEO
KAROUI	Chiraz Saida	Luxembourg	Legal expert specialized in human rights Docteur en Droit Senior legal and policy advisor
KLINGVALL	Louisa	Belgium	Team leader, Fundamental rights Policy Unit, European Union Directorate General Justice and Consumers
KOTEVIC	Jelena	Serbia	Commisssioner for Protection of Equality; Head of Private Sector Complaints Section
LEETE	Amy	Belgium	CEJI
LOUKARELIS	Triantafillios	Italy	UNAR - Ufficio Nazionale Antidiscriminazioni Razziali
MANEVSKI	Stefan	France	Council of Europe
MARASCALCHI	Rita	France	Council of Europe, Senior project officer
MARCHETTI	Margi	Belgium	Equinet, Communication officer
MORAN FERRES	Carlos	Spain	Spanish Ministry of Equality, CoE partner in the Systemic Mapping of Hate Speech in Spain
MOUA	Michaela	Belgium	EU Coordinator on Anti-racism
MOZER	Julia	Belgium	EU Public Policy Manager, Twitter
NGADI	Pierrot	France	Human Rights Activist, Chair of International Community Dynamics
PALAU	Léa	France	Council of Europe, project assistant, No Hate Speech and Cooperation unit
PHILLIPS	Emma	United Kingdom	Uk home office Hate Crime Policy Manager Neighbourhood Crime Unit
RAFAEL	Simone	Germany	Amadeu Antonio Stiftung, Head of the Digital Department
RAUTA	Jenita	Finland	Researcher at Poliisiammattikorkeakoulu - Police University College, Finland
REZNAKOVA	Tereza	Austria	EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) Press and Media Officer
RUSEVA	Gabriela	Belgium	All Digital, Project Manager
SANCHIS GIMENEZ	Tania	Belgium	On the Move, Communication officer
SANDERS	Francesca	Germany	TGEU, Policy Officer
SCHOORL	Adinde	Netherlands	INACH

SLEDDERING	Eva	Netherlands	Ministery of Justice and Security, Netherlands
SONNINO	Melissa	Italy	CEJI
Trajkovska Wehbe	Marina	Germany	Loesje Berlin, Head of project management
TRUCCO	Giada	Belgium	European Commission, DG NEAR, Communication Officer for the Western Balkans and Turkey
TSETSEKOU	Eleni	France	Council of Europe, Head of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Unit
TUMENAITE	Neringa	United Kingdom	United for Intercultural Action, Head of Advocacy
VALENTI	Stefano	France	Council of Europe, Head of No Hate Speech and Cooperation Unit
VAN ECK	Jacob	Netherlands	TMI trainer
VASILE	Sara	Romania	Romanian Department for Interethnic Relations, Advisor to the Secretary of State
WIJMER	Maurits	Netherlands	TMI
WINKEL	Bastiaan	Netherlands	Ministery of Justice and Security, Netherlands