



European Centre
for the Study of Hate



Save the Date

Challenging Hate: A Human Rights Approach

Conference hosted by the European Centre for the Study of Hate in association with the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion

Venue: University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland

Dates: 28-29 May 2026

The adoption by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe of its two sibling Recommendations on combating hate speech ([CM/Rec\(2022\)16](#)) and combating hate crime ([CM/Rec\(2024\)4](#)) created a comprehensive human rights framework for preventing and combating hate speech and hate crime across Europe. The European Centre for the Study of Hate at the University of Limerick will host, in association with the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion, a two day conference on the Limerick campus for academics, as well as policy-makers, practitioners, and activists to discuss the scope and potential impact of the Recommendations, as well as means by which they can be operationalised locally, nationally and internationally. As hate is mobilised and politicised within and outside our borders, this conference will challenge us to develop actionable proposals for change as we seek to promote the fundamental principles of equality and human dignity protected by the European Convention on Human Rights.

A call for papers will be issued in September 2025, in which participants will be asked to frame their own research and perspectives through the lens of the Recommendations, exploring topics such as:

- developing national frameworks for challenging hate speech and hate crime;
- Improving trust and reporting of hate speech and hate crime;
- addressing hate crime through the criminal justice system;
- hate speech and hate crime in educational contexts;
- the role of the media in disseminating and challenging hate speech and hate crime.

The language of the conference will be English and there will be no translation services available. Papers in the French language will be accepted and presented in a French language thematic workstream.

For further information, please contact ecsh@ul.ie