



The September issue looks at:

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### **(1) The big picture**



European Action Day ([EAD](#)) was observed on **12 August** organised by the [No Hate Speech Movement](#) (NHSM) and its online volunteers, on the occasion of the International Youth Day (United Nations). The aim of this EAD is to show the strength and power of young people standing up for human rights and expressing solidarity for those who are targeted by hate speech in Europe. The theme was “Youth and Migration – Free from Hate”.

The next Action Day (**21 September**) will be devoted to Peace and Dialogue. The NHSM is preparing to be part of the Peace One Day celebrations ([www.peaceoneday.org](http://www.peaceoneday.org))

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg has been asked by the [CoE Secretary General](#) to support the no hate speech movement.

The NHSM prepared an online commemoration of the Roma and Sinti Genocide during the CoE-supported conference Dik i Na Bistar – Look and Don't Forget organised on 30 July – 4 August by [Ternype – International Youth Roma Network](#). The [Youth Department](#) participated with three workshops: Hate speech and genocide; Human Rights Activism; No Hate Speech Movement takes action for 2 August.

The NHSM will be presented at the Conference on “[The Hate Factor in Political Speech](#)” (Warsaw, 18-19 September), co-organised by the CoE in cooperation with the Ministry of Administration and Digitisation of

Poland.

A regional campaign seminar will be held in Azerbaijan, hosted and co-organised by [NAYORA](#), acting as coordinator of the campaign in Azerbaijan.

On 23-29 September a study session “Game Over Hate” is being organised by the Centre for Intercultural Dialogue and Integration ([CIDI](#)) and the CoE [Youth Department](#) in the EYCB. It aims to create a community of gamers/professionals in the gaming industry who do not only understand and recognise hateful behaviour in online gaming spaces, but also proactively act to challenge it.

A workshop for NHSM **national coordinators** will be held in Brussels on 9-10 October co-organised with the *Bureau International de la Jeunesse* (French-Speaking Community of Belgium). Invitations will be sent out soon.

The NHSM **European Campaign Conference** will be held in **Strasbourg on 7-9 November**. This will be *the* main activity of the campaign in 2013.

A campaign newsletter is produced twice a month. You may wish to contribute to the campaign’s newsletter by writing to: [youth.nohatespeech@coe.int](mailto:youth.nohatespeech@coe.int). You can also subscribe to the newsletter by joining the movement or clicking “sign up our newsletter” in [www.nohatespeechmovement.org](http://www.nohatespeechmovement.org)

Campaign material – videos, templates for posters and the brochure presentation can be downloaded from [www.coe.int/youthcampaign](http://www.coe.int/youthcampaign).

Have *you* joined the official online Campaign? Please check out [www.nohatespeechmovement.org](http://www.nohatespeechmovement.org).

You may also wish to join the campaign on [Facebook](#) and subscribe to the campaign Tweets [[#nohatespeech](#)].

*Hate speech, as defined by the Committee of Ministers of the CoE, covers all forms of expression which spread, incite, promote or justify racial hatred, xenophobia, anti-Semitism or other forms of hatred based on intolerance, including: intolerance expressed by aggressive nationalism and ethnocentrism, discrimination and hostility against minorities, migrants and people of immigrant origin. For the purpose*

*of the campaign, other forms of discrimination and prejudice, such as anti-gypsyism, christianphobia, islamophobia, misogyny, sexism and discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity fall clearly within the scope of hate speech.*

An Exchange on the religious dimension of intercultural dialogue will take place during the [Armenian Chairmanship](#) of the CoE's Committee of Ministers on 2-3 September in Yerevan. The Exchange on "Freedom of religion in today's world: challenges and guarantees" will bring together high-level religious leaders, representatives of non-religious convictions, human rights experts and media specialists. The promotion of CoE values through intercultural dialogue to combat intolerance and promote freedom of religion is one of the main priorities of the Armenian Chairmanship which ends on 13 November 2013.

A motion for a resolution on [Massive Eavesdropping in Europe](#) was tabled in August by several members of the CoE's Parliamentary Assembly (PACE). Although not yet discussed in PACE and therefore only committing those who have signed it, it already has the support of [Reporters without Borders](#). Another motion for a resolution on young people's preference for video games and sports (only committing those who have signed it) was tabled on 26 June ([doc. 13254](#)). It supports the conclusions of the 2012 Youth Assembly regarding development of the young generation by using sport activities as good practices.

On 26 August three nominees were shortlisted for the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize: Ales Bialiatski (Belarus), the Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (Georgia) and the Rights Defence Network (China). The winner will be officially announced by the PACE President on 30 September.

At its 25th session to be held in Strasbourg from 29 to 31 October the [Congress](#) will focus on local and regional responses to the economic crisis and challenges in the sphere of social cohesion. Debates will cover "Integration through self-employment: promoting local entrepreneurship of migrants", "Migrants' access to regional labour markets" and "Regionalisation and devolution in Europe in a context of economic crisis". The session will also celebrate the European Charter of Local Self-Government, now that it covers all 47 member states of the CoE.

The [World Forum for Democracy](#) (WFD) on "Re-wiring democracy: connecting institutions and citizens in the digital age" will take place in

Strasbourg on 27-29 November 2013. Youth representatives will participate in the Forum as well as in the [Fringe programme](#).

## **(2) Youth Department update**

Members of the CMJ and the secretariat participated in the International Youth Forum [InterSeliger](#) (22-25 July) and in the [Baltic Artek camp](#) international stream on the Future of Europe (8-14 August) organised as part of the CoE programme of cooperation with the Russian Federation for 2013.

CMJ members also took part in the annual CDEJ summer university kindly hosted by the Slovak government on 20-22 August in Košice. An information day on the CoE youth policy programmes and structures was organised on 19 August. The summer university focused on Roma, including the Roma Youth Action Plan.

The [EYF](#) will make a fourth and final call for pilot activities that address challenges affecting young people at local level (deadline = 22 September; decisions taken = around 20 October). Decisions on the third call will be taken on 20 September.

The international expert team on the youth policy review in Greece will be making a second visit to Greece (Thessaloniki) on 2 to 6 September. This is the 20<sup>th</sup> youth policy review being carried out by the CoE.

Following Romania's request for a second phase of the youth policy review process (after the international youth policy review conducted 13 years ago), a small delegation visited Romania in June. The report of this visit and a strategic development proposal will be considered by the CDEJ in October. [[link](#) to previous reviews]

On 24-29 September an expert team will visit the Eco Center Radulovacki in Sremski Karlovci, a youth centre in Serbia which has applied for the [CoE Quality Label for Youth Centres](#). The Quality Label was set up in 2008 to promote the European Youth Centres of the CoE as standard-setting instruments and examples of good practice for youth policy.

Regarding the [Advisory Council on Youth](#)'s new membership for 2014-2015, the names of representatives of the 20 organisations and national youth councils proposed by the [YFJ](#) and the names of 10 representatives of youth organisations and networks proposed by CoE Secretary General

have been submitted to the CM and its rapporteur group for decision which will be taken in November 2013.

***Activities held in July and August included:***

- Toolkit on combating discrimination, antigypsyism and Romaphobia affecting young people (1-2 July EYCB)
- Youth Camp on Intercultural Dialogue in the Russian Federation with neighbouring regions (3-6 July 2013, Kaluga)
- Consultative Meeting on Euro-Arab training for democratic youth participation ([JP South](#)) – (4-6 July 2013, Hammamet, Tunisia)
- “*COMPASSing DBYN towards HRE*” - Don Bosco Youth-Net ivzw ([DBYN](#)) (7-14 July 2013, EYCS)  
“*Partnerships for Youth Mobility and Active Citizenship*” - European Youth Card Association ([EYCA](#)) (7-12 July 2013, EYCS)
- Youth Peace Camp in Kosovo<sup>1</sup> engaging young people and youth organisations from conflict-stricken regions in dialogue and conflict transformation (18-23 August 2013, Pristina, Kosovo<sup>1</sup>)
- Euro-Arab Youth Forum preparatory meeting

***Forthcoming activities include:***

- Study session: “*Hate speech in video games*” – in cooperation with the Center for Intercultural Dialogue and Integration ([CIDI](#)) (9-15 September 2013, EYCB)
- Study session: “*Creative youth campaigning for a positive image of Roma*” – in cooperation with [TernYpe - International Roma Youth Organisation](#) (15-21 September 2013, EYCB)
- Study session: “*Equality in Action: mobilizing LGBTQ youth around the Council of Europe recommendations combating discrimination on the grounds of SOGI*” – in cooperation with the International LGBTQ Youth and Student Organisation ([IGLYO](#)) (22-28 September 2013, EYCS)
- Portfolio for youth workers (preparatory meeting) (10-11 September 2013, EYCS)
- Seminar “*Youth Leaders for Intercultural Dialogue*” for the Members of Youth Parliaments from CIS countries (29 September – 5 October 2013, EYCS)

***Forthcoming deadline:***

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<sup>1</sup> All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

**22 September**

EYF call for pilot activities

### ***EU-CoE youth partnership***

The [workshop on youth participation and social media](#), took place in Hammamet (Tunisia) on 2-4 July 2013.

A conference on the future of youth policy “Youth in 2020” will be held in Budapest on 1-4 October [[concept paper](#)].

### ***Staff***

- Congratulations to our colleague Olaf Köndgen for his PdhD dissertation on “Codifying a jurist’s law: Islamic criminal legislation and Supreme Court case-law in the Sudan under Numairi and Bashir” (University of Amsterdam).

- Farewell to Natia Jgenti who provided valuable support to the Youth Department’s Education Unit. We wish her every success in her new post.

- Lali Bouché and Alla Heitz will join the EU-CoE youth partnership team as of September. A hearty welcome!

### **(3) Council of Europe**

On 20 August, [Commissioner for Human Rights](#), Nils Muižnieks underlined the need for governments to monitor the [situation of child labour](#) which remains a serious problem especially in the wake of the economic crisis.

The North South Centre ([NSC](#)) is organising, jointly with [INJUVE](#), [YFJ](#) and [CJE](#) as well as other international youth organisations, the 14th edition of the University on Youth and Development ([UYD](#)) which will take place in Mollina, Spain, between 22-29 September.

The NSC has issued a call for nominations for the “[2013 North-South Prize of the Council of Europe](#)” to be awarded to two persons who have stood out for their exceptional commitment to promoting North-South solidarity. Deadline: 20 October 2012

The [Gender Equality Commission](#) of the CoE organised a [Conference](#) on “Media and the Image of Women” on 4-5 July in Amsterdam. The

NHSM was presented in the conference [[video](#)]. The Gender Equality Rapporteur representing the CMJ, Ms Ilaria Esposito, attended the meeting.

A [two-day conference](#) on “Integration of the young people from the North Caucasus Federal District and the European Experience” was organised in Grozny on 16-18 July by the Council of Europe and the Chechen Youth Affairs Ministry. The conference drew on both Russian federal and European experience and the [conclusions](#) of the event offer insights into common problems faced by young people from across the CoE’s member states.

Preparations for the [Pompidou Group](#)’s European Drug Prevention Prize started on 28-29 August when the jurors, appointed following an open call, met in Strasbourg. Since 2004, the Pompidou Group has been awarding its European Drug Prevention Prize every two years to innovative drug prevention projects led by young people for young people. The main objective of this prize is to recognize the importance of active youth participation in creating a better and healthier environment for all communities in Europe. [[Facebook](#)] [[Podcast](#)].

#### **(4) Other news**

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on “[Road Safety](#)” on 3 July mentioning that “involvement in road accidents is one of the leading causes of hospital admission for EU citizens aged under 45”.

Also on 3 July, the President of the European Council issued a [press statement](#) following the Berlin conference on Youth Employment. He mentioned the decisions taken by the European Council which included “promoting cross-border mobility, including for vocational training, as well as high-quality apprenticeships” which would “help bring down hurdles, giving a perspective to hundreds of thousands of young people in the European labour market.”

On the same day President Barroso issued a [statement](#) on youth employment in Europe. Mentioning Europe’s commitment “to decisively tackle youth employment” he highlighted five areas of Commission added value: country specific recommendations; youth guarantee schemes; partnership agreements providing support to human capital via the European Social fund; cross-border mobility among young people; and easing transition from education to work.

On 8 July Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou responsible for Youth [announced a new milestone](#) in the history of Erasmus, which was celebrating the 3 millionth Erasmus student since 1987.

Among the priorities of the [Lithuanian Presidency](#) of the Council of the EU (1 July – 31 December 2013) is a focus on digital agenda and measures for better employment opportunities, in particular for youth. Also within the Lithuanian presidency the [Eastern Partnership Youth Forum](#) will be held in Kaunas on 22-25 October on the theme: “Contacts between people”. Deadline for applications: 5 September.

On 12 July [EUROSTAT](#) issued two new “[statistics explained articles](#)” on “Youth unemployment” and “Participation of young persons in education and in the labour market”. The articles explain concepts and definitions used to describe the structure of the youth population in a comprehensive way, in order to facilitate the interpretation and assessment of related statistics for users.

The UN [Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner](#) held an Expert discussion on the human rights of youth in Geneva on 25-26 July which was attended by the Chair of the Advisory Council on Youth, Ms Maria Paschou. The UN Secretary General who had made youth one of his priorities, called for the development of a System Wide Action Plan (Youth-SWAP) on the basis of which the meeting was organised. Among the themes discussed are: age-range of youth; current human rights frameworks for youth; how treaty monitoring bodies mandate youth rights in their work; impact of regional instruments on youth (Ibero-American Convention on the Rights of Youth and the African Youth Charter); elements in existing legislation which recognize and protect youth; rights of youth including civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights; a platform for the voice of youth rights activists and their views.

The UN Inter-Agency network on youth development has issued [a call for participants](#) in an open meeting with youth organisations, networks and movements on 18-20 September 2013 at the UN Headquarters with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of UN work in youth development development by strengthening collaboration and exchange among all relevant UN entities, while respecting and harnessing the benefits of their individual strengths and unique approaches and mandates.

In its latest Youth Policy Watch ([issue 84](#)), the [YFJ](#) expressed its concern over rise in anti-LGBT sentiment in Russia. It “deplores any

discriminatory legislation as stated in several occasions, such as the last Youth Ministerial Conference of the Council of Europe last year in St Petersburg. According to our stand on Youth Rights, it is not acceptable for any young person to live in fear because of their sexuality. The recent increase in anti-LGBT sentiment is deeply concerning and public pressure is needed to safeguard the rights of all its citizens.”

On 15 July UNESCO [launched a call](#) for projects driven by young people. 45 projects will be pre-selected by end September and the 15 projects awarded the “8<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Youth Forum” label will be announced in October and presented at the 37<sup>th</sup> UNESCO General Conference, in November 2013.

The OECD [announced on 16 July](#) that unemployment was set to remain high in OECD countries through 2014 and that youth and low-skilled would be hardest hit.

To mark the UN International Youth Day on 12 August, the [ILO](#) focused on the 27 million international young migrants worldwide and answered [some key questions](#) on youth migration.

The European Forum of Youth Municipal Councils organised by [COJEP](#) in coordination with the Congress (originally foreseen to take place in June) will now take place in Ankara on 10-14 September.

## **(5) Publications**

The Council of Europe Youth Department [publications](#) may be consulted online.

- The Advisory Council on Youth’s leaflet on its activities, already available in [English](#) and [French](#), is now also available in [Russian](#).
- The youth policy review on Belgium, available in [English](#), will soon be available in French.

*Coming soon:*

- [Youth policy review](#) in Ukraine

*Reminder:*

- [Youth knowledge book 17](#) “Learning mobility and non-formal learning in European contexts”, published by the EU-CoE youth partnership

- [Coyote 19](#) “What’s going on?!” (in the European youth arena), published by the EU-CoE youth partnership.
- “[Youth Information Starter Kit](#)” has now been published in [German](#) and [Turkish](#).
- “[Visegrad Youth – Comparative review of the situation of young people in the V4 countries](#)”  
(in the series of Knowledge based youth policy)
- The Right to be Young – report of the [Roma Youth Conference](#) – available from the Youth Department: [youth@coe.int](mailto:youth@coe.int) [please mention Roma Youth in header].
- T-Kit No.11 – Mosaic: The training kit for the Euro-Mediterranean youth work is now available in French: “[Mosaïques](#)”
- T-Kit No. 12 – Youth transforming conflicts”.

**“Pensez Jeunesse!”**

The French version of *Think Youth !*, kindly translated by the « *Mission coopération européenne et internationale jeunesse vie associative, Ministère des Sports, de la Jeunesse, de l'Education populaire et de la vie associative* » is available on request.

**Facebook pages:**

[Advisory Council on Youth](#)  
[Council of Europe - Youth](#)  
[European Youth Centre, Budapest](#)  
[Combating hate speech](#)  
[EU-CoE youth partnership](#)

*Best regards,*

*Anna Trigona*

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*Abbreviations:*

*CCJ: Advisory Council on Youth*  
*CDEJ: European Steering Committee on Youth*  
*CDPPE: Steering Committee for Education Policy and Practice*  
*CM: Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe*  
*CMJ: Joint Council on Youth*  
*CoE: Council of Europe*  
*Congress: The Council of Europe Congress of Local and Regional Authorities*  
*DG: Directorate General*  
*EDC: Education for Democratic Citizenship*  
*EuroDIG: Dialogue on Internet Governance*  
*EUROSTAT: Statistical Office of the European Communities*  
*EYCA: The European Youth Card*  
*EYCB: European Youth Centre Budapest*  
*EYCS: European Youth Centre Strasbourg*  
*EYF: European Youth Foundation*  
*GR-C: Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment of the Committee of Ministers*  
*HRE: Human Rights Education*  
*ILO: International Labour Office*  
*NSC: North South Centre of the Council of Europe*  
*NHSM: No Hate Speech Movement*  
*PACE: Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe*  
*SALTO: Support, Advanced Learning and Training Opportunities*  
*UNESCO: United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*  
*UNFPA: United Nations Population Fund*  
*YFJ: European Youth Forum*

***For comments and suggestions, change of address or if you no longer wish to subscribe to this service, please contact: [anna.trigona@coe.int](mailto:anna.trigona@coe.int).***