



The February issue looks at:

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THINK YOUTH IS TWO YEARS OLD!

(1) The big picture



Bridget T. O'Loughlin has been appointed as Campaign Co-ordinator of the No Hate Speech Movement by the Council of Europe (Bridget.OLOUGHLIN@coe.int).

The Campaign Follow-up Group held its 5th meeting on 13-14 January in Strasbourg. The Group provided guidelines for action on national campaign committees, educational strategies, and the programme for 2014.

The European Action Day on 11 February will be: "Safer Internet Day".

The next European Action Days are:

- 21 March: Week of action against racism and intolerance;
- 8 April: Action Day against Antigypsyism;
- 17 May: International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia;
- 20 June: International Refugee Day.

During the PACE Session, a debate on "A strategy to prevent racism and intolerance in Europe" was presented by [Mr Jonas GUNNARSSON](#) followed by a statement by Ms Laura BOLDRINI. The Assembly asked for a [Strategy](#) against racism, hatred and intolerance in Europe as well as

an Action Plan to implement it. The expansion and strengthening of the No Hate Speech Movement campaign is among the first measures proposed for such a plan, alongside human rights education. A second theme “Tackling racism in the police” will be presented by [Mr David DAVIES](#). The NHSM was given visibility throughout the session and secretariat members were at hand to answer questions posed by the parliamentarians

Country action:

- The No Hate Speech Movement was launched on 17 January in Croatia. This [video](#) was created by the Croatian campaign team.
- The Norwegian No Hate Speech Movement will be launched officially on 11 February 2014.
- Lithuania’ campaign, which will officially be launched on 13 February is entitled “[I love Panda](#)”.

[BOOKMARKS](#) – the Manual for Combating Hate Speech Online through Human Rights Education, the campaign ‘Schoolpack’ has been finalised and is now available for use for education and training activities and translation into national languages. Contact youth.nohatespeech@coe.int .

A complete list of coordinators of the national campaign structures is available on the campaign [website](#). Coordinators are invited to help keep this list updated.

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. You can also subscribe to the newsletter by joining the movement or clicking “sign up our newsletter” in www.nohatespeechmovement.org. National coordinators and members of the Joint Council on Youth receive a Flash newsletter with information about the campaign preparations

Campaign material – videos, templates for posters and the brochure presentation can be downloaded from www.coe.int/youthcampaign. Also: [Detailed brochure](#) (updated 14 June); [Flyer](#); [Poster](#).

Have *you* joined the official online Campaign? Please check out 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.

During its CM Chairmanship, Austria will host a ministerial session in Vienna on 5-6 May.

Azerbaijan, which will follow Austria as CM Chair, is considering hosting the No Hate Speech Movement Youth Meeting in September, a Global Forum on Youth Policies in October / November and a meeting of Youth Foundations in Europe.

The Council of Europe launched its new film on combating bullying in schools through human rights and citizenship education on 30 January at a Parliamentary Assembly side event. [Film [in English](#) / [French](#)].

(2) Youth Department update

The Council of Europe [priorities](#) for the Youth sector have been set for 2014 – 2015.

The Bureaus of the CDEJ and CCJ met on 27-28 February 2014. The next statutory meetings (CDEJ, CMJ and CCJ) will be held in Budapest on 24-26 March 2014. The [European Youth Forum](#) is inviting all 30 AC members to participate in a preparatory meeting on 23 March 2014.

The [30 new members](#) of the Advisory Council on Youth participated in a Training Course on 29-31 January in Strasbourg, organised by the Council of Europe in cooperation with the European Youth Forum.

The European Youth Foundation has launched a monthly e-Newsletter and an annual [Global Overview](#). The three topics discussed in the [January Newsletter](#) are: environmental sustainability, volunteer time recognition and pilot activity applications.

The European Platform of Youth Centres met in Kokkola, Finland on 4 – 6 February 2014 where the Villa Elba Youth Centre was awarded the [CoE Quality Label for Youth Centres](#) for 2014-2016. The “European Platform of Youth Centres” is an annual meeting of European youth centres interested in applying for the [CoE Quality Label for Youth Centres](#) or which have already been awarded the label. 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.

The first draft of the youth policy review in Greece will be presented at a national hearing in Athens on 7 February. The presentation will be attended by all those who contributed to the review, representatives of the Greek authorities and the international review team chaired by Mr Alexis Ridde of the CDEJ. The report will be presented by the rapporteur Sladjana Petkovic.

A new project for the training of youth workers and specialists from Turkey is under preparation with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Turkey; a total of 400 specialists will be trained under this project between March and December 2014.

The Evaluation and Planning Meeting of the cooperation agreement with the Russian Federation will be held in Strasbourg on 12 February. The meeting will be devoted to the preparation of the action plan for 2014-2015, the first biennial programme in the five-year framework agreement.

Activities held in January and early February included:

- *“Reacting to extreme right hate speech online”*- The Association of Service Civil International - IVZW ([SCI](#)) (2 – 9 February, EYCB)
- *“Sensitive approaches to sexual orientation in intercultural youth exchanges”* European Federation for Intercultural Learning ([EFIL](#)) (2 – 9 February, EYCB)

Forthcoming activities include:

- *“More Young Farmers, Better Food”*- European Coordination Via Campesina ([ECVC](#)) (3-8 February 2014, EYCB)
- *“Stronger students' participation for the open society: sharing practices and developing innovative approaches”* - European Students' Union ([ESU](#)) (3-9 February 2014, EYCB)

- *“Together for social rights - youth workers and local authorities promoting and networking for access to social rights for young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods”* - Informal Network of youth organisations and youth workers for access to social rights of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods ([Social Rights Network](#)) (24 February - 3 March 2014, EYCS)
- *“Youth encountering environmental human rights”* - International Young Naturefriends ([IYNE](#)) (24 February - 2 March 2014, EYCB)
- Third phase of the long-term training course with Serbian youth workers and trainers (14-20 February, EYCB)
- Consultative meeting on the priority on transition to labour market (17–21 February 2014, EYCS)
- Follow-up Group on Recognition of Non-formal learning and Revision of the Portfolio for youth workers (20-21 February, EYCS))
- Training course for trainers in human rights education with young people (24-25 February, EYCB)
- TC Roma Evaluation meeting (27-28 February, EYCS)

NB – change in dates:

- Evaluation of the [Youth Peace Ambassadors](#) Project (31 March – 1 April 2014, EYCS)

[EU-CoE youth partnership](#)

The European Commission and the Council of Europe are renewing their cooperation in the youth field. A new Framework Partnership Agreement, covering the period 2014-2016 and a 2014 Specific Grant Agreement will soon be finalised and validated.

Staff

A hearty welcome to Bridget O’Loughlin who was nominated Campaign Co-ordinator of the No Hate Speech Movement by the Council of Europe and to Denis Durmis who has taken up his duties as project assistant to the Roma Youth Action Plan. Denis is based in Budapest.

Goodbye to Chaim Waibel, trainee with the Advisory Council on Youth Secretariat, and Martin Winkler, trainee with the EU-CoE youth partnership, who left the Council on 31 January. Many thanks for their great contribution to the work of the secretariat and to Chaim for his interesting survey carried out on participants at youth events in the Strasbourg and Budapest centres on young people’s knowledge of the rights and how to access them. This should be available soon.

(3) Council of Europe

At their 1188th meeting on 15 January the Ministers' Deputies adopted the [reply](#) to Parliamentary Assembly [Recommendation 2015 \(2013\)](#) on “Young people’s access to fundamental rights”. The reply mentions that the Committee of Ministers would “*encourage the bodies of the youth sector, in consultation with other relevant bodies, to submit proposals in this regard within the framework of their terms of reference and budget for the 2014 biennium*”. In a reply to an information letter from the AC Chair, the Chair of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) confirmed the interest and availability expressed by the CDDH to cooperate on a non-binding instrument aimed at improving access of young people to fundamental rights and that the topic would be raised at the forthcoming CDDH Bureau on 27-28 March 2014.

At their 1189th meeting on 22 January 2014, the Ministers' Deputies adopted [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2014\)1](#) on the Council of Europe Charter on shared social responsibilities and encouraged member States to continue their efforts to implement the various provisions of Committee of Ministers' [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2010\)5](#) on measures to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity.

The [PACE](#) part session, which was held in Strasbourg on 27-31 January 2014, included a warning by [Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann](#) to European governments who should not themselves to “become accustomed” to high youth unemployment. Mentioning measures taken to save banks and stabilize economies he felt that not enough had been done to reduce unemployment: “*We must not allow the wrong people to pay the highest price of the crisis*”, he proclaimed, stressing that since 2008, youth unemployment has increased in the EU by over 2 million people: from 3.5m to 5.7m”.

As part of a standing invitation for the Chair of the Advisory Council to attend meetings of the PACE Committee on Culture, outgoing AC Chair Maria Paschou attending the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Education Youth and Sport held in Strasbourg on 30 January and presented an update of the works of the outgoing Advisory Council. The invitation for the AC Chair to address the Sub-Committee was renewed.

On 28 January PACE adopted a strategy to prevent racism and intolerance in Europe. [Resolution 1967\(2014\)](#); [Recommendation 2032\(2014\)](#); [Document 13385](#). The strategy supports the No Hate Speech Campaign.

The [Commissioner for Human Rights](#) tweeted that Politicians should lead by example in upholding human rights & avoid [#hatespeech](#). He is visiting Ukraine from 4 to 11 February.

(4) Other news

Greece which is currently chairing the European Council will host a High-Level Working Group on Gender Mainstreaming on 6-7 February in Athens. Among Greece's [priorities](#) during its presidency are growth, jobs, cohesion and mobility. The [Joint Recommendations](#) adopted last November should feed into a Council Resolution on Structured Dialogue to be adopted during the Greek presidency.

The [McKinsey report](#) on "Education to employment: Getting Europe's youth into work" was launched in January. It builds on the McKinsey 2012 publication "Education to Employment: Designing a System that Works". The major questions asked are: (1) Is the scale of the youth-unemployment problem in Europe a result of lack of jobs, lack of skills, or lack of coordination? (2) What are the obstacles that youth face on their journey from education to employment? (3) Which groups of youth and employers in Europe are struggling the most? (4) What can be done to address the problem? Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou welcomed the report which, she felt sent out a clear message to policy makers, educators and business that they should work more closely together to tackle the current crisis.

The new ["youth" website](#) of the Erasmus+ programme is now available. [Erasmus+](#) kicked off on 1 January 2014.

In a [memo](#) on 15 January the European Commission announced that 17 member states had submitted their final plans to implement the Youth Guarantee. 11 Member States were still preparing their strategies to deliver a national [Youth Guarantee](#) scheme.

On 29 January UNESCO launched the Education for All - Global Monitoring Report: 'Teaching and Learning: Achieving Quality of Education for All'. The 2013/4 Education for All Global Monitoring Report shows why education is pivotal for development in a rapidly changing world. It explains how investing wisely in teachers, and other reforms aimed at strengthening equitable learning, transform the long-term prospects of people and societies. Equity and quality education will be pivotal in the [post 2015 agenda](#).

The European Youth Forum (YFJ) in January [highlighted](#) its contribution to the training of the 30 new AC members. The European Youth Forum has extended its invitation to a pre-statutory meeting to be held in Budapest in March 2014 to the 10 non YFJ members so that all 30 AC members will be able to participate. In its Youth Policy Watch Issue no. 93, the YFJ welcomed the Committee of Ministers' constructive [response](#) to Parliamentary Assembly [Recommendation 2015 \(2013\)](#) on "Young people's access to fundamental rights" but [argues](#) that the Committee did not do enough.

The [Africa-EU Youth Leaders' Summit](#) will be held in Brussels on 30 March – 2 April.

The [European Youth Event 2014](#) which will be organised on 09 -11 May 2014 in Strasbourg by the European Parliament will focus on "Ideas for a Better Europe". The Youth Department, together with the European Parliament and the European Youth Forum will be holding a living library and two workshops on the No Hate Speech Movement during the event as well as a panel debate to discuss '*Human Rights on the Internet*' - starting point: the « No Hate Speech Movement»,.

European Parliamentary elections will be held on 22-25 May. The [League of Young Voters](#) is aiming to amplify young people's concerns and expectations in the run-up to European elections.

(5) Publications

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

The new publication inspired by the Advisory Council on Youth is now available on line:

["Young Persons and the case-law of the European Convention on Human Rights and the European Social Charter"](#) - by David Hayward with a Foreword by the Advisory Council on Youth
Printed copies are also available by writing to advisory



Also available is the [Compendium](#) of Council of Europe approaches to key youth policy and youth work issues.



The leaflet on the Youth Department is now available in English, French, German, Russian and Turkish.

[Young people building Europe](#)

[Les jeunes construisent l'Europe](#)

[Junge Menschen gestalten Europa](#)

[Молодые люди строят Европу](#)

[Avrupa'yı İnşaa Eden Gençler](#)



Reminder

- [“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
- 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.

Reminder

- [Youth Policy in Ukraine](#) is available in English. Other [Youth policy reviews](#) are available on line including the youth policy review on Belgium which is available in [English](#) and soon available in French.

- The revised European Youth Foundation leaflet is now available in 5 languages: [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#)
- [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. Coyote issue #20 will soon be available: “What’s Xtreme about youth?!”
- “[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](#)”, a contribution to knowledge based youth policy development.
- The Right to be Young – report of the [Roma Youth Conference](#) – available from the Youth Department: youth@coe.int
- [T-Kit No.11](#) – Mosaic: The training kit for the Euro-Mediterranean youth work is now available in [French](#): “Mosaïques”, published by the EU-CoE youth partnership.
- [T-Kit No. 12](#) – Youth transforming conflicts, published by the EU-CoE youth partnership.

“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 the **restricted site of the youth department** or on request.

Facebook pages:

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

Think Youth is celebrating its 2nd birthday this month. We hope it has been providing you with the sort of information you find interesting and we remain at your disposal for any suggestions and comments.

Best regards,

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Abbreviations:

*CCJ: Advisory Council on Youth
CDDH: Steering Committee for Human Rights
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
CPJ: Programming Committee on Youth
DG: Directorate General
EDC: Education for Democratic Citizenship
EYCB: European Youth Centre Budapest
EYCS: European Youth Centre Strasbourg
EYF: European Youth Foundation
NSC: North South Centre of the Council of Europe
NHSM: No Hate Speech Movement
PACE: Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
UNESCO: United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural
Organization
UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
YFJ: European Youth Forum*

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