



The April issue looks at:

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PLEASE NOTE THAT THINK YOUTH IS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE COE [YOUTH PUBLIC WEBSITE](#).

(1) The big picture



The Joint Council on Youth (CMJ) has agreed to extend the No Hate Speech Campaign to 31 March 2015.

Bookmarks – the manual to combat hate speech through human rights education is available in print form. The French version is being prepared.

The European Action Day on 8 April will be the European Action Day for Solidarity with Roma.

A meeting for campaign activists will be held at the EYC in Budapest on 6-8 April to address this topic and to look at ways to counter antigypsyism.

Forthcoming European Action Days are:

- 17 May: International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia;
- 20 June: International Refugee Day;
- 22 July: European Day for Victims of Hate Crime.

In preparation of World Women's Day, the Human Rights Commissioner [had stated on 6 March](#): "*Hate speech against women should be specifically tackled!*" He encouraged states to ratify the Istanbul Convention and prohibit by law any advocacy of gender hatred, incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence. He highly recommended joining the NHSM campaign.

In solidarity with the UN's [International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#) (21 March) the NHSM organised a [European Action Week](#) against Racism and Discrimination on 21-28 March.

The [European Youth Event](#) (Strasbourg, 9-11 May) will include a living library and two workshops on the No Hate Speech Movement organised by the CoE Youth Department as well as a panel debate to discuss '*Human Rights on the Internet*'.

Country action:

- The campaign website for [Spain](#) was created by the Spanish Institute for Youth.
- The Students' Parliament and the Agency of Youth and Sport of the Faculty of Law in Skopje organised a conference on "Legal aspects of hate speech online" as part of The No Hate Speech Movement in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. A workshop with high-school students was also organised during European Action Week against Racism and Discrimination [[photos](#)].
- The NHS campaign was presented on 6 March in Slutsk, Belarus using a "Compass" training course organised in cooperation with the Belarusian Association of UNESCO Clubs. A group called "Пух супраць нянавісці" (No Hate Speech Campaign) was created in the social network "Vkontakte" by the national campaign's office in Belarus.
- The National Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Nadiia Pavlyk, has reassured us that the NHSM is becoming increasingly relevant. The National Committee of the campaign was established and the implementation strategy is now in process.
- Albania has joined the NHSM – Jehona Roka is the national campaign coordinator.
- Belarus promoted the NHSM during a mini-soccer tournament for students: "together we will create the future without hatred and discrimination.
- A manifestation on "I have a heart, I do not hate" was organised in Serbia during European Action Week against Discrimination.
- The National Campaign of Portugal took part in the country's

biggest fair on Education, Training, Youth and Employment [[Facebook page](#)].

- Cyprus also organised an event during European Action Week [[video](#)] [[photos](#)].
- Finland organised a Nordic coordination meeting on 31 March – 1 April bringing together national campaign coordinators from Norway, Iceland, Finland and Poland to share their experience and prepare for European Day for Victims of Hate Crime on 22 July 2014.

The state of play of the national campaign committees can be found and checked on the [website](#).

A campaign newsletter is produced twice a month. For your contributions you may write to: youth.nohatespeech@coe.int. You can also subscribe to the newsletter by joining the movement or clicking “sign up to our newsletter” in www.nohatespeechmovement.org.

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.

For Council of Europe action regarding events in Ukraine please check the [CoE website](#).

Austria will host the CM Ministerial Session on 5-6 May in Vienna. As part of its chairmanship, the [Partial Agreement](#) on Youth mobility through the Youth Card will also be organising a conference on youth mobility on 6-7 May in Vienna. A Conference was organised on 20-21 March in Graz on “Quality education and language competencies for 21st century society: traditions, challenges and visions” at which the Advisory Council was represented by Lea Renoldner in the section entitled “Voices from Society”.

During its chairmanship which will start in May 2014, Azerbaijan will host the No Hate Speech Movement Youth Meeting and a meeting of Youth Foundations in Europe in September 2014. A Global Forum on Youth Policies, to be organised by the United-Nations and Azerbaijan in co-operation with the Youth Department, is scheduled to take place from 28-30 October in Baku.

Azerbaijan, Belgium and Bosnia and Herzegovina are currently working on common priorities for the three consecutive chairmanships (May 2014 – November 2015).

On 12 March the Secretary General announced the appointment of Mr Jean-Christophe Bas as Director of Democratic Citizenship and Participation. Mr Bas, who holds French nationality, will take up his duties on 16 June 2014. Mr Ulrich Bunjes has been appointed to ensure the interim.

The Directorate General of Democracy (DGII) of the CoE which includes the Youth Department has a new web portal: www.coe.int/democracy. The portal is more dynamic, more intuitive and much easier to navigate than the previous version and provides a quicker access to the entire range of DGII activities, structures and tools – including youth.

(2) Youth Department update

The CoE statutory bodies on youth questions (CDEJ, CMJ and CCJ) met in Budapest on 24-26 March.

The CDEJ elected:

Chair: Laurence Hermand (Belgium); Vice-Chair: Jorge Orlando Queiros (Portugal) and Bureau members: Markus Wolf (Austria); Aleksandra

Mitrovic-Knezevic (Serbia); Igor Khokhych (Ukraine); Uwe Finke-Timpe (Germany); Jean-Marie Bouverat (Switzerland); Ardo Rothla (Estonia).

The Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) elected:

Chair: Paulo Pinheiro (Portuguese National Youth Council – CNJ); Vice-Chair: Hanan Bihi (African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe – ADYNE) and Bureau members: Oskar Wallner (National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations – LSU); Youssef Himmat (Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations (FEMYSO) and Simona Jonas (Youth for Exchange and Understanding – YEU).

Members of the Programming Committee on Youth were elected as follows: CDEJ: Malta, France, Turkey, Denmark, Croatia, Latvia, Armenia and Slovakia. CCJ: Christel De Lange (NYC Netherlands); Marine Manucharyan (HREYN); Sergio Belfor (United); Janne Lindström (EEE-YFU); Valeryia Sauchankava (YHRM); Magnus Malnes (NYC Norway); Lyubomir Todorov (MIJARC) and Seymur Huseynov (NYC Azerbaijan). Substitutes: Kristine Roke (Alliance); Christian Scharling (IFLRY) and Juan-Ramon Flores (FERYP).

The [European Youth Forum](#) organised a briefing session for all [30 AC members](#) on 23 March.

The CMJ, addressing the situation in Ukraine, decided to define [a priority for 2014](#) for pilot activities financed by the European Youth Foundation. It asked the EYF Secretariat to launch immediately a special call for pilot activities (developed at local, regional or national level) on capacity building and conflict transformation for Ukrainian NGOs, or European NGOs wishing to co-operate with Ukrainian NGOs on these two issues. The CMJ also asked the Secretariat to send a request for voluntary contributions to member States in order to finance the integration of the following activities in the co-operation agreement with Ukraine: - a Youth Peace Camp with young people from various communities affected by the conflicts; a study visit to Ukraine after the elections; training activities on conflict transformation; a Youth Peace Ambassadors' project involving participants from Ukraine, Russian Federation and including other conflict countries.

The Advisory Council and the European Youth Forum issued a [joint statement](#) on the situation in Ukraine.

Following Serbia's request to carry out a youth policy review in 2014, a first visit has been organised for the International Review Team from 6 to 12 April. The IRT will be chaired by Eva Masarova (CDEJ member –

Slovakia). The visit will be coordinated by Prof. Howard Williamson. A second visit to the country is foreseen for 31 August – 6 September.

Activities held in March included:

- “Youth encountering environmental human rights” - International Young Nature friends ([IYNF](#)) (24 February - 2 March 2014, EYCB)
- *Preventing youth homelessness through access to social rights* - Youth Homelessness Network ([FEANTSA](#)) - (3-7 March, EYCB)
- *Standing together action and advocacy against bullying* - study session, International LGBTQ Youth and Student Organisation ([IGLYO](#)) and Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions ([OBESSU](#)) (3-7 March, EYCB)
- *Say no to Hate! Young people addressing hate speech from an interreligious perspective* - Preparatory meeting of the study session Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe (EYCE) (7-8 March, EYCB)
- *Read my story-hear my voice: refugees’ contribution to democratic citizenship* - Preparatory meeting of the study session International Network for young refugees ([VYRE](#)) (7-8 March, EYCS)
- *Rebuilding the European story*- Preparatory meeting of the study session Rural Youth Europe ([RYE](#)) and European Confederation of Youth Clubs (ECYC) (15-16 March, EYCB)
- *Beyond roma and diversity – Phiren Amenca study session on gender, multiple discrimination and intersectionality* - study session - Phiren Amenca International Network (17-21 March, EYCB)
- *Open source – Open mind* - study session - Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe ([CDN](#)) Federation of Young European Greens – ([FYEG](#)) (17- 22 March, EYCS)
- *Be active, be open, be YPA!* - a study session for Youth Peace Ambassadors working as activists for peace (17-22 March, EYCB)
- Training course for trainers democratic citizenship through youth policy and youth work in Turkey(20-24 March, Kocaeli, Turkey)
- *Evaluation Meeting of the [Youth Peace Ambassadors](#) Project* (31 March – 1 April, EYCS)

Forthcoming activities include:

- EYC Seminar with members of youth parliaments and NGOs on young people's autonomy and transition to working life (EYCS, 6-12 April)
- National Training Course – HRE: Human Rights vs Hate Rhetoric - to promote at national level the Recommendation on HRE/EDC and Compass (Armenia, 4-8 April)
- Preparatory meeting of the Seminar on antigypsyism (EYCB, 6 - 8 April)

- Training course for trainers in human rights education with young people (EYCB, 7 - 17 April)
- No Hate Speech Movement Follow-Up Group meeting (EYCS, 15-16 April)
- Preparatory meeting of the Roma Youth meeting in France (EYCS, 17 April)
- Promote and protect human rights in your environment - National Training Course in human rights education, to promote at national level the Recommendation on HRE/EDC and Compass (Lithuania, 22-27 April)
- Focus group for the revision of the Portfolio (CoE-Agora, 24-25 April)
- Training course with Turkey on democratic citizenship through youth policy and youth work (Ankara, Turkey, 24-28 April)

Deadlines:

8 April A seminar on “Inclusive mobility for young people in Europe” will be organised in Austria on 6-7 May, in the framework of the Austrian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the CoE. For more information please contact:

markus.albrecht@jugendkarte.at

10 April [Applications](#) for the Conference on the specific situation of Roma young people affected by multiple discrimination (EYCS, 24 – 26 June 2014)

[EU-CoE youth partnership](#)

The European Commission and the Council of Europe have renewed their cooperation in the youth field and a new Framework Partnership Agreement, covering the period 2014-2016 and a 2014 Specific Grant Agreement will be signed in April.

Forthcoming partnership activities include:

- Expert Group on Recognition of Youth Work and of non-formal Education / Learning (Brussels, 3-4 April)
- Partnership Management Board, (Strasbourg, 7 April)
- Think Tank on youth participation (Brussels, 15-16 April)
- Steering group of the European platform on Learning Mobility (Bonn, 21-22 May)

Staff

Welcome to three new interns in the Youth Department: Maria Altieri working in the European Youth Foundation, Francesca Grassini working

in the EU-CoE Youth Partnership and Cristina Mancigotti working in the European Youth Centre in Budapest. Welcome back to Karin Malaud at the Reception in the EYCS and Lohini Francispillai and Natalia Militello in the European Youth Foundation.

(3) Council of Europe

On 13 March, the UNHCR and the PACE Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons organised a workshop to launch the UNHCR/CoE field research on European State practice regarding Transition to adulthood of unaccompanied and separated asylum-seeking and refugee children. Tina Mulcahy, Acting Head of the Youth Department and Sergio Belfor, AC member (formerly Vice Chair of the AC) addressed the workshop, entitled “Unaccompanied and separated asylum-seeking and refugee children turning eighteen: What to celebrate?”.

The two sessions of the [Congress](#) in 2014 are devoted to the theme of youth. The theme of its 26th session in March was: “Empowering youth: a shared responsibility for cities and regions”. On 26 March the report on “[Empowering Roma youth through participation: effective policy design at local and regional levels](#)”, to which the AC had contributed extensively, was debated and adopted by the Congress. Another debate directly linked to this report was “Is there a real place for young people in local and regional democracy?” The debate explored how young people today are getting their voices heard in spite of claims that they are no longer interested in politics. A debate in the Chamber of Regions focused on “Fostering youth employment through education and training: role and best practices within regions in Europe”. The Advisory Council on Youth was invited to [address](#) the debate on 27 March on “Youth participation - Voting at 16?” [[press release](#)].

Following the CM’s [reply](#) to Parliamentary Assembly [Recommendation 2015 \(2013\)](#) on “Young people’s access to fundamental rights” a working group was set up By the CMJ on 24-26 March to examine the options available to be able to respond to the CM with proposals. The CDDH Bureau examined the question at its meeting on 27-28 March 2014.

PACE [Recommendation 2032 \(2014\)](#) “A strategy to prevent racism and intolerance in Europe” and [Recommendation 2033 \(2014\)](#) “Internet and politics: the impact of new information and communication technology on democracy” were discussed in the CMJ on 24-26 March and an opinion was adopted.

The spring session of PACE (7-11 April) will discuss: [Doc. 13459 \(motion for a resolution\) Suspension of the voting rights of the Russian delegation \(Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly\)](#); [Doc. 13446 \(report\) Prostitution, trafficking and modern slavery in Europe](#); [Doc. 13445 \(report\) The situation and rights of traditional national minorities in Europe](#); [Doc. 13451 \(report\) Improving user protection and security in cyberspace](#); [Doc. 13434 \(report\) The right to Internet access](#); [Doc. 13465 \(committee opinion\) The right to Internet access](#); [Doc. 13392 \(report\) Access to nationality and the effective implementation of the European Convention on Nationality](#); [Doc. 13438 \(committee opinion\) Access to nationality and the effective implementation of the European Convention on Nationality](#); [Doc. 13435 \(report\) Urgent need to deal with new failures to co-operate with the European Court of Human Rights](#); [Doc. 13441 \(report\) The protection of minors against excesses of sects](#); [Doc. 13456 \(report\) Decent work for all](#); [Doc. 13462 \(report\) Refugees and the right to work](#); [Doc. 13460 \(report\) Resettlement of refugees: promoting greater solidarity](#); [Doc. 13458 \(report\) Ending child poverty in Europe](#)

The deadline to submit nominations for the [Vaclav Havel Prize](#), which aims at rewarding outstanding civil society action in defending human rights in Europe and beyond, is 30 April 2014.

In March, in a letter to the President of the [Czech Republic](#), the [Commissioner for Human Rights](#) expressed his concern for the need to protect Roma from racist extremism. He also commented on the need for better protection for migrant children in [Denmark](#) and the need to do more to address human rights violations and ensure media freedom in [Montenegro](#).

(4) Other news

On 10 March the Council of the European Union adopted a [recommendation](#) on a Quality Framework for Traineeships.

In his [speech](#) at the [Africa-EU Youth Leaders' Summit](#) on 30 March the President of the European Council, Herman von Rompuy, mentioned the topics being discussed: peace and prosperity for citizens in both continents; stimulating sustainable and inclusive growth to create jobs; good governance, democracy, rule of law and respect of human rights. "We need a youth without fear, a free youth, a youth of hope" he said. The Advisory Council on Youth was invited to send 7 of its members to take part in the Summit.

Some 6 000 young Europeans will meet at the [European Youth Event](#) on 9-11 May in Strasbourg to participate in workshops, hearings, debates and discussions organised by the European Parliament and its partners. The No Hate Speech Movement features in the [Programme](#) with two workshops on the [NHSM](#) and a living library during the event (see also box above).

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

The [World Conference on Youth 2014](#) will be held in Sri Lanka on 6-10 May. The theme of the Conference is “Mainstreaming youth in the post-2015 development agenda”.

[GPY2015](#) – Responses to MyWorld2015 survey:

- '[An honest and responsive government](#)' was highlighted as a top priority for the post-2015 development agenda by 44% of young people and also in many of the national post-2015 consultations that took place all over the world.

- More than 53% (410,000) young people voted for “[better job opportunities](#)” making it their third highest priority.

- Over 1 million of the 1.5 million voters chose [education](#) as their top priority.

10 cities have applied to become the 2017 [European Youth Capital](#). These are: Vicenza (Italy), Galway (Ireland), Kaunas (Lithuania), Varna (Bulgaria), Alcobendas (Spain), Cascais (Portugal), York (United Kingdom), Perugia (Italy), Oieras (Portugal) and Newcastle (United Kingdom). The winner will be announced in November 2014. The award allows the selected city to showcase for one year its youth-related cultural, social, political and economic life and development. Thessaloniki currently holds the title of European Youth Capital. It will be followed by Cluj-Napoca in 2015.

A [Get on Line to Get Employed week](#) was organised on 24-30 March by [Telecentre Europe](#) with the support of the European Commission. This year's slogan was: “Get empowered, get employed” – aimed at helping young and unemployed Europeans get the e-skills needed for the 21st century workplace. European Commission Vice President Neelie Kroes said: *“Digital skills are the new literacy. When I grew up it was about reading and writing. Today it is about searching and coding. If you have a dream or a dream job: today you need digital skills. You need*

the internet.” Get Online Week is embedded into a major year-long digital empowerment campaign, the European e-Skills for jobs campaign, organised by the European Commission, European Schoolnet and DIGITALEUROPE. All of these efforts support the [Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs](#).

Under the new Erasmus+ programme the [EU will offer Ukrainians](#) more opportunities to benefit from grants for student mobility, academic cooperation and youth exchange. Some 4 000 young Ukrainians are expected to benefit from university exchanges under [Erasmus+](#) and more than 7,000 Ukrainians will also receive EU support to participate in youth exchanges, in the [European Voluntary Service](#) or through funding for the mobility of youth workers.

(5) Publications

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

NEW!

[EU-CoE Youth Partnership publications:](#)

- Perspectives on youth, issue 1 - ["2020 - What do you see?"](#) The French and German versions will soon be available.
- Youth knowledge book 18 - ["History of youth work"](#) volume 4.

Reminder:

- The leaflet on the Youth Department is available in [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#).
- The revised European Youth Foundation leaflet is available in 5 languages: [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#)
- The [Youth Policy in Ukraine](#) is available in English. Past [youth policy reviews](#) are also available on line
- The Right to be Young – report of the [Roma Youth Conference](#) – available from the Youth Department: youth@coe.int
- [“Have your say”](#) – A manual on the Revised European Charter on the participation of young people in local and regional life.
- A [Survey on young people’s awareness of their access to rights](#) - by trainee Chaim Waibel. It complements the publication inspired by the Advisory Council on Youth: [“Young Persons and the case-law of the European Convention on Human Rights and the European Social Charter”](#). [Former AC member, Thomas Leys (IFLRY) has published an article [“Where is our European Bill of Rights”](#) in a new publication

[“Redrafting Europe - The Young Liberals' White Paper on the Reform of the European Union”](#)].

- [Compendium](#) of Council of Europe approaches to key youth policy and youth work issues (French).
- The [European Portfolio for youth leaders and youth workers](#) is available in [Turkish](#).
- The Youth Policy Review in Belgium is available in English and [French](#). Other [Youth policy reviews](#) are available on line.
<https://book.coe.int/eur/en/>
- T-Kit No.11 – Mosaic: Training kit for the Euro-Mediterranean youth work - available in French: “Mosaïques”.
- T-Kit No. 12 – Youth transforming conflicts.
- [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).
- “[Visegrad Youth – Comparative review of the situation of young people in the V4 countries](#)”, a contribution to knowledge based youth policy development.
- Coyote #20: “[What’s Xtreme about youth?!](#)”

“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](#)

Best regards,

Anna Trigona

Youth Department - Service de la jeunesse

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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
ncc: National campaign coordinator
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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