



The July/August 2014 issue looks at:

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(1) The big picture

On 24 June, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) re-elected Thorbjørn Jagland Secretary General of the Council of Europe for a five year term starting on 1 October 2014.



**NO HATE
SPEECH
MOVEMENT**

The NHSM FORUM will be held on 2-5 October in Gabala, Azerbaijan. Some 250 participants are expected to participate. The NCC's who have not already submitted to the secretariat a proposed list of participants for the NHSM Forum are asked to do so **before 30 June**. The list should be submitted to: ellen.vestad@coe.int.

As [Connexions](#), the French version of Bookmarks is now available, a training course for trainers on combating hate speech online will be held in Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium, 15-19 October. If you are interested in applying, please fill out the [online application form](#), **by 28 August**. The training course will be carried out in French. [[Training course presentation](#)]

Under the auspices of The Big March, one of the NHSM partners, a global virtual demonstration against bullying took place on hundreds of European websites on 11-13 June. [[CoE film "Beat Bullying"](#)]

Anne Brasseur, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), joined the NHSM in support of refugees when she was visiting the [European Peace Camp](#), held at the EYC in Strasbourg on 15-23 June.

Forthcoming European Action Days are:

- 22 July: European Day for Victims of Hate Crime.

The NHSM has launched a petition, aimed primarily at CoE and EU Parliamentarians, with the objective of making 22 July (the day of the mass killings on the island of Utøya, Norway) the European Day for Victims of Hate Crime. A number of on-line activities will be organised and off-line activities will be proposed to the national campaign coordinators.

[International Refugee Day](#) celebrated each year on 20 June was the European Action Day this June. There was on-line activity in the form of videos of refugees' stories, a focus on the hate speech watch, on hate speech aimed at refugees and a number of blogs. NHSM Facebook and Twitter accounts were also especially active. Offline activities were carried out by a number of national campaign committees.

Country action:

A [platform](#) was launched in June in “**the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**” by the [Macedonia Helsinki Committee for Human Rights](#) to report and map hate speech. The national committee of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” has cooperated with the OSCE mission to organise a conference on the promotion of national activities against hate speech.

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

A campaign newsletter is produced twice a month. Please send your contributions 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](#); [Flyer](#); [Poster](#).

Have *you* joined the official online Campaign? Please check out the [site](#). You are also encouraged to “like” our campaign on [Facebook](#) (we now have over 12,000 “likes”) and to follow the campaign on Twitter [[#nohatespeech](#)] where our followers have more than doubled in the last month to over 7,000.

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, christianophobia, islamophobia, misogyny, sexism and discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity fall clearly within the scope of hate speech.

For up-to-date CoE action please check the [CoE website](#) and the [CoE Journal](#).

The Ministry of Justice of Azerbaijan and the [Congress](#) co-organised an international conference on “Local democracy and youth” on 18 June 2014 in Baku in the framework of the Azerbaijani Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers. The Conference was opened by Vilayat Zahirov, Deputy Minister of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and Congress President Herwig van Staa (Austria, EPP/CCE). Two round-tables: “*Improving access of young people to fundamental social rights: education and training – employment – health care – housing*” and “*Youth participation in public life: engaging young people in democracy*” were moderated by Nataliya Romanova (Ukraine, ILDG), President of the Congress Chamber of Regions, and Andreas Kiefer, Secretary General of the Congress. [Links: [▸ News](#); [▸ Programme](#); [▸ Documents](#)].

The [Azerbaijani chairmanship](#) activities include hosting *The Forum of the No Hate Speech Movement* (Gabala, 2-5 October) as well as the *First Global Forum on Youth Policies* to review the significance and importance of the UN plan of action on youth which will be held in Baku

on 28-30 October 2014. Co-organised by the UN special envoy on youth, UNESCO, UNDP and the CoE Youth Department, the Forum will include some 400 participants: country representatives, youth representatives and experts.

Speaking at the first meeting of the Task Force on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues (SOGI) on 10 June, Secretary General Thorbjørn Jagland [stated](#) that “*Europe has made some progress in combating discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity. However, Europe is still far from being an LGBT-friendly continent.*”

On 17 June, Secretary General Thorbjørn Jagland issued a [statement](#), condemning the recent attack on a Roma teenager in a Paris suburb. Along with other political figures, he called for a stronger stand against discrimination and attacks on Roma.

The PACE [June session](#) was held in Strasbourg on 23-27 June. Among the items discussed were: [Violence in and through the media](#); [Identities and diversity within intercultural societies](#); [Integration of migrants in Europe: the need for a proactive, long-term and global policy](#); [Child-friendly juvenile justice: from rhetoric to reality](#).

<p>Mr Jean-Christophe Bas took up his duties as Director of Democratic Citizenship and Participation on 16 June 2014.</p>
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(2) Youth Department update

On 15 – 23 June, at the [10th CoE Youth Peace Camp](#), 50 young people growing up in regions affected by armed confrontations, engaged in conflict transformation activities at the EYCS. This CoE initiative aims to develop a positive experience in living and learning together for participants from the “other side” of the dispute. The objective was also to motivate and support youngsters as multipliers and peer leaders for peace in their communities, implementing follow-up projects. Peace camp participants were encouraged to join the [No Hate Speech Movement](#) in solidarity with refugees on [World Refugee Day](#) celebrated each year on 20 June. [[Journal](#)]

A seminar on [Democratic youth participation in Algeria and Tunisia](#) was held on 6-8 June in Hammamet, Tunisia within the [South Programme](#)

for strengthening democratic reform in the Southern Mediterranean. The [seminar](#), which took place in the framework of the 2nd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship coordinated by the [North-South Centre](#), brought together leaders of youth organisations who are active in developing local and national youth participation projects.

A seminar on “Democratic youth participation in Morocco” was held in Rabat from 25 to 28 June. Organised, like the one in Tunisia, within the [South Programme](#), the seminar was attended by 20 participants from Morocco. The highlight of the seminar was a round table at which participants presented their projects and discussed them with the Minister of Youth and Sport of Morocco and other high level officials in charge of youth and civil society projects. The project will end with an evaluation conference in October or November.

The conference “[United for Dignity](#)” aiming to raise awareness and propose solutions to the problems of multiple discrimination faced by young Roma from across Europe was held at the EYCS on 24-26 June. Co-organised by the [Youth Department](#), the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Unit ([SOGI](#)) and the Support Team of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Roma Issues ([SRSG](#)), presented the study – *Barabaripen/Equality: Young Roma speak about Multiple Discrimination*, a collection of life stories of young Roma who have experienced multiple discrimination, notably on the grounds of sex, gender identity and sexual orientation and migrant status. Roma activists, representatives from LGBT and women’s organisations and a Roma rap band, De la Negra, were among those taking part. The Conference came up with proposals for concrete action to be taken by the CoE, public authorities and civil society to better address the specificities of multiple discrimination.

The international expert team carrying out the CoE youth policy review in Serbia will make a second visit to Serbia on 7-13 September. The report of the youth policy review in Greece, carried out in 2013 will be presented to the CMJ at their meeting in November 2014. Prof. Howard Williamson coordinated both country reviews. South Wales University will continue to work on the CoE international reviews of national youth policies in 2014-2016. An expert team will be visiting Romania to carry out a second phase review in 2015. Member states wishing to benefit from the CoE youth policy reviews over the next few years are invited to come forward.

New candidates for the Council of Europe [Quality Label](#) for youth centres include Portugal and Belgium (Flanders). A visit to the Expo Centre, Parque das Nacoes, Lisbon, took place on 24-27 June. The 6th Platform will be hosted next year by Ecocenter “Radulovacki” in Serbia.

A first meeting of the drafting group to prepare a Recommendation on “young people’s access to fundamental rights” as recommended by the CM in its [reply](#) to Parliamentary Assembly [Recommendation 2015 \(2013\)](#) will be held in Strasbourg on 28-29 August. The meeting will draw upon the previous comments made by the enlarged group.

The 3rd edition of the World Forum for Democracy “From participation to influence: can youth revitalise democracy?” will take place in Strasbourg, 3–5 November 2014. The [EYF](#) has received many applications for the 300 youth participants and 8 trainers. Both the participants and trainers will be selected beginning of July. More detailed information will be given in the September edition of Think Youth.

Following the Joint Council on Youth’s decision in March 2014, the [EYF](#) is continuing to give priority to pilot activities on capacity building and conflict transformation developed by Ukrainian NGOs or European NGOs wishing to cooperate with Ukrainian NGOs.

“Bookmarks” a training course for educators and teachers on combating hate speech online through human rights education, will be held on 15-19 October 2014 in Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium. The training will be carried out in French. Deadline for [applications](#) is 28 August 2014. The publication “Bookmarks” is available [on line](#).

Activities held in June included:

- Informal Contact Group of the Roma Youth Action Plan (EYCS, 2-3 June)
- Seminar with national youth councils and CDEJ experts on the role of youth policies in supporting young people's access to the labour market (EYCB, 2-6 June)
- Study session "Young Roma Women = Empowered Women", in cooperation with the Forum of European Roma Young People (FERYP) (EYCS, 9-14 June)
- Youth Dialogue Camp (“Ethnomir”, Kaluga Region, Russian Federation, 22-27 June)
- Seminar with members of youth parliaments and NGOs on young people's autonomy and transition to working life (EYCS, 23-28 June)

- "United for dignity" - Conference on the effects of multiple discrimination on Roma young people, with an emphasis on LGBT and migrant Roma youth (EYCS, 24-26 June)

- Study session "Youth as Conflict Transformers: Building a Peaceful Europe Together", in cooperation with the International Federation of Liberal Youth ([IFLRY](#)) (EYCB, 20 June – 4 July)

- Study Session "Understanding and countering multiple discrimination faced by young people with disabilities in Europe", in cooperation with the European Network on Independent Living ([ENIL](#)) (EYCS, 30 June – 5 July)

- Study Session "Say No to Hate! Young people addressing hate speech from an interreligious perspective", in cooperation with the Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe ([EYCE](#)) (EYCB, 30 June – 5 July)

Forthcoming activities include:

- Training course on human rights education and youth leadership in Roma communities - "Human rights Education Defenders" (Thessaloniki, 4-7 July)

- Training course on Human Rights Education with Roma Young People (Hungary, 7-11 July)

- Study Session "Social Rights are Human Rights II (too)" in cooperation with the Youth Express Network ([YEN](#)) (EYCB, 14-19 July)

- National Training Course in Human Rights Education with the Estonian Institute for Human Rights - to promote at national level the Recommendation on HRE/EDC and Compass (Estonia, 11-15 August)

[EU-CoE youth partnership](#)

The new website of the EU-CoE youth partnership (same link as above) is to be launched at the end of June.

Forthcoming partnership activities include:

- Expert meeting on youth participation (Brussels, 30 June - 2 July)

- 2nd prep meeting for the mapping of barriers to social inclusion (Brussels, 3-4 July), to be followed by an expert seminar on barriers on 30 September – 2 October in Strasbourg and a conference on the role of youth work in overcoming barriers, end of November in Malta. A call for conference participants will be launched shortly on the new partnership website.

- A call for participants in the youth policy seminar in Eastern Europe and South Caucasus on youth participation (14-16 October 2014 in Chisinau, Moldova) will also be launched shortly.

Staff

Farewell and many thanks to

- Lauren Holdup, trainee in the Youth Department, who provided precious support in the preparation of the drafting exercise of a Recommendation on young people's access to rights and for her research and input to Think Youth;
- Charlène Fos, trainee in the Advisory Council secretariat, for her valuable contribution to the secretariat and helping with the backlog;
- Michelle Vogt, trainee at the reception in the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg, for her valuable help during this last very busy month.

(3) Council of Europe

In a recent tweet the [Human Rights Commissioner](#) remarked that Denmark was pointing the way in [recognising trans people's right to self-determination](#).

The [Congress](#) Current Affairs Committee held a Conference on 12 June 2014 on the theme: "*It's not just about consultation: How can local and regional authorities promote youth participation that leads to real change in society? Promoting active citizenship and engagement of young people through representative institutions and other means.*" The aim was to study the situation regarding young people's democratic citizenship today and to consider how local and regional authorities can engage with them to develop a participation culture. The conclusions of the conference will serve as a contribution to the report on youth participation currently being prepared by the Congress Current Affairs Committee, in cooperation with the Council of Europe's Youth Department, the Advisory Council on Youth, the EU/CoE Youth Partnership and the European Youth Foundation [[File](#)] AC member Liam Preston addressed the conference. [[interview with Liam Preston](#)]

The 2013 [North-South Centre](#) Prize was awarded by the President of Portugal on 12 June to the Aga Khan, Founder and Chairman of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), and Suzanne Jabbour, Lebanese doctor, Chair of the Executive Committee of the International Council for the rehabilitation of victims of torture. The North-South Prize is awarded annually by the North-South Centre to two personalities (one from the northern hemisphere and one from the south) who, through their action and example, contribute to the promotion of solidarity and global

interdependence, namely in defence of democratic values and the protection of human rights. [Secretary General's [speech](#)]

At its 1203rd meeting on 18 June, the Committee of Ministers appointed 8 governmental representatives (Armenia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Malta, Moldova, Portugal, Slovakia and Slovenia) to sit on the Board of Coordination of the [Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card](#) in 2014-2015.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the [North-South Centre](#) will be held in Strasbourg on 10 July. AC member Eliza Popper will represent the CMJ at this meeting.

The 16th Ministerial Conference of the [Pompidou Group](#) will be held on 19-20 November in Strasbourg. The main theme will be “New generations – challenges for existing drug policies” and statements will be made on new generations (young people); new forms of addiction and new challenges and opportunities from the Internet. The European Prevention Prize 2014 will be awarded on that occasion.

AC Chair Paulo Pinheiro paid a [courtesy visit](#) to PACE President Anne Brasseur on 26 June during his short visit to Strasbourg when he met other main actors in the field of the CoE's youth work.

(4) Other news

The [ECOSOC Youth Forum](#) was held in New York on 2 - 4 June and dealt with the following key issues: Promoting Youth Employment – Creating Decent Jobs for a More Sustainable Future; Advancing progress in Africa beyond 2015: A youth perspective; Youth: The Future They Want Beyond 2015 and the “Road Map”: Youth and the 2015 Development Summit. AC member Seymour Huseynov participated in the Forum.

The 7th [EURODIG](#) was held on 12-13 June in Berlin hosted by the [Association of the German Internet Industry, eco](#) and under the patronage of the [Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy](#) and in cooperation with the [Federal Foreign Office](#). The theme was “Digital society at stake – Europe and the future of the Internet”. At the annual EURODIG European Forum a debate on hate speech on the internet was led by the No Hate Speech Movement team.

On 17 June, EC Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou [reminded](#) EU member states that “*Our objective is simple: everyone in Europe should be able to have their skills and qualifications understood and*

recognised, within and across national borders, by employers and educational institutions. They need to be recognised in a fair, comparable and transparent way, so that people's skills and qualifications improve their employability or open the way for further learning". The [European Commission for Education and Training](#) has published the results of the "[Eurobarometer survey on the European Area of Skills and qualifications](#)". This survey was carried out in all 28 EU member states between 26 April and 11 May 2014, and shows that there is a discrepancy between education and job opportunities.

On 16-17 June, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) organised a two-day [Youth Forum](#) in Warsaw, bringing together 35 youth leaders (between 25 and 35 years old) to discuss challenges to youth political participation in the 21st century and how to overcome them. The results will be a number of recommendations on how the OSCE and its institutions can better assist participating states to meet their commitments and obligations on the inclusion of youth in democratic processes. AC members Fanny Charmey and Luis Alvarado Martínez attended this meeting.

During his [visit to the ILO](#) on 18 June, UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon stated that unemployment was an "*epidemic*" and that "*decent jobs for youth are essential to the future we want*". He called on governments to invest more in youth employment initiatives and said that the private sector was a key driver of job creation. He urged trade unions, employers' organizations and businesses to "*empower more youth in your own structures and engage with youth-led organizations,*" adding that "*trade unions have a fundamental role in promoting and protecting young workers' rights*".

The [European Youth Forum](#) recently published "[Money grows on trees](#)" which focuses on youth organisations which set up cooperatives.

The theme of [UN International Youth Day 2014](#) is "Youth and Mental Health" under the slogan 'Mental Health Matters'. From the 12 June until 12 August, the UN will run a campaign to draw awareness on the importance of reducing stigma surrounding youth with mental health conditions. Young people are invited to participate in this campaign by submitting artwork, illustrations, videos, photos and/or stories about the positive impact of living with mental health issues, through social media, such as Facebook, Twitter or Pinterest.

The OECD will release the results of the [PISA financial literacy assessment of students](#) on 9 July.

(5) Publications

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

The CM Guide to human rights for Internet users ([Recommendation CM/Rec\(2014\)6](#)) remains a popular document among young persons.

Reminder:

- Youth Policy Review in Ukraine is available in [English](#).
- Youth Policy Review in Belgium is available in [English](#) and [French](#). Other [Youth policy reviews](#) are available on line.
- The revised European Youth Foundation leaflet is available in 5 languages: [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#). Online versions now offer the following [languages versions](#) : Slovenian, Romanian, Finnish, Spanish and Serbian (NB. more to come!)
- “[Have your say](#)” – A manual on the Revised European Charter on the participation of young people in local and regional life.
- T-Kit No.11 – [Mosaic: Training kit for the Euro-Mediterranean youth work](#) - available in French: “Mosaïques – kit de formation pour le travail euro-méditerranéen de jeunesse”.
- T-Kit No. 12 – [Youth transforming conflicts](#)
- The leaflet on the Youth Department is available in [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#).
- The leaflet on the Advisory Council on Youth is available in [English](#) / [French](#) / [Russian](#).
- The Right to be Young – report of the [Roma Youth Conference](#) is available from the Youth Department: youth@coe.int
- 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](#).
<https://book.coe.int/eur/en/>
- [Youth knowledge book 17](#): “Learning mobility and non-formal learning in European contexts”, published by the EU-CoE youth partnership.

- “[Visegrad Youth – Comparative review of the situation of young people in the V4 countries](#)”, a contribution to knowledge based youth policy development

[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.
- Coyote #20: “[What’s Xtreme about youth?!](#)” – print version
- [Getting there...](#) - publication on recognition of youth work and non-formal learning

“*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 [site](#).

Facebook pages:

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

Past issues of *Think Youth!* are available on the [website of the Youth Department](#).

***Think Youth! will be back in September.
Wishing you all a wonderful summer.***

Best regards,

*Anna Trigona
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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

EURODIG: European Dialogue on Internet Governance

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

ODIHR: Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

OSCE: Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe

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

For comments and suggestions, change of address or if you no longer wish to subscribe to this service, please contact:

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