



The May 2015 issue looks at:

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(1) The big picture



The [No Hate Speech Movement](#) which was to end in March 2015 has been extended following a decision taken by the Ministers' Deputies at their 1219th meeting (11-12 February 2015). The Committee of Ministers, at its 125th Ministerial Session in Brussels on 19 May 2015, will consider adopting a Declaration which would guide the future of the No Hate Speech Campaign.

The results of the High-level Conference entitled "Tolerance trumps hate" (to be held on 8 May in Brussels in co-operation with the Belgian Chairmanship) will also be reflected in the Ministerial Session. "Tolerance trumps hate" will aim to identify concrete steps to fight against hate speech online as well as its prevention, building upon the experience and best practices gained from the "No Hate Speech Campaign". The Youth Ministries of the three communities in Belgium will co-organise and co-finance a preparatory seminar on 7 May for 50 youth participants active in the No Hate Speech Movement.

A draft report drawn up by external evaluators of the campaign was examined on 17 April by members of the follow-up group and will be presented at the Evaluation and Follow-up conference to be held from 28 to 30 May. The evaluation report should also provide recommendations for follow-up.

In reply to PACE Recommendation [Rec\(2052\)2014](#) on “Counteraction to manifestations of neo-Nazism and right-wing extremism” the Ministers’ Deputies adopted a [Reply](#) on 1 April which mentioned that the Committee of Ministers would “carefully consider possible follow-up action to the Assembly’s recommendations [...] when preparing the next biennium”; that in the absence of consensus it was not in a position to declare 22 July as “European Day for Victims of Hate Crime”; and that it would bring to the attention of member States the specific recommendations contained in PACE [Resolution 2011\(2014\)](#).

National campaign coordinators/activists are urged to use the [reporting tool](#) to document their work and keep the secretariat in Strasbourg informed. 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.

Say it with a balloon: Real red heart-shaped No Hate Balloons are available. Ideal for public events (especially with children!) – order them now!. Other campaign material – videos, templates for posters and the brochure presentation can be downloaded from www.coe.int/youthcampaign. Also: [Detailed brochure](#); [Flyer](#); [Poster](#).

Please check out the NHSM [site](#), [Facebook](#) (we now have over 19,000 “likes”) and Twitter [[#nohatespeech](#)].

Hate speech, as defined by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, covers all forms of expression which spread, incite, promote or justify racial hatred, xenophobia, antisemitism 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](#).

[Belgium](#) – Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers (November 2014 – May 2015).

The [2nd European Youth Work Convention](#) was held in Belgium on 27-30 April 2015 within the Belgian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers. Organised by the three Communities of Belgium as part of their [priorities](#), the Convention focused on the development and renewal of youth work [[Livestream](#)].

The Convention was one of the flagship initiatives of the Belgian Chairmanship of the Council of Europe). It took place five years after the 1st Convention organised in Ghent in the framework of the Belgian EU Presidency. The 1st Convention resulted in the [Declaration of Ghent](#) and the [Resolution of the EU Council of 18-19 November 2010](#) on youth work.

The [Declaration of the 2nd Convention](#) was presented during the closing plenary session '*Looking ahead*' on Thursday 30 April in the presence of high-level representatives from the European Commission, the Council of Europe and the United Nations. The Youth Department was present at the Convention. The [European Youth Foundation](#) contributed to the Convention with a stand and a workshop about the spirit of the Foundation and its two-way communication approach: from donor to partner! The [EU-CoE youth partnership](#) contributed to the Convention with an information stand and the active participation of 75 researchers, youth work experts, graphical recorders, a film maker and the [Coyote magazine editorial team](#). Results of many earlier partnership projects related to youth work were presented in the Convention such as background papers on the 7 key themes, stories of the Compendium "How Youth Work Changed My Life" and the compendium and the mapping of tools and good practices for better recognition of youth work. The [Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card](#) and [EYCA](#) organised a Seminar on "[The role of European Youth Cards in Youth Work](#)" on 27 April.

Also within the Belgian Chairmanship a Conference entitled "[Tolerance Trumps Hate](#)" will be organised in Brussels on 8 May to identify steps to fight against hate speech online, building upon the experience and best practices gained from the "[No Hate Speech Campaign](#)".

A Council of Europe Conference on "[Freedom of Expression is STILL the issue](#)" will be held in Strasbourg on 13-14 October 2015.

[Bosnia and Herzegovina](#) – Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers (May – November 2015)

On 27-28 April, Secretary General Thorbjørn Jagland visited Sarajevo for meetings with the Chair of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and

Herzegovina, Denis Zvizdić, Minister of Foreign Affairs Igor Crnadak and Minister for Human Rights and Refugees Semiha Borovac as well as other government officials to discuss the forthcoming Chairmanship of the CoE's Committee of Ministers and the CoE's current priorities which include fighting terrorism and combating extremism.

PACE

At its April Session the PACE Adopted [Resolution 2048 \(2015\)](#) on “Discrimination against transgender people in Europe” which [stresses](#) that national and international classifications of diseases should be amended to ensure that transgender people, including children, “are not labelled as mentally ill”, and steps should be taken to ensure “stigma-free access to necessary medical treatment” [[Statement by Helena Dalli, Minister for Social Dialogue of Malta](#)]. On 24 April the PACE also adopted [Resolution 2014\(2015\)](#) on Equality and non-discrimination in the access to justice.

The [No Hate Parliamentary Alliance](#) (launched on 29 January) follows on from [Assembly Resolution 1967\(2014\)](#) on “A strategy to prevent racism and intolerance in Europe”. The Alliance will hold its third meeting during the PACE June session (22-26 June).

Speaking on 23 April on the occasion to the North-South Centre's 25th anniversary, PACE President Anne Brasseur [urged all member States](#) who were not already members of the North-South Centre to consider joining it. She stressed its role as a unique tool to promote the universal values of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law, and build up democratic citizenship and intercultural dialogue beyond Europe. “*It can also contribute to the challenges arising from the mixed flows of irregular migrants, asylum seekers and refugees across the Mediterranean,*” she said.

(2) Youth Department update

Council of Europe's Advisory Council on Youth (2016-2017)

The [European Youth Forum](#) (YFJ) has elected 20 representatives (13 NGOs and 7 NYCs) to put forward to the CoE Committee of Ministers for approval to sit on the Advisory Council on Youth in 2016-2017. The CoE also organised a call for 10 representatives of NGYOs and/or networks **not** members of YFJ to be selected by the Secretary General. The

selection of these 10 representatives, which will be made in June, will also be put forward for the CM's approval. The CM will examine the list of the 30 nominations for approval in the autumn.

The CoE statutory organs dealing with youth questions (CDEJ, CCJ and CMJ) met in Budapest on 13-15 April 2015.

The CMJ adopted the Serbian youth policy review which was presented during its meeting in Budapest in April 2015 in the presence of a delegation from the Serbian Ministry of Youth and Sport: Minister Vanja Udovicic, State Secretary Nenad Borovcanin, Assistant Minister Snezana Klasnja and advisory Djuro Blanus. The new Serbian National Youth Strategy will be taking account of the findings of the CoE review.

The provisional version of the Youth Policy in Greece, which was presented to the CMJ at its meeting in Strasbourg in November 2014, was also distributed during the April meeting pending the publication of the final version in June.

The two reviews should be available soon. *Other member states wishing to benefit from the CoE [youth policy reviews](#) over the next few years are invited to come forward.*

Within the [Council of Europe's Quality Label for youth centres](#) the 6th European Platform Meeting for Youth Centres will be hosted on 12-15 May 2015 by Ecocenter "Radulovacki" in Sremski Karlovci, Serbia.

The Council of Europe [Youth Work Portfolio \(revised\)](#) was launched and presented at the 2nd Youth Work Convention. The portfolio is an online tool based on self-assessment of youth workers' competences, combined with the possibility of creating a learning plan. The new portfolio is only available online. Please share!

The European Youth Foundation ([EYF](#)) invites applications for activities in 2016. The [priorities](#) for 2016-2017, as defined by the CMJ, should be referred to for international activities and work plans. **Deadlines for submitting applications: 1 October 2015.**

The 5th Euro-Arab Youth Forum, hosted by the Youth Department and co-organised with the League of Arab States in partnership with the European Youth Forum, will now be held on 2- 5 September in Strasbourg. The Forum will focus on fostering mutual cooperation and

dialogue among young Arab and European leaders, representatives of associations and decision-makers, on the meanings and practices of citizenship by young people and the challenges they face in their paths to autonomy. **Deadline for submitting applications: 14 May 2015.** Youth leaders and youth workers from the Arab region should contact the Department of Youth and Sport of the League of Arab States for information regarding the Arab application process.

The [Advisory Council on Youth](#) issued a [statement](#) on 8 April celebrating International Roma Day and calling on European regional and local authorities and youth structures to support the efforts of young Roma to improve European youth and Roma policies and to provide the means and tools for the participation of young Roma as full citizens. The AC issued another [statement](#) on 28 April in solidarity with the migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers aiming for the European dream.

Activities held in April included:

- Bookmarks Regional training course on combating hate speech through human rights education for CIS countries (Kazan, Russian Federation, 6 - 11 April)
- Study Session Re(Act) for equal opportunities online and offline - in cooperation with the UNITED for Intercultural Action, European network against nationalism, racism, fascism and in support of migrants and refugees (EYCS, 7 - 12 April)
- Training workshop on combating antigypsyism through education (EYCS, 20 - 23 April)
- Study Session “Mind your Language” - in cooperation with the Youth Peace Ambassadors Network (YPA Network) (EYCB, 20 - 25 April)
- Seminar on Remembrance and Human Rights, dedicated to the Anniversary of the end of World War II (EYCS, 20 - 23 April)

Forthcoming activities:

- Study session *Lutter efficacement ensemble contre l'islamophobie et la haine antimusulmane : Mesurer c'est savoir et agir* MSA « Monitoring et échange de bonnes pratiques » in cooperation with the Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations (FEMYSO) (EYCB, 4 - 8 May)
- Study Session *Charter for ALL: Putting Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education into practice* - in cooperation with the International Falcon Movement-Socialist Educational International (IFM-SEI) (EYCS, 11 - 16 May)

- Seminar on *Remembrance and Human Rights*, dedicated to the Anniversary of the end of World War II (EYCS, 19 - 22 May)
- Evaluation and Follow-up Conference of the No Hate Speech Campaign (EYCS, 27-30 May)
- Study Session *Bordering on the Possible – Migration, Policy-making and Youth* - in cooperation with the Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe AISB (CDN) (EYCB, 8 - 13 June)
- Study Session *You(th) in Decision Making: Re-inventing/enforcing the Co-management procedure* - in cooperation with the International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY) (EYCB, 8-12 June)

EU-CoE youth partnership

The mapping of barriers to social inclusion of young people in vulnerable situations will be disseminated soon and presented officially during [the European Youth Week](#) in Brussels. Other follow-up activities were presented during the “Ideas Lab” held in mid-April in Strasbourg, where young people formulated concrete proposals on what youth policy may do to help them overcome some of those barriers.

The partnership issued a call for participants to attend the [Symposium on Youth Participation in a Digitalised World](#) (EYC-Budapest, 14-16 September 2015). Deadline for [applications](#): **25 May 2015**.

Staff

A warm welcome to Thibaud BRY who joined the European Youth Foundation team (part time) on 20 April until the end of June 2015. Thibaud will be working mainly on statistics and an online publication of EYF-supported activities in the framework of the NHSM.

(3) Council of Europe

At its 28th session in Strasbourg on 24-26 March, the [Congress](#) adopted [Recommendation 371 \(2015\)](#) and [Resolution 381\(2015\)](#) on Combating radicalisation at grassroots level: the role of local and regional authorities. These instruments focus on the role of local and regional authorities in combating and preventing radicalisation. The Congress is proposing to set up a mechanism for promoting youth participation in its work. A first meeting of the *ad hoc* reflection group on the participation of young people in the Congress’ work will take place in Paris on 21 May 2015 with the participation of Liam Preston and Christian Scharling (AC members), Marcio Barcelos (representing the European Youth Forum).

The provisional theme of the [World Forum for Democracy 2015](#) is “Freedom versus control”. Organisations have been asked to express their interest in presenting an example/initiative or idea to respond to security threats so as to preserve the basic principles of democracy such as freedom of expression, public deliberation, and the privacy of citizens, by answering a [questionnaire](#) and sending it to forum_democracy@coe.int **by 15 May 2015**.

“2014 was a bad year for human rights in Europe” [stated](#) Nils Muižnieks, Commissioner for Human Rights, on 2 April. See his [Annual Activity Report for 2014](#).

On 23-24 April, the [Pompidou Group](#) organised a workshop in the juvenile prison of Pryluky, Ukraine where hundreds of boys aged 14-24 coming from families where alcohol, drug use and violence are prevalent, are incarcerated. The workshop was carried out in conjunction with the State Ukrainian prison administration and the Dutch non-profit organisation Dutch Foundation Friends of Pryluky in order to introduce the risk assessment tool - [SAVRY](#).

[The North South Centre](#) deadline for [nominations](#) for the North-South Prize for 2015 is 10 July 2015. The North-South Prize has been awarded every year since 1995 to two candidates who have stood out for their exceptional commitment to promoting North-South solidarity.

(4) Other news

Within the framework of the [Latvian presidency of the Council of the EU](#), the issue of youth political participation will be brought forward for a high-level policy debate of the EU Youth Ministers at the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council on 18-19 May 2015.

The European Council, wanting to speed up the fight against youth unemployment, [agreed on 21 April](#) to increase advance payments under the youth employment initiative ([YEI](#)). Around 7 million young Europeans are currently without a job and are not in education or training. The position agreed by the Council serves as a mandate for the Latvian presidency to hold discussions with representatives of the European Parliament. Once an agreement between the Council and the Parliament is reached both institutions have to formally approve the outcome.

During [European Youth Week 2015](#) many events will be taking place across Europe between 27 April and 10 May all based around the theme of participation in civil society and the employment market.

On 16 April, Eurostat published “[What it means to be young in the European Union today](#)” which provides an overview of the information to young people (15-29) that is available on Eurostat’s website. These statistics play an important role in evaluating progress toward the [EU Youth Strategy](#).

The [European Youth Forum YO!Fest](#) will take place on 6 May in front of the European Parliament in Brussels in the context of the European Youth Week and the European Year for Development. The theme will be “Grow together!” and the focus will be on sustainable growth and development at different levels.

On 23 April, [addressing the Open Debate of the Security Council on the Role of Youth in Countering Violent Extremism and Promoting Peace](#), UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon mentioned the need to encourage young people to take up the causes of peace, diversity and mutual respect. “*Youth represent promise – not peril*”, he said.

A new [ILO report](#) on the transition of young people from school to work in Eastern Europe and Central Asia shows the missed opportunity of absorbing a well-educated youth workforce. The ILO’s second volume of its [World Report on Child Labour: Transition to favourable youth employment outcomes](#), which should be available in June 2015, highlights the close linkages between child labour and youth decent-work deficit, and the consequent need for common policy approaches to address these challenges. The [ILO Programme on youth employment](#) provides assistance to countries in developing coherent and coordinated interventions on youth employment.

(5) Publications

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

NEW!

- The “Youth Information Starter Kit” is now available in [Italian](#). The Kit gives a first insight as to what Youth Information is, the underlying

working principles and missions, how to start creating Youth Information Services and some practical information on what the different European structures have to offer to those who want to step into the world of Youth Information. Other linguistic versions: [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Turkish](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#), [Macedonian](#). *Polish version (planned in 2015)*

- The following publication was produced in partnership with ERYICA: [Young people's access to rights through youth information and counselling](#). This publication is a toolkit intended to assist youth information experts working directly with young people, but it can also be used in other non-formal activities. The toolkit offers many sources of information and inspiration on how to inform young people about their rights, in an attractive way. This publication offers you a summary of the most relevant and useful material available in the online world. At the end of the publication one can find suggestions of practical activities and examples of good practice that can help young people better understand human rights and ways to access them. Also available in [Russian](#). *French version available in May or June.*

- [Mirrors](#) – A Manual on combating antigypsyism through human rights education

Reminder:

[List of Youth Department publications](#)

- [Islamophobia and its consequences on young people / L'islamophobie et ses conséquences pour les jeunes](#) have been reprinted.

- The [Advisory Council leaflet](#) has been updated in English. The French, German and Russian editions will be available soon.

- The French version of the Manual for facilitators in non-formal education “[Manuel de l'animateur en éducation non-formelle](#)” is now available.

- [Youth policy reviews](#) are available on line. The youth policy review on Greece should appear soon.

- 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.10 Educational Evaluation in Youth Work - [now available in Czech](#)
- 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 former version of the Advisory Council on Youth leaflet is still available in [French](#) and [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
- [Young people’s access to rights through youth information and counselling](#). This publication is the result of the [partnership between the Council of Europe and ERYICA](#).

[Recent and upcoming EU-CoE youth partnership publications:](#)

- Perspectives on youth, volume 1 – “[2020 - What do you see?](#)”. The [French](#) and [German](#) versions are also available.
- Perspectives on youth, volume 2 – “[Connections and disconnections](#)” available now in English.
- Youth knowledge book 18 – “[History of youth work](#)” volume 4.
- [Getting there...](#) – a publication on the recognition of youth work and non-formal learning.

- [Coyote #20](#) – “What’s Xtreme about youth?!” – electronic and printed versions available.
- [Coyote # 21](#) – “Know What?” – electronic version available.
- [Coyote #22](#) – “Discriminating(,)me?!” – electronic pdf version and [epub version for tablets](#).

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

Facebook pages:

[Advisory Council on Youth](#)
[Council of Europe - Youth](#)
[European Youth Centre, Budapest](#)
[EU-CoE youth partnership](#)
[European Youth Foundation](#)
[No Hate Speech Movement](#)

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

CDMSI: Steering Committee on Media and Information Society

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

ECHR: European Court of Human Rights

ECRI: European Commission against racism and intolerance

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

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