



Strasbourg, 10 March 2015

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THE END OF THE
BEGINNING?...

Evaluation and
Follow-Up Conference

European Youth Centre, Strasbourg

27-30 May 2015

Information

Call for participants

THE EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP CAMPAIGN CONFERENCE

The No Hate Speech Movement – youth campaign for human rights online – is a project ran by the Council of Europe between 2012 and 2015. It aims to combat racism and discrimination in the online expression of hate speech by equipping young people and youth organisations with the competences necessary to recognise and act against such human rights violations. The campaign was launched by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on 22 March 2012.

The campaign is coordinated by the Youth Department at the European level and is implemented at the national by non-governmental and governmental partners in more than 40 national campaigns implemented by national campaign committees. Partnerships with other European and international institutions secure synergies with other initiatives and amplify the outreach of the campaign in denouncing, educating about and mobilising young people and society against hate speech and other human rights abuse online.

The campaign has been shaped through consultation events involving young people, youth workers and youth organisations in order to ensure that it is a campaign for and with and by young people. These major events, of which the culminating point has been the Forum held in Gabala, Azerbaijan, in October 2014, have been combined with online and offline coordinated action by the online activists and national campaign committees at the occasion of European Action Days which have addressed a specific issue of campaigning related to hate speech, online safety and participation in Internet governance.

Activists have also campaigned for the establishment of 22 July as a European Day in Memory of Victims of Hate Crime; a No Hate Alliance was also established by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. The campaign has also connected with other instruments and initiatives of the Council of Europe, the latest being an Action Plan to combat extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism. Many youth organisations have run pilot projects funded by the European Youth Foundation and study sessions at the European Youth Centre in support of the campaign. Partners across Europe have co-organised activities and run their own projects in the framework of the campaign.

At first sight the campaigners for human rights online seem to have succeeded in their first objective: to reduce the acceptance of online hate speech as being normal, acceptable or inevitable. Yet, the real measure of success for the campaign has also to include the outreach to children and young people – raising awareness about human rights online and netcitizenship. The publication of *Bookmarks*, the manual for combating hate speech online through human rights education, has greatly supported the work of activists and educators interested in the campaign. But this needs to be intensified to make sure that more people are reached and effectively have access to human rights education.

The European youth campaign is planned to end by the March 2015, while others at national level will continue to run throughout the year and in 2016. Late 2014, an evaluation process of the No Hate Speech Movement campaign has been launched at European level and its results are expected to be available by May 2015.

The No Hate Speech Movement is an extremely rich and diverse campaign, taking place online and offline and involving a multitude of actors. It is nearly impossible to take note of everything that has been happening; this only makes the work of evaluation and planning follow-up even more crucial.

This evaluation can only be undertaken with the involvement of all partners, national committees, activists and various friends of the campaign. An external evaluation is being conducted by a consultancy company, but this is not enough to secure an effective involvement and input of everyone concerned. The Evaluation and Follow-up Conference is organised for this purpose.

The campaign evaluation and follow-up conference will bring together some 120 participants, representatives of the stakeholders involved in the campaign to create the space to evaluate the results of the campaign and to develop the follow-up strategy.

The conference will take place in Strasbourg, at the European Youth Centre between 27 and 30 May 2015.

AIM, OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The conference will discuss the evaluation of the No Hate Speech Movement campaign at the European level and identify measures for its follow-up and sustainability of the results in youth, human rights and education and media related policies.

OBJECTIVES

- ✓ To share achievements in the campaign at national and European level including the work of online activists, national campaigns and European partners.
- ✓ To present and complement the findings of the external evaluation of the campaign with the main stakeholder groups of the campaign.
- ✓ To identify areas for further cooperation and follow-up at all relevant levels and to develop implementation strategies.
- ✓ To consolidate partnerships and networks initiated through and for the campaign.
- ✓ To give recognition and visibility to more than 2 years of campaign together and to commit partners and stakeholders for further action against hate speech and for human rights.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The conference should result in:

- ✓ A follow-up strategy and conclusions, to be addressed to the Council of Europe, national committees and partners of the campaign
- ✓ An publication with examples of good practice in the campaign
- ✓ A video about the impact of the campaign
- ✓ Report of the conference.

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE

Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Arrival of participants

Registration at European Youth Centre Strasbourg

19:00 *Dinner*

20:30 Welcome evening

Thursday, 28 May 2015

09:15 Official opening of the Conference

09:30 Reviewing the campaign(s): sharing achievements

11:00 *Break*

11:30 Reviewing the campaign(s): sharing achievements

13:00 *Lunch*

14:30 Parallel workshops on tools developed for the campaign

16:00 *Break*

16:30 Parallel workshops on tools developed for the campaign

17:00 Partnership and networking time

18:30 Closure of the day

19:00 *Dinner*

20:00 "No Hate Dress Party"

Friday, 29 May 2015

09:15 Presentation of the results of the external evaluation of the campaign

10:15 Critical assessment of the campaign by the participants

11:00 *Break*

11:30 Critical assessment of the campaign by the participants

12:00 Feedback from the critical assessment

12:30 Introduction to the Council of Europe Action Plan to combat extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism and the role of the campaign therein

13:00 *Lunch*

14:30 The future work of the Council of Europe on combatting hate speech with:

- Thorbjorn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe (tbc)
- Anne Brasseur, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (tbc)
- Nils Muiznieks, Human Rights Commissioner of the Council of Europe (tbc)

15:30 Follow-up of the campaign at European, national and local level

16:00 *Break*

16:30 Follow-up of the campaign at European, national and local level (continued)

19:00 *Dinner*

21:00 No Hate Speech Movement activity in Strasbourg city

Saturday, 30 May 2015

09:15 Addressing hate speech with young people in the current context, with external guest speaker

11:00 *Break*

11:30 Defining the follow-up strategy of the No Hate Speech Movement campaign in respect to human rights, youth, education and media policy

13:00 *Lunch*

14:30 Presentation of the follow-up strategy working groups results

15:15 Conclusions of the Conference

15:30 Closure ceremony of the conference

Departure of participants

19:00 *Barbeque dinner*

Sunday, 31 May 2015

Departure of participants

PROFILE AND RECRUITMENT OF PARTICIPANTS

The conference will bring together some 120 participants representing the main stakeholders in the No Hate Speech Movement campaign at European, national and local level. All participants in the Conference are expected to be able to work in English or French autonomously and to:

- Be or having been involved in the campaign as national campaign coordinator or being appointed by the national committee to represent it at the conference, or
- Be or having been involved in the campaign as online activist, or
- Be or having been involved in the campaign with a partner organisation

and

- To be in a position to contribute and follow-up on the conference
- To be able to attend the entire duration of the conference.

The recruitment procedure is the following:

- Online activists in the campaign and representatives of partner organisations are invited to apply using this online application form [here](#).
- National campaign committees are invited to nominate two representatives (including the national coordinator) per campaign committee using the following

nomination form [here](#). The National Campaign Committees that are interested in sending more than 2 representatives can do so (using the same nomination form and indicating an order of priority on the form). We may also establish a waiting list, additional registrants will be notified of their opportunity to take part in the conference, according to the remaining availability.

The dead-line for all applications and nominations is **29 March 2015**.

PRACTICAL AND FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

Working languages

The campaign conference will be led in English and French with simultaneous interpretation.

Accommodation and meals

Accommodated will be provided by the Council of Europe at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg or at nearby hotels; meals will be provided at the European Youth Centre.

Travel and visa expences

Travel expenses and visa fees will be reimbursed by the Council of Europe according to the rules in place.

For further information on organisation of participation, please contact Ms Estelle Glessinger at estelle.glessinger@coe.int