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**Regional Training Seminar on Bookmarks,  
Combatting Hate Speech through Human Rights Education**

**Call for Participants**

**18- 21 April 2017**

**Porto, Portugal**

## Background information

The No Hate Speech Movement is a youth campaign by the Council of Europe mobilising young people to combat hate speech on and offline and to act for human rights initiated in 2013. In May 2015, in the framework of the Action Plan on the fight against violent extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism, the Committee of Ministers decided to continue the No Hate Speech Movement campaign until 2017. The campaign remains driven by the need to counter online hate speech in all its forms, including those that most affect young people, such as cyberbullying and cyberhate, racism and other forms of discrimination. The campaign is based upon human rights education, youth participation and media literacy.

Following the announced prolongation the campaign platform has been updated with new and improved tools for monitoring hate speech through Hate Speech Watch and engaging with the campaign through the Join the Movement and the campaign blog pages. New thematic focusses have been identified including sexist hate speech, Antisemitic hate speech and hate speech targeting refugees. In the second phase of the campaign more emphasis is placed on countering hate speech through human rights narratives and reporting of hate speech content with the relevant authorities. In support of these new priorities, the European campaign secretariat will publish a new handbook on developing counter narratives to hate speech for youth workers and educators.

The [National campaign in Portugal](#) is coordinated by the [Portuguese Institute for Sports and Youth](#). Its national committee incorporates 29 Youth, human rights and anti-discrimination organisations, local and regional authorities and institutional partners. The Portuguese campaign organises awareness raising events with young people educating on the risks of Hate Speech for school and local communities. In 2016 an online educational video series (produced by the SIC.pt), "[Net com Consciência](#)" on media literacy, cyberbullying, Human Rights online and related topics was posted through its social media platforms. The educational efforts of the campaign are further strengthened with the publication of the Portuguese translation of Bookmarks on 17 December 2016.

Bookmarks is useful for educators wanting to address hate speech online from a human rights perspective, both inside and outside the formal education system. It provides a set of educational activities and background information should help young people in developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to use the Internet safely and uphold human rights and democratic principles.

To promote the use of Bookmarks and strength the quality and impact of the educational and campaign activities of by the national campaign partners, the Portuguese Institute for Sports and Youth will host a regional training seminar on combatting hate speech through human rights education. The four day regional training seminar will be organised from 18-21 April in Porto, Portugal in cooperation with the European Campaign secretariat of the No Hate Speech Movement.

## **Aim and Objectives**

The training seminar aims to build participants' competences to combat hate speech online and promote human rights on- and offline through human rights education and campaigning.

At the end of the seminar participants will:

- Have knowledge of the approach of the Council of Europe to hate speech as a human rights issue
- Have shared and learnt from each other's work, good practices and challenges
- Strengthened their competences to address hate speech through human rights education, using Bookmarks and other tools.
- Developed the competence to implement online and offline campaign activities in the framework of Action Days.
- Developed competences to document and evaluate campaign initiatives and promote their visibility.

Expected outcomes of the training course are:

- Thorough knowledge of the Council of Europe work on hate speech and the campaign.
- Ability to use Bookmarks as resources in setting up educational and awareness raising campaign initiatives.
- Ability to use online tools for campaigning.
- Developed follow-up actions involving the stakeholders of the campaign that:
  - o Strengthen the National Campaigns in the South European region
  - o Strengthen regional cooperation between national campaigns and partners.

## **Profile of Participants**

The training seminar is targeted towards campaign activists, youth workers, and educators who are in a position to implement the gained competences within the framework of the national campaigns.

All participants should:

- Be supported by a national campaign committee or campaign partners.
- Be committed to stay active in the campaign until its end of 2017.
- Be in a position to implement the gained competences within the framework of the national campaigns through education and/ or campaign activities.
- Have a working knowledge of English.

The training seminar will invite 25 campaign activists, youth workers and educators involved in the No Hate Speech Movement at national level from the South European region, including: Andorra, France, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, and Spain.

## **Draft Programme**

The programme of the training seminar will cover seven main areas:

- Understanding hate speech online and its negative consequences for human rights, democracy and the rule of law online and offline.
- Understanding the role of human rights education in combatting hate speech

- How to use Bookmarks as a tool, and develop human rights education activities based on it.
- Using human rights narratives as a response to hate speech through education and campaign activities.
- Using the online campaign tools.
- Developing local and regional campaign and education activities to strengthen the national campaigns.
- Group building activities and evaluation of the course.

The methodological approach of Bookmarks will be central in the course. The course is also built around the expectation that participants will put in practice their learning by developing and implementing activities that will strengthen the national campaigns.

### **Application procedure and deadlines**

The Youth Department is now opening the call for participants for this training seminar. All interested candidates must apply online, completing the application form through this link: <http://youthapplications.coe.int/Application-forms>

The application must be submitted **by 21 February 2017, at noon, Central European Time.**

### **Practical and financial conditions**

#### **Enrolment fee**

An enrolment fee of **60 Euros** is payable by each participant. This amount will be deducted from the amount to be reimbursed for travel expenses

#### **Venue and accommodation**

The training course will take place at the “Youth Centre Porto”, in Porto, Portugal. All participants will be provided accommodation and full board by the host of the course the Portuguese Institute for Sports and Youth.

#### **Travel expenses**

Travel expenses to and from the training venue will be reimbursed according to the rules of the Council of Europe.

#### **Working languages**

The working languages will be English.

#### **Visas**

Visa costs will be reimbursed by the Council of Europe. The Portuguese Institute for Sports and Youth will issue an invitation letter that should facilitate the delivery of visas to attend the training course.

### **Further information**

For further information please email at [youth.nohatespeech@coe.int](mailto:youth.nohatespeech@coe.int)