



OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Conference

Warsaw, 24 September- 5 October 2011

Working session 14 – Tolerance and non-discrimination II

Contribution of the Council of Europe

Promotion of mutual respect and understanding through intercultural education

Following the project “The challenge of intercultural education today: religious diversity and dialogue in Europe” from 2002 to 2006 and the publication “Religious diversity and intercultural education: a reference book for schools” (ISBN 978-92-871-6223-6), in 2008 the Committee of Ministers adopted [Recommendation CM / Rec \(2008\) 12 on the dimension of religions and non-religious convictions within intercultural education](#) (ISBN 978-92-871-6594-7).

- In 2010 a new project entitled “[Education and Religious Diversity in the Western Mediterranean](#)” was launched by the Council of Europe, in cooperation with the UNESCO Chairs of the Universities of Bergamo, Rioja, Tunis and Marrakech. The project aims at improving educators’ understanding of the issues of religious diversity and non-religious convictions in education systems in a range of countries in the western Mediterranean region, namely Spain, Italy, Morocco and Algeria.
- In 2011 the Wergeland Centre and the Council of Europe Education Directorate jointly launched a project to evaluate the impact of the Council of Europe [Recommendation CM / Rec \(2008\) 12 on the dimension of religions and non-religious convictions within intercultural education](#) (ISBN 978-92-871-6594-7) on individual member states. The final aim of this project will be the design of a Road Map (guidelines, actions, indicators of progress, etc.) for the further implementation of this recommendation.

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Anti-discrimination Campaign

As a result of the 2008 Council of Europe Campaign "Speak out against discrimination", the Campaign tools, articulated around its 3 objectives and in addition to the presentation leaflet, include:

- A Toolbox : « **Journalism training, discrimination and diversity** »
- The report by Stephen WHITTLE (2009), **Media & Diversity: The next steps to promote minority access to the Media,**
- The leaflet **Sport and discrimination: the media perspective,**
- The report **Sports' Journalism, Discrimination & Diversity – Realities for the Future...**,
- The publication **Media & Discrimination: When young journalists investigate!**,
- The methodological kit , **Tell us about diversity!**

This various products will soon be available on the Campaign website: coe.int/antidiscrimination which is now a resource center on Intercultural Dialogue, Discrimination and Media.

Two DVDs come with the publications: one linked to the publication on Youth and the other with the brochure Tell us about diversity. These DVD's combining the media reports made during the campaign. They will also be available online.

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Teaching Remembrance of the Holocaust and prevention of crimes against humanity

The Council of Europe is in close contact with the OSCE/ODHIR regarding the work done in the field of Teaching Remembrance of the Holocaust and prevention of crimes against humanity. Dr Carole Reich participated in March, in Prague, in the Conference Confronting Anti-Semitism in Public Discourse..

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Media against Racism in Sport (MARS)

Building upon standards set by various Council of Europe bodies on media pluralism, expression of diversity and non discrimination and the outcome of the 2008-10 CoE's antidiscrimination Campaign, the MARS – *Media against racism in sport* – EU / CoE joint programme aims at considering non discrimination and expression of diversity as an ongoing angle of media coverage. Through this approach applied to sport coverage, MARS wants to encourage innovative modes of media production that could be reproduced in all media sectors and used by any form of media coverage.

The new MARS - *Media against racism in sport* – EU / CoE joint programme chooses to focus, though not exclusively, on sport because it is considered as an important area for building social cohesion as it is also a major sector of investment in the media industry. However, sport media coverage does not reflect social and cultural diversity and does not ensure equity for all. Only 5% of press articles cover cultural and social aspects of sport; 40% of all sport articles refer to only one source and 20 % refer to no sources at all; female athletes have four times more chances to be covered by a female journalist rather than a male one but less than 5% of sport news and stories are made by female journalists (Play the Game, 2005)!

To achieve these outcomes, the MARS programme offers media professionals (journalism students and trainers, journalists, media managers, etc.) to participate to various activities in order to explore the possibilities of developing ways of producing truly inclusive and intercultural media contents.

The MARS programme will create a European media network against racism and for intercultural dialogue as an open and permanent platform of dialogue and action between mainstream media and diversity and ethnic minority media, for stimulating media cross-practices in the field of training, production and editorial management with the view to implementing an inclusive and intercultural approach to media content production.

It aims at:

- developing the skills and competencies of media professionals on the issues of diversity, intercultural dialogue and discrimination in order to improve the quality of media coverage of such issues and to make emerge a real intercultural and inclusive approach to media content production,
- allowing media professionals, journalists as well as chief editors and information decision-makers, to renew their way of producing media content by supporting exchanges between professionals through concrete media production sessions opening up to new subjects, topics to be covered, sources of information and ways of treatment...
- supporting debates, between chief editors, information decision-makers and self-regulatory and regulatory bodies, on media professional ethics and codes of conducts with the view to finding common standards regarding media content production respecting freedom of expression while taking into account intercultural realities and non discriminatory practices.

Its main activities are based on:

1/ European Media Encounters on Journalism & Media Training & Literacy (Belgium), on *Cross-production for inclusive media coverage* (Portugal) and on *Editorial Management & Ethics* (United Kingdom)

2: National Media Encounters on Journalism & Media Training & Literacy (Italy, France, Romania, Finland, Belgium), on *Cross-production for inclusive media coverage* (Austria, The Netherlands, Ireland, Germany, Hungary) and on *Editorial Management & Ethics* (France, Poland, Denmark, Bulgaria, Spain)

3/ Media Work Exchanges / Media Cross-Visits on Journalism & Media Training & Literacy, on Cross-production for inclusive media coverage and on *Editorial Management & Ethics*

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www.coe.int/mars

Tolerance and Non-Discrimination in the youth field

The Council of Europe promotes at local, national and European level intercultural dialogue in the youth field on the basis of the guidelines and recommendations set out in the "White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue". The overall objective is to improve the capacity of young people and youth organisations to promote intercultural dialogue, conflict prevention, conflict transformation and social integration in a European and global context.

Every year, more than 20 successful and documented training courses, seminars, intercultural language courses and other events are organised in co-operation with non-governmental youth organisations, public authorities and other stakeholders of youth policy. The Council of Europe also develops educational and training materials and distributes them widely. The programme comprises: study sessions on issues related to racism and intolerance, training courses with young Roma on human rights based approaches against discrimination, dissemination of educational resources with a particular emphasis on the quality control of the translation of non-formal education manuals, promotion of the "Living library" approach, study sessions on conflict prevention and conflict transformation.

The annual *Youth Peace Camp* with young people from conflict and post-conflict areas (in 2011, young Kosovars of Serbian and Albanian descent, young Armenians and Azerbaijanis, young Israelis and Palestinians) was held at the European Youth Centre.

A project to promote peace-building initiatives in member states, the *Youth Peace Ambassadors* project, has been launched in 2011 and will train 75 youth multipliers from civil society to promote the values and approaches of the Council of Europe in conflict-stricken communities.

A new project, the *Online Human Rights Defenders*, is being prepared for launching in 2012. The project will mobilise young bloggers and on-line human rights young activists for a media campaign against on-line hate speech on the principle that it is public space.

A *Roma Youth Action Plan* is being prepared on the basis of a consultation with Roma youth organisations (Roma Youth Conference). The Action Plan will contain activities in the youth field targeted at young Roma and will follow the Strasbourg Declaration on Roma.

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Promotion of mutual respect and understanding through global education and history teaching (North-South Centre)

The NSC has worked for more than 15 years promoting global education. Global Education is understood as an holistic education dealing with the growing interconnectedness between local and global realities. It encompasses Human Rights Education, Education for Citizenship as well as Development Education, Education for Sustainability, Education for Peace and Conflict Prevention and Intercultural Education.

The **Global Education Guidelines** (GEG) - pedagogical handbook for educators to understand and implement global education, as well as the **global education on-line training courses**, offered several times a year, are important tools of the NSC Global Education programme. As to the E-learning scheme, two dimensions of the Global Education are covered: *human rights* and *intercultural dialogue*, both including a conflict prevention aspect. In 2012 the NSC is introducing a residential training of trainers in the field of Global Education for Mollina University on Youth & Development as well as the sister regional African and Latin American universities.

A NSC network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship was constituted this year, including Mollina University on Youth & Development as well as the sister regional African University on Youth & Development and Latin America University of Participation and Citizenship. Intercultural learning and conflict prevention are two fundamental dimensions in the functioning of the above Universities and their network.

The work developed by the NSC in the more specific area of Intercultural education builds on the complementarity between existing programmes, initiatives and tools developed by NSC's partner organisations such as the Alliance of Civilization, the Anna Lindh Foundation, the Swedish Institute of Alexandria, the European Wergeland Centre and the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI).

In May 2011 the NSC co-organised in Lisbon, with Anna Lindh Foundation, the Georg-Eckert Institut and the Swedish Institute of Alexandria, an explorative workshop on cooperation opportunities in the field of intercultural and interreligious education in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The recommendations of this workshop projected areas of joint actions to be further explored between participants (among others the European Wergeland Centre, EMUNI, EUROCLIO, UNAOc).

History teaching and intercultural learning is an important dimension of the NSC activities on Intercultural Dialogue and Global Education. The Council of Europe and its North-South Centre have developed a joint action in the field of history teaching in the Balkans and in the Mediterranean. The NSC ambition is to extend the CoE expertise, multiperspective approach and interactive working methods in the field of history teaching beyond Europe and specifically to the Southern Mediterranean. The NSC is increasing its collaboration with Euroclio. It will actively contribute to the future project promoting innovative and responsible history, citizenship and heritage education in North Africa and the Middle East. In addition the NSC is streamlining its activities with the Anna Lindh Foundation and the League of Arab States, in particular through the elaboration of pedagogical tools and training for educators from Euro-Mediterranean region.

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