



2018 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting

Warsaw, 10 – 21 September 2018

Working Group 18: human diemsnion activities

Council of Europe contribution

Education for democracy and human rights

Education plays a crucial role in the promotion and development of democracy and human rights. The Council of Europe supports cooperation activities on education for democratic citizenship and human rights education (EDC/HRE), in the framework of which reference texts are developed, exchange and mutual assistance are facilitated, and a broad range of publications and materials are produced, with a view to encouraging and supporting relevant educational reforms in the 50 States Party to the European Cultural Convention.

A. Reference texts: Support to the implementation of the EDC/HRE Charter

The Council of Europe has developed a Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture¹, to be adapted for use in primary and secondary schools and higher education and vocational training institutions throughout Europe as well as national curricula and teaching programmes. The CDC Framework, published in April 2018, consists of a model of 20 competences (adopted by the 25th Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education in Brussels on 11 – 12 April 2016), a set of descriptors and guidance documents. These are designed to assist member states with implementing the Framework in the fields of curriculum development, pedagogy, assessment, teacher education, whole-school approach and building resilience to radicalisation leading to violent extremism and terrorism. Further similar documents will be prepared, notably on higher education. An Education Policy Advisers Network (EPAN) comprising representatives from the signatory states of the European Cultural Convention was set up in 2018 to prepare implementation of the Framework in accordance with the member states' present priorities.

The council of Europe is going to launch a new education campaign, "Free to Speak, Safe to Learn", in November 2018. The campaign aims to highlight commitment to democratic values and principles in the life and culture of schools in all the Council of Europe member states by identifying and sharing good practices, as seen through the

¹ <http://www.coe.int/en/web/education/competences-for-democratic-culture>

lens of the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture (RFDC). The campaign will run for four years and is overseen by the Steering Committee for Education Policy and Practice.

The 2nd review cycle of the implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education (Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)7) was organised in 2016-2017. This review exercise is part of the follow up to the conclusions of the 25th Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education, which undertook to support the development of a long-term strategy for a more coherent and comprehensive approach to education for democratic citizenship and human rights at European level and requested the Council of Europe – inter alia - to consider ways of increasing the impact of the Charter. The Charter review is also part of the Council of Europe's contribution towards the United Nations World Programme for Human Rights Education and the United Nations' 2030 Education Agenda (Target 4.7). This exercise consisted of a preparation of the Report on the State of citizenship and human rights education in Europe and a major conference on "Learning to live together: a shared commitment to democracy. The future of citizenship and human rights education in Europe" (June 2017).

In 2016-2017, four projects with the participation of up to 15 countries are supported by the Council of Europe and the European Union in the framework of the Joint Programme "Human Rights and Democracy in Action". The current projects address democratic governance at school, promotion of competences for democratic culture, digital citizenship and partnerships for citizenship and human rights education. The Programme supports cooperation initiatives among States party to the European Cultural Convention which aim to put the Charter's principles into practice. The Programme fosters peer-to-peer learning among and within the countries, and facilitates the collection and sharing of information on all existing forms of citizenship and human rights education.

In South East Europe, the Education Department is enhancing the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups by applying anti-discriminatory approaches in the formal education system based on Council of Europe standards and practices.

The three year programme is co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe as a part of the European Union – Council of Europe Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey.

Individual projects are tailored to each context and include a focus on promoting competences for a democratic culture (in Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo*) and anti-bullying (in Albania). Close cooperation is ensured with the relevant Ministries of Education and also include a broad group of national partners and stakeholders, including education policy and research institutes, selected pilot schools, local communities, media and NGOs, teacher training and youth organisations.

In 2018-2019, two international co-operation projects and three micro-projects with the participation of 9 countries are supported by the Council of Europe and the European Union in the framework of the Joint Programme "Democratic and Inclusive School Culture in Operation". The Programme supports co-operation initiatives among States party to the European Cultural Convention which aim to put the Charter's principles into practice and promote competences for democratic culture, as well as micro-projects to support single project ideas to disseminate or further develop the outcomes of the

previous programme cycles. The Programme fosters peer-to-peer learning among and within the countries, and facilitates the collection and sharing of information on all existing forms of citizenship and human rights education. The current projects focus on digital citizenship education and inclusive approaches in education. The Programme will support up to 4 more micro-projects by the end of its implementation period.

The Council of Europe's action with regard to the digital life of children over the last decade has been aimed mainly at their safety and protection in the digital environment rather than their empowerment through education or the acquisition of competences for actively participating in digital society.

However, supporting children and young people to participate safely, effectively, critically and responsibly in a world filled with social media and digital technologies has emerged as priority for educators the world over.

To address the issue the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE) of the Council of Europe launched a new intergovernmental project entitled "Digital Citizenship Education" in 2016. The aim of this project is to contribute to reshaping the role that education plays in enabling all children to acquire the competences they need as digital citizens to participate actively and responsibly in democratic society, whether offline or online.

B. Communication and dissemination

The Council of Europe has produced a wealth of materials, which are available for download in many languages on the EDC/HRE website (www.coe.int/edc).

Examples include a comprehensive 'EDC/HRE Pack', composed of manuals for various target audiences on a broad range of topics from policy development and democratic governance to teachers' competences and quality assurance, "Living Democracy" – a series of manuals for teachers for use in the classroom, "Freedom(s)" – Learning activities for secondary schools on the case law of the European Court of Human Rights as well as "Human Rights Education in the School Systems of Europe, Central Asia and North America: a Compendium of Good Practice" published by the OSCE/ODIHR, OHCHR, UNESCO and Council of Europe and a manual on Curriculum development and review for education for democratic citizenship and human rights produced jointly by the Council of Europe, UNESCO, OSCE/ODIHR and the Organization of American States. The publication "Democracy and Human Rights Start with Us: Charter for All" is the child-friendly version of the the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education. It comprises a brochure for children, a guide for teachers and a poster². The Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture is available at www.coe.int/competences .

The video "Education for democracy and human rights in 10 steps" explains in a succinct and accessible way the objectives and principles of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education. The Council of Europe's film "Beat Bullying" shows how whole-school human rights and citizenship education programmes equip students and pupils with the understanding, skills and

² These materials were produced jointly by the Council of Europe Youth and Education Departments, and in cooperation with the Programme "Building Europe for and with Children", with a financial contribution from Finland.

confidence they need to help stop bullying and violence at school, including cyber-bullying. The video is available on YouTube in English, French, German and Russian, and has reached over 3 million viewers. A series of videos on “Democracy at School”, which was inspired by a comic strip competition, aims to raise awareness of relevance of the principles of democracy and human rights for the everyday life at school.³

C. Council of Europe and SDGs

Following decisions during the Standing Conference in Brussels, on April 2016, the CDPPE decided during its meeting on October 2016 to include SDG4 as a standing agenda item in its bi-annual plenary meetings to exchange best practice and lessons learned in implementing the measures required to achieve SDG4.

The Council of Europe was selected as one of two regional organisations for the European and North America region on the SDG Education 2030 Steering Committee. The Council of Europe contributes to the work of this Committee by presenting regional initiatives, representing and reporting back to its member states and identifying and promoting good practice in efforts to achieve SDG4 among its member states.

D. Inter-institutional Co-operation

The 6th meeting of the International contact group on citizenship and human rights education (ICG) **was held in Strasbourg in June 2017 at the margins of the above-mentioned conference on the Future of citizenship and human rights education.** The Contact Group brings together the OHCHR, UNESCO, European Commission, EU Fundamental Rights Agency, OSCE/ODIHR, ALECSO, the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Council of Europe. The aim of the Contact Group is to ensure close cooperation among the regional and international initiatives in this field. The OECD representative attended two latest meetings, and expressed an intention to join the ICG.

The 7th ICG meeting is going to be held in Vienna on 25 September 2018. The meeting will be hosted by the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, the UN Office of Drugs and Crime and the Council of Europe in the context of a human rights conference Fundamental Rights Forum 2018, which is running this time under the topic of Belonging, over three days 25-27 September.

Further information is available at the following address: www.coe.int/edc .

Contact:

Ms Arzu Burcu Tuner (arzu-burcu.tuner@coe.int)

Ms Katerina Toura (katerina.toura@coe.int)

Ms Sarah Keating (sarah.keating@coe.int)

Ms Katia Dolgova-Dreyer (katia.dolgova-dreyer@coe.int)

CDC Framework: Mr Christopher Reynolds (christopher.reynolds@coe.int)

³ Funded in the framework of the CoE/EC Joint Programme “Human Rights and Democracy in Action”

Human Rights Education and Youth

The youth sector of the Council of Europe has made human rights education with, for and by young people a priority and a pillar of its youth policy. It was defined as one of the priorities by the 8th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for youth affairs (Kyiv, October 2008) and the subsequent resolution of the Committee of Ministers (CM/Res(2008)23 on the youth policy of the Council of Europe). The aim is to improve the capacity of youth organisations and multipliers, involved in human rights education and democratic participation and citizenship, to develop standards and tools in these issues for youth policy and youth work actors.

In 2010, the Council of Europe adopted its Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education (EDC/HRE) which aims to provide all persons with the opportunity for EDC/HRE.

The Human Rights Education Youth Programme aims to consolidate and support the role of non-governmental youth organisations as actors in the implementation of the Council of Europe Charter. It does so by combining the development and dissemination of tools and resources for human rights education and capacity-building activities for trainers, multipliers and advocates of human rights education as a human right.

The project was launched in 2000 with the aim of bringing human rights issues into the mainstream of youth work and non-formal learning practice. It has been built around *Compass*, a manual for human rights education with young people, European training courses, support to national and regional training courses, pilot projects and study sessions organised by youth organisations. Other educational materials have been developed to accompany *Compass*, such as *Compasito*, *Gender Matters*, *Charter for All!* and the *Enter Dignity Land!* game on social rights.

Every year, more than 700 youth leaders and multipliers participate in international and national-level activities promoting human rights education (including gender equality and sustainable development) and youth participation. Educational resources, particularly the "Compass" and "Compasito" manuals (human rights education manuals for young people and children) are distributed in member states and in regions outside Europe.

In 2017, new translations of the *Compass* and *Compasito* manuals were published, notably in Bulgarian, Portuguese and Romani, and several others are being prepared. A programme of national and regional training courses, associating youth organisations and other stakeholders, has been implemented in Council of Europe member states to promote human rights education and education for democratic citizenship using non-formal learning methodologies.

In 2017, the programme also included the organisation of a conference on the future of EDC/HRE (June 2017, Strasbourg) which brought together 300 stakeholders, among which 70 representatives of the youth sector including state authorities, student and youth organisations as well as representatives of children. The conference reviewed the results of the report on the state of EDC/HRE in Europe and proposed further guidelines and goals for the next five years for the Council of Europe, the member states and other stakeholders involved in EDC/HRE.

National and regional training courses on human rights education are organised on the initiative of national organisations or institutions interested in introducing and developing the provisions and quality of human rights education. The courses develop the competences of key multipliers for human rights education such as youth leaders, trainers, youth workers, teachers and teacher trainers. They are usually accompanied by the publication of Council of Europe educational resources in the language(s) of the country concerned, especially Compass, Compasito and, lately, Bookmarks. The Youth for Democracy programme 2018-19 foresees a continuation of the measures to support the implementation of the EDC/HRE Charter through Compass national or regional training courses. These courses are organised on the initiative of national youth organisations or institutions and contribute to the development of the competences (knowledge, skills, attitudes and values) of key multipliers for human rights education such as youth leaders, trainers, youth workers, teachers and teacher trainers. In 2018 courses are being held in Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Germany, Hungary, Montenegro, Portugal the Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden and Ukraine. They should address some 300 trainers and multipliers in both formal and non-formal education.

Thanks to the 10th edition of the Compass Training for Trainers in non-formal education organised by the Council of Europe in 2017, the network of trainers and educators in human rights education at European level has been renewed and enlarged and has significantly contributed to strengthening the capacity of youth organisations to mainstream human rights education in their activities and projects.

The conclusion and evaluation of the No Hate Speech Movement Youth Campaign have highlighted the Campaign's contribution to the mainstreaming of human rights education which formed the basis of the prevention and education work, notably through the manual "Bookmarks". Training workshops continue to be organised by partners and national committees that remain active in the Campaign.

A major revision and update of "COMPASITO", the manual on human rights education for children, is under way and should be concluded in 2018.

Co-operation with OSCE/ODIHR

Consultations with ODIHR colleagues are held regularly and they participated in the programme o in the conference on the future of education for democratic citizenship and human rights education (Strasbourg, June 2017).

Contact: Rui Gomes (rui.gomes@coe.int)