

**OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting****Warsaw, 28 September – 9 October 2009****Working Session 10 : 'Tolerance and non-discrimination'****Contribution of the Council of Europe****Anti-discrimination Campaign**

The Council of Europe is currently implementing an Anti-discrimination Campaign.

The campaign supports the media sector's own efforts to play a constructive role in an increasingly multicultural environment. While fully respecting the independence and autonomy of media professionals and media organisations, the campaign pursues three interrelated objectives:

- To encourage the media to communicate information on discrimination and on anti-discrimination mechanisms to the general public and (potential) discrimination victims;
- To better prepare media professionals for working in a multicultural Europe;
- To facilitate the access of professionals with a minority background to all sectors of the media industry.

The key focus of the campaign is on various aspects of discrimination arising out of racist attitudes and prejudices, in particular those with an Islamophobic, anti-Semitic and anti-Gypsy background. :

Expected results

A desirable long-term spin-off effect will be the formation of a group of media organisations and journalists (a "Group of Friends") who are particularly motivated to promote intercultural dialogue and anti-discrimination practices and policies, as defined and suggested in the "White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue : Living together as equals in dignity" adopted by the Council of Europe in 2008.

The Council of Europe is developing the following products to be used within the campaign:

- a TV and radio spot to be distributed to broadcasters for free airing;
- a compendium of Council of Europe standards concerning anti-discrimination policies and media diversity;
- a website to facilitate the sharing of information on the campaign;

- fact files and opinion editorials on intercultural and discrimination issues in Europe;
- a journalism training pack and virtual online resource centre;
- press briefings;
- additional print and audiovisual material on cultural diversity; tolerance, the role of the media and the standards of the CoE.

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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. Norbert Hinterleitner from ODHIR participated in the first meeting of the International Organisations on this subject organised at the invitation of the Council of Europe in January 2009.

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Tolerance and Non-Discrimination in youth field

The Council of Europe promotes intercultural dialogue in the youth field on the basis of the guidelines and recommendations set out in the "White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue" at local, national and international level. 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 in the member states 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, the dissemination of educational resources with a particular emphasis on the quality control of translation of non-formal education manuals, the promotion of the "Living library" approach, study sessions on conflict prevention and conflict transformation, as well as the annual "Peace Camp" with young people from conflict and post-conflict areas (in 2009: young Kosovars of Serbian and Albanian descent; young Georgians; young Israelis and Palestinians).

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Foreign language skills and intercultural competence are essential preconditions for youth mobility and development of international activities and participation. The current Council of Europe programme of “intercultural courses” with a strong linguistic content (organised in the Russian Federation, Turkey and Morocco, with the help of member states and other international organisations) concentrates on the promotion of intercultural learning, the discovery of cultural and local heritage, youth work structures. While developing the language and intercultural competences adapted to youth work, these courses (attended by young people from the host country and from abroad) encourage multicultural exchange and co-operation.

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