



APPLICATION FORM

Youth Activist Forum: Engaging the OSCE to Address Racism and Xenophobia

Warsaw, Poland

23-25 September 2019

As manifestations of anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination continue across the OSCE region, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) continuously receives information on hate crimes and incidents motivated by racism and xenophobia and other bias motivations which target groups that include but are not limited to people of African descent, LGBTI, Muslim, Jewish, and Roma and Sinti individuals. Data collected by ODIHR also demonstrates that gender plays a role in how victims are selected and/or impacted, and that some people might be at greater risk of violence because of bias towards multiple and intersecting aspects of their identity, such as their race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability. Youth must be part of the conversation regarding how to best address these concerning manifestations of intolerance.

In line with the OSCE commitments and following related past activities, ODIHR will organize a forum for youth activists addressing racism, xenophobia, and discrimination from 23–25 September 2019. The training on 23–24 September 2019 will be a closed event, and on 24–25 September 2019, the participants will participate in working sessions of the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting focusing on addressing intolerance, discrimination based on religion or belief, racism, xenophobia, and hate crimes. Applicants are highly encouraged to view the videos of last year's Working Sessions 16 and 17 (specifically selected topic): Combating racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination, to understand the unique format of HDIM and how public statements are delivered.¹

Supported by the Turning Words into Action (WIA) Project, the training will bring together a group of approximately 20–25 youth activists from across the OSCE region who are actively engaged in addressing anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination. Participants will receive training on how to efficiently and effectively advocate in contemporary international fora. Participants will then have an opportunity to put their skills into practice during the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. ODIHR aims to bring together a gender- and geographically-balanced group of activists working on a variety of

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YTIHjRsqWo&list=PL8DHbLgTnz1vKnGUihGSCxrnV4nhezTdA&index=17&t=11s> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GMKa_SafWeg&list=PL8DHbLgTnz1vKnGUihGSCxrnV4nhezTdA&index=18&t=7s.



topics and with a variety of communities in the area of tolerance and non-discrimination. The participants will also discuss how age and gender intersect with other protected characteristics.

With participation in this forum, activists addressing anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination will:

- Increase their knowledge on the mandate and the work of the OSCE and ODIHR on addressing anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination;
- Enhance their international public advocacy skills and have an opportunity to register for the speakers list to deliver key advocacy messages in the context of a high-level international event, the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM);
- Have an opportunity to meet and engage with diplomatic and other representatives of their States;
- Engage in a dialogue and network with other activists and experts working on issues affecting anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination.

Selection Procedure:

The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE ODIHR) has the pleasure to invite up to 25 youth activists, residing in any of the 57 OSCE participating States to the Youth Activist Forum: Engaging the OSCE to Address Racism and Xenophobia, to be held from 23 to 25 September 2019 in Warsaw, Poland. Participants will be selected by ODIHR based on the selection criteria listed below and notified by early September. Accommodation and travel costs for the event will be covered by ODIHR in accordance with OSCE travel rules.

Selection criteria:

- Minimum three years of experience and proven track record of involvement and engagement within their social community (i.e. involvement in the civil society sector, including human rights and women’s organizations, students’ unions, local and national political parties, online democracy and human rights associations, social media and public advocacy, political parties, religious communities, university, cultural and art institutions);
- A proven track record of engagement within the community, demonstrating potential in addressing human rights, tolerance and non-discrimination issues, including countering anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, intolerance against Roma, Muslims, Christians and other religions or beliefs, and other groups;
- Be between the ages of 18-29 and residing in an OSCE participating State;
- Fluency in English (the official language of the conference will be English).



**Deadline for applications:
20 August 2019, 18.00 Central European Time**

Applications should be sent in English with the subject line “Youth Activist Forum”
to the following e-mail address: assel.zhabagina@odhr.pl

Application – GENERAL INFORMATION

Name	
Surname	
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Other
City	
Country of residence	
Email address	
Phone number	
Skype ID/social media handles (Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, etc.)	
Date of birth	
Citizenship	

Disciplinary background (e.g. sociology, youth studies, etc.)	
Occupation (e.g. student, social worker, researcher, etc.)	
English level	<input type="checkbox"/> fluent <input type="checkbox"/> intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> advanced <input type="checkbox"/> basic

ABOUT YOU

In your view, what is the main challenge for youth in addressing anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, intolerance or discrimination in your community or country? (Max 700 characters with spaces)

What is your main motivation and interest to participate in the Youth Activist Forum: Addressing Racism and Xenophobia? (Max 700 characters with spaces)

Briefly describe your engagement within your community on addressing anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, intolerance or discrimination. (Max 700 characters with spaces)

Participants will receive training to enhance their international public advocacy skills and may also have an opportunity to deliver them in the context of a high-level international event, the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. What are the three key messages you would like to share with the 57 OSCE participating States? (Max 700 characters with spaces)