



DDCP-YD/Sem IDAHO (2014) 2

14 March 2014



Seminar to develop responses to Homophobic and Transphobic Hate Speech effecting Young People

In cooperation with the SOGI Unit,
in connection with a European Action Day for the International Day against
Homophobia and Transphobia

14 - 18 May 2014 (travel days included)
European Youth Centre Budapest

Call for Participants

The seminar

In connection to the 17 May International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia the Youth Department in cooperation with the Sexual Orientation and Sexual Identity Unit of the Council of Europe will organise a three day seminar.

The seminar will explore the challenges faced by young people who are targeted by hate speech because of their sexual orientation and gender identity and how to develop adequate responses to such homophobic and transphobic expressions.

The recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on measures to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity¹ provides a strong bases for action. Specifically article 6 which calls for measures to combat all forms of expression, including in the media and on the Internet, which likely to spreading or promoting hatred or other forms of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons'. This article however also reminds us that all measures should respect the fundamental right to freedom of expression in accordance with Article 10 of the Convention and the case law of the Court.'

The internet provides unique opportunities to share thoughts and opinions but also to spread hate speech and violate the human rights for dignity and respect. A survey conducted by the Youth Department in 2012 shows that homophobic and transphobic hate speech is the most frequently encountered form of hate speech online. Addressing such hate speech is a cause for action for all. Hate speech violates the human rights principle of human dignity and human values of cooperation and equality. The seminar is therefore organised within the framework of the No Hate Speech Movement² of the Council of Europe against hate speech and for freedom of speech. An online campaign to promote Human Rights online.

The programme of the seminar will map the challenges faced by young people who are targeted by hate speech because of their sexual orientation and gender identity and explore how the existing recommendation and case law of the Council of Europe provide grounds for taking action. The participants are asked to share examples of programmes and practices from their organisations and jointly identify additional responses that should be taken. The seminar will bring together stakeholders from various organisational backgrounds allowing to identify entry points for joint initiatives that will extend the existing and future actions addressing Homophobic and Transphobic Hate Speech beyond the existing programmes of the LGBTQI youth organisations. The seminar will include time for online actions to support the European Action Day against Homophobic and Transphobic Hate Speech and IDAHO. Participants will determine how the issue of Homophobic and Transphobic Hate Speech can be further integrated in the No Hate Speech Movement campaign activities organised in the Council of Europe member states.

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[https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=CM/Rec\(2010\)5&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&BackColorInternet=C3C3C3&BackColorIntranet=EDB021&BackColorLogged=F5D383](https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=CM/Rec(2010)5&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&BackColorInternet=C3C3C3&BackColorIntranet=EDB021&BackColorLogged=F5D383)

² www.nohatespeechmovement.org

The seminar will be a starting point to develop a transversal joint action plan for the SOGI unit and the Youth Department to address concerns and challenges faced by LGBTQI youth and Homophobia among youth through education and awareness-raising.

Aim and objectives

The seminar aims to identify ways to strength new and existing responses of youth organisations, LGBTQI organisations, National Campaign Committee and authorities to address the challenges faced by young people who are targeted by hate speech because of their sexual orientation and gender identity.

The objectives are:

- To strengthen cooperation between LGBTQI youth organisations and youth NGO's within the No Hate Speech Movement.
- To identify entry points for initiating and further strengthen cooperation in Council of Europe member states between stakeholders addressing Hate Speech.
- To ensure more visibility of the consequences of Homophobic and Transphobic Hate Speech and the importance of promoting Human Rights for all online.
- To identify ways to support initiatives that will involve youth from outside the LGBTQI community in the initiatives addressing Homophobic and Transphobic hate speech.
- To identify ways to increase the understanding of the legal and policy justification to address homophobic and transphobic hate speech within the organisations active within the No hate Speech Movement.
- To develop a coordinated response to address the challenges faced by LGBTQ youth by the Youth Department and the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Unit of the Council of Europe

Profile of Participants

The seminar will invite representatives of National Campaign Committees of the No Hate Speech Movement, youth organisations, online activists, bloggers, reporters in online media and LGBTQI youth leaders that can develop, within the framework of the No Hate Speech Movement, activities that will challenge Homophobic and Transphobic Hate Speech online and offline.

The seminar will also invite representative of the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice, the Joint Council on Youth, and members of the LGBT focal points network of the SOGI Unit of the Council of Europe.

Application, procedure and selection of participants

All candidates must apply on-line, completing the application form through this link:
<http://youthapplications.coe.int>

Applications must be submitted by Monday, 7th April 2014.

The preparatory team will select up to 30 participants on the basis of the profile outlined above. It will try as far as possible to ensure a balance between different sexual identities,

geographical regions, and different types of experiences, organisations, institutions and projects represented. A waiting list may be established. Candidates will be informed whether their application has been accepted or rejected, and if they have been put on the waiting list, by 18 April 2014.

Financial and practical conditions of participation

Travel expenses

Travel expenses and visa fees for the seminar in Budapest are reimbursed according to the rules of the Council of Europe. Only the participants who attend the entire seminar can be reimbursed. The payment will be made by bank transfer after the seminar in Euros.

Accommodation

Board and lodging for the seminar will be provided and paid for by the Council of Europe at the European Youth Centre Budapest.

Working languages

English will be the working language of the seminar. Participants are required to be able to express themselves autonomously in English.

Further information

If you have questions or are in need of further information, please do not hesitate to contact Zsuzsanna Molnar, programme assistant at zsuzsanna.molnar@coe.int or Menno Ettema, educational advisor at menno.ettema@coe.int .

Other Courses of the Youth Department

If you are interested in a training course in international youth work, but your profile does not fully correspond with the requirements of this seminar, please note that the Youth Department organises other training courses for youth workers, youth leaders and trainers. Further information about the courses can be obtained from the Youth Department and the partnership sites: <http://www.coe.int/youth> and <http://www.youth-partnership.net>.

Deadline for applications

The application must be submitted by **Monday, 7th April 2014**, through this link: <http://youthapplications.coe.int>