



**NO HATE
SPEECH
MOVEMENT**

DON'T IGNORE, ACT! BOOKLET

**28th March – 5th April 2023
Bucharest**



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DON'T IGNORE, ACT

The Don't Ignore, Act project took place between 28th March and 5th April in Bucharest and brought together 18 youth workers from Malta, France, Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Portugal and Romania.

Through its implementation, we:

- Improved the skills of 18 youth workers from 8 partner NGOs in tackling hate speech (offline and online) among young people by developing media skills, critical thinking and promoting active citizenship attitudes.
- Developed active anti-hate speech (offline and online) behaviour among young people in partner NGOs' communities.
- Increased the capacity of 8 EU NGOs to become active against hate speech offline in their local communities and online, following the guidelines and methods of the No Hate Speech Youth Campaign and established new partnerships between participating NGOs.



PARTNERS



COSI, Romania



**SDRUZHENIE GLOBOL ORGANIZEYSHAN
FOR DIVELAPMANT, Bulgaria**



Geoclube - Associação Juvenil, Portugal



ASOCIACIJA TAVO EUROPA, Lithuania



PRISMS, Malta



Mladiinfo ČR, Czech Republic



3D Friends, Latvia



Avenir En Héritage, France



**Click on the
partners' names**



WHY TO TACKLE HATE SPEECH

Nowadays, in a context of raising influence of **populist movements** in Europe, which tend to promote and even encourage hate speech, increasing the xenophobia and LGBTIQphobia in our society, tackling hate speech became an emergency.

Today, hate speech spreads even faster, almost unchecked, through mainstream **social media**. The ease to access and to use social media platforms, the low cost it requires, the anonymity it offers and the large public you can reach in a short amount of time made it the new main communication channel of hate speech.

Compared to other countries of Europe, finding statistics about hate speech in **Romania** is more difficult. This, according to the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) in 2019, is explained by the absence of a functioning and coherent system of collecting and reporting hate speech and other hate crime occurrences.

2

HATE SPEECH

“**any kind of communication** in speech, writing or behaviour, that **attacks** or uses **pejorative** or **discriminatory** language with reference to a person or a group on the basis of **who they are**, in other words, based on their religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, colour, descent, gender or other identity factor.”

UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech



1

Hate speech can be conveyed through any form of expression, including images, cartoons, memes, objects, gestures and symbols and it can be disseminated offline or online.

2

Hate speech is “discriminatory” (biased, bigoted or intolerant) or “pejorative” (prejudiced, contemptuous or demeaning) of an individual or group.

3

Hate speech calls out real or perceived “identity factors” of an individual or a group, including: “religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, colour, descent, gender,” but also characteristics such as language, economic or social origin, disability, health status, or sexual orientation, among many others.

Source

3**INSTITUTIONAL BODIES****United Nations initiatives**

- The Rabat Plan of Action
- The Plan of Action for religious leaders and actors
- Social Media 4 Peace
- Beyond the long shadow: engaging with difficult histories
- #SpreadNoHate Series
- UNESCO's Media and Information Literacy initiatives (MIL)
- The "Verified" Initiative
- The International Day for Countering Hate Speech

**Click on the titles
to find out more**

**Council of Europe**

- European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)
- No Hate Speech Movement

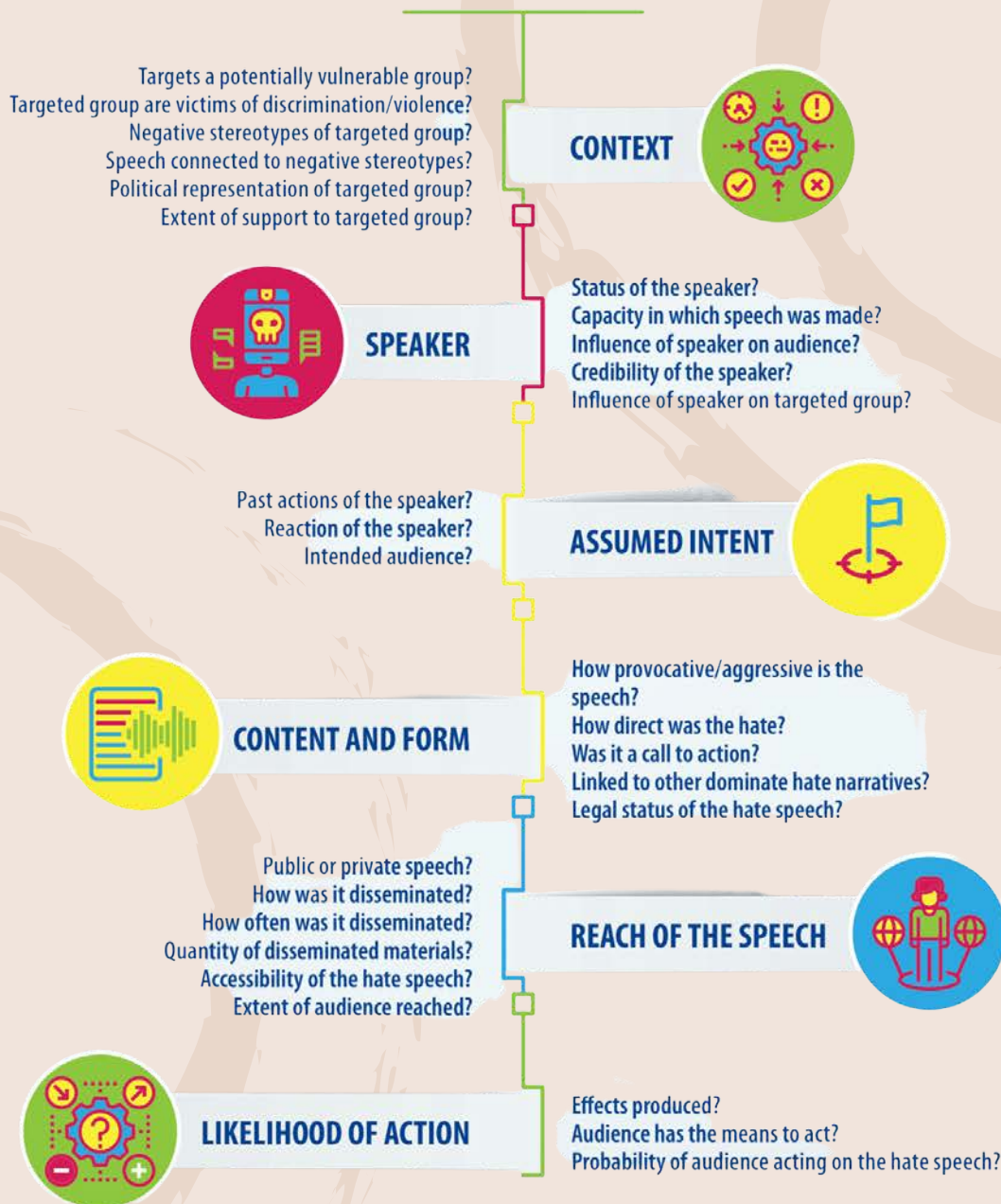
EU framework

- Framework Decision on combating certain forms of expressions of racism and xenophobia
- High Level Group on combating hate speech and hate crime
- Financial support to national authorities and civil society organisations working on hate speech and hate crime, through the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme.

THE RABAT PLAN OF ACTION



Advanced guide to analysing a case of hate speech



www.coe.int/human-rights-speech/analyse



Co-funded by the European Union



Co-funded and implemented by the Council of Europe

3

INSTITUTIONAL BODIES

Equality Bodies

Equality Bodies are national, publicly funded institutions

**EQUINET**European Network
of Equality Bodies

set up across Europe to promote equality and tackle discrimination. They facilitate **effective access to justice** and play a fundamental role in the **non-discrimination architecture of Europe**.

In all EU Member States and many countries in wider Europe, Equality Bodies are set up based on an obligation in EU equal treatment legislation (Race Equality Directive* and the Gender Equality Directives in employment, self-employment and access to goods and services**).

Many Member States have gone beyond these requirements to work on race and gender, and Equality Bodies in most countries also work on other grounds for discrimination, such as age, disability, gender identity, health status, religion or belief, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, and many more. In some countries there is no fixed or closed list of discrimination grounds for Equality Bodies to work on.

3 INSTITUTIONAL BODIES

Equality Bodies have the expertise and powers that serve to promote more equal societies and fight discrimination.



Among others, Equality Bodies may:

- Take complaints from anyone who experiences discrimination;
- Provide legal assistance to those who experience discrimination, in many cases including taking cases to court or deciding the case in their administrative procedure;
- Collect data on equality;
- Conduct research on equality in society;
- Make recommendations to policy makers and legislators;
- Raise awareness and communicate about equality and rights;
- Engage with employers, service providers, other public bodies, and civil society organisations to help them put in place good equality plans and practices.

3

INSTITUTIONAL BODIES




Reporting Cyberbullying, Hate Speech and Hate Crime

- Cybercrime Department of the Ministry of interior: non-urgent signals for cybercrime which is dedicated primarily to cyber-fraud and child-pornography
- Bulgarian Safer Internet Centre: victims of child online sexual abuse and exploitation, hate speech and cyberbullying involving minors

Equality Body

- Commission for Protection against Discrimination: accredited as a National human rights institution by the Human Rights Council of the United Nations, it also acts as a national contact point on hate crimes with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).



Reporting Hate Speech and Hate Crime

- PHAROS: illegal content or conduct in the public domain, prohibited by French law

Reporting Cyberbullying

- Netecoute: support service that directs the caller to the relevant reporting services

Equality Body

- Defender of Rights: Constitutional independent authority competent in 4 different areas: the Rights of the users of public services, the Defense of Children's Rights, the non-discrimination and promotion of Equality, and the issue of ethics in security services. It also has a protection responsibility and a promotional activity to improve the access to rights and promote Equality.


3

INSTITUTIONAL BODIES



Equality Body

- Public Defender of Rights (Ombudsman): its main task is to defend the good governance principles. Since 2009 the Public Defender of Rights is the national equality body and its vision is based on 3 pillars: “to inform, to educate and to help”.



Reporting Hate Speech and Hate Crime

- State Police: crimes committed against Article 150 Incitement of Social Hatred and Enmity
- Security Police: crimes committed against Article 78 of the criminal code: Triggering of National, Ethnic and Racial Hatred
- Latvian Centre for Human Rights: hate speech and crime on all grounds in Latvia, Russian and English
- LGBT union “Mozaika”: hate speech and crime on all grounds, but specially LGBT related

Reporting Cyberbullying

- Net-safe Latvia

Equality Body

- Ombudsman's Office of the Republic of Latvia: regulated by the Ombudsman law, it's a National human rights independent, which ensures that Latvian society becomes more aware about human rights and their protection mechanisms, as well as about good governance.

3

INSTITUTIONAL BODIES



Equality Body

- Office of the Equal Opportunities Ombudsperson: it's a budgetary institution financed from the state budget, it's accountable to Parliament and is responsible for the enforcement of the Law on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men and the Law on Equal Treatment.



Equality Body

- National Commission for the Promotion of Equality: it works to safeguard equality in the areas covered by its remit by investigating complaints, raising awareness and disseminating information on rights and responsibilities through training and information campaigns; proposing and giving feedback to policies; networking with different stakeholders at national and international levels; carrying out research; and providing assistance to the general public.
- Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability: part of the Ministry for the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity, it's committed to support the persons with disability reach their full potential in all aspects of life, enjoying a high quality of life thanks to equal opportunities and it works in order to eliminate any form of direct or indirect social discrimination against persons with disability and their families while providing them with the necessary assistance and support.

3

INSTITUTIONAL BODIES



Reporting Hate Speech and Hate Crime

- Safer Internet Centre (CISpt) – Hotline (Linha Internet Segura): illegal (criminal) content in internet, cooperating with cybercrime police
- ILGA: helpline for support and information LGBT related to hate speech and crime
- APAV (Portuguese Victims Support Association)
- Governmental online mechanism for crimes reports

Reporting Cyberbullying


- Safer Internet Centre (CISpt) - HOTLINE (LINHA INTERNET SEGURA)
- APAV (Portuguese Victims Support Association)
- IAC (Supporting Children Institute)

Equality Body

- Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality: institution that aims to ensure the implementation of public policies in the field of citizenship and the promotion of equality between women and men, in particular by undertaking actions to increase civic awareness regarding the identification of situations of discrimination and of forms to eliminate them.
- Commission for Equality in Labour and Employment: its mission is to pursue equality and non-discrimination between women and men in labour, in employment and vocational training, protection of parentality (maternity, paternity and adoption), reconciliation of professional, personal and family life.

3

INSTITUTIONAL BODIES

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- High Commission for Migration: as the public institution integrated in the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, it is responsible for interlinking different ministries to develop implement and evaluate crosscutting policies that targets migrants, including refugees, and Roma communities, and that promote intercultural and interreligious dialogue, combating all forms of ethnic and racial discrimination.



Equality Body

- National Council for Combating Discrimination: it's the autonomous state authority, under parliamentary control, which performs its activity in the field of discrimination. At European level there are institutions assigned to human rights protection and combating discrimination but NCCD is unique, its activity combining 14 discrimination criteria, no other institution having such a vast sphere of action, including sanctioning.

4 HATE SPEECH CAMPAIGN

Tips to organize a raise-awareness campaign about hate speech

Options

1. **Counter the hate,** or stop the hater, shut them up, challenge their view, show it is irrational, protect people, hold accountable, show the consequences of the hate, etc.



2. **Provide alternatives:** show a different picture, call for inclusion and solidarity in difficult times, appeal to human rights principles and human dignity, promote critical thinking about complex situations, replace a stereotype with a positive image of the 'other').

4 HATE SPEECH CAMPAIGN

Message



You should brainstorm a general idea what kind of message or values you want to address with your human rights based counter or alternative narrative campaign.

What are the emotions you want to trigger with the message?

Audience

Your human rights based-narrative campaign should be designed for your target audience – so always (!) keep the people in mind you actually want to address.

Even the best planned and most creative campaigns can fail, simply because it talks past its intended audience. Thus, your target audience is the starting point when choosing the tone of your messages, the possible messengers as well as the platform you are using to share your content.



4 HATE SPEECH CAMPAIGN

Platform

Choosing the right platform is crucial when planning a counter or alternative narrative campaign. This is closely related to the audience selection as well as you need to be active on the same platform as the people you want to reach. The platform selection should also consider the type of campaign you want to run as one platform might be better than the other to reach your objectives.

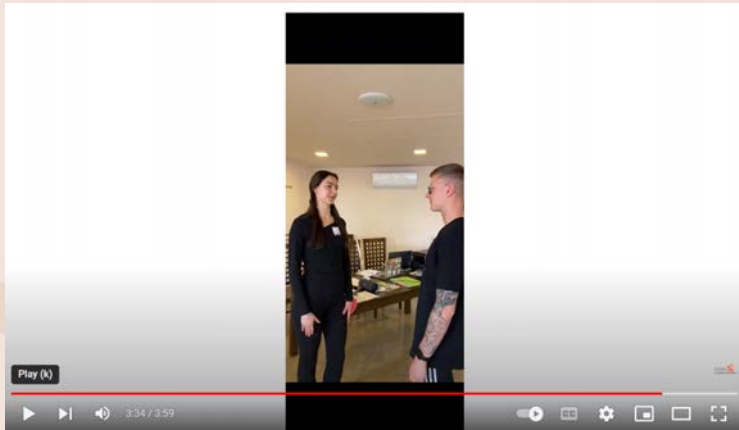
For online campaigns, follow the **No Hate Speech Movement**, a youth campaign led by the Council of Europe Youth Department seeking to mobilise young people to combat hate speech and promote human rights online.



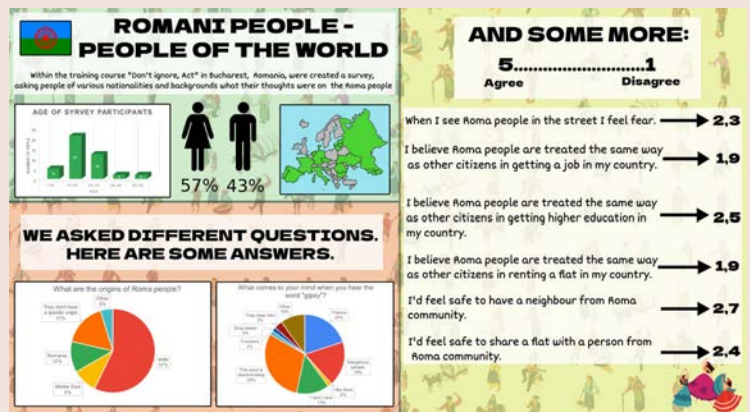
NO HATE
SPEECH
MOVEMENT

4 HATE SPEECH CAMPAIGN

Examples of activities for campaigns



Click on the pictures to find out more



**STOP HATE
SPEECH!**



TREAT
PEOPLE



WITH
KINDNESS

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