

## COUNCIL OF EUROPE NEWS



### Inhuman treatment of persons with disabilities in institutions

"In Europe today, thousands of people with disabilities are still kept in large, segregated and often remote institutions. In a number of cases they live in substandard conditions, suffering abject neglect and severe human rights abuses." declared Thomas Hammarberg in Human Rights comment. Caged beds and other restraints are still used in a number of Council of Europe member states to keep persons with disabilities "under control". Too little has been done to prevent this and other kinds of abuse and inadequate care in institutions, hidden from public scrutiny. There is an atmosphere of impunity surrounding these violations. Persons with disabilities are placed under guardianship and have their legal capacity removed. In a number of cases they are detained, deprived of their liberty - sometimes without these decisions being subjected to judicial review. This is not acceptable. In fact, any detention must be exceptional, brief, closely monitored and only decided when necessary to protect the life and security of the patient and others.



### The European Convention on Human Rights – "a miracle of international legal co-operation"

In his speech during commemoration ceremony for the 60th anniversary of the European Convention on Human Rights, the PACE President stressed that "to this day the Convention – given shape and form during the debates in Strasbourg – remains a miracle of international legal co-operation, unique in the world."

He also stressed that the situation was unacceptable with regard to the late or non-execution of judgements and that both national parliaments and the Parliamentary Assembly could summon ministers to account at hearings for the lack of effective application of the Convention by the governments of member states.

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION NEWS



### Merkel: German multiculturalism has failed

Germany's attempt to create a multicultural society has been a total failure, Chancellor Angela Merkel told young members of her Christian Democrat party on Saturday.

"This multicultural approach – saying that we simply live side by side and are happy about each other – this approach has utterly failed," Merkel said in an address to a CDU youth conference. The chancellor stressed that immigrants living in Germany needed to do more to integrate, including learning to speak German.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



### Call for proposals 2010

The objective of the ERF III is to support and encourage the efforts made by the Member States in receiving, and in bearing the consequences of receiving, refugees and displaced persons, taking account of EU legislation on those matters.

The deadline is **14 December 2010**.

To participate to this Call for proposals, applicants must use Priamos, an electronic system for the submission of proposals, which allows the applicants to fill in an electronic application form and submit all relevant documents via the internet.

The text of the call of proposal is available here:

[http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/funding/refugee/call\\_20101014/call\\_20101014\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/funding/refugee/call_20101014/call_20101014_en.htm)

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



### New Approaches in Preventing Human Trafficking: Integrating the European Knowledge

**16-17 November 2010, Brussels**

The problem of Human Trafficking is an increasingly disturbing phenomenon in Europe with terrible consequences for victims, the majority of which are forced into prostitution, street crime, domestic servitude or other forms of labour exploitation.

With the recent announcement of the latest EU proposals to fight human trafficking, this major two day International Symposium offers a timely opportunity for local, regional and national authorities to gather comparative knowledge, discuss the latest challenges and share examples of cross border best practices.

More information you can find here:

<http://publicpolicyexchange.co.uk/international.php>