

## COUNCIL OF EUROPE NEWS



**Promise to end violence  
against women is commitment  
which must be honoured**

In the run-up to International Women's Day, the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), Jean-Claude Mignon, has issued the following declaration:

"8 March is an auspicious annual occasion for all those involved in promoting women's rights. This year the event will have the theme of 'A Promise is a Promise: Time to Act to End Violence against Women'.

The Council of Europe has a major instrument at its disposal, namely the [Convention](#) on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, also known as the Istanbul Convention. This is the first binding text combining all the necessary ingredients: preventing violence, protecting victims, prosecuting those responsible and implementing integrated policies.

The promise to end violence against women is a commitment which must be honoured. The Istanbul Convention provides states with the means of doing so. On 8 March I shall be appealing to Council of Europe member and non-member states, if they have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Istanbul Convention."

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION NEWS



**Training manual for capacity  
building and awareness-raising  
of civil society organisations  
dealing with anti-discrimination  
and equality**

In the framework of the project "Awareness-raising in the areas of non-discrimination and equality targeted at civil society organisations", the Migration Policy Group designed and produced specific training material that aim at strengthening the capacity of NGOs to deal with non-discrimination and equality. All grounds protected by Directive 2000/43/EC and Directive 2000/78/EC were covered and gender-related aspects was mainstreamed into all activities.

The manual contains specific sections on each of these topics, forming the core of the training manual. Each file below also includes a document on national context material.

The training manual is available in English and in the national languages of the target countries.

[Training manual](#) (EN)



**World Report 2013**

This 23rd annual [World Report](#) summarizes human rights conditions in more than 90 countries and territories worldwide in 2012. It reflects extensive investigative work that Human Rights Watch staff has undertaken during the year, often in close partnership with domestic human rights activists.

## EUROPEAN YOUTH PORTAL NEWS



**right2move Poster  
Competition**

Have you ever been on a youth exchange, volunteered abroad, and completed a traineeship?

If you think that experience has influenced the way you feel about European citizenship, create a poster that answers the question: "How has the right2move shaped your feelings as European citizen?"

Participants should be between 18 and 30 and former or current participants of European mobility programmes. Prizes include a trip to Brussels and a chance to have your poster printed and exhibited during the European Youth Week 2013.

Poster designs should be submitted on Eurodesk's Facebook Page until **13 April 2013**.

Find out more about the competition and submit your poster at <http://bit.ly/13RRqab>

## SEMINARS, CONFERENCES



**UNITED Conference in  
Lithuania  
"Rethinking Diversity -  
Challenges for equality in  
Europe and new responses"  
26-31 May 2013**

Deadline for nominations **3 April 2013**

UNITED aims at placing the concept of "identity" at the center of the discussion. A number of questions, including how majority communities perceive minority communities and how minority communities address diversity within their own community, will be addressed. All information and the e-nomination form can be found below, and on the [UNITED website](#).

If your organisation is interested to nominate a representative, please return the expression of interest form as soon as possible (deadline 3 April 2013), preferably by email to [lithuania@unitedagainstracism.org](mailto:lithuania@unitedagainstracism.org)