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COUNCIL OF EUROPE NEWS



Democracy and Human Rights in Europe

Serious human rights violations including corruption, human trafficking, racism and discrimination persist across Europe, according to a new report by Secretary General Thorbjørn Jagland. Unemployment and poverty in many countries are nurturing extremism and conflicts. The report represents the first consolidated analysis of human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe, based on the findings of the Council of Europe's monitoring bodies.

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for timely action against extremist organisations that promote racism to avoid an escalation of violence and related criminal activities. ECRI noted a surge in support for aggressive nationalist and populist xenophobic parties and the persistence of fascist World War II nostalgia in several member states. The report, which examines the main trends in 2013, says that more needs to be done to communicate a positive image and the advantages of a diverse society and urged countries to adopt national action plans to fight racism and discrimination.

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The European Parliament called for strong measures to fight youth unemployment

Youth Partnership

Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth



Say no to hate

Secretary General Thorbjørn Jagland, Strasbourg, 22.07.2014 - On the third anniversary of the terrorist attacks in Utøya and Oslo, Norway, I encourage all to support and show solidarity for victims of hate crimes and for greater public awareness about the consequences of hate speech in our society.

Whether motivated by racism, xenophobia, religious intolerance, a person or group disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, political views or other forms of intolerance, we say no to hate.

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The MPs called the European Commission as well as the Member States to do more in order to tackle the problem of youth unemployment in the whole Europe. They urged for an 'European legal framework, introducing minimum standards for the implementation of the youth guarantees, including the quality of apprenticeships, decent wages for young people and access to employment services'. As far as the Youth Employment Initiative is concerned, the European Parliament blamed a lack of funding : a greater budget provided by the European Commission will be needed for the next seven years. 6 € billion are not sufficient, the said.

At national level, additional measures need to be settled: measures to discourage young people from dropping out of school, promoting training and apprenticeships, and comprehensive strategies for those who are not in employment, education or training. The resolution also underlined the importance for young people of acquiring skills that would make them more employable, such as knowledge of information technologies, leadership skills, critical thinking and languages.

Full text of the adopted [Resolution](#).

Council of Europe's anti-racism body calls for timely action against political parties that promote racism



Strasbourg, 10 July 2014 - The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) today published its [annual report](#), calling



Call for participants Seminar on youth participation in the EECA context

A seminar on youth participation in the EECA region will be organised on 14-16 October in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, with the main purpose to present and discuss the findings of the experts' reflection group on youth participation organised by the EU-CoE youth partnership in the first semester of 2014 and to examine their relevance for the EECA region.

The thematic scope of the seminar will encompass theoretical and political reflections on the motivation to promote participation, on new trends and all forms of youth participation, and on their recognition by the institutions and society at large. Moreover, practical examples of youth participation will be presented. The contexts of the EECA countries and especially the Republic of Moldova will be given particular importance.

The EU-CoE youth partnership is looking for participants for this event. The seminar is particularly addressed to representatives from Eastern Partnership countries as well as the Russian Federation and the Visegrad 4 countries, not excluding participants from other member states of the Council of Europe and the European Union. Applications should be made on-line including information on the motivation and the experiences / knowledge in youth participation that the candidates might want to share with all participants.

The on-line application can be found here: <http://pjp-eu.coe.int/web/youth-partnership/application-form>

Deadline for applications: 17 August 2014, 24h00.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION NEWS



A public consultation on the Europe 2020 strategy is open until October 2014

The public consultation on the European 2020 strategy is organized by the European Commission, Unit SG D1 "Europe 2020, European Semester, Economic Governance" and it will be open until 31 October 2014.

The questionnaire is available in all 24 official EU languages and you can find it

here: http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/public-consultation/form/index_en.htm

You may reply in any of the 24 official EU languages. The reply may be published in the language of submission.

Contributions will be published on the public consultation website. Submissions that are clearly marked as "anonymous" will be treated as such and published without personal information. Submissions indicated as "not for publication" will be treated as such and will not be published.

After closure of the public consultation, the Commission will analyse and process the replies received. Based on the outcome of the public consultation, the Commission will make proposals for the further development of the strategy in early 2015.

Save the date: Conference on the role of youth work in supporting young people in vulnerable situations



The conference will be held in Malta on 25-27 November 2014. It will gather young people, youth field stakeholders and actors from other areas relevant to the topic. Participants from European, including the regions of Eastern Europe and South Caucasus and South East Europe, and South Mediterranean countries will attend.

The aim of the conference will be to analyse and discuss the role of youth work in supporting young people in vulnerable situations in European and South Mediterranean countries.

The potential, role and limits of youth work will be discussed and good examples of youth work practice will be shared.

