

COUNCIL OF EUROPE NEWS



No Hate Speech Movement kicks off at the Council of Europe

On the 22nd March the Council of Europe was launching the No Hate Speech Movement and opening its online platform for the public.

An overflow of xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination inundates cyberspace: Hate Speech online has recently turned into a major form of human rights abuse, with serious consequences both online and offline. Spreading, inciting, justifying or promoting expressions of hatred amongst young people on internet has become a pressing challenge for today's societies.

The Council of Europe's answer to these threats is the [Youth project on combating Hate Speech Online](#), an initiative aiming at fighting racism and discrimination in the online articulation of hate speech, by equipping young people and youth organisations with the competences necessary to recognise and act against such human rights violations.

More information about the campaign organisation: www.coe.int/youthcampaign

The campaign platform: www.nohatespeechmovement.org

EUROPEAN COMMISSION NEWS



Progress in tackling early school leaving and raising higher education attainment - but males are increasingly left behind

A majority of EU Member States have made progress on the [Europe 2020 education targets](#) to reduce the rate of early school leaving to below 10% and increase the share of young people with higher education (tertiary or equivalent) qualifications to above 40% by 2020, according to new figures for 2012 released by Eurostat today. However, there are still wide disparities between Member States and between males and females. The share of young people leaving school early now stands at 12.8% on average in the EU, down from 13.5% in 2011. In 2012, 35.8% of 30-34 year olds in the EU had completed tertiary education, compared with 34.6% in the previous year.

The rate of early school leavers is defined as the proportion of the population aged 18-24 with only lower secondary education or less and no longer in education or training. Higher (tertiary) education attainment is calculated as the share of the population aged 30-34 having completed tertiary (or equivalent) education.

Member States agreed at the [Council meeting in February 2013](#) to focus on improving the performance of young people at high risk of early school leaving and with low basic skills.



Toolkit for teachers on Holocaust and Human Rights Education

Fundamental Rights Platform presented its Toolkit for teachers on Holocaust and Human Rights Education at a European Commission and Euroclio conference "Reflecting Remembrance: Teaching history for a common culture of remembrance" on 8-9 April in Erfurt, Germany. The Museum for the Holocaust and Human Rights, Yad Vashem, European Commission and the House of European History expressed interest in cooperating with FRA in a follow up to its project on Holocaust and Human Rights Education (Contact: Eva Sobotka).



Trafficking in human beings: more victims in the EU but Member states are slow to respond

23.632 people were identified or presumed victims of trafficking in the EU over the 2008-2010 period. This is the most striking figure emerging from the first report on trafficking in human beings in Europe, published by the European Commission.

The profile of victims by gender and age in the three reference years was 68% women, 17% men, 12% girls and 3% boys.

The majority of the identified and presumed victims over the three reference years are from EU Member States (61%), followed by victims from Africa (14%), Asia (6%) and Latin America (5%).

Most victims detected in EU Member States are citizens from Romania and Bulgaria.

CONTESTS



6th edition of "Sea of Words" literary contest launched

The Anna Lindh Foundation and the European Institute of the Mediterranean invites you to participate in the 6th Edition of the "Sea of Words" literary contest.

In the framework of the European Year of Citizens, the contest will focus this year on the development of participatory democracy, freedom of expression and the rights that all citizens must have, both men and women with a specific theme "Building Citizenship in the Countries of the Euro-Mediterranean Region".

If you wish to participate, please send your short story to concurso@iemed.org not later than **25 May 2013**.

For more information on the contest, please follow this link www.iemed.org/seaofwords