



DDCP-YD/NHSM Forum (2014) 3

Strasbourg, 12 May 2014



**NO HATE
SPEECH
MOVEMENT**

**THE
FORUM**

Gabala, Azerbaijan,
2-5 October 2014

**Information
Call for participants**



CHAIRMANSHIP OF
AZERBAIJAN
COUNCIL OF EUROPE 2014

PRÉSIDENTE DE
L'AZERBAÏDJAN
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

A Forum for the Youth Campaign

The No Hate Speech Movement (NHSM) - youth campaign for human rights online - is a project being run by the Council of Europe's youth sector between 2012 and 2015. It aims to combat racism and discrimination in the online expression of hate speech by equipping young people and youth organisations with the competences necessary to recognise and act against such human rights violations.

The campaign is coordinated by the Youth Department at the European level and is implemented at the national by non-governmental and governmental partners in 40 national campaigns implemented by national campaign committees. Partnerships with other European and international institutions secure synergies with other initiatives and amplify the outreach of the campaign in denouncing, educating about and mobilising young people and society against hate speech and other human rights abuse online.

The No Hate Speech Movement is a unique campaign in many respects. It is a European campaign constituted by national campaigns. It is an online campaign grounded on off-line activities. It is a campaign addressing very important dimensions of the lives of young people today and of universal human rights, including freedom of speech and the responsibility to not discriminate and spread hate. It is a campaign that is easy to join and support but whose objectives need to fit the specificities of each country. There is no doubt, however, that hate speech and human rights online represent truly important issues for all young people and societies in Europe and elsewhere.

The campaign was shaped through several consultation events, preparatory meetings with experts, youth workers and young people, hence assuring that it is not only a campaign for young people but, especially, a campaign *by* young people and *with* young people. Young people play indeed the most central role in the campaign by taking part in online and offline activities and in being its most important agents as online and offline activists, organisers, coordinators, peer educators and advocates for a better Internet.

The campaign is led by young people between 13 and 30 years of age and is addressed to everyone.

The Forum of the campaign seeks to bring together the campaign youth activists at national and European in view of consulting and directly associating them to the running of the Europe campaign and, especially, to its evaluation and follow-up.

The Forum is hosted by the government of Azerbaijan in the framework of its Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and is being organised in close cooperation with the National Assemble of Youth Organisations of Azerbaijan (NAYORA).

Aims, objectives and expected outcomes

The forum aims to bring together young people and other players active in the No Hate Speech Movement at national and European levels to share experiences, achievements and expectations, and to contribute to prepare the follow-up and consolidation of the Movement and its achievements at national and European level.

Objectives

- To support the networking of campaign activists to combat hate speech and promote human rights online
- To provide activists with opportunities to learn and share tools and experiences for campaigning
- To advocate for (or to associate the activists of the movement) for policy changes and the implementation of the NHSM objectives
- To associate and prepare the participants to the implementation of the campaign evaluation and follow-up at the national and European levels.
- To give recognition to the work of the campaign activists and other key players in the campaign and showcase achievements, innovations and creativity
- To review the relevance of combating hate speech in contemporary Europe, notably in relation to conflicts, minorities rights and gender.

Expected outcomes

The forum should result in:

- a) A message/Statement to the Committee of Ministers and national authorities on the consolidation and follow-up of the movement (in the framework of promotion of human rights, combating discrimination and advocating for a better Internet)
- b) Commitments of online media representatives and public authorities to take action to reduce acceptance of hate speech online
- c) Proposals to follow-up and consolidate the No Hate Speech Movement experiences, especially in youth and educational policies
- d) A showcase of successful actions and initiatives of young people and youth work for human rights online.

Draft programme outline

Wednesday, 1 October

Arrivals in Baku

16:00 Transfer to Gabala

Informal activities

Thursday, 2 October

Sports and energisers

09:15 Opening of the forum and welcome of the participants

11:30 Official Opening, with:

Presidential administration of Azerbaijan; Secretary General of the Council of Europe; Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers; Joint Council on Youth; Ministry of Youth and Sport of Azerbaijan; Ministry of Education of Azerbaijan; National Assembly of Youth Organisations of Azerbaijan

12:45 *Lunch*

14:30 Hate Speech and Discrimination here and now, keynote speech

16:00 Working groups on Hate Speech and Discrimination in the national contexts

18:30 *Dinner*
20:00 No Hate Expo and Market place
21:30 Social programme and entertainment

Friday, 3 October

Sports and energisers
09:15 Tweets reports and re-cap from the first day
10:00 Sharing achievements as a movement
12:45 *Lunch*
14:30 Master Classes in Campaigning: Sharing and Learning experiences in workshops
18:30 *Dinner and city tour in Shaki*

Saturday, 4 October

Sports and Energisers
09:15 Presentation of the conclusions on achievements and remaining mission
10:00 Planning of the action Days and other events until March 2015
11:00 *Break*
11:30 Working groups: Assessing and preparing the future of the movement
13:00 *Lunch*
14:30 Flash mob and other similar collective action, online and offline
15:30 Open Space
17:00 Presentation of the Message of the Forum
Conclusions and Follow-up of the forum
Closing songs, videos and flashes
17:45 Closing session,
19:00 *Dinner*
21:00 Heartfelt Farewell Celebration and Party

Sunday 5 October

05:00 Transfer to Baku International Airport

Profile and modes of recruitment of the participants

The forum is prepared first and foremost for the young people who are (active) activists with experience in the campaign. Priority will thus be given for participants under 35 years of age; exceptions are of course possible.

The participants will be recruited in two ways:

- Direct applications from online activists of the European movement and from active partners
- Proposals by the national committees/coordinators, which may expect to send between 2 and 4 people from each committee.

A total of 250 participants are expected to attend the forum, of which 50 are active in the campaign in Azerbaijan.

Everyone interested in attending the forum must apply online at <http://youthapplications.coe.int>. National coordinators are requested to send a priority list of candidates to participate from their country to youth.nohatespeech@coe.int

The deadline for receiving applications is **31 May 2014**.

Financial and practical conditions of participation

Travel expenses

Travel expenses and visa fees will be reimbursed by the partners in Azerbaijan, according to the rules of the Council of Europe. A system of pre-paid tickets will be organised for most of the participants.

The possibility to wave the visa fee for the participants in the Forum is being considered,

Board and lodging

Board and lodging for the conference will be provided and paid for by the partners in Azerbaijan in a hotel in Gabala.

Working languages

The forum will be held in English with interpretation in the main plenary sessions to and from Azerbaijani.

Further information and contact

No Hate Speech Movement Secretariat, youth.nohatespeech@coe.int