**International Conference**

**Tackling the Impact of Hate Speech on Our Lives and Society:**

A Comprehensive Approach Towards

Prevention of Hate Involving Policy Makers and Young People

Saturday, 25 June 2022, 11:00 – 18:00 - Cluj-Napoca | Kolozsvár| Klausenburg - Romania

**CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

10:30 – 11:00 Arrival, Registration & Morning Coffee

***Session I***

11:00 – 13:00 **Introduction**

*Moderator: Aleksandrs Milovs, Participation for all, Latvia*

 **Opening and Welcome: Tackling Hate & Extremism in Europe and Globally**

*Kai Brand-Jacobsen,* *President of the Romanian Peace Institute - PATRIR*

**Tackling Hate & Extremism in Europe: The Importance of a Joined-Up Approach**

 *Ramona Chiriac*, Head of the European Commission’s Representation in Romania

**Presentation: *Active European Citizens Against Hate Speech***

*Jekaterina Tumule, Project Manager, Latvian Centre for Human Rights*

 **Presentation of Research Summary & Findings: “Hate Speech and Euroscepticism in Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia***Prof.,* *Doctor honoris causa Anna Krasteva* ***-*** *Research conducted in 6 EU Member States provides an overview of the spread of hate speech and Euroscepticism, outlining parallels between Eurosceptic discourse and incitement to, with examples of best practices and recommendation on measures for combating hate speech.*

**Q & A** **Interactive Discussion Session**

*13:00 – 13:20 Coffee break*

***Session II***

13:20 – 13:50 **Voices of Youth Tackling Hate Speech Across Europe: Experiences from Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia**F*acilitated by: Natalja Gudakovska, Participation for All, Latvia**Voices from youth from 6 EU Member States on their experience and campaigns tackling Hate Speech in their communities together with their messages to other young people all over EU, policy makers and the European Parliament.*

13:50 – 14:10 **Changes in the Landscape of Hate-Speech,***Dr. Dana Dolghin, Romanian Peace Institute - PATRIR, Romania**Hate speech has been a topic of interest and action in European and national legislations. However, the rise of extremism, far-right narratives, conspiracy theories and the “re-assemblage” of extremism today has changed needs and challenged assumptions of what are best practices of prevention. This talk covers some of these issues, with a specific focus on Romania.*

14:10 – 15:00  *Lunch break*

*Session III* **Workshops**

**15:00 – 16:40 Participants chose the one they wish to participate in**

**I . Hate speech vs. Freedom of speech: limits, challenges, solutions**

Facilitated by *Tina Đaković and Sara Sinčić, Human Rights House Zagreb, Croatia*

A right to freedom of expression is one of the essential elements of functional liberal democracy. At the same time freedom of expression is not an absolute right. Prevention of hate speech is one of the instances when freedom of expression can be limited, due to the harmfulness it has on the rights of others, especially minorities, and security of the society in general. During the workshop, we will reflect on these phenomena and try to find answers to the questions such as: Where are the limits of free speech in the context of hate speech? What is the human rights-based approach to addressing the hate speech phenomenon? When to remove and when to prosecute and sanction hate speech? How to prevent hate speech and what is the role of youth in that?

**II. Internet and Hate Speech: time for good people to step in?**

Facilitated by *Kelly Grossthal Estonian Human Rights Centre and Bistra Ivanova MultiKulti Collective, Bulgaria*

Today, major debates on politics, social issues and social change now take place through the mass media and on social media. In addition, the Internet and multimedia technologies are available on every computer, and many have the opportunity to use internet, both as audience and producer. At the same time, violence attributed to online hate speech has increased worldwide. During the workshop, we will discuss the topic of online hate speech and ask why social media makes us more polarized and if there is a way how to fix it.

**III. Towards a Comprehensive Approach to Addressing and Overcoming Hate: Experiences from the EU and Globally**

Facilitated by*Kai Brand-Jacobsen, (Romanian Peace Institute – PATRIR, Romania*

Extensive evidence has been gathered on ‘what works’ and ‘what doesn’t work’ in tackling hate, violent radicalization and extremism. Drawing upon the findings of major EU research projects, interviews, round-tables and workshops with practitioners and researchers across Europe and internationally, and more than 25 years direct experience working in peacebuilding and advising governments, the UN and international organizations world-wide, this workshop will address practical and ‘front of the field’ lessons and recommendations for policymakers and practitioners, and identify the features of a comprehensive approach to overcoming hate and tackling violent extremism. Will include special focus on education, urban-based approaches, and a peacebuilding approach to tackling violent extremism.

*16:40 – 17:00 Conference Participants’ Interaction, Refreshments & Coffee Break*

*17:00 – 17:30***Conference Conclusions and Roadmap Ahead: Addressing Current Challenges**

Recommendations and Priorities for Policy Makers, Academics, Civil Societyand Citizens in Europe Today

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| *The conference “****Tackling the Impact of Hate Speech on Our Lives and Society:*** *A Comprehensive Approach Towards Prevention of Hate Involving Policy Makers and Young People” is organised in the framework of the project “Active European Citizens Against Hate Speech”. The aim of the project is to raise awareness of the new generation of European citizens about the impact of hate speech on democratic participation and European values. The project is implemented by the “Latvian Centre for Human Rights” (project coordinator), “Participation for All” (Latvia), “Estonian Human Rights Centre”, “Human Rights Monitoring Institute” (Lithuania), “Multi Kulti Collective” (Bulgaria), “Human Rights House Zagreb” (Croatia), “Peace Action Training and Research Institute of Romania - PATRIR”. The project is co-funded by the**Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia.*Изображение выглядит как текст  Автоматически созданное описаниеИзображение выглядит как текст  Автоматически созданное описание |