10 STEPS TO WIPE OUT HATE

1. TAKE ACTION

In the face of hate, silence is deadly. Hatred is an attack against society at large, which tries to tear apart communities along ethnic, religious, cultural, political and supposed racial lines. When hatred comes to town, apathy is interpreted as acceptance – by the perpetrators, the public and worse, the victims. If you leave hatred unchallenged it will persist and grow, so: **Do something!!!**
It is incredible important to rise up, stand tall, speak out and get active against hate and violence, especially immediately after an incident. UNITED provides you with free campaign & educational material to make it easier for you to get active.

2. GET UNITED

When one individual protests it has little effect, but if a lot of people protest all together, it does wonders. The secret to sustainable success lies in a broad and diverse coalition; from schools and clubs, grassroots organisations, artists and concerned individuals to punk bands and autonomous antifascist groups. Include families, youth and children, authorities and the media – be open-minded and get everyone involved. Grouping together and asking for help will reduce your vulnerability and personal fear. Beyond that, by spreading the workload and widening the pool of creative ideas and skills, you will increase both your capacity and impact.
Use the UNITED Network (e.g. Address Book Against Racism or online-database with more than 4000 contacts European-wide) to find like-minded partners in your area. Let us know that you exist and what you are doing – be a part of the UNITED Network and help the movement grow stronger.
There is power in numbers - UNITED we are stronger!

3. SHOW SOLIDARITY

Victims of hatred are vulnerable, isolated and afraid. They have been attacked and excluded simply for being who they are – their ethnic origin, skin colour, religious beliefs, nationality, cultural background, sexual orientation, political beliefs etc. Silence and indifference amplifies their isolation and fear; it also sends a signal that hate and violence are tolerated. It is vital that victims understand they are valued and that there are people who will support and protect them. Even small acts of solidarity – a letter, a phone call, a personal visit or invitation for dinner – will help.
If you are a victim, or if you know about hate incidents, report each one in detail and ask for help (make good use of the UNITED database to find the right contacts).

Activists are also victimised simply because they oppose violence, hate and injustice. Here again, showing solidarity and support is fundamentally important. That is why organising and connecting ourselves on all levels – local, regional, national and international – is essential; you need not fight alone in desperation.
In regions with weak civil society, solidarity on an international scale is especially important for grassroots organisations. The UNITED Network facilitates your support in a way that vulnerable activists and grassroots - particular in countries such as Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and the Balkans - not only receive moral support, but foremost theoretical, practical and material help. Being part of a big grassroots network is an advantage to all participating groups, since the structures necessary for coordinated intervention and mobilisation are already in place. UNITED broaden and maintain these in a professional way.

4. KNOW YOUR ENEMY

A well-informed action or campaign is far more effective – so do your homework! Determine which group(s) or individual(s) are involved in incidences or hate campaigns, and research their symbols, agenda, contacts and affiliates. Be aware about your opponents and their strategy:
Where (school, youth club, disco etc.) and how (music, life-style etc.) does recruitment take place? Is the group involved in rallies, demonstrations, political discourse, violent actions etc.? By what means is their message spread (flyers, Internet, outdoor activities etc.)? Do they have affiliates (politicians and political parties, militant groups, sub-cultures etc.)? Why do people identify with such a group?
Don't underestimate opponents by their number – just a handful of people – armed with computer, email and a website can have an immense impact and are capable of spreading their message widely. As there are networks of anti-fascists and anti-racists, there are neo-nazi and far-right networks.
Share your information with like-minded groups, but be aware about your own security – your opponents are also gathering intelligence. However, don't become paranoid – that will only isolate you and weaken your position, making you more vulnerable.
The regular international UNITED conferences provide a safe environment to exchange information on international level and learn new skills, strategies and good-practice.

5. CREATE AN ALTERNATIVE

You need to show resistance against hatred. However, as much as you might like to physically express your resistance - throwing stones and bottles, and engaging in street fights – such confrontations only serve your opponent. Even worse, such behavior weakens your position in the community (only some people are likely to support you in such actions), as well as making it easy for your opponents to stigmatise you as militant or criminal and giving the authorities reason to prosecute you.
If you want to create a winning alternative to express anger and frustration and channel people's desire to do something, then non-violence is the only option. Your efforts should focus on drawing both people and media attention away from hate rallies and towards an alternative. There are many examples of far-right or hate rallies that flopped because entire communities decide to not participate and even refuse service to the rally-participants. The soul of non-violent action is in the organisation of alternative events that emphasise the strength in community and diversity, and potentially creates large 'hate-free' areas.
Always aim for a broad and big alliance – involve schools, clubs, public institutions (e.g. museums), local businesses (restaurants, bars, hotels, taxi etc.) and authorities – to create an event that provides people a safe, effective and inclusive environment. Examples are picnics, parades and festivals featuring food, music, games, workshops, exhibitions, information and entertainment.
Use the extensive documentation on good-practice that is provided on the UNITED website to get ideas and inspiration for action and alternatives.

6. LOBBY

You won't be able to wipe out hate in your community if the mainstream community leaders (mayors, politicians, police chiefs, school principals, local clergy, main employers etc.) are not willing to take a stand against hate or, worse, are the instigators of it. Their support is necessary to tackle the root cause of violence and hate and to create sustainable alternatives.
Try to form good relationships with community leaders before incidents or actions happen (this might not always be possible, but if successful it improves your position tremendously). Inform and educate them about the topic, the causes and the effects on the community. Encourage leaders to publicly address the problems and demand a strong public statement from authorities, politicians and mayors. Lobby for support (material/financial and verbal) for your actions and use community leaders as tool to mobilise more people.
Join the UNITED campaigns and get your action, ideas and statement published Europe-wide. You can use the UNITED materials and campaign reports as valuable lobbying tools at a local level.

7. SPEAK OUT AGAINST HATE

The best defense against hate is an informed and united community. Therefore it is important to expose and speak out loud against discrimination, hate crimes, exclusion and stigmatisation of minorities. Take every chance to publicly denounce hatred and the groups spreading it; help media and news organisations to give balanced and in-depth coverage by providing them with information; use any channel (Internet, flyers, news agencies, local church bulletins, Facebook, Twitter and of course the UNITED Network) to circulate positive action and alternatives that point towards unity and condemn hate and violence. Creating publicity around good practices and positive action not only draws the attention away from hate, but also serve as stimulation and generate ideas for other activists and people who want to do something.

8. LOOK LONG RANGE

Hate and violence usually don't strike out of the blue, but grow silently under the surface of divided communities until they erupt. In the same way, one victory over hate and violence won't make it disappear.
The best way to resist hate and violence is a respectful and united community. You will have to do persistent work over a longer period to create the right ground for it. The aim is to unify the community and to make them immune against the disease of hatred, fascism, racism, xenophobia etc.
However, before you will be able to really change mindsets, you will have to change the behavior of yourself and others. Your personal example will influence others and when more and more follow this 'good example', the more instrumental it becomes and deeper change will then reach into the community. Think twice before you do or say something: unlearn prejudices you might have about people different from you; don't spread biased stories or jokes only because they are funny; make positive statements about others; be a critical mind towards one-sided arguments á la 'we against them'.
It is important that you and your message are visible not only when an incidents happens, but on a regular basis. We strongly encourage you to organise regular activities that bring together the diverse members of your community. In this way they will get to know each other, lose their prejudices and build up intercultural understanding.
To amplify the impact of your activities you should consider taking part in the annual UNITED campaigns, where hundreds of actions all over Europe take place under one common slogan and at one common date.

9. TEACH UNDERSTANDING

Intolerance, prejudices and anti-democratic attitudes are learned. This usually happens already at a young age and educational institutions play a big role – in teaching bias, but also in teaching diversity awareness. Children are curious by nature about everything that is new and different and schools are in fact the ideal environment to let kids develop diversity awareness and intercultural understanding. At school, children and youth from diverse backgrounds are mixed together. Ideally, an environment is created that places everybody on equal status and facilitates beneficial interactions among the pupils.
Schools can be vital tools to promote diversity, inclusion and fairness, teach mediation and conflict resolution skills, train youngsters to look critically at stereotypes, dissolve prejudices and plant the seed for an active and participative civil society.
Since the kids from today will be the future of tomorrow, reveal how important it is to work with and at educational institutes of all levels - make them to your allies and cradle for a future without hate.

10. LOOK DEEPER

Change will start when you engage in change. However, first it is maybe helpful to critically evaluate your own attitude. Everybody grows up with prejudices and stereotypes. Everybody has their own limited idea and perception of the world, different cultures, other countries, nationalities and ethnicities. Luckily, we all possess the power to overcome our ignorance and fears, and to influence our friends, family, peers and community. Therefore it is necessary to free your mind from biased ballast and learn to value and enjoy diversity - no one is less than somebody else.

A good start to have a deeper look inside ourselves is to have a look at the language we use and the assumptions we make about others. You might like to ask yourself the following questions:

- How quickly I am with labeling people, e.g. as 'illegals', 'migrants', 'violent', 'criminal', 'lazy', 'dishonest', 'stupid' etc.?
- Do I tell jokes about 'gays', 'Muslims', 'Jews', 'Roma' etc.?
  On what information do I base my assumptions about others and where does this information come from?
- Do I know first hand information from people who belong to a minority group, who are victimised or who have a different cultural background or religion?
- Do I understand the socio-economic forces that prevent certain groups to come out of poverty, or do I simply think that those people are 'lazy', 'stupid' or 'dishonest'.
- Do I have the courage to speak up against discrimination – in a public context, but also in the circle of friends?

Take part in the UNITED Campaign!

- Make sure your event is included in the European List of Activities! Inform UNITED about your planned activities (title, date, theme, place), including the name, address and contact person of your organization.
- Make use of this poster! Order (max. 100 posters) for free from the UNITED secretariat.
- Get inspired by our information leaflet 'Get Active - The 'How to organise an activity?' Guide'.
  Look at www.unitedagainstracism.org under 'publications'.
- Keep in touch with UNITED's secretariat to spread your new ideas to the network and to provide it with recent information.

Remember...

- ...that most activities are organised on a low- or no- budget basis. So 'no money' need not necessarily mean 'no action'.

Some practical advice

- Use the resources you already have within your organisation.
- Think about the message you want to communicate, what outcome you expect (short-term/long-term)?
- Look for partners and alliances - if appropriate- outside the NGO movement (schools, religious community groups).
- Try to involve as many people as possible during the preparation stage itself (volunteers, partners etc.)
- Divide tasks clearly in your (campaign) team.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

UNITED we are Strong!

Since the early 1990s, UNITED for Intercultural Action has organised and inspired annual pan-European antiracist activities on 9 November. The aim is two-fold; firstly, we commemorate victims of the 'Kristallnacht' pogrom and, more broadly, victims of the Holocaust and of fascism throughout history. Secondly, we want to warn societies about the danger of racism, antisemitism, right-wing extremism and neo-fascism today. We want to mobilise different groups and individuals to build a common front against xenophobia, intolerance, hate and violence.
Hundreds of various organisations and informal groups of all kinds have taken an active part in the campaign. It is time for you, too! The campaign is pluralist and open: there is place and space for all. The strength of this campaign is having a diverse European movement taking part in a common action, using a common theme and slogan. We use different approache and methods but we have one shared vision of a society without hatred and discrimination, based on human rights. This poster is a tool to support your campaign activities. You can organise diverse events, such as public discussions, meetings with eye-witnesses, demonstrations, commemoration activities, conferences, poster and media action, cultural events and much more. To get some more inspiration and practical ideas, you can read the reports of previous campaigns: www.unitedagainstracism.org look under 'campaigns'.

How UNITED can help you

- UNITED will produce a special list of all activities which will take place in Europe, this can help you to make contacts and generate ideas. It will be updated regularly on:
  www.unitedagainstracism.org under 'campaigns'.
- Call UNITED if you cannot find a partner for your activities. We might know of other NGOs in your region or city who are planning an activity.
- Keep in mind that you can order campaign material at the UNITED secretariat for free.
- A media release will be sent to the UNITED network organisations and to all important European press agencies, newspapers, etc. Journalists who want to know more about specific activities are referred to the organisations involved in local actions. UNITED produces a European report after 9 November, including as many of the activities that took place as possible.

How you can help UNITED

- Tell us about your activities and send us your invitations, leaflets and posters before and after the campaign!
- Help us make the report complete and send us newspaper articles, reports, photos, etc. directly after the event
- Provide us with more media contacts!

What is UNITED?

UNITED for Intercultural Action is the European network against nationalism, racism, fascism and in support of migrants and refugees. More than 550 organisations from a wide variety of backgrounds, from 46 European countries, work together in common activities, such as European-wide campaigns. Like-minded organisations have the opportunity to meet each other at conferences and elaborate specific projects. UNITED is and will remain independent from all political parties, organisations and states, but seeks an active co-operation with other anti-racist initiatives in Europe. Information is received from more than 2000 organisations and mailings go out to about 2200 groups in Europe. Let us know if you want to get involved! And add UNITED to your mailing list!

UNITED is SUPPORTED by

more than 552 organisations from all European countries, many prominent individuals, private supporters and long-term volunteers from Action Sünnezeichen Friedensdienste, the European Voluntary Service Programme and Cz Fosean University of Venice.

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WIPE OUT HATE

If hate is the answer it must be a stupid question!

10 STEPS TO WIPE OUT HATE

The poster on the backside is to invite young people, activists, teachers, community leaders, journalists and all people who want to get active: Join and start actions against intolerance and right-wing extremism during the European-wide campaign '9 November – The International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism'.
Hatred all throughout Europe is becoming a fatal, daily constant. It appears in many faces – right-wing extremism, fascism, extreme nationalism, xenophobia, racism, romaphobia, islamophobia, antisemitism – but it always brings the same poisonous consequences for communities and society at large. Hate not only leads towards violence, discrimination and exclusion, but it is a dangerous threat to democracy and peace as well.

TIP!
Use the empty space on this poster to announce and promote your activities and actions

All over Europe people are fighting hate in their communities and stand up to promote diversity and inclusion. We also want you to join this fight!
Based on the experiences the UNITED Network made in its long lasting struggle against hate and injustice, we developed a short guide that shall help you to take the right steps. Please find inside this poster the 10 Steps to Wipe Out Hate.

WHY CAMPAIGN ON 9TH NOVEMBER?

The 9th November 1938, the 'Kristallnacht' pogrom, was the first step to the extermination of the Jewish Europeans by the nazis. Today it is seen as the symbolic beginning of the Holocaust, the policy of the systematic murdering of millions of people. It reminds us that such terrible things did not start with deportations and concentration camps, but developed step by step.
Nazi propaganda and hate speech against Jews and laws depriving Jewish citizens of their rights – as happened with the 'Nuremberg Laws' which, among other things, stripped German Jews of their citizenship – were the first steps which eventually culminated in violence and pogroms.
Looking to the right-wing tendencies in the modern Europe, we must be aware that history used to be repeated and the Holocaust happened with the silent acceptance and support of the broad majority of the society. Nowadays, right-wing extremism is an increasing force on the entire continent. Hate crimes are turning into regular facts, extreme right-wing parties are elected into local and national parliaments and xenophobic propaganda is becoming legitimate in societies

WHAT WAS THE 'KRISTALLNACHT' POGROM?

On 9th November 1938, nazi Germany started a pogrom against jewish people. SA Storm Troopers and civilians destroyed more than 8000 jewish homes and shops, set synagogues on fire, imprisoned, injured and killed jews all across the country. Pieces of broken windows covering the streets in many German cities gave rise to the name 'Kristallnacht' which freely translated means the Night of Broken Glass.
The 'Kristallnacht' pogrom is seen as the symbolic beginning of the systematic eradication of jewish people which had started with the discrimination and exclusion of the German Jews since 1933 and which eventually led to the murder of 6 millions jewish people and 5,5 million 'enemies of the German state': homosexuals, criminals and 'asocial' people, members of diverse religious communities, people with mental disabilities, political 'offenders' such as communists and socialists, Spanish republican refugees and minorities like Roma and Sinti and others.