

# WIPE OUT HATE

*This poster (inside) is to invite you to GET ACTIVE!  
JOIN THE CAMPAIGN and start actions against hate and  
right-wing extremism!*

An atmosphere of hate is growing in Europe and hate speech and online hate are already a fatal, daily constant. People are looking for someone to blame - comparable to the 1930s the dangerous "us" and "them" rhetoric is again commonplace. Hate appears in many forms - right-wing extremism, populism, fascism, extreme nationalism, xenophobia, romaphobia, islamophobia, antisemitism - but it always brings the same poisonous consequences for communities and society at large. Minorities are discriminated or even attacked whilst the majority remains silent. Hate not only leads to violence, discrimination and exclusion, but is a dangerous threat to democracy and peace as well. Europe has been here before: it ended in the Holocaust. That is why we must remember the past and take a common stand for our future.

Since 1992 the UNITED network stimulates and coordinates the International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism around 9 November and calls upon the international community to bring an end to hate. Every year many local campaign activities take place in over 45 European countries, with people opposing hate in their communities and promoting inclusion instead. By acting together on 1 common date we will draw European-wide attention from the media, the general public, and also policy makers, on our common demand: **WIPE OUT HATE!**

Through the UNITED network, organisations are provided with campaigning-tools (Facebook, Twitter, Website with interactive event map, free campaign material and more), advice and access to contacts in a network of like-minded organisations for possible cooperation.

We ask NGOs, community organisations, schools, local municipalities and all manner of groups and individuals to join forces and confront hate with local actions. Organise activities, join the Facebook page, check the campaign website, support others, spread the message: JOIN the 9 November Campaign to **WIPE OUT HATE!**



## WHY CAMPAIGN ON 9TH NOVEMBER?

The 9 November 1938, the 'Kristallnacht' pogrom, was the first step towards 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 at the right-wing tendencies and populist discourse all over Europe today, we must be aware that history is being repeated and the Holocaust happened with the silent acceptance and support of the broad majority. Nowadays, right-wing extremism is a rising force on the entire continent. Hate crimes are frequent realities, extreme right-wing parties are elected into parliaments and xenophobic propaganda is becoming legitimate in societies.

# STOP HATE SPEECH ONLINE

## Europe in Crisis?

Currently, Europe is facing the growing success of populist and extremist right-wing movements. By using people's prejudices, concerns and fears in a time of crisis, populist and extreme-right groups are succeeding in most European countries with exclusionist slogans and simple "solutions".

The report "Intolerance, Prejudice and Discrimination" (Friedrich Ebert Foundation), documents widespread prejudiced opinions in Europe, mistrust in the current political system and hostile discriminatory intentions toward migrants and minority groups. Half of the European survey respondents believe that there are too many immigrants in their country, which correlates with a strong willingness to support immigration restrictions and the exclusion of migrants.

When it comes to political participation, Europeans seem disinterested and detached. Many feel a sense of powerlessness because politicians fail to hear their fears and concerns about different issues, including immigration. This leads to a negative attitude toward the European Union, low political interest and a desire for a strong leader.

This mood plays a role in political discourse. Populists and right-wing extremist groups are able to appeal to people's general sense of dissatisfaction and build their discourse on prejudices, nationalist and anti-Europe arguments as well as hostility towards migrants. Thus exploiting the openness of citizens, as the mainstream political opinion quickly becomes that of the extremists. Incidents of hate speech and hate crime targeting migrants and minority groups are happening more frequently across Europe, leading to more fear and concerns.

Europe today is experiencing a resurgence in far-right politics on a scale not seen since the 1930s. The seriousness of far-right parties entering parliaments in Europe does not need to be imagined, history shows the consequences. The far-right party Golden Dawn in Greece has risen rapidly with recent polls positioning it as Greece's third, and fastest growing, political force. In the 2012 elections Golden Dawn had 18 members (6%) elected to the Parliament of Greece. Parliamentary seats however are not the only reason to be alarmed by their growing strength because the party uses physical violence to intimidate minorities and its "enemies".

According to *Spiegel Online International* in some areas of Athens small groups of extremists calling themselves "Storm Troopers" are patrolling the streets attacking "foreigners" - using clubs, baseball bats, knives and even guns. Human rights organisations have recorded hundreds of such attacks

which have been described by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees as "systematic and organised" and unquestionably "racially motivated".

The speed of Golden Dawn's rise is alarming, as recently as Greece's October 2009 parliamentary election the party received 'only' 0.29% of votes, an unnerving figure when you remember that in 1928 the nazis won less than 3% of the vote in Germany...

The situation in Hungary is fast becoming just as grave. The far-right party Jobbik now holds the third largest fraction in

Hungarian politics, with 47 democratically elected members in the National Assembly of Hungary (12%). However, racism and hate speech has not been restricted to far-right political parties. Zsolt Bayer, one of the founders of Hungary's ruling Fidesz party and personal friend of prime minister Viktor Orbán, has been quoted in a recent Hungarian newspaper saying:

*"Most Gypsies are not suitable for cohabitation. They are not suitable for being among people. Most are animals, and behave like animals. They shouldn't be tolerated or understood, but stamped out. Animals should not exist. In no way."*

Zsolt Bayer, *Magyar Hirlap*, 5 January 2013.

The fact that Bayer has been making similar comments in public for many years raises serious questions about how it is possible for such comments to be acceptable in a European country and especially one that was so prominently effected by the Holocaust, with an estimated 400,000 Hungarian Jews murdered in Auschwitz.

*"A global financial crisis, rapidly rising cost of living, unemployment and job insecurity, erosion of the welfare state, against the backdrop of nationalism, war, and militarisation – do we even need to ask the question, why campaign against fascism today? Extreme-Right electoral parties search for scapegoats, encourage us to hate our neighbour. Centre-Right parties dismantle welfare and attack civil rights. Centre-Left parties are weak; some even follow the Right agenda. Antifascism is not a dogma, but a simple human response to injustice based on solidarity – and in Europe today that means solidarity with Muslims, Roma, Black people and Jews, with migrant workers, refugees, with the other vulnerable communities the neo-nazis attack. We do not want to see young people indoctrinated into a culture of hate. Who else can resist but us – the ordinary decent*

*citizens of Europe?"* Liz, *Institute of Race Relations (UK)*

# HATE



## Never Again!

Although there is only one Holocaust, several indescribable genocides followed World War II – with the 1995 Srebrenica Genocide as the largest mass murder in Europe since 1945. It is the duty of a democratic European civil society to transmit generation by generation a collective memory based on the concept "Holocaust - Never Again" as a way to overcome hatred, right-wing extremism and totalitarian ideology. Thus, when we say "Never Again", it means that we commit ourselves to do everything in our power to prevent genocides and persecution and oppression by totalitarian regimes before they can manifest.

Some people say: "Surely, it is better to concentrate on the future rather than on the past" asking "why do we need to care about something that belongs in history books?" But the past is not a closed book; all over Europe violence against minorities is today, populist propaganda is widespread, right-wing extremism is gaining ground and the alarming rise of hate crimes against particular groups are a daily constant.

We need to make sure the past is not forgotten. Even more importantly, we must react against the rise in right-wing extremism, racism and intolerance here and now.

History proves that hatred kills - thus we stand UNITED to WIPE OUT HATE - both online and on the streets.

## What was the 'Kristallnacht' Pogrom?

On 9 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.

## JOIN the Movement UNITED we are Stronger!

Since the early 1990s, UNITED has coordinated and inspired annual pan-European antifascist activities to mark 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 nationalism, populism, racism, antisemitism, right-wing extremism and neo-fascism today. We mobilise different groups and individuals to build a common front against hate ideologies and violence. Hundreds of various organisations and informal groups of all kinds have taken an active part in the campaigns. 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 on November 9, using a common theme and slogan. We use different approaches but we have one shared vision of a society without hatred and discrimination, based on equality and human rights. You can organise diverse events, such as public discussions, meetings with eye-witnesses, demonstrations, commemoration activities, conferences, poster and media actions, cultural events and much more. To get inspiration and practical ideas, read the reports of previous campaigns on our website.



## SPECIAL INITIATIVE by CoE

### Stop Hate Speech Online: Campaign of the Council of Europe Young People Combating Hate Speech Online



This 2012-2014 campaign is a Europe-wide project against hate speech, racism and discrimination in their online expression. Initiated and run by the Council of Europe Youth Directorate it stands for equality, dignity, human rights and diversity.

The Internet offers us the possibility to create, publish, distribute and consume media content fostering therefore a space of full participation,

engagement and self-expression. With the development of social networks we all can participate in cyberspace in a variety of ways ranging from keeping in touch with your friends and developing new contacts to sharing content and exploring your self-expression. This online space gives us new opportunities: engaging with others for causes that we care for. But we may equally be victim and agent of abuse and human rights violations, among them, hate speech in various forms and cyberbullying. The online world is not without values either. Hate speech\* as such is not a new issue on the Internet, nor in the human rights debate. Its online dimension and the potential damage on democratic processes gives us all new reasons to act.

The campaign working methods are awareness raising, advocacy, and it also seeks creative solutions. It is a project for action and intervention. The project aims to equip young people and youth organisations with the competences necessary to recognize and act against such human rights violations.

The campaign is not run to limit freedom of expression online and nor is it about being nice to each other online.

The campaign is against the expressions of hate speech online in all its forms, including those that most affect young people, such as forms of cyberbullying and cyber-hate. The campaign is based upon human rights education, youth participation and media literacy. It aims at reducing hate speech and at combating racism and discrimination in their online expression.

*\* "Hate speech, as defined by the Council of Europe, covers all forms of expression which spread, incite, promote or justify racial hatred, xenophobia, anti-Semitism or other forms of hatred based on intolerance, including: intolerance expressed by aggressive nationalism and ethnocentrism, discrimination and hostility against minorities, migrants and people of immigrant origin."*

#### Objectives of the campaign

- To raise awareness about hate speech online and its risks for democracy and for individual young people, and promoting media and internet literacy;
- To support young people in standing up for human rights, online and offline;
- To reduce the levels of acceptance of online hate speech;
- To mobilise, train and network online youth activists for human rights;
- To map hate speech online and develop tools for constructive responses;
- To support & show solidarity to people/groups targeted by hate speech online;
- To advocate for the development and consensus on European policy instruments combating hate speech;
- To develop youth participation and citizenship online.

#### Online Campaign tools

- [www.nohatespeechmovement.org](http://www.nohatespeechmovement.org) is an online platform for everyone interested to join the No Hate Speech Movement. Here you can upload your personal statement or message about hate speech. This site is the main landing page of the Campaign available for the widest public with testimonials through self-made videos, photos or other visual manifestations.
- **Hate Speech Watch** is an online database to monitor, share and discuss hate speech content of the Internet. Here you can link in any hate speech content from the Internet. Moderators monitor and facilitate the site, creating focus topics every month based on the main interest of the online community.
- **Campaign Coordination Website**. If your organisation wants to join the Campaign, there is a portal for Campaign organisers and activists with updated information about the work behind the Campaign.
- **Educational tools**

**Online Campaign Toolkit:** to help anyone to get involved in the Campaign. It provides knowledge and information about the Campaign and its media.

**Learning Module on Hate Speech:** If you want to understand further what hate speech is about, and to be able to identify hate speech online this tool gives the support you need.

**School Campaign Pack:** If you are a student or a teacher this online tool supports promoting the campaign and action in your school environment. It helps with discussing online hate speech with students, getting involved in a European competition among secondary school students on hate speech online and cyber bullying.

For more info visit: [www.nohatespeechmovement.org](http://www.nohatespeechmovement.org)



Slovakia

## Take part in the Campaign

- Make sure your event is included in the European List of Activities! Keep UNITED informed about your activities to be included in the interactive Event Map at [www.dayagainstfascism.eu](http://www.dayagainstfascism.eu) and promoted through [facebook.com/UNITEDdayAgainstFascism](https://www.facebook.com/UNITEDdayAgainstFascism).
- Make use of this poster! Order posters (max. 100) from the secretariat for free.
- Get inspired by our information leaflet "Get Active - The How to Organise an Activity Guide". Find it at [www.dayagainstfascism.eu](http://www.dayagainstfascism.eu)
- Keep in touch with UNITED's secretariat, send regular updates to the network for the campaign Facebook page and Twitter.

## Involve your City Government!

UNITED and the European Coalition of Cities Against Racism (ECCAR - [www.eccar.info](http://www.eccar.info)) have recently agreed to cooperate in the European-wide campaigns against racism and intolerance.

Local politicians and local authorities -such as mayors- expressing their support for the campaign through clear statements against hate will help our message reach out even further. We would like them to join the campaign. Local government directly affects people's daily lives and deals with important actors (police, housing associations, youth centres etc) that are vital elements in ensuring an open society. Public spaces in cities are also central to civic engagement and social interaction. Local governments have access to resources such as publicity channels, government budgets, public buildings and meeting places. They are responsible for fostering trust and harmony and an inclusive local community. It is therefore important that local governments declare themselves publicly open to all people, regardless of background, and also that they are perceived and recognised by communities as being open to all people. On the occasion of 9 November, we ask you as NGOs to address cities, asking them to take a stand against hate, and we will help by publishing this commitment Europe-wide.

### How to involve your local authorities in this campaign:

- Ask your mayor, a leading politician or a prominent person to make a **short statement** supporting the campaign 'WIPE OUT HATE'.
- **Photograph** this person holding our 2013 'WIPE OUT HATE' Campaign poster. Email the statement and the photo to [9November@unitedagainstracism.org](mailto:9November@unitedagainstracism.org) for online publication.
- Hang **UNITED Campaign posters** in your city hall, libraries, office or elsewhere. On request, we will send you 2 kilos of Campaign material for free.
- Ask your city to **advertise the Campaign** on the city's public transport message screens, local newspaper, website, billboards.
- **Create an exhibition** of our 40 different posters. Perhaps in your city hall? On request, we can send you a collection of our campaign posters 1992-2013 for free.



Greece

## How UNITED can help you

- UNITED will produce a Europe-wide list of campaign activities, this can help you to make contacts and generate ideas. An Event Map will be updated regularly on: [www.dayagainstfascism.eu](http://www.dayagainstfascism.eu).
- Through Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Online Mapping) the Campaign will be constantly promoted.
- Keep in mind that you can order free campaign material at [www.dayagainstfascism.eu](http://www.dayagainstfascism.eu)
- Contact 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.
- A media release will be sent across the UNITED network and to all major European news agencies and media. Journalists who want to know more about specific activities are referred to the organisations involved in local actions.

## How you can help UNITED

- Make sure also your event is promoted and reported! Inform us of your activities and send your invitations, leaflets, posters, reports, pictures for publication online to: [9November@unitedagainstracism.org](mailto:9November@unitedagainstracism.org)
- Provide us with more media contacts in your country!

## 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 48 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 antiracist initiatives in Europe. Information is received from more than 2000 organisations and e-mailings go out to over 10.000 contacts in Europe.

### UNITED is SUPPORTED by

more than 550 organisations from 48 European countries, many prominent individuals, private supporters and long-term volunteers from Aktion Sühnezeichen Friedensdienste, Austrian Holocaust Memorial Service and the EVS, Grundtvig and Leonardo Programmes of the European Union.

Since 1992 financial support was received from various sponsors such as: European Commission (General Budget/Socrates/Grundtvig/Youth in Action Programme/DG Employment Social Affairs/ TACIS IBPPP), Council of Europe (European Youth Foundation/European Youth Centres), OSCE-ODIHR, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, World Council of Churches, Olof Palmes MinnesFond, Cultural Council Sweden, Ministry of Education Slovenia, Green Group-, Socialist Group-, and GUE/NGL Group in the European Parliament, European Cultural Foundation, Stiftung West-Ostliche Begegnung, Aktionsbündnis Gegen Gewalt, Rechtstextremismus und Fremdenfeindlichkeit Brandenburg, Home Office UK, Ministry of Interior-BZK NL, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs CH, the Maitra Programme of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Instituto Português da Juventude, National Integration Office Sweden, Service Nationale de la Jeunesse Luxembourg, LNU - Norwegian Youth Council, Europees Platform Grundtvig, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Federal Social Insurance Office (Dep. for Youth Affairs) CH, Swiss Coordination Office of Youth for Europe, Federal Service for Combating Racism (Fund for Projects Against Racism) CH, Migros Kulturprozent CH, Comunidad de Madrid, Ministry of Youth and Sport of Azerbaijan, The Swedish National Board of Youth Affairs, Rothschild Foundation, Local Municipality of Budapest, Youth Board of Cyprus, Jewish Humanitarian Fund, Foundation Remembrance Responsibility and Future, Minority Rights Group Europe, OSCE - Mission to Skopje, Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture, Provincie Noord-Brabant, Open Society Foundations, Final Frontiers Internet, Dijkman Print and others.

This campaign has been funded with support of the Council of Europe (European Youth Foundation), the Youth In Action Programme of the European Union, the Open Society Foundations and the Provincie Noord-Brabant.

This publication reflects the views only of the authors, and the sponsors cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

UNITED's publications can be freely re-used, translated and re-distributed, provided the source - [www.unitedagainstracism.org](http://www.unitedagainstracism.org) - is mentioned and a copy is sent to the UNITED secretariat.



'Youth in Action' Programme

UNITED for Intercultural Action  
European network against nationalism, racism, fascism  
and in support of migrants and refugees

Postbus 413 • NL-1000 AK Amsterdam • Netherlands  
phone +31-20-6834778 • fax +31-20-6834582  
[info@unitedagainstracism.org](mailto:info@unitedagainstracism.org)  
[www.unitedagainstracism.org](http://www.unitedagainstracism.org)