

LOOKING FOR TOLERANCE ALL OVER EUROPE



ANNUAL REPORT 2007

UNITED FOR INTERCULTURAL ACTION

European network

against nationalism, racism, fascism and in support of migrants and refugees





UNITED for Intercultural Action

European network against nationalism, racism, fascism and in support of migrants and refugees

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RETROSPECTIVE OF THE YEAR 2007

Since the 18th century the world saw significant declarations for the respect of human dignity, rights and diversity - such as the 'Emancipation Proclamation' of Abraham Lincoln, the 'Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizens' issued during the French Revolution, or the 'Universal Declaration of Human Rights' by the United Nations. People have to suffer and struggle for equal rights and treatment already a very long time and still the fight against inequality, discrimination and ideologies of racial superiority continues all over the world. Pessimists are saying it's a never-ending story, but we never shall give up spreading the central principle of human rights - Liberty, Equality and Brotherhood - and the idea of beautiful and peaceful diversity throughout the people of the world.

2007 was declared as 'European Year of Equal Opportunities for All' and due to this slogan, drawn by the European Commission, activists all over Europe raised the issue of 'What means equality in a just society?'. UNITED experienced this year again that governments, politicians and society still exclude, deny and attack minorities when they promote 'equal rights' for themselves. Especially being a gay activist or being mixed up as one turned out to be quite dangerous in 2007.

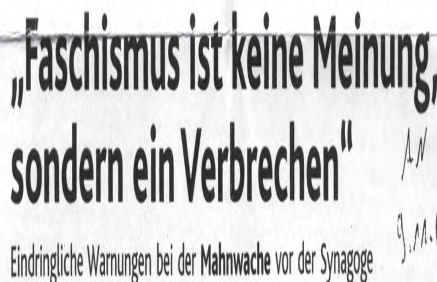
All Different - All Equal?

During 2006-2007 the European Commission and the European Youth Forum ran a campaign in the Council of Europe member states, entitled 'All Different - All Equal'. Even if this campaign couldn't top the great success of the 1995 'All Different - All Equal' campaign (according to the preliminary evaluation report), it had a huge European reach out and also strong reactions of civil society and politics. Although the campaign was based on the major topics Diversity, Human Rights and Participation, the UNITED network experienced a very selective tolerance throughout the European society, officials and even anti-discrimination NGOs.

- In Serbia several campaigners got badly beaten by a few attackers with shaved heads who mistook the diversity march on the opening day of the EXIT music festival as a gay parade. One expert, an Israeli citizen, was hospitalised for the evening.
- In July the Georgian based NGO The Union "Century 21" asked for urgent help to the Council of Europe and the Campaign Secretariat, because campaigners of the 'All Different - All Equal' came under aggressive attack by the mainstream media and were seriously endangered. Campaign logo and slogan had to be changed because the public in Georgia considered 'All Different - All Equal' as a gay parade and activists were threatened of violence if they show up on the streets.
- The Polish Ministry of Education changed the title from the campaign 'All Different-All Equal' to 'All Different All Solidary'. According to the Deputy Minister of Education, 'equality' can be associated with the recent 'Equality Marches' organised by the Polish gay community and other civic movements that the current Polish government constantly condemns.

Monitoring Election Campaigns

Throughout Europe several elections took place in 2007 - local, parliamentary and presidential ones - and right-wing parties were pretty 'innovative' in their election campaigns. Activists and organisations that are struggling the far right in Europe established new monitoring systems and 'counter campaigns'. Nevertheless there is a rising tendency towards right-wing parties all over Europe and especially symbols and pictures of election campaigns were considered as racist.



On 21st December 2007, Estonia, the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Hungary, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia became part of the Schengen area. The enlargement of the Oriental border of the Schengen territory is a clear expression of the ideal of freedom of circulation within Europe.

Unfortunately the freedom of circulation guaranteed to European citizens also clashes with the selective right to other nationalities of accessing Europe; this topic is still far from our politics agenda.

"My name is Javed from Afghanistan. I escaped from the bloodsheds, which have been tearing up my mother country. Though I want refugee's protection, I have been placed in a Special Home for Temporary Placement of Foreigners - the village of Busmantsi (BG). [...] The onerous conditions we are kept under are disgrace to the European Union, whose territory we are on. They are in conflict with the inscription that this is a home for placement of foreigners."

For many years now groups of active citizens in Germany have been trying to use the former places of deportation - train stations of the *Deutsche Bahn AG* - as locations for commemoration actions. The institutions that were responsible for the organisation and process of the deportations by the Nazis always showed resistance and ignorance against this approach, like the *Deutsche Bahn AG*, Europe's largest railway company, and the *Ministry of Transport in Berlin*. Nevertheless, the grass-root organisation "Train of Commemoration" together with groups all over Germany and with support of some trade union districts was able to struggle successfully for a nationwide commemoration train tour following the former deportation routes. It is a strong sign that civil society in Germany gives towards the government and former Nazi-collaborator institutions and businesses to show responsibility about past and not hush up with it.



A bad sign to the UNITED network came from *ver.di* - the largest trade union in Germany - when they decided to dismiss one of the most known trade unionist and anti-fascist activist, Angelo Lucifero. He has been doing significant anti-racist and anti-fascist work in Germany since 1991 and was blamed of using the union server for an anti-racist mailing list and also of using the union's copier and the franking machine too much. These ridiculous reasons question the background of his dismissal and the right-wing extremist *National Party Germany* (NPD) already announced to use the 'thaw' within German's biggest trade union to establish a basis for 'a change in Germany'.

Racist Murders

The UNITED secretariat received in 2007 several reports and calls for help due to severe racist and fascist street violence. Leading role in racist killings was again with Russia - even video takes from killings and executions were published through the World Wide Web and sent to the UNITED network. Antifascist-groups especially in CEE countries follow a very dangerous occupation and suffer a lack of basic organisational and financial support (e.g. computer-linked infrastructure, funds for basic prints). Since these activists really depend on sufficient solidarity through the pan-European antiracist network, UNITED emphasises on empowering NGOs in Russia within the ongoing project 'Network of Ethnic Organisations in Russia'.

	Injured	Murdered
Overall Russia	489	57
Moscow	180	34
St. Petersburg	92	5
Nizhny Novgorod	36	1

Statistics of racist & neo-nazi crimes in Russia, January-November 2007
source: SOVA Center for Information and Analysis

Romaphobia / Anti-Gypsyism

UNITED monitors already since years a growing anti-Gypsyism and severe physical attacks against Sinti and Roma communities all over Europe, but the peak of this iceberg in 2007 was doubtless the Italian legislator. The Italian government passed an emergency decree that allows the deportation of migrants from other EU countries, limiting procedural safeguards and even introducing administrative detention for European citizens if they are considered a threat to public safety. The Italian government issued the decree after the alleged murder of an Italian woman by a Romanian of Roma origin. Mr Frattini, Italian Commissioner for Justice and Civil Liberties declared: "What has to be done is simple. Go into a nomad camp in Rome for example, and ask them: 'Can you tell me where you live?' If they say they do not know, take them and send them home to Romania. This is how the European directive works. It is simple and safe. Romania cannot say they will not take them back, because it is an obligation that is part of being a member state of the EU".

The fight against racism, fascism, nationalism, stereotypes and discrimination in general is a hard one and also the generations after us will have to deal with these daemons of mankind. Education, awareness raising and confrontation are three main objectives to reach a behaviour-change and change of attitude in society. Therefore it is necessary continuing to go on the street to claim the rights every human being in this world is supposed to have.



UNITED FOR INTERCULTURAL ACTION

UNITED for Intercultural Action is the largest pan-European network of diverse non-governmental organisations across the continent, counting more than 560 partner-organisations in 46 European countries. Despite the fact that working-topics, political attitudes and organisational structures may be different in most of the cooperating organisations, they all are unified in the struggle against racism, nationalism, fascism and other forms of discrimination and in support of migrants and refugees.

Participants of a Council of Europe conference in Strasbourg founded the today's network in 1992. It was the year with the most violent and massive xenophobic riots taking place in Germany after the second World War - the idea of 'UNITED for Intercultural Action' simply came out from the need for a pan-European tool to strengthen and empower grass-root organisations and civil society against xenophobia, discrimination and racism. The basic working principle "United We Are Stronger" tributes to pan-European actions of the UNITED Network, gives them broad public visibility all over Europe and enables to act and react as one strong force.

The Network provides a forum for active solidarity and cooperation between member organisations and their activists - special emphasis is put on supporting cooperation between organisations from Western and Central and Eastern Europe. Open access to information and constant stimulation is therefore a key factor to make the anti-racism movement in Europe function. Therefore UNITED has developed networking-tools that serve the needs of the very diverse organisations and groups throughout Europe. The networking-tools enable a steady and smooth flow of information among all active groups in Europe and gives UNITED the possibility to act as 'spider' of the network, cross-linking grass-root organisations, nation-wide anti-racist networks, international and national human rights and youth organisations, antifascist groups, refugee and migrant support organisations, sport groups, institutes, expert sources, officials, lobby organisations, media, museums and cultural centres and many, many more.

'Not only reacting on actual or recent incidences, but also having knowledge about current situations and developments to set steps for the future' - shows another principle of UNITED and is the driving force behind constant commitment to visionary ideas and projects. The passion to develop and advance, to take risks in order to support innovative and free-spirited projects or local movements, is reflected in the marks UNITED left during the last 15 years.

The Spider's Net

Indeed it needs a lot of work and organisation to keep a network like the size of UNITED active and although the 'net' is huge and constantly extended the 'spider' weaving it, is small. Not more than 3 part time staff members and 4-7 (international) full-time volunteers work in the Amsterdam based secretariat and keep UNITED for Intercultural Action productive. The spider's net may seem to have it's epicentre in the Netherlands, but the strong cohesion between the 560 partner-organisations is based on mutual respect and the believe that everybody is equal - especially as part of a pan-European movement. Everybody who wants to contribute can join the European struggle against inequality - no hierarchic structures interfere the neural fibres connecting and advancing the work within the network.

The secretariat itself functions as network- and information-desk for the antiracist movement where all of the data and information is processed. Many activists, journalists, researchers, youth workers etc. call the secretariat and



ask for support, special information and advice. The intercultural young team working in the UNITED secretariat is responsible for the

- maintenance and development of UNITED's networking tools and information system
- stimulation and coordination of the annual pan-European campaigns,
- preparation and organisation of the annual international conferences,
- monitoring and documentation of the European anti-racist movement,
- planning and creation of publications and effective dissemination of this material
- processing of requests, publications and information of organisations and institutes all over Europe
- dissemination and explanation of UNITED principles, concepts, material and the importance of international networking during delegations and conferences

The international volunteers are working in the Amsterdam based secretariat due to a partnership with Austrian Service Abroad, a vocational training program of Ca'Foscari University of Venice (Leonardo da Vinci exchange) and a cooperation with Action Reconciliation Service for Peace (European Voluntary Service).

"Hi Not sure whether you can help me. I am a youth information worker, working with young people aged between 11 and 25 years of age. I cover 32 youth centres and wonder if you could either send me a sample of your resources or whether I could have a few posters etc to display in the youth centres I cover please."
[Linsey, Youth Information Worker (GB)]

MoneyMoneyMoney

"The reason why we don't earn money for our work is because we 'sell' faith in humanity and no physical products..."
[M., Volunteer at UNITED]

"Money makes the world go around" - it's a terrible truth and especially valid for non-profit organisations. Last year UNITED already reported about its financial problems and the close shave in 2005 where we simply didn't know if we would be able to carry on.

Still the abuse of coffee and tranquilisers from our accountant during the year 2007 was unexpected distinctive. Although we are very thankful about the financial support that comes from the network-organisations itself and individuals UNITED worries about necessary funds. Participation in UNITED activities is free of charge, support is given free of charge and of course the use of our material and tools is free of charge - all these things are directly connected with the work done in the UNITED secretariat and the very most of it is done by the volunteers (free of charge of course). While it is possible to find funds for projects, campaigns and conferences we still try to cover our administrative costs with ridiculous amounts in relation to the individual effort, outcome and human resources. Often we are not able to keep the high working standards we are skilled and trained for: simply because we can not afford the needed qualified experts and external help.

Nevertheless we will carry on unless the last of our staff members has to run around in filthy clothes and thirty pounds underweight.

"Hello! Thanks for all your work and information and material that we always get! We finally managed to also send you some financial support for that! I hope this will help."
[Gary, LIFE (L)]



COMMUNICATION HARDWARE

THE TOOLS OF THE UNITED NETWORK

All defined Networking-Tools below evolve and are constantly upgraded due to the long lasting experience of UNITED in its working field - the often proved and reliable tools are well established throughout Europe and enable professional networking on European level.

Database - The First Brick in the Wall

The internal UNITED database maintains details on over 8000 diverse contacts all over Europe and builds the basic fundament of the UNITED network and its tools. Since the database is also one of the essential tools in the secretariat's daily work it is constantly reviewed, updated and expanded.

"I didn't realize the database had so many Amsterdam-based organisations. It was very valuable for my search. Thanks again for your help!" [Nicole, active citizen (CAN)]

Archive - Preserve the Past and Build the Future

The archive forms the backbone of the UNITED information service. With documentation on more than 3000 organisations, UNITED holds the biggest and most up to date databank of material in its working field. Journalists and organisations both inside and outside the network use archived material provided by the UNITED secretariat. Since 1998 UNITED has cooperated with the International Institute of Social History (IISH) of the University of Amsterdam with the aim to preserve the archive in a responsible way. The archive is handed over to the IISU for further research and safekeeping - already more than 50 m archived material from UNITED is preserved by the IISH.

"Youth Action for Peace is about to finalise and to publish on-line a booklet on exercises and best practices for inclusion of young refugees [...]. The booklet considers the official documents and various resources ordered from your organisation. We are writing this mail to acknowledge you our intention to quote your organisation as a source of material. Thank you for your kind attention."
[Tommaso, Youth Action for Peace (B)]

Mailing-System - Reaching Out to the Movement

Own publications are distributed all over Europe via a direct mailing-system to more than 2400 grass-root organisations, journalists, media, ministers and members of European parliament. Mailings are sent out between four and five times a year. The other way around UNITED receives printed information and publications from over 3000 organisations active in the field. All the received material gets processed, documented and archived by the secretariat in Amsterdam. UNITED makes extensive use of the Internet and email communication and reaches out to more than 8000 up-to-date contacts (e.g. for disseminating e-news including important information, alerts to enable to protest against unjust deportations of refugees, calls for participation in UNITED campaigns and conferences etc.).



Mailings and E-mailings conducted in 2007

Mailings via Post	4 times to over 2400 contacts
E-news	43 times to over 8000 contacts

"Hi there, would you be so nice and add me to your mailing list? It would be really great. I heard that this mailing list provides the best background information and analysis about current events and developments in right-winged groups/scenes and networks. If that is true, it would help us here to gain more understanding of how local neonazi movements can be analysed and fought in the context of others. Thank you very much."

[Sören, Demokratisches Jugendforum Brandenburg (D)]

Publications - Hitting the Streets through Slogans and Education

UNITED has a vast collection of already over 300 publications. These publications are developed within the co-operating network organisations and designed, produced and disseminated by the UNITED secretariat. In general you can distinct three different kinds of publications:

Information and Thematic Leaflets

Up to now 31 information and thematic leaflets have been produced about various topics and concepts used in anti-discrimination work:

- definition leaflets like *'The Danger of Words'*
- conceptual leaflets like *'How to Understand and Confront Hate Speech'*
- statistical leaflets like *'Death by Policy: The Fatal Realities of "Fortress Europe"'*
- documentation leaflets like *'History Interpretation as a Cause of Conflicts in Europe'*
- basics in anti-discrimination work like *'Get Active - How to Organise an Activity?'*

The leaflets are regularly updated and reprinted and several of them have been translated and reprinted in different languages as Russian, German, Czech, French, Spanish, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Romanian, Serbian, Azeri, Slovakian and Swedish.

New developed, produced and disseminated in 2007:

- *How to Understand and Confront Holocaust Denial*
- *How to Understand and Confront Hate Speech*
- *Act Against Intolerance*

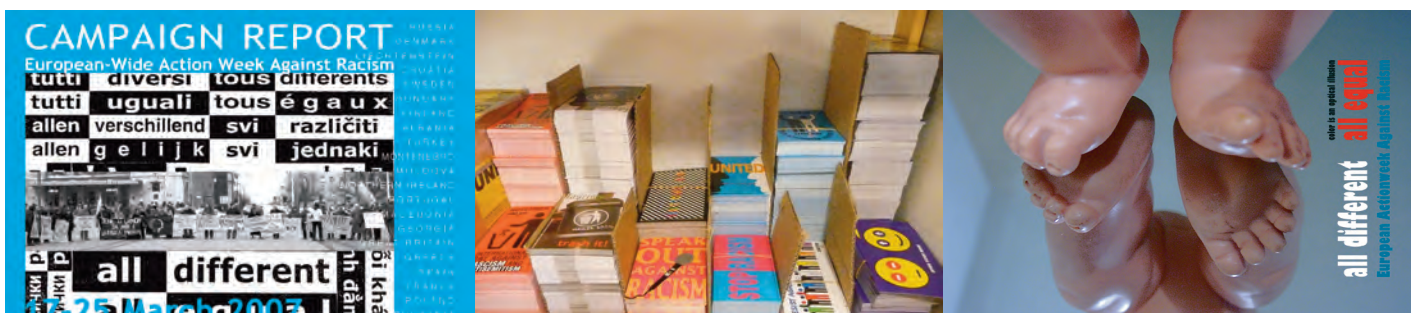
The new developed leaflets in 2007 were translated into Czech, German, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Spanish and Slovakian.

Updated and newly disseminated in 2007:

- *History Interpretation as a Cause of Conflict in Europe*
- *Anti-discrimination Work: The Basics*
- *The Danger of Words*
- *Resistance Against Intolerance*
- *The Deadly Consequences of Fortress Europe*
- *Tackling Social Exclusion Through Creative Activities*
- *Get Active - How to organise an Activity*

"Dear colleagues. I was working on my book on history education and peace building and found your thematic leaflet 'History Interpretation as a Cause of Conflicts in Europe'. You've done a great job!"

[Karina Korostelina, Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (USA)]



Campaign Material

For each UNITED campaign the secretariat prepares and spreads special campaign material like newspaper-posters, stickers, postcards, logos and slogans according to the topic of each campaign. The visual materials are developed and produced by UNITED and every year the secretariat gives its best to create new publications. The supply of grass-root organisations with professional campaign material for free ensures a broad visibility throughout the continent and stronger local impact and media coverage. Since 2006 UNITED not only provides campaign material in English, but also in Russian language.

New developed and produced campaign material in the year 2007:

- *Act Against Intolerance* (newspaper-poster)
for International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism 2007
- *Coulour Your Picture* (newspaper-poster)
for European-wide Action Week Against Racism 2008

Reports

The UNITED campaign reports give background knowledge on the development of racism and fascism in our society and an overview of activities conducted by NGO's all over Europe as well information on the impact in each country. The campaign report also aims to inspire new organisations in joining UNITED campaigns by showing good practices throughout Europe and helps NGOs in reporting to their sponsors, lobby at local and national level and provide new ideas for future activities.

Conference reports provide the structured results of lectures, presentations, discussions and thematic contents analysed during international UNITED network conferences. The conference report reflects what has been going on within the network in recent time and what are the current trends according the anti-racism movement in Europe.

Reports produced in the year 2007:

Campaign Reports

- International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism 2006 '*Stop Fascism!*'
- European-wide Action Week Against Racism 2007 '*All Different - All Equal*'

Conference Reports

- UNITED Against Intolerance - Civil Society against Discrimination (Madrid, Spain)
- 'Break our Limits' through Intercultural Youth Action (Baku, Azerbaijan)

All the materials published by UNITED are free of copyrights, although when copied the source or the information needs to be mentioned. All UNITED publications can be found and downloaded from the UNITED webpage (www.unitedagainstracism.org).

"I am working for a French publisher called Hachette. I am doing an English text book for French children aged 10. In this book, we have a lesson about racism and every kind of discrimination. In this lesson, I would very much like to reproduce the enclosed postcard I found on your website, as it is interesting to analyze with the children. It could also be an occasion for them to learn more about organisations like yours."

[Marie, Hachette Livre (F)]

Address Book Against Racism - The Yellow Pages of the Anti-discrimination Movement

The European Address Book Against Racism is one of the best-known and most widely used reference books in the anti-discrimination movement throughout Europe. It provides detailed contact data and information about active groups and NGOs in Europe and their operative fields. Thanks to the Address Book organisations have an elementary instrument to get in touch with each other to exchange information and/or initiate collaborations. The



updated printed edition in 2007 contains the addresses of about 2300 organisations and magazines active in the field and 140 funding institutions.

The Address Book is an invaluable networking-tool with several tens of thousands copies in total circulating throughout Europe due to the fact that groups produce duplicates for their affiliates. Also here UNITED follows its 'open access to information' policy - there is no copyright on any publication produced - only sources have to be mentioned if individuals or groups republish our material.

In addition to the printed Address Book there is also a searchable online version on the UNITED website. The website version of the Address Book includes extra searchable categories and also more detailed information on about 4000 groups, NGO's, funding institutions, media, etc.

Calendar of Internationalism - Road Map of Human Dignity

The Calendar of Internationalism is an ongoing project of the UNITED Network and constantly overseen by volunteers in the UNITED secretariat. The Calendar acts as public source and information tool about events, seminars, training courses, conferences, demonstrations, exhibitions, festivals, campaigns and any other action linked with the working fields of UNITED. It is a promotion tool for active groups and organisations in Europe, but also an international action agenda for active citizens and activists in Europe.

This project was implemented in 1992 and proved to be an excellent reference guide to good practices and co-operations within the European anti-racist movement. As the information 'comes' from the movement to serve the movement, it documents the ongoing struggle for equality and reflects the themes and dimension of the anti-discrimination work in Europe.

Beside the weekly-updated online version of the Calendar, UNITED published 4 printed editions in the last year (each containing about 140-160 announcements). With every printed edition of the Calendar of Internationalism UNITED also describes a 'Good Practice' case selected from previous activities that took place within the anti-racist movement in Europe. This short documentation of one special activity aims to show innovative and also unconventional ideas of giving resistance to intolerance and inequality. Beside of the pure information about: What? Why? Where? How? a good practice always targets active citizens to motivate them to start acting themselves.

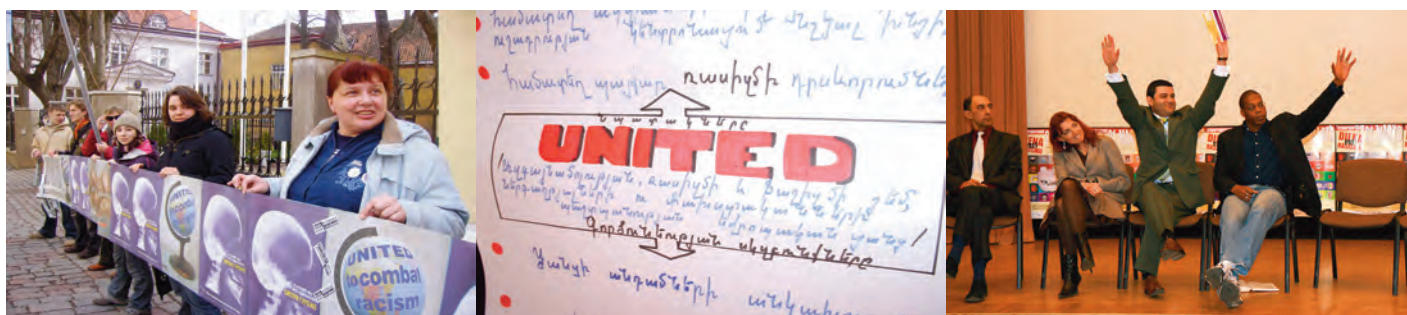
Within the Calendar you always can find special listings (List of Activities) of events taking place in UNITED's three annual campaigns:

- European-wide Action Week Against Racism (around 21 March)
- International Refugee Day (around 20 June)
- International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism (around 09 November)

CyberResistance - Globalise the Movement

The easier and accessible way to use the UNITED networking-tools, to have a look at all the publications and gain information about all UNITED activities and projects is the web site of UNITED (www.unitedagainstracism.org). The web page provides public access to the Address Book Against Racism and to the Calendar of Internationalism, it holds detailed information on campaigns, projects and conferences and the possibility to download all the UNITED publications. The secretariat in Amsterdam is responsible for maintenance, advancing and up-dating of the website.

*"Thank you so much for creating and maintaining a website to stop racism."
[Dorothy, London & Middlesex Housing Corporation (GB)]*



UNITY THROUGH ACTION! ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AND RESISTANCE

The campaigns UNITED for Intercultural Action organises are based on the principle of “think globally and act locally”. Organisations arrange activities on local level within an intercultural and international framework. The UNITED secretariat coordinates the different simultaneous activities all over Europe on a common date and provides organisations with campaigning-tools (like posters, thematic leaflets, PR-material, background information on the campaigns, etc.).

UNITED's long lasting experience in organising campaigns at European scale and the often proven and reliable network-tools ensure professional campaigning on European level. The well-established information system guarantees a smooth flow of information and exchange of knowledge and good practices throughout the participating NGOs. The diverse activities, taking place within the annual UNITED campaigns, are carried out by youth NGOs in all Council of Europe member states. Different contents and core topics are individually applied due to the local, national and international situations.

The strength of coordinating many actions on a common date is, that you can draw European-wide attention on one special theme. Media and general public is more likely to be interested in the raised issues and also in taking part itself. Another advantage of the UNITED campaigns is the ‘good practice’ effect. European-wide campaigns connect a lot of organisations in different countries and through the conducted events they share experiences, ideas and good practice and empower each other in their actions.

“Dear Paola, woooooooooow!!!!!! THANK YOU! I’m really looking forward to receiving the material you are going to send me! We are very happy and thankful for your support! It sounds like a great idea to do something on November 9 - I also thought about it. But yet I had no good idea what we could do. [...] But my friends and I surely find something! Maybe you have a good idea for us? Maybe we could also demonstrate or set up another information-stand on this day. Thank you again and have a nice weekend.” [Sarah, active citizens (D)]

European-wide Action Week Against Racism - ‘All Different - All Equal’

On 21 March 1960 police opened machine-gun fire on a peaceful anti-apartheid demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa: 69 demonstrators were killed and nearly 200 injured. This event storied as the ‘Sharpeville Massacre’.

In reaction to this massacre and to protest against the legitimisation of racism and white superiority in the South African regime (1948-1994), the United Nations declared 21 March the ‘*International Day for the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination*’.

In 1992 UNITED initiated the first *European-wide Action Week Against Racism* and coordinates it since then every year with growing numbers of participating NGOs. The Action Week has become the broadest annual anti-racism campaign in Europe, inviting people to get active to promote the values of equality, respect and diversity.

In 2007 the *European-wide Action Week Against Racism* celebrated its 15th anniversary. All over Europe - from Athens to Lisbon, from Reykjavik to Baku - 44 countries and estimated 1,500,000 activists and participants got involved and experienced intercultural dialogue through participation. Under the common slogan ‘All Different -



All Equal' the campaign showed that we are all named to stand for equal rights and combat the discrimination of minorities.

Europe witnessed in 2007 a growing number of racist incidences and racist ideologies. Hate speeches were spread via the Internet, and through music, but also (governmental) parties and individuals like 'scientists' and politicians played their parts in it. Therefore every year UNITED calls grass-root organisations, youth groups, activists, students and individuals to join the resistance against hate and intolerance and unfortunately every year we get reminded how endangered human rights are in our so-called democratic countries: In Belarus young activists got arrested while organising one of the events planned in the framework of the Action Week Against Racism.

Nevertheless such incidences may not stop the movement and we can describe lots of positive examples that animated and coloured this pan-European campaign. For instance:

- *The Finnish Red Cross* organised under the title 'Make an Environmental Act - Trash your Prejudices!' an exciting action on the streets of several Finnish cities. Young Activists dressed up in bin men's clothes collected and trashed people's prejudices, asking them to write down their stereotypes on a white paper sheet. All these 'mental dirt' was collected in trash bins and - like with every hazardous waste - properly decontaminated.
- Under the slogan 'Equality!' the NGOs *Women in Black* and *The Queeria Center* organised a huge manifestation on Belgrade's Republic Square to raise attention on Serbia's problems concerning racial and ethnical intolerance.
- In Belgium active citizens organised a mass wedding in the frame of the Action Week. More than 650 couples got united in the bond of matrimony in protest to the approach of three couples that refused to get married by a municipal official belonging to an ethnic minority.

The produced campaign material to the *2007 Action Week Against Racism*, the complete listing of all actions and participating groups as the complete campaign report can be found and downloaded on the UNITED webpage.

"Dear friends. 2 years after our first cooperation we would like to join efforts with you again to work towards the campaign all different- all equal and the week against racism. Please receive also our requests for the great material u produced. Hope in a great cooperation."

[Yannis, National Council of Hellenic Youth Organisations (GR)]

International Refugee Day - Nobody is Illegal!

UNITED is committed with the coordination of the *International Refugee Day* since 2001, the year of its declaration by a United Nation's General Assembly Resolution.

This day aims to accomplish NGOs all over Europe to stand for the rights of all the people that enter in our countries to find a safe place from persecutions and torture.

All over Europe NGOs organise activities such as street actions, meetings and conferences to work on refugee and migration issues and express their solidarity to all the refugee and asylum seekers in Europe.

Since 2007 UNITED is a member of a thematic working group that was established in the framework of the *International Refugee Day* campaign. Topic of this working group is the monitoring of institutes that operates on the issue of welcome and integration of migrants. The working group is composed by:

- COTAARM - Afro-Asian Community of Moldova (MD)
- ARIC - Antirassistisch-Interkulturelles Informations Zentrum Berlin (D)
- ARI - Association Rieti Immigrants (I)
- PPU - Counseling Centre for Refugees (CZ)



- KISA - Action for Equality-Support and Antiracism (CY)
- MRBB - Migration Council in Berlin and Brandenburg (D)
- TMG - The Monitoring Group (GB)
- SAMAH - St. Alleenstaande Minderjarige Asielzoekers Humanitas (NL)

The idea of this group evolved during of the UNITED conference in Rieti (I) and it started its monitoring work in 2006 with the aim of analyse immigration policies and detention procedures in different European countries.

The representatives of the group took part in the event 'Youngster in Alien Detention', organised by SAMAH in the city of Amsterdam. The event focused on sharing knowledge and experiences on detention of migrants and the group visited detention centres for migrants in Amsterdam Oost and the office of the *Dutch Refugee Council*. The working group activities aim to implement a report that will present strengths and weaknesses of local immigration policies in Europe.

"Congratulation for the good work you are doing! Posters have powerful messages and a beautiful design. Best regards!" [Eduardo, Saúde em Português (P)]

Fatal Realities of Fortress Europe - 'Killing in the Name of...'

"The List plays a very important part in the exhibition on old and new forms of apartheid and racial discrimination, and it provokes a very deep impact on all visitors."

[Pep, Director of Centre for Contemporary Culture of Barcelona (E)]

'The Fatal Realities of Fortress Europe' is an ongoing campaign that has been investigating the results of building a Fortress Europe since 1993.

This campaign has been monitoring the deadly results of European immigration policies counting already more than 9.000 fatalities. The victims who are driven by economical, humanitarian or social reasons are pushed to climb over the 'invisible' walls of Fortress Europe and die trying.

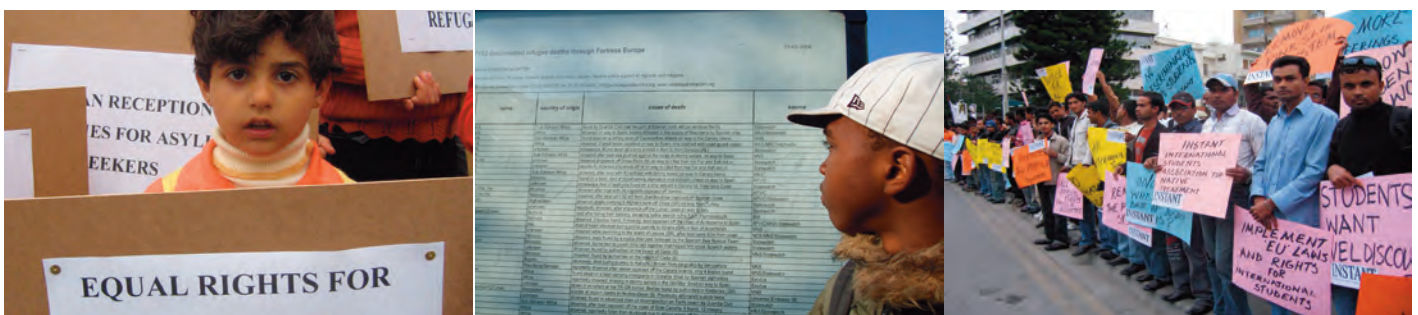
We can see the result of this political direction making up by border militarization, criminalisation of migration, detention, mass deportation to non-safe countries, discriminatory and time-consuming asylum procedures, police raids. But the most visible aspect of this policy is shown day by day in journals and governmental or non-governmental reports and it is composed by information about

- dead bodies hitching on fisherman's nets, or surfacing on the Spanish or Greece shores
- stowaways found in the back of a lorry
- asylum seekers who killed themselves consequential due to stress and depression due to the long time waiting for the asylum claim decision
- mysterious death-cases during police and detention custody

The List of Death compiled by UNITED is a testimony for all the victims and a mighty tool to raise awareness against unjust immigration policies. The strong message of this document became more powerful during 2007 thanks to the cooperation with different artists.

In March 2007 the artist Banu Cennetoglu implemented the exhibition 'The List' (www.the-list.info). From 14 till 28 March the UNITED *List of Death* was displayed throughout the city of Amsterdam instead of advertisement posters in 110 billboards and at bus stops.

Banu Cennetoglu chose the UNITED List because it shows with a simple layout a dramatic testimony. Due to the basic idea behind the UNITED *List of Death* the artist Banu took 'small news' and made them 'big' according to



confront a general audience with such a crucial and dramatic text in an unexpected space. An open discussion and film screening followed this project, where the campaign coordinator from UNITED presented the network. During this project UNITED implemented the idea of a new action - 'give the campaign a human face' - with the aim to represent the victims of European immigration policies as individuals with a name, a personal history, families and hopes. New posters were published in the UNITED website with some of the most relevant articles and pictures that were collected in the archive of the List of Death.

After the exhibition 'The List', the UNITED List of Death acquired higher consideration: journalists called the secretariat to interview the volunteers and got into touch with our work by asking background information on migration policies. As a result of this new visibility, the secretariat casually acknowledged that the UNITED *List of Death* was also displayed as art document at the conclusion of the exhibition 'Apartheid', organised by the Centre for Contemporary Art in Barcelona (www.cccb.org).

The exhibition was a conceptual and visual approach to old and new forms of prejudicial and racial discrimination. The last part of the exhibition showed new forms of racial discrimination that the South of the world is facing. The exhibition terminated with the display of the UNITED document, described as 'powerful conclusion to a monumental exhibition' by one of the participants.

"Dear paula. how are you? I wanted to give you some very good news... one of the biggest national newspaper of Greece, TA NEA published The List, the whole List in the newspaper as a supplement... I was invited for Athens Biennale and I proposed the list, we managed to convince the newspaper it's great that they accepted, full 16 pages... soon I'll send you the pdf also some copies from the newspaper as soon as they send to me. Thanks and all the best!" [Banu, activist (TR)]

International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism - Act Against Intolerance!

A spectre is re-emerging in Europe, the spectre of hate, of violence, of cruelty. It is spreading in our society and it is showing its face under the names of nationalism, right-wing extremism, neo-nazism or antisemitism. It is manifesting itself in violent actions against minorities: Homosexuals, Gypsies, Jews, Coloured people - they all are target groups and victims of this hate.

The International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism is the Europe-wide UNITED campaign that aims to create a strong voice against this violence. November 9 is the symbolic beginning of the Holocaust. At that date in 1938 the Nazis unleashed the 'Kristallnacht' pogrom against Jews: Synagogues were set on fire, Jews faced brutal violence on the streets and Jewish shops were ransacked and devastated during the so-called 'Night of Broken Glasses'. It was just the very beginning of the darkest European hour.

To the occasion of the *International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism* UNITED unifies organisations all over Europe under one slogan to commemorate the Holocaust and take a stand against present right-wing extremism. In 2007 NGOs became active under the slogan 'Act Against Intolerance'. The UNITED secretariat motivated and encouraged organisations in 42 countries to participate in the campaign.

Education about new forms of hate and of their provenance implemented in informal activities is the best tool to raise awareness among the young generation. Nevertheless it is impossible to understand the real danger of the new forms of intolerance, without the knowledge about what hatred and extremism already were able to create in the past. According to the 2004 European Crime and Safety Survey of *Fundamental Rights Agency* (FRA), 9 million people have become victims of hate crimes in the European Union.

UNITED collected examples of good practices that were implemented during the *International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism* - a very interesting example is the 'Music Against Racism' concert organised by the Never



Again Association in Poland, where different music bands took a stand against intolerance. Demonstrations were organised in Cyprus, Belgium and Slovakia; thematic working groups were implemented in Romania, Italy and Great Britain. From different parts of Europe a strong reaction stood up against intolerance.

"Thank you for sending the materials. [...] I hope we receive the materials for campaigning on the International Day Against Fascism and Antisemitism. We are very grateful for strengthening our cooperation in human rights and peace with your organisation. Again thank you very much."

[Gibril, Mahatma Gandhi Human Rights Organisation (H)]



TEMPORARY AUTONOMOUS ZONES

INTERNATIONAL UNITED NETWORK CONFERENCES

TURN ON - TUNE IN - DROP OUT

Every year UNITED organises international network conferences bringing together around 80-90 NGO's from up to 40 countries each time. To ensure that different interests and viewpoints are taken into account and the diversity within the UNITED network is represented, each conference is prepared by a rotating International Preparatory Group (IPG) consisting of committed activists from different regions of Europe. A conference theme is chosen from the needs of the network thanks to a communication that goes on constantly. Also the hosting country of the conference is rotating depending on the needs of the network.

UNITED has an open invitation policy for its network conferences and every individual belonging to a NGO or active informal group within Europe can apply. The selection of participants is made according to the participants' profile set by the IPG. Care is given to a gender and geographical balance as well as to the ratio of minorities.

These network conferences work on the basis of intercultural learning. Organisations and activists are taking part in activities in ever-changing roles - it's not like in school that only one person is teaching and the others have to listen. Young activists gain experience from an educator-perspective as for example in leading a working group as facilitator - on UNITED conferences you will not find 'ordinary' participants. This concept has been developed in close co-operation with the youth directorate of the Council of Europe.

Education takes the form of cognitive learning, emotional learning and behavioural learning. UNITED conferences use all three methods. Emotional learning is stimulated through working with people in a safe environment. Cognitive learning is stimulated by presentations and lectures as well as plentiful written material to take home and study later. Behavioural learning is taking place in the practical 'working groups' as well as the 'planning/campaigning working groups'. Conferences are often roughly summarised as 'information - training - campaigning'.

The UNITED secretariat organises conferences as part of the network's overall work and conferences are seen as catalyst part of a longer process. The conferences have many links to the other work in the network, such as the campaigns and the publications. There is an interaction between the information exchange through the mailings and the conferences; there is an interaction between the conferences and the campaigns that are coordinated on a European level, etc.

UNITED Against Intolerance - Civil Society against Discrimination

Participating to a UNITED conference is a unique experience that hardly will be forgotten.

Through conferences UNITED creates special settings where people have the possibility to meet new and old friends to get new information on hot topics such as development of intolerance in all European countries and to create new strategies to stand against it.

The international network conference in Madrid (E), 10-15 April 2007, was the first UNITED conference organised within a major capital - usually conferences are organised far from the noise of big cities and from its distractions. The conference under the title '*UNITED Against Intolerance*' was organised in partnership with *Movement Against Intolerance* (E) and within the framework of the project '*Civil Society Against Intolerance*'. In total 82 activists



from 33 European countries were brought together. The International Preparatory Group (IPG) consisted of 9 experienced activists from

- Azerbaijan - *Youth League for Intercultural Cooperation*
- Belgium - *Mount Cameroon Vereniging*
- Germany - *Kulturbüro Sachsen - Mobiles Beratungsteam*
- Italy - *Nero e non Solo!*
- Romania - *Miscarea Tinerilor Pentru Pace Ass. MTP - Oradea*
- Spain - *Mov. Contra la Intolerancia*, and *COLEGAS - Spanish Fed of Lesbians, Gays, Bi- & Transsexuals*
- Slovakia - *People Against Racism - Ludia Proti Rasizmu*

Discussions were raised around the topics of extreme manifestation of intolerance and how fascism and racist behaviours are growing through media such as music and Internet.

More than the pure review on problems the conference committed all the participants in the research of solutions, development of new actions and discussion on successful practices.

Discussions were constantly stimulated within plenary sessions and thematic working groups; but participants could enjoy the social side of the conference as well with intercultural evenings and political cafés.

The following topics were highlighted during the conference:

Intolerance in Spain		Hate Crimes		The Far Right-Wing	
L/P	Situation of Intolerance in Spain Movement Against Intolerance (E)	L/P	Hate Speech through Internet, Music, Media and Discourse Argumente und Kultur (D) People Against Racism (PL)	L/P	Youth Fighting Fascism and Rightwing Extremism in Russia Youth Human Rights Move-ment (RUS)
L/P	Civil Society against Racism and Intolerance Accion para la Concordia en Oriente (E) Association Solidaria Para la Integracion del Immigrante (E) COLEGAS - Spanish Federation of LGBT (E)	L/P	Civil Society Combating Hate Crimes Office for Democratic Institutions & Human Rights - ODIHR (PL)	WG	Campaigning Against Fascism and Racism
L/P	Latin American Migrants in Spain Aculco (E)	L/P	White Power Music Searchlight (GB)	WG	Watch Out! Right Wing Takes Over
		WG	Now and Here! Analysing and Preventing Hate Crimes		

L/P - Lecture, Presentation & Discussion

WG - Working Group & Campaign Working Group

PC - Political Café



Diversity in Europe		Racism		Refugees, Migrants and Asylum Seekers	
L/P	Fighting Homophobia in Poland Campaign Against Homophobia (PL)	PC	Anti-Black Racism & Aphrophia	WG	Get Involved! Policies for Migrants and Refugees
L/P	All Different, All Equal - European Youth Campaign Council of Europe (F)	WG	Fighting Fear! Antisemitism and Islamophobia	WG	Campaigning in Support of Refugees
WG	Using Media for Campaigning	WG	Sports Against Intolerance	L/P - Lecture, Presentation & Discussion WG - Working Group & Campaign Working Group PC - Political Café	
WG	Open Up! Perspectives on Diversity	WG	Campaigning Against Racism		

"Thank you for your work and your effort! Thank you for the motivation I gained from my times with 'UNITED people'. Thank you for the positive energy to move some things. For me, the last two and a half years have been marked and influenced through the persons who I met at the conferences. Thank you for opening doors and thank you for making this possible!"
 [Yvonne, ARIC (D)]

Break Our Limits Through Intercultural Youth Action

The second UNITED network conference in the year 2007 took place under the title 'Break Our Limits Through Intercultural Youth Action', 23-28.10.2007 in Baku (AZ). Azerbaijan is a very young democracy located on the crossroads of Eastern Europe and Western Asia. It was the first time UNITED put up its tents so far east and therefore very exciting, but also challenging for the International Preparatory Group (IPG). The IPG consisted of 9 experienced activists from

- Azerbaijan - Youth League for Intercultural Cooperation, and Yuva Humanitarian Center
- Bosnia-Herzegovina - Initiative for Development and Cooperation
- Cyprus - Youth Board of Cyprus
- Great Britain - Minority Rights Group International
- Greece - Anti-nazi Initiative
- Romania - Miscarea Tinerilor Pentru Pace Ass. MTP - Oradea
- Russia - Civic Assistance Committee Refugees & Forced Migrants

Not only because of the Azeri history of occupants and the recent developments since 1991, but also because its specific location in the South Caucasus - bounded by Russia, Georgia, Armenia and Iran - made it very interesting and valuable for the UNITED Network to establish new contacts in this area and to experience a strong cooperation with local NGOs (NGOs were established in Azerbaijan only in the recent past).

UNITED for Intercultural Action in partnership with Youth League for Intercultural Cooperation (AZ) with the kind support of Ministry of Youth and Sport of Azerbaijan organised the first international conference of this scale in Azerbaijan. 77 activists from 33 European countries were brought together to focus and work in a five-day-lasting conference on the following topics:



The following topics were highlighted during the conference:

Gender Trouble - Homophobia, Sexism & Gender Discrimination		Intercultural Action, Youth Work and Active Participation	
L/P	Unequal Situation of Women in Azerbaijan Yuva Humanitarian Center (AZ)	L/P	Democratic Participation Minority Rights Group International - MRG (GB)
L/P	Selective Tolerance and Stereotypes Campaign Against Homophobia (PL)	L/P	The Invisibles Turkish Cypriot Human Rights Foundation (CY)
		WG	United Colors in Action... Diversity and Active Participation
		WG	Intercultural Action Post Conflict
		WG	Youth Campaign All Different, All Equal
		WG	Hitting the Headlines! Media Campaigning
		WG	Work it Out - Campaigning and Networking
		WG	Where is the Youth? - Campaigning with Young People

L/P - Lecture, Presentation and Discussion

WG - Working Group and Campaign Working Group

PC - Political Café

Right-Wing Extremism and Holocaust Denial		Anti-Semitism and Different Forms and Dimensions of Racism		Migrants, Refugees and Internally Displace People	
L/P	Right-wing Extremism in Russia Youth Human Rights Movement (RUS)	L/P	Romaphobia in Europe European Roma Grass-root Organisation (RO)	L/P	Hear the Voices - Refugee in Your Own Country Yuva Humanitarian Center (AZ)
L/P	Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial Antinazi Initiative (GR)	WG	E-Race it! Institutional Racism	WG	Stand Up for Your Rights! Refugees and IDP's
PC	Left-Wing Extremism	WG	Campaign Against Racism	WG	Inclusion, Make it Available!
WG	Over the Edge! Nationalism, Patriotism, Fascism and hate Speech			WG	Campaign in Support of Migrants, Refugees & Asylum Seekers
WG	Fascism: A Shadow from the Past, A Warning for the Future				



UNITED went to Baku to enhance intercultural exchange and to show and practice the important role that youth and civil society organisations play if it comes to active citizenship, the protection of minority rights (such as IDPs, refugees, migrants, LGBT, Roma, etc.) and education on anti-discrimination. Of course you can't apply same standards on local level, like in for example the Netherlands, which is a complete different society and also culture. Still the time in Baku was very successful for the UNITED movement as we were able to empower local activists, push limits and horizons and facilitate a high profile conference on the known standards of a international UNITED network conference.

"Hello. I miss you all very much! I hope I will see you again soon! I'm really impressed by the wonderful conference and by all the participants in it. I hope I have contributed to the conference. It was an unforgettable experience for me. I would like to express my gratitude to the chief of UNITED for Intercultural Action for the wonderful, useful conference in such a pleasant country like Azerbaijan. It will always remain in the memories of each one of the participants as an unforgettable experience."

[Elizabet, Gender Education Research & Technologies Found. (BG)]



UNITED PROJECTS

REFLECTING OBJECTIVES - BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE HAPPENS

Civil Society Against Right Wing Extremism

During the year UNITED implemented the project '*Civil Society Against Right Wing Extremism*'. This ambitious project was developed to strengthen the opposition against diffusion of right wing extremism all over Europe.

'*Civil Society Against Right Wing Extremism*' aims to work Europe-wide on a topic of high concern and sensitivity in all countries. Local and national governments, police and other security institutions are witnessing manifestations of extreme-right groups at all levels of society and have no successful counter-strategies or tools with social impact. Therefore it was vitally to create a space for antiracist adult education that reaches activists.

The UNITED secretariat takes the role of a technical supporter and coordinator of the information flow within a partnership of 7 local experts belonging to anti-discrimination NGOs:

- ARI - Associazione Rieti Immigrants (I)
- DUHA - Rainbow Association (CZ)
- MBT - Kulturbüro Sachsen - Mobiles Beratungsteam (D)
- MCI - Movimiento Contra la Intolerancia (E)
- MTP - Miscarea Tinerilor Pentru Pace Ass. - Oradea (RO)
- Never Again Association - Stowarzyszenie Nigdy Wiecej (PL)
- NPA - Norwegian People's Aid - Norsk Folkehjelp (N)
- LPR - People Against Racism - Ludia Proti Rasizmu (SK)

The role of the partners is to strengthen contents and products.

Educational support for the project is given by the Ca' Foscari University of Venice. The involvement of the University is guaranteed thanks to the presence of one of its representatives within the UNITED secretariat.

The educational tools produced during the project are made available and accessible throughout all over Europe thanks to the UNITED network system.

The implementation of the project was possible throughout the year thanks to the use of different educative tools, such as conference (the Madrid conference was organised in the frame of this project), workshops, campaign, spreading of good practices.

The success in the first year of the project can be considered by analysing the impact of the products all over Europe. During the year one poster-leaflet (with the slogan '*Act Against Intolerance*') and two thematic leaflets on the topic of '*Holocaust Denial*' and '*Hate Speech*' were produced and disseminated all over Europe.

To create a stronger message all these products were translated by the partners in the local languages. In this way the access to this educational tools is guaranteed to individuals who don't have proper English skills and the reach-out to more grass-roots organisations was possible.



"Dear Sir or Madam. At first let me thank you for working against racism and so making the world a better place! I have a question concerning your brochure about denying the holocaust. I would like to get that brochure - how can I get it and how expensive is it? Thank you very much!"
[Sarah, active citizens]

The Utilisation of the Network of Ethnic Associations for Opposing Xenophobia in Russia

Started in July 2006, a project called *'The Utilization of the Network of Ethnic Associations for Opposing Xenophobia in Russia'* has been carried out in 2007. The project is based on a partnership between UNITED for Intercultural Action and the CIC - Centre for Interethnic Cooperation in Moscow (RUS).

In 2007, in the framework of the project five trainings, two study-trips to the Netherlands and Germany and one conference have been organised. Representatives of ethnic NGO's from Russia have participated in UNITED conferences as well. More than 200 people from 25 regions of the Russian Federation (from Smolensk in the west to Irkutsk in the east and from Petrozavodsk in the north to Pyatigorsk in the south) were involved in these activities...

- ...representatives of different ethnic groups,
- (youth) NGOs' activists,
- journalists and representatives of the authorities,
- as well as experts from the UNITED network and volunteers from Europe.

Furthermore, the database of different ethnic-, youth- and human rights organisations from all over Russia has been created. It includes now more than 600 contact details from grass-root organisations, youth groups, NGOs and representatives from governmental organisations.

Reports about the events, as well as news about situation in Russia and in the world are to be found on the website of the CIC in Russian and in English, information materials are weekly sent to governmental and non-governmental organisations. Two times 19.000 posters about the European-wide campaigns and info leaflets in Russian language have been produced and disseminated to the contacts of UNITED, CIC and the *Youth Human Rights Movement* in Russia and distributed during the events in Russia and Europe.

During the realisation of the project an interregional network of ethnic communities of the Russian Federation has been created and developed. Ties between different NGOs within one region and between different regions of Russia have been established due to participating in the events of the NGOs' activists working in the same field in different regions. Trainings and conferences offered a very good share of experiences and good practices within the Russian Federation and on the international level: young activists of Russian ethnic and human rights organisations got acquainted with the positive experience of fighting racism and ethnic intolerance from European experts and during international UNITED conferences and two study trips. Participants of these events are using now gained knowledge in daily work within their organisations.

In this way, European experience has been spread all over Russia. In addition, participants of the events organised in the framework of the project improved their own skills, as the use of networking tools, the technologies of effective interaction for protecting ethnic minorities, as well as communication technologies like Internet (websites, email, etc) have been taught during the trainings. A precedent of successful interaction between a big amount of NGOs and the authorities, especially important for the Russian Federation, has been created - the project has opened doors for further cooperation. Local authorities started to pay more attention to the situation with interethnic relations in their regions and to the problems those representatives of ethnic minorities face. Society was informed about the project and about the situation with interethnic relations in Russia.



Thus, due to the project, the antiracism and human rights movement in Russia has been strengthened. Also after the end of the project, created network and gained knowledge will support the ethnic NGO's activists in Russia in their struggle against racism, discrimination and intolerance which is extremely important in the context of growth of xenophobic and racist moods in today's Russia.

Refugee Island Europe

During the UNITED conference in Switzerland (2006), one of the members of the UNITED secretariat was contacted from one of the activists of *Folkesagen - Worthy Life for Asylum Seekers* to moderate a workshop about 'Fortress Europe'.

The workshop took place in summer 2007 at a camping on Livø Island (DK). The island is a meeting point for Danish families that generation to generation spend their summer holidays far from the stress of every day life.

Thanks to the wholehearted *Folkesagen* volunteers, the camping opened to a group of 20 asylum seekers detained in a refugee centre in Denmark. The UNITED workshop was attended from the young activists of *Folkesagen* and some of the asylum seekers. It aimed to describe European Immigration Policy, migration's roots and the deadly results of these policies.

The workshop became a privilege meeting point for the young participants with such different backgrounds, building a bridge of communication between them. The discussion was enriched by the testimonies of the asylum seekers that described their stories, and the impact of Danish society on them.



COMMUNICATIONS IMPACT

Peers in the Hallways of the Movement

The UNITED network can boast of good links with the most important agencies and institution at European and international level.

UNITED has special consultative status with the *United Nations - Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)*. Excellent connections exist with both, *Council of Europe* and *European Commission*. Within the *Council of Europe*, UNITED has a consultative and participative status in *Advisory Council on Youth*. One representative of the UNITED Network is member of the Steering Committee that coordinated the European Youth Campaign 'All Different - All Equal'. Several times during the year the *Council of Europe* invites delegates of UNITED to take part in hearings and working meetings on issues such as migration, youth participation, youth policies, antiracism action plans.

During 2007 UNITED fruitful cooperated with the *OSCE - Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, based in Warsaw (PL): an OSCE representative participated in the conference in Madrid, and the OSCE meeting 'High Level Conference on Combating Discrimination and Promoting Mutual Respect' was organised to elaborate the themes of the UNITED conference in Madrid. Members of the network were invited to express their expertise during this meeting.

Several members of the European Parliaments are directly supporting the UNITED Network - organisations that are part of UNITED are often consulted by MEPs regarding anti-racism and antidiscrimination issues.

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), *European Forum for the Arts and Heritage (EFAH)* and *Fundamental Right Agency (FRA)* invites regularly representative of the UNITED network for strategic planning meetings together with a selected group of international NGOs.

The Cyprus Youth Board and the Service National Jeunesse Luxembourg regularly fund national participant to UNITED events.

UNITED Delegations - Lets disseminate our Voices

The growth of the UNITED network is guaranteed by its representation within international and local meetings, conferences and events all over Europe. Thanks to UNITED delegates the voice of the network is becoming more and more visible and accessible.

The mission of the delegate is to spread the message, and the voice of the network, its aims, results of the projects and of the campaigns. For this reason the 'delegation kit' comprehends all the material related to the topic of the meeting that UNITED produced, but also the 'book of contacts' in which all the new contacts that the delegates made during their delegation are filled in.



Thanks to our delegates UNITED was presented, and represented to the following meetings:

Date	Place	Conference / Meeting	Organiser
01-2007	Paris (F)	Racism and Xenophobia	Association Babel
03-2007	Brussels (B)	Second Meeting of the Platform for Intercultural Dialogue	European Forum for the Arts and Heritage (EFAH)
03-2007	Brussels (B)	Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Social and Economic Inclusion	European Network Against Racism (ENAR)
04-2007	Amsterdam (NL)	UNITED Campaigns	School in Sportlaan
04-2007	Olver (IS)	Strategic Planning Training	International Cultural Youth Exchange (ICYE)
05-2007	Rieti (I)	3 rd International Meeting about Refugees and Asylum Seekers	Anti-Racism Information Service (ARI)
05-2007	Loughborough (GB)	Mainstreaming Intercultural Learning in Youth Work	Charnwood Racial Equality Council
06-2007	Monopoli (I)	Mediterranean Cross-Roads of Cultures	All Different - All Equal
06-2007	Bucharest (RO)	High Level Conference on Combating Discrimination and Promoting Mutual Respect	OSCE- Tolerance and Anti-discrimination Section
06-2007	Halle (D)	Civil Society in Europe	Federal Agency for Civic Education, Saxony-Anhalt
06-2007	Berlin (D)	International Development Right Wing Extremism	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
06-2007	Amsterdam (NL)	Meeting on Refugees	St. Alleenstaande Minderjarige Asielzoekers Humanitas (SAMAH)
06-2007	Brussels (B)	ENAR European Coordinator Meeting	European Network Against Racism (ENAR)
07-2007	Piekary (PL)	Identity, Discrimination and Nationalism	Never Again
07-2007	Livø (DK)	Workshop on Fortress Europe	Socialistisk Folkeoplysningsforbund (SFOF)
09-2007	Hamburg (D)	Neuformierung der politischen Rechten in Europa	Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung
10-2007	Frankfurt (D)	21/3 Action Week Against Racism	Interkultureller Rat in Deutschland
10-2007	Paris (F)	ECRI's General Policy Recommendation no.11 on Combating Racism and Racial Discrimination in Policing	European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)
10-2007	Malmö (S)	Final Event European Youth Campaign for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation	All Different - All Equal
10-2007	Berlin (D)	Closing Conference of the European Youth Campaign "All Different - All Equal"	All Different - All Equal
10-2007	Brussels (B)	Training and Information Day on Funding for International NGYO	Youth Forum Jeunesse



10-2007	Edinburgh (GB)	European Citizenship	SALTO-YOUTH Cultural Diversity Resource Centre
10-2007	Lisbon (P)	European Round Table Conference	Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)
10-2007	Baku (AZ)	Youth for Alliance of Civilizations	Islamic Conference Youth Forum
11-2007	Budapest (H)	Intercultural Learning in European Youth Work	Council of Europe
12-2007	Lisbon (P)	Africa-Europe Youth Summit	Council of Europe
12-2007	Brussels (B)	Fundamental Rights Platform	Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)
12-2007	Tallin (EE)	'Side on Side' - Quality in Youth Work	Estonian Association of Youth Workers



THANKS TO...

First of all we want to give our very special **'Thank You!'** to all the committed activists and people, network-organisations and supporters of UNITED that keep the anti-discrimination movement and the fight for human rights alive.

Thanks to the members of the International Conference Preparatory Groups (IPG) for the enthusiasm and voluntary engagement to make both conferences in 2007 an extraordinary experience.

Thanks to the dedicated UNITED volunteers and delegates without them the UNITED Network would not be able to contribute to a more open-minded Europe.

We thank the hundreds of organisations all over Europe that spent great effort in organising activities during the UNITED campaigns.

UNITED is supported by...

more than more than 560 organisations from all European countries, many prominent individuals, private supporters and long-term volunteers from Aktion Sühnezeichen Friedensdienste, Austrian Service Abroad and Ca' Foscari University of Venice.

Since 1992 financial support was received from various sponsors such as: European Commission (General Budget/ Socrates/Grundtvig/Youth Programme/DG Employment Social Affairs/ TACIS), Council of Europe (European Youth Foundation/European Youth Centres), 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-Östliche Begegnung, Aktionsbündnis Gegen Gewalt, Rechtstextremismus und Fremdenfeindlichkeit Brandenburg, Home Office UK, Ministry of Interior-BZK NL, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs CH, Ministry Foreign Affairs-BUZA NL, Vuurwerk Internet, Instituto Português da Juventude, National Integration Office Sweden, Service Nationale de la Jeunesse Luxembourg, LNU-Norwegian Youth Council, Europees Platform Grundtvig, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Youth Board of Cyprus, 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, Swedish National Board of Youth Affairs, Final Frontiers Internet, Dijkman Offset and others.

UNITED for Intercultural Action

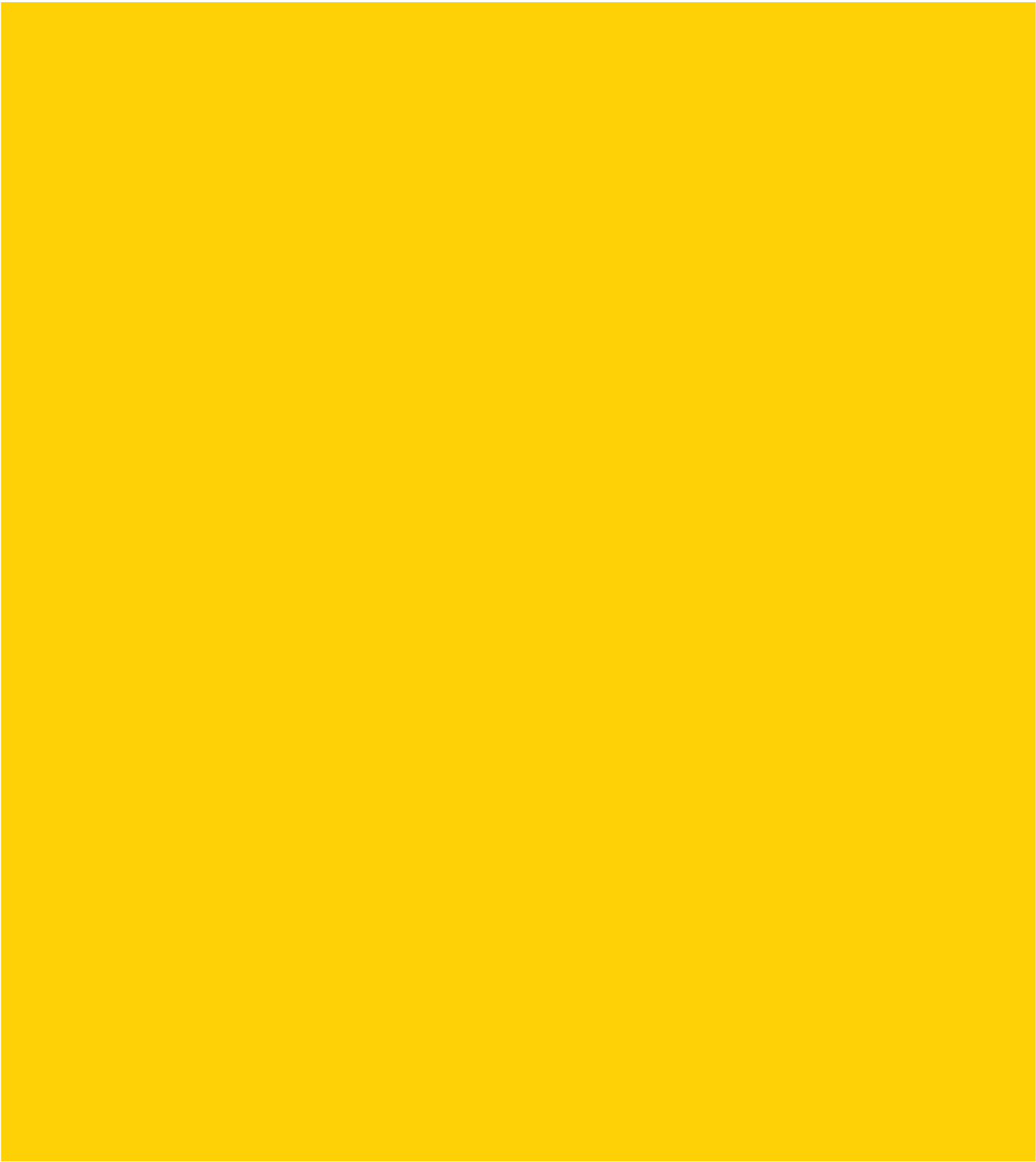
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