

The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe

Programme of Activities 2016-2017

General Presentation

PoA

2016-2017



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The Council of Europe

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It includes 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

The Council of Europe advocates freedom of expression and of the media, freedom of assembly, equality, and the protection of minorities. It has launched campaigns on issues such as child protection, online hate speech, and the rights of the Roma, Europe's largest minority. The Council of Europe helps member states fight corruption and terrorism and undertake necessary judicial reforms. Its group of constitutional experts, known as the Venice Commission, offers legal advice to countries throughout the world.

The Council of Europe promotes human rights through international conventions, such as the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and the Convention on Cybercrime. It monitors member states' progress in these areas and makes recommendations through independent expert monitoring bodies. All Council of Europe member states have abolished the death penalty.

The North-South Centre

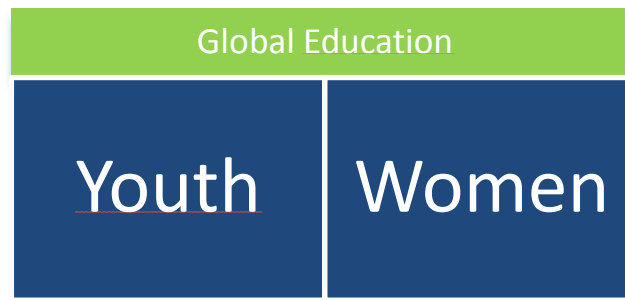
Created in November 1989, the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity (more commonly known as the "North-South Centre"), was set up in Lisbon in May 1990, as a follow-up to the European public campaign on North-South Interdependence and Solidarity launched in 1988 by the Council of Europe in co-operation with the European Community. The NSC is often described as a Council of Europe's window to the world, because its purpose is to spread the universal values upheld by the Council – human rights, democracy and the rule of law - beyond the European continent.

The North-South Centre (NSC) is an enlarged partial agreement of the Council of Europe. Its new statutory resolution was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 5 May 2011, confirming the NSC's relevance and importance, as well as refocusing its priorities: global education, intercultural dialogue and youth. The NSC has over 25 years recognised expertise in these fields.

The Centre has emerged reinforced and reinvigorated following a streamlining and refocusing of activities in recent years, as evidenced by the positive evaluation report on the NSC which was welcomed by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in September 2015. This positive trend is further endorsed by the recent accessions of Croatia and Bulgaria and imminent accessions of Romania and Tunisia to the enlarged partial agreement.

“The objective of the Centre is that civil society, in particular youth and women, is empowered through intercultural dialogue and global education to play an active role in member States and neighbouring regions.”

In 2016, the North-South Centre will have 17 Member States: Andorra, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Holy See, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia, and Spain.



The North-South Centre’s work is based on three principles: dialogue, partnership and solidarity.

DIALOGUE: this means a mutual learning process based on listening to others, sharing experience, knowledge and good practice - the approach that makes the North-South Centre a platform for discussion between North and South and between the partners in its quadrilogue. Conclusions and recommendations from conferences, debates and workshops organised by the Centre are used to promote core values, impact on national policies and facilitate processes of democratic consolidation in member states and neighbouring countries.

PARTNERSHIP: the North-South Centre brings together actors from different countries and walks of life to promote human rights, democracy and the rule of law through intercultural dialogue and education. Building networks together increases the impact of our work. The Centre has close working relations with the European Union and other international organisations such as the UN, the League of Arab States and the AU. An added value is that members of the Centre from neighbouring regions can meet and exchange with their European counterparts on an equal footing.

SOLIDARITY: “Globalisation has compressed space and time”¹ and the new challenge is living together while respecting our diversity. The North-South Centre works on the premise that globalisation based on principles of solidarity is important to ensure universal respect for the Council of Europe’s core values of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

¹ Council of Europe White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue (7 May 2008)

GLOBAL EDUCATION



The objective of the global education programme is transversal to the work of the North-South Centre but its primary aim is to promote dialogue, networking strategies, capacity building and exchange of good education practices in the field of global/development education. The strategic recommendations and Action Plan agreed at the 3rd European Congress on Global Education (Nov 2015) will serve as a basis to support policy-development and advocacy, capacity-building, and awareness-raising to further strengthen GE/GCED in Europe and neighbouring regions.

Policy development and advocacy dimension

Objectives:

- **Networking strategies promoting dialogue, cooperation and peer learning among neighbouring stakeholders facilitates policy-making and curriculum development to promote global / development education.**
- **Good education practices and methodologies are disseminated through NSC networks thereby equipping educators with relevant tools to increase commitment of students and young people to global interdependence.**

Activities:

- **Networks of regional coordinators, practitioners and stakeholders established for Balkan, Baltic, South-East Europe & Mediterranean, and Visegrad regions**
- **One Regional Seminar to promote Global / Development Education organised annually in each of the 4 regions: Balkan, Baltic, South-East Europe & Mediterranean, and Visegrad**
- **Dissemination of principles of global education through development of development of NSC online Resource and Centre and support for national strategies on global education**
- **Publication and dissemination of guidelines in preparation and development of national strategies on global education**

Outputs:

- **Networking strategies promoting dialogue, cooperation and peer learning among neighbouring stakeholders facilitates policy-making and curriculum development to promote global / development education.**
- **Stakeholders, educators, young people and youth multipliers gain competences and tools to promote and disseminate principles of global / development education to students and young people.**
- **Good education practices and methodologies are disseminated through NSC networks thereby equipping educators with relevant tools to increase commitment of students and young people to global interdependence.**

- Knowledge and understanding of global / development education issues among students, young people and the general public is improved through awareness-raising activities.

Capacity-building

Objective:

Stakeholders, educators, young people and youth multipliers gain competences and tools to promote and disseminate principles of global / development education to students and young people.

Activities:

- Residential training of trainers course on Global Education for educators, young people and youth multipliers in context of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship organised annually by NSC in Spain and Tunisia.
- 9 Global Education e-learning courses organised per year - 3 e-learning courses per topic: Human Rights Education, Intercultural Dialogue, and Democratic Citizenship.
- Global Education Guidelines revised and updated in English and French in line with conclusions of 3rd European Congress on Global Education and incorporating elements of Global Citizenship Education.

Outputs:

- Capacity-building residential training programmes equip educators, young people and youth multipliers with knowledge, skills and tools to promote principles and practices of global / development education.
- E-learning courses complement residential courses promoting capacity building in the human rights, citizenship and intercultural dimensions of global / development education

Awareness-raising

Objective:

Knowledge and understanding of global / development education issues among students, young people and the general public is improved through awareness-raising activities.

Activities:

- Annual meeting of Global Education Week Network Coordinators to plan and coordinate theme, events and activities for coming year's Global Education Week.
- Annual "Global Education Week" programme of activities organised throughout Europe and in neighbouring countries.
- GE Social Media Task Force meeting to promote principles of global citizenship among youth bloggers and social media activists.
- Awareness-raising workshop promoting principles of global citizenship among youth activists and bloggers.

- **International workshop “Education for an active global citizenship”, tbc November, WFD**
- **Quadrilogue workshop to raise awareness and promote understanding of global citizenship with regards to diaspora and migrant populations in Europe**

Outputs:

- Synergies and good practice shared at Global Education Week Network Seminars mobilising national coordinators and stakeholders in activities to raise awareness of global / development education.
- Coordinated “Global-Education Week” awareness-raising activities implemented by schools, youth organisations and local authorities on common global / development education theme serve as a vector for disseminating Global Education Guidelines.
- Students and youth activists develop awareness of and commitment to promoting respect for global / development education issues in engagement with the internet and social media
- Online campaign for the promotion of GDE values

YOUTH COOPERATION

The objective of the Youth Co-operation Programme of the Centre is to promote youth participation through training and capacity-building activities aimed at young people and youth organisations to facilitate their participation in decision and policy-making processes at all levels of governance.

This work is developed in close co-operation with youth organisations, the CoE Youth Department, the EU-CoE youth partnership and other relevant actors working in the youth field.

The main focus of the work of the Youth Cooperation Programme of the Centre is the **Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship** a series of residential week-long framework activities that accommodate training courses organised by youth-led and youth-serving organisations.

MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY ON YOUTH AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP, TUNISIA

The Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship (MedUni) is organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe in co-operation with different partners involved in Euro-Arab Youth Co-operation such as the League of Arab States, the Anna Lindh Foundation and the Observatoire Nationale de la Jeunesse (Tunisia).

It is the youngest University of the **Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship** and it was established as a space to increase capacities, develop synergies and promote the empowerment of young people and youth organisations supporting democratic transition and structured participation in Europe and the Southern Mediterranean.

Objective:

To support youth organisations and activists with a view to improving their capacity to become fully fledged actors of governance in Southern Mediterranean

Activities:

- **4th Edition of MedUni on Joint Theme of “Connecting Identities” , 2-8 May 2016, Tunisia**
- **3rd Training Course on Structured Participation in Democratic Processes in context of 4th MedUni, 2-8 May 2016, Tunisia**
- **5th Edition of MedUni: “tbc” , Spring 2017, Tunisia**
- **4th Training Course on Structured Participation in Democratic Processes in context of 5th MedUni, Spring 2017, Tunisia**

Outputs:

- Young people and youth organisations are equipped with principles, practices and tools on Structured Participation, to further develop the youth movement, quadrilogue initiatives and mechanisms in the youth field in the Southern Mediterranean region.

- Quadrilogue actors mobilised to engage and participate in panel discussions addressing target group tackling pertinent, topical themes related to Structured Participation, identifying together proposals for improved dialogue and interaction
- Young people and youth organisations develop joint actions and promote intra and inter-regional co-operation.

UNIVERSITY ON YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT, SPAIN

The University on Youth and Development has been organised annually since 2000 bringing together representatives of youth organisations and youth movements from all over the world who gather in CEULAJ (Euro-Latin-American Youth Centre) to discuss, train and be trained as well as to prepare political action related to pressing issues on the global agenda. The University is the oldest sister of the **Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship** (together with Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship, the African University on Youth and Development and the Latin American University on Citizenship and Participation) that have been facilitated by NSC.

Objectives

To promote youth work development and youth participation as well as political mainstreaming of the youth related issues and youth policy development in the Global North and South;

Activities:

- **17th Edition of UYD on Joint Theme of: “Connecting Identities” 18-25th September 2016, Mollina, Spain**
- **Diaspora training course to raise awareness and promote understanding of global citizenship with regards to diaspora and migrant populations in Europe, in context of 17th UYD, 18-25th September 2016, Mollina, Spain**
- **18th Edition of UYD, September 2017, Mollina, Spain**
- **Diaspora training course to raise awareness and promote understanding of global citizenship with regards to diaspora and migrant populations in Europe, in context of 18th UYD, September 2017, Mollina, Spain**

Outputs:

- Youth multipliers gain competences and tools to promote and disseminate principles of GE/GDE among young people;
- Good education practices and methodologies in the non-formal education sector are disseminated equipping young trainers with tools to increase commitment of young people towards global interdependence
- Knowledge and understanding of GE/GDE issues among young people and youth workers is increased through awareness-raising activities.
- To foster youth co-operation and Global Youth Work; and to promote human rights, intercultural dialogue and democratic citizenship as essential dimensions of global education.

- Cooperation and networking among young representatives and organizations leads to reinforce Global Youth Work; and to promote human rights, intercultural dialogue, inclusive societies and democratic citizenship as essential dimensions of global education

AFRICAN UNIVERSITY ON YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The African University on Youth and Development (AUYD) was developed as a follow-up of the 1st Africa-Europe Youth Summit that took place in Lisbon in 2007, as a way to promote the contribution of Youth for the implementation of Africa-EU Strategic Partnership. Since the development of 2012-2015 Action Plan and the launching of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform (in 2012), the University has been identified as an annual and permanent feature of the Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation. The universities are organized in cooperation the Network of International Youth Organisations in Africa in Nairobi, Kenya in cooperation with other partners such as: Pan-African Youth Union, the African Diaspora Youth Living in Europe and the European Youth Forum.

Objective

To promote a space for preparation and follow-up of the Africa-Europe Youth Summits and reinforcement of the Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation, Pan African and Global Youth Work;

Activities²

- **12th Africa-Europe Training Course for Youth Organisations, tbc**
- **1st Africa-Europe Youth Symposium: Migration and forced mobility, tbc**
- **13th Africa-Europe Training Course for Youth Organisations, tbc**
- **2nd Africa-Europe Youth Symposium, tbc**

Outputs:

- Organisational and individual competences are strengthened to further develop cooperation North-South
- Good practices and youth opportunities are exchanged among young people from Africa and Europe
- Bilateral projects are developed
- A youth strategy is defined to address the major challenges faced by young people in the light of the priority areas identified as regards youth development;

² subject to additional funding

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME



Euro-Med Women Network North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women

The North-South Process for the Empowerment of Women (NSPEW) is entering its second implementation phase (2015-2017). Its first phase (2012-2014), saw activities organised not only at the regional level but also in target countries such as Morocco and Tunisia on policy-making and advocacy, capacity-building, networking, and awareness-raising.

The Women's Programme continues to follow the aims of the NSPEW to reinforce inter-regional co-operation, in particular among actors in the South, strengthening awareness raising activities and developing capacity-building activities, particularly among young women and men.

Objective:

The overall goal of Women's programme is to strengthen democratic governance in the Southern Mediterranean region by enabling stakeholders to work together to promote gender equality, women's rights and the participation of women in decision-making processes.

Activities:

- **The Istanbul Convention as an advocacy tool for Civil Society, training seminar, Rabat, (Morocco), March/April 2016 TBC**
- **National Seminar on Women's participation in decision-making processes, Tétouan (Morocco), April 2016**
- **Training Course promoting gender equality and empowerment of women in context of 4th MedUni, 2-8 May 2016, Tunisia**
- **Training seminar on gender equality and empowerment of women in context of 17th University on Youth and Development, 18-25 September 2016, Mollina, Spain (TBC)**
- **Regional Workshop on Strengthening Capacities of Women Organisations in the Middle-East, 2017 (TBC), Amman, Jordan**
- **Training Course promoting gender equality and empowerment of women in context of 5th MedUni, Spring 2017, Tunisia**
- **The Istanbul Convention as an advocacy tool for Civil Society, training seminar, Spring 2017 (TBC), Jordan (TBC)**
- **Regional Workshop on Women's participation in political life, Summer 2017 (TBC)**
- **Euro-med Women's Network online platform maintained and reinforced by increasing visibility of best practice and availability of online resources**

Outputs:

- Civil society activists trained to use and promote Istanbul Convention as a tool to combat violence against Women in Europe and the Southern Mediterranean ;
- Awareness raised among the quadrilogue and stakeholders on the women's participation in decision making processes at the different level of governance;
- Youth activists trained to promote gender equality and the structured participation of women in democratic processes;
- North-South and South-South cooperation developed among quadrilogue actors to support civil society organisations advocating for gender equality and empowerment of women;
- The Euro-Med Women Network online platform serves as a public space to exchange ideas, share good practice and develop common projects.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

NORTH-SOUTH PRIZE



Every year since 1995 the North-South Prize of the Council of Europe has been awarded to two personalities who have excelled in their commitment to the defence and promotion of human rights and pluralistic democracy, the development of intercultural dialogue and the reinforcement of the north-south partnership and solidarity. The North-South Prize is personally awarded by the President of the Republic of

Portugal, in the Assembly of the Republic, in Lisbon, in the presence of the President of the Portuguese Parliament and eminent personalities.

Meeting on 2 October 2015, the North-South Prize Jury decided to award the 2015 Prize to Ms Lora Pappa (North) in recognition of her active role in the management of the refugees flows reaching Greece and to H.E. Joaquin Chissano (South) for his lifelong commitment to peace building and democratic consolidation in Africa. The award ceremony will be held in Lisbon, in the first half of 2016, in the presence of both laureates

The Jury of the North-South Prize 2016 will meet in September 2016 to designate the 2016 Laureates, the deadline for nominations is Friday 15th July 2016. This activity is funded through a voluntary contribution from Portugal. (20,000€ / VC)

LISBON FORUM



The Lisbon Forum is a distinctive platform bringing together high-level participants from Europe, neighbouring regions and other continents to exchange experience, good practice, and expertise. The Forum has been organised annually since 1994, focusing on themes relevant to the programmes of the NSC and related to the core

mission of the Council of Europe: to promote human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

In light of the events of the “Arab Spring”, recent editions of the Forum have sought to address key challenges faced countries in the Southern Mediterranean and explore possibilities for renewed cooperation with Europe.

The 2015 Lisbon Forum was organised on the theme “How to combat radicalisation and terrorism: prevention tools and shared knowledge in the Mediterranean and European space.” Contributing to the Committee of Ministers’ Action Plan and seeking to promote the “Competences for Democratic Culture” project of the Council of Europe, the Forum brought together more than 200 high-level participants from Europe, neighbouring regions and other continents to share experience, good practice and expertise on the pressing issue of radicalisation and terrorism.

The Forum is organised by the North-South Centre but in recent years has been funded principally through the Joint CoE-EU Programme, the South Programme “Towards Strengthened Democratic Governance in the Southern Mediterranean.”

LF2016 will be held in November / December 2016 on a theme related to the mission and objectives of the North-South Centre as chosen by the Executive Committee.

CALENDAR 2016

Date	Activity
January	
29	Meeting the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre in Strasbourg
February	
1-28	On-line training course on the human rights dimension of global education (HR)
March	
17	National Seminar on Women's participation in decision making processes in Tetouan, Morocco
April	
TBA	On-line training course on the Democratic Citizenship dimension of global education (DC)
TBA	Annual Meeting of the Euro-Med Women Network Task Force
May	
TBA	Global Education Regional Seminar Baltic Region
TBA	Annual meeting of Global Education Week Network Coordinators
2-8	4 nd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship "Connecting Identities" - Tunisia
2-8	3 rd Training Course on Structured Participation in Democratic Processes - Tunisia
2-8	Training course promoting gender equality and empowerment of women in context of 4 th MedUni
June	
TBA	Global Education Regional Seminar South-East Europe and Mediterranean Region
TBA	On-line training course on the intercultural dialogue dimension of global education (ICD)
TBA	Global Education Kick-off Seminar in Turkey
TBA	Award Ceremony of the 2015 North-South Prize
August	
TBA	On-line training course on the human rights dimension of global education (HR)
September	
18-25	17th University on Youth and Development (UYD) - Spain
18-25	5 th Global Education and Youth Training of Trainers
18-25	Seminar on gender equality and empowerment of women in context of UYD
18-25	Diaspora training course to raise awareness and promote understanding of global citizenship with regards to diaspora and migrant populations in Europe
TBA	Global Education Regional Seminar Balkan
October	
TBA	Global Education Regional Seminar -Visegrad
TBA	Meeting the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre in Strasbourg
November	
TBA	Regional Workshop on Strengthening Capacities of Women Organisations in the Middle-East
7-9	International workshop "Education for an active global citizenship" (WFD)
12-20	Global Education Week "Acting Together for a World of Peace"
16	27 th Anniversary of the NSC
24-25	Lisbon Forum 2016 on migrants and refugees in the Mediterranean and European space