



## **“All Different All Equal”**

New challenges for European youth in a  
multicultural Europe  
10 years after the European youth  
campaign

Report of the study session held by  
**Minorities of Europe and Young Women from Minorities**  
In co-operation with the  
European Youth Centre  
Of the Council of Europe

European Youth Centre, Strasbourg

**29<sup>th</sup> May – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2005**



This report gives an account of various aspects of the study session. It has been produced by and is the responsibility of the educational team of the study session. It does not represent the official point of view of the Council of Europe.



29<sup>th</sup> May – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2005

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### **Acknowledgements**

- **Team**

Levent Eyipisiren	Mariam Yassin
Kirit Mistry	Michelle Thompson
Pervanna Mammadova	Claudia Belchor
Fatiha Tarib	Banafshe Hejazi
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- **Reporter**

**Deepak Naik & Sanil Modessa**

### **ORGANISATION NAME & CONTACT DETAILS**

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### ▪ **Why this Study Session?**

Ten years ago the Youth Directorate of the Council of Europe, has carried out the “*All Different All Equal Campaign against racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and intolerance*”, which was an important milestone for the youth and situation of minorities in Europe. Many activities were run in order to cover the themes by not only improving young people’s awareness but also training them through meetings and courses.

The Training Course for Minority Youth Leaders “*Situations and perspectives of minority youth in Europe*” which was held in Levoca in 1995 was a part of the campaign as well. Minorities of Europe-MoE and Young Women from Minorities-WFM were both initiated during and as a result of that course.

### ▪ **Overall aim of the Study Session**

To understand the new challenges facing minority young men & women in today’s European multicultural society ten years after the “All Different All Equal” campaign (racism, anti-Semitism, xenophobia and intolerance) and given the action of minority youth Organisations such as MoE & WFM, and to consider future strategy for the creation of “One Europe for All”

In pursuing this aim, we’ll make use of the experiences of the Council of Europe Youth Directorate Programme and previous and current experiences, activities of ‘Minorities of Europe’ & Young Women for Minorities.

### ▪ **Objectives of the Study Session**

- Review the achievements and follow up of the “All Different-All Equal” Campaign”, in the Youth Directorate of youth and sport and the wider International context;
- Evaluate the achievements and role of Minorities of Europe and Young Women From Minorities as Organisations born within the campaign, in encouraging minority youth, serving minority communities, raising the profile of minority youth issues and to helping to develop a more inclusive European society;
- To examine and introduce intercultural learning and gender mainstreaming as ways to promote social inclusion and participation of minority young people in Europe;
- To evaluate the impact of minority youth activities run by Organisations such as MoE & WFM on the lives of their participants and see how their participation changed their life, what they have done since, what they are doing now. Has this helped them and their minority communities and what overall difference this may have made to overcome racism, gender based discrimination and intolerance;
- To understand the situation of minority youth in Europe today. How there situation may have improved and the new challenges they face;
- Contribute to the celebrations of the “All Different All Equal” campaign, the European

Youth Centre Budapest and the role it should play in the future regarding the fight against racism and discrimination.

- To make recommendations from the study session to the statutory bodies of the Directorate of Youth and Sport and important policy making events foreseen in 2005/2006 (Summit, Ministers Conference, European Youth Forum Campaign, European & nation) on areas such as the situation of minority youth, equality, citizenship, human rights and the involvement of minority young people in decision and policy making;
- To raise the issue of conditions of financial support of minority Organisations and conditions of part in national, European representative structure as barriers to minority youth participation;
- To gather contributions for the development of organisational strategies to better serve needs of minority youth today and in the future.

In achieving these aims and objectives, Minorities of Europe & Young Women for Minorities will aspire to strengthen and enlarge its existing European network and encourage new partnerships.

- **Profile of Participants**

The Study session brought together Minority youth leaders and young people as well as NGO representatives, especially from Minorities of Europe, WFM – Young Women from Minorities and other minority organisations, who were;

- Working with minority youth on human rights and intercultural dialogue,
- Active in local, national level; representatives of local and public authorities (schools, youth services and street workers etc.)
- Actively involved in or supporting work with minority youth
- Motivated to work in the fight against racism and all forms of discrimination;
- Trained in some part of the “all different-all equal” and still multiplying the experiences gained during and after it,

There was a great deal of interest from people who wanted to attend this study session. The number of applications that were received proved this. We received 206 applicants who were all good applicants.

57 out of 60 participants selected had finally attended the study session. 27 of them were males and 30 females. Average age of participants was 26.

## ▪ **Main Outcomes**

Acknowledging the achievements of the first decade of the All Different - All Equal campaign, bearing in mind the continuous challenges minority youth across Europe face and stressing the need for further improvement in all European societies,

Minorities of Europe (MoE) and Young Women from Minorities (YWFM), with the cooperation of participants of at 'All Different All Equal' –with new challenges for the European youth in a multicultural Europe – 10 years after the European youth campaign (29<sup>th</sup> May - 5<sup>th</sup> June 2005) we have the pleasure of presenting our recommendations to the Secretary General, Council of Europe, Mr Terry Davis on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2005.

### **Council of Europe**

1. We encourage the Council of Europe to increase the budget of the Directorate of Youth and Sport, in particular the activities of the European Youth Centres in Strasbourg and Budapest, to further strengthen their work with minority young people, their organisations and other youth partners.
2. The follow-up campaign of the Council of Europe (All Different – All Equal, Participation, Human Rights and Diversity) should build on the lessons learnt from the previous youth campaign to ensure avoidance of repetition, and the creation of new opportunities to achieve the goal of 'One Europe For All'.
3. For the new campaign to achieve maximum benefit, the Steering Committee should establish efficient channels of co-operation with relevant organisations representing minority youth and their interests in a proactive way through their inclusion in decision making structures created for that purpose.
4. The campaign budget should reflect current realities and should be based on new funds, not relabelled from other sources.
5. The Council of Europe should promote the legislation on migration that allows for better access to reunification of families as in accordance with the Geneva conventions and other international human rights instruments.
6. The Council of Europe should promote equal rights for the LGBT community and for the legal recognition of gay marriages.
7. The Council should encourage the participation and representation of minority communities in the media.
8. We encourage the CoE to work closely with the municipality of Strasbourg that contributed substantially to the success of the All Different – All Equal campaign.

### **The Directorate of Youth and Sports**

9. The Directorate of Youth and Sport should support the empowerment of European minority youth networks such as Minorities of Europe (MoE), Young Women From Minorities (YWFM) and others, through capacity building to enhance their further

participation as partners in various forums such as the Advisory Council of the Directorate of Youth and Sport and the European Youth Forum.

10. The Directorate should foster greater involvement of minority young women in the activities supported by the Directorate.
11. The Directorate should encourage the representation of gender and minority perspectives in all activities it supports.
12. The Directorate should encourage inter-generational dialogue within the minority communities on “controversial” issues, such as sexual orientation, honour killings, etc.
13. Young people with disabilities should have greater access to mobility across the borders of the Member States in order to ensure adequate representation in international activities.
14. The Directorate should promote greater participation of minority youth in the development and implementation of educational policies.
15. The Long Term Training Course for minority youth is a vital instrument in the realisation of empowering minority young people and their communities both at local and national levels. The training course was a major source of hope and confidence among minority youth organisations active at a European level as the way in which they channel issues and challenges of Racism, Antisemitism, Xenophobia, Islamophobia and Homophobia to European policy structures. The withdrawal of support for this programme further marginalises minority communities in Europe. We therefore call upon both the Council of Europe and its members to fully support the reintroduction of this training course.
16. “Compass” is an excellent educational tool for promoting Human Rights Education; however areas such as inter-religious and interfaith dialogue and LGBT are critically lacking. We request the consideration of the Directorate in this regard as it is a vital issue affecting the lives of young people in Europe today.
17. The European Youth Foundation to review its criteria and policy particularly on the disbursement of the mobility fund to take into account the difficulties of trans-European rail travel particularly for minority young people requiring Visas from various countries and long hours’ of journeys.
18. We encourage the Advisory Council to follow the implementation process of the recommendations on the participation of minority youth.
19. We encourage the Advisory Council to increase the number of minority youth organisations represented.

## **National Youth Councils and other national youth partners working with the Directorate of Youth and Sport**

We call for inclusion through realistic action plans of and by minority young people and their organisations by national youth structures to enhance their full participation in youth policy development and implementation at national and local levels.

### **▪ Learning Outcomes of Participants**

- ❖ Knowing the achievements and roles of Minorities of Europe (MoE) and Young Women from Minorities (WFM) since the All Different All Equal campaign in 1995.
- ❖ The awareness of the work of MoE and WFM have been doing related to Minority youth Issues and activities
- ❖ A better understanding of the situation of Minority youth in Europe to date and how their situations have improved or not and also the new challenges that they face.
- ❖ More responsive to the All Different All Equal Campaign and the purpose of it
- ❖ To realise how to put their knowledge and learning into practice by drafting out eight project proposals.

### **▪ Methodology**

The working methods used were varied and interactive in order to ensure a balance between theory and practice. Working groups were combined with analytical inputs from invited experts. Practical workshops provided the every-day-life-based side of the activity. Overall, the methods had ensured an easy communication and allowed all participants to live fully through a progressive and valuable intercultural learning experience. Artistic products were created such as photography and music.

We also used informal teaching methods such as workshops, role plays/simulation exercises, case studies, that facilitated the exchange of information, challenged existing attitudes and enforcing the participants' involvement in intercultural approaches in their communities.

### **▪ Educational Approach of the Study Session**

The event might be a double study session, with strong educational elements as well as a dimension of celebrations and creativity that reflects the involvement of young people in these issues. It will use the form of a market and bazaar of youth projects and should include various manifestations or even street events to be designed besides the indoor study session plenary meetings.

It will also use informal teaching methods as workshops, role plays/simulations, case studies, that will facilitate the exchange of information, challenge existing attitudes and enforce the participants' involvement in intercultural approaches in their communities.

The working methods will be varied and interactive in order to ensure a balance between theory and practice. Working groups will be combined with analytical inputs from invited experts. Practical workshops will provide the every-day-life-based side of the activity. Overall, the methods will ensure an easy communication and should allow all participants to live fully through a progressive and valuable intercultural learning experience. Artistic products will be created such as photography or poster collection or music.



	Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	Mon 30 <sup>th</sup>	Tues 31 <sup>st</sup>	Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sat 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>
Session 1 09:30 to 11:00		Official opening, Introductions  Presentation of: MoE and WFM, Council of Europe Directorate of Youth and Sport and the study session	Presentation and discussion: Youth Structures – what are they?, what have they done for minority youth? Participation by minority youth in policy making – What are the issues? How are minority issues present in DYS policy?	Multi-Culturalism and Minorities in Europe Today – the challenges?  Working Groups using a creative method – preparations on “Minority Youth Today and their Aspirations”	Mid-Term Evaluation  From 10 am: Round Table with Local Minority Youth Organisations on “Minority Youth and Strasbourg Associative Life” involving	Creating conditions for minority youth participation – ideas for a policy?	Presentation of project ideas and responses to the gaps  Recommendations by MoE & WFM  Intervention by and discussion with Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe <i>Chair: Ralf-Rene Weingaertner</i>	PAX depart
Session 2 11:20 to 12:45		Expectations and Getting to know each other session	Working groups: What support mechanisms exist for minority youth participation? Feedback from <i>Balloon Launch during lunch</i>			Group work on Project Ideas & responses to GAP Analysis		
12:45–14:30				LUNCH				
Session 3 14:30 to 16:30		RAXI Personal Stories using video material from RAXI campaign  Memories of the Campaign – the political climate of the time, what was the motivation of the CoE, what did they want to achieve, what did they achieve, etc	Working Groups: Participants perspective on the political situation and discourse on minorities in Europe today how it affects them? Situations of poverty & disadvantage that challenge the participation of minority youth?	GAP Analysis: In groups participants develop an analysis of the challenges facing minority youth in terms of participation today – what needs to be improved, what kind of representation needs to be secured, what policies are missing, etc?	Programme in association with the Mayor of Strasbourg  Boat Trip  Planting for the Future	Group work on project Ideas & responses to GAP Analysis	Evaluation of the Session	
Session 4 16:50 to 18:30						The Human Rights Education Programme of the DYS	Free time	
19:00–20:00				DINNER				
Session 5	Welcome Evening	International evening	Organisational Bazaar	Free Evening	Lord Mayoress Reception	Reimbursements	Farewell party	

## Daily Reports

### *“All Different All Equal”*

New challenges for European youth in a multicultural Europe  
10 years after the European youth campaign  
29th May – 5th June 2005

#### **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2005 (Morning)**

In the morning Levent makes the official opening of the study session. The aim of the double study session is to understand the new challenges facing minority young men & women in today’s European multicultural society ten years after the “All Different All Equal” campaign (racism, anti-Semitism, xenophobia and intolerance) and given the action of minority youth organisations such as MoE & WFM, and to consider future strategy for the creation of “One Europe for All”

Mr. Andre Jacques, Head of department - Youth Policies and Intergovernmental Cooperation provided us with information about the importance of attending Youth events. This study session celebrates the anniversaries of 4 different events.

1. the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the All Different All Equal campaign.
2. the 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of CoE European convention to promote cooperation between member states in culture and youth and about the importance of the people living together in Europe.
3. the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the European Youth Center in Budapest, which is the place for developing and running events for Human rights Education.
4. The 3<sup>rd</sup> summit of the Head of Government. The European Youth Campaign, which will take place in 2006 with the title “Diversity and Participation” which is an extension of the All Different All Equal campaign.

Mariam welcomes the participants to the study session stressing among others the importance of active participation.

The following planned activities take place:

1. Introduction to the programme of the day.
2. Introduction of the trainers and participants.
3. A short overview of the methodology of the study session by Mr. Deepak Naik.
4. Volunteers for the daily reports are assigned..
5. A short summary on how MoE and WFM were formed and their cooperation.
6. Presentation of the objectives of the study session.

Esenghiul’s presentation discusses the past and present form of MoE since its conception 10 years ago. Its key people, their aspirations, and how they worked together to form MoE are the issues explored in the presentation.

Members of WFM (Dilliana, Nela and Banafshe) presented their personal experience and involvement with WFM.

A presentation was run by Banafshe about WFM, its history, aims, objectives, activities and achievements. It also discusses membership requirements and organizational structure.

Mohammed made a presentation of the Council of Europe regarding the key values and work fields of the Council of Europe, the structure of the CoE Secretariat. Also the working priorities of the Directorate of Youth and Sport for 2003-2005, key instruments and Co-management structures of the DYS, and the Activities of the European Youth Centers and their locations.

Introduction of the weekly program followed by Michelle and Levent, which is structured into past, present and future sections.

The *Expectations* and *Getting to Know Each Other* exercise is run by Pervana Mamodeva. The participants are split into working groups and record their expectations, fears and contributions on papers shaped like a skirt, a t-shirt and a sock. The different groups share and discuss their input and then proceed to hang them on laundry ropes.

The carousel exercise follows, which consists of participants forming two rounds facing each other and giving them the opportunity to discuss various questions giving them a better understanding of each other, their work and their organizations.

A sample of the above questions:

1. What is your name, how old are you, what do you do, do you like what you're doing?
2. What is your name, is it your first time here in the Youth Centre, have you been at any CoE organized youth activity before, how did you learn about this double study session?
3. What is your name, are you a member of WFM or MOE or is it the first time you're coming across the two study session organizing organization, if you're a member, how long have you been a member and what do you do for the organization (WFM or MOE), do you know of other European youth NGOs working with minority issues?

### **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2005 (Afternoon)**

In the afternoon, right after the lunch break, Mohamed Dhallech provided us with an overview of the background and objectives of the "*All Different - All Equal*" Campaign, a European Youth Campaign against Racism, Xenophobia, Anti-Semitism and Intolerance, launched on 10 December 1994.

The campaign is an initiative of the Council of Europe, and makes an active response to the growth of hostility towards minority groups in many countries over recent years. People in over 30 countries are coming together to join in activities, which show the advantages of living in a continent with many different cultures.

Non-governmental organisations, in particular those of young people and minority groups are key partners in the all different-all equal campaign. Many of them are already involved in projects, which try to break down barriers through inter-cultural learning.

Right after we've taken a glance on the campaign's main aims and objectives, how it was ran, its results and follow up, there was presentation of a 26 minutes video about the campaign.

*“Tolerance Express”*, how it was named, took us back to the first activities held on the EYC centres and all the commitment and enthusiasm of the people that somehow got involved in this campaign which has brought together people from different European countries, with different cultures and backgrounds.

Those images have touched some of the participants more deeply than others because some people in the room had taken part of the campaign and, in some cases, of the entire process that surround it.

The group has had the opportunity to listen to the life testimonies of: **Kirit Mistry**, who has participated on a local and national levels in the UK; **Diliana Ikonomova and Levent Eyipsisiren** and **Esenghiul Abdul-Gemil**, who have attended seminars for youth leaders and **Mohammed Dhallech** one of the members of the European Steering Group that has been set up to plan and coordinate the campaign at the European level.

They have shared their memories, thoughts and wishes with the rest of the participants. The experience gained from the events held throughout the development of the campaign, particularly on an educative level, were emphasized by all.

*Here are some of the comments...*

<p><i>“After the fall of the communism in Bulgaria, in 1992, some people and groups wanted to do something, but they didn’t have any experience. So the first training course for youth leaders, helped and affected youth organisations to identify the intervention goals and to fight Anti-Semitism”</i></p> <p><b>Diliana Ikonomova</b> <b>WFM - Bulgaria</b></p>
<p><i>“The most interesting thing was how young people got mobilised to organise peaceful events and stand up for what they believed in. It was a very important time, a building time...”</i></p> <p><b>Kirit Mistry</b> <b>Treasurer of MoE - UK</b></p>
<p><i>“The seminars held within the framework of this campaign helped us gain new friends, knowledge and new opportunities”</i></p> <p><b>Levent Eyipsisiren</b> <b>Chairman of MoE - Turkey</b></p>

Ten years have passed by, many things have happened... MOE and YWFM, both created in the framework of the campaign, are also celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversaries. Both are still standing and trying to improve their working methods. Both acknowledge that it is time to reflect on the impact of this campaign.

Therefore, the participants were then invited to break into small groups to discuss and evaluate the objectives of the campaign. Feedback was to be given in plenary.

After a short break and 1 and a half hours of work the 7 groups have presented the following key points in plenary:

***Are the objectives of the campaign still relevant?***

***Group 1***

**Facilitator:** Banafshe Hejazi, Secretary of WFM

**Spokesperson:** Juul Van Hoof - Netherlands

**Evaluation of the “All Different-All Equal” campaign:**

- A campaign that results in a systematic educational programme;
- The campaign had a strong repercussion at national level – it had a snow ball effect;
- The campaign has had little effect at neighbourhood level;
- There’s a question of whether racism has increased or whether it is just that racism is more visible nowadays ;
- Minority ethnic people have a voice and are more “visible”;
- Educational books – trainers are needed to deliver at both national and local levels. E.g. Some people will not read.

**New Analysis:**

- Is there any racism? Different people have different needs;
- Identify what new needs are:

*Visibility*

*Is it about motivation?*

*Is it about enthusiasm?*

- Nature of racism has changed, and based to some extent on external events that have taken place - E.g. September 11<sup>th</sup>;
- Tackle racism in different ways;
- Lack of analysis - but analysis on “*Islamophobia*” is happening;
- Difficulties are faced to mobilise people on a local level (There is an abyss, concerning the work done at a local and international levels);
- Commonalities versus differences;
- Responsibility of local governments.

**Recommendations:**

- European campaign divided in two parts:
  - 1) National level
  - 2) How to integrate to local level
- Campaign which is the political sphere, NGOs and media;
- Media does have an important role in the campaign;

- Campaign needs to focus on sexual orientation and faith;
- A more holistic approach is needed;
- Campaign needs to be adjusted to national realities;
- Government needs to be involved from the start so that they can monitor how far this is being translated into local level activity;
- NGO's need to be more coordinated (co-ordinate their activities);
- National and international NGO's (E.g. MOE + WFM) need to take a more active and practical role during the campaign.
- Co-operation and involvement of minority groups, not just mainstream organisations;
- Lack of information about what has been achieved from this campaign – Evaluation – lack of analysis;
- Get the information to local level and particularly minority neighbourhoods. “Penetrate” into local communities. This can only happen if government supports;
- Update educational materials – train the trainers and keep them updated; what material is still valid? ;
- Campaign to be valued – no documented lessons learnt from previous;
- Proposals also to and from non-minority ethnic people;
- Tolerance – move towards peace, dignity, respect, etc.

### **Group 2**

**Facilitator:** Cláudia Belchior, WFM/Portugal

**Spokesperson:** Matteo Fornaca - Italy

#### **International Level**

- Representation of minorities in decision making processes;
- Educative programmes from primary school level (formal/informal)
- Lack of access to information and assistance to migrants;
- Empowering minorities to civic participation;
- Media as a catalyst to intercultural community;

*Interculturalism should be our new motto “en vogue”*

### **Group 3**

**Facilitator:** Michelle Thompson WFM/UK

**Spokesperson:** Mala Mistry, MoE / UK

#### **1. Objectives not relevant**

- Point 7 – Education for tolerance could be replaced with dialogue or intercultural respect;

- Point 9 – Marginalisation is decreasing not increasing – the focus on this point should be towards generating practical actions;
- Point 2 – The word “young”.

## **2. Objectives which are particularly relevant**

- Objectives 1 and 3 because Media and positive lifestyles should be emphasized;
- Objectives 2 without this objective we can't fulfil of the other objectives.

## **3. Changing or systemising the objectives**

a) The 9 points can be put in the following themes:

- Media
- Education
- Young people

### **Recommendations:**

To divide the objectives into structured themes:

- Promotion
- Practical impact on society

### **Group 4**

**Facilitator:** Levent Eyipisiren, Chairman of MoE/Turkey

**Spokesperson:** Lefteris Sardelis - Greece

- Anti-Semitism is a daily agenda
- Is xenophobia increasing?
- Stereotypes towards origin
- High level of immigration
- Discrimination as a result of lack of knowledge
- Discrimination takes different forms – All Different All Equal campaign need to be adjusted to different situations.
- Economy, policy, geographical situations that increase
- Aged (old) population increases' intolerance
- Anti – Semitism = Islamophobia?

### **Group 5**

**Facilitator:** Pervana Mammdova - MoE

**Spokesperson:** Alexanders Milovs – Latvia

Aims & Objectives are still relevant but:

- To achieve more successful results the programme should be implemented with taking into account specific features;
- To provide comprehensive information to different social groups;
- There should be provided the possibility for all people to be involved in the campaign;
- To use best practices of previous experiences;

### **Group 6**

**Facilitator:** Kirit Mistry, MoE/UK

**Spokesperson:** Balkan Devlen, MoE/Turkey

#### **EUROPEAN LEVEL**

- Clearly identify the target groups;
- Respect the differences and try to bridge the gap between communities;
- Inform and lobby the opinion leaders;
- Capacity building training & involvement in the political process should be encouraged;
- Learn from the history!

#### **NATIONAL LEVEL**

- Awareness of the existence of multiple identities;
- Identify the specific needs of the target communities;
- Empower and support the target groups;
- Provide means and skills relevant to the needs of the target communities;
- Ensure effective communication & accessibility of the NGO's.

### **Group 7**

**Facilitator:** Fatiha Tarib, MoE/France

**Spokesperson:** Antonella Aduso – Italy

The main objectives of the campaign are still relevant but it would be more powerful and effective if introduced concretely in social, educational, political, legal and economic system.

#### **LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS**

- Gentrification – process in which people with economic and intellectual power appropriates the historical centres in capital cities, and repulse people from lower social classes to the suburbs;
- Isolation – keeping minorities and lower social classes far a way;

- Human Trafficking – there are more nets of prostitution and slavery, affecting more the minorities;
- Social and political gender exclusion;
- Different kinds of immigration and levels;
- No political representation of minorities;
- Identify conflict – especially for the second generation of immigrants;
- Islamophobia – Romaphobia;
- Fear of differences;
- Poverty/Exploitation;
- Racist legal system;
- Lack of awareness of the civil society.

And this way the day was coming to an end. As the chairman gave the floor to the social committee to provide some practical information to the group, a question kept bouncing on some peoples minds:

## **Where can we go from here?**

**We believe that we were given plenty of food for thought. Hopefully we will find some answers on the next few days.**

**Yet there is a sentence that has stayed with us all through the afternoon’s session. It was not verbalised but it could be seen on the back of some participants t-shirts:**

**“YOU MUST BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO  
SEE IN THE WORLD!”**

*Mahatma Gandhi*

*This report was produced by:*

*Manuela Tavares – President of Cabo Jovem Association  
WFM/portugal  
&  
Helena Pereira – Vice-President of Doroana/Portugal*

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2005 (Morning)**

### **TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION IN THIS SESSION**

- Youth Structures – what are they, what have they done for minority youth?
- Participation by minority youth in policy making
- What support mechanisms exist for minority youth participation?

### **COMPOSITION OF THE MORNING SESSION**

- Discussion by Kirit
- Discussion in groups and feedback
- Speaker 1: Giuseppe Porcaro, Advisory and Joint Council on Youth
- Speaker 2 Kelig Puyet, European Youth Forum
- Question and Answer Session
- Balloon Launch

### **Discussion by Kirit on the issues concerning participation of minority youth**

#### **Overview of the main points from the discussion:**

- Kirit gave an overview of his own personal experiences within the last 10 years of minority youth participation issues.
- Kirit described from his own personal experiences how as a minority youth he had found it very difficult to operate on a national level and hence he had gone to Europe directly, so that he could meet with other minority youth that were facing similar challenges.
- There are various structures through which youth participation is possible; such as through school councils, youth parliament, national youth councils, the guides, scouts etc. However, there is the question of how far minority youth are able to participate within these structures; Kirit felt that it has certainly not been easy.
- Youth structures are on both European and national levels .
- There has been much campaigning so that minority youth can be placed firmly on the agenda
- The youth structures offer opportunities to sit on panels and answer questions. They are classed as partners within the Council of Europe.
- There are barriers that exist within the youth structures of minority youth participation and in order to address some of these issues, we need to “play the game”
- There are 20 seats given to the Youth Forum and 10 seats are for minority youth.
- In 2000 there was an event – working together to be collectively strong and to put youth on the agenda.

- How we as young people are involved in the structures, how do minority youth people participate? We need to remove the barriers so that minority youth have the opportunities that they deserve.
- MOE and YWFM have a role to play in addressing minority youth participation issues in each country; which is to hold the institutions to account – accountability.
- Kirit concluded his discussion by leaving the students with some questions for consideration: How would minority youth *like* to participate and what are the barriers that they face in participation? What do minority youth feel are the solutions?

### **DISCUSSION IN GROUPS: Support Mechanisms to support Minority Youth**

Participants were asked to consider three questions in groups of 7-9 participants:

- What support mechanisms exist to support minority youth?
- What are your experiences from current youth structures?
- Do these youth structures promote minority youth participation?

Pervana divided the participants into 5 working groups:

- Group I: European level with Levent
- Group II: European level with Fatiha
- Group III: European level with Banafshe
- Group IV: National/Local level with Michelle
- Group V: National level with Claudia

### **Feedback from Groups**

#### **Group I**

- The problems of participation of minority youth existing in our own countries are very similar
- National youth councils do not care much about minority youth. Their approach is tokenistic, meaning that minority youth NGOs have only been involved to show that they are represented and are on the list.
- There is a lack of transparency of what are the regulations for participation; hence minority youth NGOs do not know how to prepare to build effective rules of the game and how to act to get the results
- There are restrictions on registration as an NGO, including the fee that needs to be paid. There are many minority youth NGOs in existence but if they are not registered they cannot be official members of youth councils.
- Lack of knowledge about other NGOs in existence, hence activity is misdirected and is often focussed towards a single target group.
- Mainstream youth organisations may block the less well known (smaller) minority groups from participating, imposing regulations to this effect.
- There is a difference between what is law and what actually happens in practice.

### *Expectations for Improvement*

- To share information not just amongst the target group but also amongst other groups.
- To implement action plans for particular problems, a tailored approach to resolving problems
- To support minority ethnic NGOs to express themselves and promote their activities

### **Group II**

- The conclusion this group came to was that there appeared to be a difference between countries such as England and Italy and Post Communist countries in terms of support available for minority representation and participation.
- Youth organisations in Post Communist countries do not get recognised formally by the government and they have to find their own funding. But there is networking with other countries and with other international organisational organisations such as UNICEF, UNDP, UNI, OSI etc.
- In England and Italy there is relatively more support available from the government and financial support available through grants also from private trusts, banks etc. Though there are recognised difficulties in relation to access to this funding and support for minority ethnic organisations.

### **Group III**

- This group felt that there was few within the group that had experience of European Youth. They felt that this was due to the lack of information available to minority youth NGOs about youth structures.
- Support was therefore felt to be inaccessible to minority youth NGOs and particularly due to the hierarchical set-up of youth structures.
- Within selection and decision-making committees, there are no or very few minorities that are represented; minority youth organisations do not get prioritised nor funded.
- Many minority youth NGOs find that the “language” used in applications for funding is such that makes it difficult for minority organisations to submit an application that satisfies the funders; hence this lack of relevant language skills acts as this a barrier to obtaining funding.
- Skills are needed within minority youth NGOs for applying for funding

### **Group IV**

This group argued that there were 3 different experiences to be found of youth NGOs:

- I. Advanced NGOs – they have established youth structures; they are well developed “civil society” organisations; and they have access to relevant information. Examples are NGOs within the UK and Belgium etc.
- II. Developing NGOs – these are being developed under the influence of the European Union and are at the early stages of becoming a “civil society” organisation and are decentralised NGOs. Examples are NGOs within Portugal and Greece.
- III. Under-developed NGOs – These were usually outside the European Union. These organisations have a lack of support from the government; they are not civil society

organisations; structures are concentrated within capital cities of countries; and there is passivity of civil society/youth/minorities.

### Group V

- The group highlighted that each group participant was able to bring a very different experience to the discussion and hence structured their presentation so that the experiences of each participant and their knowledge of youth structures in their country was adequately reflected.
- **Azerbaijan:** on a regional level, there are campaigns, training courses and NGOs are trying to establish networks with Russia. There is also a general assembly of youth organisations in which minorities are represented at the regional level. On a national level, there is a national culture centre and a coalition of NGOs in Azerbaijan.
- **Bulgaria:** Whilst representatives from minority youth NGOs are invited to participate, the feeling is that they are only invited to show that these groups *do* participate, but it is questionable as to the extent and level of participation that is encouraged of these groups.
- **Byelorussia:** minority youth NGOs are not represented whilst there is a Byelorussian Council of Youth.
- **Italy:** GMI is the organisation that has been set up for the young Muslims of Italy. This organisation facilitates intercultural learning through interfaith activities. Islam is a “burning” issue in Italy and young Muslims are often faced with questions about identity. Some minority groups, such as the Chinese community do not participate as actively in society and hence there is isolation of this group. In one locality – Torino; there is a group that is working on the representation of minorities.
- **Macedonia:** There is a student organisation based in the local university of Macedonia (Faculty of Languages) and many members are from minority groups.
- **Netherlands:** there is no opportunity for minority youth NGOs to get involved in decision-making processes and hence ethnic groups in particular are more disadvantaged. There is a glass ceiling to participation. Minority group participation is more active at the local than the national level.
- **Portugal:** There is no minority representation within the Youth Council. All NGOs are controlled by Governmental officials! There is a lack of participation of minority youth. There is no access to public life for minorities.

## **Giuseppe Porcaro – Chairman of the Advisory and Joint Council on Youth, Council of Europe: Minority Youth involvement in the Council of Europe**

*The Advisory Council on Youth is a statutory body of the Youth and Sport Directorate (DG IV) of the Council of Europe. It is composed of 30 representatives of all different kinds of youth organisations in Europe. It has not only a consultative role for the whole Council of Europe on the matters that are of interest for young European citizens, but is also part of the co-decision system for the Youth Sector.*

Objectives of this discussion:

To consider minority youth involvement in the Council of Europe

To look at the venue in which the study session is being hosted

The opportunities for involvement within the Council of Europe

### **Minority youth involvement and opportunities for involvement**

Council of Europe grants participating structures to NGOs from interest groups such as youth, women etc. These NGOs can take part in the “Conference of NGOs” as their status has been upgraded from consultative (as it was previously) to participative.

Participative structures allow these NGOs to have a major status within the Council of Europe. The Roma Forum was one example of an NGO that Giuseppe mentioned as being involved in the Council of Europe.

The average age of members of the Council of Europe is 60 years of age; many have been working in the same role for 25-30 years; hence a fresh perspective is certainly needed according to Giuseppe. Therefore Giuseppe stressed that we ought to push for participative status as NGO representatives.

### **The Youth Centre**

The centre serves several purposes:

Running youth activities, for example study sessions that are important both for training students and also to bring new ideas to the Youth Directorate and contribute to research

Can contribute to large-scale events – Youth Summit, to enlarge the participation of youth to policy, which is brought back to activities of youth

Policy Making

Co-decision making on youth programmes

### **Co-Management**

A system allowing young people to decide on an equal footing...

### **Co-management of DYS:**

Advisory Council is made up of 30 youth organisations – international and national

The European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) is composed of membership from each of the 48 member states.

The Joint Council on Youth (AC) takes co-decisions on policies and priorities on youth

Programming Committee is composed of certain members – Government and Youth together. An Executive Committee monitors and implements, but does not decide on policies – it is a practical body.

### **New Working Priorities 2006-08**

Human rights education and intercultural dialogue  
Youth participation and democratic citizenship  
Social cohesion and inclusion of young people  
Youth policy development.

### **European-wide Youth Campaign for 2006**

The proposal for a European campaign is linked to local and national action on preventing violence and racism with Institutions and youth organisations working together with a focus on diversity and participation. It will build on the results, knowledge and experiences of the youth sector from the last 10 years or so..

The aim of this campaign is to take a positive approach to prevent racism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and all forms of discriminations currently challenging the cohesion of our societies.

The Joint Council approved the draft concept paper in February 2005 and formed the European Steering Group

### **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Summit of the Heads of State of the Council of Europe**

16<sup>th</sup> May-17<sup>th</sup> May 2005

Lobby Action for endorsement of the All Different All Equal campaign

### **Some Examples**

Participation of young women in political life (Strasbourg, 2003)  
Recommendation of integration of young migrants in Europe (2003)  
Seminar on Islamophobia and its consequences on young people (2004); publication by the Council of Europe.

### **Questions to Giuseppe**

#### **Balkan: What is the process for decision-making within the Advisory Council?**

Giuseppe: The process is based on the consensus principle. If there is no consensus then there is a voting process. The Advisory Council functions with consensus only. The advisory committee does not have the power to influence but only to advise.

**Kirit: Is there equity in a 10 - 30 split of minority and “majority” youth NGOs?**

Giuseppe: There is space for smaller and larger youth organisations. Whilst national youth organisations and political organisations can be members, this does not necessarily mean that there is consensus between themselves. Each has very different ideas and different interests. The 30 organisations *represent* minority organisations as well.

**Nela: Are local minority organisations able to participate on the Advisory Council; what are the criteria for participation?**

Giuseppe: Local organisations can participate. The criteria for selection states that participation is only available for European organisations, to guarantee a European-wide impact. Local organisations are not excluded as they can participate through other organisations.

**Lucie: What is the criteria for participation of the Roma Forum?**

Giuseppe: Not many technical details can be given at present, but relevant details of a contact are to be forwarded to Lucie.

**Kelig Puyet, European Youth Forum**

This Forum represents the Youth Council of Europe and youth organisations at European and international level.

The main mission of the Forum is to increase active participation of youth.

The core areas of work include:

Advocacy work

Citizenship

Social affairs

Global Youth

Youth development

Human Rights and equality

In all, there are 92 member youth organisations from across Europe and they meet twice a year, presenting the work and activities carried out. Once every two years there is a general assembly and a Bureau is elected. The Bureau is composed of a President and two Vice-Presidents with different responsibilities. One is the Vice-president of the Council of Europe and the other supports relations with the European Union.

There are two elements through which work with minority youth is possible:

1. There are member organisations that represent minority youth. The Forum will work with them on specific projects, such as advocacy support. Kelig gave the example of the Forum’s work with Faith-based organisations.
2. Partnerships and co-operation with other organisations that are non-members. Some may be youth-specific, others may have a youth wing

Concrete action and events which they share with other organisations/projects and then this is translated into Youth.

Kelig stressed the fact that partnership work was key.

The Forum considers ways in which it is able to work with member organisations at national levels.

The Forum initiated the All Different All Equal campaign.

The new campaign should not be just about fighting discrimination but also enabling youth to participate and promote diversity.

Kelig commented that there needed to be a partnership between minority youth and the Forum so the work could remain inclusive.

### **Questions to Kelig**

- i. What is the Youth Forum's role in monitoring the organisations that represent minority communities, such as National Youth Councils?
- ii. What representation do you have on the Steering Group from minority youth?
- iii. Are MoE and WFM members of the Youth Forum?
- iv. What has the Forum done in the last 10 years for minorities and how did the Forum react to the difficult challenges at local level?

Kelig responded to these questions together, rather than responding to each individually. The main points she made included:

- National Youth Councils are difficult to manage.
- Members on the Steering group are selected from the Advisory Council and member minority groups include the Forum of European Muslim and Youth organisations and the United Network for Intercultural Learning.
- The Youth Forum is involved in different projects. One of the mainstream programmes is youth participation. There are different kinds of participation at local, national and European levels.
- There is the participation of young women who are facing multiple discrimination and obstacles in participating.
- There are projects run with people with disability issues.
- There are different national realities so the work is not easy.
- Youth participation is one of the priorities of the Forum – how to be more inclusive at European and national level and to develop partnerships as relevant.
- How to attract more minority groups: the campaign will raise these issues and raise awareness on differences and diversity.

- There is a space vacant on the Forum for an international organisation.
- WFM is not a member of the Youth Forum and neither is MOE. The Chairpersons from both these organisations gave their explanation for why this was so.

### Further Questions

**Kirit: Whilst the Youth Forum fosters ideas about exclusivity and equal opportunities; National Youth Councils therefore need to follow the structures of the Youth Forum. Changes are taking place very slowly. The need to look at minority youth representation within the membership, prioritising this and making a commitment to this in written form so that they can be held to account. Minority organisations have not been so effective in holding these organisations to account.**

Kelig: It was discussed in the last meeting and it will be one of the priorities to look at the diversity within youth councils and participation issues will be more institutionalised within the Youth Forum.

**Balkan: where does your accountability lie? Do you have mechanisms in place to ensure accountability? Is responsibility and accountability only for members and not necessarily for non-members? It should be that representation is ensured from all member countries. The Forum needs to have transparent and visible structures and moral accountability for the work that it does.**

Kelig: Accountability is firstly for the members of the Forum, to have structures in place, a council etc. The Forum is elected by its own members. Accountability is also in the form of compliance with the requirements of partners. The structure of the directorate secures this.

**Antonella: Do you have contact or is there co-operation with other countries outside of Europe? Do you have contact with origin countries so that you are able to have more of an understanding of identity and background?**

Kelig: This is part of the work, which is in development at the moment, particularly within Latin America.

Jasna Magic (Comment): I work for IGLYO (International Gay and Lesbian Youth Organisation), and IGLYO as a minority organisation has been a member of the Forum since 1999. The Forum is very welcoming. The fact that the Forum and such provision exists is important. Only by active participation can things be done and this can be as an observer or participant youth organisation.

## Balloon Launch

The balloon launch was done to signify the celebration and success of 10 years of MoE & WFM. Attached to each balloon was written a personal message by each participant which would say a little prayer and also to spread the message about the “All Different All Equal Campaign.

## **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May (Afternoon)**

### **ENERGISER**

Back in plenary after lunch, Michelle suggested an energiser activity to get participants feeling refreshed and ready for work. WFM music was played and those participants who were feeling particularly energetic bobbed along to the beat. After a good 'shake-about,' participants collectively felt ready to embark on programme for the afternoon session

Banafshe, Secretary of WFM explained the aims, objectives and methodology of the afternoon session. Participants were asked to analyse and discuss the following in small working groups; (the working groups were divided according to participants' geographical residence)

- The current political situation in Europe around minority-related issues
- The perspectives of minority youth on the challenges, problems and obstacles they face in participating in their geo-political society
- How the media politicians portray minority ethnic groups/youth

Participants also asked in their working groups to prepare a creative five-minute presentation highlighting five common issues facing minority youth.

### **GROUP WORK**

Participants engaged in group work activity from 15.15pm to 17.30pm (coffee break 16.30 – 17.00). The following highlights some of the common thoughts and perspectives which participants highlighted about this activity.

#### *Advantages*

- It was a valuable opportunity to discuss and debate issues and challenges facing minority youth in specific geo-political contexts because participants identified common strands of ethos within their geo-political region
- Analysing the media and the political systems and the way they portray minority youth was thought provoking as it enabled participants to consider the variety of ways that the media and politicians approached the issue of minority youth as well as their underlying motivations.
- It was enjoyable to work for participants to work on developing a more creative presentation because it allowed them to illustrate their conclusions in a interesting and imaginative way. Inevitably a more imaginative presentation would have a more powerful impact on the audience.

#### *Disadvantages*

- Sometimes it was hard for a group to find relevant articles in the documentation provided

- Sometimes debate and discussion on the challenges was compromised in order to focus on the creative nature of the presentation

## **ENERGIZER**

In order to prepare the participants for the feedback session and bond as a group even further another ice-breaker activity was proposed. Participants were asked to split into pairs. One person from the pair had to give a massage to his/her partner. This activity produced a lot of giggling from the participants but was thoroughly enjoyed and participants felt relaxed and ready for the feedback session.

## **FEEDBACK SESSION**

Each group was asked to feedback the discussions and debates from their respective working groups

### **Group 1 – Western European (Mediterranean)**

#### **Content**

This group performed a role-play, which demonstrated how ethnic minorities face discrimination in their daily lives. The sketch starts with an Italian sitting on a bus, when two persons of ethnic minority get on the bus and sit next to him he finds an excuse to change his seat. At the next stop some young people join the bus and start showing their affection for one another. This provokes the older minority ethnic persons to change their seats away from the younger couple. Next a young girl wearing a hijab joins the bus but immediately receives a call on her mobile. Leaving her bag on the seat she moves to another part of the bus to take her call. The other people become suspicious of this unattended bag and decide to look through this girl's belonging for anything which could be deemed dangerous. Whilst they are doing this the girl on the phone returns to see the Italians rifling through her bag and the sketch ends with the girl exclaiming 'Hey what are you doing? There is only nutella in there!'

#### **Key challenges**

- The discrimination of ethnic minorities occurs on a daily basis in a variety of different forms, e.g. open, discreet, etc
- There exists prejudice and tension between different ethnic minority groups not only racial but between generations as well.
- People make judgements based on false assumptions
- When an act of discrimination occurs in society, often bystanders do not challenge it
- The war on terror campaign has made it more difficult for minority groups to be integrated into the majority society

## **Group 2 – Western Europe (Scandinavia)**

### **Content**

This group combined both presentation and role-play and used a particular case study to illustrate their perspectives. They gave the example of a Sweden athlete of Ukrainian heritage, who when successful was adored by Swedish public and was made to feel very much like a Swedish citizen. However, once she failed a drug test and was found guilty of ‘doping,’ the Swedish media turned against her. She was branded as a foreigner and rights of Swedish citizenship were stripped away from her.

### **Key challenges**

- In the Scandinavian context minorities are given social, economic and cultural recognition in societies when it appears that the minority ethnic group are helping the majority community. However, the moment when minorities stop contributing or develop a negative reputation they start to be perceived more as minorities rather than active participants of majority community.
- The media and the way they are allowed to stereotype minority ethnic groups
- The existence of indirect negative stereotyping of minority ethnic group which has the ability to send out message which appeal to the unconscious mind

## **Group 3 - Western Europe (EU member-states)**

### **Content**

This group produced a poster that considered how the media and politics portray young minorities, some of their ideas include;

#### **Media**

- Simplifying complex social issues through ‘cliché’ (negative)
- Stereotyping of gang culture (negative)
- Highlighting issues where institutionalised discrimination exist i.e. relentless media coverage of the Steven Lawrence murder (UK) led to a public inquiry and the McPherson report (positive)
- Using researching and statistics to highlight issues (positive)

#### **Politicians**

- Sometimes they are elusive or evasive when questioned about sensitive issues (i.e. how can they be held to account?) (positive)
- Highlighting opinions which reflect their own self interest which may damage the reputation of a minority ethnic group (positive)

They then produced a rap around the five challenges/problems facing minority youth

### **Key challenges**

- Ethnic isolation – minority being excluded or not being able to participate in mainstream society
- Obtaining influence without sacrificing ethnicity e.g. on a professional level

- Clash of values and identity e.g. national identity, cultural identity
- Lack of educational opportunity and the persistence of unemployment
- Changing the attitudes of the majority so that they provide support

#### **Group 4 – Greece, Turkey**

##### **Content**

They presented a role-play about how different minority groups often have to fight to obtain the same rights as the majority. The sketch shows different minority groups e.g. disability, racially ethnic, LGBT demonstrating to government, but their voices are not heard and they are largely ignored.

##### **Key challenges**

- The lack of understanding between the majority and the minority of society
- The fact that in democratic societies, minorities are treated differently as opposed to majority groups
- The fact that Governments not listening or taking action means that it is very hard for minority group to keep up the momentum to break the barriers of prejudice and discrimination

#### **Group 5 – Eastern Europe**

##### **Content**

This group focused on using newspaper articles to illustrate how the media portray minority ethnic issues. They illustrate both positive and negative example of how the media portray minority ethnic groups. Here are some examples of articles they used;

##### **Positive**

- An article condemning the treatment of detainees at Guantanamo bay and a comparison with the situation in Israel and Palestine
- An article highlighting the opening of a Muslim art museum in Britain

##### **Negative**

- The article codenaming Spanish ‘Islamism’ for being involved with 9/11
- A article illustrating the negative impact of asylum seekers in Britain

##### **Key challenges**

- Minority ethnic youth do not get enough coverage/exposure on a European level
- Minority ethnic youth do get coverage in the local and national media but usually the negative rather than the positive is highlighted
- The media need to learn how to balance getting people to think about socio-cultural issues and stereotyping/branding

## **Group 6 – Eastern Europe (Post-communist)**

### **Content**

Group 6 did a presentation on how the media portrayed minorities in their region. They highlighted how minority groups were often negatively stereotyped and associated with the following;

- Roma
- Prostitution
- Human trafficking
- Crime

### **Key challenges**

- The media concentrates on highlighting the negatives of minority ethnic youth and positive associations are largely ignored
- There are geographical divisions in access to information and services for minority ethnic youth. E.g. in large cities information and access to facilities does exist but this is not the case in suburban and rural areas.
- Due to the developing nature of structures in the post communist states, there is no real political interest or support develop youth structures

## **Group 7 – Eastern Europe (former states of the Soviet Union)**

This group focused on highlighting the issue of institutionalised racism , in customs departments. The role-play focuses on the treatment of minority ethnic groups as they pass through customs to travel to other countries. While the majority are allowed to pass through without much interference, minority groups are subject to relentless checks based on no conclusive evidence but rather social prejudice and personal assumptions.

### **Key challenges**

- To change attitudes and prejudices which are so deeply engrained
- To ensure that the human rights of all minority groups are not violated as Governments tackle the issue of worldwide terrorism
- For the majority to recognise that there should not be different rules for majorities and minorities
- For institutions to set an example of treating minorities equally

## **AFTERNOON SESSION END**

Banafshe thanked the participants for their creative presentation and closed the afternoon session.

## **KEY THOUGHTS**

Collectively participants felt that the session was useful because it highlighted that the challenges/problems of discrimination persist in all geo-political regions but invariably the approach of discrimination is sometimes different.

They also enjoyed being involved in creating more creative presentations and were aware of the powerful and thought-provoking impact a creative presentation can have on the audience.

### **ORGANISATIONAL BAZAR**

Later on after participants indulged in the delights of the evening meal.

The evening started to get busy as participants started putting information about their organisation on coloured display stands ready for the organisation bazaar, which was going to take place later that evening. The objective of the organisation bazaar was for participants to 'profile' the organisation they belong to and inform other participants about the work that they are involved with which supports the 'all different, all equal' campaign

Around 9.45 PM each participant was asked to give a small presentation on the organisation they represent. There was a lot of useful and interesting information and presentation continued until 11.30pm. After the presentations one of the participants working in a minority youth centre in Germany showed a video of the work carried out in his youth centre.

The organisational bazaar was a colourful and interesting affair and it highlighted some of the important work already being carried out to help and empower minority groups. However, there was a feeling that more needs to be done, contacts need to be developed, inter-organisational collaboration needs to take place to ensure that the work to the 'all different. All equal' campaign is purposeful and effective and not just empty hollow words.

*This report was compiled by Mala Mistry*

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2005 (Morning)

**Speaker:** Gavan Titley:  
**Topic:** NUI, on Multiculturalism and the Minorities in Europe Today. The Challenges

The session started at about 9.30 am 15 minutes later than scheduled. A retrospect was thrown regarding the deliberations of the last two days, what we are doing at present and what we would do in the days to come. Gavan was welcomed and introduced to the participants. Gavan started his presentation by highlighting the central points to be looked in to and the work methodology. The main focus was on “Multiculturalism and minorities and the realities of our modern world”. Gavan mentioned that the topic and term multiculturalism is rather vague in its daily usage, but still dominating many news headlines within national and international political debates. The term differs in usage from country to country. He further stressed that his task would be to give a framework of multiculturalism in some of the countries he was versed with, particularly Finland and Ireland. When the term multiculturalism is used today, it immediately depicts or is linked to immigrants. Multiculturalism is a **moving target** and it is thus difficult to define because of its very fast changing nature. The simplest way to look at it is to understand what people mean when they talk of multiculturalism. Various dimensions exist at the same time depending on the description of a people.

#### **Dimensions of Multiculturalism:**

*Description:* To describe is to put a framework of realities to a particular group of people e.g. situation in Islam is based in the reconstruction of reality – Muslims.

*Definition:* The definition can also be based on Philosophy, the law to organize social and political public life. It can be seen as some sort of management strategy how different people address and define social issues.

*Policy:* Plans of what people would accomplish in certain issues. E.g. education (history) some nations frame the method of teaching history in order to balance interests and needs.

*Practice:* simple everyday practices. Multiculturalism involves all these dimensions

#### **How has Multiculturalism changed since the all different all equal campaigns?**

Gavan attempted to answer the question whether intercultural education was the end-point of multicultural process. In this respect, he asserted that it could be seen as a *feel-good* idea.

Multiculturalism touches everyone’s cultures in one way or the other. It creates and re-creates power structures within society. Of recent, multiculturalism is being shifted from cuddly to doom or crisis.

*Key issues across different experiences and practices of multiculturalism.*

Multiculturalism relates to nation states and nation states relate to cultural dogmatization. The idea of multiculturalism often linked to postcolonial migration between the centre and the periphery.

#### **What is the state of multiculturalism after the exploration and mercantilist tendencies of the colonial process?**

In Canada and Australia, autochthones were forcefully displaced by the allochtones in a unifying category.

In the capitalist process of the post industrial state, people moved around for work.

All these involved carrying the baggage of identity, belonging, entitlements and legitimacy as a means to have a stake within the state.

The idea of cultural flux involves a state of motion in cultures and of cultures. Citizenship is another dimension which has provoked discussion on multiculturalism based on political recognition and political economy.

*Group discussions: The main understanding of multiculturalism in their varying contexts.  
What are the main issues that currently being discussed and by who?*

## **Why Multiculturalism?**

### *Criticism:*

Natural relations of culture and territory. Criticism of liberal ideas of individuals.

One thing common is the consolidation of political structure of organization. Nationalism has been used to define and consolidate natural relationships.

### *Territory versus Culture.*

This creates a one way flow of history and culture. When other trends such as religion, languages and other peoples are involved, they jeopardize the nations of nation state according to the custodians of that doctrine of nation state.

Canada has publicly recognized differences and some arguments for this are based on the fact reorganization of public space, different kinds of media structures etc. Ones citizens civil rights have been guaranteed, there is no room for favoritism. In this game, the state becomes the facilitator.

### *Equality and substantive equality.*

The idea of a reasonable man is usually linked to *the white* with a limited understanding that people have different ways of reasoning.

### *The pretentiousness of the idea of multiculturalism and substantive equality.*

In the many multicultural contexts there are many areas of contests and work. Peoples' views differ in the existence of multiculturalism. Some even consider it as a means to manage migrants and it has also been contested that not everyone has the opportunity to politically participate and represent.

Another aspect of zoomed pretentiousness can be seen in the sphere of education. What do we educate? What are the needs of our people?

- Employment,
- Anti discrimination,
- Social provision,
- Community participation

Media participation and representation. Who do they represent? What is the communication between people? Who has access to media? etc.

*Group discussion was based on what has happened in relation to these issues in our contexts. Has there been change? What areas need the most work now?*

### **Crisis ?**

How is language used in propagating prejudices?

Many people see multiculturalism as a point of change in the nation state. But if we look at the process language in the multicultural process then we see and denote crisis. There have been talks about returning to core values which has got to do with globalization, economic recession, and flexibilisation, the job flight and permanent unemployment in job markets that previously needed immigration.

One of the new kinds of discrimination is in the sphere of “*our*” and their “*needs*”

### **War on terror.**

This has got to do with public suspicion of migrants - polarization of immigration versus economic need.

For example, in Ireland, progressives may see the need for more labour in industry, but the conservatives might be against. Should this give the people the *raison d'être* to be inhospitable? Of course, no. Many people have a weakened sense or passive on what asylum seeking is and the experience of history that lie behind. People tend to normalize the categorization of common sense between “*us*” and “*them*”.

Paul Gilroy describes multiculturalism as a convulsion when the society looks in the mirror but does not believe what they see. National identity becomes ideal in sports raising issues of national pride. But when it comes to concrete allocation of resources, then, the idea of national identity becomes threatened. Thus national belonging is more important when everyday facts are challenged.

These questions have been exploited politically and the effects are potentially felt by all minorities regardless of their history, experience and status.

*Group discussions: How do all these issues look like in different contexts?*

Context of crisis – right and left wing perspectives, what arguments do both sides give? The right wing attacks on multiculturalism claim it is too much, *they have not integrated and learnt our ways and our limits.*

... Need to reassert basic national values,

Culturalisation of citizenship and welfare nationalism. *The pie is small lets take care ours before the others.* Hence, linked to the idea of limited resources.

Gary Young wrote an article in which he mentioned that there were certain questions that do not necessarily need answers. One of the critical approaches to multiculturalism is that that it locks people and their identities in cultural groups. Multiculturalism does not work because the underlying assumptions have not changed. It emphasis difference above commonality and everyday exchange.

It does not take account of gender, sexuality, age, weakens antiracism; the right wing appreciates cultural diversity too.

### ***Future challenges.***

What aspects of the multiculturalism are useful to us after ten years of campaign?? E.g., reform of education, curricula exists to an extent due to some sort of multicultural thinking.

How do we promote the freedom of to be and not to be?

How to place human rights and socio economic rights at the heart of antiracism? If we look at the EU referendum we notice that all is centred on the question of “Turkey belong or not”. In Ireland there was a radicalised discourse, they take our jobs and women....:=))

### **Part two**

Fatiha chaired the session and started by introducing the various working groups and the modalities of operation.

### ***Feedback from the working groups.***

1. Political participation and civil society
  - Participate in decision making processes.
  - Avoid control of their lives to be in the hands of others.
  - Youth should be encouraged to participate in political life minorities inclusive.

### **Education**

- Participation and aspiration
- Teaching and supporting others whose mother tongues is different
- Role models

### **What minority students can bring?**

- Stereotypes
- Share differences in class
- Informal and formal education
- Access to information
- Aspirations:

### **Family life**

What makes a family?

- Love
- Sentiments,
- Bond

### **Common projects: security and stability**

Example of family types

- Nuclear western family
- Community families
- LGBT family
- Mixed family
- Spread family

**Aspirations:**

- Legal recognition of different types
- Social / economic recognition

**Recommendations:**

- No cooperation between mainstream media and minorities
- Presenting minority information to the mainstream media
- Show positive examples
- No traditional ways of providing information
- Access to information

## Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2005 (Afternoon)

- 15:00** Team members' conclusions about group presentations  
**15:10** Working in Groups:  
Gap Analysis – Challenges Facing Minority Youth and Recommended Improvements  
**16:00** Coffee Break  
**16:30** Working in Groups  
**17:50** Presentations

### *Political Participation*

#### **Challenges:**

- Education and Training
- Challenges within the minority community
- Youth Discrimination in General
- Majority Minority Relations

### *Education*

#### **Challenges:**

- To convince young minority people and minority groups of the value of informal education learning
- To create anti discriminatory policies
- To create opportunities for young people from an early age for intercultural learning and dialogue.
- Provide necessary conditions and measures for both disabled people and socially disadvantaged young people to the full member of classroom and not be segregated from the majority.

#### **Gaps/Recommendations:**

Create opportunities for informal learning outside of own social settings

- to educate communities of the value of informal education
- To involve young minorities and encourage them to actively participate in the creation and development of educational policies
- Take preventative measures and not reactionary methods
- recognize that some minority groups have specific needs that require specific support and help

Integrate intercultural learning into formal education

### *Employment*

#### **Challenges:**

- Adapting the Social Curriculum
- Stop Self-Victimization
- Flexibility/Cultural Understanding

**Gaps/Improvements:**

- Knowing your Rights
- Legal System
- Supporting Infrastructure

***Family Life***

- Accessibility to the institution of marriage for homosexual couples
- This should be applied equally as it does for homosexual couples. This includes being recognized in all European Countries
- The revise the law which will allow greater mobility and opportunities for reunion for minority type families

***Media 1*****Challenges:**

- Lack of Knowledge and Information
- Funds (Support and Training)
- Majority represents the point of view of minority
- Minority represents the point of view of majority

**Solutions:**

- Training to Raise Funds
- Trainings for Media Students and Workers

***Media 2*****Challenges:**

- Open Media
- Democratic Media
- Inclusive Media
- Participative Media
- Objective Media
- Ethic Media
- Independent Media
- Balanced Media
- Accessible Media
- Understandable Media
- Society needs oriented Media
- Cooperation with other Media

**18:15** Expert comments about presentations

**18:30** Questions and Answers

**19:00** Dinner

## Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2005 (Morning)

**09.15 to 10.00** Reflecting time in working groups

**10.20 to 13.00** Round table with local minority organizations from Strasbourg

### *Local Guests:*

#### **Gael Maman**

French union of Jewish students (Strasbourg division)

#### **Mustafa Elhamdani**

ATMF Labor association of Maghreb workers

#### **Valerie Ylmaz**

Activist of the Turkish community

### **Presentation of the Associations.**

#### *Gael Maman*

In France the Jewish community, as in all the other communities is not considered a minority since the French Constitution does not admit the presence of them not accepting the existence of multiple identities. In collaboration with the Minister of Education the Jewish community organizing lessons on anti-Semitism focusing on the vision young people has of Jewish people and other minorities. The problem of this kind of approach is that this is not working on a positive perception but on a negative perception: is not the promotion of a positive vision of the Jewish reality and values, but a work against a negative idea of that world.

#### *Mustafa Elhamdani*

Strasbourg is usually seen as the city of European institutions. It is also a normal European city with all its social problems. The Maghreb community is very large and in this environment the ATMF association has the aim to focus on the rights and social difficulties of this people.

ATMF was founded almost 20 years ago and is now part of national federation and a European federation of similar organizations.

The main political and social problems of this minority are linked to the absence of an idea of collective citizenship. This problem needs an answer both on the national and local level: on the national level new laws are needed, especially for what concerns the right to vote on the base of residency instead of citizenship. To do this, a change in the constitution is needed.

At the local level ATMF protects workers and citizens of this community both against discrimination on work as well as against everyday discrimination.

France tried to eradicate racism with different projects such as SOS Racism but the real problem faced by discriminated minorities is proving to have suffered from discrimination being a lack of knowledge on what are their rights. For this reason ATMF main aim is to explain the meaning of citizenship especially for what concerns French citizens with a Magreb cultural background and their right of vote: many times the environment this citizens grow up in is not yet sensible to vote right.

The organization also has to work on the local political environment: in the Strasbourg area right wing party and also the xenophobic Front National, have very high percentage at the election, this is why they decided to organize a march from Strasbourg to Kehl.

### **Multiples identities and integration**

#### *Gael Maman*

It is necessary to understand that today you can have many identities. How can we define being French? Even Jews, as well as any other minority, can be French but with a different back ground. It is also necessary to understand that being part of community must not be a form of putting oneself in the ghetto.

#### *Mustafa Elhamdani*

We have to decide what is Europe: also an immigrant is part of Europe but many of the rights related to this for an immigrant do not exist. For instance the right to mobility in the EU, the right to work in any of the country of the Union, is not guaranteed. More than 60 millions of people right now have this kind of problems.

There is also a very deep cultural problem: France does not yet totally recognize what colonialism had being and immigrants are treated as the ones to whom civilization was given to! The recognition of other cultures is extremely important: the fact of having a different background should be considered enrichment for the French society.

Integration means that every voice is listened to. Certainly it has nothing to do with assimilation also because integration must go both ways since every culture can enrich a society.

Must of all it shouldn't be expected from minorities to be like the majority: certain values cannot be taken away from a person since individuals are always the result of a history and a story. Off course we have to find a new way to live our identities.

France cannot ratify the Treaty since the constitution explicitly does not recognize the existence of minorities being all citizens considered to be alike in front of the State.

### **Collaboration between the Muslim community and the Jewish community**

#### *Mustafa Elhamdani*

At the moment there is not a strong collaboration. It is very important that international political issues correlated to the Israeli-Palestinian war do not get in to our relations in France. Even so it is important, if we want to have better relationship between the two communities, to resolve the M.O. situation.

#### *Gael Maman*

To fight racism knowing other religions is fundamental. This is why we work with other religions as Catholics and Protestants. For what concerns international political issues it is fundamental not to confuse different things and keep the Israeli-Palestinian war out side of France.

## **Political participation and representation**

### *Mustafa Elhamdani*

The Muslim back ground community has to win a battle similar to the feminist battle: at the time women had to prove that they are equal to men, now we have to prove that citizens with a different back ground are as voluble as autochthons. To do this maybe some form of positive discrimination could be a way to progress.

It is fundamental to educate French citizen of foreign origins to the vote: they are European citizens but they yet don't feel so.

### *Comment*

The concept of civilization cannot be read as a one way process. First of all dividing the world between civilized and barbarian is a way of being a barbarian. Taking in consideration the historical relation between Europe and Africa with an African point of view: we could probably say that the migration to northern Europe is taking African values and habits to Europe! Is then Africa civilizing Europe?

## **Separated schooling**

### *Mustafa Elhamdani*

The idea of separate schools is partly based on a misunderstanding: many immigrants want to give to their children the culture of their original country in the hope that they will have the opportunity to go back, but this usually doesn't happen. Most of all the great majority of Muslim countries don't have a democratic system and culture. For this reason this kind of institution does have certain danger.

## **Muslim and Jewish community and their vision on GLBT's issues.**

### *Mustafa Elhamdani*

A dialogue is beginning and we have worked with GLBT NGOs. Now a day homosexuality is more accepted in the Muslim community because it is realizing that their contribution to society is needed as well.

### *Gael Maman*

There is a Jewish gay association but they are still not fully accepted by part of the community. Helping them filling the gap is one of our aims.

## **Local projects**

### *Gael Maman*

Right now the Jewish community is working with students at a project called Coexistence. We try to have students talk about their hewn prejudices so that they will be able to fight them.

## **French law against evident religious symbols**

### *Mustafa Elhamdani*

Now there is a law that forbids any kind of evident religious symbols but is not easy to decide what is evident. With this kind of rule Jewish boys can't wear the Kippa and Muslim girls the veil. The result many times is that they will choose a confessional private school.

## **La laïcité.**

### *Gael Maman*

There are different opinions on what is the meaning of laicism. Some believes that the meaning of it is that all religions are accepted and others that religions have not social importance.

### **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2005 (Afternoon)**

The Thursday was a very busy and fruitful day for study session participants. At 15.30 all participants have been taken by bus for a boat trip around the centre of Strasbourg. It was a great opportunity for all to see specific architecture, old and new buildings of the city and to know more about its history.

After the tripe they altogether had a short but very nice and interesting walk to the bus by which all of us have been taken to the “Jardin de deux rives” on the board of France and Germany.

In that beautiful garden participants, together with 10 representatives from different minority communities of Strasbourg, planted 10 trees which were dedicated to 10 anniversary of “all different, all equal” campaign. Everybody made his contribution in to the planting process according to his possibilities. After it the president of MoE Deepak Naik had a speech during which he told the children about the campaign and said that everybody must fight against racism, xenophobia and all type of discrimination. At the end everybody had a time to think, to make a wish and to pray. It is very difficult to describe by words the mood which existed among the participants at the end of activity.

The final part of the program was a meeting with the Mayor in the City Hall of Strasbourg. Unfortunately, as a very busy political person, the Mayor was not able to meet with the study session organizers and participants personally but instead of it the participants had an honour to meet with the representative of City Hall and with head of the Directorate of Youth and Sport Mr. Ralf-Rene Weingartner. They presented the history of the city, the role which it plays in political and cultural life. After the reception everybody got an opportunity to see the city in his night lights.

The day was fruitful and full of positive emotions.

*Haykuhi Margaryan*

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2005 (Morning)

Creating Conditions for minority youth participation – ideas for a policy?

**Speaker:** Peter Lauritzen

Peter Lauritzen is the responsible for the international Department of Youth Policy at the international level. According to him, poverty exists all over the world in the same way, but when related to the minorities in Europe, we have to be aware that those minorities are most of the time more affected by it. There is a tendency to compare ethnicity to nationalism, which is wrong. Thus it is difficult to find a solution, in the presence of this similitude. Nation should be the synonym of heterogeneity.

The Council of Europe by the European Council did not define a unanimous understanding of minorities. What we have is different legal definitions for nation, state and minority, adapted in the context of each country. Even for each country it's far to be an easy process. The speaker gave us the example of Ireland, questioning if people from the north of Ireland aren't a minority? Almost all nations have this problem of identification of the minorities living in the country. It has been a tendency to exaggerate, and over consider groups as minorities. In this way, we have to consider the *social status*, has a main characteristic to distinguish the real minorities of society. People that have full access to the essential means and freedom to go wherever they want, can not be considered as a minority. Everything that is exaggerated becomes insignificant.

During the campaign "All Different All Equal", many initiatives were accomplished, as the increase of institutions, which has been considered very positive. One of the results of the Budapest Conference was the fact that it is important that all citizens can benefit from full citizenship, and have access to services and goods and be socially included. In this context Peter Lauritzen makes a citation of the French SOS Racism's director "*Put people into minorities, is a new form of racism*". Concluding that indeed we are facing an otherness phenomenon that has to be leave.

Europe has grown up on the basis of exploitation models. During the industrialisation process, many europeans couldn't find work, so the only solution was immigration. All countries have experienced periods of lack employment and still do.

The European Union doesn't have specific instruments to formally force States to include minorities.

Peter Lauritzen also informed that in September, there will be a conference about Youth Policies regarding violence issues and many questions will be placed (for e.g. what are the media images? Is anything done to reduce violence directed to youth minorities? ...)

It's clear that people with better education will have better access to the benefits of Europe, and that others won't. Finding solutions to include the minorities is a priority, but we cannot repeat what has already been done, we have to do something different. We must focus on *Access* and *Inclusion* – two key words that must be in the youth policy. We have to bear in mind the present characteristics and life styles of the youth and not on the past. It is difficult to find a balance between what we have and the global access of people.

After the presentation Kirit Mistry, as the chairperson, made a short summary opening the discussion with the participants.

**1<sup>st</sup> Question** – Banafshe Hejazi, WFM secretary, from Netherlands

*Do you think this kind of exaggeration has created difficulties to threat subjects as gender minorities?*

**Answer** – Regarding gender minority, I believe that things are getting better. Nevertheless, nothing has been done to increase women situation into the employment issues. There is still discrimination; some music expression (e.g. Rap) still demonstrates discrimination and aggressiveness of gender.

Banafshe's response is that the situation is not getting worst, but it isn't getting better either.

Peter Lauritzen – The difficulty is how to introduce, how to translate gender discrimination policies into concrete activities.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Question** – Sebihana Skenderovska, from Republic of Macedonia

*Roma people face many challenges. What is the understanding of the COE regarding this situation? And are there youngsters from Roma background working with this issues?*

**Answer** – Europe try to approach this problem studying the situation, making a report and than discussing it into the European Council. The first argument is the lack of motivation, which means that roma people don't attempt to go to school, because they don't find work. There is a relation between education and work issues. So they decided to create special schools, but this initiative wasn't accepted as a satisfactory State answer. The idea of segregation and exclusion of public schools is present.

We have been working with FERYP and other organisations that deal with this issues and I can just say that we are against special schools.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Question** – Mala Mistry, MoE, from UK

*Why is it so difficult to arrive to a universal definition?*

**Answer** – There is definition of minorities, but not a universal one. There's not a legal european definition of minorities. This definition depends of each country and its context.

**4<sup>th</sup> Question/Comment** – Jasna Magic, IGLYO, from Slovenia

*I don't agree with the statement "gender equality issues are all in progress in European Union Member countries".*

**Answer** – We live in a Europe with very diverse realities, which turns difficult to approach the gender issues, because some countries are legally better prepared and others are still far away.

**5<sup>th</sup> Question** – Asena Topcubasi, from Turkey

*In my country recently people are trying to be considered a minority, because it is sort of a special status. Isn't it better to have a recognised minority status? Isn't it contradictory?*

**6<sup>th</sup> Question** – Emmanuel Berinyuy Ngaikpu, from Belgium

*It is true that the use of the word minority is problematic. It subjects a group of people to a lower status and creates segregation.*

*What terminology could we use to convince politicians about discrimination problems some citizens face? What words could we use or methods to address this situation?*

**Answer** – I don't have an answer for this question. Using the word minority is problematic.

**7<sup>th</sup> Question** – Balkan Devlen, from Turkey

*Could you talk about the limitations of the youth direction and support?*

**Answer** – We are freer on educational support and limited in other areas.

**Kirit's Conclusion:**

*“We need to keep in the agenda those issues, find solutions and pay attention to the society inputs.”*

## The human Rights Education of the DYS

**Speaker:** Rui Gomes

After a brief introduction, Rui Gomes (Educational Advisor for CoE) started his presentation focusing on the mainstreaming of minority youth issues in the European Youth Work. He recorded the first campaign in 1995 “All different All Equal” against racism, anti-Semitism, xenophobia and intolerance. This campaign included training courses for minority youth leaders, the main targets:

- Youth leaders of migrants and refugee background;
- Roma youth leaders;
- Youth leaders in national minority youth organisations;

In 1996 it was already possible to see some results of the campaign:

- Racism Observatory;
- Declaration on the follow-up to European Youth Campaign against racism;
- Low participation of minority youth on the activities – we had to provide conditions in order to facilitate their participation;
- The almost non-existence of European or international networks or organisations of minority youth (especially ethnic minorities);

In 1997 the first LTTC participation and citizenship on empowerment of minorities of youth in Europe takes place to develop local projects and associative strategies based on participation, intercultural education and human rights in a European perspective.

Between 1997 and 2001, we could count 30 participants in each course, 30 local participation projects for minority youth; 5-6 trainers; and the inclusion of French and Russian besides the English as languages of work.

In 2002 and 2003 was done the evaluation and impact study.

In this way Human Rights Education Programme brings human rights education into the mainstreaming of youth policy and youth practice.

*“Human Rights constitute the ground where Europe should be based to be constructed.”*

This programme focuses on promoting equality in human dignity in conjunction with other programmes such as intercultural learning and participation of youth minorities.

According to Vienna Declaration in 1993, all human rights are:

- Universal;
- Indivisible;
- Interdependent;
- Inalienable – they are inherent to a person, it belongs to a person;

For 2000-2005, the main goals of the programme are:

- To identify responses to persistent violations of human dignity such as social exclusion, racism, intolerance and discrimination;
- To empower youth people to develop activities to address racism xenophobia, discrimination and gender-based form of violence. In those activities are included seminars, training courses, etc.
- “Diversity and cohesion on minority youth participation and social cohesion”;

Rui Gomes noticed that *“We all have prejudices, even if we are from a minority, we also discriminate.”*

- Recommendation on the participation of minority youth people in the education, at the local associations was effective, but at the national level it was not so effective;
- To support pilot projects;
- To support activities for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary;
- Up-dating the Education Pack and Domino.

He presented the “Compass – a Manual on Human Rights Education with Young People”, used to train youths where we can find the basic concepts of the human rights education, 50 activities and methods, taking actions and understanding of the human rights.

The speaker considers that we are leading with different tensions. In this way, he believes that there’s tension between:

- Specific claims vs. universal human rights;

This means that roles are defined by the majority that’s why it is so important to have a special protection for people who need to be respected.

- European visibility versus local effectiveness;
- Participation versus tokenism;

This means that minorities are not totally involved.

- Intercultural cooperation versus. clash of civilisations;
- Representativity vs. communication;
- Embracing versus exclusive concepts of minorities – e.g. conflicts between different ethnic groups.

The participant Fatiha remembers that *“we have to attend to the media lecture of the reality.”*, with whom Rui Gomes agreed

- Diversity versus cohesion;

Society is a space where people should be able to participate.

- Individual versus collective aspirations;

We have all to be aware of this, and abdicate of our individual aspirations that affect the collective.

There is a tendency to reduce the identity to a political and territory definition, we all are all much more than this.

### **Participant's questions:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Question** – Mahmoud Chavoushi, Me & Society Foundation, from The Netherlands.

*Why did you choose Islamophobia and not Muslimophobia?*

**Answer** – Rui Gomes uses the “Compass – Manual on Human Rights Education with young People” and reads the definition of islamophobia “Fear of Islam, muslim and fear of anything associated with it.”; he continues explaining that there are prejudice constructions from people and that some minorities are more minorities than others, some are more affected than others.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Question** - Emmanuel Berinyuy Ngaikpu, from Belgium

*Is there any campaign that talks about racist attitudes between minorities?*

**Answer** – not directly

**3<sup>rd</sup> Question** – Robert Kaso, from Ukraine

*What are going to be the supports for next year?*

**Answer** – There is a lack of money, that conditioned the activities, but during the campaign some financial programme will appear.

**4<sup>th</sup> Question** – Juul Van Hoof, from The Netherlands

*Racism is important to be called racism explicitly, you said. But what about sexual orientation? Ill it ever be named explicitly too in the aims or programmes?*

**Answer** – We think discrimination or intolerance covers sexual orientation discrimination.

**5<sup>th</sup> Question** – Fatima Habib Eddine, from Italy

*Does the programme include Islamophobia projects and european youth muslims?*

**Answer** – FEMYSO is collaborating in the programme, it's also part of the Advisory Council, but we are aware that is not enough.

Kirit made a brief conclusion and some technical announcements.

*Manuela Tavares – President of Cabo Jovem Association  
WFM/Portugal*

*&*

*Helena Pereira – Vice-President of Doroana/Portugal*

### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2005 (Afternoon)**

Afternoon session of the 5th day was opened by Banafshe. She briefly introduced participants with the tasks they should fulfill during this part of the programme. Participants were asked to work in groups on project ideas and responses to GAP analysis (challenges, difficulties, improvements and recommendations). They should collect discussions used to be on the previous day, their opinions, visions, aspirations, and bring them together into the projects which must be concrete and realistic.

In order to identify preferred ideas for the projects and choose the fields which interested them mostly participants firstly walked around the “Yellow wall” where were placed challenges developed before. They also used information on GAPS and recommendations from flipcharts placed on the other side of the plenary room. The main question participants had to answer on and reflect in their projects was as following: “What are the priorities and needs of the young people I work with”.

Afterwards participants signed up for a project group on the flipcharts and were divided into four groups, each of which was supported by 2 facilitators:

- Education and civil society (facilitators – Mariam and Fatiha)
- Family life and employment (facilitators – Kirit and Claudia)
- Political participation and gender equality (facilitators – Banafshe and Levent)
- Media and popular culture (facilitators – Michele and Sanil)

In each group participants were asked to present their project ideas/ main topics and share them with other members of the group. Participants had the possibility to be divided into sub-groups in accordance to priorities and topics chosen by the work group members. Each of the sub-group discussed the nature, timeframe, place and partners with whom they liked to develop and implement their project. They also should indicate results and follow up to the activity, and the level (international, local or national) on which they would like to develop their project.

Among recommendations given by facilitators was the proposal to work out projects which can be integrated into the upcoming and follow up campaign “All Different, All Equal”.

After separate work of each of the sub-groups, participants were asked to join their original group and discuss their project ideas with others. The group work went on in a very amusing way: there were lots of ideas and impressions. Participants were rather endeavoured to prepare interesting projects and to plan how to present them in the plenary. Methods of presentation were up to the participants: creative, less creative or not creative at all. Each group will have 15 minutes for making presentations on Saturday morning. To conclude description of the afternoon session should be mentioned that it was rather productive and saturate.

*Alexandra Kalatozishvili, GEORGIA*

## **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2005 (Morning)**

### **Session 1**

**09.15 to 11.00**

Introduction to the day is made by the president of MoE and also by the president of WFM.

Levent Eyipisiren, the President of MoE emphasized the importance of the project ideas that came out after this study session. He also emphasized that the recommendations which are the products of this study sessions will be passed to the Council of Europe and these will then become concrete steps.

The recommendations are read by the President of MoE and by the president of WFM.

#### **Recommendations :**

Acknowledging the achievements of the first decade of the All Different – All Equal campaign, bearing in mind the continuous challenges minority youth across Europe face and stressing the need for further improvement in all European societies,

Minorities of Europe (MoE) and Young Women From Minorities (WFM), with the cooperation of “All Different All Equal”- New Challenges for the European Youth in a Multicultural Europe – ten years after the European Youth Campaign (29th May – 5th June 2005) have the pleasure of presenting our recommendations to the Secretary General, Council of Europe, Mr. Terry Davis on Saturday 4th June 2005.

#### **Council of Europe**

1. We encourage the Council of Europe to increase the budget of the Directorate of Youth and Sport, in particular the activities of the European Youth Centers in Strasbourg and Budapest, to further strengthen their work with minority young people, their organisations and other youth partners.
2. The follow-up campaign of the Council of Europe (All Different – All Equal, Participation, Human Rights and Diversity) should build on the lessons learnt from the previous youth campaign to ensure avoidance of repetition, and the creation of new opportunities to achieve the goal of One Europe for All.
3. For the new campaign to achieve a maximum benefit, the Steering Committee should establish efficient channels of co-operation with relevant organisations representing minority youth and their interests in a proactive way through their inclusion in decision making structures created for that purpose.
4. The campaign budget should reflect current realities and should be based new funds, not relabelled from other sources.
5. The Council of Europe should promote the legislation on migration that allows for better access to reunification of families as in accordance with the Geneva conventions and other international human rights instruments.
6. The Council of Europe should promote equal rights for the LGBT community and legal recognition of gay marriages.
7. The Council should encourage the participation and representation of minority communities in the media.

8. We encourage the CoE to work closely with the Municipality of Strasbourg, that contributed substantially to success of the All Different – All Equal Campaign.

### **The Directorate of Youth and Sport**

9. The Directorate of Youth and Sport should support the empowerment of European minority youth networks such as Minorities of Europe (MoE), Young Women From Minorities (WFM) and others, through capacity building to enhance their further participation as partners in various forums such as the Advisory Council of the Directorate of Youth and Sport and the European Youth Forum.
10. The Directorate should foster greater involvement of minority young women in the activities supported by the Directorate.
11. The Directorate should encourage the representation of gender and minority perspectives in all activities it supports.
12. The Directorate should encourage inter-generational dialogue within the minority communities on “controversial” issues, such as sexual orientation, honour killings, etc.
13. Young people with disabilities should have greater access to mobility across the borders of the Member States in order to ensure adequate representation in international activities.
14. The Directorate should promote greater participation of minority youth in the development and implementation of educational policies.
15. The Long-term Training Course for minority youth is a vital instrument in the realisation of empowering minority young people and their communities both at local and national levels. The training course was major source of hope and confidence among minority youth organisations active at a European level as way in which they channel issues and challenges of Racism, Anti-Semitism, Xenophobia, Islamophobia and Homophobia to European policy structures. The withdrawal of support for this programme further marginalises minority communities in Europe. We therefore call upon both the Council of Europe and its members to fully support the reintroduction of this training course.
16. “Compass” is an excellent educational tool for promoting Human Rights Education; however areas such as inter-religious and interfaith dialogue and LGBT are critically lacking. We request the consideration of the Directorate in this regard as it is a vital issue affecting the lives of young people in Europe today.
17. The European Youth Foundation to review its criteria and policy particularly on the disbursement of the mobility fund to take into account the difficulties of trans-European rail travel particularly for minority young people requiring Visas from various countries and long hours of journeys.
18. We encourage the Advisory Council to follow the implementation process of the recommendations on the participation of minority youth.
19. We encourage the Advisory Council to increase the number of minority youth organisations represented.

### **National Youth Councils and other national youth partners working with the Directorate of Youth and Sport**

20. We call for inclusion through realistic action plans of and by minority young people and their organisations by national youth structures to enhance their full participation in youth policy development and implementation at national and local levels.

The President of MoE introduced Ms. Meral Duran who is working with the Secretary General Terry Davis.

The President of WFM invited the participants to present their project ideas.

### **Group I : Education and Civil Society**

#### **A Pilot Project – The Community Leadership Programme (CLP) for minority ethnic Youth**

The aim of the project is to create minority ethnic community leaders through relevant training and work experience opportunities with a focus on addressing the diversity and participation agenda of the 2006 All Different All Equal campaign.

#### **Objectives :**

- To build the capacity of young minority ethnic people, to enable them to address issues relating to minority ethnic youth effectively, as relevant to their local situation.
- To increase the awareness within local, national and European youth structures of local issues pertaining to minority ethnic youth.
- To increase the career prospects of minority ethnic youth.
- To contribute to community cohesion initiatives in local areas relating to youth or creation of new cohesion projects where there are gaps.
- To create strong relationships and negotiate partnerships with local, national and European “minority” and “majority” youth counterparts.
- Empowering and building the confidence of minority youth.
- Sharing learning and best practice between apprentices on the programme.

In line with the start of the 2006 All Different All Equal campaign, it will be a 12-month project.

The project will be based in England and Poland. A specific region will be chosen within each country. ( e.g. North West of England )

Appropriate minority ethnic organisations with a youth wing will be chosen to “host” the 5 apprentices in each country. A suitable “majority” organisation may also be considered. A mapping exercise will be undertaken to identify possible organisations and they will be invited to submit a proposal in line with the guidelines drawn up by a panel.

Other support mechanisms will be MoE, European Youth Forum, local authorities, Council of Europe, government organisations, relevant EU structures, youth councils etc.

5 young people from each country will be selected as apprentices through a selection process. Whilst these will be unpaid roles, there will be an investment in developing the skills and abilities of the apprentices. The apprentices will undertake intensive training; a holistic approach will be used to ensure that the apprentices develop a well-rounded understanding of the issues relevant to minority youth in their region as well the situation of youth in other regions and countries. This will involve developing the skills, knowledge and experience of

apprentices with the aim of making them more employable and increasing their career and life chances. The training package will include:

- Capacity building of the communities
- Community cohesion
- Conflict reduction
- Mediation
- Partnership and networking
- Leadership
- Interfaith dialogue

Applying for funding : The young people will have a role as part of their brief to apply for continued funding for the project (with support from the host organisations, and others )  
The apprentices will also spend some time with local authority/ municipality or equivalent structure to gain an understanding of local government structures, particularly with relevance to youth.

#### **The Brief for Apprentices:**

- The 5 apprentices in each country will work together wherever possible in developing projects with a focus on fostering community cohesion through arts.
- To work with youth NGOs and develop positive relationships between minority ethnic and majority youth organisations.
- To mentor a second cohort of community leaders.
- To support minority ethnic youth organisations.
- To address issues of minority ethnic youth isolation through the development of appropriate projects in conjunction with other agencies.
- To develop relationships with local/national government.

The 10 young leaders will meet twice in the 12 months to share their experiences and evaluate progress against work plans. Monthly reports will be produced.

#### **Feasibility of the Project**

Costs : Training ( although it is being tried to get this at very little or no cost ), OOPES- out of pocket expenses (travel and food), management costs of the hosting organisation, line manager/project coordinator.

Resources : Office space and access to office equipment and stationary to be supplied by host organisation.

Possible funding resources : Local Authority, Government Funding, European Funding, private trusts/foundations/donors, European Youth Forum etc.

#### **Follow up on Project:**

Track progress and development of apprentices for 5 year following the programme to see how far the CLP has contributed to their lives and careers.

A report produced following the pilot distributed to national youth NGOs as well as other stakeholders and relevant parties.

The outcomes of the Project will be; increased community cohesion, creation of minority ethnic community leaders ( graduation ceremony to celebrate the achievement of community leadership status at the end of the programme), ongoing creation of minority ethnic youth co, unity leaders, conference and arts-based project, such as a play.

## **Group II : Integration and Cultural Learning**

The project is formulated against the ignorance about the minority cultures. The aim of the project is to develop and integrate a pilot programme for the integration and cultural learning into formal education.

The duration of the project will be one year.

The training will be conducted by the experts in the field.. It will be conducted in two schools. One of them will be in Azerbaijan.

The result of the project will be to have spread a good understanding of integration and cultural learning.

## **Group III : Human Rights Education**

### **Family Tree of Human Rights Education**

The project will be based on an international training for trainers. The trainings will be conducted on regional and national basis. Then they will make their local campaigns on human rights. The campaigns will be at schools and there will also be street work.

The aims of the project are;

- To train young trainers from different countries of Europe on human rights.
- To set up a network of trainers.
- To develop national networks.
- To develop local networks.
- To conduct streetwork campaigns.

The target group will be the young people from all over Europe.

The project is planned to start on September 2005.

## **Group IV : ( Two Sub-groups )**

### **1) Kindergarten for Roma Community**

The aim of the Project is to increase the number of Roma people at primary school, to convince the parents to send their children to school, and to make sure that these children are accepted to schools.

There will be a pilot class. A roma assistant will help the children and help them teach their culture. The project will be a long-term one which will be 2-4 years.

## 2) **Education and Civil Society**

Diversity Project « Celebrating Diversity »

### **Objectives of the project :**

- To increase awareness and to celebrate the diversity within the two cities participating in the project (Rotterdam and Turin)
- To promote the advantages of the diversity within both cities
- To increase the participation and involvement of young people in the promotion of diversity
- To encourage young people to say no against any form of discrimination

### **Execution of the project:**

The project will take place in Rotterdam, Netherlands and Turin, Italy

### **Elements of the project:**

- A) Education
- B) Diversity youth parade in the street/concert
- C) International lecture and award ceremony

#### *A) Education*

- Schools will be visited to integrate the diversity education in the curriculum of secondary and high school (this will take place for some months starting in November 2005 in Rotterdam).

#### ▪ **Diversity Youth Forums**

Two diversity Youth Forums will be organized to facilitate true intercultural dialogue between the different groups. This part of the project will be executed by both cities and in both cities (one forum in Rotterdam and one in Turin).

#### *B) Diversity Parade/Concert*

After the organized forums a bigger activity will be carried out. In Rotterdam the youth diversity parade will take place while in Turin a diversity youth concert will be organized. This is really celebrating the diversity!

- C) International lecture and award ceremony

This part of the project will only be executed in Rotterdam. A world leader will be selected to receive the anti-discrimination award and will be invited to hold an international lecture.

**Time frame**

The whole project will take place between October 2005- March 2006.  
The activity itself will take place in March 2006.

**Potential partners**

- Council of Europe
- European Youth Forum
- Local and European NGO's
- Local Municipalities
- Youth organizations within both cities

**Results:**

- Increased awareness especially among young people on diversity.
- Increased participation of young people in the promotion of diversity activities.
- Broaden the coalition against any form of racism and discrimination.

**Follow-up:**

The creation of a picture book to be used as a new educational tool. After the evaluation this project will be carried out in 2007.

**Group V : Family Life and Employment**

The project will be an Action 5 Training Course.

Venue1 will be conducted at a village close to Stockholm named Malmköping in Sweden.

Date: 25 June 2006 - 2 July 2006

Application: 1 November 2005

Venue2 will be conducted at a village in south part of Turkey, near seaside.

Date: end of January 2007

Application: 1 June 2006

Partner Countries will be; Turkey, Sweden, UK

Bulgaria, Macedonia, Nederland (6 countries)

There will be 4 participants and 1 Trainer from each country and the group will be 30 in total.

The project aims to develop methods of promoting the direct participation and active citizenship of young people with less opportunities through a non formal educational process. It aims to involve these young people in all stages of the project, from decision making and co-management, through to delivery, evaluation and dissemination. It aims to provide them with the skills, information and motivation to fully participate at local, national and European levels using the YOUTH programme as a vehicle to develop inclusive, youth led activities and initiatives.

## **Group VI : Political Participation**

### **Sub-group 1 : “I’m going to vote!” Training for Minority Youth**

The aim of the project is to make the Hungarian youth in Ukraine participate to political life for local and national elections.

#### **The objectives of the Project are;**

To raise the awareness of youth about the main political ideologies.

To introduce Ukrainian legal framework for voting system.

There will be role playing game to explain the voting procedure.

The implementing organisations will be “Gardrus” and Committee of Voters of Ukraine.

The Project is planned to be conducted between December 2005- April 2006.

The target region will be Trans Carpathia, Ukraine; 8 – 10 location populated with Hungarian minorities. There will be 28 – 30 participants in each region.

The expected results of the Project will be; The Hungarian minority young people in Ukraine will be more aware of the necessity and importance of voting.

### **Sub-group 2 : Capacity Building Training for Minority Young Leaders**

The target region will be the Western Europe. The first training will take place in Brussels.

The aims and the objectives of the Project are;

To train minority young leaders to develop their organizational capacity.

PR training and networking.

Training regarding youth participation within political process at the national level and at local level.

The result of the project will be; the increased organizational capacity and continued networking among the minority youth in Western Europe.

The follow up of the Project will be the sustained networking, and establishment of communication channels.

### **Sub-group 3 : Course on Youth Active Citizenship in Azerbaijan**

The aim of the Project is to encourage the youth for active political participation. The target audience among the minority and majority youth will be identified. The young people living mainly in rural areas will be encouraged.

The information about ‘the rights are for all’ will be delivered by government and by NGOs.

The project will on February 2006 and will last for one week.

## **Group VII : Media and Popular Culture**

The Project is; “On the Way to Civil Society”. There will be a seminar on introduction with mechanisms of cooperation and establishing of a dialogue among representatives of state structures, non-governmental sector and mass-media in respect to national minority issues.

The Project is planned to be in April-September 2006, in Georgia.

The applicant organization is, Union “Public Movement Multicultural Georgia” in Partnership with World Independent Youth Union (Armenia), NGO “Jasmine” (Uzbekistan), Youth Information and Mobility Center (Latvia), Kosovo Nansen Dialogue (Serbia and Montenegro).

The target group will be the representatives of state structures, non-governmental sector and mass-media.

During the seminar methods of formal and non-formal education will be used (Lectures, workshops, discussions, role and simulation games).

The outcomes of the project will be that the participants will increase their essence concerning realities and problems of ethnic minorities in Georgia that will lead to development of intercultural dialogue, cooperation and interaction among the participants. As a result of the project will also increase number of publications in mass-media regarding national minorities issues.

As a follow up measure report on the organization and implementation of the project will be issued and disseminated among all interested persons (direct and indirect beneficiaries of the project) and organizations composed by minorities, involving minorities and addressing minority issues. Positive experience of fruitful implementation of the project will be put on realities of the partner countries to the project.

Experts will be the persons experienced in the issues addressed by the project from Eastern and Western Europe.

After the presentation of the projects, the president of WFM expressed their willingness to contribute to these projects.

The president of MoE, Levent told that we had the chance to identify the gaps here. He said that it is sure that these projects are not only ideas. These are real ideas which will be worked on. He also told that MoE can also be a partner for other projects as well. He said they will be pleased to receive some other project ideas as well.

### **Session 2**

#### **11.20 to 13.00**

Secretary General of the Council of Europe Terry Davis and the Directorate of Youth and Sports Ralf René Weingartner participated to the session.

The president of MoE and the president of WFM introduced the study session and the president of MoE emphasized that there were 65 people from different backgrounds.

A video presentation on one of the previous activities of MoE was made. The name of the activity was called “**Sharing the Sacred – Serving the World**”.

"Minorities in Europe" set up a project entitled "Sharing the Sacred - Serving the World". This aspires to build on the existing level and quality of Interfaith dialogue and action in the United Kingdom, using the CPWR Conference as a resource. With its own unique focus on young people from diverse backgrounds "Minorities of Europe" aimed to enhance awareness of the positive roles that different faiths play, when they work together to address real world issues such as war, poverty, health and education.

Deepak made a presentation. He emphasized that they have changed the attitudes and hearts of young people. During the All Different and All Equal campaign the essential means to communicate are used such as arts. Deepak told that we are active, and told about the exhibitions and activities.

The president of MoE, Levent told that we would like to share our recommendations which came out after this study session, with the Secretary General and with the Directorate of Youth and Sports. Then the recommendations are read again.

Ralf Rene took the speech and expressed his enjoyment to youth activities. He told that he was the one who pushed the issue of youth and All Different All Equal Campaign. He told that we have to exploit this in an efficient way.

He said that MoE and WFM are the two babies of the first campaign. Within a new campaign, he said that we will be active in carrying out new activities.

The Secretary General was invited to deliver his speech.

#### **The Secretary General Terry Davis:**

“I was elected by the parliamentary assembly by 300 votes in June 2004. I started on September 1<sup>st</sup> for 5 years.”

“ There are not too many people who know about Council of Europe. The citizens of Europe and Governments do not know that the budget of CoE is too small compared to even one activity of the EU Parliament. However we would like to work more actively.

We have campaigns on ;

- 1- Racism, anti-semitism, xenophobia.
- 2- Youth.

Democracy and human rights are promoted in our campaign to fight against racism. When the governments are together they discuss the priorities about the projects. The cost for the projects are 14 million euros each year. Therefore we should classify the projects.

There are campaigns about racism, about cultural diversity, gender and disability discrimination. But they don't have the ability to cope with the current problems. Racism is not taken on hand by minority but by the majority. Media's role is very important here, because it has an important responsibility. The necessary conditions of the states are taken into consideration. Which condition is not the necessary? Respect is necessary to built an

understanding. That's why I am supporting the culturally active young. Council of Europe concentrates on these problems.

Going through the recommendations:

- 1) I can't promise for this. But I defend the youth programs. Efficiency of the NGOs in the organizations is important.
- 2) I agree with the second recommendation.
- 3) I agree with the third recommendation.
- 4) There are many new realities to be addressed and pointed out in order that a separate budget is allocated. There are 80.000 people who are applying concerning them.
- 5) Reunification of families is also an issue about the migration in EU. It has to be solved.
- 6) I am opposed to discrimination of any grounds.
- 7) There exists. The Council encourages the media for the representation of minorities.
- 8) I agree. I always support the municipality of Strasbourg for many activities. We work not only with the municipality but also with the Counsel General.

We have to cooperate in a very concrete and concise manner.”

**Sandra** talked about the Public Movement of Georgia and its activities. She emphasized the importance of informing the Georgians about the mechanism. She talked about the Shadow Report on the minorities and ethnic origins in Georgia. She said that we should pay attention to these issues. She thanked.

**Deepak** : “Quality could also disappear. Cost effectiveness doesn't mean that it will lose its quality. Ongoing infrastructure is strengthened for the use of young people. It includes EYF and some special opportunity to engage with you and with the activities.

The original campaign is 4 million \$. We need to make sure that we have a budget (new money) to make the activities more productive.”

**Banafshe** : “How can we support you?”

**Secretary General**: “I appreciate what you are doing in Georgia. The charter is as a measure for minority rights.”

“In Council of Europe, the efficiency of the minority activities should be increased. We wanted this campaign and we have binding decisions by you as you are part of the decision making process. We'll increase our cooperation. In schools, in universities we should have some positive outputs from the campaign. We'll ensure that our cooperation will increase.”

**Director of youth and Sport, Ralf-René**: “Sports should be included in the organizations. We should use sports as a tool to fight against racism. Sports have an important role, so we should include civil society and sports.”

**Mariam**: “Taking into consideration the 18<sup>th</sup> article of the recommendations, it is important to make sure the involvement of minority organizations. It is also important that local authorities are also involved. Here we have potential partners for the campaign.”

**Kirit:** “How can we support the Council of Europe for the visibility of the actions? When we look at the governmental side, there is cooperation of governmental and non-governmental organizations for the new campaign.”

**Fatiha:** “What will you do at a European level to influence the countries that have prejudice to minorities?”

**Secretary General:** “Sports is important in the fight against violence. Sports enhance friendship between countries. Team sports provide a forum to create a harmony.”

“I’ll do my best to allocate more money for the youth.”

“For the 18<sup>th</sup> recommendation; there are elections in the Advisory Council in every 3 years, so new decisions will be taken.”

“For visibility of actions, the question is how the organizations can be used. This is extremely in my personal program for Council of Europe.”

“At the Directorate for Communications we have a very rich archive, but this is not communication, because this is history, not future. Therefore we should do more than this.”

**Adviser for Media:** “I am very grateful for your offer. I’ll bear it in mind. We should learn from the experience and raise some way for the future.”

**Secretary General:** “For the question of what we can do at European level to influence the countries who have prejudice, I am sorry about the French position. I am passionately against anti-Semitism. French are not that enthusiastic. I don’t know what will happen.”

“There was institutionalized discrimination in Alabama in USA. The solution was to get involved in politics and by the electoral ways show your willingness to change the situation.”

“For example in Latvia, framework convention with Latvian minorities is signed by this way.”

“If I were you I would vote for the people who understand my needs. As I can’t change French laws, the only thing that I can advice is to vote for your needs.”

The president of Minorities of Europe, Levent Eyipisiren thanked to the Secretary General Terry Davis for is speech and invited everybody to the ceremony and for the cake of All Different All Equal.

## Conclusion

The overall aim of this study session was to provide a space where youth leaders in particular those working with minority young people can discuss and develop strategies in effectively promoting past, present and future of the All Different All Equal campaign in their communities.

In pursuing this aim, the preparatory team of MoE and WFM made extensive use of the experiences of Council of Europe's Youth Directorate and the expertise of the educational advisors and previous and current activities of 'Minorities of Europe' and 'Young Women from Minorities'.

The study session managed to fulfil the following objectives:

- ❖ To gather participants from local and grass root communities to exchange their experiences on the All Different All Equal Campaign and Intercultural Dialogue as it is practiced in their communities.
- ❖ To present to participants the past, present and future of the All Different All Equal Campaign Programme of the Youth Directorate of Council of Europe and recent developments of 'Minorities of Europe' & 'Young Women from Minorities' and other examples of good practices.
- ❖ To increase the participants' awareness and better understanding of intercultural learning.
- ❖ To discuss and develop concrete initiatives, projects and ideas on the campaign and Intercultural Dialogue to be implemented in their own organisations and/or in co-operation with Minorities of Europe and/or Young Women from Minorities and other networks.
- ❖ To make recommendations to the Youth Directorate on the need to mainstream minority youth issues in future youth policy and programme development in the framework of Intercultural Dialogue and the All Different All Equal Campaign at all levels.

In achieving these aims and objectives, Minorities of Europe and Young Women from Minorities aspired to strengthen and enlarge its existing European network and encourage new partnerships.

In addition to addressing these topics, the participants had unique opportunity to contribute to the development of a Recommendation to the Secretary General, Terry Davis of Council of Europe and Ralf-Rene Weingartner, Director of Youth & Sport, inviting them to adopt specific policies to promote the participation of young people from minority backgrounds in society, including the possibilities of training of minority youth leaders in the new All Different All Equal Campaign.

## Participants List

### Albania

Ms	SINANI	NARVINA
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### Azerbaijan

Mr.	AGHABAYLI	RUSLAN
Mr.	AHMADOV	RAHMAN
Mr.	AHMADOV	VUGAR
Ms	TAHIROVA	RENA

### Armenia

Ms	MARGARYAN	HAYKUHI
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### Belgium

Mr.	BERINYUY NGAIKPU	EMMANUEL
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### Bulgaria

Ms	IKONOMOVA	DILIANA
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### Belarus

Ms	MILENTEY	ALEXANDRA
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### Czech Republic

Ms	HORVATHOVA	LUCIE
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### France

Ms	BELLIO	FABIA
Ms	SABATIER	CLOE

### Germany

Mr.	APTULOV	NARIN
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### Georgia

Ms	KALATOZISHVILI	ALEXANDRA
Mr.	MIRZOEV	AGIT

### Greece

Ms	OMER	GULSEREN
Mr.	SARDELIS	LEFTERIS

### Italy

Ms	ADUSO	ANTONELLA
Ms	ASTORE	EMILIA
Mr.	BLANC	DAVIDE
Mr.	FORNACA	MATTEO
Ms	HABIB EDDINE	FATIMA

### Latvia

Ms	JURKOVA	NATALJA
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Mr.	MILOVS	ALEKSANDRS
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#### **Moldova**

Ms	BUGA	NATALIA
Ms	MATIUSCENCO	MARIA

#### **Netherlands**

Mr.	BELFOR	SERGIO
Mr.	CHAVOUSHI	MAHMOUD
Ms	VAN HOOF	JUUL

#### **Poland**

Mr.	FRAS	MAKSIMILIAN
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#### **Portugal**

Ms	PEREIRA	HELENA
Ms	TAVARES	MANUELA

#### **Romania**

Ms	ABDULGEMIL	ESENGHIUL
Mrs	ROXANA	BARBELI

#### **Sweden**

Ms.	AY	A.CEREN
Ms	BARATI	MARIAM
Ms	DOUBAKIL	FATIMA
Ms	MAGIC	JASNA

#### **Serbie-Montenegro**

Mr.	ANTIC	DEJAN
Mr.	ISENI	MUHAMMER

#### **Turkey**

Mr.	DEVLEN	BALKAN
Ms	SONMEZ	DIDEM OZBAHCECI
Mr	SONMEZ	ALIHAN
Ms	TOPCUBASI	ASENA

#### **The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**

Ms	ARSOVSKA	ALEKSANDRA
Ms	MITEVSKA	TATJANA
Ms	SKENDEROVSKA	SEBIHANA
Ms	STERIOVA	ANDRIJANA

#### **Ukraine**

Mr.	KASO	ROBERT
Ms	OLESHKO	OLESYA

### **United Kingdom**

Mr	GIFFORD	MARK
Mr.	HAJI-KELLA	MOHAMED
Mr	MASIH	MARK
Mr.	MASON	STEPHEN
Mrs	MISTRY	MALA
Mr.	MODESSA	SANIL
Mr	NAIK	DEEPAK
Ms	PATEL	HARSHA

### **Uzbekistan**

Ms	GABDULHAKOVA	DINARA
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### **TEAM MEMBERS**

Levent Eyipisiren  
Pervana Mammadova  
Kirit Mistry  
Fatiha Tarib  
Mariam Yassin  
Banafshe Hajezi  
Claudia Belchor  
Michelle Thompson

**Turkey**  
**Azerbaijan**  
**United Kingdom**  
**France**  
**Italy**  
**Netherlands**  
**Portugal**  
**United Kingdom**

