



european network
against racism



European network against racism

ENAR, the voice of the European anti-racist movement



The European Network Against Racism: an overview

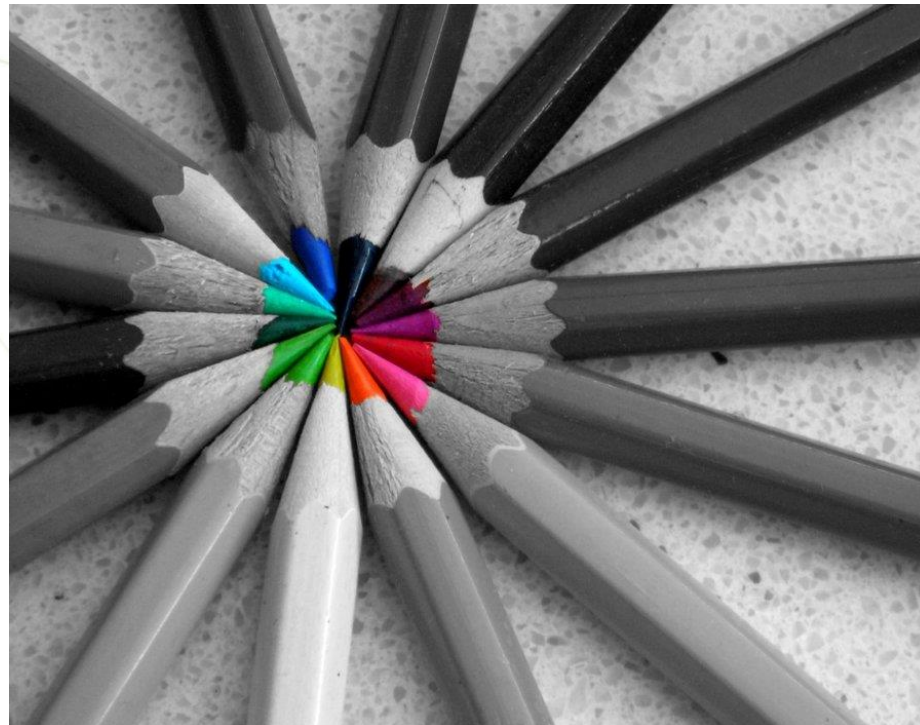
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Vision & Mission

- Full equality, solidarity & well-being for all
- Combat racism and discrimination
- Benefits of a diverse & racism-free Europe for European society and economy



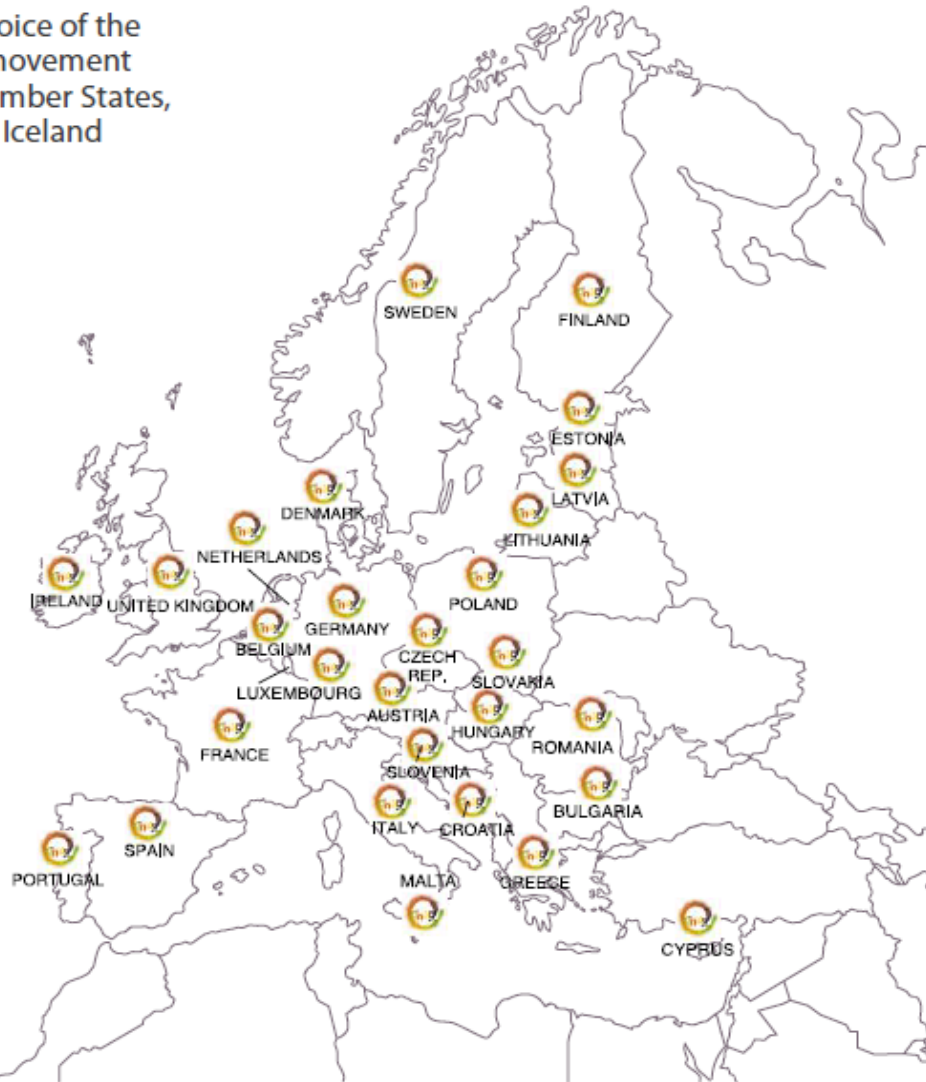


■ How it all started...

- 1997 European Year Against Racism
- ENAR established in 1998
- Purpose:
 - Establish an NGO partner to interact with EU institutions
 - Give a European dimension to the fight against racism



ENAR, the voice of the anti-racist movement in 27 EU Member States, Croatia and Iceland





The ENAR network

- Network of vibrant NGOs working to combat racism in EU member states
- ENAR members directly connected to ENAR Europe
- Members provide grassroots perspective to ENAR's work and bring the voice of victims of racism and discrimination throughout Europe





■ ENAR's members:

- Grassroots organisations
- Advocacy organisations
- Information centres
- Faith-based organisations
- Migrants organisations
- Trade unions
- ...

Any organisation involved in the fight against racism!



■ ENAR Secretariat

- Based in Brussels
- Coordination and organisation of the network
- Development and implementation of the Work Programme

■ Funding

- European Commission
- Foundations



Our work: Influence the European political agenda

Monitor EU policy developments, lobbying & advocacy, meet key EU officials in all EU institutions, alliances with other actors in Europe





Our work: coordinate the ENAR network

Service Europe-wide network of anti-racist organisations, voice their concerns in EU & national policy debates, exchange information, experience & best practice





Development of the EU anti-racist agenda



- No competence or legal base in this area in the EU treaties until 1999
- Amsterdam Treaty (1999)
 - “combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation”
 - Specific reference to the prevention and combating of racism as an objective by reference to the area of freedom, security and justice
- Adoption of Race Equality & Employment Equality Directives in 2000
- New proposal for a directive on non-discrimination outside employment on grounds of age, sexual orientation, disability and religion or belief (2008)
- Lisbon Treaty (2009): Charter of Fundamental Rights
- EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies (2011)



Priorities: European elections



- Parties and politicians propagating xenophobic ideas and programmes are getting stronger => need for action!
- Campaign actions
 - 7 demands to advance equality in the European Union for candidates and political parties
 - Joint campaign with ILGA-Europe: Appeal for an election campaign free from discrimination and monitoring of hate speech by national candidates
 - Joint campaign with UNITED: canvassing in France, Greece, Hungary and Italy to encourage voters not to support parties and candidates with xenophobic and racist views
 - I vote for diversity Facebook page



Do you know that?



- **Roma** - 78% of Roma in Slovakia and 73% in the Czech Republic experience discrimination when looking for a job.
- **People of African Descent and Black Europeans** - In the UK, Black people are at least six times more likely to be stopped and searched than a white person.
- **Muslims** - 1 in 3 Muslim respondents EU-wide experienced discrimination at least once over the last 12 months. In France, 85% of Islamophobic acts target women.
- **Jews** - 2 in 3 Jewish respondents consider anti-Semitism to be a major problem in the eight countries in which the majority of the estimated EU Jewish population lives.
- **Migrants** - In Greece, there were 154 incidents of racist violence – mainly physical attacks - committed against refugees and migrants in 2012.



Priorities: Focus on marginalised communities

- People of African descent, Roma, Jews, Muslims and migrants face specific forms of racism - **Afrophobia, anti-Gypsyism, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and xenophobia** - which hamper their inclusion perspectives. These forms of racism require specific actions and policies.
- Examples of actions
 - Afrophobia hearing in the European Parliament
 - European Roma Policy Coalition
 - Report on Islamophobia
 - Solidarity between different communities: International Holocaust Day and Roma Day.



Priorities: Equality data collection



- Without measuring and quantifying the extent of discrimination and inequalities in Europe, it becomes very difficult to tackle them effectively. That's why we are calling for more data to measure discrimination and ensure equality in outcome.
- Examples of actions
 - Symposium on equality data collection
 - Advocacy meetings with European Commission, EU Fundamental Rights Agency
 - NGO meetings on equality data collection, to raise awareness of the need for data about disadvantaged minorities in the EU and ensure equality data is collected in consultation with the groups who are victims of discrimination



Priorities: Equal@work platform



- Brings together businesses, social partners, NGOs, public authorities and academics committed to diversity and inclusion, to find solutions so that ethnic and religious minorities can fully participate in the labour market
- Partners share best practices, explore innovative dimensions and engage in a constructive dialogue to increase the recruitment, retention and career progression of ethnic minorities and migrants



Where are we today?

■ Positive developments

- Stronger anti-discrimination and racist crime legislation
- Civil society mobilisation

BUT...

- Focus on economic migration and controlling 'illegal' migration
- Increasing mainstreaming and popularity of far right discourses
- Incidences of racist violence and speech continue

Future direction for ENAR:

to promote a narrative that recognises the benefits of a racism-free Europe and the importance of equality and diversity for a vibrant European society and economy





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ENAR Advocacy work on Roma inclusion



■ Roma: the largest minority in Europe and highly affected by racial discrimination and/or racist violence



■ ENAR: a strong advocate for Roma inclusion in front of the EU institutions in order to contribute to the improvement of Roma communities' situation



Main objectives:

- To ensure that the fight against anti-Gypsyism is mainstreamed in the National Roma Integration Strategies
- To ensure Roma participation in the implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategies
- To ensure the Council recommendation of 2013 is applied by Member States and improve the implementation of the NRIS
- To ensure the Race Equality Directive is applied by Member States and protect Roma from discrimination





Advocacy tools



Towards the EU institutions



- **Meetings** with MEPs, EC, Perm. Rep.
- **Monitoring of/influence on EU developments:**
Consultation responses, recommendations, statements, policy positions
 - ENAR pushed for the adoption of anti-discrimination laws; the EU Framework Decision on combating Racism and Xenophobia; the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies
- **Expertise-provider**
 - ENAR is a consultative member of the Roma task force of the EC





■ Towards civil society



■ **Joint projects/campaigns**

- ENAR/UNITED and ILGA projects ahead of the EP elections



■ **Capacity building and training** of our members, exchange of experience and best practice



■ **Partnerships** with other organisations promoting equality

- ENAR as active member of the European Roma Policy Coalition



■ Importance of **community mobilisation** and **empowerment**





Towards media and the general public

- Organisation of and interventions in **conferences**
- Public opinion **awareness-raising**
 - Joint-press release on the occasion of the International Roma Day, co-signed by around 15 NGOs representing different communities
- **Publication of articles** in European media and ENAR blog
 - *"I have a hope! I believe in Roma inclusion!"* by Lola Hasani, 24-year-old Roma from Macedonia, 18th of April





Thank you!

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