

**NO HATE
EMBASSY**

Manual for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

Guidelines on addressing hate speech



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European Union

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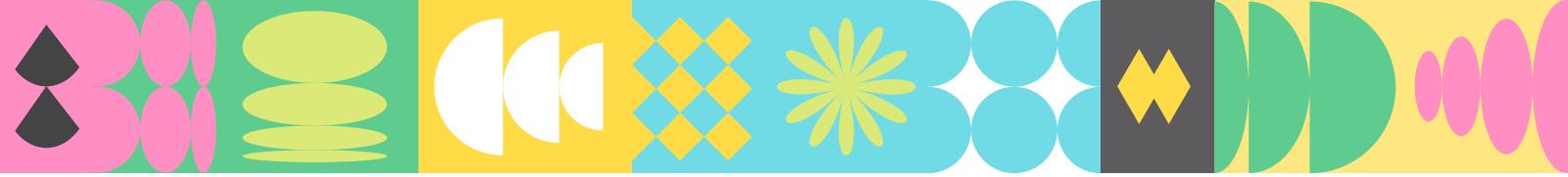


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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

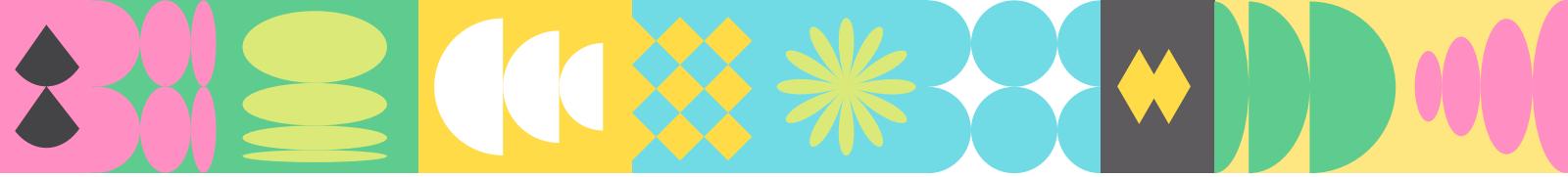
This manual addresses the alarming increase in hate speech, in Europe and its neighboring regions. Amid rising extremism and growing political divisions, hate speech has become pervasive, especially in online spaces. This has led to the normalization of discrimination, exclusion, and violent acts, creating an urgent need for proactive measures.

Also highlights the critical role of youth engagement, critical thinking, and media literacy in combating hate speech. Youth workers, educators, and civil society organizations (CSOs) are uniquely positioned to empower young people to challenge extremist narratives, promote democratic values, and build inclusive societies. Given that youth are both key targets and contributors to hate speech narratives, preventive measures tailored to this group are essential.

The project detailed in this manual leverages intercultural dialogue and critical thinking to prevent hate speech through dynamic youth engagement in both online and offline settings. It underscores the importance of inclusivity, diversity, and solidarity in fostering environments of mutual respect and understanding. By strengthening collaboration between Europe and the Southern Mediterranean, the project advances digital skills, civic engagement, and strategies to counter extremism.

This manual offers practical tools and actionable recommendations to policymakers, youth workers, educators, and CSOs to address the multifaceted challenges of hate speech. It serves as a guide for fostering inclusion, promoting democratic values, and preventing the spread of harmful ideologies among youth. The insights and findings aim to create lasting impact by equipping key stakeholders with strategies to tackle hate speech effectively and sustainably.

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INTRODUCTION

1 Project — description

There has been an increase in hate speech, the occurrence of hate crimes, and attacks on migrants and refugees, as well as a rise in religious and political extremism and terrorist attacks in Europe and its neighboring regions (Council of Europe, Committee on Social Affairs, 2020). In this context, migration and integration discussions have become central to public debates, with some voices being easily swayed by populist rhetoric, polarizing opinions around migration, religion, and inclusion. This polarization, fueled by false information spread via media platforms, has led to divided public opinion, often without critical reflection. As a result, marginalized groups, such as refugees, newcomers, young people with a migrant background, and LGBTQ individuals, are frequently targeted by hate speech.

Statistics highlight the prevalence of hate speech on social media and its detrimental effects on youth, individuals, and communities. For instance, the Global Disinformation Index reported that at least 235 websites promoting hate speech and extremism generated almost 30 million euros in ad revenue in 2019.

Similarly, a 2020 study by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue found that more than 30% of over 12,000 Instagram accounts shared QAnon content tied to white supremacy and neo-Nazism. The spread of hate speech can normalize discrimination and violence, fostering unsafe environments for marginalized groups and leading to further exclusion.

Addressing hate speech is crucial for all responsible members of society. Cultural insularity and extremism are products of societal failures to promote a shared sense of belonging and democratic values. Youth engagement is vital in combating these factors.

Youth workers play a key role in strengthening the resilience of vulnerable youth, preventing them from

becoming either perpetrators or victims of hate speech. By fostering critical thinking through media literacy and promoting common democratic values, youth can help create open, inclusive, and safe spaces for dialogue.

Investing in preventive measures targeting young people and involving them in shaping these measures is essential. This project aligns with the EU's goal of fostering inclusion and diversity, empowering youth, and developing critical thinking to resist extremist influences. The project also addresses the Euro-Mediterranean context, where youth from both shores of the Mediterranean will work together on intercultural dialogue, peacebuilding, and preventing hate speech.

The project aims to advance tolerance, inclusion, and diversity, which are key to addressing youth radicalization and hate speech. By leveraging digital tools and enhancing digital skills, the project empowers young people and civil society organizations to engage in civic activities and counter hate speech online.

This multifaceted approach includes promoting digital literacy and critical thinking, key to combating the spread of harmful ideologies and fostering resilient youth who actively participate in building inclusive societies.

The project is in line with the Erasmus+ priorities of Inclusion and Diversity, contributing to the EU Youth Strategy (2019-2027) and its goal to support young people's participation in democratic processes. This initiative, which involves organizations from diverse cultural contexts, is crucial for addressing the challenges of xenophobia, anti-diversity narratives, and growing ideological polarization in Europe and its neighboring regions.

2 Involved — organizations

Coconutwork

Representing: Italy & France

There has been an increase in hate speech, the occurrence of hate crimes, and attacks on migrants and refugees, as well as a rise in religious and political extremism and terrorist attacks in Europe and its neighboring regions (Council of Europe, Committee on Soc A Euro-Mediterranean network empowering youth for personal and professional growth through community engagement.

It offers non-formal education in entrepreneurship, human rights, and digital literacy, focusing on NEETs and youth from migrant backgrounds. CoconutWork fosters intercultural understanding, combats prejudice and hate speech, and strengthens partnerships across the Middle East, North Africa, and South Europe.

Euromed Eve

Representing: Tunisia

An NGO focused on youth development. It aims to enhance cultural understanding among youth, build bridges between Tunisian and Euro-Mediterranean youth, promote Tunisian culture, and foster democratic values in a Euro-Mediterranean context

MIHI for training and development

Representing: Egypt

A social enterprise focused on youth empowerment and community development. It offers various programs aiming to expand youth opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Geyc

Representing: Romania

A youth organization operating across Europe that coordinates the PRISMA European Network, holds UN consultative status, and focuses on empowering youth through peer education and mass communication to create positive community change.

Masterpeace

Representing: Morocco

Part of the global MasterPeace network, it promotes peace and social change in Morocco through community engagement, empowering individuals via art projects, peace education workshops, cultural exchanges, and advocacy campaigns.

3 What are the needs for such a project?

Being young in the Southern Mediterranean today means navigating a web of challenges, including complex political situations, high unemployment rates, stagnant economies, divided societies, and under-resourced education systems. These vulnerabilities have been exploited by extremist groups such as ISIS, who use hateful propaganda to recruit disenfranchised youth. Additionally, marginalized groups, including the LGBTQ+ community, face systemic discrimination, hate speech, and, at times, physical violence.

In Europe, youth from migrant backgrounds and the LGBTQ+ community also experience discrimination exacerbated by hate speech, often perpetuated through mass media. The inaction of governments in addressing this issue has allowed far-right extremism

to flourish, creating an environment where such behaviour is normalized. These challenges underscore the urgent need for intercultural and peace-building activities to foster cohesive societies.

Youth NGOs across the region have expressed grave concern about the growing prevalence of hate speech and discrimination. This project was initiated to respond to these pressing issues, emphasizing the shared responsibility of civil society organizations (CSOs) and youth workers in addressing hate speech and fostering inclusion.

We are interested because youth NGOs all over the region express reasonable concern about the current situation. Intercultural and peace-building activities are needed more than ever for cohesive societies.

4 Why these countries?

The participating countries in this project were chosen because of their distinct yet interconnected challenges concerning hate speech and discrimination. Each represents a context where hate speech is a pressing issue, and collaboration is vital to fostering change. Below is a breakdown of the key issues faced by each country:

France

Despite its commitment to freedom of expression, France grapples with rising hate speech targeting Muslims and immigrants. Government efforts, such as specialized police units, highlight the ongoing struggle to balance freedom of expression and minority rights.

Italy

Hate crimes and Islamophobia are on the rise, and gaps in anti-discrimination laws, particularly regarding religion, leave marginalized groups vulnerable. Urgent attention is needed to address these challenges in employment, education, and public life.

Tunisia

The rise of hate speech targeting African migrants has been exacerbated by political rhetoric, illustrating the need for stronger governmental and civil society responses.

Romania

Ethnic minorities such as the Roma, LGBTQ+ individuals, and immigrants face significant hate speech. While some government measures exist, enforcement remains weak, perpetuating discrimination and exclusion.

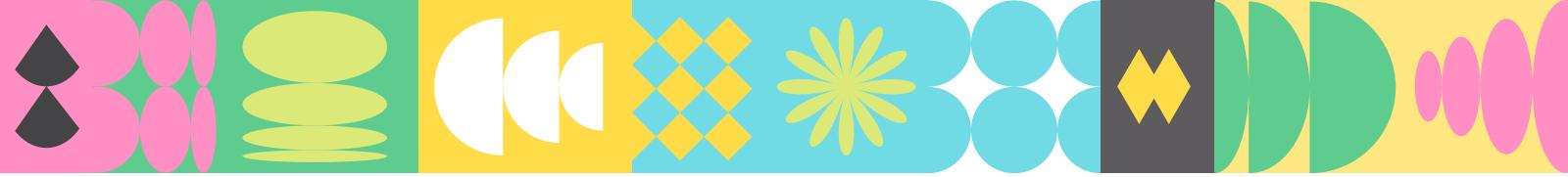
Morocco

Religious minorities and LGBTQ+ individuals face pervasive discrimination and hate speech. Although laws against hate speech exist, inconsistent implementation leaves marginalized groups at risk.

Egypt

Discrimination against minority groups, including Coptic Christians, LGBTQ+ individuals, and political dissidents, remains prevalent. Legislative efforts have been insufficient in curbing hate speech and its associated violence.

These countries represent diverse yet critical contexts where addressing hate speech and fostering inclusion is essential. By working together, CSOs and young people can advocate for stronger legal frameworks, promote awareness, and build more inclusive communities.



HATE SPEECH COMPARATIVE STUDY



Civil society organizations (CSOs) are at the forefront of combating hate speech. As community leaders, advocates, and changemakers, they play a vital role in promoting inclusion, human rights, and peace. Here we will delve into how CSOs can strengthen community resilience, advocate for robust anti-discrimination laws, and develop innovative programs that foster mutual understanding and respect.

CSOs also serve as bridges between marginalized communities and policymakers, ensuring that the voices of the vulnerable are heard. By collaborating with youth workers, educators, and local communities, they can create sustainable solutions to address hate speech and its underlying causes. Their work is essential in fostering societies where diversity is celebrated, and democratic values are upheld.

1 Hate speech and _____ civil society organization work

The methodology of the study carried out by the involved organizations includes reviewing studies, reports, and legal frameworks, along with examples of hate speech provided by each organization. This study also includes an analysis of the cultural context of each country and how it impacts its hate speech situation, based on **Geert Hofstede's Cultural Dimensions Theory**, which examines national cultures through six key dimensions: Power Distance, Individualism vs. Collectivism, Masculinity vs. Femininity, Uncertainty Avoidance, Long-Term vs. Short-Term Orientation, and Indulgence vs. Restraint. This model helps us assess how cultural values influence societal attitudes toward hate speech and tolerance.

2 Comparative _____

Hate speech in Egypt Comparative study findings

Hate speech in Egypt is often linked to its impact on minorities, religious freedom, and national unity. While there is no specific legal definition, it is generally understood to involve expressions inciting violence or discrimination based on religion, ethnicity, or identity. Hate speech is addressed through blasphemy laws and counterterrorism legislation, though these laws can restrict freedom of expression, especially for religious minorities and dissidents. Ethical journalism initiatives encourage Egypt to adopt international standards to balance combating hate speech with protecting freedom of expression.

Ethnic and religious composition

Egypt has a predominantly homogenous population, with over 99.7% being Egyptian. Ethnic minorities include Nubians, Berbers, Bedouins, and small migrant communities, such as Armenians and Sudanese. The religious composition is mainly Muslim (90-95%), with Christians (mainly Copts) making up around 10-15%.

Migration

Egypt hosts around 9 million migrants, mainly from countries such as Syria, Libya, and Yemen. It also has over 3 million Egyptians living abroad, mainly in Arab countries.

Hate speech in Egypt

Comparative study findings

Hate speech regulations

Egypt addresses hate speech through a combination of constitutional provisions, blasphemy laws, and anti-discrimination clauses. Article 53 of the Constitution criminalizes discrimination, and Articles 95-96 of the Penal Code address hate speech related to religion, race, and ethnicity. However, there is no dedicated law for hate speech, and laws like blasphemy and counterterrorism laws are often used to address related issues.

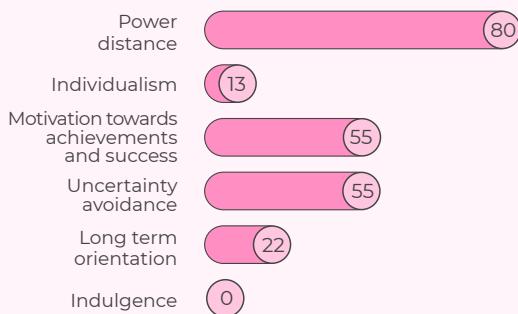
Human rights education

Several organizations are involved in human rights education in Egypt, such as the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR), and UNICEF Egypt. These initiatives face challenges such as censorship, government restrictions, and social conservatism.

Challenges in managing hate speech

Egypt's main challenges include a lack of clear legal definitions for hate speech, societal attitudes that normalize hate speech as freedom of expression, and difficulties in enforcement. There are also technical barriers in monitoring hate speech in local dialects and on international platforms. Additionally, misinformation amplifies hate speech.

The cultural dimensions of Egypt



SOURCE: data from The Culture Factor Group, based on Hofstede's Cultural Dimension framework. Latest update: October 16, 2023

Interesting facts

Despite hosting millions of migrants, Egypt does not have refugee camps or segregated migrant cities. Migrants live alongside Egyptians, which presents both social challenges and opportunities for integration.

Cultural context analysis

According to publicly available data on Hofstede's six dimensions, Egypt has a moderate Power Distance

where authority is respected but can also be challenged, especially on social media.

Criticism of authorities can lead to hate speech if perceived as a threat to social order, although growing social media usage allows for more public discussions on discrimination. As a collectivist society, Egypt values group harmony, and hate speech often targets perceived outsiders or minority groups, with hate speech against out-groups, such as religious minorities, being common and sometimes unchecked due to collective biases.

The society is relatively balanced, but traditional gender roles are prevalent, and gender-based hate speech, particularly targeting women in public spaces, is widespread. Anti-hate campaigns in Egypt often focus on raising awareness about gender equality. Egyptians prefer stability, so hate speech laws are enforced strictly, though their interpretation can vary. These laws are primarily used to maintain public order, sometimes at the cost of freedom of speech.

Egypt's focus on tradition resists social change, complicating long-term efforts to combat hate speech. However, immediate solutions, like social media campaigns, are used to address hate speech. Restraint is highly valued, limiting tolerance for negative public expression, and while hate speech is less visible publicly, it is more common online, where anonymity allows freedom from restraint.

Hate speech examples and responses

In Egypt, collective biases and preference for group harmony often result in discrimination against minority groups going unchecked. For instance, a report from BBC Arabic reveals the widespread denial about racial discrimination and highlights the bullying and racial hate speech that some Egyptians suffer due to their dark skin.

Such biases, though rarely acknowledged publicly, surface more openly online, where anonymity bypasses cultural restraint. Similarly, anti-refugee sentiments have intensified, particularly against Sudanese and Syrian migrants. These communities have been victim to social media coordinated campaigns that advocate for refugee deportation and business boycotts, making real-world discrimination even more severe.

This illustrates how collective suspicion toward perceived outsiders can thrive, fueled by Egypt's collectivist values and resistance to social change, despite occasional media and activist initiatives aiming for increased accountability and public awareness.

Hate speech in France

Comparative study findings

In France, hate speech refers to public incitement to hatred, violence, or discrimination, which is prohibited by law and punishable by fines or imprisonment for up to 10 years. This can include malicious acts targeting individuals or groups based on characteristics like nationality, religion, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, or disability. Hate speech can be conveyed through speech, writing, images, or videos. The Gayssot Law of 1990 prohibits denying crimes against humanity, such as the Holocaust.

Ethnicity

In terms of ethnicity, France regulates the production of ethnic statistics to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation. The Constitutional Council prohibits processing personal data revealing racial or ethnic origins and restricts introducing race or religion variables into administrative files. Public statistics can measure diversity, discrimination, and integration using objective and subjective data, while ensuring anonymity and statistical secrecy.

Religion

Regarding religion, France sees a growing number of people without religious affiliation (51%), while Catholicism (29%) and Islam (10%) remain significant. Religious practice varies, with 8% of Catholics attending worship regularly, compared to 20% for other religious groups. The transmission of religious identity across generations is strong, especially within Muslim and Jewish families.

Migration

Migration data shows that France is a significant player in EU migration, with 120,000 emigrants, 138,000 asylum applicants, and 136,000 orders to leave. The country also plays a key role in the EU Blue Card program for highly qualified workers.

Regulation

Hate speech regulations are enforced through laws like the 1881 Freedom of the Press Act, which criminalizes hate speech based on race, religion, or nationality. The 2019 Avia Law combats online hate speech, requiring removal of content within 24 hours. The CSA (Council of Audiovisual Media) monitors media to ensure compliance with principles of respect for human dignity and pluralism, with penalties for violations.

Educational programs

Educational programs, both in schools and NGOs, aim to combat racism, xenophobia, and intolerance. Programs

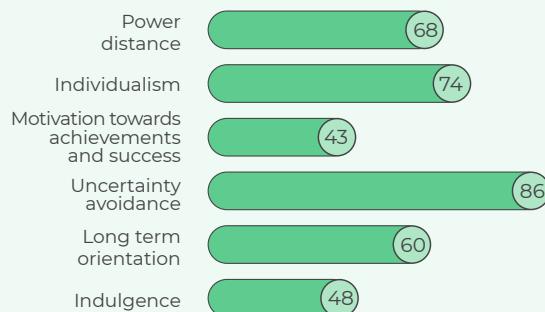
like "Civic and Moral Education" and campaigns such as "The Week Against Racism and Discrimination" raise awareness among young people. Organizations like LICRA, SOS Racisme, and La Cimade actively work on these issues, alongside governmental initiatives like the "Laïcité and Values of the Republic" program.

Challenges

Despite efforts, challenges persist in managing hate speech due to the growing volume of information and the lack of critical thinking. The French government must continue working to combat hate speech, especially in light of tensions within its large Jewish and Muslim communities. Legal measures include fines and imprisonment for those who incite hatred.

Cultural context analysis

The cultural dimensions of France



SOURCE: data from The Culture Factor Group, based on Hofstede's Cultural Dimension framework. Latest update: Octoboer 16, 2023

France's cultural context features a high power distance, where authority figures are respected, yet equality remains a core value, leading to strong public criticism of hate speech from officials. France's highly individualistic culture prioritizes personal freedom, creating challenges in balancing freedom of expression with hate speech regulation. A masculine focus on assertiveness and competition fosters a direct approach to addressing discrimination, supported by public campaigns promoting equality. High uncertainty avoidance drives strict enforcement of well-defined hate speech laws, reflected in the penal code's comprehensive coverage of racial, ethnic, and religious hate speech. France's balanced approach to short- and long-term goals ensures immediate responses to hate speech while fostering societal change through educational initiatives. With moderate indulgence, public expression is generally open, though restrictions are accepted to maintain social harmony.

Hate speech in France

Comparative study findings

Hate speech examples and responses

The secular dynamics are evident in France's responses to hate speech. Following the murder of Samuel Paty, a surge of extremist rhetoric online led to swift arrests and tighter digital monitoring, demonstrating France's strict enforcement of hate speech laws. Similarly, after a rise in Islamophobic attacks following terrorist incidents,

authorities reinforced security at religious sites and launched public campaigns promoting unity. However, the tension between free speech and regulation is evident in cases like Marine Le Pen's controversial remarks on immigration, which, despite public condemnation, remained legally unchallenged due to political immunity.

Hate speech in Italy

Comparative study findings

Hate speech in Italy often intersects with issues of migration, ethnicity, and political discourse. While legal definitions align with European frameworks, hate speech commonly targets migrants, ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ communities, and religious groups. The legal framework is supported by anti-discrimination laws, yet enforcement varies, particularly in online and political spheres. Italy faces challenges balancing freedom of speech with combating hate speech effectively. Civil society and educational initiatives aim to promote tolerance and counter prejudice.

Ethnic and religious composition

Italy's population is primarily ethnically Italian, with growing immigrant communities from Romania, Albania, Morocco, China, and Ukraine. The predominant religion is Christianity, with Roman Catholicism accounting for about 71%, while 3% follow other Christian denominations. Minority religions include Islam (4%), Buddhism, and Judaism, alongside non-religious groups.

Migration

Italy is a key destination for migrants entering Europe, with over 5 million foreign residents, mainly from Romania, Albania, and Morocco. It also serves as a transit point for irregular migration from Africa and the Middle East. Conversely, many Italians live abroad, particularly in the Americas and Europe, forming a diaspora of over 5 million.

Hate speech regulations

Italy addresses hate speech through constitutional guarantees and specific laws. Article 3 of the Constitution guarantees equality and prohibits discrimination. Additionally, Article 604 bis of the Penal Code criminalizes incitement to racial, ethnic, or religious hatred. Online hate speech is regulated under the EU Digital Services Act. However, hate speech laws face criticism for underreporting and inconsistent enforcement.

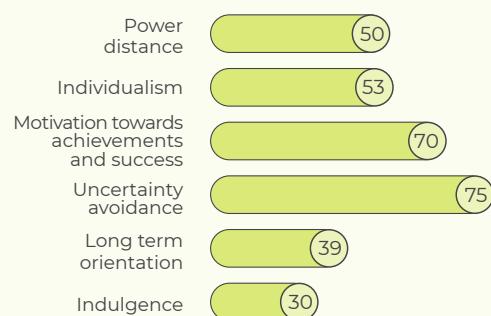
Human rights education

Numerous organizations, such as Amnesty International Italy and UNAR (National Office Against Racial Discrimination), engage in promoting human rights education. Educational programs focus on fostering inclusion and tolerance among youth, though challenges like limited outreach and funding persist.

Challenges in managing hate speech

Italy struggles with polarized political rhetoric, which often normalizes hate speech, particularly against migrants and minorities. Enforcement of hate speech laws remains inconsistent, and online platforms pose difficulties in monitoring and accountability. Societal attitudes and a fragmented approach to education further complicate efforts.

The cultural dimensions of Italy



SOURCE: data from The Culture Factor Group, based on Hofstede's Cultural Dimension framework. Latest update: October 16, 2023

Interesting facts

Italy hosts a diverse immigrant community integrated into urban and rural areas, contributing significantly to its economy and culture. Despite challenges, many local communities actively promote cultural exchange, showcasing Italy's potential for fostering inclusion amidst growing diversity.



Hate speech in Italy

Comparative study findings

Cultural Context Analysis

Italy's cultural context reflects moderate power distance, where authority is respected but open to challenge, fostering some citizen engagement against hate speech. High individualism encourages personal responsibility and support for anti-hate speech laws, balanced with respect for freedom of expression. While a masculine orientation may perpetuate gender-based hate speech, there is growing advocacy for inclusion. Italy's preference for clear rules results in well-defined hate speech laws, though flexibility in policy adaptation may be limited.

A moderate long-term orientation supports gradual progress through both immediate measures and sustained education, while restraint in emotional expression may reduce overt hate speech but pressure conformity.

Hate speech examples and responses

Media and political discourse in Italy are significant sources of hate speech, particularly during electoral

campaigns or migration crises. Amnesty International's "Hate Barometer 2022" highlighted widespread discriminatory language used by Italian political candidates, with nearly one-tenth of their online posts targeting immigrants, religious minorities, and citizenship issues. Sensationalist reporting and inflammatory rhetoric often amplify stereotypes, fueling further discrimination. As a response, there have been numerous campaigns that aim to expose biases in media coverage and challenge misinformation that fuel xenophobic attitudes. Despite Italy's clear anti-hate speech laws, online sexist and gender-based harassment also remains common, which reflects the country's masculine orientation and partial tolerance for prejudiced discourse.

Italy's response to hate speech combines active civil society engagement, targeted campaigns against discrimination, media literacy initiatives, and clear legal frameworks. However, effectiveness remains constrained by prevailing cultural attitudes and inconsistent enforcement.

Hate speech in Morocco

Comparative study findings

In Morocco, hate speech refers to any form of expression that incites violence, hatred, or discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, or other protected characteristics. The Moroccan Constitution explicitly prohibits all forms of incitement to hatred and violence. The legal framework surrounding hate speech includes laws that criminalize discrimination and acts of hostility against individuals or groups. Despite the clear legal stance, the enforcement of these laws, especially in the digital space, presents challenges.

The growing prevalence of hate speech online, along with the inconsistent application of penalties, highlights the complexity of managing this issue. According to the Moroccan Constitution, Chapter 23, "All incitement to racism, to hatred, and to violence is prohibited." Hate speech in Morocco is broadly defined as any discourse or act that encourages hostility, discrimination, or violence against individuals or groups based on their race, religion, ethnicity, or other distinguishing features.

The legal framework aims to prevent the spread of extremist ideologies and divisive rhetoric, while also balancing free speech rights with the protection of vulnerable communities. Hate speech can take various forms, including verbal expressions, media content, and online posts.

Ethnic groups (%)

Arab-Amazigh: 99% of the population, including Arabs who migrated in the 7th century and Amazigh, the indigenous people of Morocco.

Others: 1%, comprising sub-Saharan Africans, Europeans (mainly French and Spanish), and a small Jewish population.

SOURCE: [WIKIPEDIA - DEMOGRAPHICS OF MOROCCO](#)

Religious groups (%)

In Morocco, the last statistics show the following religious composition:

99.67%	Muslims
0.13%	Agnostics
0.1%	Bahá'ís
0.9%	Christians
0.01%	Jews

Migration

Outgoing: Large emigration to Europe, the US, and Canada for work or family.

Incoming: Transit hub for sub-Saharan migrants; some granted legal status.



Hate speech in Morocco

Comparative study findings

Hate speech regulation(s)

Criminal level:

Since 2003, Law No. 24-03 amended the Penal Code to introduce a special section on discrimination crimes. According to Article 431-1:

"Any discrimination between natural persons due to national origin, social origin, colour, sex, family status, health status, disability, political opinion, union affiliation, or due to real or supposed affiliation or non-affiliation to a particular race, nation, lineage, or religion."

Article 431-5 addresses the penalty for incitement to discrimination or hate:

"Anyone who incites discrimination or hatred between persons shall be punished by imprisonment from one month to one year and a fine of 5,000 dirhams to 50,000 dirhams, or by one of these two penalties. The penalty may extend to imprisonment for one to two years and a fine if the incitement is made through speeches, shouting, threats, posters, or any other means that meet the publicity condition, including electronic, paper, and audio-visual means."

Human rights educational programs (formal/NGO specific references)

» **Faculty of Legal, Economic, and Social Sciences of Tangier:** A course on "Fight Against Human Trafficking," under the European Council's HELP Program. This initiative aims to improve the understanding of human rights standards by legal professionals in Morocco.

» **National Human Rights Council (CNDH):** Established in 1990, this institution promotes and protects human rights in Morocco. It was reformed in 2001 and again in 2011, expanding its powers and autonomy. The Council also serves as the national preventive mechanism against torture, disability rights, and child redress mechanism.

Challenges in managing hate speech

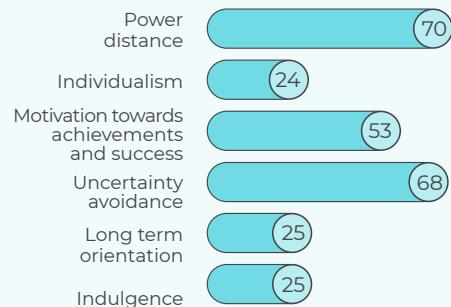
Hate speech in Morocco, especially online, is growing, and tensions around ethnic identity, such as remarks by Ilyas El Malki targeting the Amazigh, fuel division. Legal actions to counter hate speech remain inconsistent, and there is a challenge in balancing free speech with anti-discrimination laws.

Cultural Context Analysis

Morocco is characterized by high power distance, meaning authority figures significantly shape public discourse; their silence on hate speech can normalize it, weakening victims' access to justice. Its collectivist society reinforces strong in-group bonds, creating suspicion towards outsiders and obstacles for minority

integration. While the cultural emphasis on honor and shame limits overt expressions of hate, it often drives such behaviors underground or online.

The cultural dimensions of Morocco



SOURCE: data from The Culture Factor Group, based on Hofstede's Cultural Dimension framework. Latest update: October 16, 2023

The country's moderate masculinity encourages family-oriented values over competitiveness, yet patriarchal norms still allow gender-based hate speech to persist. High uncertainty avoidance fosters resistance to social change, intensifying discriminatory attitudes toward immigrants, LGBTQ+ individuals, and minority beliefs, while discouraging victims from reporting hate speech due to uncertain legal outcomes. As a normative society resistant to external influences, the people can exhibit hostility towards those challenging traditional norms. Additionally, low indulgence levels correlate with cynicism and negativity, further enabling private or online hate speech to remain unchecked.

Examples and responses to hate speech

In Morocco, a prominent streamer publicly made derogatory remarks against Amazigh people, calling them intellectually inferior. His comments sparked widespread backlash, media condemnation, and ultimately led to his arrest, which demonstrates that public outrage can drive accountability when authorities remain passive. In the same vein, online platforms frequently host gender-based hate speech, such as posts ridiculing Moroccan women seeking financial independence or criticizing employed women's marital choices.

Hateful responses labeling these women as "immoral" or "depraved" remain widespread, with no legal repercussions. This reflects a broader societal acceptance of patriarchal norms, where such speech often goes unchallenged. These incidents highlight Morocco's inconsistent enforcement of hate speech laws, as accountability often follows public outrage rather than proactive legal action.

Hate speech in Romania

Comparative study findings

Hate speech refers to the incitement of hatred, discrimination, or hostility against individuals based on specific characteristics like sexual orientation or gender identity. It includes actions such as physical or verbal aggression and irrational fears such as homophobia and transphobia.

Ethnic groups

The majority ethnic group in Romania is Romanian (88.9%), followed by Hungarians (6.5%), and Roma (3.3%). Other ethnic communities, including Germans, Ukrainians, and others, account for 1.3% of the population.

Religious groups

The predominant religion in Romania is Christian Orthodoxy, with 86.45% of the population adhering to this faith. Other recognized religious groups include Catholicism, Protestantism, Evangelism, Islam, and Judaism. Romania supports religious freedom, ensuring access to education in various religious practices.

Migration

Romania has experienced a net migration of +82,000 people in the last two years. Immigrants mostly come from Hungary, Ukraine, Moldova, and countries like India and Pakistan. Many work in agriculture, construction, IT, and services. Romania has also seen significant emigration, with 2.1 million Romanians leaving the country between 2013-2022.

Hate speech regulation(s)

Hate speech is regulated under Romania's Criminal Code and the Law on Preventing and Punishing All Forms of Discrimination (No. 48/2000). The Constitution guarantees freedom of speech but limits it when it threatens national security, public order, or individual rights. The National Council for Combating Discrimination (CNCD) enforces these laws.

Human rights educational programmes

» **Formal programs:** High school courses like Education for Democratic Citizenship address human rights.

» **Non-formal education:** Programs such as the European Fellowship on Human Rights by GEYC promote digital rights.

» **Teacher training:** The IRDO offers courses to integrate human rights education in teaching.

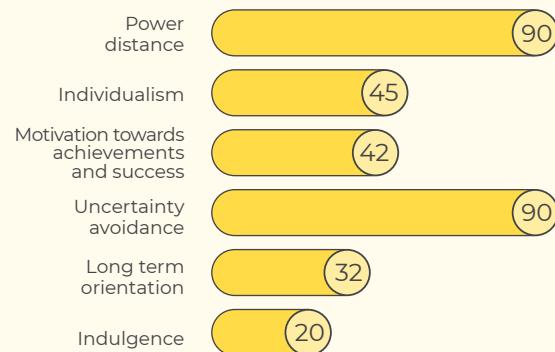
» **Public awareness campaigns:** APADOR-CH runs campaigns to raise human rights awareness.

Challenges in managing hate speech

- » **Social media:** The influence of Facebook groups and fake profiles complicates managing hate speech.
- » **Normalization of discrimination:** Jokes and biased behaviors often go unchecked, leading to the normalization of hate speech.
- » **Inconsistent enforcement:** Laws against hate speech are inconsistently enforced, especially in digital spaces.

Cultural context analysis

The cultural dimensions of Romania



SOURCE: data from The Culture Factor Group, based on Hofstede's Cultural Dimension framework. Latest update: Octobre 16, 2023

Romania's relatively high Power Distance indicates a strong respect for hierarchy and authority, which influences the dynamics of hate speech in the country. Authority figures are more likely to use divisive language without facing backlash, as societal norms discourage challenging those in power. This can lead to prejudiced discourse going unchecked, as citizens are reluctant to report or oppose hate speech by prominent individuals, fearing little change will occur.

Media censorship is also more pronounced, with public figures often receiving favorable coverage, and grassroots movements may struggle to gain support. Romania's collectivist culture prioritizes group identity and social cohesion over individual rights, which results in less robust protections against hate speech for out-groups and a tendency to rationalize prejudice against those perceived as outsiders.

The influence of family and close social circles significantly shapes attitudes toward hate speech, with filter bubbles and echo chambers playing a large role.

With a mid-level Masculinity score, Romania sees gender-based hate speech, especially against women.



Hate speech in Romania

Comparative study findings

and LGBTQ+ individuals, as a common issue, with traditional views on masculinity and femininity still holding sway. There is a slow shift toward more rehabilitative approaches in addressing hate speech, though societal biases still limit inclusivity.

Romania's high Uncertainty Avoidance favors clear, prescriptive laws, which can limit flexibility in handling hate speech and slow the introduction of new policies or cultural practices. Long-term strategies for addressing hate speech are gradually emerging, but political shifts often prioritize immediate needs. The country's culture leans toward restraint, which reduces overt expressions of hate speech but does not eliminate underlying biases.

Government censorship is moderately accepted when aimed at maintaining public order, but humor that includes potentially offensive content is often tolerated.

Hate speech examples and responses

In Romania, Nicolae Tanase, an Orthodox priest and anti-abortion activist, blamed victims of sexual violence, stating that "pretty girls who attract rapists" should face prison time. The Romanian Orthodox Church condemned his remarks as "prehistoric and profoundly unjust," yet still acknowledged his philanthropic work, reflecting society's deference to authority and selective accountability. Similarly, far-right politician George Simion publicly referred to Prime Minister Marcel Ciolacu as a "Roma" in a derogatory manner, reinforcing ethnic prejudices in political discourse. Despite public backlash, no legal action followed, illustrating the normalization of divisive rhetoric by figures in power. These cases showcase Romania's hierarchical structure and collectivist biases, where hate speech from influential figures often faces criticism but rarely legal consequences.

Hate speech in Tunisia

Comparative study findings

Hate speech in Tunisia refers to language, content, or expression that incites violence, discrimination, or hostility towards individuals or groups based on religion, ethnicity, race, gender, or political views. The 2018 anti-discrimination law provides a legal framework to address hate speech, although its implementation remains inconsistent.

Ethnic groups

- » **Arab-Berber:** 98% (Arabization blending with Berber roots)
- » **Other:** 2%, including small communities of Europeans, sub-Saharan Africans, and Jews

Religious groups

- » **Muslim (Sunni):** Approximately 99% of the population
- » **Christian:** Less than 1%, mostly foreigners (about 30,000 residents)
- » **Jewish:** Approximately 1,500 individuals, mainly on the island of Djerba and in Zarzis
- » **Other/Unaffiliated:** Small fraction, including Bahá'ís and nonbelievers

Migration

Outgoing: High emigration rates to Europe, especially France and Italy, for education and employment.

Incoming: Tunisia is a transit hub for sub-Saharan migrants heading to Europe, with some settling in urban centers.

Hate speech regulations

- » **Law No. 50 of 2018** on Fighting Racial Discrimination: Prohibits racial discrimination and promotes equality.
- » **Decree Law No. 54 of 2022:** Criminalizes the dissemination of "false information" online, with penalties up to five years in prison. While intended to combat misinformation, the law has been criticized for suppressing dissent and limiting freedom of speech.
- » **Cybercrime Law (Decree No. 2018-42):** Aims to regulate online behavior and protect citizens from cyber threats.

Human rights educational programs

Human rights education in Tunisia is integrated into both formal education and through NGOs:

- » **Universities:** Institutions like the University of Tunis and the University of Sfax offer specialized human rights programs.
- » **NGOs:** Organizations such as the Tunisian Association for the Defense of Human Rights (LTDH), Amnesty International Tunisia, and Mawjoudin provide training programs that focus on gender equality, LGBTQ+ rights, democracy, and social justice.



Hate speech in Tunisia

Comparative study findings

Challenges in managing hate speech

- » The absence of clear definitions in laws complicates enforcement.
- » Political polarization and online platforms amplify inflammatory rhetoric.
- » Rural areas face a lack of awareness about hate speech, hindering effective prevention.
- » Resource limitations and political sensitivities affect the enforcement of hate speech laws, especially when it targets powerful figures.

Interesting facts

Homosexuality remains criminalized in Tunisia with prison sentences of up to three years, but growing activism among youth is contributing to increasing social acceptance of LGBTQ+ rights.

Tunisia's status as a transit hub for sub-Saharan migrants highlights ongoing challenges in migration and social integration, alongside political tensions.

Cultural context analysis

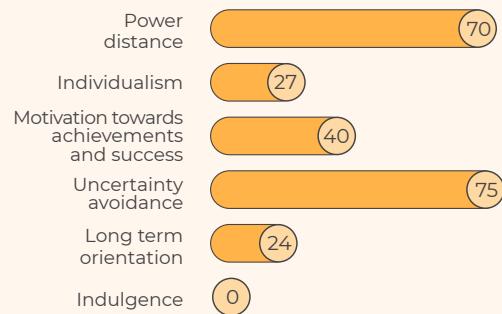
Tunisia's cultural context features low power distance, fostering accountability and public criticism of authority, while its collectivist nature emphasizes group cohesion but risks bias against minorities. The country's low masculinity encourages empathy and cooperation, supporting tolerance-driven policies and education. Tunisians prefer predictability but are open to flexibility, with moderately strict hate speech laws that can sometimes be selectively applied. In addition to this, the restrained culture limits overt hate speech, though underlying prejudices often surface online.

The country is also characterized by a short-term orientation which prioritizes immediate social harmony over long-term reforms, posing challenges for sustainable change.

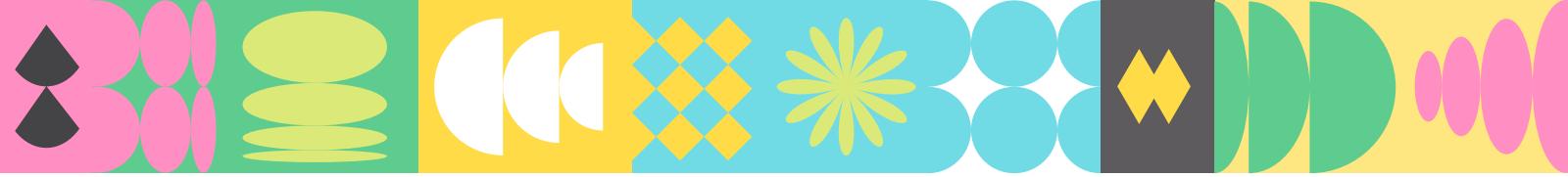
Hate speech examples and responses

Cases of public outrage and media campaigns have emerged in response to discriminatory rhetoric and violence targeting vulnerable groups, such as children in institutions, leading to calls for stronger legal protections. These reactions demonstrate Tunisia's emphasis on accountability and public criticism of authority, yet also reveal its reactive approach, where systemic issues are addressed only after tensions escalate. Similarly, after Salafist attacks threatened free expression, activists and political groups mobilized to demand legal enforcement and tolerance-driven initiatives. Online, prejudices surface subtly, as seen in harmful social media discourse reinforcing stereotypes.

The cultural dimensions of Tunisia



SOURCE: data from The Culture Factor Group, based on Hofstede's Cultural Dimension framework. Latest update: Octoboer 16, 2023



BEST PRACTICES & TOOLS

1 Non-formal — education tools

Non-formal education is essential for promoting inclusive learning, fostering critical thinking, and addressing challenges such as hate speech and social cohesion. Below are the tools and methods effectively utilized in the 'No Hate Embassy' project, which serve as best practices for CSOs and youth workers:



Interactive workshops employ dynamic activities like role-playing, group discussions, and problem-solving tasks to immerse participants in experiential learning. These activities provide a safe environment to explore complex topics such as tolerance, diversity, and empathy.

The TikTok Lab used the engaging platform of TikTok and other social media platforms specialized in short engaging content, to create social media campaigns and simulate real-life scenarios of discrimination and hate speech. Participants used the **GAMMMA+ Model** by RAN and worked in groups to go through the 7 steps of the model:

- » Identify the topic
- » Adapt the message to the audience, target group and channels
- » Create a relevant narrative
- » Produce the needed multimedia materials
- » Share the content online
- » Evaluate the results

The end results was the creation and publication of short videos to counter hate narratives, sparking discussions on responsible digital behavior and the power of social media in promoting empathy.

[Addressing stereotypes attached to different nationalities.](#) Example.



[Addressing the discrimination of women in politics.](#) Example.



Sharing personal experiences helps humanize societal issues, fostering empathy and understanding among participants.

Participants shared their encounters with hate speech in a format inspired by TEDTalks.

This activity encourages constructive responses and peer support while enhancing public speaking and storytelling skills.

1 Non-formal — education tools



The GAMMMA+ model, developed by the RAN Centre of Excellence, provides a structured framework for designing and implementing effective communication campaigns that counter hate speech and extremist narratives. It emphasizes strategic planning, audience-centered messaging, and impact evaluation to maximize outreach and minimize unintended harm.

Process:

The GAMMMA+ model ensures campaigns are strategic and impactful through seven key steps:

- » **Goal** – Set clear, measurable objectives grounded in a strong Theory of Change.
- » **Audience** – Research and segment the target audience to tailor messages effectively.
- » **Message** – Craft narratives that resonate with the audience's values without triggering resistance.
- » **Messenger** – Use credible voices like community leaders, influencers, or peers.
- » **Medium** – Select platforms where the audience naturally engages (e.g., TikTok, Instagram, offline spaces).
- » **Action** – Encourage meaningful participation through realistic and impactful calls to action.
- » **Monitoring & Evaluation** – Track engagement, assess impact, and adapt based on results.

 Resource: [GAMMMA+ by the Radicalisation Awareness Network \(RAN\)](#)

Process

Participants first reflect on and share their initial understanding of these concepts. The activity begins with several flipcharts placed around the room, each featuring a different concept. They are then divided into small groups, where they analyze and synthesize their insights to develop coherent definitions. The groups move freely between the flipcharts, adding their thoughts to them.

Contributions should be concise and to the point, allowing for multiple perspectives to emerge organically. These definitions are presented in a plenary session, allowing for cross-group comparisons and collective refinement. The activity concludes with a facilitated discussion, encouraging participants to critically engage with the different perspectives that emerged and deepen their understanding through intercultural dialogue. This activity encourages collaboration, critical thinking, and cross-cultural dialogue.

 Resource: [SALTO Youth Toolbox](#)
[Offline Twitter Method](#)



This interactive methodology, inspired by the *Offline Twitter* approach from the SALTO Youth Toolbox, engages participants in a dynamic brainstorming process to explore key concepts such as hate speech, narratives, discrimination, cyberbullying, and radicalization.

1 Non-formal — education tools



This activity helps participants explore the complexities of identifying and addressing online hate speech using case studies from the Council of Europe's *Bookmarks* guide. By engaging in critical discussions, participants assess real-world scenarios and reflect on the impact of content moderation decisions.

Process:

The trainer introduces six case studies featuring different forms of online hate speech. Participants work in small groups to analyze the content, debating whether it should be removed and considering the consequences of both action and inaction. They explore possible measures to address hate speech while balancing freedom of expression and online safety.

After group discussions, each team presents their conclusions in a plenary session, comparing perspectives and identifying key takeaways. A facilitated debriefing follows afterwards.



Resource: [Bookmarks by Council of Europe](#)

Process

Participants are divided into small groups, each starting with one stakeholder category—government, NGOs, educational institutions, religious institutions, or media. Each group discusses the role, responsibilities, and challenges of their assigned stakeholder in promoting human rights education and combating hate speech. After a set period, groups rotate to a new stakeholder category, building upon the ideas of previous participants. This rotation continues until all groups have contributed to each topic. A designated facilitator at each station ensures continuity and synthesizes key points. At the end of the rotations, the findings are shared in a plenary session.

This method was implemented in our NHE Training to develop actionable recommendations for key stakeholders on effectively combating hate speech.

[Find the end result here](#)



This interactive method engages participants in structured discussions to explore the role of various stakeholders in human rights education and the fight against hate speech. Stakeholders include: *Government, NGOs, Educational institutions, Religious institutions and Media*.

1 Non-formal — education tools



This activity challenges participants to critically engage with hate speech narratives through a structured debate format, encouraging them to step outside their comfort zones and explore diverse perspectives.

Process:

Participants are assigned roles and debate positions that may not align with their personal beliefs, requiring them to construct arguments from alternative viewpoints. Judges play predefined roles, adding complexity to the debate and encouraging deeper engagement with the issues at hand.

The discussion revolves around key narratives related to hate speech, prompting participants to deconstruct biases, analyze rhetorical strategies, and refine their reasoning skills.

By the end of the debate, participants reflect on the experience, discussing how shifting perspectives influenced their understanding. A facilitated debrief encourages them to connect the exercise to real-world implications, reinforcing the importance of critical thinking, active listening, and respectful dialogue in countering harmful narratives.

Process

Participants first brainstorm and identify common hate speech narratives in their countries. They then split into groups, each assigned a specific consequence of hate speech, such as discrimination, violence, or exclusion.

Through theater sketches, they illustrate these consequences without explicitly stating them, allowing the plenary to analyze and interpret the message. A final discussion follows, where participants reflect on the societal impact of hate speech and the role of narratives in shaping public perception.

This method encourages teamwork, creativity, and deeper engagement with the topic.

Creative expression through theater



This activity uses theater to explore the roots and consequences of hate speech, fostering creativity and critical thinking.

2 Case — Studies

Case studies are powerful tools for analyzing real-life events, allowing participants to understand the root causes, consequences, and societal responses to issues like extremism and radicalization. By dissecting these cases, participants can develop a deeper awareness of how hate speech and radical ideologies evolve and what measures can be taken to prevent them.



One of the key case studies used in this training was the 2011 Utøya attack, where a far-right extremist carried out a mass shooting at a youth summer camp in Norway, targeting young activists. This case served as a critical example of how hate speech, radicalization, and terrorism can escalate with devastating consequences.



Process:

Participants engaged with multiple materials to **immerse themselves in the case** and examine it from various angles:

- » **A brief video introduction** providing background on the attack ([ABC News](#)).
- » **Contextual insights** shared by the facilitator to deepen understanding.
- » **First-hand accounts** in the form of text messages sent by victims, helping participants emotionally connect with the event.

Following this, participants were divided into **intercultural subgroups** to research key aspects of the attack:

- » Causes of Breivik's radicalization.
- » His motivations and ideological influences.
- » Immediate and long-term responses by Norway.
- » The broader impact on Norway and other countries.

The debriefing session encouraged participants to **trace the progression of hate into violent extremism**, examining the **radicalization process** and its warning signs. Discussions focused on the **importance of counter-narratives, policy responses, and collective responsibility** in preventing such tragedies.

[The Utøya case toolbox and training materials](#)

3 Mentorship — and fellowship

Fellowship programmes are an original format at GEYC through which community members develop their skills in a priority field by combining learning, exploring, and doing. During their fellowship, which usually lasts six months, they have the chance to get directly involved in the organization's activities and put their knowledge into practice.

Fellowships include:

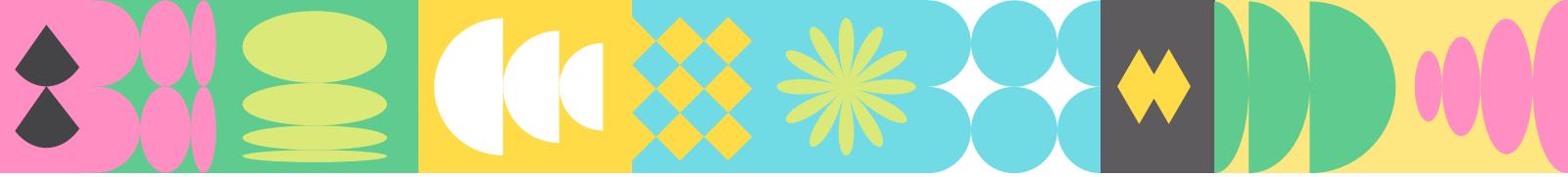
- » **Learning** – Tailored learning opportunities such as workshops, webinars, and online courses.
- » **Getting inspired** – Representing the organization at relevant events like conferences, training courses,

and summits, while networking and exchanging best practices with other professionals in the field.

- » **Getting active** – Turning ideas into action by implementing various creative initiatives on the topic.

Although the fellowships do not provide a financial stipend, fellows who complete the programme with significant achievements are often offered follow-up collaboration opportunities with the coordinating organization and its partners.

See [GEYC Fellowships](#)



SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVES

FROM NATIONAL CONTEXTS



Addressing hate speech requires a multifaceted approach, combining prevention, advocacy, community engagement, and education. Here we will highlight successful initiatives from six countries, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Romania, Italy, and France that have made significant strides in combating hate speech at the national level.

These initiatives exemplify innovative and impactful solutions that civil society organizations (CSOs) have implemented to tackle hate speech and its root causes in diverse cultural, social, and legislative contexts. Each example demonstrates how prevention programs, community engagement efforts, and online campaigns can create meaningful change, fostering more inclusive and respectful societies.

By sharing these experiences, we aim to inspire others to adopt and adapt these practices in their local contexts, contributing to a collective effort to combat hate speech globally.



The initiatives showcased here underline the crucial role of civil society organizations in addressing hate speech and promoting inclusivity.

Through education, advocacy, and collaborative community efforts, these initiatives have not only raised awareness but also created tangible solutions to counter discrimination and foster social cohesion.

While the challenges of hate speech remain significant, the success of these programs highlights the potential for collective action and innovation to drive positive change.

By learning from these experiences and building on their achievements, stakeholders can strengthen their efforts to combat hate speech, empowering communities to stand against prejudice and build a more equitable and harmonious future.

1 Successful Initiatives from Egypt

Initiative

Youth against hate: building tolerant digital communities

Category

Online campaigns

Organization

UNESCO future builders club

Description

This initiative was launched to empower youth in identifying and countering online hate speech through education and awareness. It targeted individuals aged 18-44 across urban and rural areas, aiming to create a safer digital environment that promotes inclusion and critical thinking. The program used an innovative mix of workshops, digital campaigns, and partnerships with educational institutions to reach a broad audience.

Key Activities

- » Conducted over 15 workshops across Cairo and Alexandria, engaging students and young professionals in interactive sessions on tolerance and empathy.
- » Created viral social media campaigns, such as the #HarmonyNow initiative, which encouraged users to share stories of inclusivity, reaching over 10,000 individuals.
- » Partnered with UNESCO and Egyptian ministries to adapt international human rights principles to local cultural contexts.

Objectives

- » Equip youth with the knowledge and skills to identify and report hate speech.
- » Encourage digital literacy and critical evaluation of online content to reduce the spread of harmful narratives.
- » Promote a culture of diversity and coexistence through engaging content and direct outreach.

Outcomes

- » Engaged over 1,000 participants directly in workshops, with many becoming active advocates against hate speech in their communities.
- » Increased awareness about hate speech by 30%, as measured through pre- and post-campaign surveys.
- » Strengthened collaborations with schools, universities, and international organizations, setting a foundation for future programs.

Initiative

Dialogue for harmony: bridging divides through interfaith engagement

Category

Community engagement

Organization

Maat for peace, development, and human rights

Description

This initiative aims to address religious hate speech and foster mutual understanding through interfaith dialogue and community action. Focused on regions with historically high tension between religious groups, the program uses education and engagement to dismantle stereotypes and promote shared values.

Key Activities

- » Organized over 20 interfaith dialogue sessions in cities like Minya, Assiut, and Cairo, involving religious leaders, youth, and local activists.
- » Developed targeted educational materials, including booklets and videos, addressing common misconceptions about religious practices.
- » Conducted public awareness campaigns featuring testimonials from community members who overcame prejudice to build lasting relationships.

Objectives

- » Reduce interfaith hate speech by creating spaces for dialogue and mutual understanding.
- » Empower community leaders to act as mediators and educators within their own circles.
- » Enhance public awareness of the harmful effects of religious discrimination.

Outcomes

- » Over 500 participants from Muslim and Christian communities reported improved perceptions of one another, as documented in post-session evaluations.
- » Educational campaigns reached 30,000 people online and offline, promoting tolerance and coexistence.
- » The initiative inspired local activists to establish ongoing dialogue forums, ensuring the program's long-term impact.

2 Successful Initiatives from France

Initiative

Youth against hate: digital literacy for social change

Category

Prevention Programs

Organization

SOS Racisme

Description

SOS Racisme launched this initiative to empower young people to recognize and combat hate speech online through educational workshops and digital literacy training. The program targeted students in schools and universities, aiming to reduce racial and religious prejudices and foster a more inclusive society.

Key Activities

- » Conducted over 50 workshops in schools and universities across France to educate youth about hate speech and its impact on marginalized communities.
- » Organized social media campaigns encouraging young people to share stories of inclusion using the hashtag #NoToHate.
- » Partnered with social media platforms to improve reporting mechanisms and promote digital tools for combating hate speech.

Objectives

- » Equip youth with the skills to critically analyze online content and identify hate speech.
- » Promote diversity and inclusion through educational outreach.
- » Encourage reporting of hate speech incidents to appropriate authorities and platforms.

Outcomes

- » Reached over 5,000 students through workshops, increasing awareness about hate speech by 40%, as measured by participant surveys.
- » Amplified social media campaign engagement, with over 15,000 interactions on inclusive content.
- » Strengthened collaboration with schools, NGOs, and social media companies, resulting in improved hate speech reporting mechanisms.

Initiative

Local voices, global impact: intercultural dialogue for inclusion

Category

Community engagement

Organization

MRAP (Mouvement contre le Racisme et pour l'Amitié entre les Peuples)

Description

MRAP developed this initiative to address racism and religious intolerance through intercultural dialogue and community-based education. The program focused on fostering understanding and solidarity among diverse communities to counter hate speech and discrimination.

Key Activities

- » Hosted over 30 dialogue sessions in various cities, engaging community leaders, educators, and youth from different religious and ethnic backgrounds.
- » Provided legal assistance to victims of hate speech and trained volunteers to support marginalized groups.
- » Developed educational materials and toolkits for schools and community centers to raise awareness about the consequences of hate speech.

Objectives

- » Reduce hate speech and discrimination by promoting intercultural understanding.
- » Empower communities to advocate for inclusivity and report hate speech incidents.
- » Strengthen local networks for ongoing collaboration and support.

Outcomes

- » Facilitated over 1,000 meaningful interactions between community members, improving mutual understanding and reducing prejudices.
- » Supported 200 victims of hate speech through legal and emotional assistance.
- » Distributed over 10,000 educational toolkits to schools and community organizations, ensuring sustained impact.

3 Successful Initiatives from Morocco

Initiative

Advancing amazigh rights through advocacy and education

Category

community engagement
Advocacy

Organization

Azetta - Réseau Amazigh pour la Citoyenneté

Description

Azetta, a prominent network advocating for Amazigh linguistic and cultural rights in Morocco, has been instrumental in combating ethnic-based discrimination and promoting inclusivity. Their initiative focuses on:

- » **Advocacy:** Conducting studies and publishing yearly reports on the linguistic and cultural situation of the Amazigh community in Morocco. Azetta actively sends memorandums and policy proposals to the government to address discriminatory practices.
- » **Education Campaigns:** Hosting workshops and public awareness events to educate citizens about the importance of preserving cultural diversity and combating hate speech.
- » **Community Engagement:** Building partnerships with 28 branches across Morocco to maintain direct contact with marginalized communities.

Key Activities and outcomes

- » **Legal advocacy:** Influenced discussions on public policies related to the Amazigh language and identity.
- » **Community reach:** Their decentralized network ensures geographical coverage, fostering awareness and inclusivity in both urban and rural areas.
- » **Reports:** Published comprehensive analyses of hate speech targeting the Amazigh people, including campaigns aimed at delegitimizing their identity.

Initiative

Youth dialogues for tolerance and coexistence

Category

Prevention programs
online campaigns

Organization

MRAP (Mouvement contre le Racisme et pour l'Amitié entre les Peuples)

Description

MRAP developed this initiative to address racism and religious intolerance through intercultural dialogue and community-based education. The program focused on fostering understanding and solidarity among diverse communities to counter hate speech and discrimination.

Description

FOMEJE fosters intercultural dialogue among Moroccan youth to promote tolerance and combat hate speech. Their initiative includes:

- » **Workshops for Youth:** Organized training sessions on hate speech awareness and prevention, targeting university students and young professionals.
- » **Media Engagement:** Collaborated with the National Press Council to train journalists on identifying and addressing hate speech in media.
- » **Civic Engagement:** Conducted advocacy campaigns in partnership with local municipalities and international networks to raise awareness about social justice and human rights.

Key activities and outcomes

- » **University Impact:** Established FOMEJE clubs across Moroccan universities to create safe spaces for dialogue and reduce hate speech prevalence.
- » **Public Campaigns:** Led successful social media campaigns addressing racism, xenophobia, and gender-based hate, particularly impacting Sub-Saharan immigrants.
- » **Collaborations:** Partnered with NGOs and the Council of Europe to create impactful programs that align with international standards.
- » **Distributed over 10,000 educational toolkits** to schools and community organizations, ensuring sustained impact.

4 Successful Initiatives from Romania

Initiative

Campus pride— creating safe spaces for LGBTQIA+ youth

Category

Prevention programs

community engagement

Organization

MozaiQ

Description

MozaiQ is an LGBTQIA+ community organization in Romania, dedicated to strengthening and supporting LGBTQIA+ individuals through advocacy, social programs, and education. It provides safe spaces for marginalized groups, including Roma LGBTQIA+ individuals, transgender individuals, and others in precarious socio-economic situations.

Key Activities and outcomes

Campus pride program:

- » Weekly events organized during the academic year to foster inclusivity in universities.
- » Advocacy training for LGBTQIA+ students to enable them to become agents of change within their institutions.

#lubimlafel campaign:

- » A nationwide campaign combining social media, traditional media (radio, TV), and street advertising to combat hate speech and normalize LGBTQIA+ narratives.

Rainbow care program:

- » Provided psychosocial support in three major cities (Bucharest, Timișoara, Brașov) to address housing, mental health, and employment vulnerabilities within the LGBTQIA+ community.

Advocacy and partnerships:

- » Collaborated with organizations like Oslo Pride (Norway) and Laolaltă (Moldova) to share best practices and advocate for LGBTQIA+ rights regionally.

Initiative

Interethnic community center— bridging cultural divides

Category

Community engagement

education

Organization

Agenția Împreună

Description

Agenția Împreună is a community development agency dedicated to empowering Roma communities in Romania. The organization uses education, advocacy, and cultural events to combat discrimination and promote the inclusion of Roma individuals in all aspects of society.

Objectives

- » Dismantle stereotypes and foster mutual understanding between Roma and non-Roma populations.
- » Advocate for inclusive education policies to ensure equal opportunities for Roma students.
- » Address the mental health impacts of hate speech on Roma youth.

Key activities and Outcomes

Interethnic community center:

- » A cultural and educational hub providing resources to combat discrimination and support marginalized groups.
- » Hosted events like "Seară de cultură romă" (Roma Culture Night) to celebrate Roma culture and promote diversity.

Educational advocacy:

- » Pushed for affirmative action policies in higher education, reserving spots for Roma students in universities.
- » Conducted studies, including "Affirmative Actions for Roma in Universities," to analyze and improve inclusion measures.

Youth empowerment programs:

- » Organized camps and regular meetings to strengthen Roma students' identity and build connections.
- » Promoted dialogue and cultural appreciation through workshops and personal development activities.



5 Successful Initiatives from Tunisia

Initiative

Shemehe: social and professional inclusion program

Category

Community engagement

Organization

Padil

Description

This initiative targets newcomers to local communities, aiming to support their social and professional inclusion. It focuses on empowering migrants, particularly sub-Saharan Africans, by providing tailored resources and fostering collaboration with local organizations.

Key Activities

- » Conducting awareness campaigns about the rights and inclusion of migrants.
- » Capacity-building workshops for migrants to enhance their employability and social integration.
- » Partnering with municipalities and local actors to address systemic challenges.

Objectives

- » To facilitate smoother integration of migrants into local communities.
- » To combat hate speech and discrimination faced by migrants through education and advocacy.

Outcomes achieved

- » Increased awareness among the local population about migrant rights.
- » Improved employability and confidence among migrant participants.
- » Strengthened collaborations between local government and community organizations.

Initiative

Workshops on inclusivity and tolerance

Category

Prevention programs

Organization

Humanity without borders

Description

A series of workshops designed to educate children and families about the harms of hate speech and promote a culture of inclusivity in schools and community centers.

Key Activities

- » Interactive sessions on the psychological and social impact of hate speech.
- » Activities encouraging empathy and understanding among diverse groups.
- » Collaboration with schools and community centers to implement tolerance programs.

Objectives

- » To reduce hate speech by fostering empathy and inclusivity among children and families.
- » To create a supportive environment for marginalized communities to thrive.

Outcomes achieved

- » Improved awareness of hate speech among participating families and children.
- » Strengthened partnerships with schools and NGOs to sustain the impact of the initiative.
- » Positive changes in attitudes towards marginalized groups.

6 Successful Initiatives from Italy

Initiative

Raising awareness against hate speech in schools

Category

Prevention programs

Organization

COSPE

Description

This initiative focuses on raising awareness about hate speech, bullying, and discrimination among young students aged 11 to 17 in Italian schools. COSPE organizes workshops to create safe spaces for students to openly discuss issues of discrimination, stereotypes, and hate speech. The program incorporates both formal and non-formal educational settings.

Key Activities

- » Workshops in classrooms focusing on the causes and impacts of hate speech.
- » Training sessions for teachers and school staff to better handle incidents of discrimination.
- » Provision of resources and support systems for students who experience or witness hate speech.

Objectives

- » Increase awareness of hate speech among students and educators.
- » Equip students with tools to recognize and combat hate speech.
- » Foster empathy and solidarity within the school community.

Outcomes

- » Empowered students with a better understanding of hate speech and discrimination.
- » Increased trust among students in the value of safe spaces for discussion.
- » Enhanced collaboration between schools and external organizations to tackle hate speech effectively.

Initiative

Task force on hate speech monitoring and counter-narratives

Category

Advocacy

Online campaign

Organization

Rete Nazionale per il Contrasto ai Discorsi e ai Fenomeni d'Odio

Description

This initiative involves creating a national-level task force focused on monitoring hate speech and developing counter-narratives. The program integrates research, policy advocacy, and online campaigns to address hate speech and its effects on marginalized groups.

Key Activities

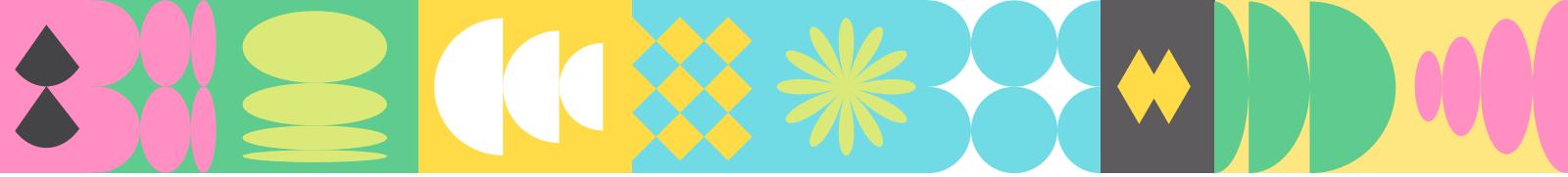
- » Mapping hate speech incidents through collaborations with researchers and civil society.
- » Creating and disseminating infographics, videos, and reports to educate the public.
- » Organizing public forums and discussions to highlight the impact of hate speech.

Objectives

- » Monitor hate speech online and offline in real-time.
- » Develop counter-narratives to dismantle stereotypes and prevent the spread of hate speech.
- » Advocate for better legislative frameworks and social awareness campaigns.

Outcomes achieved

- » Enhanced public awareness of hate speech issues through campaigns and reports.
- » Strengthened collaborations between NGOs, institutions, and local actors to combat hate speech.
- » Influenced policy discussions regarding legislative improvements for tackling hate speech.



RECOMMENDATIONS



This section outlines strategic recommendations aimed at combating hate speech within individual country contexts (National Recommendations) and collectively across the broader Euro-Mediterranean region (Euro-Mediterranean Recommendations). These recommendations target policymakers, civil society organizations (CSOs), educators, youth workers, and youth organizations. They are based on actionable steps informed by interviews and stakeholder consultations from each participating country.

1 National ————— Recommendations

Stakeholders	Recommendations	Specific Recommendations
Policymakers	<p>Develop comprehensive legal definitions of hate speech to align with international human rights conventions.</p> <p>Strengthen enforcement mechanisms and provide training for law enforcement and judicial officers.</p>	<p>Morocco: Adopt draft law No. 10.16 to enhance anti-discrimination provisions in the Penal Code.</p> <p>Italy: Advocate for a binding legal definition of hate speech targeting marginalized communities, especially the LGBTQ+ population.</p> <p>France: Create specialized law enforcement units to expedite hate speech case handling and strengthen judicial training programs.</p>
Civil society organizations (CSOs)	<p>Intensify advocacy for inclusive and enforceable anti-discrimination laws.</p> <p>Build stronger coalitions among CSOs for resource sharing and collective advocacy efforts.</p>	<p>Egypt: Collaborate with media outlets to develop a media code of ethics addressing hate speech.</p> <p>Morocco: Create CSO-led platforms to provide legal aid and protection for individuals reporting hate speech or discrimination.</p> <p>Romania: Develop a national committee dedicated exclusively to tackling hate speech, involving multiple stakeholders, including CSOs and government bodies.</p>
Local authorities	<p>Collaborate with CSOs and educational institutions to organize community events promoting social cohesion and addressing hate speech at the grassroots level.</p> <p>Establish local committees to support hate speech victims with counseling and legal aid.</p>	<p>France: Launch localized campaigns targeting rural and underserved areas to raise awareness about hate speech and available support mechanisms.</p> <p>Morocco: Collaborate with local municipalities to develop public policies promoting inclusion and addressing discrimination.</p>

1 National Recommendations

Stakeholders	Recommendations	Specific Recommendations
Educators and Youth Workers	Integrate anti-hate speech education into school and university curricula, focusing on digital literacy, empathy, and critical thinking.	Italy: Develop youth-led forums to encourage intercultural dialogue, focusing on long-term efforts to build tolerance and mutual respect.
	Train educators and youth workers to identify and address hate speech effectively.	Tunisia: Collaborate with local schools to introduce modules on tolerance, focusing on interfaith dialogue and cultural understanding.
Tech companies	Develop advanced tools to detect and filter hate speech in local dialects and languages, ensuring transparency in content moderation.	Morocco: Enhance AI algorithms to detect hate speech in Moroccan Arabic effectively.
	Partner with CSOs to create user-friendly reporting systems and improve responsiveness to flagged content.	France: Invest in advanced content moderation technologies to tackle new and emerging forms of hate speech. Tunisia: Collaborate with NGOs to host workshops for content moderators, focusing on regional hate speech patterns and effective removal strategies.
Youth organizations	Empower youth to lead online and offline campaigns promoting tolerance and countering stereotypes through creative storytelling and social media initiatives.	Egypt: Partner with universities to promote youth-led awareness campaigns targeting hate speech against women and minority groups.
	Create safe spaces for dialogue and intercultural exchanges among youth, fostering a culture of inclusivity and respect.	Italy: Establish youth clubs to address the intersectionality of hate speech, focusing on LGBTQ+ and racial issues. Romania: Integrate hate speech education into extracurricular activities, focusing on marginalized youth groups.

2 Euro-Mediterranean Recommendations –

Category	Recommendations
Policymakers	Establish a unified legal framework across the Euro-Mediterranean region for hate speech, ensuring clear definitions and enforcement mechanisms aligned with international human rights standards.
	Foster international cooperation to address cross-border hate speech issues, including harmonizing laws and facilitating joint monitoring initiatives.
Civil society organizations (CSOs)	Strengthen regional networks for resource sharing, training, and advocacy to combat hate speech.
	Advocate for increased funding and capacity-building support for CSOs to enhance their outreach and impact.
Educators	Integrate anti-hate speech education and digital literacy into regional curricula, promoting intercultural understanding.
	Facilitate cross-border educational exchanges and workshops to reduce biases and foster mutual respect.
Youth Workers	Empower youth through training programs that provide tools to counter hate speech online and offline, including content creation and safe reporting mechanisms.
	Create safe spaces for youth-led dialogues, supported by regional initiatives, to address tolerance, inclusion, and mutual understanding.
Youth Organizations	Develop youth-focused campaigns across social media platforms to promote positive narratives and counter harmful stereotypes.
	Collaborate on regional youth initiatives that engage diverse groups and promote active participation in anti-hate speech efforts.
Local Authorities	Establish local hate speech reporting hubs that feed into a regional reporting and monitoring system to ensure data-driven responses.
	Implement community-based tolerance and inclusion programs with collaboration from schools, NGOs, and cultural organizations.
Tech Companies	Invest in AI tools to detect and moderate hate speech in multiple languages and dialects used across the Euro-Mediterranean, with transparency in algorithm development.
	Collaborate with stakeholders to develop regional guidelines for content moderation and provide clear mechanisms for reporting hate speech incidents.

CONCLUSION

1 Key —— takeaways

The “No Hate Embassy” project has brought critical insights into the pervasive issue of hate speech and the transformative role of civil society organizations (CSOs), educators, youth workers, and policymakers in addressing it. Hate speech, as examined across various countries, is a deeply rooted issue manifesting through discrimination, exclusion, and even violence, particularly in online spaces. It transcends borders and cultures, yet its impacts are most acutely felt by marginalized communities, including youth, ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ individuals, and refugees.

Key takeaways include:



The pervasive nature of hate speech

Across the participating countries, hate speech is fueled by systemic inequalities, societal attitudes, and the normalization of harmful narratives through media and political rhetoric. Its manifestations vary but consistently target vulnerable groups, undermining democratic values and social cohesion.



Intercultural and cross-sectoral collaboration

The project has demonstrated that fostering collaboration between Europe and the Southern Mediterranean can bridge divides, enhance mutual understanding, and create sustainable solutions to hate speech. This includes partnerships across sectors such as education, technology, policymaking, and civil society.



Best practices and tools

The innovative methods utilized from TikTok labs to storytelling and structured debates emphasize the importance of creativity and adaptability in addressing hate speech. These tools not only educate but also inspire participants to challenge harmful narratives and promote inclusivity.



CSOs as changemakers

CSOs play a pivotal role in building community resilience, advocating for robust anti-discrimination laws, and fostering intercultural dialogue. Their innovative approaches, including non-formal education tools like role-play, storytelling, and interactive workshops, highlight the transformative potential of grassroots initiatives.



The role of youth engagement

Youth are both the primary targets and significant contributors to hate speech narratives. Engaging them as active participants in combating hate speech is essential. This project underscores the importance of youth empowerment through education, critical thinking, and digital literacy to foster resilience against extremist ideologies.



2 Moving forward (Roadmap) —



The “No Hate Embassy” project has provided a strong foundation for continued efforts to combat hate speech. To build on these findings and ensure lasting impact, a strategic roadmap is essential for all stakeholders:

For Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

- Strengthen regional and international networks
- Innovate and expand programs
- Advocate for policy reforms

For policymakers

- Develop unified legal frameworks
- Invest in education and awareness campaigns
- Strengthen cross-border cooperation

For technology companies

- Enhance content moderation tools
- Collaborate with Stakeholders
- Promote Digital Responsibility

For educators and youth workers

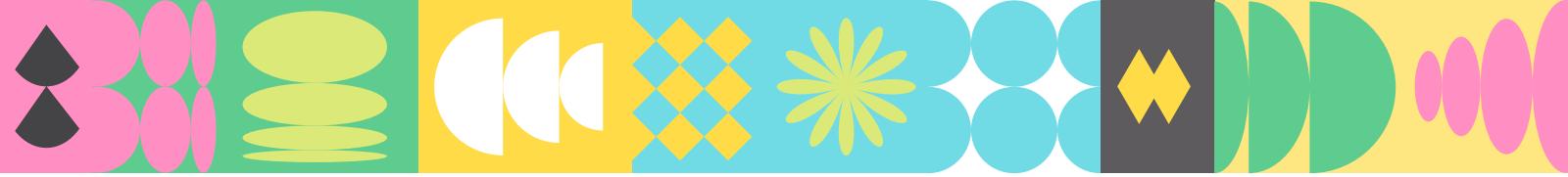
- Integrate anti-hate speech education
- Empower youth leaders
- Leverage non-formal education tools

For youth organizations

- Champion Youth-Led Campaigns
- Create Safe Spaces for Dialogue
- Engage in Regional Initiatives

This report has clearly demonstrated that collective action is essential to effectively combat hate speech and nurture more inclusive societies.

Although significant challenges remain, the strategies, resources, and partnerships developed throughout this initiative offer a valuable foundation for future progress. By continuing to bring together people and stakeholders from different sectors and regions, we can encourage communities to genuinely value diversity and shift conversations away from hate speech towards dialogue, empathy, and respect.



ANNEXE



Year	Country	Author/ Organization	Reference Title
Sum. 2011	Egypt	Dr. Sahar Khamis, Katherine Vaughn	Cyberactivism in the Egyptian revolution: How civic engagement and citizen journalism tilted the balance
2023	Egypt	Branco di Fatima	Hate speech on social media: A global approach (Academic journal)
2022	Egypt	Badar & Essawy	How should responsible religious leaders react to hate speech in their community? (Academic Journal)
2020	Egypt	Caroline Elias	Hate speech in Egyptian television talk shows: A qualitative study
2022	Egypt	Mika Hietanen, Johan Eddebo	Defining hate speech in online settings (Academic Journal)
2016	Egypt	Khaled Mansour	Freedom of expression in Egypt: How long hair, Pink shirts, and Facebook threaten public morality
2014	Egypt	Ahmed ElSayed	The case of freedom of expression in Egypt: The risky business of expressing opinions
2020	Egypt	Imane Guellil, Ahsan Adeel, Faical Azouaou, Sara Chennoufi	Detecting hate speech against politicians in Arabic community on social media. Research report
2016	Egypt	HRW	Egypt: condemn justice minister's hate speech
2022	-	UNESCO	UNESCO book - Addressing hate speech: educational responses
2023	-	UNESCO	Addressing hate speech through education: A guide for policymakers
2015	-	UNESCO	Countering online hate speech
2024	-	Country Reports	Egypt Demographics
2024	Egypt	الجهاز المركزي للتعبئة العامة والإحصاء CAMPAS	The Egyptian population
2024	Egypt	Cairo) IOM (Migration for Organization International	Egypt in development and migration
2017	Egypt	Sarah Issa, Caroline Elias, Yassmine Kasseb - AUC	Glossary of Hate Speech in Egyptian Media
2024	Egypt	United Nations	خطاب الكراهية: أثره وكيفية معالجته

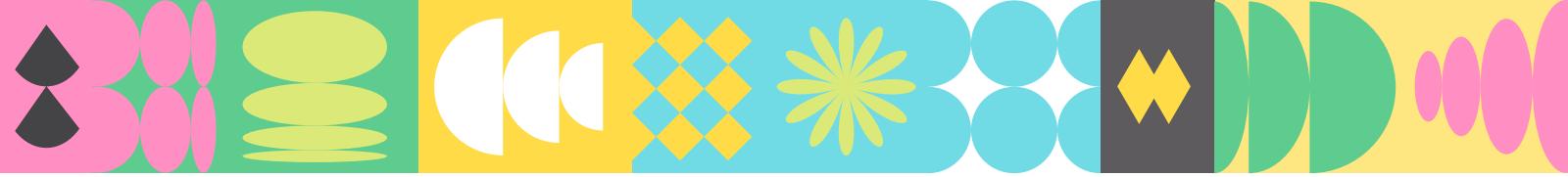
Year	Country	Author/ Organization	Reference Title
2024	Egypt	Salma Ben Souissi JURIST Staff, GB	Egypt announces intention to intervene in South Africa ICJ case against Israel
2021	Egypt	Hend Ahmed Mohamed, The American University in Cairo	On the racialized self-production of the Egyptian state: hierarchical structures of refugee exclusion
2024	Egypt	Nada ElNemr - Omnia Hassan	الإعلام وخطاب الكراهية ضد اللاجئين.. تحرير ودعوات للترحيل
2023	Morocco	UN's OHCHR	Experts of the committee on the elimination of racial discrimination welcome Morocco's global activities
2021	Morocco	United Nations	Combined nineteenth to twenty-first periodic reports under article 9 of the convention
2017	Morocco	Human Rights Watch	The red lines stay red: Morocco's reforms of its speech laws
2023	Morocco	UN's CERD	Concluding observations on the combined nineteenth to twenty-first periodic reports of Morocco
2022	Morocco	Zakaria Boulouard, Mariya Ouissa, Mariyam Ouissa, Moez Krichen, Mutiq Almutiq, Karim Gasmi	Applied Sciences Journal, Detecting Hateful and Offensive Speech in Arabic Social Media Using Transfer Learning
2019	Morocco	GADEM (Groupe antiraciste d'accompagnement et de défense des étranger-e-s et migrant-e-s)	État des lieux des discriminations au Maroc (2ème édition)
2018	Morocco	Toby Mendel, Nahla Momani, Bassam Ewedah, and Sarah Bouchetob	Addressing hate speech and racism in the media in the southern mediterranean
2021	Morocco	Cristina Moreno-Almeida and Paolo Gerbaudo	Memes and the Moroccan far-right
2022	Morocco	Institut des droits humains « Bartolomé de las Casas » de l'Université Carlos III de Madrid.	Étude comparée des normes et de la législation relative à la discrimination raciale/ethnique
2019	Morocco	Stephen J. King	Black arabs and african migrants: Between slavery and racism in North Africa
2023	Morocco	ACN International	Maroc report 2023
2024	Morocco	المملكة المغربية البرلمان - مجلس المستشارين	كلمة السيد رئيس مجلس المستشارين حول مفهوم خطاب الكراهية
2024	Morocco	SMAALI MALIKA	Faculté des sciences juridiques, économiques et sociales de Tanger - Maroc
2018	Morocco	Mounir Bensalah, Secretary General Amina Bouayach, President	National Human Rights Council (Morocco)
2024	Morocco	Kingdom of Morocco Ministry of Foreign Affairs African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates	Morocco Lauds ICJ Ruling on Immediate Provisional Measures to Be Taken by Israel to Ensure Protection of Palestinians in Gaza Strip
2024	Italy	By the Italian NGO "Lunaria"	Sesto Libro Bianco sul Razzismo in Italia" ("Sixth White Paper on Racism in Italy")

Year	Country	Author/ Organization	Reference Title
2024	Italy	By the NGO "ActionAid", in collaboration with the research institutes "Osservatorio di Pavia" and "2BResearch"	Oltre le Parole 2024
2024	Italy	ECRI (European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance)	6th Report by ECRI on the Italian Context
2024	Italy	Amnesty International	Barometro dell'Odio 2024 ("Hate Barometer")
2024	Italy	By ACRA with Associazione Razzismo Brutta Storia, Enwad and Anthropolis, supported by the European Commission (Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme - CERV) and "Sguardi intrecciati" of ACRA with the contribution of Fondazione di Comunità Milano (2024.0013)	Research from the EU-funded project "Empower - European key Multipliers PromOte aWarenEss against Racism and xenophobia" (CERV-2022-EQUAL) to fight racism and xenophobia in Europe
2022	Italy	By the Lunaria organisation	Report "Il razzismo nell'anno del ritorno delle destre al potere"
2021	Italy	Vox – the Italian Observatory on Rights, in collaboration with the University of Milan Statale, University of Bari "Aldo Moro", University of Rome "La Sapienza", and the unit "IT'STIME - Italian Team for Security, Terroristic Issues & Managing Emergencies" from within the Department of Sociology of the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart based in Milan (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore).	Mappa dell'Intolleranza 7.0 (Map of Intolerance 7.0)
2022	Italy	Extraordinary Commission	DOCUMENTO CONCLUSIVO (Final Document on Hate Speech Investigation)
2021/2022	Italy	By the Citizen Defence Movement, as part of the SPID Project (Supporting Participation in Digital Innovation)	Guida "Hate Speech" realizzata dal Movimento Difesa del Cittadino, nell'ambito del Progetto SPID (Sostenere la Partecipazione all'Innovazione Digitale) / "Hate Speech" toolkit
2021	Italy	Laura Fotia	Dall'odio offline all'odio online: pratiche di costruzione e decostruzione del "nemico" oggi (On hate and the Enemy, from the 20th century to today: a global view)
2020	Italy	Stefano Chirico, Director of OSCAD Secretariat, Lucia Gori (OSCAD Secretariat) and Ilaria Esposito (OSCAD Secretariat)	When hate becomes crime. Hate crime: what it is and the legal framework against it
2019	Italy	By the Italian NGO Lunaria	Words are stones. L'hate speech nel discorso pubblico in sei paesi europei / Hate speech Analysis in Public Discourse in Six European Countries
2019	Italy	Istat	The Italians moving abroad increase while immigration decreases
2017	Italy	Paola Zanaboni	La prima normativa italiana di contrasto al cyberbullismo: la Legge 71/2017
2019	Italy	Valerie Nardi	I discorsi d'odio nell'era digitale: quale ruolo per l'Internet service provider?
2024	Italy	Rete contro l'odio	Rete Nazionale per il Contrastto ai Discorsi e ai Fenomeni d'Odio

Year	Country	Author/ Organization	Reference Title
2022	Italy	Amnesty Italia	Barometro dell'odio 2022 - Senza cittadinanza
2020	Italy	Amnesty International	"Silence Hate": students in Italy use art to create a campaign against online hatred
2024	Italy	European Commission	Italy: ECRI communication on ethnic profiling and hate speech against TCNs
2024	Italy	Human Rights Center	Council of Europe: sixth ECRI's report on Italy
2023	Italy	Human Rights Watch	People gather to protest after Italy's right-wing government told Milan's city council to stop registering same-sex parents' children
2016	Italy	ARCI - Critical issues, strategies and intervention practices	Discorsi d'odio e Social media
2023	Tunisia	Lawyers Ayachi Hammami and Ghazi Chaouachi, Shaima Issa, Journalist Nizar Bahloul, Student Ahmed Bahaa Eddin Hamada, Former member of the Electoral Commission Sami Ben Salama, Civil society activist Hamza al-Obeidi.	A New Blow to Freedom of Expression in Tunisia
2023	Tunisia	Mondher Tounsi	Tunisia's Increasing Restrictions on Freedom of Expression
2023	Tunisia	UN's OHCHR	Tunisia Must Immediately Stop Hate Speech and Violence Against Migrants
2024	Tunisia	The Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy (TIMEP)	Rhetoric and Repression: Anti-Migrant Discourse as a Political Weapon
2019	Tunisia	Khalil Trabelsi	Hate online may cause death! So why don't Arabs care?
2019	Romania	ECRI Secretariat Directorate General II - Democracy Council of Europe	ECRI Report on Romania, Addressing Racism and Intolerance
2023	Romania	Study prepared by: Federico Faloppa (lead author), Antonio Gambacorta, Richard Odekerken, Robert van der Noordaa	STUDY ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING HATE SPEECH IN TIMES OF CRISIS - subchapter - A case study: online hate speech targeting Roma & Travellers
2023	Romania	Amnesty International	Romania 2023
2022	Romania	University of Bucharest	Media Representation and Hate Speech in Romania
2021	Romania	Salvați Copiii	Digital Harassment and Hate Speech Against Children and Youth, Save the Children Romania
2020	Romania	Universitatea de Medicină și Farmacie "Grigore T. Popa", Iasi Fundatia EuroEd, Iasi	Study on the national situation of cyberbullying in Romania
2023	Romania	European Commission	Population: demographic situation, languages and religions
2009	Romania	Indaco Lege	Art 369 Incitement to hatred or discrimination Criminal Code



Year	Country	Author/ Organization	Reference Title
2002	Romania	The Romanian Parliament	LAW No. 48 of January 16, 2002
2024	Romania	GEYC	Democracy and Human Rights
2024	Romania	IRDO	Romanian Institute for Human Rights
2021	Romania	The European Court of Human Rights (Fourth Section)	CASE OF ASSOCIATION ACCEPT AND OTHERS v. ROMANIA
2023	Romania	By Bernard Rorke	Romania: Council of Europe deplores the high level of antigypsyism, and remains concerned about police violence against Roma
2024	Romania	Radu Dumitrescu	Report: Surge in anti-LGBTI speech in EU, Romania
2023	Romania	Madalin Necstutu	Romanian TV Station's 'Hate Speech' Against Mental Illness Condemned
2022	Romania	Sara Sorcher, Amar Nadhir, and Kelsey Ables; Associated Press	Andrew Tate, social media personality known for misogynistic views and hate speech, detained in Romania
2019	Romania	The European Union	The EU Code of conduct on countering illegal hate speech online
2009	France	Juliette Roussin- Edited by Ivan Hare and James Weinstein, Oxford University Press	The Regulation of Hate Speech in France : In Extreme Speech and Democracy
2017	France	Carole Froment-Meurice	Le Discours de Haine sur Internet: Étude Juridique et Sociologique
2017	France	Benoît Huet	La lutte contre les discours de haine sur Internet : enjeux et perspectives
2019	France	Caroline Christin	The Law Against the Manipulation of Information: An Effective Tool Against Hate Speech?
2020	France	Juliette Denis	The Role of Online Platforms in the Dissemination and Regulation of Hate Speech
2020	France	National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (Commission Nationale Consultative des Droits de l'Homme - CNCDH)	Annual Report on the Fight Against Racism, Anti-Semitism, and Xenophobia
2024	France	Directorate of Legal and Administrative Information (Prime Minister)	Incitement to hatred, violence or discrimination
2017	France	National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies - Measure to understand	Ethnic statistics



ANNEXE 2

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS



The Annexe provides an overview of the organizations that contributed to the guidelines by sharing their valuable experiences, insights, and initiatives. Their participation has been instrumental in highlighting effective strategies for combating hate speech and fostering inclusive societies. We extend our sincere gratitude to all the organizations for their contributions and dedication to this important cause.

Egypt

Contributing organizations

UNESCO Future Builders Club

The UNESCO Future Builders Club empowers children and youth through initiatives in sustainable development, peacebuilding, and cultural awareness. Their projects focus on promoting tolerance, inclusion, and critical thinking. The organization actively engages young people aged 18–44 through workshops, online campaigns, and collaborations with schools and universities to foster a culture of coexistence.

 [Website Future Builders Club](#)



Ma'at for Peace, Development, and Human Rights

Ma'at is committed to promoting human rights and sustainable development while addressing societal inequalities. Their work includes advocacy, education, and direct support for marginalized communities. Targeting individuals aged 25–34, Ma'at focuses on combating hate speech and fostering societal transformation through workshops, campaigns, and dialogue initiatives.

 [Website Ma'at](#)



Women Studies and Social Transformation Center (WSST)

WSST is dedicated to advancing gender equity through research, advocacy, and outreach programs. The center focuses on engaging diverse age groups to challenge societal norms and foster social transformation. WSST addresses hate speech targeting women and promotes inclusivity through education and awareness campaigns, dialogue forums, and workshops.

 [Website WSST](#)



Egyptian Network of the Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF)

ALF fosters intercultural dialogue to promote mutual respect and understanding across the Euro-Mediterranean region. Established in 2005, the network supports initiatives aimed at overcoming stereotypes, promoting tolerance, and building inclusive societies. ALF actively engages youth, professionals, and advocates in cultural exchanges, storytelling, and workshops.

 [Facebook](#)



Go Group – Rowad El-Amal Association

Go Group operates under the Rowad El-Amal Association and focuses on human rights and social justice. The organization addresses discrimination, inequality, and hate speech while promoting tolerance and inclusivity. Their target audience includes individuals aged 25–34, particularly marginalized groups exposed to hate speech. Go Group emphasizes education, community engagement, and raising awareness about human rights.

 [Website Go Group](#)




Italy
Contributing organizations

COSPE (Cooperation for the Development of Emerging Countries)

Established in 1983, COSPE is a non-profit NGO working globally in over 30 countries to promote economic, environmental, and social development. Their initiatives focus on empowering marginalized communities, especially young people, through capacity building, advocacy, and grassroots collaboration. COSPE actively works in schools and non-formal educational settings to address issues like hate speech, bullying, and discrimination, with a focus on fostering inclusivity and resilience.

[!\[\]\(59a20289897cc4154a78df489f8e9fdd_img.jpg\) Website COSPE](#)


Amnesty International Italia

Amnesty International is a global movement committed to ending human rights abuses. The Italian section focuses on awareness campaigns, youth mobilization, and advocacy to combat hate speech and gender-based violence. Through research, monitoring, and educational programs, the organization aims to challenge systemic discrimination and foster a culture of respect and human rights.

[!\[\]\(3ada81272cf52cdd8ab6f0935cd6f39e_img.jpg\) Website Amnesty Italia](#)


RBS – Il Razzismo è una Brutta Storia (Racism is a Bad Story)

Founded in 2011, RBS is dedicated to combating racism and dismantling stereotypes through cultural initiatives. The organization works with schools, libraries, and vulnerable communities to foster inclusivity and equality. Their work includes educational activities, public campaigns, and collaborations with local stakeholders to challenge discrimination and promote anti-racism efforts.

[!\[\]\(284d644ea76e79d66bb99cf994686b0c_img.jpg\) Website RBS](#)


Rete Nazionale per il Contrastio ai Discorsi e ai Fenomeni d'Odio (National Network for Combating Hate Speech and Hate Phenomena)

This coalition of NGOs, researchers, and experts focuses on studying, mapping, and combating hate speech and hate phenomena across Italy. The network promotes research, advocacy, and educational initiatives, working with institutions and civil society to create counter-narratives and raise awareness. It actively supports the development of inclusive policies and tools to address hate speech at all levels of society.

[!\[\]\(fc56421a9367c303f1a1db2dc33bf1e8_img.jpg\) Website](#)


Tunisia

Contributing organizations

PADIL Organization

A national non-profit organization focused on sustainable and inclusive development, social inclusion, and youth empowerment through capacity building and awareness campaigns.

 [Website PADIL](#)

Youth Organization Sfax

An organization dedicated to empowering Tunisian youth by enhancing employability, fostering social integration, and promoting a sense of belonging.

 [Website Sfax](#)

Humanity Without Borders

Humanité Sans Frontières focuses on providing humanitarian and cultural support to vulnerable populations. Their main activities include aiding needy families, supporting children and youth with education and social integration, and promoting cultural and recreational activities to improve well-being.

 [Humanity without borders](#)

Act to Impact

Act To impact is a child focused charity club. It focuses on child well-being, especially for children in shelters and SOS Tunisia. They aim to create safe, supportive environments by improving systems and engaging with communities.

 [Website Act to impact](#)

Farhat Hached Institute for Research and Democracy (FHIRD)

Dedicated to fostering democracy, transparency, and civil liberties through electoral monitoring, governance research, and support for civil society initiatives.

 [Website FHIRD](#)

Vision Association for Ambitious Youth

The organization focuses on social justice and civil liberties, aiming to empower marginalized groups and address systemic inequalities.

 [Facebook](#)

SCOUTS Tunisiens

The Scouts Tunisiens is the national Scouting organization of Tunisia. It operates as an educational youth movement aimed at developing young people's physical, social, intellectual, and spiritual abilities. The organization emphasizes values like responsibility, community service, and respect for nature, guided by the Scout Promise and Law, which focus on duty to God, others, and self.

The Tunisian Scouts organization includes several age-based branches, such as Cubs, Scouts, Rovers, and Pioneers, and offers activities that range from environmental conservation and literacy campaigns to disaster relief and cultural projects. With a mission to contribute to building a better world, it is affiliated with the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and supports community development through diverse programs.

 [Website Scouts Tunisiens](#)

Romania

Contributing organizations

MozaiQ

MozaiQ is a community organization for LGBTQIA+ people living in Romania. MozaiQ aims to develop the LGBTQIA+ community in Romania through solidarity and mutual trust resulted from social activities, presence on the alternative cultural scene, as well as paying extra-attention to various groups in the community: Roma LGBTQIA+ people, trans people, HIV+ people, sex workers, LGBTQIA+ people finding themselves in a precarious socio-economic situation, people with different abilities, as well as seniors and young people.

The organization's purpose is strengthening, supporting and representing LGBTQIA+ communities (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, intersex, asexual) living in Romania through programs meant to meet their needs.

 [Website MozaiQ](#)

Diaspora Solidarity Group

Initiated in 2022, having solidarity as a main priority. We focus on Human rights, civil liberties & social justice. The NGO was born as a result of the impact of the conflict in Ukraine, since we were first responders to refugees coming from there. We conceptualized and created an emergency response NGO, which rescued, resettled and offered support to many people, as we speak.

The purpose of the Diaspora Solidarity Group is to develop, implement and carry out projects, programs and other activities aimed at contributing to the improvement of the quality of life and health of people, regardless of age, nationality, orientation, coming from disadvantaged categories and/or in vulnerable situations or difficult and their families.

 [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

Agenția Împreună

A foundation dedicated to promoting socio-economic development and fostering harmonious coexistence among diverse communities in Romania, with a strong focus on the Roma population. By adopting a community development approach, the organization empowers individuals and communities to recognize and utilize their own resources, fostering dialogue and collaboration at the local level.

Over 20 years, it has driven lasting change, advocating for equal rights and inspiring societal progress toward a world free from fear and prejudice.

 [Website Agenția Împreună](#)

Asociatia Filia

A feminist organization with over 20 years of experience empowering women and amplifying their voices through community work, advocacy, activism, awareness-raising, and research. Guided by principles of equality, inclusion, intersectionality, transparency, and solidarity, the organization creates safe, equitable spaces and advocates for a society that respects women's diverse rights and needs while ensuring equal opportunities for all.

Their work reflects a commitment to human rights, intersectional approaches, and fostering meaningful participation in decisions affecting women's lives.

 [Website Asociatia Filia](#)

Asociatia Accept

A leading organization in Romania advocating for LGBTQIA+ rights, social justice, and human rights for over 25 years. ACCEPT has built a strong community that empowers individuals to claim their rights and support others in their journey. Through its efforts, ACCEPT has contributed to significant progress in societal attitudes toward LGBTQIA+ individuals, striving for a future where sexual orientation and gender identity are embraced as natural aspects of human diversity.

 [Website Asociatia Accept](#)

Morocco

Contributing organizations

Laracultura

LaraCultura is a Moroccan NGO dedicated to empowering young people and fostering cultural exchange through non-formal educational and artistic programs. They aim to empower young people to become agents of social and cultural transformation, by providing them with access to educational and artistic programs that foster critical thinking, creativity, and cultural exchange.

Through these programs, they aim to nurture the talents and potential of young people, and help them to become confident, responsible, and engaged members of their communities.

[!\[\]\(d21abd31184ed2dbd96671ce76bd3c8a_img.jpg\) Website Laracultura](#) [!\[\]\(7174e8e2ca7fdbaa32bcb32349ea2134_img.jpg\) Instagram](#)

FOMEJE:

The Mediterranean Forum for Youth /
NoHate Speech Movement

FOMEJE provides a space for interaction and dialogue among young people from different cultures and backgrounds, playing a crucial role in promoting the values of coexistence and tolerance. FOMEJE has contributed to shaping a generation of young people who are aware of the challenges facing their society, ready to actively participate in the development of their country, and committed to defending the values of democracy and human rights.

Main focus areas include Human rights, civil liberties, social justice, and others.

[!\[\]\(45a5a418bdb93a9a08899ab4aac2fa52_img.jpg\) Facebook 1](#) [!\[\]\(2002581cbb76a768f9904af2e27ae696_img.jpg\) Facebook 2](#)

Azetta – Réseau Amazigh pour la citoyenneté

Focused on the protection and promotion of linguistic and cultural rights in Morocco and North Africa, this organization works to combat marginalization and discrimination based on ethnicity, language, religion, gender, or other identities. Its areas of activity encompass governance, democracy, human rights, Amazigh cultural and linguistic rights, economic and social rights, youth empowerment, gender equality, and the rights of Amazigh native women.

[!\[\]\(294f5ad05b9982fae77b0fc20339f5f6_img.jpg\) Website Azzeta](#)

Association Genre et développement durable (AGDD)

AGDD operates in northern Morocco, focusing on social gender and human rights. Over the past decade, it has concentrated on supporting Sub-Saharan African migrants by raising awareness of their challenges, fostering their integration into Moroccan society, and combating hate speech and racism. AGDD emphasizes a participatory approach in decision-making, promoting inclusivity and shared responsibility.

[!\[\]\(59f0787578e904376cbd9ab065793c8e_img.jpg\) Facebook](#)

GADEM: antiracist advocacy group in support of foreigners and migrants

GADEM is dedicated to the implementation of rights for foreigners and individuals in migration, promoting dignity, equal treatment, and combating discrimination and racism. The organization works to lift people out of exclusion and advocates for the recognition of migrants' rights in Morocco. GADEM actively monitors rights violations and the overall situation of migrant populations. It collaborates with Moroccan and international civil society networks, human rights associations, and groups assisting migrants and refugees.

[!\[\]\(e35d78be2bc3ef5908d76202f9fa0dfd_img.jpg\) Website GADEM](#)

France

Contributing organizations

CITE COOP

CiteCoop specializes in developing and managing urban, solidarity-based, and sustainable third spaces that promote social cohesion and combat discrimination. Rooted in the principles of the social and solidarity economy (SSE), these spaces foster intercultural encounters, community collaboration, and education on tolerance. CiteCoop supports local communities with turnkey citizen involvement kits, citizen workshops, and digital tools to enhance civic engagement.

Main focus areas: Social cohesion, intercultural dialogue, combating discrimination, and community engagement.

 [Website cite.coop](http://www.cite.coop)

Global InterFaith Youth Movement (Coexister International)

Coexister is an anti conventional movement dedicated to fostering social cohesion by transforming the diversity of beliefs into a unifying force. Its main activities include education, awareness-raising, and solidarity initiatives to promote understanding and harmonious coexistence among people of different convictions.

Main focus areas: Interfaith dialogue, education, social cohesion, and solidarity.

 [Facebook](#)

SOS Racisme

SOS Racisme is a French non-governmental organization dedicated to combating racism, anti-Semitism, and all forms of discrimination. Established in 1984, the organization focuses on promoting a multicultural society, advocating for equal rights, and fighting hate speech both online and offline.

 [Website SOS](http://www.sos-racisme.org)

GREENFAITH

This organization is dedicated to promoting social justice and environmental sustainability while fostering interfaith dialogue and understanding. Through its initiatives, it aims to bridge gaps between communities of different faiths, encouraging collaboration and mutual respect to address pressing social and environmental challenges.

Main focus areas: Social justice, environmental sustainability, interfaith dialogue, and community cohesion.

 [Website greenfaith.org](http://www.greenfaith.org)

MRAP (Mouvement contre le Racisme et pour l'Amitié entre les Peuples)

MRAP, established in 1949 by former resistance fighters and deportees, is a French national association committed to combating racism and promoting human rights. With a history of advocating against anti-Semitism, apartheid, colonialism, and discrimination, MRAP was instrumental in the creation of the 1972 law defining racism as an offense. The organization supports immigrant populations through legal aid, administrative assistance, and citizenship education, fostering "local anti-racism" initiatives.

Main focus areas: Human rights, civil liberties, racism, and discrimination.

 [Website mrap.fr](http://www.mrap.fr)



We thank all the organizations listed above for their unwavering commitment to building inclusive and equitable communities.

Their contributions have enriched this guidelines and provided valuable insights for addressing hate speech effectively.

