

The project sets out to address two different needs:

- 1 to provide tools to distinguish between non-'racial' and 'racial' physical violence.
Indeed, it is difficult to identify when there is a 'racial' motivation behind a physical offence, because it has to be interpreted within the context in which it has happened. When 'racial'-based hate crimes are not recognised as such, this leads to an underestimation of the phenomenon and to the violation of fundamental human rights. From there derives a specific need that consists in defining tangible criteria in order to be able to distinguish between 'racial' marked violence and 'non-marked' violence.
- 2 to define tangible criteria for identifying non-physical, 'racially'-marked offences, based on verbal, paraverbal, non-verbal and visual communication practices in written, spoken, as well as interactional discourses.

The main objectives of the project are:

- 1 comparing existing legislation in the different partner countries as well as relevant academic and non-academic studies
- 2 identifying specific communication practices through words, voice, body language and visual elements in mass media and social network debates about hate speech and hate communication
- 3 understanding the mechanism of hate-oriented communication practices in their communicative techniques, procedures and strategies
- 4 working out a face-to-face and online training concept to provide concrete tools for recognising such communication practices and contributing to prevent hate crimes
- 5 elaborating good practices, recommendations and tangible tools for the legal and police sectors

Beneficiaries of the project include:

legal professionals (judges or lawyers), law enforcement officials (city police, border police, military, etc.), migrants (as potential or actual victims of 'race'-motivated hate crime), intercultural mediators, teachers, social workers, adult educators as well as EU institutions (European Commission, European Council, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights).

Project Website

<http://win.radar.communicationproject.eu/web/>



VCLE Platform

<http://lnx.radar.communicationproject.eu/web/htdocs/radar.communicationproject.eu/home/dokeos/>



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This publication has been produced with the financial support of the Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the RADAR's Team and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.

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This project is co-funded by the
Fundamental Rights and Citizenship
Programme of the European Union



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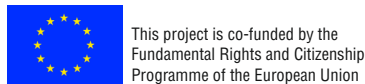
Regulating AntiDiscrimination
and AntiRacism

JUST/2013/FRAC/AG/6271

"No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite."

Nelson Mandela





EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE

RADAR
Regulating AntiDiscrimination and AntiRacism

When 'racially'-motivated hate crimes are not recognised as such, this leads to a violation of fundamental human rights.

THE RADAR PROJECT

In European societies, increasingly reshaped by migration, the fight against racism and xenophobia is a key challenge for democracy and civil life. Despite anti-discrimination legislation that is in force in EU Member States, there is still a fundamental problem in identifying different forms of racism and xenophobia. These may consist of physical attacks against people or of verbal abuse through hate speech, that is, 'racial' and xenophobic discourses "which spread, incite, promote or justify racial hatred, xenophobia, anti-Semitism or other forms of hatred based on intolerance, including: intolerance expressed by aggressive nationalism and ethnocentrism, discrimination and hostility against minorities, migrants and people of immigrant origin" (Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers' Recommendation 97(20)).

A hate crime is never an isolated act; it is usually triggered and fostered by hate speech, consisting of discourses that express disdain, hatred, prejudice, etc. Such discourses are performed not only in direct face-to-face communication through public and private conversations, but they also take place online, in political discussions, in the media, as well as in other institutional contexts. Hate crimes may also follow from hate-oriented communication practices based on other communication levels, such as voice (paraverbal message), body language (non-verbal message), images (visual message). Finally, racist discourse often does not simply consist

in explicit hatred, prejudice and disdain, but it may also take the form of an apparently benevolent recognition of the differences that presupposes a stereotypisation of an individual's cultural and social identity. In this case, what may seem like a respectful recognition of differences masks underlying stereotypes and prejudices that ultimately become labels and stigmas for the individuals.

Furthermore, it has become increasingly difficult for judges, the police, politicians and the public to identify whether a physical offence is triggered by xenophobia, because it has to be interpreted within the context in which it has taken place. For this reason, it is often the case that 'racial' hate crimes are not recognised as such, which leads to an underestimation of the phenomenon. Treating crimes that are motivated by 'racial' hatred as non-'racial' crimes leads to the violation of fundamental human rights. It is therefore essential that law enforcing and legal authorities, along with journalists and politicians, have tools for correctly identifying the motivation that underlies such criminal acts.

This interpretative work allows us to define such actions in terms of hate crime offences. The overall aim of this project is to provide law enforcement officials and legal professionals with the necessary tools, mainly through open training activities, aimed at facilitating the identification of 'racial' motivated hate communication. For this purpose, interpretative work will be carried out based on interviews with hate crime victims, as well as online and printed examples of hate-oriented communication practices in six different countries. This material will be analysed and categorised for the purposes of designing a communication-based training course based on the GINCO* concept of competence-oriented learning and self-evaluation. The course will be suitable for professionals and actual or potential hate-crime victims at national level, as well as for trainers at international level. Further learning resources and facilities will be provided to offer online learning events. Finally, the project aims at producing a publication with concrete tools, recommendations and best practice examples to facilitate anti-discrimination and anti-racist actions and regulations.

*Grundtvig International Network of Course Organisers

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