Media Advisory

Directorate of Communication

Ref: MA134a09 Tel. +33 (0)3 88 41 25 60 Fax +33 (0)3 88 41 39 11 Internet: www.coe.int e-mail: pressunit@coe.int

47 member States

Albania

Andorra Armenia Austria Azerbaijan Belgium Bosnia and Herzegovina Bulgaria Croatia Cyprus **Czech Republic** Denmark Estonia Finland France Georgia Germany Greece Hungary Iceland Ireland Italy Latvia Liechtenstein Lithuania Luxembourg Malta Moldova Monaco Montenegro Netherlands Norway Poland Portugal Romania Russia San Marino Serbia Slovakia Slovenia Spain Sweden Switzerland "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" Turkey Ukraine United Kingdom

Fighting racist violence and discrimination: ECRI round table in Hungary

Date: 16 November 2009

Location: Budapest (Hungary) - Novotel Budapest Centrum, Rákóczi út 43-45.

Organised by the Council of Europe's European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)

Description: The aim of the round table is to examine the situation in Hungary with regard to racially motivated violence as well as racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and intolerance in public discourse. Participants will also take stock of the implementation of anti-racial discrimination legislation and policies, and discuss the follow-up given to the recommendations contained in ECRI's fourth report on Hungary.

The meeting will be opened by Vilmos Szabó, Senior Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, and Eva Smith Asmussen, Chair of ECRI. It will bring together representatives from the Government, the Parliament, the judiciary, local and regional authorities, national human rights institutions, academics, NGOs and trade unions.

In its <u>fourth report on Hungary</u>, ECRI welcomed some positive developments in legislation, and the establishment of bodies and actions responsible for fighting discrimination. It also expressed its concern on the situation of the Roma minority, especially in the field of employment and education, and with regard to the rise of racist public discourse.

The round table is open to press. It will start at 9:00 and end at 17:15.

Links to Programme and Explanatory note

ECRI is an independent human rights body of the Council of Europe which monitors problems of racism and intolerance by preparing country specific reports, and issues recommendations to member states. More information on: <u>www.coe.int/ecri</u>

Contact:

Stéphanie Marsal, ECRI's External Relations officer, tel: +33(0)3 90 21 43 28, mobile (15-16 November): + 33 (0)6 62 18 55 42, stephanie.marsal@coe.int



To receive our press releases by e-mail, contact: Council.of.Europe.Press@coe.int