



COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS – COMMISSAIRE AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME

COUNCIL OF EUROPE | CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Council of Europe
Conseil de l'Europe



European Union
Union européenne

Strasbourg, 15 October 2008

CommDH/NHRS(2008)22

Joint European Union – Council of Europe Programme
Setting up an active network of independent non judicial human rights structures

**The promotion and protection by national human rights structures
of freedom of expression and information**

DRAFT PROGRAMME

**Workshop for specialised staff of national human rights structures
Padua, 21 – 23 October 2008 (Hotel Plaza)**

co-organised by
the Office of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights
and
the Interdepartmental Centre on Human Rights and the Rights of Peoples
of the University of Padua

University of Padua
Interdepartmental Centre
on Human Rights and the Rights of Peoples



Université de Padoue
Centre Interdépartemental
pour les Droits de la Personne et les Droits des Peuples

Tuesday, 21 October 2008

Arrival of participants at Plaza Hotel in Padua

18.30 – 19.00 *Welcome reception at Plaza Hotel*

19.00 – 20.30 **Opening session**

Opening address

By Marco MASCHIA, Director of the Interdepartmental Centre on Human Rights and the Rights of Peoples of the University of Padua

Issues addressed by the workshop

by Markus JAEGER, Deputy to the Director, Head of the National Human Rights Structures Unit, Office of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

Freedom of expression and information: rights at stake and international instruments of protection and promotion

by Stefano VALENTI, Interdepartmental Centre on Human Rights and the Rights of Peoples of the University of Padua, P2P Project Officer

20.30 *Dinner at Plaza Hotel*

Wednesday, 22 October 2008

9.00 – 11.00 **Working session 1 - Limits to the freedom of expression, the confrontation between freedom of expression and other individual rights: norms and practices**

Presentation of the Standards of the Council of Europe with specific focus to the ECtHR case-law

by Mario OETHEIMER, Lawyer, Research Division, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights

Examples of concrete situations that raise concern in the Council of Europe Member States

by Sejal PARMAR, Senior Legal Officer, Article 19 (London, United Kingdom)

DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES, WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NHRS NAMELY FROM SLOVENIA, SPAIN... (tbc)

11.00 – 11.30 *Coffee break*

11.30 – 12.15 Exchange of experiences continued

12.15 – 13.00 **Working session 2 – Limits to the freedom of expression, the specific cases of hate speech and insults to religious beliefs: norms and practices**

Presentation of the Standards of the Council of Europe

by Irène KITSOU-MILONAS, Legal advisor of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe

Examples of concrete situations that raise concern in the Council of Europe Member States

by Aline USANASE, lawyer, Secretariat of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance of the Council of Europe

DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES, WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NHRS, NAMELY FROM GEORGIA, GREECE... (tbc)

13.00 – 15.00 *Lunch break (buffet at Plaza Hotel)*

15.00 – 16.15 Exchange of experiences continued

16.15 – 16.45 *Coffee break*

16.45 – 18.00 **Working session 3 – The protection of journalists: norms and practices**

Presentation of the Standards of the Council of Europe (including divulgation of sources)

by Ivan NIKOLTCHEV, Head of Media Unit, Legal and Human Rights Capacity Building Division, Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs of the Council of Europe

Examples of concrete situations that raise concern in the Member States of the Council of Europe

by Marc GRÜBER, Director of the European Federation of Journalists

DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES, WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NHRS, NAMELY FROM AZERBAIJAN, UKRAINE... (tbc)

20.30 *Dinner (Restaurant Alle Piazze Da Giorgio)*

Thursday, 23 October 2008

8.45 – 10.00 **Working session 3 – The protection of journalists (continued)**

Exchange of experiences continued

10.00 – 10.30 *Coffee break*

10.30 – 13.00 **Working session 4 – Access to information: norms and practices**

The access to information and official documents

by Helen DARBISHIRE, Executive Director, Access Info Europe

DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES, WITH
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NHRS NAMELY FROM ARMENIA,
CROATIA...(tbc)

13.00 – 13.45 **Winding-up of the workshop**

by Markus JAEGER

13.45 **Close of the workshop**

by Stefano VALENTI

14.00 – 15.00 *Lunch (buffet at Plaza Hotel)*

15.00 – 19.00 *Guided tour of the city of Padua or transfer to Venice*

20.30 *Dinner*

Friday, 24 October 2008

Departure from Plaza Hotel