

# Press Release

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## Commissioner Hammarberg to speak at the celebrations for the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CIMADE

Strasbourg, 24.09.2009 – On 26<sup>th</sup> of September, Thomas Hammarberg, Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights, will take part in the launching of the celebrations for the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CIMADE – one of the French leading NGOs on migrants and refugees' rights.

The [event](#) is organised by CIMADE at the "Palais Universitaire" in Strasbourg. It will consist of three round tables which discuss migration movements across Europe and debate on present European migration policies. In particular, the closing round table will focus on ways and modalities to build a European space which respects the values of justice, peace and cohesion and strengthens the protection of migrants' rights.

The Commissioner will take part in this round table together with international personalities such as Michel Rocard, former French Prime Minister, Antoine Pécoud, UNESCO specialist on migration and multicultural policies, Bassirou Diarra, advisor to the Presidency of Mali, Catherine Trautmann, former French Minister and member of the European Parliament and Lorena Escudero, Ecuador's Secretary of State for Migration.

"Civil society has a crucial role in the protection of migrants' rights. CIMADE is one of those associations whose dedication to migrants must be acknowledged and supported" said the Commissioner.

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