



T +33(0)388412560

www.coe.int

pressunit@coe.int

Ref. DC 040(2011)

YOUTH PEACE CAMP 2011: Engaging young people from conflict-struck regions in dialogue and conflict transformation

STRASBOURG. 27.06.2011. The 8th edition of the Council of Europe Peace Camp will take place at the European Youth Centre (EYCS) in Strasbourg on 2-9 July, with 45 young leaders from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Israel, Kosovo (*) (Albanian and Serbian ethnic communities), and the Palestinian Authority to engage in dialogue by living and working together. Parallel to the activity in Strasbourg, a Caucasus Peace Camp is held at the Europa Park in Rust (Germany), organised by the Russian Youth Council (with the support of the European Youth Foundation), with 25 participants from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and the Russian Federation.

The aim of the Camp is to provide a constructive experience for young people growing up in regions affected by armed conflicts and exposed to structural violence, in order to develop common understanding and mutual respect. The programme will help youth leaders to recognize and address prejudice, combating aggressive and exclusive forms of nationalism, implementing intercultural learning and human rights education. For some of the participants this initiative is the first time in their lives to talk face to face with young people from "the other side".

A closing session for both groups is envisaged at the EYCS on July 8th, with the participation of the Council of Europe Deputy Secretary General Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, the goodwill ambassador of the Council of Europe and host of the peace camp Roland Mack, and with the Chairperson of the Joint Council on Youth, Antonia Wulff.

Media Contact: Giuseppe Zaffuto, tel. +33 3 90 21 56 04, giuseppe.zaffuto@coe.int

() All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.*