



A halftone image of three men in suits shaking hands, rendered in yellow and black. The image is composed of a grid of dots of varying sizes, creating a textured effect. The men are positioned in the upper half of the frame, with their hands clasped in a firm grip. The background is a solid black color.

about

More than 560 organisations from 46 countries have stood together for 30 years, since 1993 to support our anti-racist and anti-discrimination vision and to speak out against the political backsliding in Europe.

We act to hold civil society to get her to protect those who are most vulnerable to the forces of hatred, racism and extremism, building their capacity to campaign and advocate for inclusion and equality, supporting local battles while making sense of the global challenges that involve us all.



66K
facebook
impressions

100
supported
delegations

18K
linkedin
interaction



32K
instagram
engagements

K
S

10
original
publications



CCC

09

DIRECTOR'S ADDRESS

10

CAMPAIGNS

24

PUBLICATIONS

36

DELEGATIONS

46

CONFERENCES



Content

SS

54

PROJECTS

60

INITIATIVES

68

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

70

OUR SUPPORTERS

As we transition from 2024 to 2025, it is with both an emotion filled and concerned heart I reflect on the year of elections behind us. In 2024, democracy faced one of its toughest tests yet. Many of the oldest or most populated democracies choose their path. The alarming rise of extreme populist movements, which we have witnessed since 2014, reached new heights, threatening the very values of diversity, inclusion, and peace that we hold dear and already saw dwindling.

Last year's EU elections served as a stark reminder of the fragile state of democratic unity. Extreme populists gained more ground, exposing deep fractures within our societies. While these results are disheartening, they must also be a wake-up call. If I could ask for one gift for the year ahead, it would be a collective recognition of the urgent need to put aside differences and truly unite behind a shared vision for the future or face further polarisation in our movements and the general public.

Amidst these challenges, 2024 was also a year of resilience and action. Our network demonstrated remarkable strength, hosting impactful projects, campaigns, and meetings that empowered activists across the entire globe with a special focus on "near Europe" countries that surround the EU. From our work on tackling the rising tides of nationalism to amplifying voices for peace in the face of global conflicts, UNITED continues to stand as a beacon of hope and solidarity.

At UNITED, we firmly believe that diversity and unity are not mutually exclusive but rather essential pillars of a just society. Yet, as a representative of progressive voices, we must confront an uncomfortable truth: we remain too fragmented, too divided, and, therefore, too weak. If we are to push back against hate and division, we must find common ground, craft a new consensus, and amplify our messages as one.

As we step into 2025, we are more committed than ever to strengthening our network and expanding our reach. We will continue to provide news, inspiration, and support to our partners and allies. We will innovate, communicate, and mobilize with even greater purpose, ensuring that every member of our community feels empowered to take action.

My wish for all of us, let 2025 be the year we come together in recognition that our collective strength is greater than our individual differences. Let it be the year we build bridges where walls are being raised and reimagine democracy as a space where all voices can thrive.

Your commitment, voice, and actions are what make this possible. Let us move forward with courage, hope, and determination to create a Europe—and a world—where respect, inclusivity, and peace prevail.

Together, we are united.

Bálint Jóna





camp

MAN



Campaigns

FOR HUMANITY
FOR YOURSELF
FOR UNITED



I VOTE FOR

MAKE YOUR MARK

A CALL TO ACTION FOR DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY

This year marks a pivotal moment in history—the largest global call to vote since universal suffrage began.

Elections though are not always the sign of a healthy democracy and this shows when we see that democracy has actually reached its lowest point at global level since 2006.

In the same way, democracy does not always equal peace, since many countries which are **democracies “on paper”** are very much involved with conflicts, also armed ones.

This happens because many of these democracies are defined as **“flawed democracies”**, meaning that they suffer from deep-rooted issues like low political engagement, underrepresentation of minorities enrolling and voting and governance challenges, despite upholding the basic aspects of free elections and civil liberties.



REPRESENTATION MATTERS

If we talk about **“issues of participation”** in fact, we’re talking about issues of **REPRESENTATION**.

As an independent anti-racist, anti-nationalist-and anti-fascist Network in fact we keep our commitment in stressing inequalities and in empowering all voices.



EUROPE: A BEACON WITH SHADOWS

This means that even though our European continent is often regarded as a beacon of peace and democracy all over the world, many of its countries present several issues that affect citizens' rights and wellbeing.

These are the heritage left by the colonial past that has never been truly faced and that still affects much of our narratives and history, fuelling discrimination and biases.



YOUR VOICE, YOUR POWER

For this reason we want to call to our Network and to everybody to use this **European Action Week Against Racism** to start a true and meaningful mobilisation towards the next **EU Parliamentary Election** but also as an inspiration to monitor and to critically analyse the other elections happening all over the world, identifying those candidates and parties who oppose human rights and use propaganda and polarisation to spread hatred and divide people.

Last week was the time of Russia, where the authoritarian regime managed to use elections to reinforce its oppressive power once again, erasing and eliminating any possible opposition; April will see elections happening in India, the most populated country in the world and November the big US elections that will inevitably influence all of us.

That's why we need to start focusing on what is closer and see the EU Elections as an opportunity to do better and to limit this authoritarian wave from spreading even further.



CHAMPION THE UNDERREPRESENTED

From our side we can prevent this from happening especially by taking care of who is under and mis-represented in our cities, in our countries, in our societies. Minorities, migrants and refugees that have progressively been weaponised at every election, despite being absent or very lowly present in parliaments everywhere.

This happens also because the right to citizenship and to vote is made exclusionary and restrictive in many places. This means that if you are among the people who can vote, this is your chance to make a difference.

BE THE AGENT OF POSITIVE CHANGE, BE THE DEFENDER OF DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY

As UNITED Network, we're spreading the word about racism and democracy. We're not pushing to one party or the other but just calling out to not choose whoever candidate will push for discrimination and who doesn't take into account the rights of all.

To support our campaign you can choose one of our stands—or all of them—and make a statement. Share what your vote stands for!

**Vote for Humanity, Vote for Yourself,
Vote UNITED!**

Remember, voting for human rights and diversity means voting for your own interests and those of your loved ones.

I VOTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
I VOTE FOR INTERSECTIONALITY
I VOTE FOR DIVERSITY
I VOTE FOR INCLUSION
I VOTE FOR ANTIRACISM
I VOTE FOR ANTIFASCISM
I VOTE FOR ME
I VOTE UNITED





FOR EQUALITY
AND JUSTICE
FOR ALL
UNITED

MAR

21

european
action week
against
racism



SEEK SAFETY, FIND HOME

Every year on **June 20**, the world comes together to celebrate **World Refugee Day** — a day dedicated to honoring the resilience and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home countries due to conflict or persecution. This global observance sheds light on the rights, needs, and dreams of refugees.



world
refugee day




WHY WORLD REFUGEE DAY MATTERS

Solidarity with Refugees: This year's focus is on solidarity with refugees, emphasizing a world where refugees are welcomed. Solidarity means keeping our doors open, recognizing their strengths, and acknowledging the challenges they face.

Finding Solutions: Solidarity also involves finding solutions to their plight. This includes ending conflicts so they can return home safely, ensuring opportunities for them to thrive in welcoming communities, and providing necessary resources.

Our work on the topic began 31 years ago when we started compiling the **List of Refugee Deaths**. This list documents reliable data on refugee deaths related to the Fatal Policies of Fortress Europe since 1993. Tragically, it now contains 60,620 entries—each representing a life lost forever, leaving behind shattered dreams and futures.

To raise awareness about these lost lives, we urge everyone to say **#nomoredeaths**. Let's work together to create better migration policies and foster inclusive, welcoming societies for those seeking refuge.



The number of refugees and displaced people is the highest ever reached in all history, meaning that we have **more than 117 million people** wandering without a place, without a refuge.

Creating and sustaining a welcoming society is in fact a success for everyone involved. It's not only about solidarity, but about shaping a world that is human, with **#humanrights** at its core.

We summarised some of these criteria using the **“Council of Europe #Action Plan on Protecting Vulnerable Persons in the Context of Migration and Asylum in Europe (2021-2025)”**, which focuses on 4 main pillars:

SAFETY LAW & JUSTICE PARTICIPATION COOPERATION

Every pillar includes several concrete actions that states can promote to facilitate the inclusion of people but it's not the only available plan, so we invite you to find what can be the ways in which we can make our place a good home for all.

Welcoming an inclusive community requires continuous work, but it is ultimately achievable.

Solidarity means keeping our doors open to those who seek refuge. We need to acknowledge the strength and the challenges that refugees and migrants face and make a better society for all.

We all need to belong in the place we choose to call home.



Late in **1938**, Nazis across Germany attacked Jewish people and their homes, businesses and places of worship and arrested about **30,000** Jewish men. The attacks became known as **Kristallnacht** - the "**Night of Broken Glass**", but the events of **November 9-10**, went beyond the broken glass of Jewish-owned shops on the streets of German cities and has rightly been called a major turning point in the history of the Holocaust.

When commemorating this day though, even in its **85th anniversary**, we must remember and we must be able to see that it was the culmination of a long-term process, which constantly fuelled and normalised hate through propaganda and manipulation. It didn't happen in a void.



Since 1992 we remember the victims of the 'Kristallnacht' pogrom and fascism throughout history while raising awareness about the dangers of nationalism, populism, antisemitism, right-wing extremism, and neo-fascism today.

Populism is not just on the rise; it's gaining momentum and strength worldwide.

When choosing our actions we can't help but look at the scenario and the spaces we live in. For this reason we can't help but dedicate this year's 9th of November Campaign to contrast the threat of populism.

Join us and help spread contents and initiatives that promote solidarity, human rights and democratic values, to face the menace of populism.

Because the rise of populism is not just a political challenge—it is a threat to the very fabric of democratic societies. As populist leaders use fear, division, and misinformation to gain power, the core values of democracy — human rights, tolerance, and pluralism—are at risk. It is imperative that citizens, policymakers, and civil society work together to defend democracy against this dangerous tide.

That's why we stand **UNITED Against Fear**, empowering everyone, especially young people, to act and uphold human rights and democratic values.

In our dedicated publication we tried to condensate the main characteristics, causes and trends in populism worldwide, highlighting patterns and showing what to tackle for stopping it from spreading.

Many of us share the same worries and anxieties about the present and the future, nonetheless, they won't disappear by giving our power away to populist leaders, who take advantage of our negative feelings to gain personal advantages.

For this reason we have decided to organise an Activist Livestream to have an open dialogue and to provide some tips on how to resist the Perils of Populism. These can be summarised as:

- START SMALL
- ACT LOCALLY
- CHALLENGE NEGATIVITY
- EMPOWER YOURSELF
- STAY INFORMED
- SPEAK UP
- COLLABORATE
- THINK SUSTAINABLY
- START EVERYDAY
- BUILD MOMENTUM GRADUALLY
- FOCUS ON LONG-TERM IMPACT



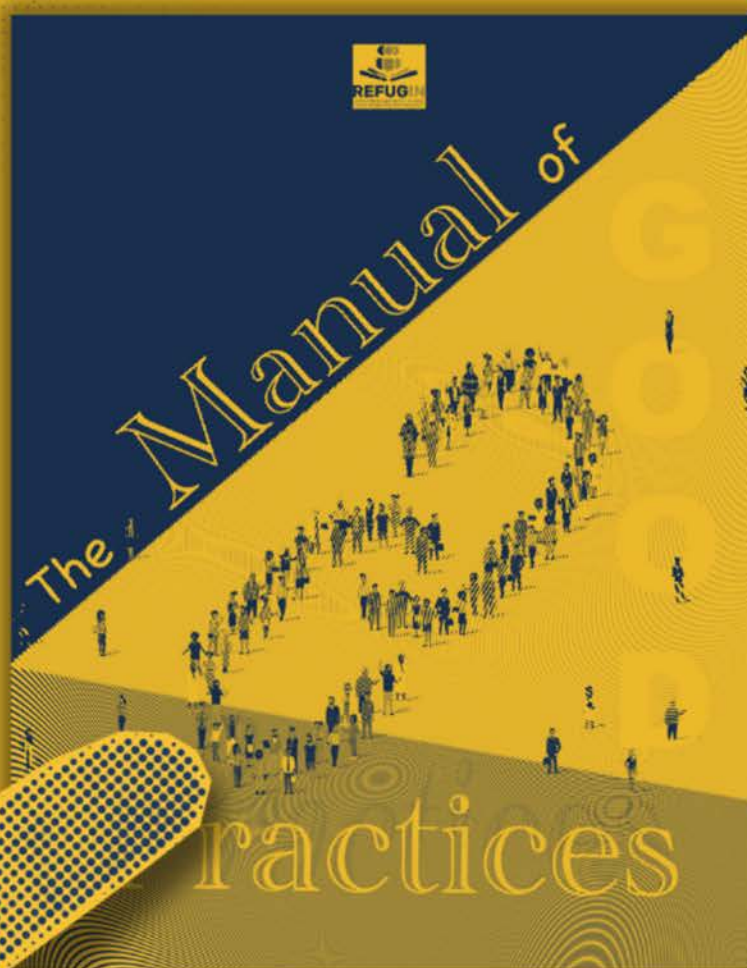


The image is a vibrant, abstract graphic design. It features several overlapping geometric shapes in a palette of bright yellow, white, and dark blue. The yellow areas are filled with a fine, speckled texture. The white areas are filled with a regular grid of small, dark blue dots. The dark blue areas are solid and feature a thick, expressive brushstroke in the upper right corner. The overall composition is dynamic and layered.

public



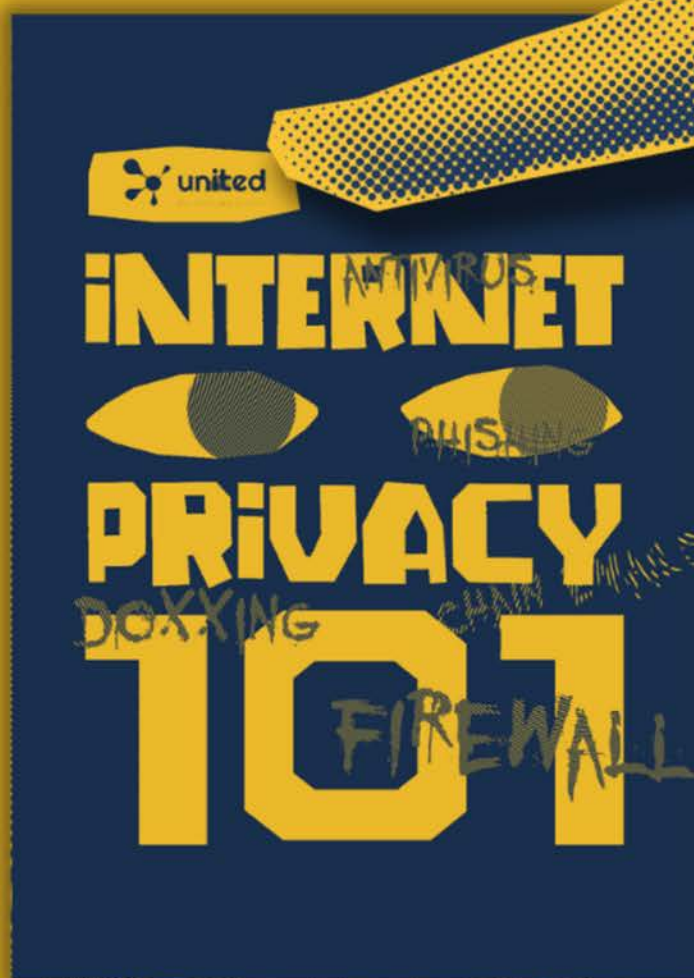
ocations



REFUGIN Manual of Good Practices

This practical guide summarizes the results of a literature search and online survey conducted by each partner country of the REFUGIN project :France, Greece, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Hungary, Moldova and Poland.

The Manual of Good Practices offers valuable information into the role of educators and NGOs in government integration efforts, shares best practices in key integration areas across participating project countries, and provides practical advice for educators and NGOs working with young refugees.



Internet Privacy 101 – Your Digital Safety Guide

This guide is a testament to our commitment in raising awareness about digital safety and security, for activists and common users alike.

After the publication of our Manual, My Privacy – Your Safety, we wanted to provide a quicker and easier to consult guide, that everyone can easily share and understand, with sources and tips that can support users in their enjoyment of digital spaces and digital tools, taking into account rights and duties.



HAND IN HAND FOR DIVERSITY

EUROPEAN ACTION WEEK AGAINST RACISM

Diversity! It enriches our cultures, our societies, our economies. It drives us to think broader and respect our differences. Diversity has the power to make society better. Every year around 21 March, UNITED coordinates the European Action Week Against Racism and calls upon society to bring an end

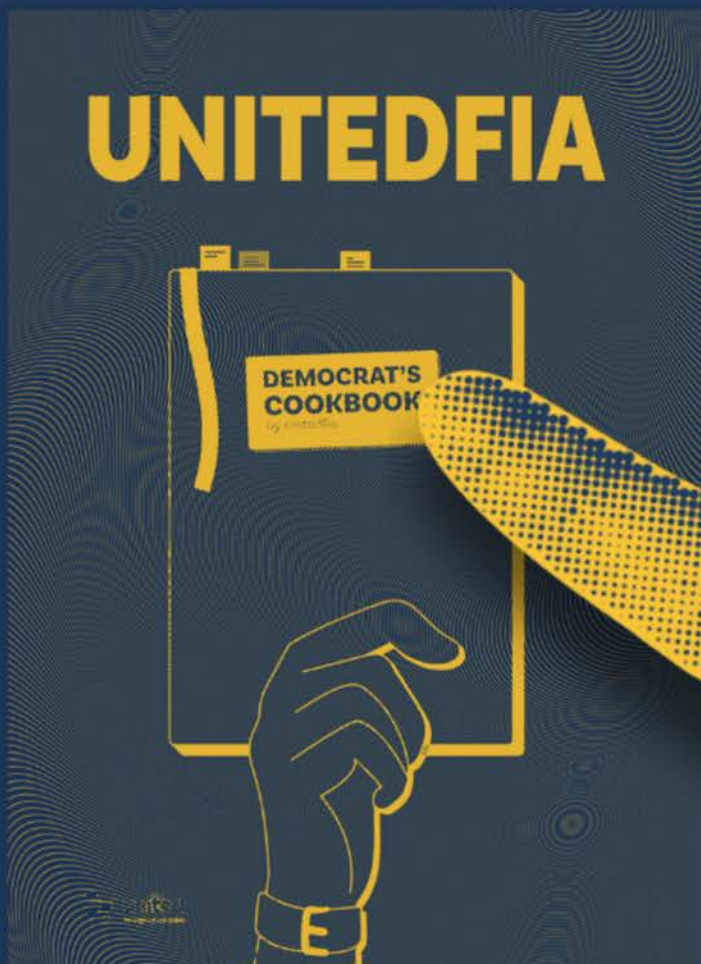
to racism, discrimination and intolerance. A wide variety of organisations join forces to confront racism with direct action. Whether by organising own activities, supporting others, or spreading the message: We stand hand in hand for diversity!

Hand in Hand for Diversity

Europe faces various forms of racism, xenophobia, anti-migrant, and anti-minority attitudes leading to exclusion, hate speech, and even hate crimes. What is worrying the most is the continuous rise all over Europe of racist and extreme right political movements and parties as well as the more and more discriminatory discourse used by mainstream political parties.

That's why we wanted to publish this leaflet, to call people to advocate for anti-racism and inclusion, sharing the sentiment behind our historical European Action Week Against Racism.

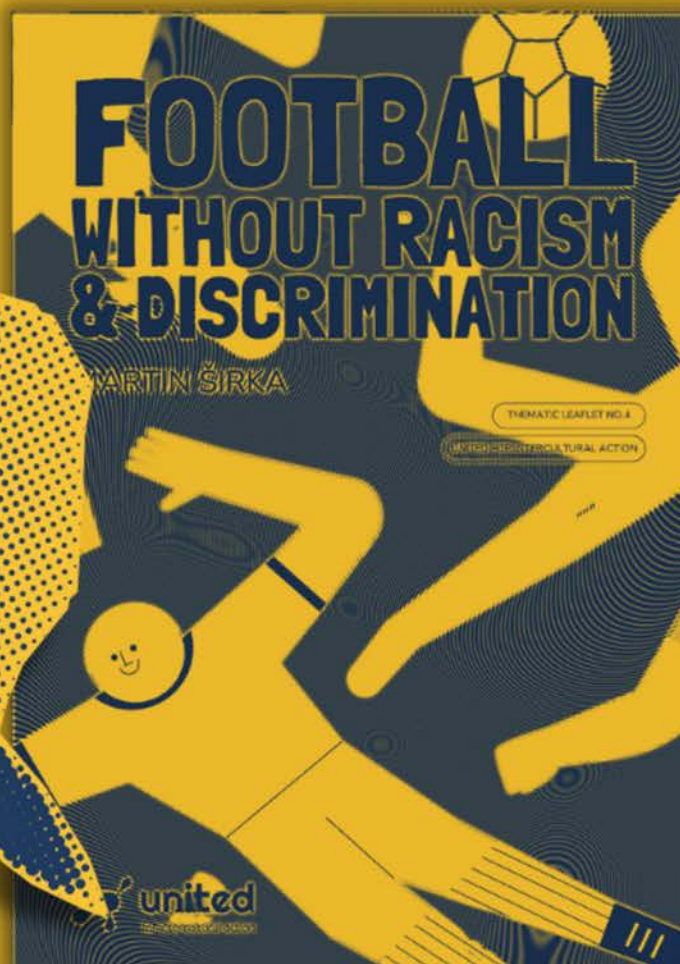
UNITEDFIA



Democrat's Cookbook

2024 marked a pivotal moment in history, with the largest global call to vote since universal suffrage began.

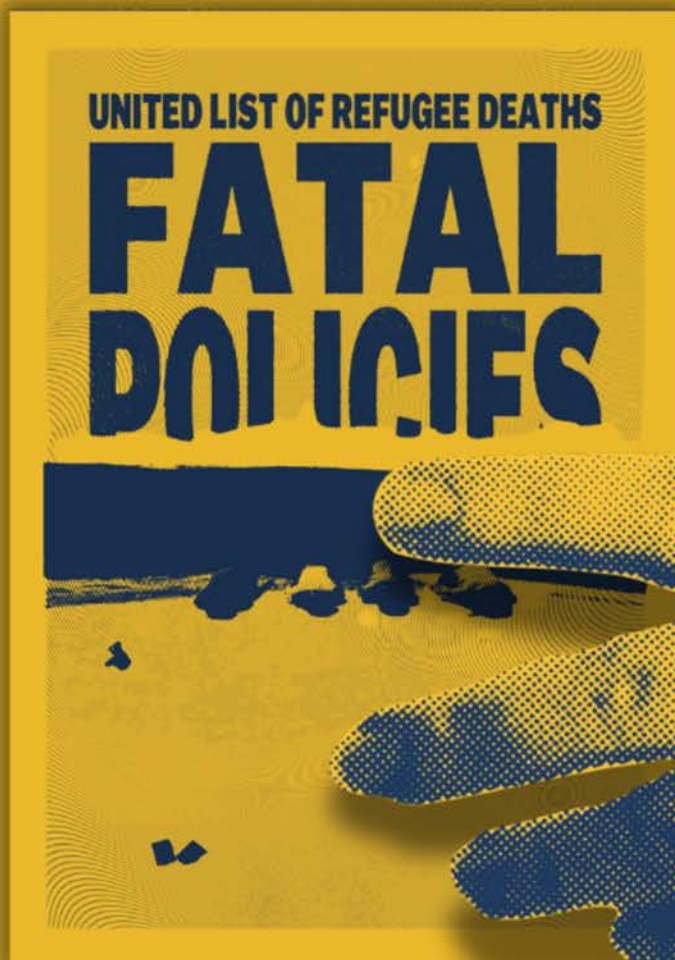
For this reason we thought we needed a true “Cookbook” to help us navigating this scenario and that could help in using this momentum to put antiracism at the centre of the discourse and to call to our Network and everyone else to start a true and meaningful mobilisation towards the next EU Parliamentary Election but also as an inspiration to monitor and to critically analyse the other elections happening all over the world, identifying those candidates and parties who oppose human rights and use propaganda and polarisation to spread hatred and divide people.



Football without Racism and Discrimination

This pamphlet is dedicated to contrast Racism & Discrimination in Football and it was written in cooperation with Martin Širka, a member of our Network and representative of YMCA Serbia.

The pamphlet is a collection of definition, suggestions and guidelines to help people and activists in addressing racist and discriminatory behaviours in football, while also helping to have a better understanding of certain groups that are associated with the phenomena but that are not necessarily the sole responsible for them, like ultras and hooligans.



UNITED List of Refugee Death - Leaflet

Considering the growing challenges in addressing the migration policies that characterise the “Fortress Europe” and the constant worsening of refugees and migrants condition in many countries, we thought it was useful to refresh the memory of the work behind our List of Refugee Deaths, considering that in 2024 it reached 60.620 entries, meaning that 60.620 lives have been lost forever, 60.620 people have no more future.

For this reason we're here once again to scream out loud #nomoredeaths and to advocate for changing the Fatal policies of Fortress Europe that cause so much death.

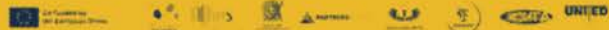


HE/SHE might be an extremist

How to identify, prevent and respond to involvement in violent extremism

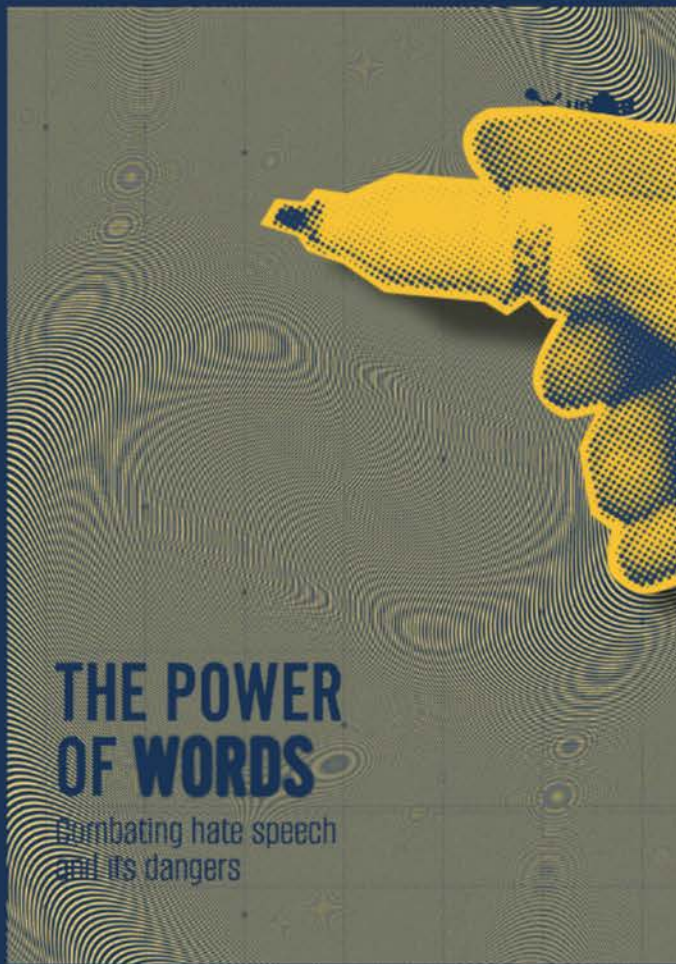
Cecilia Palmgren
Helena Meyer
Robert Crell
TRANSFORM

Designed by IPS, Innovative Prison Systems



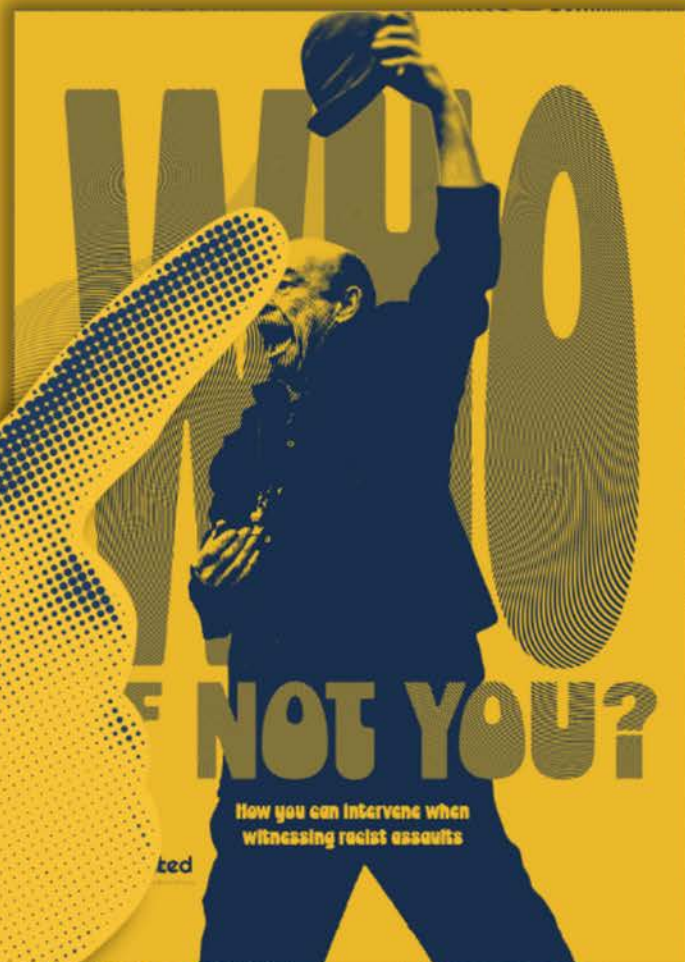
HE/SHE might be an extremist

This handbook is developed within the R2COM – Radicalisation and Violent Extremism Prevention in the Community project, as a complement to the TV-RAT (Transitioning Vulnerabilities to Radicalisation Assessment Tool), to provide support to practitioners in their professional capacities when encountering involvement in violent extremist environments and to provide guidance on how to identify, prevent further escalation, and support pro-social reintegration.



The Power of Words

Hate speech is a global problem, but it's one we can tackle together. Every action counts, from educating yourself to supporting victims to advocating for systemic change. For this reason, taking advantage of UNITED expertise in contrasting radicalisation and in preventing and combating hate speech with the No Hate Speech Movement Campaign, we decided to condensate some main concepts in our latest publication, helping people to discover what's hate speech and how it impacts our daily lives but also how is possible to prevent its spreading.

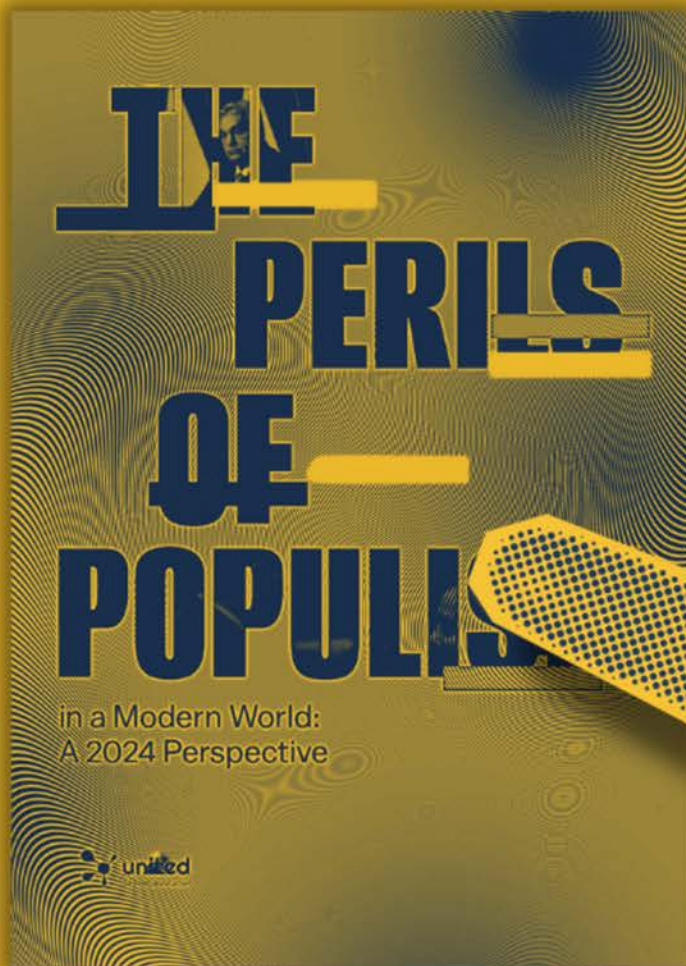


Who if not you?

Beyond the professionals and activists who combat racism every day, there are many of us who want to help but feel powerless.

This publication is dedicated to these people. Now in a renewed version, the guide "Who if not You?" was originally published in 2011, more than 10 years ago.

In this updated edition, we prioritize the well-being of victims in every action, aiming to subvert the oppressive dynamics behind discrimination, oppression and hate, offering many simple ways to feel empowered and to respond to racist attacks in various scenarios.

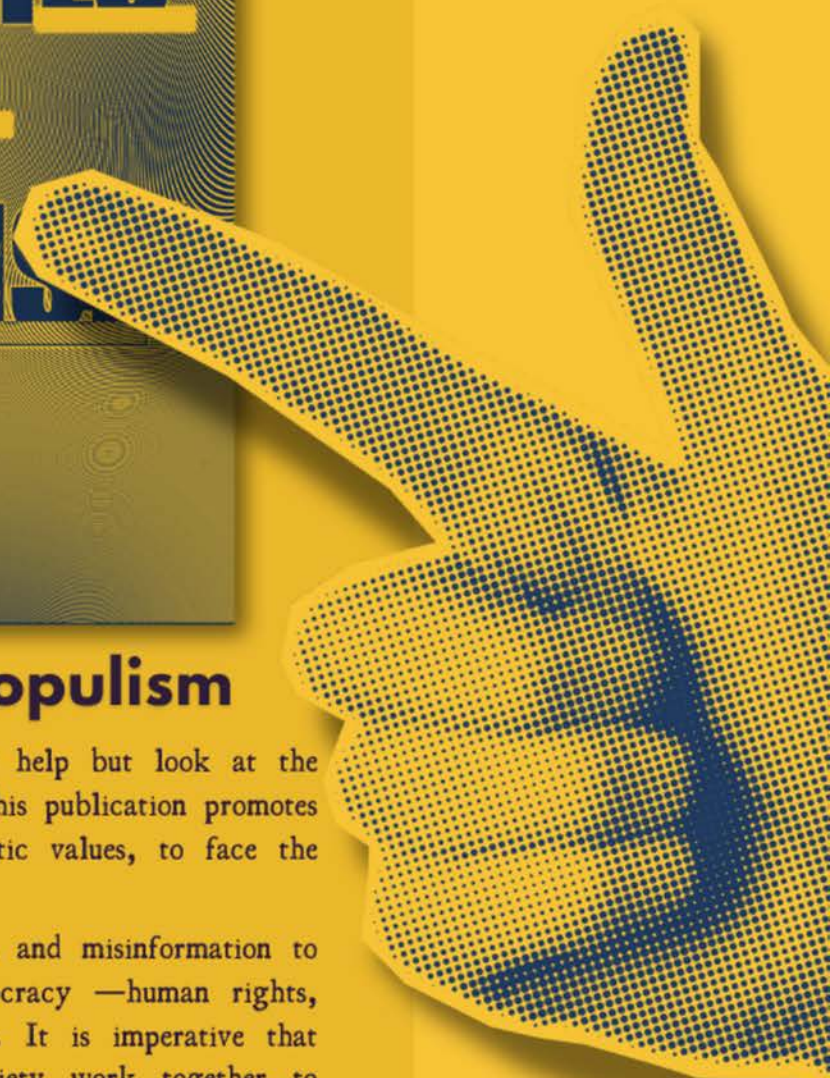


The Perils of Populism

When choosing our actions we can't help but look at the scenario and the spaces we live in. This publication promotes solidarity, human rights and democratic values, to face the menace of populism.

As populist leaders use fear, division, and misinformation to gain power, the core values of democracy —human rights, tolerance, and pluralism—are at risk. It is imperative that citizens, policymakers, and civil society work together to defend democracy against this dangerous tide.

That's why we stand **UNITED Against Fear**, empowering everyone, especially young people, to act and uphold human rights and democratic values.





code



Migrations

Throughout 2024, UNITED experts and delegates participated in over 106 activities across Europe and globally. From migration and climate change to peacebuilding and refugee inclusion at the local level, our delegates consistently represented UNITED's intercultural vision.

Our delegates actively contributed to international events worldwide, supporting institutional processes and participating in key forums such as the UN Indigenous Rights Forum, the OSCE Human Dimension Conference in Warsaw, Diversity Week at the European Parliament, online forums, and the UN Climate Conference in Baku. At the latter, they underscored the importance of releasing political prisoners through the article "United Against Silence: The Fight for Dr Gubad Ibadoghlu, Bahruz Samadov, and All Suppressed Voices", and published interviews with Zhala, the daughter of the imprisoned academic. In addition, UNITED launched the urgent Appeal for Enhanced Support and Protection of ERASMUS Alumni in Palestine, highlighting the humanitarian challenges and calling on EU institutions to act. Regardless of the event's scope or nature, UNITED experts consistently advocated for intersectional approaches and universal human rights and aimed to diplomatically raise politically sensitive topics.

Several UNITED delegates continued in their elected roles, including Dr Shahab Saquib on the board of the European Network Against Racism and Julie Ward at the Civic Society Forum (formerly the EU-Russia Forum).

Internally, the team maintained coordination through seven newsletters sent bi-monthly, alongside active engagement on social media channels. To make events more accessible and appealing to younger audiences, UNITED also shared live reels from international events, showcasing delegates' perspectives and experiences. To highlight the work of the Delegates, the team has also developed two new sub-pages within the UNITED website, namely "Meet our Delegates" and "About Advocacy and Delegations". To learn more, visit our dedicated Advocacy page, follow us on Instagram, and let's connect on LinkedIn.







UNITED AT THE OSCE AND CIVIC SOLIDARITY PLATFORM MEETINGS

Our Advocacy Advisor, Neringa Tumėnaitė participated in the OSCE Warsaw Conference on the Human Dimension, a platform for member states and civil society organisations to discuss issues related to democratic governance and fundamental freedoms — freedom of assembly, expression, and human rights — in the region. This year high on the agenda were concerns surrounding political repression: the imprisonment of human rights and environmental activists sparked several intense debates.

As a founding member, UNITED also participated in the Civic Solidarity Platform meeting, a broader civil society

gathering held alongside the main conference. In our group discussions, we emphasised the growing challenge of shrinking civic space, which significantly affects both human rights defenders and environmental activists. To address this issue sustainably, we underscored the need to transform the global neoliberal system as part of a broader solution. Furthermore, we highlighted the importance of ensuring that international humanitarian and human rights laws are consistently upheld, not only within the OSCE region but also by its member states when addressing international conflicts.

In this framework, we will be actively supporting two working groups: the Working Group on Combating Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance, and the Working Group on Climate Justice. Both aim to foster collective advocacy and strategic cooperation.





UNITED AT THE UN

Our Expert & Delegate Manal Benani contributed to the Breakout Session #YouthLead: Governance for Human Rights, Peace and Security, and Political Processes, happening at the Action Day 1 of the Summit of the Future, live from United Nations' Headquarters in New York city on September 20th, 2024.

This session analysed the critical role of youth participation in decision-making at both national and international levels.

She moderated this session with focus to identify challenges and propose actionable solutions for enhancing youth engagement in governance.

In Solidarity for a

Green World



UNITED AT COP29

Thanks to our Delegate & Experts Program we were present at #COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, to discuss particularly the topics of Climate Finance & Loss and Damage, and support the advocacy to empower youth, as well as women with disabilities in climate policy making.

This was also made possible by our partners, Humanity Consulting with the Erasmus+ Global Partnerships initiative, that allow for capacity building and competence exchange at multiple levels.

Quoting the words of Nareeka Ahir, UNITED Delegate and PHD Student at SOAS University in London, "One of the most inspiring aspects of COP29 was hearing directly from individuals living on the frontlines of climate change. Grassroots organisers and activists, particularly from the most climate-vulnerable regions, shared alarming accounts of how droughts, wildfires, floods, and biodiversity loss are reshaping their communities."



confite



ferences

FROM RUMOURS TO RESPECT:

CHALLENGING HATE TO PROMOTE DIVERSITY

The conference From Rumours to Respect: Challenging Hate and Promoting Diversity - Building inclusive communities designed around the respect of human rights and human dignity of all took place on April 22nd-27th 2024 in Reggio Emilia, Italy.

This conference was organised in cooperation with ICEI and the project DiversaMente - Youth against discrimination to focus on bottom-up participation, non-formal education approach, and the Anti-Rumours strategy developed within the Council of Europe, taking advantage of this two-years project designed to combating phenomena of hatred, intolerance and discrimination by valuing diversity in all its meanings and promoting cultural, social and economic interaction, in order to promote the consolidation of an inclusive society in 5 different cities in Italy, including Reggio Emilia.



Prodotto da: www.icei.it
44 Via Garibaldi, 2001, 41012
Reggio Emilia (MO) - Italia



During the event we also delved into the topic of institutional racism in Italy and Europe. Our panel featured Marwa Mahmoud, a representative from Reggio Emilia's

Centro Interculturale Mondinsieme; Mackda Ghebremariam Tesfau, an academic researcher from the University of Padua and an activist for Razzismo Brutta Storia; and Umit Ozturk, representing EuroMernet - Euro-Mediterranean Resources Network, a local organization within our network.

Additionally, we explored the Council of Europe's work on counter-narratives to hate speech. We were graciously hosted by the local Centro Sociale ORTI Lazzaro Spallanzani, where young rappers and trappers provided valuable insights into second-generation Italians. Rachel Grasso, a PhD candidate from the University of Toronto, also contributed to our understanding through her research.

Our conference was officially welcomed by Mayor Luca Vecchi, and we participated in the public manifestation on April 25th - Italy's Liberation Day from the Nazi-fascist regime. This event served as a powerful reminder of the ongoing importance of combating hate and propaganda in our societies.



MONITORA - FINAL CONFERENCE: STOP RACISM NOT THE GAME

The universalistic principle conveyed by the symbol of the Olympics reminds us that the principles of equality, solidarity, and nondiscrimination should allow all people to practice sports freely and with peace of mind, in their chosen disciplines, facilities, and levels.

Discrimination in sport is evident in all sports disciplines and at all levels, although public and media attention tends to focus mainly on incidents involving elite female and male soccer athletes. The commitment of sports institutions in preventing and combating the phenomenon is still inadequate.

It is not just a matter of timely sanctioning, but of building a new culture of sports based on the principles of participation, equal opportunities, solidarity and fair play.

This was the premise of the International Conference of MONITORA project, which happened in Rome during the Festival Sabir on October 11th 2024. The event was hosted by our partner and project coordinator Lunaria, which we thank once again for taking care of everything.

Our Project Manager Barbara Gece attended the conference in presence while our Network Director, Balint Josa, intervened online to share the Hungarian perspective on racism in sport.

In the form of continuous training, tailored assessment frameworks, and case-management support! All materials must be tailored and adapted to meet practitioners' needs and specificities.

The whole conference was the occasion to have interesting conversations on the topics of racism and discrimination but it was also the chance for all the #MONITORA partners to share project results including the social media campaign and the online training course.

It was also particularly relevant to have this event during the well renown Sabir Festival and with the participation of Mattia Peradotto, Coordinator of Ufficio Antidiscriminazioni Razziali-Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (UNAR) , the Italian AntiDiscrimination Department of the Council of the Ministries.

The interesting panels covered the topics of:

In sports, is everything legitimate? — For a culture of Sports free from Racism

Racism in Sports in Europe: Monitoring, Preventing, Acting



R2COM - FINAL CONFERENCE

COMPREHENSIVELY PREVENTING RADICALISATION & EXTREMISM IN
POST-RELEASE SETTINGS: THE ADDED-VALUE OF NGOS & CSOS

An engaging event, where the R2COM team, alongside some of its beneficiaries and key stakeholders on the P/CVE (Preventing/Countering Violent Extremism) and community empowerment fields, got together to discuss the project's breakthroughs, focusing on:

- Multi-agency cooperation and NGO's role and agency in P/CVE;
- NGOs' need and challenges to efficiently work in P/CVE, mostly on secondary and tertiary prevention efforts;
- Comprehensive and tailored products, highlighting the project's assessment tool and case management manual;
- Continuous training and skills enhancement.

It was a participatory event, highlighting how sustained change in preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) can only come from working together and in a holistic manner.

As shared by Professor S. Alava in his welcoming speech, despite being crucial, the role of NGOs and CSOs in security topics, including P/CVE isn't always recognised. Nevertheless, and as recent events have demonstrated, radicalisation and (violent) extremism are social phenomena with local drivers and manifestations, requiring a combination of bottom-up and top-down approaches to their successful prevention.

However, should this be done:

Build trust at the micro, meso, and macro level

Invest in further civil society involvement, deepening their connections with local communities, but also other organisations and governments;

Develop multi-disciplinary teams, co-jointly working in primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention

A bridge must be established between different professionals and different levels, enhancing efficacy and efficiency;

Civil society and post-release professionals require needs-oriented support

In the form of continuous training, tailored assessment frameworks, and case-management support! All materials must be tailored and adapted to meet practitioners' needs and specificities.

The overall conclusion, in practitioners' words "You have it in you" and as IPS' team said, "NGOs and CSOs are capable of working in P/CVE, being key actors towards safer and more empowered communities!"

jects





project





EPIC IDEA

EPIC_IDEA project (Empowering Youth Participation for Inclusive and Plural Communities) was officially kicked-off in Fuenlabadra, Spain in October 2024, with the idea of bringing innovative solutions to empower young people and strengthen their role in shaping Europe's future. This transnational initiative, funded under the CERV (Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme) programme of the European Commission, unites four countries—Italy, Hungary, Spain, and Portugal—to foster inclusive, democratic, and diverse societies.

Led by a consortium of civil society organizations (CSOs) with years of organisation expertise, EPIC_IDEA seeks to address critical gaps in youth participation and civic engagement. By equipping young citizens with the skills and platforms needed to drive change, the project will emphasize the importance of EU values, gender equality, and active citizenship.

EPIC_IDEA offers targeted programs for two age groups (12-17 and 18-24), ensuring tailored approaches to engagement. Youth workers, educators, and local authorities will also benefit from enhanced training and opportunities for collaboration, creating an "enabling environment" where young people thrive as key players in civic life.

At the heart of EPIC_IDEA is a powerful "bottom-up" approach that allows young

citizens to co-design actions and campaigns, addressing challenges in their communities while advocating for a united and diverse Europe. The project will also build a network of European Anti-Rumours Young Activists, inspiring dialogue and combating harmful stereotypes to create positive change applying the Council of Europe Anti-Rumour strategy, with its principles and methodologies.

With support from cities and institutions active in youth policies, EPIC_IDEA represents a significant step toward ensuring Europe's young people are heard, valued, and empowered.



REFUGIN

Refugee integration is a priority on the European agenda, reflecting a mutual process characterised by several challenges, among which individual shortages, discriminatory attitudes, and a lack of coordinated assistance must be highlighted.

REFUGIN aims to foment the active engagement and impact of educational and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) professionals working with young refugees, striving to improve these refugees' sustained integration in the medium-to-long-term by developing sustainable innovative training programmes for schools and NGOs professionals, to improve their competencies and cooperation, ultimately promoting more tolerant and inclusive societies.



IPEH

Informal Participatory Education on Holocaust (IPEH) project aims to involve young people in innovative and creative ways of remembrance of the Holocaust (including Sinti/Roma and LGBT victims) focused on local aspects and stories of victims, bringing personalised and participatory learning experience on platforms they prefer, thus making young people agents of change in their environments by tapping the potential of the online sphere and bringing education activities to larger target audiences. The project is funded by the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future (EVZ) and the Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF) as part of the Education Agenda NS-Justice.



MONITORA

MONITORA project aims to strengthen the capacities and professional skills of civil society organizations, grassroots sport practitioners, and local and national institutions in monitoring and reporting discrimination in the world of sport, increase its visibility, and identify strategic actions to prevent and counter it.

Indeed, Europe lacks effective and coordinated methodologies, tools, and procedures for monitoring racism and discrimination, especially in grassroots sports. In fact, media and public attention tends to focus on explicit forms of discrimination and racism that run through professional sports and involve popular athletes.

MONITORA aims to help fill this gap by developing cooperation, peer learning and exchange of experiences at the European level in the field of monitoring discrimination and racism in grassroots sports. Indeed, monitoring is a prerequisite for knowing and giving visibility to these phenomena and promoting equal opportunities.





U4EU 2.0

The project “U4EU 2.0: Youth Shaping Europe’s Tomorrow” builds upon the successes and lessons learned from its predecessor, the “U4EU: Youth Debating the Future of Europe” project. Implemented from September 2020 to September 2022 and co-funded by the Europe for Citizens programme, the U4EU project proved highly successful in engaging young people from 9 EU countries — Greece, Bulgaria, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Germany, Hungary, Belgium, and the Netherlands. It provided a platform for young citizens to voice their views and concerns regarding diversity, European identity, and the future of the EU through a participatory approach.

The rationale is to empower young citizens across the 9 partner countries and beyond to become active contributors to the EU’s decision-making processes. By doing so, the project intends to promote a greater sense of belonging to the EU and its core values among young Europeans.



R2COM

R2COM aims to foster and enhance the involvement of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE), especially in the follow-up/aftercare provision of newly released individuals. The initiative will pursue this by improving the competencies of NGOs’ professionals in the area with sustainable, tailor-made, and needs-oriented training programmes.

Hence, R2COM intends to improve the management of individuals prone to radicalisation by increasing the success of NGOs’ interventions. It will also promote cooperation and the establishment of dynamic synergies amongst NGOs in the EU and beyond.

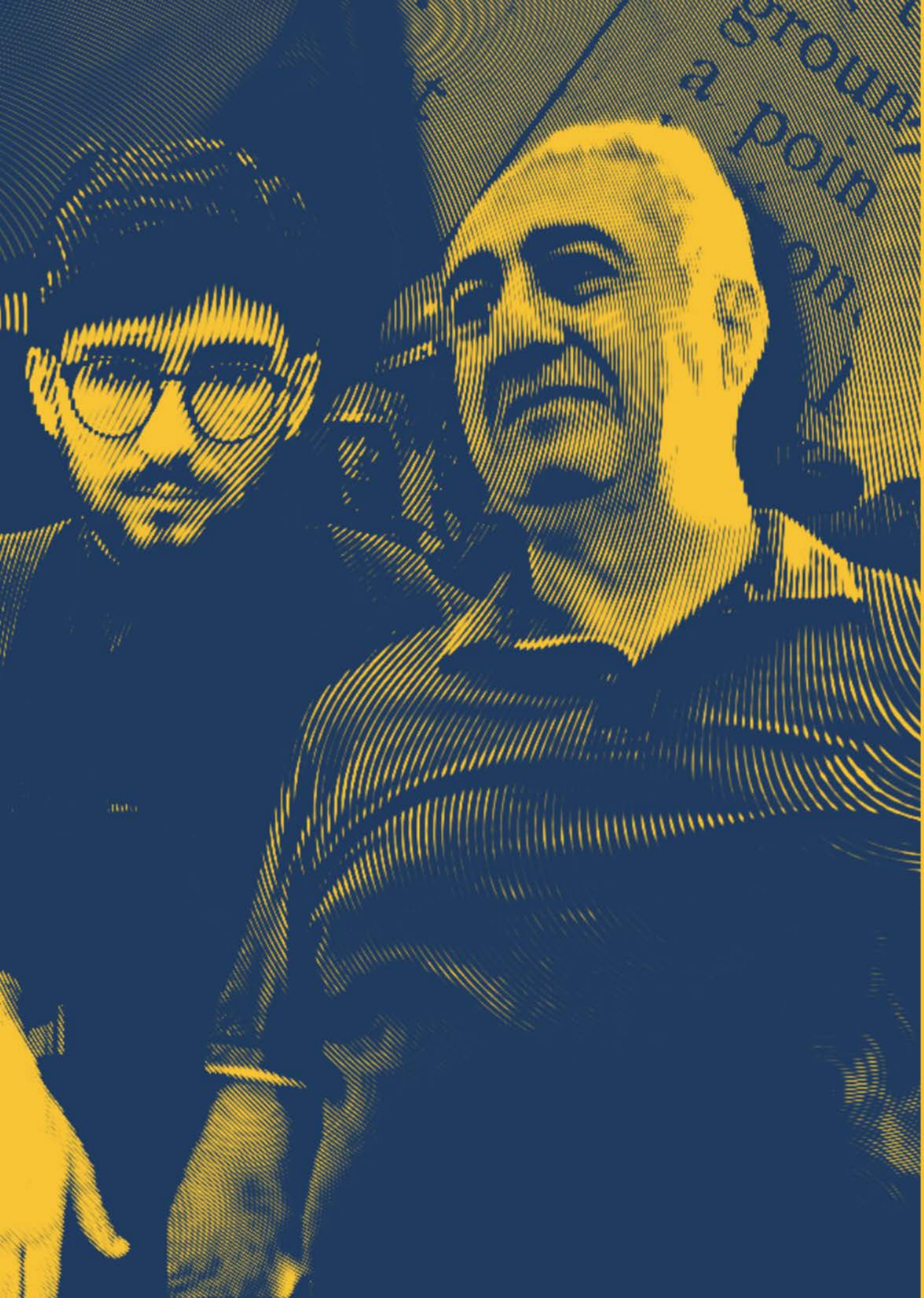
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Initiatives

Initiatives



UNITED AGAINST SILENCE:

THE FIGHT FOR DR. GUBAD IBADOGLU, BAHRUZ SAMADOV AND ALL SUPPRESSED VOICES

As we geared up for COP29, the Climate Summit in Baku, UNITED shared the pressing issue of the imprisonment of peace activists and academics, including Dr. Gubad Ibadoghlu and Bahruz Samadov by Azerbaijani authorities.

Dr. Gubad Ibadoghlu's situation was part of a troubling trend. In recent years, Azerbaijan has witnessed a crackdown on civil society and environmental activists. Reports from Human Rights Watch and Freedom House reveal alarming patterns of government attacks on critics, independent groups, and media. Ahead of COP29, authorities have intensified their efforts to silence dissent, with at least 33 documented cases of criminal prosecution, detention, and harassment.

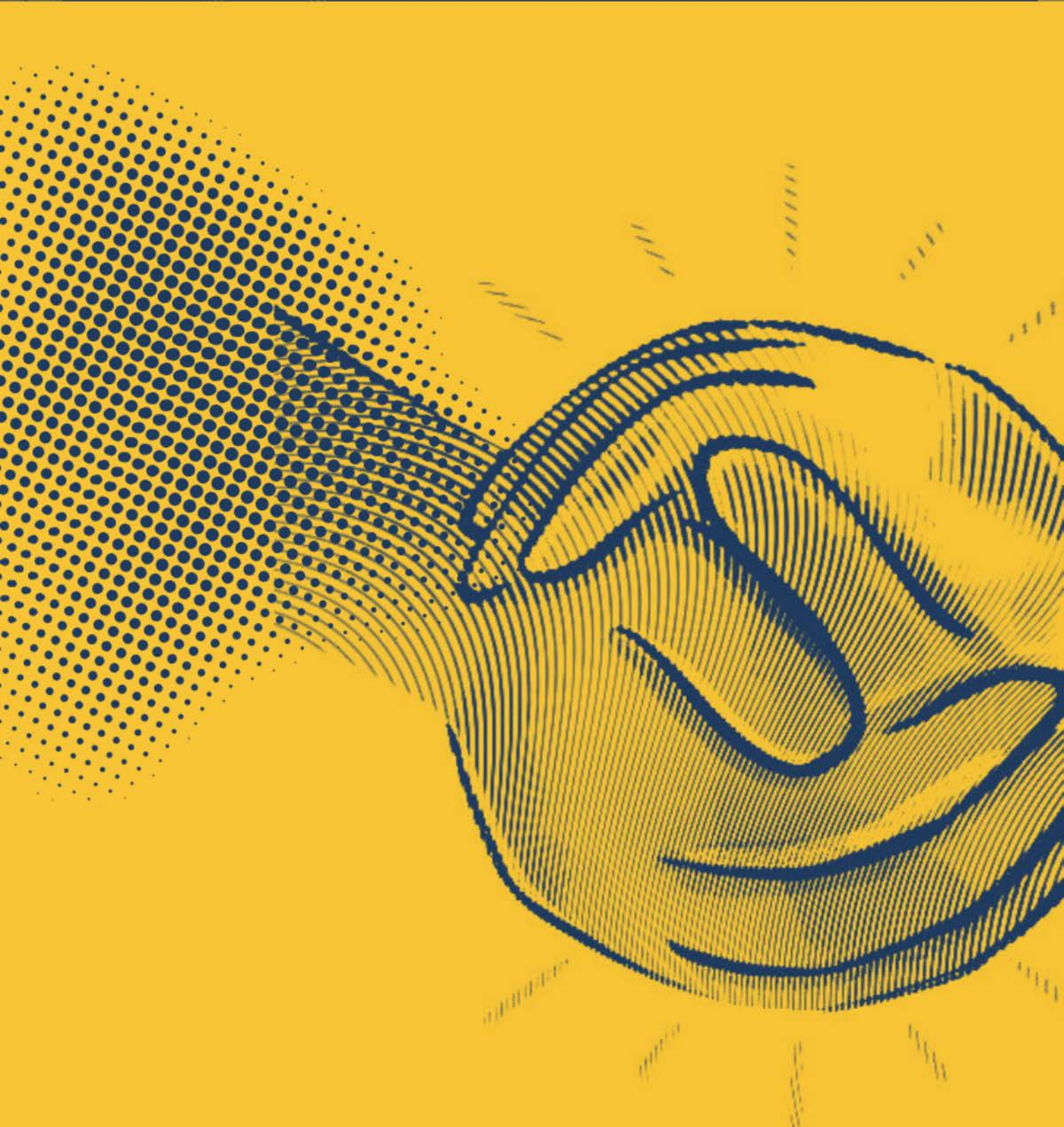
The arrest of Bahruz Samadov further illustrates this alarming trend. On August 21, 2024, Samadov, a doctoral researcher at Charles University in Prague and a critic of Azerbaijan's Nagorno-Karabakh policy, was detained by the State Security Service. He faces charges of "high treason", with a possible prison sentence of 12 to 20 years due to his academic work, advocacy, and connections with Armenian activists.

Samadov's case, like Ibadoghlu's, reflected Azerbaijan's growing intolerance for independent voices. Despite expectations that hosting an international event like COP29 might prompt Azerbaijani authorities to demonstrate openness, reports indicate a continuation of severe restrictions on freedom of expression.

This made it crucial to take action and demand the release of Dr. Gubad Ibadoghlu, Bahruz Samadov and all other political prisoners in Azerbaijan.


In an interview with UNITED for Intercultural Action, Gubad's daughter Zhala Bayramova expressed the challenges facing Azerbaijani activists: her father, held under house arrest, is denied access to urgent medical treatment, placing his life at serious risk. She urged activists and organizations to "mention our names and the names of environmental defenders and prisoners during COP29." With many activists behind bars or in exile, Zhala implores, "Please help us by raising awareness of our struggles so we can join the fight for the environment together."

Despite her own history of suffering torture in Baku, she is eager to participate online and advocate for her father's work on corruption and labor rights in Azerbaijan's oil and gas sector. "I want to be the voice for those who cannot raise their voice," Zhala says, calling for solidarity from the international community.



ADVANCING PEACE, JUSTICE, AND COLLABORATION

YEAR 2024 DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN
UNITED AND PRAGUESPRING 2



At UNITED for Intercultural Action, we are deeply committed to strengthening our cooperation with networks like Prague Spring 2 and others. In an era of mounting global crises, such partnerships are not only beneficial but essential. They enable the sharing of knowledge, amplify pressing concerns, and inspire collective action to address complex issues head-on. Together, we strive to transform these discussions into impactful actions towards peace and justice.

In October, a series of meetings brought together voices from across Europe to tackle urgent issues of peace, security and justice. More specifically, the following topics were addressed:

Peace in the Baltics & Swedish Initiatives

This meeting focused on peace and environmental discussions in the Baltics, with participants reflecting on the tension in the region.

Broader Security & Global Campaigns

The conversation expanded to encompass global security and collaborative peace efforts. Discussions also centered on empowering the United Nations General Assembly as a stronger force in global governance and exploring campaigns that bring attention to political prisoners under repressive regimes.

Repression & Global Coordination

The focus shifted to political repression and the importance of global solidarity, highlighting the importance of connecting grassroots movements with international platforms, acknowledging that global solidarity amplifies the impact of local efforts.

#erasmus4Gaza #stayunited

URGENT APPEAL

ENHANCED SUPPORT AND PROTECTION OF ERASMUS+ ALUMNI IN PALESTINE



OCEANS
NETWORK



united
for intercultural action

Apice
Agency for Intercultural Dialogue
and Creative Learning



jovesòlides
BY MEANS OF
A UNIVERSITY
OF THE MEDITERRANEAN



Peacebuilder
Network

***DiasporaVote!**
for the EU

Utlapu



Erasmus worldwide



CITIZENS



Erasmus worldwide

coconutwork



**ERASMUS+
GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIPS**



ASAF
ARABIAN STUDENTS & ALUMNI FORUM
AN INTERNATIONAL AND INTERCULTURAL NETWORK

URGENT APPEAL FOR ENHANCED SUPPORT AND PROTECTION FOR ERASMUS+ ALUMNI IN PALESTINE

In cooperation with other European NGOs we have decided to launch an urgent appeal for Enhanced Support and Protection of ERASMUS+ Alumni in Palestine.

The letter addressed the following EU representatives:

European Union's Commissioner on Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

European Parliament's Committee on Culture and Education, Chair

EU Special Representative for Human Rights

Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations > Principal Advisor for Reconstruction in Gaza

European Union Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process

Special Advisor to the Secretary General on Higher Education and Research, Union for the Mediterranean

We wrote on behalf of the European Union's Erasmus alumni, particularly those currently facing a humanitarian crisis in Gaza, Palestine.

The Erasmus programme, under your stewardship, has been a beacon of hope and a catalyst for fostering knowledge exchange, peacebuilding, intercultural connections, and skill development among young people across Europe, the Maghreb, and globally. Through thousands of projects led by dedicated volunteers under the banners of ERASMUS and *EUAlumni, significant strides have been made in advancing climate action, peace, human rights, and cooperation across the Mediterranean Sea and beyond.

For this reason we kindly requested that they encouraged officials to not only verbally support humanitarian law, human rights, peace, and the right to education but also to demonstrate their commitment through tangible actions. In addition, we urge the EU and UfM member states to ensure sustained humanitarian aid and to take proactive steps as soon as possible including:

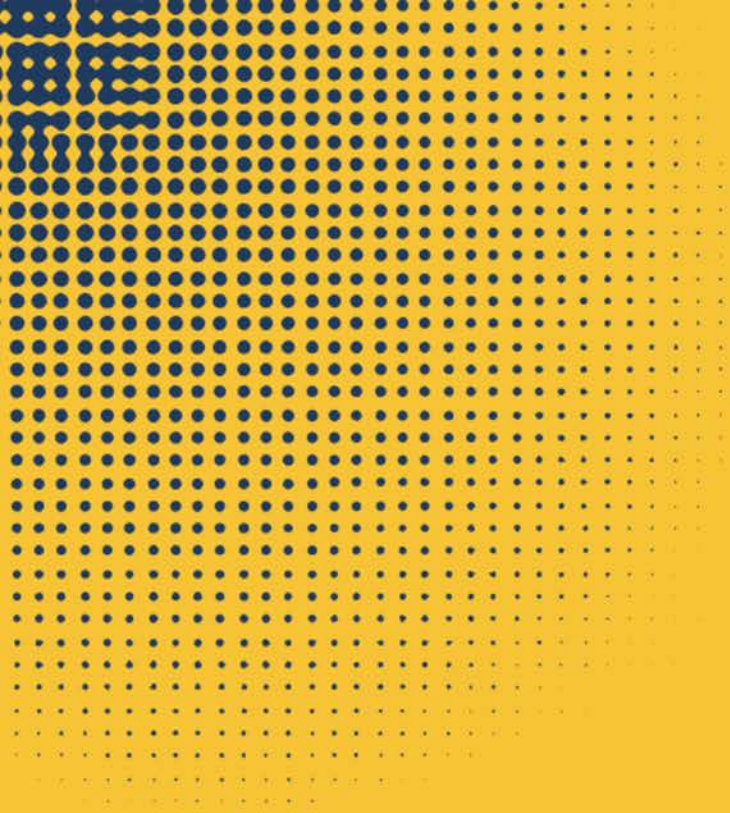
- Initiating a special provision for educational opportunities for Palestinians under ERASMUS, including a special scholarship scheme to study in Europe.
- Enhancing support for Palestinians abroad to continue their education, with monthly assistance for those who have lost family and homes.
- Prioritizing mental health assistance for the students from Gaza who have been enduring traumatic experiences due to the ongoing conflict and humanitarian crises.
- After ensuring the provision of humanitarian necessities and achieving sustained peace, commence and fund a reconstruction effort focused on rebuilding the University of Gaza and other educational facilities across the Gaza Strip. Furthermore, provide virtual learning options for students in Gaza to counteract the widespread destruction of educational infrastructure in the region.

vision for





the
future



DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS,

After 10 years, I am excited to announce that I will be transitioning to a new position from UNITED, which means we are opening the search for a new Director to take over the leadership of this remarkable network.

This moment is both reflective and forward-looking. During my time as Director, we have achieved significant milestones, strengthening our mission to combat racism, promote human rights, and create a united Europe. However, there is still much work to be done, and the time has come for new leadership to carry this torch forward. We moved the Secretariat to Budapest and stabilized the funding and partook in many projects and built new alliances.

We are looking for someone with a shared passion for these values, someone who can lead the organization with vision, integrity, and commitment. This person will continue to work with our incredible team and network partners, pushing the boundaries of what we can achieve together.

I look forward to continuing my journey within UNITED in a consultant capacity, and I am confident that our new Director will bring fresh energy to this role. I invite you to share this call widely, and I encourage those interested to consider this unique opportunity.

Thank you for your support, and I am excited for what lies ahead.

With solidarity,

Current Director of UNITED for
Intercultural Action



Dear NETWORK,

It is with great honour that I can introduce myself today as the new director of the UNITED secretariat. Through the guidance of our staff and the help of our former director, I will do my best to fulfill the demands of my new role.

As an introductory note, I wish to state that I will seek to revitalize the network's agility, develop our activities further in line with our member organisations' profiles, and rekindle our efforts which were created to foster your objectives.

To lead is to serve. And to serve at your intent will be the purpose of my obligations.

I therefore invite you to monitor our activities closely, hold our feet to the fire when needed and participate in our proposals when you can.

Echoing Abbie Hoffman's views on democracy, I believe that UNITED needs to be an »**action**« to endure.

Thus adding to this sentiment, I propose that you take part at our first online Meet Up on the 20th of February 2025, where we discuss our undertaking and develop a taste for one another.

When I asked our staff about what UNITED incorporates for them in their role, one of the answers stated "...to be the loud questions at the back of the room". Hence I am very much looking forward to meeting you there, and to explore our identity together.

Defiance is a shared pursuit.
And we'll have plenty of defiance to do.

With solidarity,



Philip Pollák | Network Director
United for Intercultural Action

Since 1992, UNITED has been supported by numerous prominent individuals, dedicated private supporters, and long-term volunteers, including those from Aktion Sühnezeichen Friedensdienste, the Austrian Holocaust Memorial Service, and the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. Over the years, financial contributions have been received from various sponsors, including the European Commission (through programs such as the General Budget, Socrates, Grundtvig, Youth in Action, Erasmus+, DG Employment and Social Affairs, TACIS IBPP, and the Europe for Citizens Programme), the Council of Europe, the European Youth Foundation, and many others.







UNITED NETWORK SECRETARIAT - EIA ALAPÍTVÁNY
EMAIL: INFO@UNITEDAGAINSTRACISM.ORG
FACEBOOK: [FACEBOOK.COM/UNITEDFORINTERCULTURALACTION](https://www.facebook.com/UNITEDFORINTERCULTURALACTION)
LINKEDIN: [LINKEDIN.COM/COMPANY/UNITED-FOR-INTERCULTURAL-ACTION](https://www.linkedin.com/company/UNITED-FOR-INTERCULTURAL-ACTION)
INSTAGRAM: [@UNITEDFIA](https://www.instagram.com/UNITEDFIA)

BANK TRANSFERS FROM ALL COUNTRIES
ACCOUNT HOLDER: EIA ALAPITVANY
ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN): HUI7 1620 0223 1010 4040 0000 0000
SWIFT / BIC: HBWEHUHB
BANK NAME: MAGNET BANK ZRT.
BANK ADDRESS: 1062 BUDAPEST, ANDRASSY UT 98, HUNGARY

AMSTERDAM CAMPAIGN SECRETARIAT - STICHTING UNITED
"UNITED AGAINST REFUGEE DEATHS"
POSTBUS 413 · NL-1000 AK AMSTERDAM · NETHERLANDS
UNITEDAGAINSTREFUGEEDEATHS.EU
EMAIL: LISTOFDEATHS@UNITEDAGAINSTRACISM.ORG
FACEBOOK: UNITED AGAINST REFUGEE DEATHS
INSTAGRAM: [@UNITEDLISTOFDEATH](https://www.instagram.com/UNITEDLISTOFDEATH)

BANK TRANSFERS (FOR CAMPAIGN)
ACCOUNT NUMBER (IBAN): NL28 IN GB00 0234 3715
SWIFT / BIC: INGBNL2A

U4EU PROJECT
EMAIL: MARCELL@UNITEDAGAINSTRACISM.ORG



TO ALL STAFF MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS,
INTERNS, NETWORK MEMBERS, NGOS,
ASSOCIATIONS, ORGANISATIONS, AND
FRIENDS WHO HAVE HELPED TO MAKE THIS
YEAR A SUCCESS,

#STAYUNITED.

Beke ter 1., 1214, Budapest, Hungary

(31) 20 6834778; (31) 20 6834582

info@unitedagainstracism.org