**ENAR Steering Group on Anti-Migrant Racism**

**Friday 20th November 2015**

**Venue of the meeting**

**ENAR**

**Rue gallait 60**

**Brussels**

**Belgium**

**COMBATTING ANTI-MIGRANT RACISM**

The current political context is demeaning: several politicians use migrants as scapegoats in the socio-economic crisis and instigate hatred against these communities. Although, the exodus will only continue to increase, the European Union has failed to correctly address the most important issues related to the reception, relocation and further integration of refugees and asylum seekers. We are currently witnessing the consequence of political decisions that tend to not only discriminate but also to penalise migrants. Although Member States have the obligation to offer support to victims seeking international protection, some governmental actions and policies are still criminalising or legitimising a discourse of violence and hatred against migrants.

ENAR has over the years given a special attention to different forms of the discrimination. In its internal strategic objectives, migration and integration were transversal portfolios which were integrated under each specific manifestation of racism. However, considering that migrants have become one of the most vulnerable groups, the aim of the meeting is to brainstorm with ENAR members and other stakeholders on which should be our next strategy on migration and which should be the concrete plan to reach its objectives.

**Agenda**

**9:30 – 10:00** Arrival of participants

**10:00 – 10:30** **Introduction** *by* Sarah Isal, Chair of ENAR

 *“Tour de table” for participants to introduce themselves*

*Presentation of ENAR’s recent activities related to combatting anti-Migrant racism*

**10:30 – 11:30 Session 1 – Sharing is caring: overview of member organisations and partners activities on xenophobia** moderated by Sarah Isal, Chair of ENAR

*Representatives of the different European organisations and ENAR members will be invited to introduce their activities related to advocacy and/or campaigning against anti-Migrant racism. All participants are invited to prepare a concise oral presentation of 3 minutes maximum.*

**11:30 – 11:45** Coffee break

**12:45 – 13:15 Session 2 – How to mainstream anti-Discrimination policies in the current migration agenda** moderated Jean-Pierre Gauci, Director, People for Change Foundation Malta

*Participants are invited to exchange their view on the debate of European values and the increase hatred rhetoric against migrants and to reflect how this group is targeted by xenophobic and racist policies practices in the EU. Guests will be also asked to discuss how the refugee crisis affects other minorities in Europe. The overall question is: what are the manifestations of racism impacting migrants across Europe?*

**13:15 – 14:00** Lunch

**14:00 – 16:00**  **Session 3 – Looking ahead: which should be ENAR’s priorities** moderated by Sarah Isal, Chair of ENAR

*Including personal commitment to upcoming activities, common communication work, cooperation with other stakeholders and network.*