



European Network Against Racism
Réseau européen contre le racisme

UPDATE ON ENAR STRATEGIES DECEMBER 2014 - FEBRUARY 2015

UPDATE ON CROSS-CUTTING OBJECTIVES

- **ENAR reporting database.** ENAR is developing an online database to record and monitor incidents of racism and race discrimination across the EU. The database will improve ENAR's shadow reporting activities as well as support our advocacy and communication work. ENAR members will be asked to add information to the database and they will also have access to the data. The beta version is online and ENAR staff are testing and making final adjustments. The database will be launched in April/May.
- **Meetings with Commissioners and Equal Treatment Directive** ENAR Secretariat met with VP Timmermans on 6 January with other NGOs working on fundamental rights and non-discrimination. ENAR coordinated the production of a [statement](#) ahead of the meeting. The need for strategies on Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia was raised and well-received by Timmermans. It was agreed to have regular meetings with NGOs. The next fundamental rights colloquium in the fall will be on "tolerance, namely how to prevent and combat anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim hatred". ENAR also met the Justice Commissioner Jourova on the Equal Treatment Directive. There is hope that the file is unblocked under her mandate, possibly in 2015. The Commissioner took note of the need to move on the protection against religious discrimination, and was pleased by our remark on equality data collection. On 2 March, the Secretariat also participated in a meeting organised with different NGOs by Ulrike Lunacek MEP, new EP rapporteur on the Equal Treatment Directive. ENAR is now planning visits in Berlin to meet with the head of the Federal Anti-discrimination Agency, which [republished](#) our December op-ed on the question.
- **Migration and Integration.** ENAR continues to participate and provide advocacy input to the Brussels-based NGO Platform on Migration and Asylum (EPAM) as well as the Integration Forum (to become the European Forum on Asylum, Migration and Integration). On 26-27 January the first European Migration Forum took place in Brussels. 7 ENAR members attended the event. The topic addressed was "Safe routes, safe futures – how to manage the mixed flows of migrant across the Mediterranean". Discussions on access to asylum procedure at the borders and the new anti-smuggling package were addressed with the participants in these two days of conference. ENAR is on the advisory board of the INTEGRO project, led and carried out by ENAR members. One conference call took place on February 6 to discuss the concept of the final conference of the project. ENAR was contacted by ICF Mostra, a Public Affairs Consultancy, who, under the request of DG Home, is currently coordinating an EU campaign to promote a positive image of migrants. ENAR was requested to identify "good" examples of migrants (TCN, EU foreign-born, bringing an "added-value" to their host country).
- **Counter-terrorism measures.** ENAR produced a [policy statement](#) (sent to perm reps and MEPs) and press statements following the attacks against Charlie Hebdo, the kosher

supermarket in Paris and the killings in Copenhagen. We received a significant amount of press coverage in the aftermath of these attacks. We also published an [op-ed](#) on EU counter-terrorism measures. ENAR also sent tables with red and greens lights on groups' motion for resolution and amendments proposals ahead of the vote of the EP's resolution on counter-terrorism. A GUE/NGL press release also mentions the need to tackle Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism, following ENAR's work around the EP resolution on counter-terrorism.

- **Fundamental Rights.** ENAR submitted a contribution to the EP rapporteur on the EP report on fundamental rights, with a specific focus on the impact of austerity. ENAR, together with other members of the HRDN working group on internal affairs met with the Rapporteur, MEP Ferrara (EFDD, IT). ENAR's contribution was also featured in the FRA Advisory panel's compilation of contributions.
- **Anti-racist intergroup in the EP.** Following ENAR's effort, ARDI intergroup was re-established in December. ENAR organised a meeting of potential co-chairs in Strasbourg in December. MEPs Cécile Kyenge (IT, S&D) and Soraya Post (S&D, SE) were appointed interim presidents in charge of holding bilaterals with other interested co-chairs regarding their contribution to the salary of a dedicated assistant. Several meetings with the two MEPs and Bruno Selun (consultant hired by OSF to support the re-establishment of ARDI) were held. A draft Memorandum of Understanding was prepared, as well as a draft job description for the assistant position. So far, Gérard Deprez (BE, ALDE), Jean Lambert (UK, Greens/EFA) Soraya post and Cécile Kyenge have confirmed their will to support the assistant position.

UPDATE ON THE EQUALITY DATA COLLECTION STRATEGY

- **Symposium and publication.** The symposium on equality data collection was held on 26th November 2014. ENAR's publication "[Measure, plan, act: how data collection can support racial equality](#)" and OSF/MPG report were launched on this occasion. A legal round-table followed, organised by MPG, to discuss with representatives of the EU institutions a limited number of NGOs guidelines to secure and inclusive equality data collection.
- **Next steps of partnership with MPG and OSF.** OSF has confirmed in February that MPG will be contracted to draft guidelines on data collection, as well as a short, reader-friendly advocacy version to be used with decision-makers in initial advocacy engagement. With OSF and MPG, we discussed the priorities for 2015:
 - *Engagement with the EP:* 2015 to be leadership-building year. We are meeting systematically with EMPL and LIBE coordinators. We'll explore opportunities for input in parliamentary reports. We'll try to organise a small-sized event with potential leaders (end of spring – early summer?).
 - *Engagement with the Commission:* the commission launched a call for an updated handbook (non-binding) and complementary studies in February. No further step (e.g. Commission recommendation or Guidelines) will take place before 2016. So we'll engage at that level. A question mark is whether MPG will be contracted to write the handbook – they did the previous version. Another question is whether ENAR could join a consortium applying for this contract. We have been contacted by various consultancies and discuss this with MPG as well.
 - *Work at Council level:* based on some countries (e.g. Germany, Sweden) where local activists mobilisation and institutional awareness can result in impact at national and hopefully EU level.

- **Communications.** ENAR published an [opinion](#) on equality data collection in a French online newspaper (Mediapart), coinciding with the publication of a senate report on this issue in November, and another [op-ed](#) on the occasion of the European Data Protection Day (January) on Euractiv. A video on the need for equality data collection (based on interviews at the symposium) is in preparation and will be finalised in March.

UPDATE ON THE STRATEGY ON AFROPHOBIA

- **EU-South Africa civil society seminar.** ENAR took part in the EU-South Africa Civil Society Organisations seminar on 27th November and presented its key recommendations to the EU Special Representative for Human Rights. They were published in an internal report. South Africa has been identified by ENAR as key external ally to push to develop an EU framework to combat Afrophobia in the framework of the UN Decade.
- **Black Pete/Zwarte Piet.** ENAR prepared an advocacy letter to react on the violation of freedom of assembly during a silent demonstration that was organized by Dutch ENAR members in Gouda, The Netherlands, on 15 November, to **protest against the ‘Zwarte Piet’**, a traditional blackfaced character perpetuating colonial stereotyped image of Black people. It was co-signed by over 40 organisations.
- **EP panel discussion on “Afrophobic stereotypes vs traditions: the case of the Zwarte Piet in the Netherlands”.** MEP Malin Björk hosted this event organised by ENAR, in December in the European Parliament in Strasbourg. More than 60 participants attended this event, including 10 MEPs (S&D, GUE but also far-right Dutch and Swedish MEPs) and activists, some members of ENAR. This event was also highly covered in European media ([Parliament Magazine](#), [Euronews](#)), Swedish media (including Aftonbladet and Swedish Radio), a Dutch community media ([Voorbeeld Allochtoon](#) – 2,232 views), about 10 Dutch newspapers and a GUE/NGL [press release](#). The [video](#) of the event, uploaded on the GUE/NGL website was viewed 842 times. There was also a [blog](#) from a Dutch activist and opinion maker on this event, re-tweeted 26 times. We published a Q&A leaflet ([also available online](#)) debunking the most commonly used arguments to defend Black Pete, which was also distributed at the EP event.
- **ENAR book on PAD/BE:** The book [“Invisible Visible Minority: Confronting Afrophobia and Advancing Equality for People of African Descent and Black Europeans in Europe”](#) was launched on 21 January on the occasion of the start of the UN Decade on People of African Descent. MEPs, EU officials, civil society organisations and academics discussed evidence of Afrophobia and ways to counter it. A [report](#) of the launch event is available. The book was widely shared on social media (32 retweets/mentions on Twitter and 70 shares/likes on Facebook), and we are approaching some ‘community’ media to promote the book. The book is already been used in some universities, such as in American University of Massachusetts and Uppsala University.
- **National launches:** The Secretariat sent a toolkit and copies of the books to support members to launch the book on PAD/BE at national level. Around 10 members were interested to launch the book in order to support their advocacy at national level.
- **Advocacy meetings with the Council of Europe’s officials.** Together with 10 activists from across the EU, we met representative of the Parliament Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) and of the office of the Commissioner for Human Rights. Activists were able to give an overview of the situation of PAD/BE in their countries and to call the Council of Europe to pay specific

attention to this highly discriminated group. We are exploring follow up advocacy opportunities.

- **Letter to support MEP Cécile Kyenge.** An Italian Senate's committee recently decided not to sanction Roberto Calderoli, Italy's Deputy President of the Senate, for his 2013 statement describing former Italian Integration Minister Ms. Cecile Kyenge as an 'orang-utan'. ENAR Secretariat drafted a **letter** to urge the Italian authorities to authorise appropriate criminal procedures against M. Calderoli and to sanction racist and xenophobic rhetoric by politicians in the future. It was co-signed by over 50 organisations.
- **Shadow Report (PAD, 2016).** The Shadow Report for 2016 will focus on People of African Descent and Black Europeans. The call for national researchers has been sent out to ENAR members and there are internal discussions taking place around the content of the questionnaire and the next shadow report. This topic will also be discussed during the steering group meeting on Afrophobia.
- **ENAR Steering group on Afrophobia.** The next steering group will take place on 3rd April 2015 in Brussels. The main aim of this meeting which will gather European experts on the issue of Afrophobia, will be work on the content of the European framework for national strategies to combat Afrophobia.

UPDATE ON THE STRATEGY ON ANTI-GYPSYISM

- **Regular meetings with the Roma Unit of the European Commission to plan the upcoming Roma Platform taking place on 16-17 March:** ENAR is actively taking part in the organisation of the Roma Platform, together with European Roma Information Office (ERIO), European Roma Grassroots Organisations Network (ERGO) and Open Society Foundations (OSF). We managed to get a workshop dedicated to the fight against Anti-Gypsyism. The second parallel workshop will focus on multi-stakeholder cooperation in the field of Roma inclusion. Outcomes from the workshop will be directly presented to a political panel the day after, composed by Member States' ministers and MEPs. A plenary session will also be dedicated to the future of the Platform and to the organisation of national Roma Platforms. Participatory facilitation methods will be used throughout the meeting to ensure meaningful and impactful participation of all stakeholders. ERGO, ENAR, OSF, and Amnesty International have worked on a background paper explaining what is Anti-Gypsyism to be disseminated during the Roma Platform, in order to use this opportunity to raise-awareness about this phenomenon.
- **Informal meeting of MEPs willing to work on Anti-Gypsyism and Roma inclusion policies:** ENAR was invited on 3rd December to a first meeting of MEPs willing to explore opportunities of parliamentary work to advance on Roma inclusion policies. This initiative was launched by MEP Peter Niedermuller (S&D). ENAR circulated a brief on anti-Gypsyism. We also met his assistant later on to explain what we meant by Anti-Gypsyism and why we thought it was necessary to tackle it via the National Roma Integration Strategies. ENAR Secretariat has now been invited to the second meeting of MEPs on 24 March.

UPDATE ON THE STRATEGY ON ANTI-SEMITISM

- **ENAR has regularly met with CEJI** and has been in contact with the Inter-Parliament Coalition Against Anti-Semitism (ICCA) over recent anti-Semitism issues. With CEJI, we published a joint [brief](#) on anti-Semitism, disseminated in the EP, the EC and the FRA.

- **ENAR Steering Group on anti-Semitism** will take place on 23 April in Brussels. Invitations have been sent.
- **Hearing on anti-Semitism and Islamophobia in the LIBE Committee.** ENAR has been advocating for a LIBE hearing on anti-Semitism and Islamophobia in the LIBE Committee from January onwards. ENAR secured the majority of groups' support for a joint hearing on these two issues. ENAR has sent suggestions for themes and experts to friendly groups. Groups also decided to hold a debate in plenary on "anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and violent extremism". ENAR will send speaking suggestions.
- **Working Group on anti-Semitism in Belgium.** ENAR will be part of a local working group on anti-Semitism, organizing public events and publishing written contributions on this topic.
- **International Holocaust Remembrance Day.** We issued a [joint press statement](#), signed by 11 NGOs representing PAD, Muslim, Jewish, Roma and generalist NGOs, highlighting the need for inter-community solidarity to fight anti-Semitism. We also signed another [joint statement](#) with organisations working on anti-racism and anti-discrimination issues.

UPDATE ON THE STRATEGY ON ISLAMOPHOBIA

- **"Forgotten women project".** The purpose of this joint ENAR EWL project is to support with data ENAR's broader advocacy strategy. The first phase is a research phase which will help to document discrimination against Muslim women via desk and field research at national and local level. The research team is composed of Chris Allen, European research team coordinator, Asmaa Soliman, national researcher for Germany, Giulia Dessi, national researcher for Italy, Marjorie Moya, national researcher for France, NGO Faith Matters, national research team for United Kingdom, Nina Manojlovic, national researcher for Denmark. Preliminary drafts have been delivered to the European research team coordinator and will be reviewed by the steering group of the project and the Secretariat.
 - **European comparative report.** Chris Allen is starting to draft the European comparative report based on the national drafts. In order to get a comprehensive picture of the situation and opportunities for change at EU level, ENAR Secretariat set up meetings for him and ENAR project coordinator, with European stakeholders, including European Commission officials dealing with fundamental rights, equal treatment legislation and gender equality; EWL's director and Equinet. These interviews will feed into the European report.
 - **The national roundtables.** Following the meeting on 14th October, we met with CEJI (A Jewish contribution to an inclusive Europe) and European Women's Lobby (EWL) to discuss the format and the facilitation of the national roundtables, which is the following step of the project. We came up with a first draft of agenda that was shared with the steering group of the project. A debunking-myth document about Muslim women is also being developed to feed into the discussions of the roundtables. We are currently looking for national organisers to coordinate the logistics of each of the 5 roundtables. Dates of the roundtables will be communicated as soon as possible.
- **Fora on Islamophobia in 4 European capitals.** 4 conferences were organised in Paris, London, Amsterdam, Brussels. ENAR was invited to intervene during the Brussels event and during the press conference. We received media coverage around the European Forum on Islamophobia in several Belgian media.
- **Hearing on Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism in the LIBE.** (See also Anti-Semitism). ENAR is calling for a hearing on Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia within the LIBE Committee. ENAR

Secretariat has been actively in touch with MEPs and groups' advisers in order to support this event and produce a briefing to provide them with arguments in favour of such a hearing.

- **Informal working group on Islamophobia.** ENAR Secretariat has been in touch with assistants of MEPs Afzal Khan and Sajjad Karim to see how their willingness to set an informal working-group to work on Islamophobia could be linked with the work of the ARDI.
- **ENAR steering group on Islamophobia.** It took place on 6 March 2015 in Brussels. The main aim of the meeting is to work on the content of a European framework to combat Islamophobia. European experts on this issue, including ENAR members, were convening on this occasion.
- **Communications.** Following the terror attacks in Paris and Copenhagen and increasing manifestations of Islamophobia, ENAR issued a [Q&A on Muslims in Europe](#) to clarify some misconceptions and answer some of the most frequent questions on this issue. We also published an [op-ed](#) on the PEGIDA movement across Europe and its links with the far-right, and [another one](#) highlighting the need for the European Parliament to address both Islamophobia and anti-Semitism.

UPDATE ON EQUAL@WORK STRATEGY

- **Origin Conference.** ENAR and ENAR Foundation co-organised a conference on business and ethnicity with L'Oréal in Paris on 24 October. ENAR also participated in the European Commission conference on the anniversary of the Diversity Charters in Paris on 23 October. The video of the conference was finalised.
- **Equal@Work seminar.** The 7th Equal@Work seminar took place on 5 December in Brussels. It looked at workforce data monitoring by businesses from a practical point of view. The conference report is being drafted.

UPDATE ON RACIST CRIME STRATEGY AND HATE SPEECH RELATED WORK

- **Shadow Report (Racist Crime, 2015).**
 - The national research phase of the Shadow Report has ended. 26 countries submitting at least a first draft response to the questionnaire. The data is being analysed and written up.
 - The launch event is being planned for April 2015 to take place in the European Parliament and will be hosted by MEP Peter Niedermüller.
 - The contract to produce and ENAR film on racist crime as a key communication tool for shadow report.
- **Advocacy in favour of EU legislation and policies.** More meetings took place with other anti-discrimination networks and NGOs such as Amnesty. We addressed this question in different advocacy meetings, including a meeting with the Latvian presidency (which was mainly focused at exploring the human rights/FREMP working party). We also issued a [joint statement](#) with Victim Support Europe and others on the occasion of European Day for victims of crime.
- **Equipping ourselves to step up advocacy:**
 - *Monitoring transposition:* a small publication ("guidelines" or "checklist") is close to ready to help ENAR and members collect systematic information on the transposition of existing EU legislation (2008 framework decision and 2012 Victims'

Rights Directive). The objective is to clearly identify transposition gaps and to document the problems in areas left unaddressed by legislation.

- *Meeting with the Commission*: we had a conversation with the Unit on fundamental rights (in charge of monitoring the 2008 framework decision) on the type of information they needed (meeting also mentioned in other strategies as it was intersectional with some of our community-oriented strategies).
- **Hate speech monitoring**:
 - *European Parliament* (intersectional with work on EP): a reporting form is about to be launched with the help of Bruno Selun (consultant) and the support of OSF. It will enable us to prepare reports on hate speech in the EP, thanks to the cooperation of EP Intergroups staff and MEPs. ARDI and the LGBTI Intergroup are involved. ILGA-Europe is also part of this project. We are also working on advocacy tools and policy models to define the type of reaction we want: waiver of immunity where justified (when there are criminal proceedings), internal sanction in other cases, working on the EP's rules of procedures, political reactions by groups/parties.
 - *National level* (intersectional with community mobilisation): A first national monitoring experience took place around the Greek elections. A few cases were reported, identifying cases of racist speech from radical right parties but also from the incumbent prime minister's party (EPP-affiliated). More initiatives of this type will take place this year (next around Finnish election in April). It will provide grounds to engage with national and European think tanks and parties and call for prevention and reaction measures.
- **Webzine**. The latest [edition](#) of the ENARgy webzine focuses on racist speech and its impact on incitement to hatred and was published in February.

UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY MOBILISATION STRATEGY

- **Community organising – Roma in Slovakia**. ENAR organised in 28 and 29 January a meeting with the Slovak National Platform Coordinator and its team. The objective of the meeting was to support the NPC in developing its strategic plan and annual activities. The training was conducted by ENAR Secretariat, exploring with the participants different funding schemes opportunities for future projects.
- **Mapping activities in the field of community work between Muslims and Jews**: ENAR is currently mapping best practices in the field of community organizing that can serve as model of impactful intra-communities cooperation in the combat against discrimination at local level.
- **Network event “Women’s participation in Politics and Lobbying”**: ENAR was invited by FEMYSO to introduce its community mobilisation strategy to a delegation of Turkish organisation visiting Brussels. Julie Pascoet also presented the project “Forgotten women”, its objectives and activities.