

ENAR General Assembly Statutory session



15 May 2020

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Membership

How was the mapping of member organisations done?

ENAR's network development officer did a membership mapping exercise by zooming in to each member organisation as of 2019. We have factored in different aspects of ENAR's membership such as main work areas, structure, resources, engagement within the network, politics and narratives. This mapping was based on the available information on website, social media, other media, conversations with ENAR Brussels team members and the existing documentation of the members at ENAR Brussels.

Is there a draft of the network development strategy available?

A first internal paper has been drafted but the proposals outlined will be discussed with the membership and finalised in 2020/2021. The time span of the strategy is rather long-term (2020-2030), which provides us with a broader perspective in the ways we can evolve as a network.

EU elections

How many MEPs/candidates endorsed ENAR's equality demands?

We did not ask candidates to officially endorse the equality demands in our EU elections advocacy/campaigning. The demands were used more as a baseline for our discussions with candidates and to outline the priorities the new European Parliament should focus on (including during the Anti-Racism Week), as well as in our communications work.

What is the role and power of the ARDI intergroup?

The European Parliament Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup (ARDI) is an informal cross-party group of MEPs championing racial equality and diversity in the EU raising awareness on issues of racism and discrimination in the work of the European Parliament. ARDI aims to present a strong and united front against racism in the European Parliament; mainstream anti-racism and diversity in European Parliament policy areas; advance concrete policy initiatives to advance equality; promote diversity in political participation. Although it is an informal group, it plays an important role in ensuring racial equality remains a priority for the European Parliament. Thanks to a coordinator and a team of dedicated MEPs, it allows MEPs to join forces and propose improvements to legislative and non-legislative parliamentary work on racism.

What were the concerns raised by ENAR about the new EU Commission?

Three main concerns were raised:

- European Commission policy should clearly respect human rights in all portfolios and not engaging in divisive narratives, such as with the nomination of a Commissioner for 'Protecting the European Way of Life', which co-opts the framing of xenophobic parties across Europe.
- A review of European Commission policy and framing on migration to ensure basic rights and opportunities, and protection from violence and racism.
- The need to prioritise racial equality in the EU and have a stronger, more public commitment to address racism

We also asked about the European Commission's strategy on anti-racism beyond fragmented actions and policies, through parliamentary questions sent by MEPs.

See the full [open letter](#) to Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in which we demand that all plans are developed with an intersectional approach.

Equality data

What are the European Commission guidelines on equality data collection?

The EC developed these guidelines to provide practical guidance to Member States on how to gradually improve the collection and use of equality data, with a view to assist them in monitoring the implementation

of relevant legislation, policies and measures they devise to that effect. The guidelines are divided into two groups:

- Institutional and structural guidelines provide guidance to Member States in setting up structures that enable a systematic, long-term and cooperative approach to collection and use of equality data; they mainly target policy-makers and public administrations that have both a mandate and the potential to trigger change at institutional level.
- Operational guidelines provide guidance to Member States in ensuring comprehensiveness, timeliness, validity, reliability and representativeness of equality data and in enhancing their comparability; they target in particular institutions/actors engaged in the collection, analysis and dissemination of equality data, such as national statistical offices, ministries or other national or local administrative bodies, research institutes, equality bodies and civil society organisations.

Counter-terrorism & policing

What are the emerging findings of the counter-terrorism research?

The research is based on qualitative interviews with policy makers, practitioners and key actors from civil society; focus groups with individuals and groups that are at a heightened risk of facing discrimination and racism; and a literature review of academic, policy and civil society reports. The research will be published in the second half of 2020.

For more information: <https://www.enar-eu.org/ENAR-research-on-the-impact-of-counter-terrorism-and-counter-radicalisation>

How did ENAR influence discussions on the EU digital agenda? Is this an emerging area of work for ENAR?

The launch of our report on data driven policing in Europe enabled us to raise attention to the implications of the use of technology and data-driven profiling in law enforcement for racialised communities, in particular among MEPs working on digital rights. The new European Commission has also committed to present a white paper on the EU digital agenda and AI, and we have been able to raise the issue of race and technology with MEPs following this issue, as well as digital rights organisations. We have identified this broader field as an emerging area of work for ENAR in the coming years and are reflecting on how to ensure racial aspects are taken into account. These elements were also raised in the current negotiations in view of the upcoming migration agenda with Commissioner Johansson.

What are the initial findings of the DARE research project?

On youth radicalisation and inequality, the research found that people who perceive themselves as unequal are more likely to become radicalised than people who live in the same conditions, but who do not consider themselves as unequal. Subjective inequality may thus be more relevant as a driver of radicalisation than objective inequality. Socio-political inequality as a driver of radicalisation is more relevant than economic inequality. Conflating issues of social exclusion and radicalisation with religion masks and undermines the need to address social issues faced by some specific groups, e.g. Muslim populations, such as discrimination, racism, inequality.

On the effectiveness of counter-radicalisation policies in Europe, the research found that radicalisation and recruitment to terrorism are processes inherently social in nature. A societal and educational approach is thus key to countering these threats. Current security, counter-terrorism and counter-radicalisation policies do not sufficiently take into account long-term and socio-economic factors either at the national or European level. The focus on the local community level is crucial when countering radicalisation. Many European countries are launching programmes to address radicalisation, which are locally oriented (using a bottom-up logic) rather than centralised (employing a top-down logic). There is an agreed need among stakeholders for reliable evaluation of counterradicalisation and de-radicalisation policies and programmes. It is crucial to include in all counter/de-radicalisation policies and programmes impact assessment measures that ensure rigorous and fair evaluation by the practitioners themselves, as well as by funders, states and civil society representatives. There is also a need to ensure that counter radicalisation policies are non-stigmatising and non-discriminatory. More information here.

NAPAR & forms of racism:

Why was there a focus on Belgium and Portugal and what other countries are working on this?

In these two countries there has been a drive by national/local anti-racist organisations to build coalitions around the adoption of national action plans against racism and also opportunities for change at governmental level, which is why ENAR has been supporting coalitions in these countries. There has been an interest in calling for national action plans against racism in other countries, which we are exploring with members (including Finland, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom). We are also exploring how to strengthen members' peer support to advocate for NAPARs at the national level.

What is the follow-up work on the European Parliament PAD Resolution?

The European Parliament's Anti-Racism Intergroup (ARDI) is looking into this, as well as individual MEPs such as Pierrette Fofana. We are working to support and collaborate with other key stakeholders such as ENPAD on this issue.

Why was there not much activity on Antisemitism?

Due to less human resources on advocacy work during 2019, we had to re-assess our workload and priorities for the year. It is time for an internal reflection on how to move forward with this specific form of racism. For this reason, and because there are other Jewish-led organisations working on the fight against antisemitism at EU level, our work in this area in 2019 mainly focused on building relations with Jewish organisations to potentially join the ENAR network.

Employment:

What progress has been achieved on racial diversity in EU institutions?

Although the EU Commission or Parliament have yet to adopt an internal strategy to improve racial diversity in their ranks, we have made progress in putting this on the radar of HR departments of the European Parliament, European Commission and EU Council, as well as among MEPs. In addition, the media coverage we achieved on this issue has also contributed to initiating discussions on the lack of diversity in EU institutions in 'Brussels bubble' circles. The EU Council have asked us to present our proposals to their HR department and the European Parliament has initiated a working paper on this issue. This will be followed up in 2020/21.

Migration:

What progress has been achieved on the anti-racist approach to migration?

Our focus in this area is to ensure more awareness and understanding of the intersection of migrant status and racism among key EU decision and policy makers. We also were in the forefront to highlight the risks of Artificial Intelligence in asylum requests and in border controls. In our advocacy work, we engaged in consultations with the European Commission to bring an anti-discrimination approach to integration and migration policies and legislation, including in the upcoming migration package, which will review the future of asylum procedures, schemes on border management and control and future actions for the integration of migrants.

Members' highlights:

Why were these actions highlighted in particular?

These are mainly the actions of the members' projects supported by ENAR in 2019. Each year, ENAR launches a call for applications and selects a number of projects that receive some financial support from ENAR to implement their projects. Some other actions which have achieved some notable outcomes or impact and which we were informed of have also been highlighted. There are of course many other actions by ENAR members and this is just a selection.