LIGHT on
your turn to **stop racism**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TRANSNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

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Abruzzo Region | Finnish Ombudsman for minorities | UNICRI | ENAR | Progetti Sociali | ISIG | ELTE | Peace Institute | The Forum

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1. INTRODUCTION

The following **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TRANSNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY of LIGHT ON** aim to ensure that after the end of the current project funding the LIGHT ON tools and materials have a life after, can be further developed and are widely used in Europe to combat racism and hate-crime online and offline.

The **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TRANSNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY of LIGHT ON** are based on the evaluation reports and the feedbacks of the Light On end-user advisory board and the authors own observations and reflections. The Light On end-user advisory board included experts from different European regions:

Mediterranean Europe
- Cyprus, KISA, Nicoletta Charalambidou -
- Italy, Vincenzo Cucco of Piemonte Region

East Europe and EU Balkans
- Estonia, Tallin Centre for Legal Information, Julia Kovalenko
- Lithuania, Lithuanian Centre for Human Rights, Birute Sabatauskaite
- Serbia, Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia, Sonja Biserko

Central Europe
- Germany, European Association of Lawyers for Democracy and World Human Right, Thomas Schmidt
- International Partnership for Human Rights, Simon Papuashvili

North-West Europe
- UK, Runnymede Trust, Rob Berkeley

The end-user advisory board was moderated by
- Dr. Andreas Hieronymus, ENAR, Brussels and Hamburg

The recommendations of the end-user advisory board for the transnational sustainability of the LIGHT ON tools and materials refer to the following "products" from an end-user perspective:

- LIGHT ON APP
- LIGHT ON WEBSITE (http://www.lighton-project.eu)
- LIGHT ON BROCHURE (http://www.lighton-project.eu/uploads/File/Online_brochure)
- LIGHT ON VIDEO (http://youtu.be/dWBLLH_o4e8)
  Watch the single national episodes at:
  - o Italy: http://youtu.be/Ua5JwwufIkI
  - o UK: http://youtu.be/f0UZDO5e2Xw
  - o Slovenia: http://youtu.be/sgEjxFic3xQ
  - o Hungary: http://youtu.be/XvS5RILwAqg
  - o Finland: http://youtu.be/04omgWOll6s
  All the videos are subtitled in the 5 project languages, you can choose the subtitles from the setting menu.
- LIGHT ON VISUAL DATABASE (http://www.lighton-project.eu/site/main/visualdb/index)
- TRAINING MANUAL ON INVESTIGATING AND REPORTING HATE SPEECH ONLINE (http://www.lighton-project.eu/uploads/File/Training%20Manual.pdf)
  summarized version: http://www.lighton-project.eu/uploads/File/Training%20Manual%20summarised%20version.pdf
  Anti-Racism Tool Kit: http://www.lighton-project.eu/uploads/File/Toolkit%20STAMPA.pdf
- SPOT RACISM ONLINE (http://www.lighton-project.eu/uploads/File/Spot%20Racism%20Online.pdf)
- LIGHT ON BLIKI (http://www.lighton-project.eu/site/main/glossary/index)

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Find a responsible partner taking the lead in the care for the future of LIGHT ON

Such applications as the LIGHT ON App need constant technical improvement to be up-to-date with the technical evolution of the plattforms they are running on. The other tools such as the website, the bliki, etc. need as well constant input from a transnational European public sphere and the evaluation of the input by a constantly working qualified team. Therefore a responsible partner working in this field needs to be found and to be supported with core funding to continue and extent the LIGHT ON tools and content. Such a partner could be for example UNICRI, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute who developed the app and ENAR, the European Network Against Racism, which has an Europe-wide grassroots infrastructure to achive this.

2.2 Connect and build on existing hate crime and anti-discrimination plattforms

Other plattforms, such as the RED Network (http://www.red-network.eu/) an early warning system composed of 17 Research and Civil Society Organisations in EU Member States, have stopped operating after the funding ended. It aimed as well at reporting and documenting racist and hate crime and discrimination situations and incidents, as well as positive initiatives and policy responses. The RED portal is a map-based, user-friendly independent tool providing a birds' eye overview and a comparative insight of the situation regarding racism, xenophobia and discrimination against migrants and minorities. Its main components are the RED Early Warning System and the RED Atlas of Racism, Discrimination & Equality. There is a need to continue the precious work already done and to link such systems into one tool for the benefit of the European citizen. This means looking for cooperation and finding joint ways of funding a sustainable future of the hate crime tools outside project funding.

2.3 Make sure that reports are followed up

The LIGHT ON App and the LIGHT ON website offer a report functionally, where hate-crime can be reported either as witness or as victim. For the end-user it must be very clear what happens to his or her reports and it must have an effect on the ground. Experts working on the ground on hate-crime must evaluated and follow up the incidents. Besides the general monitoring of the tool and the content with the responsible partner mentioned before, a network of local NGO's, Communities and governmental bodies across the member states involved in combatting hate-crime need to be connected to the App and they must be empowered on how to work with the tools and how they can integrate it into their everyday work.

2.4 Spread the word - Promotion of the LIGHT ON App

With the LIGHT ON App now available for different plattforms we have an excellent and user-friendly tool to report hate crimes and hate symbols. With this app a photo from a hate-crime scene or a hate symbol can be directly uploaded and the situation reported. It is the access point for a younger generation to reflect on hate-crimes in their environment and to act against it by documenting what happens "out there" in Europe.

The LIGHT ON App and the Website can be the access point for online-communities dedicated to spot, report and challenge hate-crime. This function needs to be promoted online and offline. In each of the EU memberstates an Anti-discrimination body exists and they are organised in EQUINET, the European Network of Equality Bodies, which brings together 41 organizations from 31 European countries. Although they often don't explicitly deal with hate-crime it can be a good partner in promoting the LIGHT ON App.

2.5 Make the LIGHT ON App available on the App-market for free

The LIGHT ON App has been tested on iphone and android plattforms. The app should be uploaded to the App Store of Apple (https://itunes.apple.com) and the Google App Store (https://play.google.com) and be promoted by positive user comments and reports in blogs about the app.

2.6   Show that it works

It is essential to show to the end-users that it makes a difference when they report hate crime. Therefore best practices of the incoming reports need to be generated and to be made public. European data protection rules need to be respected in this process. Those good practices then have to be spread by active online and offline communities.

2.7   Reaching transnational target groups by extending the language ranges

English is one of the most common languages in Europe and therefore is key in a transnational communication strategy for LIGHT ON. To avoid a selective mechanism based on social class it is as well essential to give access in other languages for those who do not have the opportunity to understand English. Most of the LIGHT ON products already exist in a range of languages (Italian, Slovenian, Hungarian and Finish). Opportunities for funding translations into more languages should be explored.

2.8   Expand the LIGHT ON communities online and offline

The cores for a transnational sustainability are active online-communities as well as active "offline" communities, which carry the future of LIGHT ON. The LIGHT ON facebook website is the nucleus of the LIGHT ON online-community. To foster this LIGHT ON needs to be "adopted" by already existing communities as a usefull tool they can use in their everyday life.

2.8.1.   Spread the LIGHT ON Logo

This "adoption" becomes manifest when the LIGHT ON logo is used. Therefore partner organisations and individual should encourage their own networks to put a link to the LIGHT ON App and/or Website and promote it.

2.8.2.   Spread the LIGHT ON BROCHURE

Encourage other communities to get engaged with LIGHT ON and to promote the LIGHT ON brochure on their websites or blogs.

2.8.3.   Encourage other projects to produce more videos like the LIGHT ON videos

Look actively for cooperation with youth media project in the EU memberstates. The existing LIGHT ON videos and other videos which present surprising effects to change a situation and give surprising solutions (see e.g.: "Schwarzfahrer", Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=il2wnw5CgLI) can be included as well. Amateur videos made with mobile phones presenting a story should be encouraged. Organisations and individuals already involved LIGHT ON, but as well newly interested organisations and individuals should promote this idea in their respective contexts.

2.8.4.   Extend the Light On Visual Database and the LIGHT ON BLIKI (including other languages)

Find and encourage individuals and groups engaged in EU member-states, which are dedicated in spotting hate-symbols, hate-words and hate-expression and are willing to add to the existing Visual Database and Bliki. Find here as well funding opportunities for further translations.

2.8.5.   Promote the information of Spot racism Online

Spot racism Online is a well-structured Q&A (questions and answers), which gives definitions and ways how to act. Especially helpful is the list of links for the most important social network websites and their complaint systems. The reader is well guided through each step of the reporting procedure. Therefore other online and offline communities should get encouraged to engage with LIGHT ON and to promote LIGHT ON Spot racism online on their websites or blogs. Community leaders should be as well encouraged to speak and blog about how to spot racism and how this can be used inside their communities.

2.8.6.   Create Training Opportunities for the Training Manual on Investigating and Reporting Hate Speech Online

The Training Manual is a comprehensive tool, which aims to empower law enforcement agency and others to recognise and report hate-crime. It is essential that national anti-discriminations bodies in cooperation with law enforcement agency, other state bodies and civil society create training opportunities for such trainings inside their organisations.

2.8.7. Involve Academia and Researchers

Spread the Light On works, analysis and results in Academia and among researchers and scholars concerned with racism and related topics and join in effective partnership including single social scientists or research departments.

2.8.8. Involve Youngsters and School Pupils

Since Light On has recognized youngsters and school pupils as a strategic target to be reached (see ISIG report), provide a number of events, seminars, debates to involve such target group and improve awareness on hate speech and its poisonous consequences on minorities' members and society at large.