

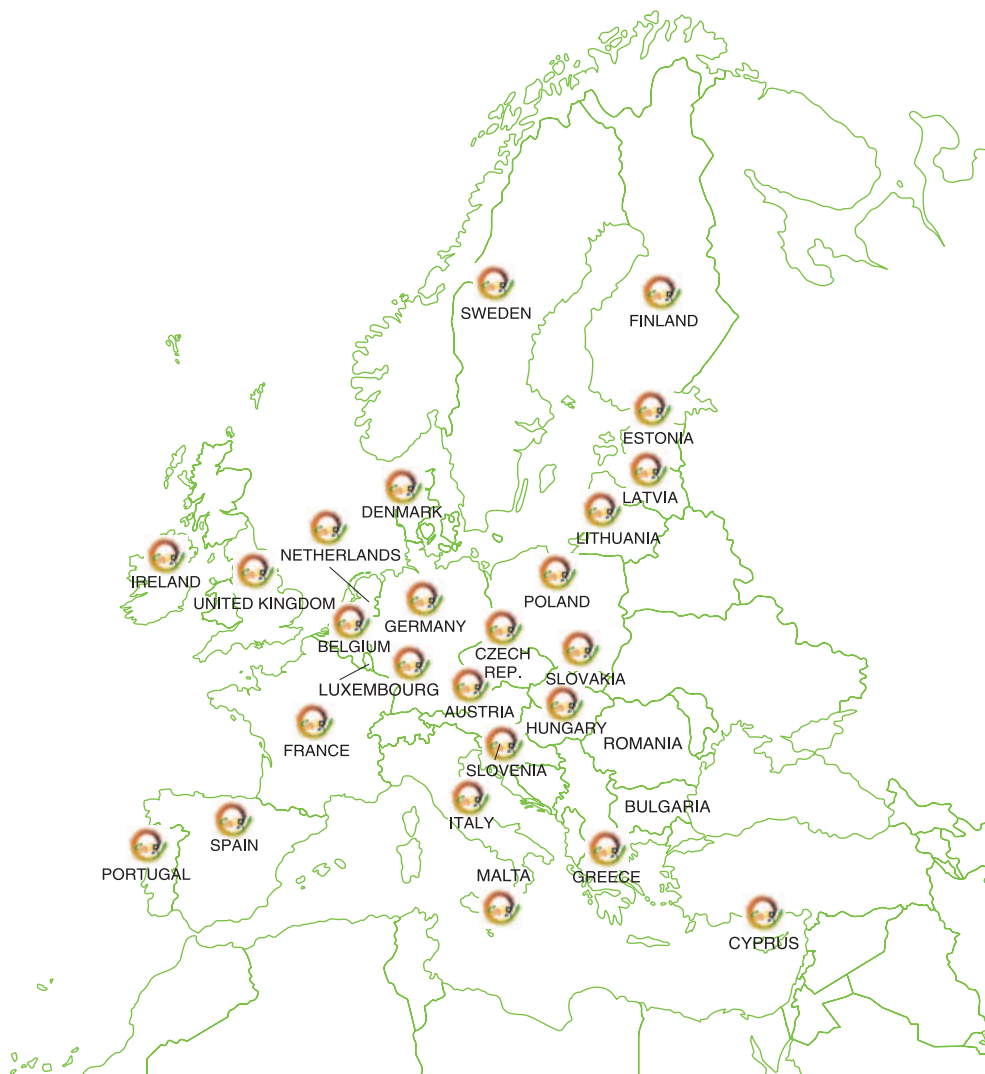
2006

annual report



european network against racism

ENAR, the voice of the anti-racist movement in 25 EU member states



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A word from the Director



“What I do believe in – and believe strongly – is the importance of equal opportunity. Every European citizen should have the possibility to fulfil his or her potential to the full. Deny that possibility, and society as a whole is diminished. But vague support for equality of opportunity is meaningless unless it is accompanied by policies to ensure that it becomes a reality for all citizens.”

José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, Global Europe-Social Europe debate, 5 December 2006

Racism and discrimination continue to be very serious manifestations of the failure of European societies to protect the fundamental rights of ethnic and religious minority communities. Discrimination manifests itself across a range of social sectors, including employment and labour market participation, education, health, housing and accommodation, access to goods and services and racism crime and violence. The experience of Roma and Traveller communities and instances of Islamophobia and anti-Semitism across Europe provide some of the most serious expressions of these problems.

In 2006, ENAR continued to bring issues of discrimination and racism to the forefront of the European policy agenda. In particular ENAR continued its advocacy work to ensure effective legal protection against discrimination in the EU, to mainstream anti-racism and equality in the EU's public policy debate, to contribute to the integration debate at EU level and to highlight the need for a legal tool to combat racist crime.

ENAR continued to enlarge the network in the new EU member states and to empower its members through trainings, seminars and conferences, so as to enable anti-racist civil society to play a full role in building an enlarged Europe free from discrimination and racism.

As for 'internal affairs', the ENAR Secretariat's energetic drive has strengthened its functioning as a team. ENAR's input during 2006 would not have been possible without the Secretariat's unyielding dedication and hard work.

Throughout 2006, ENAR continued to develop the necessary tools to become a proactive organisation at the European level, working with NGOs in all EU member states to bring the issues of racism and xenophobia to the fore and providing capacity to take initiatives in relevant areas.

2006 has also been marked by ENAR's engagement in strategic planning for the period 2007-2010. In this context, the network went through an in-depth review of its operations and conducted a membership survey aiming to inform the planning process that is currently underway.

The ENAR team would like to thank the various stakeholders of the network for making the work of ENAR possible. First in line are our members, the *raison d'être* of ENAR. The European Commission, the Compagnia di San Paolo, the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and the Roma Education Fund have also played a crucial role in supporting the continuity and the activities of the network. Gratitude also goes out to our Chairman Bashy Quraishy and bureau members for their endless commitment and vibrant energy enabling ENAR to be an active voice for the anti-racist movement in Europe.

Pascale Charhon
ENAR Director

Introduction



“The diversity of Europe in the 21st century requires an integrative, active approach. It is our duty, in the name of the dignity and uniqueness of each human being. Through equal opportunities, we will reap the benefits of diversity in many respects – economically, socially and culturally.”

Vladimír Špidla, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Launch of the European Year of Equal Opportunities for All, 30 January 2007

The work of NGOs at European level is essential in articulating and defending the views of civil society from the grassroots through to the regional and European levels. The voice of civil society must not only be heard, but integrated into European legislation to ensure positive change in the day-to-day lives of those affected by racism and other forms of discrimination.

ENAR was established as a result of the 1997 European Year Against Racism and is a network of European NGOs working to combat racism in all EU member states. The network's objectives are to fight racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia, to promote equal treatment for all and to link local and national actions with European initiatives. By reflecting local and national priorities, ENAR strives to ensure that developments at the European level further the fight against racism in all member states and make a real difference to the lives of those who experience racism.

During 2006 ENAR continued to engage in a variety of activities, supporting the implementation of the European Commission's framework strategy on non-discrimination and equal opportunities for all adopted in June 2005, and in this context actively prepared the 2007 European Year of Equal Opportunities for All. ENAR also continued to advocate for the protection of the rights of all and ethnic and religious minorities including third country nationals, in the framework of international and European human rights protection mechanisms. It reiterated its call for the harmonisation of protections against racist crime across the European Union. ENAR also consolidated its relations with EU institutions and stakeholders, in particular by putting into place structured relationships with the EU presidencies and by being a strong driver of the activities of the European Parliament Intergroup on Anti-Racism and Diversity. ENAR completed the extension

of its membership base in Cyprus, Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovenia and Slovakia, and is now present in 25 EU member states. It continued to invest in capacity-building for its members in order to enhance the effectiveness of the network at all levels and to improve its communication tools, notably through the ENAR website, regular publications and the media. Finally ENAR started reflecting on its future strategic development for the years 2007-2010.

Main developments at EU level

European Constitution

Following the rejection of the EU Constitutional Treaty in France and the Netherlands in 2005, a "period of reflection" on the future of Europe was launched to reconnect citizens with the European project and to decide the fate of the Constitution. On 15 and 16 June 2006, EU heads of state and governments decided that a solution to the constitutional crisis should be found by the end of 2008 at the latest.

Equality, non-discrimination and labour market integration of disadvantaged ethnic and religious minorities

During 2006, the European Union continued its efforts to combat discrimination, implementing the European Commission's framework strategy on non-discrimination and equal opportunities for all (COM(2005)0224). The European Parliament adopted a resolution in response to the Commission's communication on the framework strategy in June 2006 (P6-TA/2006-0261). Despite delays, EU member states continued to adopt and amend national laws to bring them into line with EU anti-discrimination legislation adopted in 2000¹. The European

¹ Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 (OJL 180 of 19.07.2000) implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin and Directive 2000/78/EC of 27 November 2000 (OJL 303 OF 2.12.2000 P16) establishing a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation

Commission continued to monitor the implementation of the equality directives. In conformity with the requirements of the racial equality directive, it produced a report evaluating the transposition and implementation of the directive in the EU member states over the last five years, the results of which were issued in a communication on the application of the racial equality directive (COM(2006)643) in October. A centrepiece of the promotion of non-discrimination was the decision designating 2007 as the European Year of Equal Opportunities for All (771/2006/EC), which was adopted in May 2006. The European Year should provide a new boost to making equal treatment a reality for everyone in the EU.

The framework strategy also outlined what the European Union could do to tackle discrimination and promote equality beyond legal protection of people's rights to equal treatment. One of the key challenges identified in this context was the need to develop a coherent and effective approach of the social and labour market integration of ethnic minorities. In order to support policy development in this area, the European Commission under the leadership of Commissioner for Employment, Social affairs and Equal Opportunities Vladimir Špidla, decided to set up a high-level advisory group on social and labour market integration of disadvantaged ethnic minorities. On 24 October 2006 the decision was reached on the adoption of PROGRESS (programme for employment and social solidarity).



The decision on PROGRESS (1676/2006/EC) aims to build on the Community action programme to combat discrimination, which began in 2001 and drew to a close in 2006. 'Anti-discrimination and diversity' is one of five sections under PROGRESS. The decision outlines the role of the financial programme in supporting a better understanding of the situation in this field through analysis, studies and statistics. Monitoring legislation, networking between specialised bodies, raising awareness and developing capacity are the other areas described.

Social inclusion

In 2006 the EU continued to ensure that social protection policies effectively contribute to mobilising people who are capable of working while achieving the wider objective of providing a decent living standard to those who are and will remain outside the labour market. The European Commission issued a communication on active inclusion (COM(2006)44) in April 2006 with the aim of tackling these challenges. It also issued, together with the Council, a joint report on social protection and social inclusion in March. In addition, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on social protection and social inclusion in March, calling on EU member states to support the integration of people at a disadvantage in order to prevent and combat social exclusion, and to fight the high levels of exclusion faced by ethnic minorities and immigrants (P6-TA/2006-0089).

“Racism in Europe today is a phenomenon that is contrary to the principles of the European Union and threatens to undermine social cohesion and the realisation of human rights.”

ENAR European Shadow Report 2005

Daniela Bankier, Head of the Unit 'Action against discrimination' of DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, ENAR President Bashy Quraishy and ENAR Director Pascale Charhon at the ENAR policy seminar "From racism to equality? Realising the potential of European anti-discrimination law", October 2006

2006 European Year for Workers' Mobility

2006 was also designated European Year for Workers' Mobility. One of the main goals of the Year was to mobilise European and national-level activities in an effort to help Europeans learn about working across borders and changing jobs. The campaign aimed to raise peoples' awareness of their rights to work in another EU country and how to exercise them, to reinforce tools to help them find a job abroad, and to highlight the remaining obstacles to a genuine European job market. The Year has been a step forward, but has also shown that obstacles to a genuine mobility culture in Europe remain.

Fundamental rights and counter terrorism

An important development in the area of fundamental rights was the Justice and Home Affairs Council's agreement on the proposal for a regulation establishing the European Fundamental Rights Agency (COM(2005)280) in December 2006. Operational in 2007, the new agency will extend the mandate of the current European Union Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia. This decision represents a real opportunity to enhance protection of fundamental rights in the European Union.

Counter terrorism continued to be high on the agenda of EU governments in 2006 following the adoption of the European Union's counter terrorism strategy in December 2005. The European Commission for instance allocated funds to actions against terrorist attacks, including measures to protect critical infrastructure, halt terrorist financing, and prevent explosives falling into terrorist groups' hands, under the 'Pilot project fight against terrorism' C(2005)3179. Terrorism must be condemned and punished, but the anti-racist NGO community has been concerned about the negative impact that counter terrorism measures have on the fundamental rights of ethnic and religious minority groups.

ENAR highlights of 2006

Migration and integration

Legal migration and integration of third-country nationals continued to be the subject of an important debate across the European Union. Most member states are experiencing migratory phenomena and are confronted with integration challenges. Some countries, including the new member states, have only recently been faced with immigration. Others have dealt with immigration and integration challenges for decades but not always with satisfactory results. On 1 September 2005 the European Commission adopted the communication "A common agenda for integration - framework for the integration of third-country nationals in the European Union" (COM(2005)0389). The cornerstones of this framework are proposals for concrete measures to put into practice the Common Basic Principles adopted by the EU's Justice and Home Affairs Council of 19 November 2004 and which underline the importance of a holistic approach to integration.



ENAR Latvian round table on the European Year of Equal Opportunities for All, November 2006

Ensuring effective legal protection against discrimination and enforcing the rights of victims

During 2006 ENAR was strongly involved in raising awareness of its members on the question of strategic litigation. Strategic litigation uses the court system to attempt to create broad social and/or policy change. It intends to reach beyond an individual case or victim and to create a context of enhanced protection for everyone who is vulnerable to discrimination. Building on a first conference on the subject at the end of 2005, ENAR organised a series of activities to develop the capacities of its members in using legal case work to support the victims of discrimination.

One of the key legal tools in facilitating successful case laws against discrimination is the shift of the burden of proof. The burden of proof provides that if the claimant establishes facts from which the presumption of discrimination arises, then the responding party needs to prove that discrimination did not occur. In this context ENAR issued a study on the shift of the burden of proof in racial equality cases with the aim of providing information about its practical application, and highlighted the discrepancies in the implementation of the racial equality directive across the European Union.

Responding to racism at EU and national levels

In 2006 ENAR produced 25 national leaflets on "Responding to Racism". The objectives were to inform NGOs and the general public concerning recent legislative and administrative developments on anti-racism, highlight the work of ENAR and its membership, and emphasising why it was important for NGOs to engage in anti-racist work at the EU level.

Monitoring racism in Europe: ENAR shadow reports 2005, a civil society perspective

ENAR launched the 2005 Shadow Reports on racism in Europe, which attracted a lot of media coverage and interest. ENAR issued 20 country-specific shadow reports, as well as a report on Islamophobia in Europe. In addition to this, ENAR published an EU-wide shadow report identifying trends concerning the phenomenon of racism in the EU during 2005. The reports deal with the many faces of racism and discrimination in Europe, from policy to practice, and build upon grassroots data collected by NGOs. They present an overview of recent political and legislative developments as well as of manifestations of racism in employment, housing, education, health, policing, racist violence, access to goods and services, and the media. The Shadow Reports were presented in the European Commission and European Parliament.

Preparing the 2007 European Year of Equal Opportunities for All

During the last six months of 2006, ENAR undertook an EU-wide awareness-raising project among anti-discrimination NGOs about the importance of the 2007 European Year of Equal Opportunities for All. The round tables organised by 16 of ENAR's National Coordinations played a key role in fostering dialogue with civil society and in strengthening the network's visibility, particularly at national level. They created opportunities for multi-faceted civil society dialogue between anti-racist organisations and organisations working on other discrimination grounds on the one hand, and between anti-discrimination NGOs and public authorities at different levels - from local to national - on the other hand. The project brought forward a series of concerns crucial for grassroots anti-discrimination NGOs concerning the implementation of the Year's objectives.

Policy developments

One of ENAR's main objectives is to influence European policies on anti-racism, anti-discrimination and equal opportunities. This includes acting against discrimination and exclusion of people of different racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, ensuring Europe's migration policies do not undermine the fight against racism and discrimination, and celebrating cultural, ethnic and racial diversity. At national level, ENAR seeks to inform its members about EU political developments and encourage dialogue between civil society and government on EU policies. At European level, the ENAR Secretariat takes positions on EU initiatives, influences EU institutions and establishes coalitions and partnerships with other European networks and organizations. ENAR policy priorities during 2006 included the implementation of the equality directives, securing equal treatment for third country nationals, mainstreaming anti-racism into other EU public policies and combating racism as a crime.

Working towards the full transposition and implementation of the racial equality directive²

Discrimination against ethnic minority communities is a very complex and serious reality in European societies. ENAR believes that racism is not limited to discrimination based on the ethnic or racial origin of a person but also on the basis of all elements of an individual or community's culture or identity, including religion or belief. ENAR is very concerned about increasing instances of religious and racial discrimination in

² Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 (OJL 180 of 19.07.2000) implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin

the European context, not least the extremely worrying trends in relation to Islamophobia and anti-Semitism. The racial equality directive was a major step in the fight against discrimination on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin but it is now crucial that this legislation is properly transposed and implemented in all EU member states. ENAR and its members have continued to monitor the correct transposition of the legislation and to identify which areas require progress.

Promoting effective use of legal tools to combat discrimination

ENAR continued to express concerns about the fact that the racial equality directive had not been fully implemented in many member states. In this context ENAR conducted a study in 2006 to examine the current state of play with regard to the burden of proof. Findings highlighted that this key tool in facilitating successful cases against discrimination is under-used. ENAR also organised a policy seminar on 7-9 October on the EU equality directives, "From racism to equality? Realising the potential of European anti-discrimination law", which aimed to assess the implementation of the directives and evaluate the need for further action to enhance the existing framework.

Related to the promotion of strategic litigation, ENAR continued its participation as a core partner in the SOLID project (Strategies on Litigation Tackling Discrimination in EU countries), which reached completion in September. The project aimed to achieve effective transposition and implementation of the racial equality and employment equality Directives through empowerment, capacity building and partnership.

"Political parties have a responsibility to respect the rights of everyone in society; as leading stakeholders in social and political debates they must demonstrate leadership and act as a positive force for change."

ENAR press release, 16 May 2006

Enhancing the debate on institutional racism, multiple discrimination and data collection

ENAR is also very concerned about the failure to address institutional and structural forms of discrimination in Europe. This theme was a focus of the ENAR seminar on the EU equality directives³ and was also the subject of the July edition of the ENARgy newsletter. In October ENAR also produced, together with Minority Rights Group International and the European Roma Information Office, an amicus brief to the D.H. and others v. Czech Republic case, which is being appealed to the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights. ENAR's concern was to raise the issue of structural discrimination across Europe and to highlight the need to introduce positive action measures to address this phenomenon.

ENAR has taken a lead role in establishing and coordinating an informal working group on multiple discrimination together with other Brussels-based European anti-discrimination networks, with the aim of providing each other mutual support in addressing the question of multiple discrimination.

In 2006 ENAR continued to raise awareness of the need to enhance ethnic and religious data collection and to monitor developments at European level. It also continued to participate in the European Commission working group on data collection. Successful data collection requires comparable data collection mechanisms with a consensus around definitions as well as strong legislation to protect data so that it can be used for stated purposes.

³ ENAR policy seminar: "From racism to equality? realising the potential of European anti-discrimination law", October 2006.

Mainstreaming anti-racism and equality in the EU's public policy debate

The fight against racism will only be successful if anti-racism and anti-discrimination policies are mainstreamed into other relevant EU policy areas, including education, employment, social inclusion and migration. ENAR therefore welcomed the European Commission's decision to conduct a study on equality mainstreaming and provided feedback as to the focus and content of this study.

European Year for workers' mobility

On the occasion of the 2006 European Year for workers' mobility, ENAR sought to draw attention to issues relating to racism and mobility in the EU. The November edition of the ENARgy newsletter focused on mobility and explored the links between racism and mobility in a European and national context.

Contributing to better social and economic inclusion of ethnic and religious minorities

One of the major challenges in 2006 continued to be the social and economic inclusion of ethnic and religious minorities. These minorities are amongst the groups most vulnerable to poverty and social exclusion. Exclusion from employment, health, housing and education continued to undermine the everyday experiences of millions of ethnic minorities across Europe.

ENAR very much welcomed the opportunity for ENAR's chair Bashy Quraishy to participate in the EU's high-level advisory group established by the European Commission in February to promote social and labour market integration of ethnic minorities in the EU. The group aims to focus on identifying good practices in the integration of disadvantaged ethnic groups in labour markets. ENAR looks forward to the group's policy recommendations to be issued by the end of 2007. In 2006 ENAR also started work on establishing an ad hoc working group of its members on the social and economic inclusion of ethnic and religious minorities in the European Union.

ENAR responded to the European Commission's communication on active inclusion in April 2006, underlining that discrimination and racism are key factors in the labour market exclusion of ethnic minority communities, and consequently affect their ability to avoid poverty and promote integration. It is essential that active inclusion strategies are capable of responding to the needs of all ethnic minority communities in a targeted manner. ENAR looks forward to an ongoing debate in this important policy area.



ENAR and ERIO conference "Roma and equal access to education - from segregation to integrated schooling", April 2006 (Copyright Joanna Karapataqi/OSCE and Dejan Vekic/OSCE)

Fighting discrimination and promoting diversity are core elements of cohesion policies and the Lisbon strategy on jobs and growth. ENAR therefore responded to the Commission consultation on cohesion policy and cities. Cities play a key role in the fight against racism and discrimination and promoting integration, in particular in promoting intercultural dialogue, equal opportunities and active citizenship.

Employers have a crucial role to play in overcoming discrimination in society and must take equality standards in the workplace seriously. In order to highlight good practice in the development of equality schemes in employment, ENAR produced a fact sheet on ethnic and religious discrimination in employment. It provides a tool for ENAR members to convince all employers, private and public, to take specific actions to overcome discrimination and racism in the workplace.

Promoting equal treatment in education and youth related activities

ENAR has long been concerned with the question of education, both in terms of combating discrimination and racism in educational settings, and in maximising the potential of education to promote inclusive and equal societies. Throughout 2006 ENAR monitored education policy developments at EU level, in particular in relation to Roma, Travellers and Sinti and education. Equal access to education for the Roma community

has been one of the major problems that EU member states have been confronted with. There is compelling evidence of a lack of access to formal schooling in terms of structural factors linked to poverty, availability of school places and prejudiced attitudes at the point of admission. In addition, racial segregation in the provision of schooling services is widespread. ENAR organised a conference on the issue of Roma and education in April in order to highlight these issues and discuss solutions. The amicus brief to the appeal of the D.H. and others v. Czech Republic case outlined concerns regarding segregation of Roma children in education. ENAR also responded to the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance of the Council of Europe's draft general policy recommendation on combating racism and racial discrimination at school.

In the context of the Council of Europe's "All different all equal" youth campaign, which started in June



An ENAR delegation meets Austrian President Heinz Fischer during the EU's Austrian Presidency, March 2006

2006 and calls for diversity, human rights and participation, ENAR participated in the symposium on youth and diversity that took place in October in Budapest and contributed to the recommendations outlining the themes of the campaign.

Preparing the 2008 European Year of Intercultural Dialogue

In December 2006, the decision designating 2008 as the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue was adopted, following a proposal from the Commission in October 2005. The Year will focus on the youth and involve as many individuals as possible and aims to introduce dialogue in schools, at work but also in leisure, culture, sports centres and civil society organisations. ENAR participated in several meetings to prepare for the Year, as well as a conference organised by the European Commission in November, thus providing input from the perspective of the anti-racist movement.

National action plans against racism

ENAR published a fact sheet on the legacy of the United Nations World conference against racism, which took place in Durban in 2000, with the aim of examining the actions of EU member states to comply with the Durban programme. Thanks to this tool, ENAR members are able to advocate for the implementation of national action plans against racism in their countries with reference to good practices in the other member states.

Promoting equal treatment of third country nationals and contributing to the integration debate

As a network concerned with the rights of all ethnic minority communities in the European Union, ENAR closely followed the emergence of a European common agenda on the integration of third country nationals and believes that anti-racism and anti-discrimination are the foundations of an effective integration policy. Many of the policy approaches to date have recognised that anti-racism and the fight against discrimination are important elements of an integration strategy. However ENAR, whilst recognising "the 11 Common Basic Principles on Integration" as a useful benchmark, believes that EU integration strategies have failed to recognise that anti-discrimination is both a pre-requisite for, and modus operandi of, successful integration. All dimensions of integration policy including economic, social, cultural and political, must be underpinned by anti-discrimination.

ENAR issued its first response to the Commission's communication "A common integration agenda" which at the same time made a direct contribution to the European Parliament report on integration. It welcomed the Parliament's initiative to produce such a report, particularly since there has been a lack of direct consultation with civil society on this issue.

ENAR also finalised a general policy paper on third country nationals, a definition which includes a number of categories of persons: refugees, asylum seekers, migrant workers, those who enter through family reunion, and legally resident and undocumented immigrants, as well as stateless persons. Although, in principle, every person is entitled to rights regardless of his/her legal status, the effective exercise of rights can be, and is, undermined by differential treatment based on citizenship

or immigration status. ENAR therefore called for European immigration and asylum policy to respect all international human rights instruments and for EU anti-discrimination legislation to protect everyone living in the territory of the EU, without nationality exemption. In addition, ENAR urged the EU to review legislation in the area of freedom, security and justice to ensure that all security measures are fully compatible with fundamental rights. It also called for positive steps to be taken to guarantee equal access to, and the effective enjoyment of, fundamental rights by third country nationals. Finally, it urged member states to protect fundamental rights in implementing the 'external dimension' of migration and asylum policies.

Combating racism as a crime and protecting fundamental rights

Every day ethnic minority groups face racist crime and violence. Often this reality is at worst denied, and at best underestimated. Despite the lack of data and information on racist crime and violence there is no doubt that they are serious concerns in the European context. It is essential to introduce a legal tool at EU level to fight racism and xenophobia. More effective law will allow governments to deter, detect and punish racist crime.

Calling for the adoption of a legal tool to combat racist crime

ENAR has been very concerned by the continued failure of the Council to adopt the Commission's 2001 proposal for a framework decision on combating racism and xenophobia. This proposal would ensure that racism and xenophobia in the EU are punishable by effective and dissuasive criminal penalties and would improve and encourage judicial cooperation between member states. The Austrian Presidency organised a seminar in June to consider the future of the frame-

work decision, and ENAR welcomed this opportunity to express its views on the need to move forward. In November, ENAR issued a joint statement with the UK's Commission on Racial Equality and others to urge the Council to adopt the framework decision. ENAR also took part in a meeting on freedom of speech organised by the Council of Europe's European Commission against Racism and Intolerance in November.

ENAR issued a general policy paper on racism as a crime, which seeks to demonstrate that a European instrument on racist crime is essential and outlines some of the requirements of such an instrument. ENAR believes that in order to curb racist crimes, it is necessary to harmonise criminal protections against racism at the highest level and to adopt a wide definition of racism in order to ensure that it responds to the complex nature of racist crime. ENAR also called on all member states to recognise the impact of racist motivation on the victim through the adoption of aggravated sentencing policies. ENAR rejects the view that legislating against hate speech represents a threat to freedom of expression, as protecting ethnic minority communities from hate speech is the foundation of debate and dialogue in intercultural societies. In addition to legislation, complementary

measures are also needed, such as recording of racist crimes, victim support and training.

Raising the question of ethnic profiling in counter terrorism measures

The use of racial profiling by police and immigration officials, specifically targeting Muslim and immigrant communities, has been particularly worrying. Anti-terrorism measures also have implications for the freedom of the population as a whole, for instance through the introduction of restrictions on speech and the use of surveillance cameras.

The European Parliament's Anti-racism and Diversity Intergroup meeting on counter terrorism and ethnic profiling in June discussed the multiple facets of this complex issue and the impact on ethnic and religious minorities as well as on fundamental rights.

ENAR also established a strategic partnership with the Open Society Justice Initiative with regard to racial profiling. In this context, ENAR and the Open Society Justice Initiative joined forces with the support of Baroness Ludford MEP to organize a seminar on profiling in Europe in the European Parliament in October.

Campaigning for an effective European Union Agency for fundamental rights

Throughout 2006, ENAR closely monitored developments with regard to the establishment of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights and the extension of the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia's mandate to ensure that the extended Agency will give added value to the fight against racism and discrimination in Europe, continue to have a strong focus on racism, be independent and include civil society actors in its work. ENAR met with various representatives of the Commission, the EU Presidencies, member states and the European Parliament to voice its demands, coordinated joint actions with other European-level NGOs and undertook national advocacy activities through its National Coordinations.

ENAR also produced a fact sheet on the European Charter of Fundamental Rights, aiming to explain the Charter, as well as the Commission's impact assessment procedure with respect to fundamental rights, with a view to enhancing the accessibility and practical application of these instruments.

Relations with stakeholders

“Inadequacies in anti-discrimination legislation, social exclusion and failure to accommodate diversity have created a context in which many of Europe's ethnic minority groups do not enjoy the benefits of living in an integrated and inclusive society.”

ENAR press statement, 14 February 2006

European Commission

ENAR continued to maintain close links with the anti-discrimination unit of DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities throughout 2006. It has also developed contacts with DG Freedom, Security and Justice in the areas of integration, fundamental rights and counter terrorism and with DG Education and Culture.

European Parliament

ENAR was closely involved in the work of the Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup in the European Parliament, chaired by Claude Moraes MEP. The Intergroup gathers around 65 members of European Parliament interested in racism and diversity issues. In 2006 the Intergroup held three meetings: on counter terrorism and ethnic profiling in June, integration as

a mechanism for inclusion or exclusion in July, and cyber hate in November.

The Intergroup also organised a successful email campaign in January and February in order to get support of MEPs for a written declaration on tackling racism in football, which was adopted by over 400 MEPs in March.

In addition, ENAR met with various MEPs in relation to different issues it worked on during 2006.

EU's Council Presidencies

ENAR established structured relationships with the EU presidencies throughout 2006 by organising high-level meetings and issuing a memorandum to each of the Austrian and Finnish presidencies.

In March, a high-level ENAR delegation headed by ENAR President Bashy Quraishy met with the Austrian President Heinz Fischer and Minister for Justice Karin Gastinger in Vienna, during which the delega-

tion sought to raise concerns regarding the situation of racism in Europe, more specifically on the framework decision on combating racism and xenophobia and the future European Agency for Fundamental Rights.

In December, an ENAR delegation including ENAR-Finland met high-level Finnish officials, including the Minister of Employment Tarja Filatov, and relayed concerns regarding the state of implementation of the equality directives across the EU member states.

Other stakeholders

During 2006 ENAR established a strong working relationship with the European Monitoring Centre against Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) and consistently included the EUMC in its events and publications. ENAR also provided input into the development of the new RAXEN guidelines by the EUMC and participated in the EUMC's Round Table on integration in October. It contributed two articles to the EUMC's newsletter 'Equal Voices', as part of its commitment to consistently pro-

vide the NGO perspective to the EUMC Newsletter. In addition ENAR was in regular contact with the Civil Society Liaison Officer throughout 2006.

ENAR was actively involved in various organs of the Social Platform, in particular the working groups on fundamental rights and anti-discrimination and on social policy, as well as the working party on migrant rights. ENAR also became a member of the European Anti-Poverty Network in 2006. In addition, the ENAR Secretariat liaised regularly with other Brussels-based European networks, such as the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA-Europe), AGE the European Older People's Platform, and the European Disability Forum.

A specific cooperation was established with the European Roma Information Office in 2006, which included issuing joint fact sheets and press releases on Roma issues and the joint organisation of a conference on Roma and education.

Capacity building and the future of the network

Throughout 2006 ENAR continued to strengthen and empower its membership. It strove to fully integrate the new National Coordinations, to improve existing communication processes, to provide capacity-building tools to members and increase their knowledge of EU developments in the field of anti-discrimination and anti-racism. The round tables on the 2007 European Year of Equal Opportunities for All, organised in 16 countries, enabled NGOs to network and

created opportunities for multi-faceted dialogue with civil society.

Training

A training session on "Implementing EU decisions: the role of national NGOs" took place in February in Bratislava and informed participants about the European decision-making process and the role of NGOs in this

"The reality in most EU countries is that migrants and their descendants increasingly face racism and discrimination. The tone of the debate on immigration and security has created a context for acceptable forms of racism in Europe."

ENAR press release, 15 December 2006

process. The seminar addressed the issues of the implementation of the equality directives, the burden of proof and strategic litigation.

ENAR also organised a governance seminar in September which aimed to induct board members, in particular from the new member states, into their new roles as ENAR board members and to exchange good practices on effective national coordination development. It also

enabled them to develop their networking capacities at national level and exchange good practices on project management.

Strategic planning process

A process was established in 2006 to produce ENAR's second strategic plan for the period 2007-2010, in close consultation with ENAR board members. The aim was to reflect on the future of the network and develop the network's strategic goals and objectives for the coming years. Four main steps were taken to bring this process forward: clarifying the mission of ENAR; conducting an internal and external environmental scan of the organisation; setting goals and objectives; and articulating an action plan in support of these goals and objectives.

Membership survey

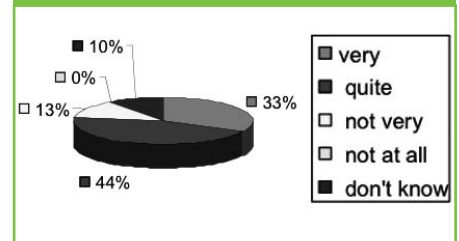
In the first half of 2006, ENAR conducted a membership survey in order to inform the strategic planning process underway. The results showed that there is a general feeling that ENAR is highly representative of its membership but also that the network and its mem-

bers have significant development needs. ENAR services and activities were also seen by members as both relevant and of quality and its work as giving added value to the fight against racism and xenophobia at national and European levels. Three key policy priorities identified by ENAR members emerged from the survey: anti-discrimination (including employment), migration (including integration) and racism as a crime.

Enlarging the network

During 2006, new National Coordinations were established in Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. This has enabled their active participation in ENAR's work and has brought a new impetus and expertise to the network. ENAR also established contacts with NGOs in Romania and Bulgaria and concluded a mapping exercise of anti-racism and anti-discrimination NGOs potentially interested in ENAR's work in these countries. A visit to Bulgaria as part of a delegation of the Social Platform in June enabled ENAR to meet a broad range of civil society organisations working on anti-racism and anti-discrimination, all of which showed a great interest in joining ENAR.

How representative is ENAR of the anti-racist NGOs across the EU?



Data gathered from the ENAR membership survey conducted in 2006

“Everyone should be guaranteed the same level of fundamental rights protection and in particular the right not to be discriminated on the basis of religion or belief.”

ENAR press release, 9 November 2006

Communication

In 2006, ENAR continued to improve its internal and external communication, to increase its visibility and relay views on developments in EU policy towards the different target groups, and to act as the contact point on anti-racism issues for media and other interested stakeholders.

Media relations

In 2006, ENAR issued 24 press releases and statements on various issues ranging from the European Fundamental Rights Agency to racism in football to International Migrants' Day.

ENAR received good media coverage on various issues, including on the shadow reports and the International Day against Racism.

Communication tools

Throughout 2006, ENAR introduced gradual changes to the structure and content of the website in order to increase its user-friendliness. The various sections of the ENAR website and the Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup's website were continuously updated.

ENAR produced four issues of ENARgy, its quarterly

thematic newsletter, which aims to promote debates on anti-racism and equal rights issues and act as a "policy forum". It was printed in hard copy for the first time in July, on the issue of structural racism. Other editions focused on strategic litigation; Roma, Sinti and Travellers; and racism and mobility.

The weekly mail, which keeps subscribers informed of the latest European news and information related to anti-racism and anti-discrimination issues, was published every week on ENAR's website and disseminated to the network's members. It has proven to be a very widely read and useful tool for stakeholders.

Conferences and publications

ENAR and ERIO conference on "Roma and equal access to education - from segregation to integrated schooling", April 2006



Conferences

ENAR's conference on "Roma and equal access to education - from segregation to integrated schooling" took place in April 2006 in Brussels and was organised in cooperation with the European Roma Information Office with support from the Roma Education Fund. The conference enabled ENAR to raise awareness among stakeholders of specific concerns regarding the situation of the Roma community in the field of education and to exchange lessons and best practice. The conference also assessed schooling practices and examined the impact of anti-discrimination legislation.

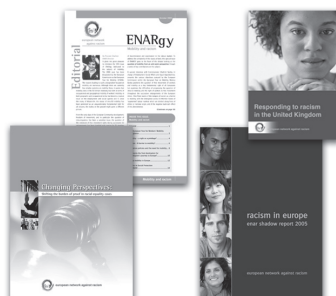
In October, ENAR organised a policy seminar on the EU equality directives entitled "From racism to equality? Realising the potential of European anti-discrimination law". The aim was to assess the implementation of the directives and evaluate the need for action to enhance the existing framework, as well as to devise strategies to strengthen the fight against racism and discrimination in Europe. The seminar gathered over 70 participants, including ENAR members, representatives from EU institutions, legal experts and NGOs. It enabled participants to assess the existing legislation, identify gaps in the current legal framework and plan the way forward.

Publications

An important achievement in 2006 was the publication of national information leaflets on the situation of racism in 24 EU countries, which aimed to highlight the significance of European initiatives in responding to racism at the national level and to provide practical information on the tools available to challenge racial

discrimination at national and EU levels. These were a key tool for ENAR members to disseminate in their respective countries.

ENAR published the 2005 Shadow Reports on racism in Europe, which included 20 country-specific shadow reports and an EU-wide report identifying trends concerning the phenomenon of racism in the EU during 2005, as well as a report on Islamophobia in Europe.



ENAR also published a study entitled "Changing perspectives: Shifting the burden of proof in racial equality cases". The aim of this study was to provide information about the application of the shift of the burden of proof in practice and to propose strategies for NGOs who seek to realise the full potential of the racial equality directive.

In addition, ENAR issued six fact sheets on various topical issues relating to anti-racism and anti-discrimination, including Roma issues, political rights, combating racial discrimination in employment, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the legacy of the Durban World Conference against Racism. These fact sheets are useful tools for our members and the anti-discrimination civil society.

Governance and staff

Structural and statutory activities were carried out as appropriate during 2006 in order to ensure the smooth running of the network and to foster a democratic decision-making process.

ENAR held a series of statutory meetings in 2006, including two board meetings and four bureau meetings. ENAR's 5th General Assembly took place from 24 to 26 November in Brussels, during which two thematic sessions enabled ENAR members to discuss ethnic profiling by European security forces and the challenges of anti-racism in a multicultural Europe in the 21st century.

The ENAR Secretariat is the network's strongest asset and indeed the hub of all its activities at European level. Thanks to a dedicated staff, ENAR is able to fulfil its objectives and coordinate the fight against racism at European and national levels.

2006 saw some changes to ENAR's staff. A new networking and campaigns officer started at the beginning of the year. In spring, a part-time publications and conferences officer as well as a full-time secretary were recruited. Towards the end of the year, a new communication and press officer was appointed.

Financial report

May 2005–April 2006			
	Income		Expenditure
EC support	816.210,52 €	Staff	391.881,33 €
Foundations:		Activities *	428.198,14 €
- Compagnia di San Paolo	41.000 €		
- The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	20.000 €		
- Roma Education Fund	10.000 €		
National Coordination contributions	40.239,89 €	Administration	109.370,94 €
Total	929.450,41€	Total	929.450,41 €
<small>* Including travel and services This financial statement was audited & approved by external auditors TCLM - Toelen, Cats, Morlie & co. for the period May 2005-April 2006 on 17 July 2005 – full details upon request.</small>			

ENAR would like to thank the European Commission's DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities for their financial commitment to the continuity of the network's activities. ENAR would also like to acknowledge the support of the Compagnia di San Paolo, the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and the Roma Education Fund for their support of ENAR activities in 2006.



ENAR's governing bodies

Bureau

ENAR's bureau is composed of seven members elected by the board, which have the task of monitoring the managerial aspects of the network.

Chair:

Mr Bashy Quraishy, Denmark

Vice-Chairs:

Ms Clara Lopez de Letona, Spain

Mr Tarafa Baghajati, Austria

Treasurer:

Ms Simone Wiegatz, Germany

Representative of the northern region

Mr Mohammed Aziz, United Kingdom

Representative of the southern region

Mr Yéra Dembele, France

Representative of the eastern Region

Ms Julia Kovalenko, Estonia

ENAR General Assembly

ENAR's General Assembly is the sovereign body of the organisation. It has the powers to manage the organisation in areas such as the definition of ENAR's annual programme, and the approval of the annual accounts and of the forecasted budget. It

is composed of two elected representatives (board member and substitute) from each National Coordination.

ENAR Board

The ENAR Management Board is responsible for directing the operations of ENAR. It focuses in particular on monitoring the implementation of the annual work programme and the tasks implied in the mandate of the organisation. It is composed of one elected member of each National Coordination and a substitute.

Who's who in the ENAR Secretariat

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european network against racism