TOGETHER

ACTIVITY TOOLKIT

HATE SPEECH

PROGETTOMONDO
Become the change.

SÜDWIND

CZART
stowarzyszenie

MADRE CORAJE

Open Education centre

GRYD

THE PROJECT

The project **Together - to get there** is organized by Progettomondo (Italy), in cooperation with Madre Coraje (Spain), CZ-ART (Poland), Suedwind (Austria), Open Education Centre foundation (Bulgaria) and GRYD LTD (UK).

The project aims to provide **youth workers** with **training opportunities** on innovative youth work methods and practice, responding to their need to be better equipped in managing youth programmes for media literacy, prevention of **hate speech** and promotion of tolerance online.

Through **transnational mobility events**, youth workers benefit from an enriching participative learning experiences; they develop and share effective practice and methods, which they can learn and get inspired by.

THE TOOLKIT

This toolkit is one of the outcome of the project. It contains:
- the description of the activities created by the youth workers during the second transnational meeting in Jerez, Spain;
- the attached files ready to print to reproduce the activities proposed.

BASIC INFORMATION:

Title	***RE-ACT to hate speech***
Topic	Hate Speech
Target group	14 - 20 years old
Time	2 hours
Final aim	- Widen young people's perspective on hate speech - Raise awareness among young people on how close hate speech is - Reflect about how young people can prevent and act against hate speech

ACTIVITY

Introduction 5'	The youth workers introduce themselves and the workshop, saying that they want to reflect with the participants about the topic of hate speech.
Creation of a safe space 5'	Before starting the activities, the youth workers will give to each participant a piece of paper with the main information about the issues that will be developed during the workshop. The participants will have to answer in writing to the question on the piece of paper and return it to the youth workers. To protect whoever writes something down, to everyone is told that there are different questions on every piece of paper and they can't show it to anyone. The text on the piece of paper is available in the attached files ready to be printed at the end of the activities's description (Attached 1).
Ice-breaker 25'	For this activity you will need to prepare in advance a selection of 20-30 Dixit cards / postcards / images. The selection can be made on a Padlet or the card can be physical. To present the activity, the youth workers can say: "You will be able to see various cards or images, they are all different. Please take a look and choose the best that fits your emotions when you hear the words *hate speech*. Which one of the cards represents hate speech the best for you? Please describe it in no more than 5 words." - If the cards are **physical**, the participants can only pick one card, and everyone will have a different cards. - If the cards are **online** on a Padlet, it could happen that more than one participant choose the same card. In this case, the youth worker will add to the same card a different comment with the name of the participant and his/her explanation. When the participants are explaining their choices, the youth worker will write the description that was given for the chosen card on a poster or blackboard, so everyone can see it and this repeats for every participant. If some of the explanations are the same or very similar, the youth worker can just make a "tick" next to it. <u>In conclusion</u>: The youth worker should make a significant made of all the participants' conclusions and ask if they want to add more words, because maybe they have in mind more ideas but they didn't find appropriated cards to match. And after to create a little link to the upcoming activity.

RE-ACT
60'
	The participants are divided into 2, 3 or 4 groups of 2, 3 or 4 people and to each group are given a situation concerning hate speech and a sheet.
	In a few minutes every group has to decide how they would react to that specific hate speech situation that was given to them and write it down on the sheet. Then they have to cover the part of the sheet where they have written and pass their situation and their covered answer sheet to another group. At the same time they would receive another situation and covered sheet by another group. This process it to be repeated until each group has discussed all the situations given at the beginning.
	
	Some tips:
	• The exact number of groups will depend on the number of people in total, since the maximum time for this activity is 1 hour. If there are only 2 groups (and as a consequence, 2 situations) we recommend discussing in the groups for 6 or 7 minutes and then having a 15-20 minutes debriefing for each situation. Whereas, if there are 3 or 4 groups, we suggest giving 5 minutes for discussion in small groups and then a 40-minute discussion in a large group, but not on each specific case, whereas on the common points of the answers in each situation.
	• It is important to stress the fact that participants have to answer to the question "*how <u>would</u> you react?*" and **not** to "*how <u>should</u> you react?*"
	• In the debriefing we should ask questions as the following:
	    ○ *If the question would have been how you should you react instead of how would you react, would your answer have been different or not?*
	    ○ *What do you think are the best ways to react?*
	• As a youth worker, try as much as possible to talk about ideas such as the following: if you want help, ask the victim first; reflect on how sometimes by denouncing a hate message we are spreading it more; freedom of expression; hate crimes; reflect on how complex these situations are and that therefore we as facilitators do not want to judge them, but rather make them think about the consequences of the different reactions so that we try to make the best decision.
	
	The situations to be handed out are attached (Attached 2).

Final debriefing and evaluation 30'	After the discussion, youth workers invite the participants to take a look again to the flipboard of the icebreaker and ask: "*Do you want to add new words?*" Participants will say their new words and the youth workers will write them down. Then, the participants are told the following: "*Hate speech is a problem with many edges and it is impossible to get to know it in depth in just two hours, that is why this workshop simply intended to invite you to think about some of the aspects related to hate speech, that it is everywhere, not only in social media and to think about what we can do to face it. By the way, would you now add more words to the poster of the initial activity?*" Allow 10 minutes for this part. Handout: "*In order for you to follow this path, we have created this handout, in which, first of all, a definition of hate speech appears, of the many that exist, because as we say, it is a complex problem and each country understands it in a different way. In addition, we collect links to some interesting initiatives against hate speech and we also offer brief information about the European project TOGETHER to get there, that framed this activity.*" Allow 5 minutes for this part. The Handout content is attached (Attached 3). Evaluation: "*Now you are going to tell us what has been the use of this workshop. For this we have here a **backpack**, a **washing machine** and a **trash can**. We are going to give you post-its and you have to write on them <u>what you have learned</u> (backpack), <u>what things have made you think</u> or what things you have to keep thinking about (washing machine), and <u>what things</u> (behaviors, attitudes...) <u>you want to get rid of</u> (trash can). Whoever wants can stick the post-its in their corresponding place so that we all read them, and whoever does not want to make it public will deliver it directly to us, so that we can evaluate the workshop.*" The group, guided by the youth workers can share ideas in a final pooling and the workshop ends. Allow 15/20 minutes for this part. Images for the evaluation are attached (Attached 4).

In this workshop we are going to talk about sensitive issues such as homophobia, racism, bullying, disability, etc. If you have been or are now a victim of some type of hate speech and you would feel uncomfortable hearing about it, write it here so that we can change the examples that we are going to use during this activity. Also, if you think there is other information that we should take into account, write it here as well.

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You are at the bus stop and you see someone put this sticker on a timetable.

It means more or less "Prohibition of being homosexual"

How do you react?

You see a group of teenagers on the beach making fun of a person in a wheelchair.

They say things like:
"What are you doing here, you cannot even swim!"

How do you react?

A girl confides in you that someone wrote "Fat pig" on her locker and then anonymously shared the picture on Instagram, where other students are now making fun of her.

How do you react?

You are in a metro station and you see a propaganda poster from a political party ad it says:

"An unaccompanied minor gets 4700€ per month.
Your grandma's pension is 426€ per month"

How do you react?

Hate Speech

Hate speech is everywhere – just do a 5 minutes research on Social Media or the news and you will probably find a lot of hateful messages.
But hate speech is also happening on the family dinner table, in the school, in the shops… and so on!
So be aware and pay attention and whenever you can – say stop.

What does hate speech mean?
Let's take a look at what is said in the "Hatebusters" project guide:

"Hate speech is a complex and challenging concept to define, which is why there is no universally accepted definition of it. Opinions differ over both understandings of what constitutes hate speech and which consequences it may imply. *'Freedom of speech'* is often opposed to hate speech and consequently, some people are reluctant to 'act' against hate speech because they perceive it as an unacceptable constraint on their fundamental human right to freedom of expression.
According to the *Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe*, hate speech covers all forms of expressions that spread, incite, promote or justify racial hatred, xenophobia, anti-Semitism or other forms of hatred based on intolerance.
In the context of the Hatebusters project, the definition of hate speech is much broader than that provided by the Council of Europe. To keep it simple: ***hate speech refers to any expression of discriminatory hate towards people. Anything which falls under this definition needs to be addressed and opposed***."

To learn more about hate speech, we recommend websites such as the following:
*   Hatebusters.org (English)
*   Council of Europe (English)

This activity is part of the "TOGETHER to get there project". This Erasmus+ project aims to train youth workers on innovative methods and practices related to the prevention of hate speech, media literacy and the promotion of tolerance in digital environments.

The "TOGETHER To Get There" project partnership is made up of organizations from Italy (Progettomondo MLAL), Spain (Madre Coraje), Austria (Südwind), Poland (CZ-Art), Bulgaria (Open Education Centre) and the UK (GRYD).