



ENAR

The voice of
the anti-racist
movement
in Europe

european network
against racism

“Any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation shall be prohibited.”

European Charter of Fundamental Rights



“It fills me with joy and pride that there is a pan-European voice of anti-racist NGOs like ENAR which works to ensure equality and dignity in the day-to-day lives of those experiencing racism and other forms of discrimination.”

Bashy Quraishy, ENAR-Denmark

How it all started...

ENAR, a network of European NGOs working to combat racism in all the EU member states, is a major outcome of the 1997 European Year Against Racism. Between March and September 1998, more than 600 NGOs were involved in national and European round table consultations to discuss the viability of such a structure.

The 1998 Constitutive Conference of the European Network Against Racism brought together more than 200 representatives of anti-racism organisations to draw up a common programme of action.

The establishment of ENAR endorses the recognition by NGOs of the European dimension to the fight against racism. Anti-racist NGOs feel that they have a lot to gain from the network as a forum to share information, and influence policies at the level of the European Union and its member states.



ENAR seminar "Realising integration: migration, integration, social inclusion and anti-discrimination", March 2007

"The network is a really useful tool because it enables us to link our initiatives at national level to what is happening at the European level and to develop a multicultural dialogue with other anti-racist NGOs across Europe."

Brice Monnou, ENAR-France

ENAR, the voice of the European anti-racist movement



believe that a co-ordinated co-operation of NGOs in the fight against racism in the EU can and does contribute significantly to eliminating racial, ethnic and religious discrimination.

Our mission and objectives

ENAR is an EU-wide network of organisations working to combat racism in all the EU member states and acts as the voice of anti-racism in Europe. We promote the cause of anti-racism and equal treatment for ethnic and religious minorities and non-EU nationals residing in the EU. We also aim to fight xenophobia, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia and to link local and national actions with European initiatives.

The network has a key role to play in voicing the concerns of its members as well as in influencing EU decision-making based on the legal tools available, with the aim of supporting the elimination of racial discrimination in the EU. 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.



Our vision

Europe has always been a continent of great cultural, ethnic, racial and religious diversity. ENAR's vision is of a Europe without racism, where each individual has an equal opportunity to participate in society. We

“ENAR allows us to exchange information and best practices in successful campaigning with other member organisations.”

Luciano Scagliotti, ENAR-Italy

ENAR is determined to foster a collective civil society voice and to influence the EU decision-making process in order to:

- › **Act against the discrimination and exclusion of people based on colour, ethnicity, national origin, religion or culture**
- › **Value and celebrate cultural, ethnic and religious diversity and create the conditions for equal participation in a community characterised by a plurality of values**
- › **Ensure that anti-racism and anti-discrimination are mainstreamed across all sectors of European public policy**

“We feel that we have much to gain from the ENAR network and from engaging in advocacy so as to seek a more effective response to racism across Europe.”

Mohammed Abdul Aziz, UKREN, United Kingdom

Why a European civil society perspective is crucial

National NGOs working on anti-racism are already seriously overburdened in their work to confront racism and discrimination. Why then should they also be concerned with what is going on in other European countries, and in the institutions of the European Union itself?

Developing an understanding of racism in Europe is essential for two key reasons. Firstly, to promote learning and knowledge about what racism and discrimination is and how to combat it and secondly, to generate common tools across the European Union to combat this phenomenon.

Experience over the last years has demonstrated that national governments can be convinced to take action at the European level, where they may not have been prepared to move forward alone.



ENAR ad-hoc expert group meeting on social inclusion of ethnic and religious minorities, March 2007



Anti-racism in Europe

Racism has a distinctly European dynamic. Despite the fact that the European Union has for many years focused on preventing discrimination on the grounds of nationality and sex, it only began to take the fight against racism seriously relatively recently. Europe has a responsibility both to the people living within its borders, as well as internationally to take a leading role in promoting fundamental rights and a Europe free from racism.

Protecting against discrimination

In 1997, Article 13 of the Amsterdam Treaty gave the European Union a legal base on which to develop 'appropriate measures to combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation'. Using these powers the European Union adopted the Race Equality Directive 2000/43/EC in June 2000 (and later that year the Employment Equality Directive 2000/78/EC).

The Race Equality Directive gives protection against discrimination

in employment and access to a range of good and services, including social protection, health, social security and education. It puts forward a number of important definitions including direct and indirect discrimination, harassment and victimisation. Other significant aspects of the Directive are that it allows for positive action measures, the sharing of the burden of proof and the establishment of equality bodies. It also obliges member states to encourage dialogue with civil society organisations which have a legitimate interest in contributing to the fight against discrimination on grounds of racial and ethnic origin.

Preventing and combating racism

Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union also includes a reference to preventing and combating racism. On 20 April 2007, the Council of EU Justice Ministers reached a political agreement on a Framework Decision on combating racism and xenophobia. In addition, the European Union has com-

petence in other policy areas that either directly or indirectly impact on the fight against racism, including social inclusion, migration and asylum, and education.

Raising awareness

The European Union is also involved in an array of activities to support anti-discrimination legislation, including awareness raising through, among others, the 'For Diversity. Against Discrimination' information campaign to combat discrimination that was in place from 2003 until 2006. PROGRESS, the EU's programme for employment and social solidarity, which started in 2007 and will run until 2013, provides financial support to activities with a strong European dimension to ensure an EU added value, including networks such as ENAR. It aims to support 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.

Ensuring fundamental rights

Adopted in 2000, the European Charter of Fundamental Rights summarises rights previously recognised in a range of sources into one comprehensive document, increasing their visibility and accessibility. In its treatment of the right to non-discrimination, the Charter is progressive in its scope and language, as it prohibits 'any discrimination on any grounds such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation' (Article 21). Although the Charter is not yet legally binding, it has had a significant influence on policy development and judicial decisions at the European level.

In 1997 the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) was established. It was replaced by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) in March 2007. FRA is built on the EUMC. The objective of the

Agency is to provide the EU institutions and member states with assistance and expertise relating to fundamental rights in order to support them when they take meas-

ures to fully respect fundamental rights. FRA's founding Regulation establishes that the Agency's Multi-annual Framework must always include the fight against racism, xenophobia and related intolerance.

What challenges does anti-racism face in the 21st century?

The European Union has played a key role in the development of a common anti-discrimination agenda and has put in place sophisticated anti-discrimination and social inclusion policies.

The EU Equality Directives have greatly advanced the fight against discrimination in Europe. However racism and discrimination continue to be persistently experienced by ethnic and religious minorities across the European Union; in employment, education, health, housing, access to goods and services, as well as participation in cultural and civic life. It is also essential that the Equality Directives are properly transposed and implemented in all EU member states.

Another major challenge is 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 continue to undermine the everyday experiences of millions of ethnic minorities across Europe.



Europe continues to experience problems of hate crimes and violence perpetrated against religious and ethnic minorities. The manifestations of racial violence are difficult to quantify as official data collection on racist violence in many EU countries is non-existent or requires further development.

Legal migration and integration of third country nationals is now the subject of an important debate across the European Union. Most EU member states are experiencing migratory phenomena and are confronted with integration challenges. Across Europe many migrants are socially excluded and subject to various forms of discrimination with regard to access to rights, employment, education, and social services. Many of the policy approaches to date have recognised that anti-racism and the fight against discrimination are important elements of an integration strategy, but it is now essential to recognise that anti-discrimination is both a modus operandi of, and a pre-requisite for, successful integration.

Diversity truck - © European Commission

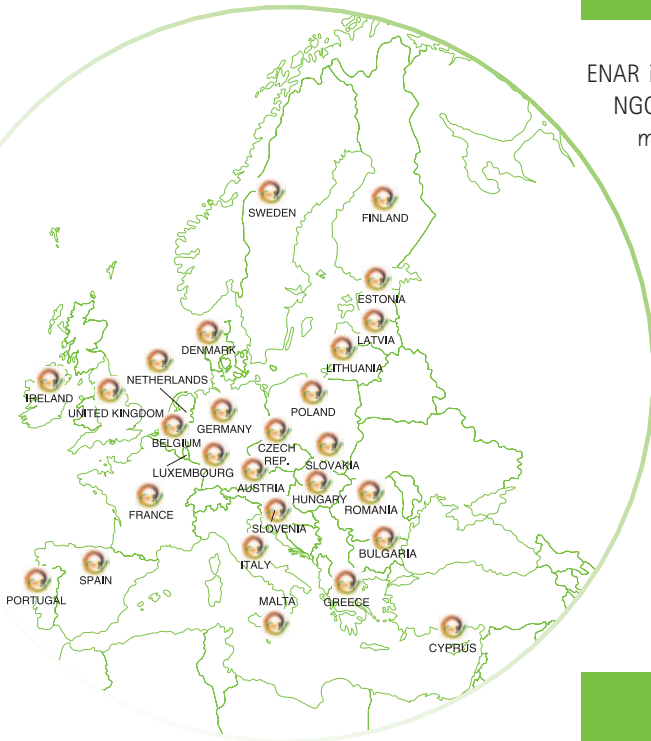


ENAR, a strong network of anti-racist organisations

ENAR is a network of around 600 NGOs spread across the 27 EU member states. ENAR members are very diverse organisations, ranging from grassroots organisations to advocacy organisations, from information centres to faith-based organisations and to trade unions. What unites these organisations is that they are all involved in the

fight against racism, and as such represent a strong network across Europe.

ENAR members work together in a concerted manner towards a common goal, which is the key to both the network's importance and its success. Members can in this way benefit from the experience, know-how and information of other NGOs and have political leverage by showing a united front, thus giving weight to ENAR's messages.



ENAR's structure and governance



ENAR's member organisations are represented through national coordinations in each of the EU member states. ENAR counts 27 national coordinations and one European-level coordina-

tion. The national coordinations are a great asset for ENAR. Being the hub of a national network of NGOs in each country, they can provide the grassroots perspective to ENAR's work.

Each national coordination regularly elects one board member and one substitute, which then constitute the link between the national members and the secretariat in Brussels. One of the representatives of each national coordination should belong to an ethnic minority.

The ENAR Management Board is responsible for directing the activities 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.

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

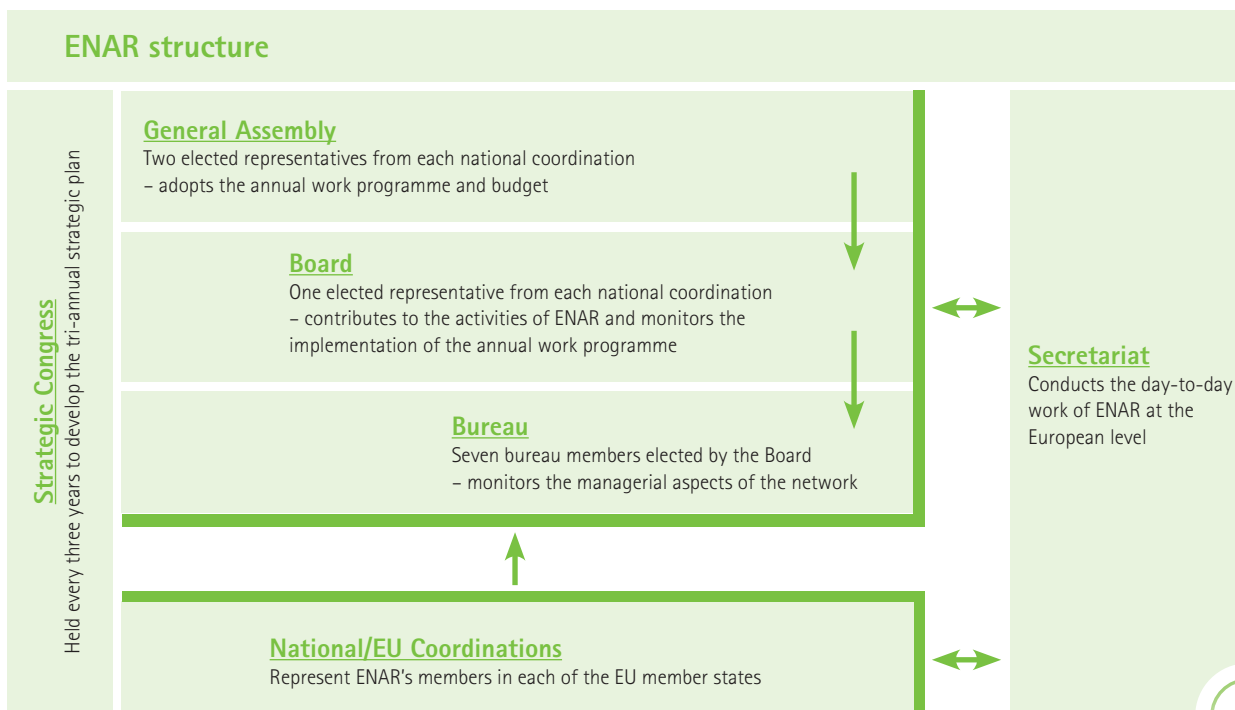
ENAR's General Assembly is the sovereign body of the organisation. It is responsible for managing the organisation in areas such as the definition of ENAR's annual work programme and the approval of the budget. It is composed of two elected representatives (Board member and substitute) from each national coordination and meets once a year.



ENAR 23rd Board meeting, March 2006

The ENAR secretariat ensures the day-to-day work of the network and is 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.

ENAR structure



How to become an ENAR member



Bashy Quraishy, ENAR President, March 2007

Members of ENAR can be all types of non-governmental organisations (trade unions, charitable organisations, specialist bodies, grassroots organisations, etc.) which conduct anti-racism related work at local, regional, national or European level. They must subscribe to the mission and vision of ENAR and should be accepted as members

by the relevant national coordination (for national organisations) or the European coordination (for European and international organisations). Applying organisations should be legally constituted in accordance with the laws and practices of their country of origin.

If your organisation wishes to become a member, go to www.enar-eu.org/en/info/membership.shtml.

“ENAR has enhanced our capacity to engage in the European policy-making agenda thanks to awareness raising and empowerment.”

Julia Kovalenko, ENAR-Estonia

Activities of the network

Influencing the European political agenda

ENAR has a key role to play in pushing the EU to take action to promote non-discrimination and anti-racism, as well as in monitoring European developments to ensure they do not undermine fundamental rights.

In order to achieve this, ENAR:

- › Develops policy papers and recommendations in relation to EU legislation, bridging the gap between citizens and European decision-makers and providing the expertise of civil society to the public policy debate.
- › Undertakes collective lobbying actions at national and EU levels.
- › Organises conferences on key and timely issues. Recent conferences include: 'Roma and equal access to education: from segregation to integrated schooling', 'Realising integration: migration, inte-

gration, social inclusion and anti-discrimination' and 'From racism to equality? Realising the potential of European anti-discrimination law'.

- › Produces in-depth publications to inform policy-makers and stakeholders on the issues at stake concerning key questions related to anti-racism and anti-discrimination.
- › Monitors developments in anti-racism from a civil society perspective by issuing yearly shadow reports on the situation of racism in the European Union as well as country-specific reports, which build upon grassroots data collected by NGOs.

Strengthening the role of civil society

The work of NGOs at European level is essential in articulating and defending the views of civil society from the grassroots through to the



An ENAR delegation meets Lutz Diwell, State Secretary in the German Ministry of Justice, January 2007



Induction meeting of ENAR-Bulgaria, February 2007

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. In order to be able to shape the national political agenda, it is essential that civil society at national level is supported so as to provide expertise and facts to back up policy positions on anti-racism and anti-discrimination.

- » **ENAR brings member organisations together to share and exchange ideas, information, experience and best practice.**
- » **ENAR provides information on European policy developments to its members and encourages dialogue between civil society and the European Union member states concerning the European political agenda and its effects at national level.**
- » **ENAR enhances the network's capacity to achieve objectives by organising appropriate trainings.**
- » **ENAR provides network members with opportunities to develop trans-national projects and bilateral cooperation.**

Liaising with EU institutions

ENAR is a regular interlocutor of the European Commission, in particular DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, but also of other Directorate Generals such as DG Freedom, Security and Justice and DG Education and Culture. The European Parliament, as the representative of EU citizens, has a particular importance for ENAR, and it is closely involved in the work of the European Parliament's Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup. ENAR has put into place structured relationships with the EU Council presidencies, by organising high-level meetings and issuing a memorandum to each incoming presidency. ENAR also liaises with the European Economic and Social Committee and the European Committee of the Regions.

Networking with stakeholders

Concerted strategies and interaction with all relevant stakeholders are the keystones of efficient advocacy strategies. Foundations have an increasing role in shaping the political debate. ENAR has established partnerships with various foundations on specific activities, including the Compagnia di San Paolo, the

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, the Roma Education Fund and the Network of European Foundations. In addition, ENAR participates in advocacy coalitions and partnerships with other European networks and organisations, and is a member of the Platform of European social NGOs. ENAR has also established a strong working relationship with the European Fundamental Rights Agency (previously the European Monitoring Centre against Racism and Xenophobia).



A meeting of the European Parliament's Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup, for which ENAR acts as the secretariat, February 2007 - © European Parliament



ENAR anti-racism policies in focus

Combat discrimination, promote equality and redress disadvantage

ENAR wants to ensure adequate protection and legal redress for those experiencing racial discrimination and segregation, and promote strategies to combat institutional discrimination and multiple discrimination. It is also important to raise awareness of the negative consequences of security measures and racial profiling, and to encourage the development of an effective policy response to racial violence and hate crime. Promoting the social and labour market inclusion of ethnic and religious minorities and their effective participation in all spheres of society is another ENAR priority.

Promote the development of progressive migration and integration policies

In the context of the debate on migration and integration, ENAR seeks to promote an intercultural

ethos respectful of equal rights and diversity in all spheres of society. It works towards the full political, social, economic and cultural participation of third country nationals and wants to end all forms of discrimination based on citizenship and nationality. ENAR generally aims to ensure that the rights of third country nationals are protected in all circumstances.

Increase recognition of anti-racism in equality and fundamental rights

The specific focus on racism must be a core aspect of European equality and fundamental rights policies. ENAR therefore promotes anti-racism in the debate on the future of Europe and advocates the mainstreaming of diversity and anti-discrimination in all relevant EU policies. It also seeks to ensure that EU funding programmes support anti-racism activities.

“ENAR contributes to the development of a political and legislative agenda that aims to ensure increased protection for ethnic, cultural and religious minorities.”

Nicoletta Charalambidou, ENAR-Cyprus



Communicating anti-racism



Communicating anti-racism is particularly important at a time when racism continues to be experienced by many minorities across the European Union. It is essential that policy makers and the general public have the tools to understand the issues at stake in the field of anti-racism and discrimination in order to take the fight against racism forward.

- › ENAR produces publications on specific themes to provide a comprehensive analysis and offer the civil society perspective on relevant issues at EU level.
- › ENAR's quarterly thematic newsletter, ENARgy, aims to

promote debates on anti-racism and equal rights issues and act as "policy forum".

- › www.enar-eu.org is a window on ENAR's activities and contains information on the ENAR network, its policy priorities and publications.

- › The national leaflets on "Responding to Racism" in each EU member state inform NGOs and the general public concerning recent legislative and administrative developments in anti-racism and highlight the work of ENAR and its membership.



"The Race Equality Directive has raised the level of protection against discrimination across the EU but it needs to be properly transposed and implemented in each EU member state. Civil society and anti-racist NGOs play a critical role in ensuring the Directive's correct transposition and implementation."

Simone Wiegatz, Netz gegen Rassismus, Germany

How to support ENAR

ENAR's activities are funded through a combination of public and private sources including the European Commission, our members and foundations.

ENAR is a not-for-profit organisation and greatly appreciates any donation, big or small, to help fulfil our mission of making Europe racism- and discrimination-free.

Donors may choose to sponsor specific activities. For example:

› **25,000€** will sponsor the organisation of a seminar on a given topic

› **15,000€** will sponsor the total costs of a publication

› **5,000€** will sponsor one edition of the ENARgy newsletter

› **500€** will sponsor general support of ENAR's work (e.g. photocopies, postal costs, etc.)

› **100€** will entitle you to a yearly subscription to all ENAR's publications, including ENARgy, annual reports, shadow reports and other thematic publications

› **25€** will entitle you to a yearly subscription to the ENARgy newsletter

If you wish to support ENAR or make a donation, please contact the ENAR Secretariat:

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