



THE HATE FACTOR IN POLITICAL SPEECH *Where do responsibilities lie?*

18-19 September 2013
Airport Hotel Okęcie, Warsaw

18 September

13:00 Registration of participants

14:00 **Opening session**

Welcome by **Mr Michał Boni**, Minister of Administration and Digitization of Poland, Chairman of the Conference

Remarks by **Mr Thorbjørn Jagland**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

14:30 **Keynote** **Ms Ingrid Schulerud**, Ambassador, Section for Central Europe and EEA/Norway Grants in the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

14:45 **Session 1** **European legal standards on hate speech – is there an *acquis*?**

- How do existing domestic and international legal frameworks and mechanisms tackle the issue of hate factor in political speech?
- What role does prohibition of discrimination by means of law play?
- Is it clear what hate speech is and is there a shared understanding of it?
- Is a legally binding definition of 'hate speech' possible or desirable?
- How to reach greater consistency and clarity in the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights?

Moderator: **Mr Tarlach Mc Gonagle**, Senior researcher, Institute for Information Law, University of Amsterdam

Panellists:

Ms Françoise Tulkens, former Judge and Vice-President of the European Court of Human Rights

Mr Mirosław Wyrzykowski, Bureau member of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)

Mr Morten Kjaerum, Director, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

Mr Kerem Altiparmak, Director of Human Rights Centre, Faculty of Political Sciences, Ankara University

15:30 Questions and discussion

16:15 Coffee break

16:45 Session 2 Pluralist democracy, populism and political calculus

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- What is the impact of hate speech originating from politicians compared to that originating from ordinary citizens?- When political actors introduce hate speech in the public and political debate, what are the responsibilities of their fellow politicians; is indifference an option? What role does political opportunism and calculus play in tolerating hate speech?- Can politicians overcome political divergences and unite in ethical alliances against hate speech? What can be accepted in the name of pluralist democracy?- Where and how to counter hate speech, which mechanisms could be put in place? |
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Moderator: **Ambassador Urszula Gacek**, Permanent Representative of Poland to the Council of Europe

Panellists

Mr Robert Biedroń, Member of the Polish Parliament, member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Deputy, Saeima of the Republic of Latvia, member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Ms Floriane Hohenberg, Head of the Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (tbc)

Mr Marley Morris, Researcher, Counterpoint, London

17:30 Questions and discussion

18:15 End of first day

19:30 **Buffet dinner hosted by the Ministry of Administration and Digitization of Poland**

19 September

09:30 **Welcome by Michał Boni**, Minister of Administration and Digitization of Poland

09:40 **Keynote by Mr Frank La Rue**, UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression

10:00 **Session 3 Minimising compulsion – maximising persuasion**

- Does hate factor have a role in the formation of public debate? How to tackle it: inclusion or exclusion?
- How citizens (victim groups, civil rights activists, scholars, and ordinary citizens) can contribute to social responses, vibrant dialogue and civic action? What role for civil society?
- How can media lend its voice and power to indignation against hate speech?
- What possibilities and challenges does the Internet bring?
- What are the best practices to maximise persuasion of people that they need to live together accepting all their differences? Which mechanisms can be put in place?

Moderator: **Ms Esra Arsan**, Lecturer on Political journalism, Institute of Social Sciences, Bilgi University, Istanbul

Panellists:

Mr Radosław Markowski, Professor at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities & Polish Academy of Sciences

Mr Gavan Titley, Lecturer in Media Studies, National University of Ireland

Ms Erika Mann, Managing Director, Europe, Facebook

Mr Andrew Smith, Legal Officer, Article 19

10:45 **Coffee break**

11:00 **Questions and discussion**

12:00 **Conclusions by Mr Michał Boni**, Chairman of the Conference

12:30 **Press conference of the Polish Minister and the Secretary General**