
European Commission: “No place for hate: a Europe united against hatred”, a call to action for tolerance and respect

“No place for hate: a Europe united against hatred”: this is the topic and call to action that the European Commission and the High Representative of the European Union have made today to all Europeans, “to stand up against hatred and speak up for tolerance and respect.” The release explains that Europe is experiencing an “alarming increase” in hate speech and hate crime, mainly against Jewish and Muslim communities. Hence the decision to reinforce action across a variety of policies, including security, digital, education, culture and sport. So, the call for proposals under the Internal Security Fund, initially scheduled for 2024, will be brought forward to 2023, to increase protection especially in Jewish places of worship, with an increased budget. By February 2024, the European Commission wants to get to have a “reinforced Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online”. The Commission's Coordinators on anti-racism, on combatting antisemitism and fostering Jewish life and on combatting anti-Muslim hatred will become “envoys”, who will have the specific mandate to maximise the potential of EU policies to combat hatred, online and offline. And again, the European Commission will support training courses for journalists and projects aimed at promoting inclusion and diversity in education, culture and sport. A high-level anti-hatred conference will be held in early 2024, followed by “European dialogues for reconciliation”, targeted to citizens, especially young ones. “Respect and tolerance are the founding values of our societies.”, president Ursula von der Leyen pointed out. “Therefore, we must stand up against anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim hatred, whenever we encounter it”.

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