
EU Commission: European Citizens' Panel on tackling hatred in society

The European Citizens' Panel on tackling hatred in society will start tomorrow. 150 citizens, randomly selected from the 27 EU Member States, will come together "to look at the root causes of hatred and ways to address them". The goal of the Citizens' Panel is to provide recommendations on how to build bridges across fractured groups and communities. The Citizens' Panel will "identify possible policy actions – according to the EU Commission's proposal –, as well as all relevant players that should be involved at the various levels such as decision-makers, civil society, the private sector, and citizens". The Panel will ultimately provide a list of recommendations that will support the European Commission's future work on tackling both hate speech and hate crime. The recommendations "will also aim to serve as a guide to help the European Union and its Member States to move from hatred and division to the shared enjoyment of European values, as enshrined in the Treaty of the European Union". This European Citizens' Panel is a follow-up to the Communication entitled "No place for hate: a Europe united against hatred", adopted in December 2023 by the European Commission and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell. The Communication calls for the creation of a pan-European space of dialogue, bringing together citizens from across the European Union.

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