



In the current crises of Covid-19 pandemic which has impacted boldly the socio-political and economic context across the world, 'the fear from the Other' will be yet again part of the public discourse, following the trend of post-2008 Financial Crises.

Numerous studies and surveys suggest that hate speech is on the rise, particularly on the internet and social media. Racist and xenophobic attitudes are progressively growing in Europe, often followed by laws and decrees that aim to normalise the hate speech, racism and discrimination, and risk the health of democracy in Europe.

The EPIC project – [European Platform of Integrating Cities](#) – addresses this problem – among others – with a series of webinars dedicated to counter negative narratives on migration.

The first webinar will, thus, provide an overview of the problem of hate speech and its use to attack individuals and groups (particularly focusing on migrants and refugees), looking at elements such as: assessment of hate speech cases, hate speech operation and distribution, hate speech vs. freedom of expression, etc. Further, the webinar will also provide information and practices about various legal, educational and activist-oriented instruments to combat hate speech online and offline.

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Speakers

- **Menno Ettema**, Programme Manager, Council of Europe - Anti-Discrimination Department and Co-secretariat of new interdisciplinary Committee of Experts on Combatting Hate Speech. In his function, Menno brings together the organisations work on combatting hate speech and discrimination through standards setting, monitoring and capacity building programmes in cooperation with European partners and member states.
- **Dariusz Grzemny**, Youth Worker and Human Rights Educator. His international work experience includes the Amnesty International Secretariat in London, where he worked as a human rights education advisor and the Council of Europe, where he was an educational advisor. Dariusz is a member of the Pool of Trainers in the Youth Directorate of the Council of Europe. He was involved in the development and implementation of the No Hate Speech Movement campaign in the Council of Europe and is the editor and co-author of the revised version of „Gender Matters - a Manual on Gender-based Violence Affecting Young People“.

Facilitator

- **Ron Salaj**, ADL-Z external expert

Agenda

Time	Theme	Speaker
15:00-15:10	Welcome & Introduction EPIC Project	Dolinda Cavallo , Project Manager of the EPIC project & Ron Salaj , ADL- Z external expert
15:10-15:30	Addressing hate speech, protecting human rights, Let's do it together but not do the same.	Menno Ettema , Council of Europe
15:30-15:50	Involving different actors in the community in preventing and acting against hate speech.	Dariusz Grzemny , youth worker and human rights educator
15:50-16:30	Q&A	Ron Salaj , ADL-Z external expert

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