



**ETC GRAZ**

**EUROPEAN TRAINING AND RESEARCH CENTRE  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2014**

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## Introduction and Review: ETC Graz 1999 – 2014

### The Significance of the European Dimension for the Founding of the ETC

The idea of founding a human rights centre in Graz roots in the experience of establishing several human rights centres in Western Balkans countries such as Bosnia and Herzegovina or Kosovo after 1996. In November 1998, during the Austrian EU presidency, a conference on educational cooperation with South-Eastern Europe was held at the University of Graz. There the idea of founding a Europe-oriented human rights centre in Graz was presented for the first time which led to talks between that-time Mayor of the City of Graz, Alfred Stingl, and Anton Dobart, Head of Department in the Ministry of Education. Both of them supported the project of a human rights centre, as well as the Province of Styria, therefore the centre could be established: first at the Institute of International Law and International Relations in 1999, soon after it succeeded the Council of Europe's European Centre for Modern Languages as the next tenant of "Mozarthof".

Looking at this founding history the designation „European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy“ can be understood, as it has been – and still is - a core commitment to spread European values, especially human rights and democracy, especially in South-Eastern Europe. Starting from this point and supported by World University Service (WUS) Austria a network with the human rights centres on the Western Balkans was established, followed by a series of joint activities such as trainings, seminars and publications. Today the European orientation can be seen as the ETC is the leading partner in the largest research project on human rights policies of the EU in its external and internal relations (FRAME) ever. Besides that a series of other activities, particularly as the National Focal Point of the Fundamental Rights Agency of the European Union, and close cooperation with the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) pursue the European dimension in the ETC's human rights work.

### Consolidation and Specialisation

The first decade was dedicated to consolidation, then local and personal changes shaped the ETC. After moving from Mozarthof to Elisabethstraße and splitting up into ETC and Uni-ETC I took over the function of the ETC's chair, and Wolfgang Benedek chaired the Uni-ETC. Since then I consider the ETC's development as a phase of professionalization and specialisation. Encouraged by the bestowal of the Human Rights Award of the Province of Styria we decided to offer our staff a long-term employment perspective and to focus on key aspects. Human rights education, fundamental and human rights, human security and human rights at the local level are the topics to structure the ETC departments. Being able to build a

consortium with external experts to apply for a framework contract with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (which we held for the first period and successfully prolonged in 2014) shows that the ETC is regarded as a professional partner in the field of human rights. Currently we aim to establish an institutional partnership with the Council of Europe to implement human rights at the local and regional levels. An International Forum on Human Rights, held in Graz by the ETC together with the Council of Europe, the Province of Styria and the City of Graz in May 2015 was one step into that direction. (RK)

### ETC: Innovation in Human Rights Learning

During the first years of the ETC when I could act as a managing director we were setting out for new horizons. We wanted to establish a centre to allow for human rights education in all its facets, on a high level and for many target groups and to give room for research in the fields of human rights, rule of the state and democracy at the same time. In the field of human rights education the past 15 years of the ETC offered an extraordinary exciting experimental ground to develop, test and implement new methods of human rights learning. From the very beginning the ETC had a broad understanding of human rights education and therefore multiple activities, namely training programmes for teachers, the police, the judiciary, train-the-trainers seminars and curriculum development on an academic level, workshops, conferences and summer schools as well as involvement of students, publicity-attracting events and campaigns in the Human Rights City of Graz. Today the methods and ideas developed by the ETC range from easily accessible offers such as “human rights games”, “human rights regulars’ tables”, on-line platforms, movie screenings to creating a pool of materials for human rights learning, promotion of human rights learning in university contexts and elaboration of university curricula and courses. The ETC contributed to close the gap in human rights learning stated some 15 years ago and developed innovative offers to learn, study and train human rights. Establishing an annual lecture series on human rights at the University of Graz, publishing the „Baseline Study on the Situation of Human Rights Education in Austrian Higher Education“ and the Manual og Human Rights Education, Understanding Human Rights, that has seen several editions and translation to 16 languages so far remain lasting, long-term results of this endeavours.

Renate Kicker, Wolfgang Benedek and Gerd Oberleitner  
Graz, December 2014

## ETC Graz 1999 – 2014: The ETC Departments reviewed

### Fundamental and human rights

Looking back on the last 15 years we can state increasing professionalization combined with a stronger focus on the national – Austrian – legal situation in the ETC department of fundamental and human rights. Engagement in anti-discrimination and equal treatment laws and cooperation with the judiciary grew massively over the years. In 2004 the ETC was commissioned by the European Commission with a project on pre-service and in-service training for judges and prosecutors. Within this project the issue of intersectionality and multiple discrimination evolved as a field to be further explored. In 2010 the Austrian Science Fund approved the interdisciplinary research project “Locating Intersectional Discrimination” on this topic. Intersectional discrimination was analysed from legal and social science perspectives, and its relevance for legal practice in Austria was explored. The ETC, cooperating with the Austrian Ombud for Equal Treatment, has also been holding trainings in the field of non-discrimination for judges and prosecutors for the last ten years, and since 2007 fundamental und human rights trainings for future judges that are an obligatory part of their education.

Another focus of the ETC fundamental and human rights department is set on research for the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency since 2011. In 2014 the ETC was approved “National Focal Point” of the agency for the second time and continues to report on the Austrian legal situation and practices in the thematic issues of the Fundamental Rights Agency. Through this work the research focus of the ETC fundamental and human rights department shifted from international to national law and to human rights implementation in national law. Research on the prohibition of torture, as encouraged by the long-term CPT membership of our director Renate Kicker, also sees its new focus in the work of the preventive monitoring bodies in Austria, recently in a project funded by the Jubilee Fund of the Austrian National Bank.

Generally we can say that we became increasingly specialised in our work and that in the meantime we are very well established in some fields of empirical law research. Forced interdisciplinarity has contributed to this development by combining legal basic research with social science research.

A change in our staff occurred in 2013 when a long-term collaborator left at her own request. In future research for the Fundamental Rights Agency will continue to play an important role, supplemented by the EU large scale research project FRAME which aims to develop an

indicator system for the evaluation of human rights implementation within the areas of competence of the European Union.

Veronika Apostolovski, Markus Möstl

### **Human Security**

Human security was a focus of the ETC's work from 2002/03 to 2010 when central issues of the concept especially with regard to conflict and post-conflict situations could be dealt with in a comprehensive manner in significant project such as HUMSEC and MULTIPART.

Moreover, the wide thematic scope of the contributions to so far ten issues of the on-line journal "Human Security Perspectives" shows that the human security concept is relevant for more fields of life and politics. Therefore the concept proved to be a useful analytical framework in many aspects which can be seen in numerous publications of members of the "Human Security Focus Group", an informal working group of collaborators of the Institute of International Law at the University of Graz, the Uni-ETC and the ETC.

Nevertheless, during the last years the human security department met increasing challenges to develop ideas and projects focusing on the concept of human security. Indeed, points connecting to the concept arise in several projects but without explicitly broaching the issue of the special perspective of human security. To a certain extent this can be explained by the wide conceptual spectrum of the concept as opposing the increasing specialisation of research at the ETC. Partly this trend is also grounded in the noticeable reluctance of states regarding this concept. Therefore, no contact persons or cooperation partners with an uncovered need of research in this field could be identified in Austria or on European level. Consequently human security issues at the ETC have therefore developed to be kind of cross-cutting issue. While respecting the broad approach to human security issues central aspects of the concept such as concentrating on the individual will further be content of special thematic issues and projects and in some aspects will even be intensified. A good example is the agenda-setting in the field of human rights at the local and regional levels.

Markus Möstl, Maddalena Vivona

### **Human rights at the local level**

In summer 2003, right in the middle of the year when Graz was the Cultural Capital of Europe I was consigned to the managing director of the ETC by the board of directors. In this function and cooperating with the board of directors a collective management board managed to develop the ETC to become a leading human rights centre in Europe. Closely cooperating with UNESCO, the Council of Europe, the European Union but especially with the Federal Government, the Provincial government and the city of Graz one single issue became more and more relevant: the efforts to make human rights a serious issue of politics

and administration at local and municipal levels and therefore realise a culture of human rights in the city, as stated in the Human Rights Declaration of the City of Graz in 2001. Cooperating with local human rights institutions and associations, with local politics and administration as well as with regional and international organisations is what makes this field of work so very exciting. Therefore I was really impressed by the founding of the European Coalition of Cities against Racism (ECCAR) in Nuremberg in 2004 where I could participate as the representative of the city of Graz. The ETC then could prepare the official accession of the city of Graz and the first 10 Point Plan of Action which was presented to the public in June 2006. At that time city council decisions on the issue of the human rights city were delivered unanimously. Subsequently the ECCAR association was founded in London and Graz in 2007. It was an emotional moment when London and Graz acceded to an association residing in Nuremberg, a historical moment when we could feel that yet another chapter of overcoming war-time resentment could be closed by deciding upon cooperation to safeguard human rights on the municipal level. ECCAR and the Human Rights City of Graz have been consolidated in these first years, the city of Graz has established institutions to guarantee for permanent and sustainable human rights work. The model of the human rights city of Graz saw a big challenge in the communal election campaign of 2008 when the local FPÖ started a hateful, inciting campaign. The election campaign barometer not only helped to punish the person responsible for this hate campaign but also became an internationally recognised instrument to prevent future hate campaigning. The ETC and myself could take part in this development and therefore contribute to the evolution of a culture of human rights. Today we are facing new challenges. Cooperating with the ETC the Province of Styria initiated the process of a Human Rights Regional of Styria. The Council of Europe committed itself to promoting human rights at the local and regional levels where the ETC could also position itself as a reliable partner to spread experiences and ideas in other local and regional authorities and to provide support for the implementation. Our highly qualified and motivated team is ready to accept and fulfil tasks in Graz, Styria, Austria and Europe at the best possible.

Klaus Starl

### **Human rights education**

From the very beginning human rights education was a working focus of the ETC – as can already be seen in the centre's designation. Human rights education is the basic tool to equip women and men, children and the youth with basic knowledge and skills to stand up for their rights and with the sensitivity necessary to respect the rights of others. Therefore in the field of human rights education the ETC is working with rights holders as well as with duty bearers. Since 2003 the ETC publishes the manual "Understanding Human Rights" which in the meantime is available in 16 languages. The manual contains an introduction and 16 modules

on different human rights and their intercultural aspects, starting from a basic perspective, a methodological introduction and other materials. Based on the manual, the ETC gives an overview on the historic development and current situation of human rights in its annual lecture series “Understanding human rights”. Furthermore, everyone interested can participate in a certified basic course on introduction into human rights education that offers a methodological introduction and, besides theory, the possibility of “learning by doing” when the participants develop and test practical exercises. Each summer term the Human Rights Debate Club, an innovative and interdisciplinary course, is held in cooperation with the Institute for International Law and the Uni-ETC. Each unit is dedicated to a human rights issue to be prepared and discussed by the participants. Debate, but in a less formal setting, is also a feature of the Human Rights Regulars’ Tables that take part several times in a term picking up current topics. At the University of Graz and the Technical University a movie screening offering drinks, snacks and movie talks is held at least once per term: the [human rights] movie on campus. Audience and partners of the events organised in cooperation with the student union and, since 2014, the forum stadtpark, are students, and the movie talks with directors or protagonists are held by young experts. At the local level the ETC organises a widespread offer of different programmes such as public lectures, panel discussions, seminars and workshops, mostly for free and open for everyone.

Apart from this general programme the ETC offers human rights courses, seminars and workshops in the field of non-discrimination and seminars for various professional groups such as teachers, the police, the judiciary, social workers, local administration collaborators, health services staff and NGO activists and personnel.

We also work with young people, at school and in non-formal education. On the one hand there are classical trainings and workshops in class or at school events (e.g. the Fair Styria Action Day of the Province of Styria) to be booked by schools or groups – our “bestsellers” are the workshops “Don’t look aside!” that offer classical civil courage training, “Strategies against hate speech! based on the ETC’s poster and postcard campaign THAT’s RIGHT!, “The boat is full” – game workshops on discrimination, or the “Human Rights City Walks” that locate the abstract idea of human rights in everyday life and topography of the human rights city. On the other hand we offer the school-based programme “OUR human rights school” that aims to establish a culture of human rights in a school by involving all actors (pupils, teachers, headperson and parents) in a holistic process that lasts several years. The pilot project implemented at the Elementary School Graz Geidorf was awarded the Fairness Award of the Ministry of Education in 2013 and honoured as the Styrian “Place of Respect” in 2014.

Human rights education offers for the youth furthermore find a non-formal framework in holiday courses, youth centres or libraries. Another piece of extracurricular education is the



project “Kenne deine Rechte” (Know your Rights). Being implemented since 2010 the project aims not only at the relatively small group of human rights junior journalists as direct beneficiaries but at a broad approach to spreading human rights in everyday life via internet and social media that play an important role in the lives of the “digital natives”.

Another example of participative development and implementation of a project is the game on discrimination at the labour market, the “discrimination monopoly” “The Boat is full”. The idea to spread knowledge on the right to non-discrimination was elaborated by students in the ETC course on human rights education and later on turned to an on-line game.

Additionally the game developers used the following projects to elaborate materials and game workshops to enforce face-to-face communication with the youth. Since 2011 they implement game workshops in school and extra-curricular education together with the ETC team leader and supported the training of other trainers.

While the manual is the ETC’s core publication on human rights education there are many more books to be mentioned: In preparing the accession of Austria to the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education the ETC was assigned by the Ministry of Education to elaborate the first report on the Austrian education system. The report was delivered at UNSECO in 2008.

Within the research project „A right to human rights education!“, implemented with students in the framework of the Ministry of Science programme “Sparkling Science”, the implementation of human rights education as foreseen in the curricular principle of “Political Education” was evaluated according to the recommendations of the Action Plan for Human Rights Education in Primary and Secondary Education and the UN World Programme on Human Rights Education. A group of grammar school students acting acting as social scientists collected qualitative data on human rights education in grammar schools by interviewing students and headpersons and leading a focus group discussion with teachers. Questions of interest were: What is the relevance of human rights education? Are human rights a curricular issue? Which content is spread? Which approaches are chosen? Which aims are defined? How do students benefit from human rights education? Based on this qualitative stock taking the research team collected good practices and elaborated recommendations for the implementations of human rights educations in grammar schools.

To found a broader basis for spreading human rights at school the ETC tried to participate in the discussion on a new organisation for teacher education and cooperates with the Institute of Educational Sciences at the University of Graz and with teachers at the Universities for Teacher Education.

Simone Philipp, Barbara Schmiedl

## Programme and Public Relations

The ETC's focus on research and education as shown in its designation can be seen in its publication appearance as well. Starting with its first programme in winter term 2001/2002 the ETC offered not only training (that is: pre-service and in-service seminars for specific target groups) but also a wide spectre of events – public lectures, panel and open discussion, round tables etc. – on a wide spectre of issues ranging from South-Eastern Europe over “human rights and economy” to racism and discrimination. Of course, the young human rights city also finds its place in the programme. Browsing the old programme booklets a change can be viewed that goes hand in hand with the focus-setting, consolidation and professionalization as mentioned above: the development from a “human right grocery store” to a delicatessen shop that mostly sells its own products – research and publications not only of the directors' board but also of the staff that more and more generates the ETC's programme. At the same time the number of events has continuously been reduced, since the stop of public basic funding made necessary a reorganisation of the ETC services. Another characteristic feature is the continuity not only of the academic, high-level but also of the low-threshold offers that have been organised for years.

Accessibility and low-threshold offers became more and more important in public relations as well. While during the first years the more or less static website of the ETC was the only digital access point and most of the audience was reached by postal services offering printed programme booklets and newsletters to an exclusive round of subscribers the digital component grew considerably during the last years. When relaunching the website in 2006 the newsletter distribution was changed to more flexible digital newsletters while the website itself focused on documentation and announcement. Printed programme booklets were distributed until winter term 2010/11, from spring 2011 onwards events were mainly announced by digital means, using the ETC website as well as a network of on-line calendars and newsletters with different thematic focuses and additionally supported by (few) printed posters and flyers. This not only brought along financial relief by cutting the costs for graphic design, typo, printing and postal distribution but also eliminated the limitation caused by a term-oriented planning corset. In 2012 this orientation on university planning was dropped on the website as well, in favour of a structure alongside the ETC's thematic issues of fundamental and human rights, human rights education, human rights at the local level and human security. It was interesting to see that these changes had no impact on the numbers of visitors. The audiences vary but there is no visible connection with the media used for announcement. Rather the numbers of visitors indicate that some topics seem to be more “sexy” than others.

Switching to mostly digital communication the ETC found its way into social media: Since 2010 it can be found on Facebook with the profile “Etc Graz”, with about 3000 “friends” and

managing several pages and groups the most active of which is “Kenne deine Rechte” (Know your Rights). From its very beginning in 2010 the youth platform of the Human Rights Council of the City of Graz did not only rely on its own website but also on cross-linking with its own Facebook page that shows remarkable and continuously rising access rates. Extending the ETC’s and Kenne deine Rechte’s social media presence to other channels such as Twitter or Instagram was discarded for reasons of a limited time budget but the use and cross-linking of Facebook, the website and the digital newsletters will probably determine the ETC’s communications for quite some time in the future. And it comes full circle when by promoting our publications via Facebook the printed word finds its readers as well.

Barbara Schmiedl

# 1. Human Rights Education

## 1.1 Events and Trainings

### Lecture series: Introduction to human rights

Since 2003 the ETC has been offering, each winter term, a series of lectures, which deal with human rights and human rights protection. Since the Uni-ETC was founded in 2010 the ETC closely cooperates with its “university twin” in the organisation of events and particularly of university lectures and courses. The lectures are based on the manual for human rights education *Understanding Human Rights* (since 2012 on the revised and extended third edition) and discuss the following topics: Introduction into the Human Rights System, Prohibition of Torture, Freedom from Poverty, Non-Discrimination, Right to Health, Human Rights of Women, Rule of Law, Religious Freedoms, Right to Education, Human Rights of the Child, Human Rights in Armed Conflict, Right to Work, Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media, Right to Democracy and Political Participation, Right to Asylum, and Minority Rights and Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

For each issue, professionals from different backgrounds are invited to guarantee interesting discussions and dialogue. The approach is interdisciplinary, which does not only mean lecturers and students from all faculties of the University of Graz and other universities in Graz but also includes open access to all persons interested. The manual *Understanding Human Rights* and materials for the lecture series are available on the ETC website.

### University course: Introduction to human rights education

The activity-oriented course was developed by the ETC for everybody who wants to share and spread their knowledge and understanding of human rights, possibly but not exclusively gained from the lecture series *Introduction to human rights*. Participants will receive university credentials as well as an ETC certificate. This course is offered every winter term, same as the lecture series, in cooperation with the Uni-ETC.

The main focus of the three-day seminar is to communicate the principles and methodology of teaching human rights. Therefore the seminar is divided into a theoretical introduction in the beginning followed by a “learning-by-doing” part. After the theoretical part all participants independently develop teaching units and exercises. The introductory module is followed by a longer second module in which the participants are given the opportunity to test their own teaching units and activities in class and get feedback from other participants and the trainer. A number of activities are available as “ready-to-use” materials on the ETC website. In the year of 2014 the course could not be held because the limit for participant numbers was raised.

## University course: Human rights debate club

The *human rights debate club* is organised by the ETC together with the Uni-ETC each summer term. The debate club offers participants with basic human rights knowledge an absorption in current human rights topics. The students receive the working material, consisting of an introductory paper and legal documents, ahead of each session. During the sessions the participants are asked to present their prepared statements, which serve as a basis for the discussion.

The debate club is a university course; credentials are attained by participating actively. As well as the lecture series and the university course *Introduction to human rights education* is the *human rights debate club* open to the general public and (therefore) profiting from the different perspectives and the interdisciplinary approach of the participants. In the summer term 2014 the course was held by Lisa Heschl from the Department of International Law and International Relations.

## Seminars for the University of Teacher Education (PH) Styria in the school years 2013/14 and 2014/15

Since the first years of the ETC, it has cooperated with the Department of Further Education of the University of Teacher Education (PH) Styria. The human rights related offers of the ETC grew from initially one to two seminars per year, which were only for grammar school teachers to up to eight seminar offers for teachers of all school types and fields. In 2014 no general human rights seminars for teachers could be held due to the predominance of school-reform issues in the university's programme.

## Workshops: OUR Human Rights

In the framework of the pilot project "OUR Human Rights School" workshops on human rights basics had been held in the fourth grade classes of the pilot school, Geidorf Elementary School as a basis for project and curriculum development. The children discussed their needs, rights and responsibilities. From the workshops and the children's feedback the trainers, Simone Philipp and Barbara Schmiedl, derived important findings for the elaboration of the human rights school curriculum. Drawings the pupils made in following up the workshop were integrated into the project logo of "OUR Human Rights School". The half-day workshops on children's rights are annually held in the pilot school classes (third grade), and occasionally externally as well. In school term 2013/14 the workshops at the pilot school were held on 11, 24 und 26 June 2014.

Out of school the workshop was held on 22 September 2014, on invitation by the Kinderuni Graz to participate in the conference celebrating their tenth anniversary. Third- and fourth-

graders from different elementary schools attended the workshop titled “When I’m grown up... all children will know their rights.”

## Train-the-trainers-Workshop: Kultur ist politisch. Interkulturelle Politikdidaktik in der Erwachsenenbildung

10. Juli 2014, ETC Graz

Auch 2014 kooperierte das ETC mit der Österreichischen Gesellschaft für Politische Bildung (ÖGPB), im Juli mit einem Train-the-Trainers-Seminar zur interkulturellen Politikdidaktik. Interkulturelle Orientierung ist mittlerweile fester Bestandteil schuldidaktischer Reflexion und pädagogischer Praxis. Die politische Erwachsenenbildung hingegen hat Interkulturalität noch als strukturierendes Prinzip in ihr Selbstverständnis, ihre Methoden und Praxis zu integrieren. Als Beitrag zur Didaktik einer interkulturell orientierten politischen Erwachsenenbildung bot das Seminar erfahrungsorientierte, biografische und sensibilisierende Übungen sowie Raum für Reflexion über den politischen Aspekt der Interkulturalität. Trainer war Hakan Gürses, ÖGPB.

## Workshop für Biographiearbeit und Diversität: Erzählte Identitäten

15. September 2014

Methoden der Biographiearbeit eignen sich gut für die Auseinandersetzung mit (kulturellen) Identitäten und Diversität: Zum einen spiegeln sich in lebensgeschichtlichen Erzählungen die Verknüpfung von Individuum und Gesellschaft, der Mensch wird im jeweiligen sozialen Umfeld verortet. Vielfache Gemeinsamkeiten und Unterschiede – nicht nur nach kultureller Herkunft, sondern auch etwa nach Alter, Geschlecht, sozialer Schicht, ländlicher/städtischer Herkunft, rechtlichem Status – können zur Sprache kommen. Eine einfache Einteilung nach nationaler Herkunft wird damit obsolet.

Im Workshop, geleitet von Katharina Novy und Gert Dressel, erlebten die TeilnehmerInnen die Prozesse und Erkenntnismöglichkeiten eines lebensgeschichtlichen Gesprächskreises. Aufbauend auf dem Material der Erzählungen fand eine weiterführende Auseinandersetzung mit Diversität statt. Methodisch wurden Grundhaltungen und Grundlagen zum Leiten eines Gesprächskreises vermittelt.

## Workshops: DON'T LOOK ASIDE! ACTION WANTED!

The workshops “DON'T LOOK ASIDE! ACTION WANTED!” are offered by the ETC with varying focus areas for two different target groups, young people and educators. The common basis for both workshop types is the short film “Don't look aside!” on a racist attack at a school in Graz which was produced by the ETC in cooperation with Helping Hands Styria.

In the methodological/didactical workshops offered for teachers and youth workers the participants receive basic information on racism and human rights on the one hand, and on the other hand they get the opportunity to deepen their didactical and methodological knowledge regarding these topics. These workshops are also offered for the youth, with the focus on (self)reflecting their behaviour and civil courage. In role plays and exercises young people get to know and practise methods and strategies of non-violent reaction to critical situations. Three youth workshops were held by human rights trainers of the ETC in 2014:  
14 March 2014: Youth centre Fürstenfeld (Klaus Starl)  
3 April 2014: Youth centre area 52, Weiz (Barbara Schmiedl)  
22 September 2014: „Kinderuni“ Conference (Barbara Schmiedl)

## 1.2 Projects

### The boat is full – on-line game on discrimination on the labour market

Sponsored by the Austrian Society for Political Education (running in four steps from September 2009 until August 2013) the game “The boat is full” is referring to economic and labour market processes just as the classical game Monopoly. However, while playing Monopoly means acting in a social vacuum with equal chances for all players (in spite of local variations and adaptations) *The boat is full* is based on role-cards (woman/man, member of the majority/minority population, education, age, possibly also disability) and therefore gives each player another close-to-reality starting point. In the course of playing strategic skills and luck will be influenced by education cards, job cards and risk cards oriented on the different conditions for several (groups of) persons in real life.

The learning effect of the game is based on making the players aware of the inequality of societal conditions by experiencing different starting conditions and (partly multiple) discrimination.

After developing and programming the on-line game, elaborating non-digital gaming materials and the concept of „gaming workshops“ and technical amelioration of the on-line game the fourth project phase was developed from autumn 2012 onwards. New trainers, especially with a migration history were educated and the workshop concept was adapted for mixed and predominantly migrant groups to broaden the basis for the project and to conduct more workshops.

While the face-to-face workshops run very well it proved necessary to completely reorganize the on-line game therefore the team competed for funding in the annual NETIDEA contest of the Internet Foundation Austria (IPA) and was granted the re-launch budget for one year. Started in November 2013 the re-launch was finalised by the end of 2014. The project comprised not only the reprogramming and testing of the whole game but also introducing an

e-learning tool and a handbook for teachers to use the game in class and a small on-line survey.

Besides more stability and new features such as a multi-player mode the software was planned as a user-friendly e-learning tool to be used at school. The game website is now supplemented by an information website where teachers can find instructions and information on using the game in class. Furthermore a survey tool was integrated to be able to collect and – in the long term – evaluate data on users' attitudes to monitor the impact of human rights education in class. After a testing phase the game will be offered to teachers to be used in class. In spite of the enormous production costs it remains a long-term objective to publish *The boat is full* as a traditional cardboard game in order not to neglect the direct encounter with the players. Nevertheless it remains a goal to publish it as a traditional cardboard game in spite of the very high production costs to enforce face-to-face communication.

## Human rights education based on the manual *Understanding Human Rights*

Since 2003 the ETC publishes the manual *Understanding Human Rights* which by now is available in 16 languages. The manual includes 16 modules on various human rights, incorporating theoretical knowledge and practical examples as well as pedagogical and further training material. The third English edition, updated and considerably extended by the ETC staff, was published in 2012 and, from then on, served as the basis for further updates and new translations.

The project was rounded up by the elaboration of the bilingual brochure *Spreading the word / Repandre la parole* on behalf of the Ministry for European and International Affairs which gives an impression of where the Manual *Understanding Human Rights* has been used and still is being used in human rights education worldwide. Besides examples for human rights education based on the manual in Africa, Asia, Europa, South America and the Arab World short abstracts inform about the basic principles of human rights education upon which the manual is based. The brochure was presented at a UNESCO Conference on Global Citizenship Education in Paris in May 2014.

The year of 2014 also saw the newly translated and extended second Albanian and the first Turkish edition, the latter elaborated in in cooperation and with fundings of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute.

## Human rights education based on the manual *Understanding Human Rights IV*

Based on the most current English edition published in autumn 2012 the ETC, with funding from the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, the provincial Government



of Styria and the City of Graz, started the revision and new translation of the Arab version of the manual, first published in 2004. The completely revised and extended second Arab edition was elaborated together with the Ramallah Center for Human Rights that took over scientific proofreading, layout und printing. The second Arabic edition was published in autumn 2014 and, besides distribution via the Arab Network for Tolerance, will also be presented at the Vienna Diplomatic Academy.

## OUR Human Rights School – Human rights learning at primary level

Based on findings about grammar school students' poor knowledge about and awareness on human rights in the project *MENSCHEN/RECHTE/BILDUNG: Research Project on Human Rights Education in Daily School Life* in 2010/11 the ETC decided to establish a new project line on early human rights learning and started "OUR Human Rights School" in early 2013. Pilot school and first beneficiary of the project is an elementary school in Graz that aims to establish a human rights friendly environment at school. Framework of the project is a school environment where pupils, teachers and other actors can experience and live a "culture of human rights". The human rights school project involves all school stakeholders – not only the pupils and teachers but also the school management, other staff and the parents – whose bilateral and multilateral relationships build a tight interactional network. Aim of the project is to create an environment – together with all stakeholders – where human rights and children's rights are the leading principles and guidelines for all actions.

The project is a multi-annual process during which

- the pupils know the most important children's rights and experience and practice their actual implementation in daily school-life,
- the school manager has acquired concrete knowledge on children's and human rights as leading principles in school management and applies them on a daily basis,
- the teachers know the basics of children's and human rights and have acquired the methodological tools for implementation in class, and
- the parents are involved in the process.

Project tools are participative workshops with pupils, the development of a curriculum, further education seminars for school staff and information for all actors. In 2013 the pilot phase of the project comprised an information and training seminar for the head mistress and the teachers of the pilot school and workshops with all fourth-graders which served to determine core issues. Based on the findings of the pilot phase the project team elaborated a curriculum for all grades and started producing a children's rights toolbox with activities, materials and additional information to support the teachers. The toolbox prototype has been handed out to the pilot school teachers for testing and feedback in February 2014, and after an evaluation phase until summer 2014 it was ready to be produced in smaller numbers to

be handed out to other elementary schools. Additionally the ETC Human Rights Library set up a course reserve on human rights education at primary level.

In order to foster cooperation with locally and regionally operating children's rights organizations the ETC together with the Styrian Ombud for Children and Youth initiated an annual network meeting with all organizations that are involved in human rights and children's rights learning. The first meetings took place in autumn 2013 and 2014.

In summer 2013 the project „OUR Human Rights School” was awarded the Fairness Award 2013 (second place in the category 6 to 10 years). In 2014 the project took part in a competition organised by the crowdfunding platform Respekt.net and was awarded the “Place of Respect” in the Province of Styria.

### 1.3 Publications

Simone Philipp, Barbara Schmiedl (2014): *Toolbox Menschenrechtsbildung an Volksschulen*. European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy, Graz.

In the framework of the project “OUR Human Rights School” a curriculum for the four elementary school grades was developed by the ETC team and tested at the pilot school. To support teachers in implementing the curriculum the team additionally elaborated the toolbox “Menschenrechtsbildung an Volksschulen” (Human Rights Education at Elementary Schools). An accompanying manual describes the idea, aims and concept of a human rights school and serves as a practical guide for the school management and the teachers to implement the concept. On the other hand the toolbox gives an overview on the curriculum and offers selected activities including copy templates for all grades as well as a box of materials with role cards, training material, templates and instructions for handicraft work and game boards to be used in class.

The tool further offers a service part with a bibliography, contacts and possible funding opportunities for human rights activities at school.

Wolfgang Benedek (ed.) (2014): *Kuptimi I të drejtave të njeriut. Manual për arsimimin për të drejtat e njeriut*. Neuer Wissenschaftlicher Verlag – NWV, Graz/Vienna.

On 20 and 21 March 2014 editor Wolfgang Benedek presented the newly translated, updated and amended second Albanian edition of the manual on human rights education, *Kuptimi I të drejtave të njeriut. Manual për arsimimin për të drejtat e njeriut* at the workshop „Kosovo as a member - Accession to international organisations“ jointly organised by the law faculties of

the universities of Graz and Prishtina. A second training workshop on human rights education based on the manual was organised in Prishtina in October 2014. On this occasion the second Albanian edition could also be presented to the Kosovo Minister of Justice, Hajredin Kuci.

The second Albanian edition was elaborated with support of the Human Rights Center of the University of Prishtina based on the current English edition and funded by the Republic of Kosovo.

**Wolfgang Benedek (ed.) (2014): *İnsan haklarını anlamak. İnsan hakları eğitimi el kitabı*. Neuer Wissenschaftlicher Verlag – NWV, Graz/Vienna.**

On initiative of and funded by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and supported by the Turkish Ministry of Justice the manual was translated to Turkish in 2013. Wolfgang Benedek presented the new edition in the framework of a training workshop in Ankara, organised by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute. Based on the current (third) edition of the English manual, the Turkish version is intended to be used in human rights trainings for the police and the judiciary throughout Turkey.

**Wolfgang Benedek / Iyad Barghouti (eds.) (2014): فهم حقوق الإنسان . دليل عن تعلم حقوق الإنسان Neuer Wissenschaftlicher Verlag – NWV, Graz/Vienna.**

Ten years after the first edition was presented in Paris the second Arabic edition of the manual *Understanding Human Rights* could be published. It is based - like all current translations - on the third English edition, therefore it is much more comprehensive and contemporary.

The new translation, elaboration, scientific proofreading and printing was organised in cooperation with the Ramallah Center for Human Rights Studies (RCHRS), funded by the city of Graz in the framework of their cooperation with Palestine, by the Department for Development Cooperation of the Province of Styria and by the Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs.

## 2. Fundamental and Human Rights

### 2.1 Events and Trainings

#### Seminar for future judges: Fundamental rights in daily court practise

Cooperating with the Federal Ministry of Justice and the Fundamental Rights Section of the Austrian Judges' Association the three Austrian human rights institutions, the Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, the Austrian Institute for Human Rights and the ETC elaborated a fundamental rights training and a fundamental rights reader for judges' pre-service training in 2008. The ETC team drew up the civil rights part. Being revised and completed in 2010 this fundamental rights curriculum forms the basis for trainings aimed at sharpening future judges' and prosecutors' knowledge about and shaping their awareness of procedural fundamental rights infringements. Case studies with practical orientation, as well as an accompanying manual were compiled for the seminars in close cooperation with judges from the administrative districts of Vienna, Linz and Graz. In autumn 2013 the three human rights institutions started another revision of the curriculum and the reader, the latter being used since spring 2014.

In 2014, the annual three-day seminar in cooperation with the Regional Court of Appeals at Graz could not be held because of a lack of participants: a too little number of future judges was appointed at the Regional Court of Appeals Graz in this year. The seminar though will be continued in 2015.

#### Seminar for the Federal Police Training Academy (SIAK): The State and Human Rights

20 – 22 May 2014

On behalf of the Federal Police Training Academy the ETC held two seminars annually, in spring and autumn, about the state and human rights until 2009. Since 2010 only one seminar is held, due to budget cuts in the ministry. About 20 police persons from all over Austria attend the seminar. The seminar was chaired by Wolfgang Benedek. Günther Berghofer, Police Department Vienna, Gudrun Rabussay-Schwald, Daniela Grabovac (Anti-Discrimination Office of the Province of Styria), Fred Ohenhen (ISOP/IKU), Michael Kern, Ilse Hartwig (HR Advisory Board, Commission for the Provinces of Carinthia and Styria) and Renate Kicker (ETC, chair of the HR Advisory Board) contributed as lecturers.

In the two-and-a-half day seminars the focus is set on the practice of protecting human rights in daily police work. Participants work on examples from the ECHR in working groups. Other issues are the preventive and monitoring activities of the Human Rights Advisory Board,

since 2012 located at the Austrian Ombudsman Board, and its commissions, as well as the Council of Europe Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT), whose activities are presented by the chair of the HR Advisory Board and long-time CPT vice president Renate Kicker. The participants discuss the commissions' work with Ilse Hartwig and Daniela Grabovac from the Human Rights Commission for Styria and Carinthia. The situation of Africans in Austria and how police and public servants treat them is the topic of always lively discussions with Fred Ohenhen from ISOP, thus rounding up the overall issue proportionality and police work with a human rights sensitive approach.

## Lecture and Discussion: Fundamental Rights Agency: Achievements and Relevance for European Human Rights Policy

15 January 2014

„We are moving towards a European human rights architecture.” This is how Morten Kjaerum, director of European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights countered the sceptical question if Europe needs another human rights institution besides the Council of Europe and the OSCE, relativising this statement in the next moment: There's a load of work for all institutions that should do their best to harmonise their efforts.

During his lecture Kjaerum illustrated the concrete work of the FRA to moderator Renate Kicker and the audience by using three burning issues - fundamental rights at the borders of the EU, hate crime and data security - and many examples, such as the methodology of the large scale studies of the FRA that always focus on the victims and the persons concerned, never on the perspective of the societal majority or the offenders, the training of EU officials, the lobbying in EU institutions and member states. Human rights are the crucial point of all activities on all levels, and even when humanitarian aid asks for quick action the cardinal, long-term goal to be achieved are structural and systemic solutions.

## Study presentation and discussion: Life situations of black persons in Graz

20 March 2014

On occasion of the International Day against Racist Discrimination the authors Simone Philipp and Klaus Starl presented the results of their study *Lebenssituation von 'Schwarzen' in urbanen Zentren Österreichs. Bestandsaufnahme und Implikationen für nationale, regionale und lokale Menschenrechtspolitiken* (Life situations of black persons in Austrian urban centres. Stocktaking and implications for national, regional and local human rights policies.) together with ETC board member Karin Schmidlechner and discussed their findings with political, judiciary and police representatives.

Provincial Councillor Bettina Vollath, members of the Provincial Parliament Eduard Hamedl (as representative of Graz Mayor Siegfried Nagl) and Bernhard Ederer, Col. Benno

Kleinfurchner (City Police) and Werner Anzenberger (Styrian Chamber of Labour) showed their dismay on the study findings in the fields of access to justice and health, labour and public space and discussed necessary measures with Godswill Eyawo, managing director of the Graz Migrants' Council. The politicians accepted most of the survey's recommendation but nevertheless emphasized the benchmarks already reached in their working areas, ranging from the Charter of Living Together and the establishment of the Styrian Anti-Discrimination Ombud through police and judiciary training to the Chamber's free legal advice. All participants agreed in acknowledging the finding and in taking them seriously, accepting the imperative of action and the necessity to implement the recommendations in their respective working areas.

The study was also presented at Frauenservice/Infocafé palaver on 26 May 2014 and in Linz on 22 September 2014.

### [Wandering exhibition: Nelson Mandela and South Africa](#)

15 May to 24 June 2014

The wandering exhibition commemorating the first free and general elections in South Africa in April 1994 was shown in a cooperation of ETC Graz, SADOCC, Uni-ETC, Fair Styria, AAI Graz and AFA and supported the Austrian Development Cooperation. It showed impressions from 1994, the year when a democratic South Africa was finally founded after centuries of colonialism and racist discrimination.

### [Lecture and discussion: South Africa - Is the human rights rainbow still vivid after 20 years?](#)

24 June 2014

Jody Narandran Kollapen, South African High Court Judge and former Chair of the South-African Human Rights Commission, is one of the creators of the human rights architecture of the South-African constitution and its political implementation. His tireless commitment is directed to the creation of a culture of human rights to transform the societal heritage of Apartheid, poverty, unemployment and violence. In his lecture he talked about current achievements and future challenges in realising the constitutionally guaranteed social and economic rights in South-Africa. The event organised in cooperation with SADOCC, Uni-ETC, FairStyria, AAI Graz and AFA and funded by the Austrian Development Cooperation.

### [Are human rights implemented in Austria?](#)

9 December 2014

On Human Rights Day 2014 National Ombud Günther Kräuter, Renate Kicker (ETC Graz, Chair of the Human Rights Council at the National Ombud), Wolfgang Benedek (Uni-ETC, University of Graz) and Klaus Gartler (Human Rights Council of the City of Graz) discussed achievements and challenges of human rights implementation in Austria. The event on

occasion of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (ETC Graz), facilitated by Gernot Rath (ORF Styria), offered a stocktaking of human rights work at national as well as at local level where people are directly concerned.

Both panellists and audience emphasised the necessity to institutionalise human rights work and human rights promotion/learning as it were a counter-programme to current tendencies of outsourcing and privatisation of public services.

Günther Kräuter presented the preventive monitoring mechanisms of the National Ombud and the National Human Rights Action Plan currently being developed and coordinated by the National Ombud und the Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs. Science and civil society are deeply involved in the elaboration of the Action Plan, nevertheless Wolfgang Benedek proved sceptical regarding its implementation though scheduled in the government programme. Renate Kicker emphasised the necessity of a basic societal consensus to enforce demand and recommendations.

## Poetry and Music on Occasion of Human Rights Day: Wer gibt uns das zerrissene Lied zurück in solch unergründlicher Zeit?

10 December 2014

The traditional cooperation event of Forum Club Literatur, AAI Graz, Evangelisches Bildungswerk, ETC Graz and Uni-ETC referred to Gioconda Belli in December 2014. The programme designed and read by Michael Benaglio, Gerhard Dinauer and Simone Philipp aimed at being a small contribution to denouncing censorship, violence and tyranny and to expressing solidarity with the achievements of democracy, social welfare state und human rights in times when extremist parties raise sentiments against human rights and strive to replace democracy with a totalitarian regime.

## 2.2 Projects.

### Fundamental Rights in the European Union – FRANET

The multidisciplinary research network of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) is composed of National Focal Points (NFPs) in all EU member states, which continuously provide the FRA with socio-legal information and data on fundamental rights issues. The ETC is the National Focal Point for Austria within the FRANET project and continuously writes reports and conducts studies for the FRA. After the framework contract 2011 to 2014 expired the ETC consortium won the new call as well and remains the National Focal Point for the next period from 2014 – 2017.

## **FRA Data Collection and Research Services on Fundamental Rights Issues:**

### **Finished in 2014:**

FRANET Report of Various Size on Contribution to the FRA's Annual Report 2013 (10.1.2014).

FRANET Social Fieldwork Research on Severe Forms of Labour Exploitation (17.2.2014)

FRANET Report of Various Size on Victim Support Services in the EU: VSS Phase IV - The Rights and Support of Victims of Hate Crime (10.2.2014).

FRANET Report of Various Size on Homophobia, Transphobia and Discrimination on Grounds of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (28.2.2014).

FRANET Report of Various Size on EU Mapping of Child Protection Systems (31.3.2014).

FRANET Ad hoc Report on Fundamental Rights Issues in Border Management, Return and Visa (10.6.2014).

FRANET Ad hoc Report on Independent Living of Persons with Disabilities (11.8.2014).

FRANET Ad hoc report on National Intelligence Authorities and Surveillance in the EU: Fundamental Rights Safeguards and Remedies (14.8.2014).

FRANET Report of Various Size on Severe Forms of Labour Exploitation: Allowing Victims of Severe Forms of Labour Exploitation to have Access to Justice in EU Member States (12.9.2014).

### **Started in 2014, to be finished in 2015:**

FRANET Short Thematic Report: Contribution to the Annual Report 2014.

FRANET Short Thematic Report: The right to interpretation and translation and the right to information in criminal proceedings in the EU.

FRANET Extensive Thematic Report: Biometric data in large EU IT-systems in the areas of borders, visa and asylum - fundamental rights implications.

FRANET Extensive Thematic Report: Migrants and their descendants - Social inclusion and participation in society.

FRANET Information Request: Return/transfer of children at risk who are EU nationals.

## **Locating Intersectional Discrimination – LID**

The research project LID enquired into the concepts of 'intersectionality' and 'intersectional discrimination' in theory and legal practice, understood as a combination of external attributions. The project aimed at clarifying crucial theoretical implications of the concept of intersectional discrimination and its recognition in anti-discrimination law. Upon that, the project assessed the practical (legal) relevance of the concept of intersectional discrimination.

During the third phase the ETC team conducted 40 qualitative interviews with persons concerned. The research results were presented in two specific publications and, in October



2012, to a group of international experts who seized the opportunity to intensively discuss the empirical evidence during the project symposium. The international symposium *Intersectional Disadvantages and Discrimination – Living Realities and Legal Practice* was organised by the ETC in the Court of Appeals in Graz on 18 and 19 October 2012 in order to present and discuss conceptual questions, empirical evidence and legal practice. Numerous experts from academia and practitioners had the opportunity to get together in a working group where they identified concrete issues in respect to multidimensional discrimination to be addressed by legislators at all levels. The experts discussed concrete recommendations which were be presented to the Fundamental Rights Agency.

The project phases 1 – 3 were more or less completed in 2012, 2013 saw the rounding-up of the project results in the publication of the symposium contributions. The project publication *Intersektionelle Benachteiligung und Diskriminierung. Soziale Realitäten und Rechtspraxis* (Intersectional disadvantage and discrimination. Societal realities and legal Practice) was issued in early 2014.

### The impact of multiple discrimination on professional careers

This project was running from January 2011 to spring 2014 as a cooperation between the University of Graz, Uni-ETC and ETC and was funded by the Austrian National Bank. With regard to the economically relevant fields of education and the labour market, this project aimed to answer the question if multiple discrimination has an impact on professional careers of individuals, and if so, which impact.

The ETC focused on two research questions: 1) Is there a (negative) discriminating impact of intersections on professional careers, and 2) Are there any multiplier effects due to intersections other than in one-factor discrimination, in other words, does the occurrence of intersections lead to qualitative different forms of discrimination?

The year of 2013 was mainly used to analyse the research results, to resume and to write the project publication titled *Auswirkungen von mehrfachen Diskriminierungen auf Berufsbiografien. Eine empirische Erhebung* which was published (in German) in 2014.

### NEUMIN – Life situation of „new minorities“ in Austria and their implications for national, regional and local human rights politics, based on the example of people with dark skin colour in selected Austrian urban centres

In this project, the goal was to operationalize the implementation of the Art.1 ICERD – the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. This was applied in areas of life of vital interest with relevance to human rights (health, employment and wage, access to the law and the legal state, public space). It also aimed at

demonstrating the need for action in this central area of politics and law and at delivering adequate recommendations.

Based on a comprehensive bibliographical review and on interviews with experts in the fields of access to justice, work and income, health and public space the NEUMIN team elaborated and validated a questionnaire to research the experiences and assessments of people with dark skin colour with regard of the four areas of interest and a schedule for the survey based on statistical data. 13 interviewers – all of them belonging to the project target group to avoid asymmetric situations between them and the interviewees – were trained in workshops in the four target cities Graz, Linz, Salzburg and Innsbruck. 717 interviews were conducted and processed in 2012, 2013 was used for analysing the results of the survey and to write the project publication.

The findings and recommendations were presented for the first time on occasion of the International Day against Racist Discrimination 2014 by the authors Simone Philipp and Klaus Starl.

### **FAMME-LIRAB – Gaps in the right to education?**

Started in spring 2012, LIRAB was a sub-project of the project FAMME, in cooperation with Union for Women's Service Graz (responsible body), Girl's Center Amazone, Girl's Center Klagenfurt and Maiz – Autonomous Centre from & for Female Migrants.

The right to education includes adult education and serves inter alia the participation in society and society's affluence. Due to unequal structures in society, unequal chances for certain social groups – like for instance for migrants, people with disabilities, very young or elderly women – become evident in the intersections of axes of inequality. Special guaranteed obligations for the right to education were hence included in official legal documents of the EU, the Council of Europe and the United Nations.

In the framework of this project the ETC took over two areas of research:

An accessibility study researched which groups participate in educational offers in the sector of occupational orientation, and if these offers increase the participation of various groups in the labour market. For this, a norm-based approach has been chosen.

The publication presents challenges for women and girls with a migration history when they make use of offers on educational and job orientation and challenges for those who offer such measures.

### **FRAME – Fostering Human Rights among European (external and internal) Policies**

Frame is a large-scale, interdisciplinary, four-year FP7 project aimed to cast European Human Rights Policies from a comprehensive, multi-actor and global perspective. FRAME is

being carried out by a Consortium of 19 academic partners and approximately 100 researchers from Austria, Belgium, China, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Hungary, Italy, India, Ireland, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States.

FRAME's main objective is to provide the necessary building blocks for the development of comprehensive and coherent European Human Rights Policies, including: (i) a sound knowledge base taking into account the evolving factors, concepts and instruments underlying the protection and promotion of human rights at the EU, international and national levels; (ii) a critical examination and appraisal of the EU's real and potential contribution to global human rights governance through its engagement with actors and its wide-ranging policies and instruments; (iii) a thorough scrutiny of the effectiveness of human rights promotion in the maze of EU institutions, competences and policies; and (iv) a set of indicators, tools and policy proposals allowing for a consistent and tailor-made integration of human rights into EU external and internal actions and policies.

The FRAME project started in May 2013. Besides a start-up meeting in Brussels, the ETC was involved in mapping existing human rights indicators schemes and EU initiatives to develop/apply human rights indicators. Building on these findings the team conducted 19 interviews with EU representatives starting from April 2014 to identify the practitioners' perspectives and experiences. First results could be presented and discussed at the AHRI (Association of Human Rights Institutes) conference in Copenhagen in September 2014. The first part of the research project was completed by submitting the "Baseline Study on Human Rights Indicators in the Context of the EU" to the European Commission in December 2014.

## Human rights standards and national law: The Role of National Preventive Mechanisms

In July 2012, the Austrian National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) took up its mandate to monitor all venues where persons are deprived of their liberty. Adding this national layer of preventive monitoring to existing regional (CPT) and international (SPT) monitoring mechanisms raises important questions regarding the interplay of these actors and regarding the relationship of (non-binding) standards and (binding) domestic law applicable for preventing human rights violations. Thus, the roles and the cooperation of the international, regional, and national monitoring mechanisms will be analysed in a first step. In a second step, the diverse standards developed and applied by these bodies will be scrutinised from a legal perspective to evaluate their added value for effective preventive monitoring of places where persons are deprived of their liberty. Overall, the project focuses on the contribution NPMs may make in rendering (non-binding) human rights standards effective in Austria.

## 2.3 Publications

[Simone Philipp, Isabella Meier, Veronika Apostolovski, Klaus Starl, Karin Schmidlechner \(2014\): Intersektionelle Benachteiligung und Diskriminierung. Soziale Realitäten und Rechtspraxis. Nomos, Baden-Baden.](#)

In German-speaking countries research on multiple discrimination is comparably rare. Current empirical findings show that many persons experience multiple discrimination and structural disadvantage but legislation in Austria, Germany and Switzerland so far doesn't adequately refer to the situation. Legal practitioners emphasise on the problems appearing in cases of multiple discrimination, especially intersectional discrimination with interacting motivations.

An interdisciplinary approach to the issue and the joint elaboration of suggestions to solve the problems are indispensable to optimise legal protection of persons concerned. This publication accepts the challenge by offering contributions written by renowned experts from social and legal science and legal practice.

[Simone Philipp, Isabella Meier, Klaus Starl, Margret Kreimer \(2014\): Auswirkungen von mehrfachen Diskriminierungen auf Berufsbiografien. Eine empirische Erhebung. Springer, Wiesbaden.](#)

When women with migration histories or persons with black colour of skin and Muslim belief are discriminated against on the labour market, discrimination mostly grounds multiple motives. But how is multiple discrimination experienced? Who are the most concerned persons? And what is the impact of multiple discrimination on the professional careers of persons concerned? The publications presents the findings from interviews with persons concerned, experts and employers.

## 3. Human Security

### 3.1 Publications

Wolfgang Benedek/Matthias C. Kettemann/Heike Montag/Cristina Pace/Pascoal Santos Pereira, *Human Security Perspectives 1/2014: An African Spring? Human Rights and Security in Times of Change*. Online: <http://www.etc-graz.at/typo3/index.php?id=1176>

Unter dem Titel *An African Spring? Human Rights and Security in Times of Change* lagen Anfang 2014 die Ergebnisse des 6. Grazer Workshops zur Zukunft der Sicherheit als Publikation vor. In den *Human Security Perspectives 1/2014* befassen sich die AutorInnen mit aktuellen Fragen von Menschenrechten und Menschlicher Sicherheit auf dem afrikanischen Kontinent, ausgehend von den politischen Verschiebungen im Zuge des "Arabischen Frühlings" und ähnlicher, medial aber weit weniger beachteter Ereignisse in Afrika südlich der Sahara.

Der der Publikation zugrundeliegende Workshop im Sommer 2013 gab Einblicke in unterschiedliche Perspektiven und Zugänge verschiedener akademischer Disziplinen und PraktikerInnen und erlaubte in seiner Interdisziplinarität neue und unterschiedliche, einander jedenfalls aber ergänzende Einsichten. Organisiert wurde der Workshop vom Institut für Völkerrecht und internationale Beziehungen und dem ETC Graz in Kooperation mit der Österreichischen Verteidigungsakademie, der Marie-Curie-Aktion "Sustainable Peace Building" im 7. Rahmenprogramm der EU und der Fokusgruppe Menschliche Sicherheit. [//www.etc-graz.at/typo3/index.php?id=1176](http://www.etc-graz.at/typo3/index.php?id=1176)

## 4. Human Rights at the Local Level

### 4.1 Events and Training

#### Workshops: “If only I had said something...!” – Strategies against hate speech slogans

To intensify the debate on hate speech that has been started with the project THAT'S RIGHT! and to train people to deal with it in a constructive spirit the ETC has been offering the workshops *If only I had said something...!* – *Strategies against hate speech slogans* for years. Strategies against discriminating slogans are elaborated and tried out with the participants in an interactive way, in group work and role plays, in reflections, and discussions in the course of the one-day workshop. Therefore workshop participants exchange experiences with hate speech slogans to start with, they discuss the reasons for difficulties in dealing with these slogans and they collect slogans in a brainstorming. Afterwards situations are observed in role-plays while trying out personal behaviour patterns. Analysing the role-play on the substantial, emotional and rhetorical levels serves as a starting-point for elaborating a set of strategies against hate speech and testing different options for action.

In 2014 the following workshops against hate speech took place:

1 April 2014: Lebenshilfe Steiermark (Alexandra Stocker, Barbara Schmiedl)

3 April 2014: Jugendzentrum area 52 (Barbara Schmiedl)

8 May 2014: Caritas, ZusammenLeben Steiermark, Trofaiach (Barbara Schmiedl)

11 June 2014: Austrian Students' Union, University of Graz (Barbara Schmiedl)

19 June 2014: Evangelische Pfarrgemeinde Peggau, Gustav Adolf-Tag, Frohnleiten

12 October 2014: Human Rights Council of the City of Graz / Youth platform Kenne deine Rechte: Short workshop in the framework of the introduction weekend for the project team 2014/15

#### [human rights] movie on campus

Once per semester the ETC Graz, together with the Student Unions of the Technical University of Graz and the University of Graz, invites students from all universities in Graz to the film and discussion series [human rights] movie on campus initiated by Alexandra Stocker. In terms of dates and topics, the event series is based on various commemorative days and days of action, such as the International Day against Racism on 21 March. Experts

present impulse statements after the respective film screening, which are then followed by an open discussion about the film's topic. The audience of 150 to 250 people – depending on the topic – and snacks and drinks provided by the Students Union allow for a kind of “movie theatre atmosphere” in the lecture halls of the University of Graz. In 2014 the art association Forum Stadtpark became a cooperation partner and the human rights movie screenings were planned together with the Forum movie series agit.DOC.

### [\[human rights\] movie on campus: Living without Money](#)

9 April 2014

The movie realised by the Norwegian director Line Halvorsen focuses on compulsion to buy, throwaway society and unequal distribution of material resources, portraying the former German teacher and psychotherapist Heidemarie Schwermer who makes her way living without money. After the screening there was a lively discussion with Elf Pavlik who also has been managing this way of life for the last four years and with the director (via teleconference).

### [\[human rights\] movie on campus: Festung Europa - Einsatz gegen Flüchtlinge / Into the Fire](#)

14 May 2014

Around Europe Day a double screening of [human rights] movie on campus picked up the issue that has been dominating the borders and border countries of the European Union for several years: the European walls-up policy shielding the union against refugees and poverty-driven migrants. While the movie “Festung Europa” (Fortress Europe) focuses on the deaths of thousands at the external border of the EU and the role of the European Border Agency FRONTEX, the second movie “Into the Fire” keeps track of the destinies of migrants and refugees in crisis-shaken Greece, amongst an asylum system that collapsed, racist police and attacks of the fascist movement “Golden Sunrise”. The movie after the screening with Barbara Schmiedl (ETC) and Perica Stjepanović (University of Graz) focused mainly on the Austrian responsibility in the European asylum system.

### [Symposium „Humanitarian right of residence“](#)

20 May 2014

The Human Rights Council of the City of Graz took up again former initiatives on the issue and held a symposium on the „Humanitarian right of residence“, organised by its office, the ETC Graz. The symposium aimed at discussing possible legislative ameliorations of the humanitarian right of residence.

Experts from the areas of legal counselling, science and legislation enquired what the administration reform of January 2014 meant for persons with an uncertain legal status of residence and which small changes in Aliens' Law would be needed to make a big difference

- to enable a real humanitarian right of residence. The results of the symposium were handed over to the political parties and the National Ombud.

## Human rights of the elder generation - challenges and perspectives for an inclusive future

27 May 2014

Wolfgang Benedek (University of Graz, ETC Graz) held some introductory remarks and moderated the panel discussion with Ulrike Taberhofer, member of the city council responsible for care, human rights, social issues and elder persons, Helmut Kramer, Austrian Interdisciplinary Platform on Ageing, Gustav Wächter, editor of the yearbook "Age Discrimination" (University of Innsbruck) and Rosemarie Kurz, founder of the GEFAS Styria (Department for generational issues, Students' Union at the University of Graz). Participants of this cooperation event organised by Uni-ETC, ETC Graz and ÖH Uni Graz discussed issues of age discrimination and inclusion. The event was the opening of a small thematic focus in early summer 2014.

## Symposium: Discrimination of elder persons in the city - Challenges for the municipality of Graz

27 June 2014

The Human Rights Council of the City of Graz invited to participate in a symposium organised by its office, ETC Graz. The experts Daniela Grabovac, Maria Gleichweit-Buchberger, Hanne Schweitzer, Peter Stoppacher and Peter Zeman presented and discussed statements issues of ageing, ranging from discrimination and poverty in old age through demographic and migration as a chance and a challenge to a public space fit for elder persons.

## Summer academy: How to manage Human Rights and the City?

23 – 27 September 2014

The summer academy in September 2014 took up again the broken line of ETC summer academies that have been successfully held for several years. Thematic contributions made by UNESCO, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency and the City of Graz in the frame of the ECCAR network presented and discussed instruments and mechanisms for the implementation of human rights at the local level. Reflecting the rights and duties of local and regional authorities the experts focussed on the self-administration of cities and regions, including their duties to respect, protect, fulfil and also promote human rights at the local level. Participants from administration, civil society and universities found ample opportunity, besides networking and mutual exchange, to get to know the Human Rights City of Graz, to debate a multi-perspective approach to the implementation of equality and human rights



policies and to compare the different approaches of international (UNESCO), European (Council of Europe and Fundamental Rights Agency) and local (ECCAR) instruments.

## Presentation: Seventh Human Rights Report of the City of Graz

1 December 2014

The Human Rights Council of the City of Graz, the Mayor's Office, the City Councillor für Education and Integration and the Styrian Anti-Discrimination Ombud presented the Human Rights Report 2013 on 1 December 2014.

Elke Lujansky-Lammer, chair of the Human Rights Council, Klaus Starl, working group chair, City Councillor Kurt Hohensinner, member of the city council Thomas Rajakovics und Daniela Grabovac, chair of the Anti-Discrimination Ombud pointed at human rights challenges and progress in the human rights city, showing that from a human rights perspective there are three vulnerable groups of persons: children in street traffic, women in their own houses and persons with black colour of skin in public space and public transport. In 2012, 26 children were hurt in accidents that happened at pedestrian crossings. Every eighth woman suffers physical violence in her marriage or partnership. Every seventh black person experiences physical attacks in the middle of the street.

A perennial issue in the human rights discourse in Graz is the topic of discrimination. Fifty percent of the persons concerned do not seek help because they assume that there is no help anyway.

Progress can be found in education, in building accessibility and in the debate on begging, e.g. the number of girls with a first language other than German that attend grammar school has further increased. The city of Graz implements the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The debate on begging was made more objective, and a working group was established to elaborate recommendation to be realised in the year to come.

Focal areas of the human rights report 2013 were, on behalf of the mayor, access to housing and work. The report found problems concerning the housing situation of underage refugees. The labour market becomes more and more inaccessible for certain groups of persons. Therefore experts recommend to make specific offers.

Other recommendation of the human rights report comprise easier readability of official decisions, standardised procedures in civil status matters in cases of changed gender identities, the complete implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the fight against discrimination by using the city's economic power and the use of modern means in health information.

## 4.2 Projects

### Human Rights City of Graz

Since February 2001, Graz is the first Human Rights City in Europe. The idea and initiative of “human rights cities” was developed in 1997 by PDHRE – the *People’s Decade for Human Rights Education* (today: *People’s Movement for Human Rights Learning*), an NGO located in New York. Since 2000, the ETC has been working for strong networking and capacity-building with regional actors such as NGOs, municipal departments and civil society in all areas related to the protection and the promotion of human rights at the local level in order to make Graz the first human rights city of Europe. A first analysis investigated the strengths and shortcomings regarding the implementation of human rights in Graz, and was presented at a conference in June 2002. The findings were utilised for the formulation of guidelines on whose basis a programme of activities was developed.

Graz, as a Human Rights City, is committed to protect, advance and respect the rights of every human being. Therefore, the city of Graz has established the Human Rights Advisory Council in 2007 to undertake human rights monitoring and to publish annual reports on the matter. The ETC serves as the office of the Human Rights Advisory Council. Together, numerous services have been and are being provided, such as: the coordination of the process to establish Graz as a human rights city; the respective coordination of institutions, NGOs and civil society; cooperation with other human rights cities and local NGOs.

### TKE – Toolkit for Equality

The Toolkit for Equality provides a guide on the implementation of effective anti-discrimination policies in municipalities. The Toolkit is elaborated on the basis of evidence and its application will be facilitated by respective training and seminars.

In the first phase, research on policies applied in practice was conducted. The expert team identified and analysed policies in five areas: democratic institutions, regulation, employers, service providers and contracting authorities. The compilation of policies and the conclusions and recommendations for policy solutions that can be transferred to other cities were published in early 2014 and presented at the ECCAR Steering Committee Meeting on 7 to 9 April 2014 to discuss further proceedings and support from the member cities.

Based on the findings a questionnaire was elaborated and sent out to all member cities in order to find out what policies are applied, how they are implemented and whether they are effective in terms of promotion of equality, improvement of equal opportunities, fostering inclusion and participation, as well as guaranteeing equal treatment.

In the second phase the results of the survey will be discussed in focus groups with city representatives and other relevant stakeholders.

## Access to adequate shelter in Styria

Access to housing in Styria was the heading of a study carried out by the ETC for the Anti-Discrimination Office Styria. The study examines whether the right to adequate housing is fulfilled in Styria or whether there are barriers in the access to shelter at structural, representation as well as individual level. Five focus groups with representatives of suppliers in four segments on the housing market (public suppliers, private suppliers with public funding, private suppliers and intermediaries) were carried out in different regions of the province to find out possible regional differences or gaps between cities and the countryside. The aim was to get insight in the practice of eligibility and selection of people looking for housing. Furthermore, it was of interest whether regional differences, particularly between urban and rural areas, can be identified. The results show various vulnerabilities to be discriminated against in the housing market. Mostly affected are persons with psychic strains, people with drug or alcohol problems, people with disabilities, and to some extent migrants. Low income and social-economic status function as catalysts. Persons to whom two or more of the criteria refer are particularly concerned. The study *Zugang zu Wohnraum in der Steiermark* was published in mid-2014.

## LQI – Quality of life index Graz

In 2013 the Graz survey on quality of life was supplemented by a part in discrimination for the first time. The questions comprised situations of testimony as well as situations of direct, individual concerns and asked for discrimination grounds, places and personal dealing with discriminatory experiences. The results show that discrimination particularly happens in public space. Only 9% of the persons that observed an incident and 10% of the persons individually concerned report the incident. Both witnesses and persons concerned refrained from reporting because they either considered it ineffective or did not know where to turn. Many persons participated in the survey showing the relevance of the topic. Therefore the city of Graz will retain the topic in the up-coming survey on quality of life and plans to include it more tightly into the standard questionnaire. 2014 was dedicated to analysing the data and to reporting.

## Human Rights Region of Styria

On behalf of the Province of Styria (Department 6, Education and Society/Society and Diversity) the ETC team started with the stocktaking and the elaboration of an instrument for the implementation of the human rights region concept in summer 2014.

The concept suggested offers a structured, impact oriented and operational approach that combines the normative human rights perspective of freedom and equality and the principal state duties of respecting, protecting, fulfilling and promoting human rights. The approach aims at realising multi-level governance (human rights based approach). An essential

component is the possibility to use the findings of the stocktaking to cyclically evaluate the respective strategies and their implementation. Therefore, the elaboration of an implementation instrument is a conceptual part besides the stocktaking.

## Campaign: THAT`S RIGHT!

Human Rights are everywhere! Or put differently: the denial of human rights is everywhere. To show up that every little saying not only attacks the dignity of a person but also touches and hurts people and therefore infringes rights, 24 hate-speech slogans were juxtaposed the corresponding articles of the ECHR. This campaign, consisting of postcards and posters in A3 format as well as a wandering exhibition in A1 format (in cooperation with Kulturvermittlung Graz) was created as a contribution to the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the European Convention of Human Rights. Since its start on Human Rights Day 2009 it has been conducted at various events in public space. Zentrum *polis* – Politik Lernen in der Schule (“Learning politics at school”) as project partner, created and published supplementary didactical material for teachers, which is offered in a package together with the postcards and posters. The material is available for free (reimbursement of the postal costs only) directly at the ETC or for teachers at the Zentrum *polis* as well. The wandering exhibition can be booked at the ETC, preferably together with a workshop against hate-speech slogans. The campaign and the realisation by the Innsbruck agency *Werberaum* was awarded the first prize at the “Tirolissimo“ award of the Tyrolean advertising industry (category “low- budget campaign”).

In 2012, the campaign materials were completed with the brochure “Anleitung zum Gegenreden” (“Instructions to counter-argue”) which gives an overview on all 24 hate speech slogans juxtaposed with counter-questions, counter-arguments and basic background information. The availability of the brochure added a new momentum to the on-going campaign, and the second edition of the brochure was printed by the Federal Ministry of Education in 2013.

In 2013 the ETC initiated a campaign tour through towns and municipalities in the Province of Styria on occasion of the national elections in autumn. However, since the elections had been brought forward, time was too short to address the target group in time. The campaign therefore was extended to spring 2014 with several events around the European Parliamentary Elections from April to June.

- Youth centre Dietrichskeuschn, Graz: A3 posters permanent exhibition since summer 2013
- Human Rights Council of the City of Graz / Youth platform *Kenne deine Rechte*: Short workshop for human rights junior journalists within the introduction workshop for the project team 2013/14, on 28/29 September.2013, Graz
- Lebenshilfe Steiermark, Workshop on 1 April 2014, Graz
- Youth centre area 52: Workshop on 3 April.2014, Weiz, A3 posters permanent exhibition

- Caritas / Vielfalt Leben: Workshop for multipliers on 8 May 2014, Trofaiach
- Austrian Students' Union at the University of Graz: Workshop and regulars' table and poster exhibition in public space on 11 June 2014, Graz
- GIBS - Graz International Bilingual School: Wandering exhibition May/June 2014, school website
- Protestant parish Peggau: Wandering exhibition June 2014, Workshop on occasion of Gustav Adolf Day on 19 June 2014, Frohnleiten

The events were partly funded by the Gesellschaft für Politische Bildung (ÖGPB) in the frame of the project „GANZ RECHT! Workshops und Stammtische gegen Stammtischparolen“.

## Activities of the ETC as the Office of the Human Rights Advisory Board of the City of Graz

### Tasks of the office

The Human Rights Advisory Board appointed the ETC as the official office in its rules of procedure of 6 June 2007. Besides the administrative preparation and follow-up work of the Human Rights Advisory Board's meetings the ETC also serves as the central coordination and contact point, and also as the interface for communication. Another essential part of its activities concerns the organisation and support of the Human Rights Advisory Board's working groups. The office was entrusted with the elaboration of the report on the situation of human rights in Graz for the municipal council and the city government.

Klaus Starl and Alexandra Stocker were assigned to the office. Alexandra Stocker is on maternity leave since September 2014, and Ingrid Nicoletti took over her agenda.

### Permanent Working Groups

The Human Rights Advisory Council can establish working groups on special topics or to conduct projects. Working groups consist of members of the council but can also ask external persons to contribute. The following working groups have been established following current needs and interests, some meet on a regular basis (e.g. Working Group Human Rights Report), some only depending on the occasion. The following working groups are operational (two or three have been closed after having fulfilled their purpose such as organizing an event):

- WG Age-appropriate City
- WG Barrier-free City
- WG Right to Stay
- WG on the Ban on Begging
- WG Know your Rights
- WG Human Rights Report
- WG Human Rights Learning / „Culture of Human Rights in Graz“

- WG Election Campaign Monitoring

### **Working Group: Ban on begging**

Starting from the politically and medially heated discussion on introducing a general ban on begging in Styria the Human Rights Advisory Board established a working group in 2011, supported by experts and chaired by Wolfgang Benedek until November 2011, followed by Christian Ehetreiber.

The tasks of the working group include the establishment of an in-depth expertise on the issue of begging in Graz and the implementation of the recommendations concerning the suspension of legal measures until the final verdict of the constitutional court that were suggested to the Province of Styria by the Human Rights Advisory Council as well as advice on further measures. Furthermore, the working group addresses the current situation regarding alternative options for the beggars concerned, especially jobs.

### **Working Group: Human Rights Report**

The Human Rights Advisory Board is commissioned to issue an annual report on the implementation of human rights at the municipal level. It was decided to issue a comprehensive report bi-annually and evaluation reports in alternating years. For this purpose a working group of advisory board members chaired by Klaus Starl was established. This working group was entrusted to prepare the Human Rights Report in cooperation with the ETC Graz.

The Fifth Human Rights Report was published in 2012, the Sixth Human Rights Report of the City of Graz in 2013. The latter is an evaluation report based on selected recommendations of the Human Rights Report 2011. The Seventh Human Rights Report was published on 1 December 2014. The progress in the human rights city process is monitored by evaluating the implementation of the recommendations through duty-bearers in politics and administration.

All Human Rights Reports are available both at the city of Graz and ETC websites.

### **Know your Rights – The human rights portal from the youth for the youth**

Every year since autumn 2010 a group of young people aged 15 to 22 get together, on the initiative of the Human Rights Advisory Council of the City of Graz, to fight for more education on human rights. They investigate and write contributions on human rights and related socio-political topics over the time of one (school) year and deal with questions such as “Are my parents allowed to forbid my gay relationship?”, “What can I do if I observe that someone is not allowed to enter a bar due to her/his skin colour?” or “Is my teacher allowed to take junk food away from me?”. The articles, almost 200 by the end of 2014, are published on the on-line platform “Know Your Rights” ([www.kennedeinerechte.at](http://www.kennedeinerechte.at)), and the web statistics show an ever increasing number of pages views for the platform and the Facebook

page, the latter pushed not only content-wise but through participatory actions such as a tattoo action (“Racism-free zone”) on occasion of the International Day against Racism or a fabric bag with the imprinted slogan “Racism doesn’t match my shoes”.

In terms of sustainability and due to many new applications of interested pupils the project now running in its fourth term will be continued in the school year 2014/15. Besides basic information, news and Q&A on human rights the online portal offers the possibility to share and post opinions and discuss them. Adults are welcome to participate and discuss with the “human rights junior journalists”. The youth are supported by the Human Rights Advisory Council, the ETC and especially by the project manager Alexandra Stocker.

In October 2014 the project started its fifth project year thanks to the commitment of the new team of students. Besides basic information, news and Q&A on human rights the on-line platform allows for the possibility to post one’s own opinions and to join debates. This counts not only for young people but also for adults who are welcome. For the accompanying info materials (postcards, stickers) the project team for the first time organised a competition at the Department for Graphic and Communication Design of the Secondary Technical School Innsbruck in autumn 2014.

The Human Rights Council of the City of Graz and its office, the ETC Graz, support and accompany the “human rights junior journalists” in their work. Team leader Alexandra Stocker took maternity leave in September 2014, her work being continued by Barbara Schmiedl, and David Weiss switched from the journalists’ team to the project staff.

### Szenenvibrationen: Series on Radio Helsinki

In February 2010 the serial programme “Szenenvibrationen – Youth/Politics/Art” for the advancement of democratic awareness was founded by representatives of three Graz institutions and members of the (former) Styrian platform against antidemocratic movements: Roman Schweidlenka (LOGO ESO INFO), Alex Mikusch (youth worker Graz, Community culture centre *explosiv*) and Alexandra Stocker (ETC). In 2012 Kerstin Wesner (ARGE Youth against Violence and Racism) joined the team. The show is aired every fourth Tuesday between 19:00 and 20:00 on radio Helsinki, Frequency 92.6. The three founders are rotating from show to show as presenters who are also responsible for the contents. Due to the different fields of work the issues vary from esoteric, sects and occultism to right-wing extremism and racism to socio-critical music. All shows share not only the local approach, to be seen in topics such as “10 years human rights city – a critical review”, “Ban on begging” or “Budget cuts in Styria and impacts on the social sector”, but also they want to throw light on societally questionable developments and human rights violations and to promote critical thinking and commitment.

In her shows, Alexandra Stocker (ETC) presented human rights relevant topics and youth commitment: On 3 January 2012 she invited Kerstin Wesner (ARGE Youth against Violence

and Racism) who presented the ARGE survey on the youth in Styria 2011 which comprises different issues from their future prospects to their attitudes towards family life to their experiences with violence and racism. On 22 May 2012 she presented the project KNOW YOUR RIGHTS. In the show she welcomed two representatives of the project who talked about their motivation to contribute, about the image of a “human rights junior journalist” and about their topics and the problems they see in the human rights city of Graz. On 14 December 2012, the situation in the human rights city of Graz was discussed in the studio and the human rights report of 2011 focussing on discrimination in Graz was presented on air. In the year of 2013 Alexandra Stocker made two shows on 26 March (on the issue of racism) and on 18 June 2013 (on “Know your rights”, the Human Rights Council’s on-line youth platform). In 2014 she made two shows on „Kenne deine Rechte“ and, together with Simone Philipp, on the findings of the survey on the life situations of black persons in Austria.

### 4.3 Publications

[ECCAR – European Coalition of Cities against Racism / FOSI – Foundation Open Society Institute \(2014\): \*Toolkit for Equality: The Local Level. Mapping and Clustering of Policy Approaches and Conceptual Framework. Working Paper 1\* compiled by Klaus Starl, Paul Lappalainen, Alexandra Stocker, Veronika Apostolovski and Markus Möstl.](#)

The Toolkit for Equality provides a guide on the implementation of effective anti-discrimination policies in municipalities. The Toolkit is elaborated on the basis of evidence and its application will be facilitated by respective training and seminars.

In the first phase, research on policies applied in practice was conducted. The expert team identified and analysed policies in five areas: democratic institutions, regulation, employers, service providers and contracting authorities. The compilation of policies and the conclusions and recommendations for policy solutions that can be transferred to other cities were published in early 2014.

[Antidiskriminierungsstelle Steiermark \(2014\): \*Zugang zu Wohnraum in der Steiermark. Survey\* by Ingrid Nicoletti, Klaus Starl and Alexandra Stocker, ETC Graz.](#)

The survey researches the realisation of the right to adequate housing in Styria. Access to housing was evaluated by analysing the selection and allocation practices of service providers. To find out possible regional differences or differences between urban and rural areas the survey was carried out in four regions. Focus group interviews examined whether



the right to adequate housing is fulfilled in Styria or whether there are barriers in the access to shelter at structural, representation as well as individual level.

The question whether sufficient and adequate shelter can be provided in Styria cannot be answered for the Province as a whole. While the question was clearly negated for the city of Graz, especially with regard to affordable housing, conclusions in the regions differ. Supply and demand depend on the economic situation of a municipality and, related with this, on inward and outward migration. Generally discussants considered the supply sufficient in quantitative terms.

[Human Rights Advisory Council of the City of Graz \(ed.\) \(2014\): \*The Human Rights Report of the City of Graz 2013\*, Human Rights Advisory Council of the City of Graz, Graz.](#)

The Seventh Human Rights Report of the City of Graz points at human rights challenges and progress in the human rights city, showing that from a human rights perspective there are three vulnerable groups of persons: children in street traffic, women in their own houses and persons with black colour of skin in public space and public transport.

In 2012, 26 children were hurt in accidents that happened at pedestrian crossings. Every eighth woman suffers physical violence in her marriage or partnership. Every seventh black person experiences physical attacks in the middle of the street.

A perennial issue in the human rights discourse in Graz is the topic of discrimination. Fifty percent of the persons concerned did not seek help because they assume that there is no help anyway.

Progress can be found in education, in building accessibility and in the debate on begging, e.g. the number of girls with a first language other than German that attend grammar school has further increased. The city of Graz implements the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The debate on begging was made more objective, and a working group was established to elaborate recommendation to be realised in the year to come.

Focal areas of the human rights report 2013 were, on behalf of the mayor, access to housing and work. The report found problems concerning the housing situation of underage refugees. The labour market becomes more and more inaccessible for certain groups of persons.

Therefore the experts recommend to elaborate specific offers for these persons.

Other recommendation of the human rights report comprise easier readability of official decisions, standardised procedures in civil status matters in cases of changed gender identities, the complete implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the fight against discrimination by using the city's economic power and the use of modern means in health information.

## 5. Resources

### 5.1 Infrastructure

#### Library

The ETC library holds an extensive selection of books and human rights related materials (e.g. materials for human rights education, DVD, etc.).

In 2014, the ETC library has acquired approximately 100 new books, bringing the library to almost 3.000 books and human rights related materials. In particular the sections on (Anti)Discrimination, Human Rights Education, Human Rights at the Local Level, Human Security, Torture, Racism and Migration saw the largest gains of books and materials.

The main focus of the library in 2014 was set on developing a new cataloguing system that will allow for a more comprehensive search, as well as, in the near future, for the possibility of creating bibliography lists, choosing between the main bibliographic style in use. Another issue that needs to be mentioned is the digitalization of our library that now does not only encompass printed copies, but also digital books, articles and legal documents.

The library is open to the public during the week (Monday to Friday 09:00 am to 12:00 am or upon appointment).

#### Internships

2012 to 2014 22 students, partly from beyond the Austrian borders, completed an unpaid internship at the ETC. 14 interns were from Austria, and one each from Australia, Spain, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Palestine.

We thank all for their commitment and their valuable inputs to the work of the ETC.

### 5.2 Staff

#### Directors

**Renate Kicker** (Director, Chair)

**Wolfgang Benedek** (Co-director, Deputy Chair)

#### Team

**Klaus Starl**, Economist

Executive Director, Academic staff, Trainer

**Veronika Apostolovski**, Jurist

Academic staff, Trainer, Anti-discrimination Law, Locating Intersectional Discrimination

**Gülüz Deniz**, Student

Project Assistant, Accounting

**Isabella Meier**, Social Scientist

Academic staff

**Ingrid Nicoletti**, Social Scientist

Academic staff, Office for the Human Rights Advisory Board, Human Rights City of Graz

**Reinmar Nindler**, Jurist

Academic staff

**Markus Möstl**, Jurist

Academic staff

**Gerd Oberleitner**, Jurist

Academic support, Human Security

**Simone Philipp**, Humanist

Academic staff, Trainer, Project development, Human Rights Education

**Adina Raducanu**

Academic staff

**Barbara Schmiedl**, Humanist

Academic staff, Trainer, Human Rights Education, Programme, Public Relations

**Alexandra Stocker**, Economist

Academic staff, Trainer, ECCaR – European Coalition of Cities against Racism, Finances, Administration (on parental leave since September 2014)

**Maddalena Vivona**, Jurist

Academic staff, Project development, Library

**David Weiss**, Student

Kenne deine Rechte (since October 2014)

### 5.3 Scientific Board

Dr. Walther Lichem, Wien, Chair

Dr. Christine Ainetter-Bräutigam, New York

Prof. Dr. Reg Austin, Stockholm

Prof. Dr. Bojko Bučar, Laibach

Susana Chiarotti, Buenos Aires

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Danspeckgruber,

Universität Princeton

Prof. Dr. Asbjörn Eide, Oslo  
Hon. Prof. Dr. Kurt Herndl, Bad Aussee  
Prof. DDr. Rainer Hofmann, Frankfurt  
Prof. Dr. Hubert Isak, Graz  
Prof. Dr. Wolfram Karl, Salzburg  
Prof. Dr. Walter Kälin, Bern  
Prof. Dr. Emil Kirchner, Essex  
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Shulamith Koenig, New York  
Prof. Dr. Otto König, Graz  
Dr. Georg Lennkh, Wien  
Prof. Dr. Werner Lenz, Graz  
Prof. Dr. Peter Leuprecht, Montreal  
Prof. Dr. Irena Lipowicz, Strassburg  
Hon. Prof. Dr. Rudolf Machacek, Wien  
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Mantl, Graz  
Prof. Dr. Joseph Marko, Graz  
Prof. Dr. Manfred Nowak, Wien  
Prof. Dr. Martin Polaschek, Graz  
Prof. Dr. Willibald Posch, Graz  
Prof. Dr. Wolf Rauch, Graz  
Dr. Gerhard Sabathil, Brüssel  
Prof. Linos-Alexandre Sicilianos, Athen  
Alfred Stingl, Graz  
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Dr. Christian Strohal, Warschau  
Mag. Engelbert Theuermann, Wien  
Dr. Arno Truger, Stadtschlaining  
Prof. Dr. Lothar Zechlin, Essen  
Prof. Dr. Leo Zwaak, Utrecht