



European Training- and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy

# Annual Report January - December 2003

# Introduction

The year 2003 brought along a further increase of the ETC's activities as well as of its international recognition especially fostered through the „Manual on Human Rights Education: Understanding Human Rights“ and the activities in the context of „Graz – Europe Cultural Capital 2003“. Therefore, on the occasion of the Cultural Capital year 2003, a course on „Culture of Human Rights“ was opened as well as concluded in the arena of the new town's landmark - the „Island in the Mur“. The connection of the capital and the cultural capital was also proven in a series of other events hosted by „Graz 2003“. The ETC's task of coordinating the human rights city process in Graz was expressed additionally in a symposium on human rights at the local level at the aula of the University of Graz as well as in a discussion forum with local politicians on the Human Rights Day.

Of utter importance was certainly the elaboration of the new human rights handbook initiated and ordered by the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs. On the occasion of the ministerial meeting of the network for Human Security in May 2003 in Graz the manual, together with the „Graz Declaration on Principles of Human Rights Education and Human Security“, was adopted. With it the ETC has created a training medium which has gained

worldwide attention within short time. Already in 2003, translations into French, Spanish, German and Chinese were started, others are to follow. From the manual and its worldwide distribution resulted a close cooperation with the human rights department of the international law department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the course of this cooperation the Manual was introduced on the „Human Dimension-Meeting“ of ODIHR/OSZE in Warsaw as well as on an expert meeting of the HSN Mali.

With its first „International Summer Academy on Human Rights and Human Security“ in autumn 2003 the ETC started a worldwide new offer in accordance to the Austrian status as a leading member of the Human Security Network in the field of human rights education. Similar to the manual, the summer academy stands for a new step towards an international positioning and the building up of an international network of lecturers and interested party. On the initiative of the participants, the ETC published an electronic newspaper called „Human Security Perspectives“.

Another focal point were the continuing education courses for teachers, in collaboration with the Pedagogic Institute of the Federal Government. Furthermore a seminar for trainee judges started a new focus of the ETC.

The cooperation with the Human Rights Advisory Board of the Ministry of Internal Affairs was

was continued in the context of a course on "Human Rights Educations for policemen and women" . Additionally, our focus on South-East-Europe issues found continuation in several events and seminars.

With regards to research activities the project „Culture of Human Rights“ as well as the LISI- and the FREE-project were concluded and new activities in the field of Human Rights Education and Human Security as well as curriculum development in South-East-Europe were launched, partly sponsored by the Future Fund of the Styrian Government and partly by means of the East Cooperation of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Within the scope of Future Fund projects, the ETC – under the title „Culture of Human Rights“ – was chosen to join the publication on „Future Innovations in Styria“. Additionally, the work on the editing of the publication „Anti-Terrorist Measures and Human Rights“ needs to be emphasized in this context.

The ETC research association has become increasingly active, though private sponsors have not been identified yet.

Concerning personnel development, we succeeded to win Mag. Dr. Klaus Starl as Executive Secretary. Renowned colleagues such as Mag. Minna Nikolova, Mag. Eva Schöfer or Mag. Catrin Pekari left due to personal or professional reasons.

Due to the various projects, the annual budget had to be expanded, the risen expenditures could be covered by capital surpluses. Given the problems of the public budget, it is not easy to finance all activities. Despite the ETC successes of attaining new projects, the ETC depends on the public support in its basic financing.

In the Mozarthof a change of partners took place. The International Language Centre left the premises and was succeeded by the University of Graz.

Altogether the ETC found its place on the map of international human rights institutions, several co-operations and visits, such as the one of the Chilean Minister of Foreign Affairs, are proof for that. Thus, the ETC was able to prove its international significance in the fields of human rights education and research.

# I. Lectures, Panel Discussions and conferences

- 9 January 2003** Round Table with Yvonne Schmidt, University of Graz, Topic: **"The Middle East Conflict: Human Rights and the Israeli Legal Order"**.
- 16 January 2003** Lecture by Heide Schmidt (former president of the Liberal Forum) about **"The concept of an open society and the enhancement of democracy"** Introduction by Wolfgang Benedek.
- 8 March 2003** Lecture by Otto Triffterer about **"The permanent International Criminal Court – a compromise as a break through for the prevention of misuse of power?"** This lecture was organized by the Society for International Law, the ETC was co-organizer.
- 10 April 2003** Panel discussion moderated by Wolfgang Benedek: Panelists: Hannes Porias (Belgrade) and Karl Kaser (University of Graz) Topic: **"Future questions for Serbia and Montenegro"**.
- 24 April 2003** Panel discussion on the topic **"The relationship between Europe and the US as well as its effects on the Arabic Area)"** Panelists: Eugen Freund (ORF) and Fritz Edlinger (Austrian – Arabic Relations) Moderation: Klaus Höfler (Die Presse).

- 8 – 10 May 2003** Presentation of the ETC-Manual „**Understanding Human Rights**“ in the course of the Minister Meeting of the Human Security Network.
- 12 June 2003** Panel discussion organised by the ETC and the **Bureau for Security Policy** of the Federal Ministry for National Defense. Topic: **Conflict and Peace – Policy, Human Rights and Culture as pre-conditions for an order of peace?** Moderation: Wolfgang Rauch. Panelists: Erich Reiter, Wolfgang Benedek, C.E. Ritterband (NZZ), Mr. Droschl (Droschl publisher) and Helmut Strobl (former councillor).
- 14 October 2003** Lecture (in cooperation with the Centre of Competence for South-East-Europe) about human rights and democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina: **“How long will B-H need international presence?”** Gerhard Jandl (Sarajewo), Joseph Marko (University of Graz) and Wolfgang Benedek (University of Graz)
- 24 October 2003** Book presentation: **„Human Rights – Women Rights. International, European and national dimensions“** by Brita Neuhold, Silvia Ulrich and Renate Pirstner-Ebner, Moderation: Barbara Schmiedl.
- 29 October 2003** Lecture **“Guatemala before elections – The situation of Human Rights and Democracy”** by Michael Schaller (Guatemala platform Styria) with an introduction by Klaus Starl (ETC)

- 6 November 2003** Lecture by Helga Konrad (chairperson of Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings) **"Women and Children as commodities?"** Moderation: Anke Sembacher (ETC)
- 12 November 2003** Panel discussion **„Undermining the means of state? The meaning of the GATS-negotiations for citizens?"** Moderation: Wolfgang Benedek. Panelists: Angelika Kleewein (University of Graz, ETC), Thomas Kohlert (BMWA), Angela Pfister (ÖGB, Stopp GATS) and Heinz Rabussay (WK).
- 2 December 2003** **Quo Vadis Kosovo?** – Workshop and discussion under the moderation of Wolfgang Benedek and Blenim Reka (University Tetovo and Prishtina), Josef Marko, Marijana Grandits (BIM) and Arenca Trashani (University of Skhodra, Albanien)

## II. Seminars, Courses and Training Program

**9/10 January 2003**

Series of seminars for history teachers at secondary schools (in cooperation with the Pedagogic Institute of Federation in Styria) **“History and political education, seminar 4: All Rights for All”** Lecturers: Wolfgang Benedek (University of Graz), Heidrun Thomas (Intercultural Centre Vienna); Barbara Schmiedl (ETC Graz).

**5-7 February 2003**

Seminar for pre-service judges: **“A world of difference – Integration and Nondiscrimination”** Lecturers: Wolfgang Benedek (University of Graz), Eva Schöfer (ETC Graz), Renate Kicker (member of the Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, University of Graz, ETC), Heidi Bassin (Peace Centre of Graz), Hermine Steinbach-Buchinger (ADL Vienna), Christoph Lukits (judge, ADL Vienna), Heinz Wietrzyk (president of the OLG Graz)

**5 March 2003**

Sensitization workshop for human rights questions in the Human Rights City of Graz: **“Human Rights - What’s that to me?”** Lecturers: Wolfgang Benedek, Catrin Pekari, Barbara Schmiedl, Eva Schöfer (ETC Graz)

- 16/17 May 2003** UniT 2003 programme **“Round Trip –stations of a journey”**.  
In the context of UNiversum Graz the ETC offered a „journey stop“ on racism; via a role play the awareness for up to date racism problems were sharpened and visualized and therefore it was proofed once more that respect and tolerance are vital parts of education. Trainer: Verena Lahousen (ETC)
- 7 – 11 July 2003** International Youth meeting of the Europe Centre Graz (Neumarkt) **“Fundamental Rights – Human Rights”**. Lecturers: Anke Sembacher, Claudia Pekari, Verena Lahousen
- 1. – 10. September 2003** **International Summer Academy on human rights and human security – special focus on South-East-Europe**
- 22/23 September 2003** Workshop **“Visiting of the CPT and prisons from the point of view of social sciences for members of the penal system commissions”**. Lecturers: Renate Kicker (Department for Internat. Law, University of Graz, CPT), Wolfgang Gratz (former director JA Mittersteig, further education centre penal system).
- 12/13 November 2003** Workshop (in cooperation with Human Rights Advisory Board and the Security Academy of the Home Secretariat) **“Human Rights Education for the police”** Lecturer: Renate Kicker (ETC, member of the CPT), Barbara Jauk (author), Walter Suntinger (Human Rights Advisory Board), Karlheinz Dudek and Thomas Hopfner (Security Academy). Moderation: Wolfgang Benedek (ETC Graz)



- 12/13 November 2003** Seminars for history teachers for secondary schools (in cooperation with the pedagogic institute): **“History and Political Education, Seminar 1: Political and Every Day Life Understanding, Basics and Control”**.  
Lecturers: Peter Filzmaier (University of Innsbruck), Catrin Pekari (University of Graz), Petra Purkarthofer (University of Vienna).
- 14 November 2003** Workshop/panel discussion (in cooperation with the Centre of Competence for South-East-Europe) **“Quo vadis, Kosovo?”** Panelists: Josef Marko (Centre of Competence SEE), Blerim Reka (Universities of Prishtina and Tetovo), Marijana Grandits (Boltzmann-Institute for Human Rights, Vienna) Arenca Trashani (University of Skhodra, Albania)
- 4/5 December 2003** Seminar **“Human Rights - Understanding, Living, Teaching”**. Lecturers: Wolfgang Benedek (University of Graz), Anke Sembacher, Verena Lahousen, Claudia Pekari (ETC Graz)
- 18 December 2003** Seminar administration academy of Graz **“Human Rights in the Daily Routine of Administration”**. Lecturers: Wolfgang Benedek (University of Graz), Claudia Pekari, Anke Sembacher (ETC Graz)
- 18 December 2003** Workshop **“Language and Power”** in the framework of political education at the Bundesgymnasium Gleisdorf. Trainer: Barbara Schmiedl (ETC Graz)

### III. International Summer Academy on Human Rights and Human Security – Special Focus on South-East-Europe

#### **THE IDEA**

At the beginning there was the vision to present the ideas of human rights and human security in a series of high-level lectures to postgraduates and graduates, qualified young people with scientific, administrative and NGO backgrounds.

Out of the concept of an international summer academy evolved, which should offer to its participants a qualitative, highly valuable and interesting training on issues of academia, different human rights issues and the guarantee of human security by international lecturers. The goal of the international summer academy, besides the continuing education of people active on the field of human rights and the resulting promotion of human rights and human security, is the creation and promotion of world-wide functioning networks with this very objective.

#### **THE IMPLEMENTATION**

The International Summer Academy on Human Rights and Human Security took place from 1 September until 10 September 2003 on the premises of the ETC and put a special focus on South Eastern Europe.

During the very short preparatory period of six months the following goals were achieved: conceptualization of the definite content, contacting of potential lecturers plus the adjustment of the content to their teaching concepts,

drafting of the budget, design of a website for the summer academy as well as other information material (brochure, programme), worldwide advertisement, compilation of reading material, selection of participants, assistance to participants concerning organisation (accommodation; travel arrangements and visa, which posed as an almost insurmountable hurdle for some) and content (literature). The Academy itself confronted the 30 participants with 25 lecturers, who presented a broad spectrum of issues in presentations as well as intensive working groups.

#### **THE LECTURERS**

The selection of lecturers was based on the textual concept of the Academy, which focused on a different aspect of the interaction between human rights and human security every other day.

The first day featured introductory lectures by Bertrand Ramcharan, then-acting UN-High Commissioner for Human Rights, who talked about human security and human rights in the United Nations, by ambassador Yukio Takasu (Permanent Representative of Japan, Vienna) about the objective of human security in general and by envoy Georg Mautner-Markhof (Austrian federal ministry of foreign affairs) about the HSN, whereas the second day brought a discussion about the normative and conceptual debate on human

security under the guidance of Wolfgang Benedek (University of Graz) and Gerd Oberleitner (London School of Economics).

On day three, under the flag of „Defence and Security“ experts from the Austria federal ministry of defence (Axel Wohlgemuth), the Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces (Theodor H. Winkler), the Macedonian Centre for Democracy and Security (Biljana Vankovska), the Austria Peace Centre Schlaining (Arno Truger) and the ETC (Minna Nikolova-Kress) highlighted different aspects of the civilian and the military dimension of security.

The political dimension was presented on day four by Walther Lichem (Austrian federal ministry of foreign affairs) and Joakim Robertsson (OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights). An evening lecture that day featured William Schabas on the International Criminal Court (Irish Centre for Human Rights).

The fifth day drew a bow from non-conventional threats to human security like terrorism, transnational organized crime or threats by environmental problems, presented by Walter Gehr (Terrorism Prevention Branch of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime Prevention), Andrew Mack (Centre for Human Security, University of British Columbia) and Renate Kicker (University of Graz, Committee for the Prevention of Torture).

Days six and seven – the weekend – brought rest on Saturday and Sunday, after an intense discussion on human security and development by Minar Pimple (Peoples' Movement of Human Rights Education India) and Raimundo Gonzales Aninat (Chilean ambassador to Austria) as well as a field trip to Western Styria and the exhibition on the famous Lipizzaner horses.

The second week of the Academy started with the issue of human security and culture, where Vojin Dimitrijevic

(Belgrad Center for Human Rights) and Dzemal Sokolovic (University of Bergen) emphasized diversity and Otto König (University of Graz) and Verena Lahousen (ETC Graz) brought up the concept for an afternoon-workshop on freedom of religion.

The ninth day featured aspects of personal security and the lecturers contributed various partial aspects of the issue like children in armed conflict (Bert Theuermann, UNICEF Children Advisor Sierra Leone), rights of the child (Helmut Sax, University of Vienna, Boltzmann-Institute for human rights), international humanitarian law (Francesca Pizzutelli, ICRC) and trafficking in human beings (Helga Konrad, Stability Pact Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings).

The tenth and last day was then dedicated to the future, the promotion of human security through human rights education and human rights learning; Elena Ippoliti (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) presented the human rights education programme of the UNO, Wolfgang Benedek and Barbara Schmiedl (ETC Graz) the work of the ETC and the manual “Understanding Human Rights – Manual for Human Rights Education”, which had been commissioned by the Austrian federal ministry of foreign affairs. After the final discussion and the evaluation of the Academy, the Academy ended with a swinging party.

## THE PARTICIPANTS

The global advertising campaign for the International Summer Academy on Human Rights and Human Security with a special focus on South Eastern Europe started in spring 2003. Although the topic was geographically restricted, many applications came from around the world. The Academy was advertised under the homepage [www.etc.summeracademy2003.at](http://www.etc.summeracademy2003.at) and

other appropriate information services as well as international organizations. The majority of the applicants were highly qualified and reinforced the sincerity of their applications by their essays on questions of human (in) securities in their countries of origin. Apart from the essays, academic and professional qualification and occupation as well as the country of origin served as selection criteria; during the selection process the future creation of global networks played a big role. The eventual participants, some receiving full scholarship, some none, formed a very diverse groups in matters of geographic origin and usual occupation, as the latter one showed ministerial collaborators, researchers and representatives of NGOs.

### **THE CONSEQUENCES**

The first weeks after the Summer Academy showed an intense email-exchange between the participants and Graz. Soon wish to maintain contact and to continue the constructive work arose. Out of the first idea to publish a book with different essays on human security in different regional aspects evolved the idea an online journal on human security issues as follow-up project of the Summer Academy 2003. As a long-term goal, these essays published online shall be published as a book.

The preparations for the Summer Academy 2004 have already started.

## IV. Research Projects

In the last two years, the ETC together with EURAC (Bozen, South-Tyrol) and the AIRE Centre (London, UK) worked on the EU-financed-project **“Legal Indicators for the Social Inclusion of New Minorities (LISI)”** with the goal to develop indicators to measure the social inclusion of migrational new minorities and completed it this year. The starting hypothesis was that the legal integration in the form of access to rights, goods, services and resources was a necessary but not sufficient precondition for the social conclusion of new minorities. The LISI-project aimed to complement the state of the research in the field of social exclusion of migrational minorities, as the legal aspects of the social integration very often had not been considered adequately before. Those objectives are of utter importance to the EU as they help with the identification of common standards and of barriers for the harmonization of relevant policy fields.

On the basis of “Graz2003” and the Human Rights City project, the ETC-Project “Culture of Human Rights” examined aspects of non-discrimination and

integration, especially with regards to migrants, and of the importance of the local level for the realization of human rights and the relevance of human rights education for this process. In particular, the symposium on „Human Rights at the Local Level“ at the University of Graz in November 2003 lead to extended researches. A survey among the signatory cities of the „European Charta for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City“ has been undertaken as well as the translation of the Charta into German. The symposium itself faced broad international attendance.

Within the scope of the project **Building-up and Linking-up Human Rights Centres in SEE** two publications as well as several newsletters were published with the help of the ETC-staff and the project on the whole was completed. Additionally, a new project on **„University Curriculum for Human Rights and Democratic Citizenship“** for future teachers was prepared in cooperation with the „Centre for Human Rights, Research and Training for Human Rights and Democratic Citizen-

ship" at the philosophical department of the Univ. of Zagreb. With the financing help of the department for East Cooperation of the Foreign Ministry this project was taken up finally.

Another project on **Curriculum Development and Human Rights Training in SEE**, which is financed by means of the Styrian Future Fund, has been prepared and is about to start in the year 2004.

In addition, further materials (in cooperation with the publishing house Manz) for the **Manual on Human Rights Education** were elaborated. Beyond this, preparatory steps for the German translation and update were done.

The publishing of **„Anti-terrorist measures and Human Rights“** from the homonymous symposium of the Marangopoulos-foundation and the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna in 2002 with the publishing house Kluwer (now: Brill) was prepared.

In the field of **Human Rights and Human Security**, a research program has been elaborated, which will form a long-term research focus at the ETC together with the summer academy and the Manual on Human Rights Education.

## V. Participation in International Study Programs

In the course of its tasks as an agent of the University of Graz within the **European Regional Master-Program for Democracy and Human Rights in SEE (ERMA)** in Sarajevo, the ETC coordinated the Human Rights implementation part, including teaching activities. Furthermore, it participated in board meeting, took over the supervision of several master theses and participated in their defenses, the opening and the closing ceremonies.

From the **European Master-program for Human Rights and Democracy (EMA)** of the European Union in Venice, for the first time two students (Stefania Kreigel/Belgium, David O'Connell/Ireland) attended the University of Graz during the summer term 2003.

The ETC also coordinated the participation of the University of Graz in this program in the fields of WTO and Human Rights (Wolfgang Benedek), as well as in the field of project management (Minna Nikolova), and it took part in the selection and the support of the „Masterini“ during their stay in Graz (Anke Sembacher). The thesis of David O'Connell was awarded the title of best thesis.

A new ETC-task is the participation in the preparation of the Master Programms **TEMPUS-Projects „Femmes, Civilisations et Systèmes Juridiques** (to start in 2004) which has been elaborated in cooperation with the universities of Marrakesh and Foggia.

## VI. Activities in the Human Rights City of Graz

The internal budgetary as well as political changes of the City of Graz, preceding and shaping 2003 caused a delay concerning the original Human Rights City timetable. Nevertheless, the year 2003 stood for strengthening and revitalize this process. It specially aimed for the realization of some of the activities proposed in the action program of the year 2002 in order to improve the situation of the evaluated socially weak target groups. Already in June the **brochure** *“My Human Rights. Information Centres of Graz”* which lists all help-lines and counseling opportunities for human rights questions in Graz. The brochure was developed together with the Peace Office Graz and was made available to the public. The „good will“ to change something in the town was proven in the **symposium** on *„Human Rights On The Local Level“* in the auditorium of the Karl-Franzens-University of Graz. The aim of the symposium was to look at two approaches to promote human rights at the local level, i.e. the approach of the Human Rights Cities and of the European Charter for the Safeguarding

of Human Rights in the City. The symposium dealt with the question of implementation of human rights through national and local institutions, including a presentation of best practices of institutionalizing the protection of human rights. The Human Rights City Graz itself considers signing the *“European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City”* and took the opportunity to exchange experiences with members of the Charter and with representatives of Human Rights Cities in the South. Besides, the Charta was translated into German in fall on the initiative of the town and the ETC.

The interest to revitalize the Human Rights Process in Graz was also voiced in a **panel discussion** on *“Human Rights: globally-locally. The example of the Human Rights City of Graz”* on the 10. of December – the International Human Rights Day. The podium presented the mayor of Graz, political representatives of the community as well as representatives of the Foreigners' Council, the Peace Office and the ETC. In almost two and a half



hours, the problems, challenges, successes and future perspectives, were discussed. Frido Hütter (Kleine Zeitung) chaired the discussion and succeeded in addressing various sensitive topics such as the opening of Council Housing for foreigners. The implementation of an ombudsperson (design concept available since September 2003) was especially emphasized as well as the establishment of a citizens' forum for the citizens of Graz, which should campaign human rights in the city.

An awareness raising action of the theatre group **Asou** took place in the inner town before the discussion. In cooperation with ETC members the group featured various human rights [Right to Live (Art 3 UDHR), Freedom of Expression (Art 19, UDHR), Non-Discrimination (Art 2, UDHR)] in a partly even provocative way. Many of the reactions proved that the interest in human rights matters is vital but regarding the awareness of human rights problems in the city a need for education is still identifiable. The city has to inform its citizen about the "What" and the "How" of a Human Rights City in detail.

## VII. ETC Contributions to the Cultural City Year 2003



### Project „Culture of Human Rights“

**INFO-Walls:** In the course of the project the citizens of Graz were confronted with the questions „Does the Cultural City 2003 also live a Culture of Human Rights?“ and „Does the population know that they live in the first Human Rights City of Europe?“. On altogether four days (one each month), the citizens of Graz were informed via Info-Walls and personal effort about various human rights relevant topics with relation to Graz. The Info-Walls took place as scheduled in the phase - plan, only the October event had to be moved to December due to bad weather conditions. The citizens' response to these events were more than

positive. The ambitious goal not only to inform, but also to encourage critical thinking was achieved.

**HOT TOPICS:** As in the year before this period also featured several events on the so-called series of „Hot Topics – Human Rights Questions in the City of Graz“. The round tables provided the audience with numerous experts, who offered insights in their work as well as their imaginations. They succeeded in involving the audience actively in the discussions.



## Hot Topics

- 22.1.2003**      **“Judaism and Human Rights”**, Shul of the Israeli Culutral Community, Graz.  
Moderation: Harald Baloch, Styrian diocese council  
Panelists: Theodor Much, President of the Or-Chadasch-Community and Otto König. Discussion on Human Rights within Judaism and other specific problem areas such as women rights in various aspects of Judaism. The numerous audience was strongly interested in the exposed arguments
- 7.5.2003**      **“Christianity and Human Rights”**  
Discussion on Human Rights within Christianity.  
Moderation: Wolfgang Benedek  
Panelists: Angelika Vauti and Franz Lackner, Styrian Bishop. Place: Catholic Students’ Community, Leechgasse 24, 8010 Graz über die Menschenrechte im Christentum.
- 4.6.2003**      **“Freedom of the Media – globally:locally”**, ORF-Landesstudio Steiermark. Moderation: Heinz Fischer (Fachhochschule for Journalism and Business Communication) Panelists: Franz Kössler (ORF), Ernst Sittinger (Die Presse) and Wolfgang Benedek.

**HUMAN RIGHTS WALKABOUT:** A concept worked out by Joachim Hainzl (CLIO) in cooperation with the ETC.

**Conference together with the British Council (June 03): “EVERYBODY MATTERS - The Impact of New Minorities on the Social Stability of a Multicultural Society in an Urban Environment”** – took place on the 16 and 17 of June in the premises of the Town museum (gothic hall) and the ETC. Cooperation partners: British Council Austria, deputised by Vera Hartl and Simon Cole, as well as the Foreigners’ Council of the City of Graz. On the invitation of the British Council Charles Husband (University of Bradford), Shamit Saggar (Strategy Unit, Cabinet of the Prime Minister) and Jane Roberts (Camden Borough, London) agreed to bring in their British expertise. The Austrian perspective was covered by contributions by Annette Sprung (KFU Graz), Savo Bojanic (Foreigners’ Council of the City of Graz), Albert F. Reiterer (University of Vienna), Bernd Perchinig (Austrian Academy of Sciences) and Wolfgang Benedek.

**EXHIBITION:** The call for bids for the „Creative Competition – Human Rights in daily life“ has been distributed to all school by Graz2003. The ETC was able to use its contacts with the Styrian School Board, which offered its house as the location for the exhibition and the opening.

The call for participation was issued to all art teachers. Out of all transmittals of all levels of education the winners were chosen with the active help of Mrs. Ursula Meister (art teacher). They were awarded their prizes at the premises of the Styrian School Board on April 30. The director of the ETC, Wolfgang Benedek, Egon Kapellari, Styrian Diocese Bishop, Horst Lattinger, President of the Styrian School Board, and Annemarie Leb, Councillor, as well as the former mayor of Graz Alfred Stingl participated in the awarding ceremony which was carried out by Wolfgang Benedek and the project coordinator, Anke Sembacher. In the following week, the exhibition was opened to the public.

**SYMPOSIUM HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL (17.10.03):** Graz was not only Europe's Cultural City 2003, but is also the first Human Rights City of Europe. The Human Rights City system was introduced by the „People's Movement for Human Rights Education (PDHRE)“, a New York-based NGO. On the occasion of this symposium the systems of different Human Rights Cities such as Graz and the system of signatory cities to the „European Charta of the Safeguarding of Human rights in the City“ were compared. Both sides found with the symposium a platform on which they could change experiences. Besides Shulamith Koenig, the founder of PDHRE, the mayor of Siegfried Nagl, vice-rector Friedrich Zimmermann, Wolfgang Benedek, Mrs. Susana Chiarotti (representative of the first human rights City worldwide, Rosario/Argentinien) and Mr. Zdislav Kedzia (UNO-High-Commissioner for Human Rights) offered insight in their daily work and expertise. Above that representatives of the city of Graz as well as of Grazer NGOs took part in this symposium, additional representatives of the following cities were present: Terassa/Spain, Lyon/France, Monfalcone/Italy, Nardo/Italy, Prishtina/Kosovo, Sarajevo/Bosnia and Herzegovina, Zvezdara/Serbia und Montenegro.

The symposium did not only offer textual information and components, but also provided a platform for an intense dialogue, exchange of experiences and networking.

**NIGHT OF HUMAN RIGHTS:** After the symposium a Human Rights Night took place in the auditory of the Karl-Franzens-University of Graz opened by Helmut Strobl, Graz03, and Univ.-Wolfgang Benedek. The evening was made possible thanks to means of the project itself on the one hand side, and thanks to the largely free of charge participation of the artists on the other hand side. The evening's highlights were the video-snap-shots of the „Human Rights City of Graz“ commented by ORF-moderator Miriam Hie. The successful and full of atmosphere event ended the project „Culture of Human Rights“

# Lecture-Series Culture of Human Rights

25 March 2003	opening at the new Murinsel Graz Wolfgang Benedek: „ <b>Importance of a Culture of Human Rights</b> “
2 April 2003	Renate Kicker: „ <b>About the Culture on a Human Detainment</b> “
9 April 2003	Lauri Hannikainen: „ <b>Cultural Rights of Minorities</b> “
30 April 2003	Richard Parncutt: " <b>Strategies towards Racism in the Media</b> "
6 May 2003	Annette Sprung: „ <b>The Integration of Migrants in their Social Proximity</b> “
13 May 2003	Malte Hossenfelder: „ <b>The Philosophical Grounds of Human Rights</b> “
22 May 2003	Heidemarie Uhl: „ <b>The Recollections of the Holocaust as Historical Legitimation of a global Culture of Human Rights.</b> “
28 May 2003	Otto König: " <b>Human Rights and Religion</b> "
5 June 2003	Walter Pieringer: „ <b>The Evil arrogate its Right.– Psychoanalysis of Human Rights</b> “
11 June 2003	Karin Schmidlechner: „ <b>Human Rights from a Gender Perspective</b> “
17 June 2003	Helmut Konrad: „ <b>Human Rights and the Modernity</b> “, Murinsel

## VIII. Human Rights Network in South-Eastern Europe (SEE HRC-Net)

After the phasing out of the European Union and the Austrian Foreign Ministry financing for the **Network of Human Rights Centres in South-East-Europe (SEE HRC-NET)**, the eight participating Human Rights Centres were largely depended on themselves. Especially for the human Rights Centre at the University of Prishtina this caused severe problems but thanks to intensive contacts to the University and the Law department the maintaining of the Centre could have been achieved.

At the same time several projects have been handed in order to support the cooperation of the network but unfortunately the EU project have not been chosen.

Even though the regional coordination lies with the Human Rights Centre at the University of Sarajevo, the ETC is constantly asked to continue its task of international coordination,

Enjoyable is the interest of the South-East European University of Tetova, whose director and dean of the administrative faculty visited the ETC, in order to ask for useful advise concerning the building up of a Human Rights Centre.

The ETC is additionally the focal point of the network of **PDHRE (People's Movement on Human Rights Education)** and stays in close contact with other regional centers in Mali, Rosario, Mumbai and the international coordination in New York. For the latter one yearly Board Meetings in New York and participation in several activities are required.

## IX. Library

During the last year about 50 new acquisition for the library have been bought. In order to increase the usability the various thematic fields have been listed in alphabetical order. Additionally a new signatory system on the example of the Heidelberger Max – Planck library has been introduced, it is intended to ease the finding of books via databank.

In the course of these changes, Mr. Schwab of the RESOWI – library was invited and offered valuable tips as well as his consultancy for further and future questions concerning the librarianship.

The registration of the existent book stock is almost finished which means that about 95 % (appr. 1230) of the available literature are catalogued.

Additionally, an online-access to the database has been installed. Furthermore the ETC has published an online journal on Human Security which is available in the library as well as on the internet site. The same is certainly true for the occasional papers which has been published by the ETC so far.



## X. Publications

The ETC was able to realise several profound publications.

The most important one was the English version of the Manual "**Understanding Human Rights**" (released in May, publisher: Manz/Crossmedia) edited by Wolfgang Benedek und Minna Nikolova (in cooperation with about 30 authors) on behalf of Austrian Foreign Ministry for the Human Security Network. The manual deals with Human Rights in 13 thematically well defined modules each of which with the same structure. It constitutes a unique approach to the topic of human rights and is meant - due to its specific conception – to be the base material for future amendments and aims for a broad target group.

In a second publication „**The LISI Indicators. Legal Indicators for Social Inclusion of New Minorities Generated by Immigration**“, edited by Joseph Marko, Roberta Medda-Windischer, Catrin Pekari, Nicola Rogers, Orsolya Frakas and Klaus Kapuy the ETC worked together in partnership with the European Academy of Bozen (EURAC), in the framework of the **LISI (Legal Indicators of Social Inclusion)** project.

Further publications arose from the close cooperation with the SEE HRC Network; **Ljudska Prava za Nepravnike** (Human Rights for Non-Lawyers); published by the Human Rights Centre of the university of Zagreb by Nebojsa Vucinic, Vedrana Spajic-Vrkas and Sinisa Bjekovic and **Studentska Prava** (Student Rights) published by the Human Rights Centre of Mostar (Rebeka Kotlo and Drazen Pandza).

## XI. Public Relations

In the area of public relations much was achieved.

The ETC newsletter appeared four times at intervals of three months in a print run of 1500 pieces each. Until the end of the year the number of addressees as well as of interested parties rose from 1000 to 1350 persons.

Additionally, all events were announced via mail to approximately 1500 interested parties and via letter to about 130 addressees (till the end of the year this number increased to 210 persons).

A special focus of the ETC laid in fostering its publicity in the media and we succeeded in achieving to appear with some events such as the Night of Human Rights, the Symposium and the project "Culture of Human Rights".

For sure and without any doubt, there is still a demand for catching up on publicity, but this is also reasoned by a certain reserve on the part of the media concerning human rights relevant topics - certainly a particular and vital challenge for the year 2004.

## XII. Financing

ETC und ETC-research society were in fund of 316.510 EUR revenue in total for the year 2003. Out of this 232.015 accounted for the ETC and 84.494 accounted for the research society, the later on was therefore for the first time capable to tackle larger projects and to assign two staff members with project development by the end of the year.

The research society was able to gain a profit of 39.663 which has been reset for the oncoming summer academy. Whereas the ETC itself faced an overspending of 24.877 (altogether 256.893) which could have been covered from surplus funds of the year 2002. The overall situation of both associations have been estimated as stable by our auditors Ferk and Strobl, objections concerning the ETC'S pattern of expenditure did not arise.

The income of both associations consist of subventions, project funding and avails of training section.

The main part of the research society income (82%) comes form Future Fond of Styria, dedicated to the university of Graz for the realization of the summer academy. The remaining 18% derive from incomes out of study programs (EU, EMA, BMLV).

The ETC income originate for 40% out of subventions of the city of Graz (55.000), Styria (25.000) and Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture(13.000). The remaining 60 % come from project incomes and education mandates. The ETC and the ETC research association were able to achieve a 300% cost-effectiveness on the basis of the received funding.

## XIII. ETC-Team

Dr. Gerd Oberleitner (Executive Secretary, until Sep. 2003)  
 Dr. Klaus Starl (Executive Secretary, from Sep. 2003)  
 Dr. Edith Marko-Stöckl (Administrative Officer)  
 Dr. Anke Sembacher (Information Officer, Project "Culture of Human Rights", Students' Advisor)  
 Mag. Barbara Schmiedl (Training Officer)  
 Mag. Eva Schöfer (Programme Officer, Project „Graz – Human Rights City“, until Aug. 2003)  
 Mag. Minna Nikolova (Project Officer "Network of Human Rights Institutions in SEE", Research, until June 2003)  
 Mag. Klaus Kapuy (Public Relations)  
 Mag. Angelika Kleewein (Library, Newsletter)  
 Mag. Catrin Pekari (Project Officer "LISI", Homepage, until Dec. 2003)  
 Mag. Verena Lahousen (LISI, Training, "Understanding Human Rights")  
 Mag. Claudia Pekari (Training, Research, Project „Graz – Human Rights City“, from Sep. 2003)  
 Mag. Petra Sulovska (Research Assistant, until August 2003)  
 Herbert Gutkauf (EDV, from March 2003)

### Directors:

Univ.-Prof. Mag. Dr. Wolfgang Benedek (Executive Director)  
 Ass.-Prof. DDr. Renate Kicker

### Interns:

Astrid Messner  
 Julia Braunegg  
 Lukas Benedek  
 Maddalena Vivona  
 Marius Radean  
 Petra Sulovska  
 Robert Scaife  
 Ursula Prinzi

## XIV. Scientific Board

Chair: Ambassador Dr. Walther Lichem, Vienna

Dr. Christine Ainetter-Bräutigam, New York  
 Prof. Dr. Reg Austin, Stockholm  
 Prof. Dr. Bojko Bucar, Laibach  
 Susana Chiarotti, Buenos Aires  
 Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Danspeckgruber, University  
 Princeton  
 Prof. Dr. Vojin Dimitrijevic, Belgrade  
 Prof. Dr. Asbjörn Eide, Oslo  
 Prof. Dr. Konrad Ginther, Graz  
 Hon. Prof. Dr. Kurt Herndl, Bad Aussee  
 Prof. DDr. Rainer Hofmann, Kiel  
 Prof. Dr. Hubert Isak, Graz  
 Prof. Dr. Wolfram Karl, Salzburg  
 Prof. Dr. Walter Kälin, Berne  
 Prof. Dr. Emil Kirchner, Essex  
 Morten Kjaerum, Copenhagen  
 Prof. Dr. Gernot Kocher, Graz  
 Shulamith Koenig, New York  
 Dr. Georg Lennkh, Vienna  
 Prof. Dr. Peter Leuprecht, Montreal  
 Prof. Dr. Irena Lipowicz, Strassbourg  
 Hon. Prof. Dr. Rudolf Machacek, Vienna  
 Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Mantl, Graz

Prof. Dr. Joseph Marko, Graz  
 Prof. Dr. Manfred Nowak, Vienna  
 Prof. Dr. Wolf Rauch, Graz  
 Dr. Gerhard Sabathil, Brussels  
 Alfred Stingl, Graz  
 Prof. Dr. Gerald Stourzh, Vienna  
 Dr. Christian Strohal, Warsaw  
 Mag. Engelbert Theuermann, New York  
 Dr. Arno Truger, Stadtschlaining  
 Prof. Dr. Lothar Zechlin, Graz  
 Prof. Dr. Leo Zwaak, Utrecht

## XV. Contact



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