



NATIONAL REPORT ON HATE SPEECH

WORDS ARE STONES! PROJECT

INTRODUCTION

About ADICE:

Since its creation in 1999, ADICE has aimed to become a known and recognized actor in international mobility by proposing mobility experiences that facilitate social integration and access to employment for its target audience. Since its origins, ADICE has thus developed an internationalization strategy through the development of a wide network of international partners, participation in seminars, the establishment of fruitful cooperation, the training of professional actors on international mobility and the sending of more than 2200 people abroad for more than 20 years. Through its experience, ADICE is working to recognize its actions in order to become a key player in its field.

In 2007, ADICE participated in a survey conducted by the International Labour Organization, the aim was to verify the existence, study the characteristics and measure the extent of discrimination in recruitment against young French people because of their origin. The analyses showed that employers clearly discriminate against minority candidates. Thus, people discriminated are structurally discriminated: it is on the basis of this problem identified and proven that ADICE acts in favour of disadvantaged groups, discriminated because of their ethnic or other origin, and victims of social and/or economic difficulties.

The aim is to offer young people with fewer opportunities the opportunity to participate in European and international mobility actions, which will enable them to develop social skills (openness, autonomy, critical thinking, solidarity, self-confidence), professional skills (teamwork, technical and linguistic skills) and intercultural skills (discovering a country, a new environment, accepting differences, getting rid of stereotypes, sharing this experience on return, being open to other lifestyles).

About the project:

This document has been produced in the framework of the project **Words are stones**, supported by Europe for citizens and coordinated by Lunaria (Italy) in partnership with ADICE (F), Antigone (Greece), Grenzelos (Austria), Kisa (Cyprus) and Sos Racisme (Spain).

"Words are Stones" project aims to involve NGO activists and European citizens in the fight against the cultural, social, political and media legitimization of racism and xenophobia in the political and public debate.

The project aims to:

- Analyze political discourses that exacerbate xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination against migrants, refugees and minorities by examining the public discourses and context of the 6 European countries, in order to produce 6 national reports and 1 comparative international report.
- Improve the capacity of civil society organizations, citizens and European institutions to prevent and respond to hate speech, in particular through the organization of pan-European citizens' meetings.
- Deconstruct the most common prejudices and stereotypes
- identify key themes and arguments of hate speech.
- Involve European youth in campaigns against hate speech against immigrants, refugees and minorities, through the production and dissemination of a guide on new innovative methods to combat harassment, 5 short video clips, the opening of the website of the "words are stones" project.

- Raise awareness among EU politicians for the promotion of intercultural dialogue, the protection of human rights and peaceful coexistence between host population and refugees through a communication campaign.

ADICE has developed this document with the aim of exposing the context regarding hate speech in France and more particularly the context in the Hauts de France region (ex Nord Pas-de-Calais / Picardy) given the geographical position of the association. The region is indeed closely linked with immigration. It was decided to present the context from a historical perspective, in particular with regard to migration flows in the region, but also to identify the main actors, targets and topics that are at the center of public hate speech. On the other hand, we will then present the different civil society and public initiatives in response to these practices of hate speech.

First of all, it appears essential to clarify what can mean the term of "hate speech".

As defined by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe¹ it covers all forms of expression which spread, incite, promote or justify racial hatred, xenophobia, antisemitism or other forms of hatred based on intolerance, including intolerance expressed by aggressive nationalism and ethnocentrism, as well as discrimination and hostility against minorities, migrants and people of immigrant origin.

However, there is no legal definition in term of international law, it's more a common expression used to describe a general discourse, extremely negative and a risk to social peace. To this definition given, we can identify other hate speech "category" that would also cover: hate speech on the grounds of sexual orientation, sexism, islamophobia or antigypsyism...

Hate speech is commonly defined as verbal expression, which are discriminatory towards people or groups due to characteristics such as ethnicity, origin and cultural background, nationality, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability.

However, it is important to distinguish hate speech from discrimination policy to avoid confusing it. Indeed, hate speech appears to be "free" in its dissemination, these speeches are most of the time based on a policy of discrimination, it is a gross and unfiltered rejection of a minority or a category of population. According to the online legal dictionary "La Toupie"² in the social field, discrimination is the negative distinction, isolation, segregation of persons or a group of persons from a broader set. It consists in restricting the rights of some by applying specific unfavorable treatment to them without any objective relationship with what makes it possible to determine the broader whole. Discrimination, whether intentional or unconscious, undermines equal rights and equal opportunities, but also the equal duties of all.

However, discrimination does not necessarily mean hate speech. Discrimination is most often the result of an ideology built and defended by a political force. Discrimination is actually a vehicle for hate speech, but hate speech has no real political outlet as it is something free³.

Thus, Nationalist, populist and xenophobic movements which instrumentally mix Euroscepticism can sometimes disseminate discrimination ideology without using hate speech. Finally, the today public debate crossed by stereotypes and prejudices targeting minorities can lead to hate speech, especially with new way of communication as social medias.

¹ Le discours de haine : <https://www.coe.int/fr/web/freedom-expression/hate-speech> - 2018

² Discrimination : <http://www.toupie.org/Dictionnaire/Discrimination.htm> -

³ L'appréhension des discours de haine par les juridictions françaises : entre travail d'orfèvre et numéro d'équilibriste : <https://journals.openedition.org/revdh/4302> - 2018

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I. The context in France

a. At the national level

Before addressing topics of discrimination or hate speech, it is important to note that discrimination is not only related to origin.

According to the law, discrimination is unequal treatment based on a criterion (sex, age, state of health, etc.) and in an area cited by the law, such as employment. Today, 20 criteria for discrimination have been established by the French law⁴. Indeed, hate speech in France also deals with other subjects such as homosexuality, sex, disability.

However, it is true that some of the hate speeches are xenophobic in nature, and for this reason it is necessary to refer to the history of France in terms of immigration.

France is an old immigration country in Europe⁵. As early as the second half of the 19th century, mass immigration filled labour shortages.

First on the border (German, Belgian), it has been diversified at the end of the 19th century, and even more after the First World War, to meet the country's reconstruction needs. The Italian (the largest community in 1930) and Polish immigrants contributed significantly to the mining, construction, steel and metallurgical industries.

In the aftermath of the Second World War, the migration landscape diversified because Italian immigration, which was less significant than expected, was replaced by short-term immigration from Spain, Portugal, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Tunisia, Morocco and, finally, sub-Saharan countries. Algerian immigration, on the other hand, is much older since it began at the end of the 19th century.

The cessation of immigration of paid labour by the State in 1974 accelerated the family reunification of non-Europeans, few of whom returned to their countries, while Europeans gradually enjoyed freedom of movement, settlement and work⁶.

Today, the migration landscape has become considerably more diverse, also due to the influx of asylum seekers from Latin America, Asia, Middle East and Africa. New migration channels (Chinese, Indian, Pakistani) are developing, such as those from Eastern Europe, with skilled Romanian and Bulgarian immigrants, Chechen refugees and transit migrants from former Yugoslavia and Romania - mainly Roma. In recent years, refugees in Europe or the Middle East have mainly been Syrians, Afghans, Iraqis or Libyans. All of these countries are suffering from civil wars that are widely recognized internationally. In France, the number of people with a residence permit recognized as refugee is at its highest level in ten years. In France, the number of asylum seekers is constantly and rapidly increasing: all first applications and reviews have almost doubled since 2014, from 65,000 to nearly 123,000. The main nationalities to submit applications are Afghans, Albanians, Georgians, Guineans and Ivorians.

⁴ 20 legal criteria of discrimination : <http://www.jeunes.gouv.fr/interministeriel/citoyennete/vivre-ensemble/article/lutte-contre-les-discriminations> - 2015

⁵ Interview with Gérard Noiriel, French historian : <https://www.lhistoire.fr/la-france-un-vieux-pays-dimmigration> - 2010

⁶ Since when France is a land of immigration? <http://www.histoire-immigration.fr/questions-contemporaines/les-migrations/depuis-quand-la-france-est-elle-une-terre-d-immigration>

However, only 27% of the cases resulted in the asylum seeker's admission in 2018, even less than the previous year (30%). Afghans or Syrians almost all obtain refugee protection status, while most Albanians or Algerians, who immigrate more frequently for economic reasons, are denied it⁷.

b. The local context in the north of France

The Nord-Pas-de-Calais region, which later became Hauts de France, is one of the privileged observatories of the long-term migration phenomenon, due to the scale and diversity of the waves of migrants it has welcomed⁸.

After several migratory flows linked to labour history (mining, glorious industrial past), we have now entered a phase of discovery and recognition of the role played by migrants in local economic activity over the past two centuries. A border area, located at the geographical heart of the Europe of the Industrial Revolution, the region is today rich in the diversity of the populations that have crossed it, worked there and sometimes settled there given the circumstances. The human landscapes of Nord-Pas-de-Calais are basically the result of the variety of migrations that have taken place.

The city of Roubaix, where ADICE is established, is a perfect example of this, a city of immigration par excellence, it has long been one of the world's leading centers for the textile industry.

From the turn of the 1970s and 1980s, important changes took place and the concept and objective of "integration" appeared in public policies. At the same time, the emergence of the anti-racist movement from the "Walk for equality" (1983) gave some of the children of immigrants a voice in the public debate. In this context of economic and symbolic decline of the workers' group, the rise of racism and xenophobia among the population particularly affects the newcomers.

Although the region has become attractive again, this does not prevent the growth of social inequalities at the regional level or the persistence of major socio-economic difficulties for the populations of urban and peri-urban areas in difficulty, often of foreign origin.

In order to promote equal opportunities, ADICE gives priority to young people aged 18 to 30 who are facing difficulties in their access to employment; they also often face social and/or economic difficulties, and may be discriminated against when hiring because of their origins.

⁷Le Monde – *How much immigrants in France?* https://www.lemonde.fr/les-decodeurs/article/2019/03/20/combien-y-a-t-il-d-immigrants-et-de-demandeurs-d-asile-en-france-et-en-europe_5438852_4355770.html - 2019

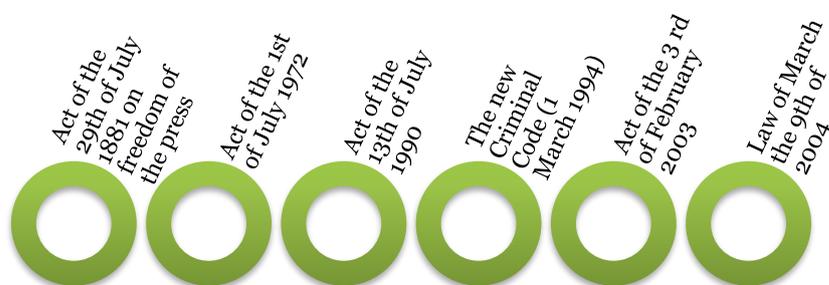
⁸ Les grands flux migratoires dans le Nord-Pas-de-Calais aux XIXe et XXe siècles : https://www.revues-plurielles.org/uploads/pdf/47/248/9_11.pdf

II. Hate speech in France

a. Legal framework around hate speech in France

In France, the legal framework around hate speech has met progressive evolution. The law was firstly more focused on the fight against, discrimination, racism and anti-Semitism:

- the Act of 29 July 1881 on freedom of the press, punishing discriminatory public statements
- the Act of 1 July 1972, a number of acts of everyday life are denounced as offensive
- the Act of 13 July 1990, criminalization of any racist act by creating "crime against humanity" definition
- the new Criminal Code (1 March 1994) strengthens the punishment of racist offenders
- the Act of 3 February 2003, which increases penalties for racism
- the law (9 March 2004) specifies this aggravating circumstance: racist or anti-Semitic statements, writings, images, objects or acts



French law already sanctions manifestations of racism and anti-Semitism when they take the form of statements motivated by such feelings. While it has, in principle, excluded, since 1881, any form of prior censorship in order to guarantee freedom of expression, a sine qua non condition of any pluralist democracy, it does provide for the sanction of certain racist, anti-Semitic or xenophobic statements that constitute abuses of freedom of expression, which alone may be sanctioned under Article 11 of the Declaration of Human and Citizens' Rights, the constitutional basis of this freedom. With the aim of reconciling freedom of expression with respect for the rights of others and the preservation of public order, the French law did not intend to punish all hate speech, but only the most harmful, and distinguished between public speech that falls under the Press Act of 29 July 1881 and private speech that can be prosecuted under the Civil Code. Thus, the legislative arsenal does not yet seem to be adapted to hate speech on social networks.

The law is therefore neither foreign nor indifferent to the repression of hate speech. But then, why would we want to "institute" legislation to fight against such speech on the Internet? As a matter of principle, comments on the Internet are public and are subject to the Press Act, unless they are made in the context of a private conversation by e-mail, in which case they may nevertheless be prosecuted under the articles of the Criminal Code. From this point on, a message published on a social network is considered public as long as it is not only visible to a community of "friends".

During his speech at the annual dinner of the Conseil représentatif des institutions juives de France (Crif), the President of the Republic announced that a bill to fight hate on the Internet will be introduced "from May" by LREM deputy Laëtitia Avia. "France must draw new red lines and we will do so, through concrete measures," he said.

Emmanuel Macron pointed out that this text will be based largely on the report submitted last September by Laëtitia Avia, which made 20 proposals for strengthening the fight against racism and

anti-Semitism on the Internet⁹ (better moderation, greater accountability of platforms, removal of anonymity...

b. Discrimination situation in the territory

ADICE participated in a survey conducted by the International Labour Office, the purpose of which was to verify the existence, study the characteristics and measure the extent of discrimination in recruitment against young French people because of their origin. The analyses showed that employers clearly discriminate against minority candidates¹⁰. French "native" candidates had five times more proposals for interviews on qualified positions than testers with North African origin. Thus, people discriminated against are structurally discriminated¹¹.

Most of the differences in treatment penalized young people of North African or Black African origin are even before they have been received in interview by the employer. They're dismissed a lot, more often than others at the time of contact, the differences in treatment which may take the form of notified refusals or more sneaky suspensions.

This does indeed deal with acts of discrimination, but it must be distinguished from hate speech. On this subject, the news of the Lille metropolis in recent years has been around the "Génération identitaire" group and the "La citadelle" bar. Al Jazeera carried out a documentary in 2018, it talks about racist statements, threats of attacks, violence against people of immigrant background, alleged disturbing links with the "Front National" ¹².

Located in the very center of the European Metropolitan Area of Lille, La Citadelle is an "identity bar" that has been open since January 2015. It welcomes people of "French origin" and "white race" since according to the owner of the bar, one needs to be from European origin and "white" to be French. The Bar is also the place where identity generation members meet regularly and recruit new members.

A journalist from Al Jazeera infiltrated the "Generation Identity" group (to which the bar belongs) in Lille, with a hidden camera for six months. After which, the Qatari channel broadcasts a shocking documentary showing Aurélien Verhassel's (leader of Génération Identity Nord) closest allies making racist statements and Nazi salute, calling for the "death" of Arabs, referring to a terrorist assassination plan at the market of Wazemmes (in Lille).

Martine Aubry, Mayor of Lille, said she was horrified and called for the closure of La Citadelle.

c. Government action

Back in 2010, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination warned France against its treatment of Roma and the non-recognition of minority rights in legislation, pushing France to establish a « real political plan » to fight discrimination.

⁹ Proposals to fight against online hate speech : <http://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/2018/09/20/97001-20180920FILWWW00224-racisme-sur-internet-20-propositions-remises-au-premier-ministre.php> - 20/09/2018

¹⁰ Premières Synthèses – Février 2008 : http://www.ismcorum.org/stock_images/actus/437/synthese-testing-bit-2007.pdf

¹¹ Pote à pote – Testeurs de république <http://www.maisondespotes.fr/sites/default/files/pdf/poteapote124.pdf> - 2009

¹² Al Jazeera Video documentary : <https://france3-regions.francetvinfo.fr/hauts-de-france/nord-0/lille/video-racisme-violence-salut-nazi-journaliste-infiltre-generation-identitaire-bar-citadelle-lille-1590131.html> - 2018

At the request of Mr. Edouard Philippe, the French Prime Minister, the National Plan to Combat Racism and Anti-Semitism 2018-2020 followed the 2015-2017's inter-ministerial plan, "Mobilized against racism and anti-Semitism". The first plan's figures having been a source of concern.

Its objective are; fighting against hate on the Internet, educating against prejudice having better support for victims, investing in new ways of action.

d. Political examples

However, the limit between freedom of speech and hate speech is sometimes not so clear. Some justice cases can testify:

- In 2002, the writer Michel Houellebecq was found not guilty of incitement to racism after stating in an interview: "And the dumbest religion is still Islam." The French League for Human Rights, which brought a lawsuit against him, was dismissed, the court noting that Michel Houellebecq's remarks were part of the right to criticism of religious doctrines and considering that criticism of a religion could not be compared to racist remarks, which were prohibited by French law.¹³
- The case of Bruno Gollnisch's remarks of October 2004: in 2007, the Lyon Criminal Court sentenced Bruno Gollnisch (former vice president of Front National) to three months' suspended imprisonment and a fine of 55,000 euros for contesting the existence of crimes against humanity in a comment on the Shoah. This decision was confirmed on appeal on 28 February 2008, but on 23 June 2009 the Court of Cassation annulled the conviction and cleared Bruno Gollnisch, arguing that he had not contested the existence of crimes against humanity, but suggested that "specialists" (i. e. historians) should have the legal right to debate these crimes, without the law prohibiting in advance, in their debates, the exploration of certain theses or possibilities.¹⁴
- In 2008, Brigitte Bardot was convicted for the fifth time for "incitement to racial hatred". The MRAP had filed a complaint because she had said, in a letter to the government about Muslim Eid al-Kebir: "There is enough of being led by the nose by the whole population[...] who are destroying our country..."¹⁵
- In February 2014, in an interview with the quarterly magazine Charles, Christine Boutin (former member of the government) stated that "homosexuality is an abomination". These remarks are strongly condemned by the right-wing party, of which she was a member. On 11 April 2014, Inter-LGBT filed a complaint for "defamation" and "incitement to hatred", claiming that Christine Boutin "has been making such statements for fifteen years". A few hours later, she declared that her remarks were "clumsy" and indicated that she saw in this complaint the continuation of the LGBT movement's fight "against all the values of promoting the family and defending the most fragile, in this case the child", which she said she had "unfailingly carried in politics since the beginning". At the criminal trial at the Paris Regional Court in October 2015, the prosecutor requested a fine of €3,000. Two months later, on December 18, Christine Boutin was sentenced to a fine of 5,000 euros for incitement to hatred. This sentence was

¹³ Michel Houellebecq's case : <http://www.lefigaro.fr/livres/2014/12/30/03005-20141230ARTFIG00159-houellebecq-et-plateforme-la-religion-la-plus-con-c-est-quand-meme-l-islam.php>

¹⁴ Bruno Gollnisch' case : https://www.lemonde.fr/politique/article/2009/06/24/la-cour-de-cassation-annule-la-condamnation-de-bruno-gollnisch_1210645_823448.html

¹⁵ Brigitte Bardot's case : https://www.lemonde.fr/societe/article/2008/06/03/brigitte-bardot-condamnee-a-15-000-euros-d-amende-pour-racisme_1053334_3224.html

upheld on appeal on 2 November 2016 but annulled in cassation without reference, the Court upholding freedom of expression.¹⁶

III. French cases and common targets

a. Survey and reports

According to national reports on racist, anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim and anti-Christian acts recorded in 2017 by the Central Service for Territorial Intelligence (SCRT) of the Central Directorate of Public Security (DCSP). Threats, hate speech on and off the Internet and actions to damage places of worship were down in 2017 (compared to 2016 figures). There has been a slight increase in violence. As the 2018 results are not yet available, here are the 2017 trends for the 3 categories¹⁷:

- **Hate speeches**
 - Racist threats decreased by 17.36%: after 524 threats in 2016, 433 were recorded in 2017.
 - Threats of an anti-Semitic nature also decreased by 17.1% (from 258 to 214 threats).
 - Anti-Muslim threats also decreased by 58.5% (from 118 threats in 2016 to 49 in 2017).

- **Acts of hatred against persons**
 - violent racist violence increased in 2017 (85 incidents in 2017 compared to 84 in 2016)
 - anti-Muslim actions increase (from 67 actions in 2016 to 72 actions in 2017)
 - Anti-Semitic actions (97 actions in 2017, after 77 in 2016, an increase of 20 facts) are increasing at a worrying rate in 2017. Among these actions, attacks on persons increased from 42 in 2016 to 30 in 2017

- **Acts of hatred towards places of worship**
 - Violations of Muslim sites fell by a further 15%, with 72 incidents recorded in 2017, compared with 85 in 2016.
 - However, violations of Jewish places of worship and burial (28 incidents) increased by 22% compared to 2016 (23 incidents).

¹⁶ Christine Boutin's case : https://www.huffingtonpost.fr/2018/01/09/la-cour-de-cassation-annule-la-condamnation-de-christine-boutin-pour-sa-sortie-sur-lhomosexualite-est-une-abomination_a_23328775/

¹⁷ Bilan 2017 des actes racistes, antisémites, antimusulmans et antichrétiens : <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Archives/Archives-ministre-de-l-Interieur/Archives-Gerard-Collomb-mai-2017-octobre-2018/Communiqués-du-ministre/Bilan-2017-des-actes-racistes-antisemites-antimusulmans-et-antichretiens>

b. Targets of hate speech

"It's great that there are Yellow French, Black French, Brown French. They show that France is open and has a universal vocation. But only if they remain a small minority. Otherwise, France would no longer be France. We are above all a European people of white race, Greek and Latin culture and Christian religion.»¹⁸

De Gaulle, speech taken from Alain Peyrefitte's Memoirs, "C'était de Gaulle", published in 1994. These words were revealed twenty-four years after the General's death and are possibly inaccurate, but it may show how the conception of the French identity was at the time, and this concept of "french identity" is still diffused in the political debate.

France is a blend of many culture and religion. The country has received immigration in several ways during its history and most of the time it was wanted and needed for economic reason. All those waves of immigration have contributed to its construction and shaped today's France, with its richness and diversity. By the way, France remains in a situation with social and economic difficulties, in this context, discrimination against minority can appear. Target of hate speech and discrimination can be identified according to their origin but not only.

Not only in the last years, migration has been a cleavage subject in the population, and a part of this population is still against migration flow. Important targets of hate speech are migrants and refugees.

The impact of immigration on unemployment is very minor. In fact, over the years, migrants have played a major role in the growth and balance of the French economy and thus in GDP growth. They came to fill the need of manpower. Today more than 50% of them have professions as construction workers; they are employed in industry, hotels, restaurants and personal care services. They often hold the jobs that are less attractive to French, accepting less favorable conditions. In addition, 10% of the migrants are entrepreneurs and therefore create jobs. The Secretary of State to the Prime Minister, responsible for equality between women and men and the fight against discrimination, presented a communication on combating hatred against lesbians, gays, bi and trans people.

Regarding the hate against LGBT, the Ministry of the Interior reports a 15% increase in "LGBTphobic" acts from January to September 2018 compared to the same period in 2017. Similarly, the SOS homophobia association recorded a sharp increase in testimonies in September 2018 compared to September 2017 (+37%). These figures illustrate an anchoring of homophobia and transphobia. That is why the Government is stepping up the fight against these phenomena.

¹⁸ C'était de Gaulle, tome 1, Alain Peyrefitte, éd. éditions de Fallois/Fayard, 1994 (ISBN 978-2-213-02832-3), p. 52

At the same time, it should be noted that the visibility of attacks has increased through greater media exposure, as victims now dare to talk, react, testify, file complaints, call crisis lines, take pictures of themselves and post them on social networks¹⁹.

Moreover, the number of anti-Semitic acts recorded increased by 74 per cent in 2018. Anti-Semitism in France is the translation by ideology, acts or writings of a hatred of Jews on French territory²⁰.

On 12 February 2019, before the publication of the report of the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (CNCDH), the Minister of the Interior, Christophe Castaner, issued a press release, showing an increase in antisemitic acts by 74% in 2018 compared to 2017²¹.

"Since January 2018, a worrying anxiogenic climate has been developing," comments Frédéric Potier, inter-ministerial delegate for the fight against racism, anti-Semitism and anti-LGBT hatred (Dilcrah). Beyond Islamist anti-Semitism, we are witnessing the resurgence of an extreme right-wing identity that no longer hesitates to take action. ».

The case of the Roma: They historically have suffered stigmatization and persecution. Struggling to integrate into the countries in which they settle, Roma are often pointed out and rejected. Considered undesirable, they are also frequently expelled to makeshift camps that they build. In France, a Roma camp was evicted every three days in 2014, according to figures from the European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC) and the Ligue des Droits de l'Homme (LDH). "Roma are not nomads. If they move it is because they are constantly being expelled," deplores François Lauret.

Repeated eviction policies make it even more difficult for Roma to integrate into local society, it interrupts Roma children's school careers and discourage their parents from returning them to school to avoid repeating the same scenario.

Sensibilization against the roma's hate speech is also a challenge in France²².

¹⁹Agressions anti-LGBT en France : les victimes parlent davantage, la violence augmente : <https://www.france24.com/fr/20181031-france-agressions-lgbt-homophobe-victimes-violence-homosexualite-augmentation>

²⁰ Mediapart file on antisemitism: <https://www.mediapart.fr/journal/france/dossier/notre-dossier-sur-l-antisemitisme-en-france>

²¹ Antisemitic actions increasing according to the government : https://www.liberation.fr/france/2019/02/11/les-actes-antisemites-en-hausse-de-74-en-france-en-2018-annonce-castaner_1708821

²² Why roma are victim of exclusion and discrimination : <http://www.slate.fr/story/175116/roms-romophobie-communaute-persecution-discrimination-europe> - 2019

c. Message on social media

On the social media, migrants and refugees appears as an easy target



Jean Yves Perina Au lieu de défendre leurs pays contre l'islamisme de boko haram, ces ordures parasites vont venir chez nous en laissant leurs femmes là bas, et profiter des avantages sociaux généreux que nous finançons par notre travail. Quant au travail, justement, ce n'est pas pour ça qu'ils viennent. Ce n'est pas leur tasse de thé, et de toutes façons leurs compétences sont limitées à l'usage d'un téléphone portable ou d'une machete.

J'aime · Répondre · 1 an



"Instead of defending their countries against the Islamism of boko haram, this parasitic scum will come to us leaving their wives there, and enjoy the generous social benefits we finance through our work. As for work, that's not why they're coming. This is not their cup of tea, and in any case their skills are limited to using a mobile phone or a machete"



Gerard Gequa Petit à petit, on remplacera la population Européenne par une population plus malléable, moins éduquée et moins cher. Il ne sera donc plus utile de délocaliser les entreprises, entre autres...

J'aime · Répondre · 1 an · Modifié

"Gradually, the European population will be replaced by a more malleable, less educated and cheaper population. It will therefore no longer be useful to relocate companies, among others...."



BleuBlancRouge4369 @BBR4369 · 7 août 2018
Plus que Jamais " Français d'abord, #Migrants Dehors" dans cette #France de 2018 qui abandonne les Siens pour s'occuper des Autres 😞

"More now than ever, "French first, #migrants out" in this #France of 2018 that abandons its people to take care of others"

The roma community, also an important target on social media



Julien Wrestler
20 mars, 20:21 · 🌐

!!! ATTENTION !!!
RÉGION 93-95 PLUSIEURS TENTATIVES DE KIDNAPPING D ENFANTS
!!!
PAR DES ROMS !!
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
CE N EST PAS QU UNE RUMEUR !!
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Faites tourner !

"Attention! Region 93-95: there have been several child kidnapping attempts by Roma!!! it's not just a rumor!!! Share it!"

March 2019: rumors about Roma driving white vans, kidnapping children for organ trafficking and prostitution were spread on social media and it led to reinforce Roma stigma in several regions of France.

Most of the time, against refugees, the arguments motivating hate speech are playing with the fears: mostly on the topics of identity (cultural incompatibility), security (economic and physical).

IV. Deconstructing received ideas: how the immigration played a positive role on the territory

A Council of Europe report²³ contradicts all preconceived notions that migrants threaten employment and social security systems in the countries where they settle. On the contrary, it shows that migrants make a decisive contribution to the economic and cultural wealth of the host countries.

This comprehensive report on the effective impact of migration in Europe follows several other reports and resolutions adopted over the past three years by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, which brings together parliamentarians from 47 European countries, including Turkey and Russia. After several other studies along the same lines, this report takes issue with all xenophobic speeches' hostile to migrants or with governments that refuse to promote the settlement of immigrants. To address the issue of migration in a constructive way, it called for a complete reversal of the way of seeing things, calling on States to regularize migrants because they represent an opportunity for Europe, both from an economic and cultural point of view. For the authors of this study, the absence of coordinated migration policies at the European level is the direct cause of the rise in irrational fears of rejection of migrants among the European population.

Over the last 10 years, migrants have accounted for 70% of the increase in the labour force in Europe. This is true in sectors such as construction, hotels, restaurants, IT, agriculture and financial services where labour shortages are partly filled by migrants.

"In general," the report analyzes, "migrants tend to complete the workforce rather than replace it,".

The report also cites a recent study by the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) which shows that "migrants contribute more to taxes and social contributions than they receive in individual benefits. »

Finally, the report emphasizes the assets that migrants bring to the cultures of European societies. It takes as an example country such as Switzerland and Luxembourg, where migrants represent 26% and 47% of the population respectively, and where "cultural diversity is now part of everyday life. This is also the case in France and especially in the North of France. "There is also a great importance of migrants "in art, fashion and cooking trends in Europe, to the benefit of diversity," and concludes that in a long-term perspective, migration will have "a positive impact on European society, which thus becomes more tolerant, diverse and open-minded. »

We may note the "utilitarian" aspect of this view of immigration for European societies. But it is clear that these arguments can be a reaction to xenophobic and anti-migrant discourse as it has developed in many European countries. It marks a counter-offensive in the European institutional space against the significant rise of anti-migrant populist movements.

²³ Council of Europe report : <http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-DocDetails-FR.asp?FileID=23745>

V. Initiatives promoted by civil society against hate speech

Mrap NGO (Movement against racism and for friendship between peoples)

The MRAP is a member of the CNCDH, accredited by the French Ministry of Education and has consultative status with the United Nations. The MRAP is an association that acts legally, files complaints and undertakes to defend victims of racist acts or comments. It therefore offers assistance centers to help immigrant populations in their administrative procedures related to the stay and carries out preventive citizenship education actions.

LICRA Association (International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism)

The LICRA offers a free legal assistance service for complainants or witnesses of acts of racism, anti-Semitism or xenophobia. It helps victims through the support of legal professionals. Licra organizes awareness-raising actions among police and gendarmerie staff but also among young people on the fight against discrimination and against the trivialization of hatred. It also invests in sport as a tool in the fight against racism. To counter hate on the Internet, Licra provides Internet users with a form for reporting hate content on the Internet.

LDH : Ligue des droits de l'Homme Association (Human Rights League)

The LDH advocates for individual freedoms in the area of ICT. It takes a stand and defends against discrimination and the extreme right by intervening in court alongside the victims of discrimination. The LDH also campaigns for the regularization of undocumented migrants and is intervening in schools and universities to develop citizenship education by promoting the values of the Republic.

FNMDP (National Federation of "Maisons Des Potes")

The FNMDP is a network of neighborhood associations whose objective is to participate in the development of associative projects in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

It is a citizen space at the service of the inhabitants, where the values of Popular Education, anti-racism, secularism and social justice are promoted. FNMDP offers anti-discrimination training for the public and organizations.

SOS RACISME Association

SOS racism provides hotlines and legal assistance for personal complaints of discrimination. It organizes "testing" operations and offers assistance in hiring without discrimination (anonymous CVs). They are involved in internal audit in companies to train staff and collaborators in the fight against all forms of discrimination...

They also develop media actions and produce slogans such as "touche pas à mon pote" (don't touch my friend), "#tousuniscontrelahaine"... and produce surveys and polls.

CCIF Association (Collectif Contre l'Islamophobie)

CCIF is an association for the defense of human rights combating Islamophobia.

The association offers legal services and support to victims of Islamophobia.

SOS Homophobie Association

SOS produces several awareness-raising tools that are prepared and proposed, particularly in schools, in various professional contexts and events: in schools deconstructing stereotypes and preconceived ideas that form the breeding ground for homophobia in schools, through vocational training for adults (integrating the fight against homophobic discrimination into professional practices). Its Cestcommeca.net provides information, testimonials and cultural resources.

ASET Association (Association for the support of the schooling of Roma children)

ASET is an association that works to combat obstacles to schooling for children far from school by providing school-trucks and teachers to teach in the slums. The school-truck is not a school but a preparation for school. It teaches basic knowledge, helping them to overcome their shortcomings.

Public authorities :

CNCDH National Consultative Commission on Human Rights

CNCDH is appointed as an Independent National Rapporteur on Combating Racism in All Its Forms in 1990. It promotes dialogue between government, parliament, institutions and civil society in the field of human rights, law and humanitarian action.

DILCRAH Inter-ministerial delegate for the fight against racism, anti-Semitism and anti-LGBT hatred
DILCRAH is in charge of the National Plan to Combat Racism and Anti-Semitism 2018-2020.

Production of information materials :

Organization that produces annual reports:

- CNCDH (not available yet)
- SOS Homophobie
- UNESCO “Youth and violent extremism in social media”
- CCIF

- MDP “Maisons Des Potes” made Harris interactive produce a barometer on the fight against discrimination. As result of a survey conducted among the French to find out their point of view on the various measurement proposals²⁴.

VI. Initiatives from ADICE

ADICE suggest volunteering to counter hatred and intolerance.



Since its creation in February 1999 in Roubaix, the Association has been promoting equal opportunities through various European and international mobility programs. In its 20 years of existence, ADICE has enabled more than 2240 people to carry out a mobility project through 6 European and international programs.

Our Europe Direct Information Centre (Roubaix) has seen progress since its creation, in particular by developing new mobility programs, support methods and partners.

ADICE sends people to live intercultural experiences, making them pursue their identity quest, reconsidering their values and change their perception on cultural differences.

The target group is people with fewer opportunities, people who could be discriminated against and people with closed mind-set.

²⁴ <http://www.maisondespotes.fr/federation/actualites/resultat-du-sondage-harris-interactive-sur-la-lutte-contre-les-discriminatio-0>

ADICE's vision

Our goals:

- Train youngster through mobility to help developing open mindedness, solidarity and tolerance
- Attract other young people towards volunteering projects and to fight against the risks of isolation and all type of extremism

Our tools:

- The methodology
- Training on interculturality and good practices
- Testimonials of the volunteers

Good practices from projects:

ACT: A project developed by ADICE

The ACT project is a KA3 project which aims to create innovative citizen pathways for young people with fewer opportunities, by providing them the opportunity to realize a volunteering project with migrants or refugees in Greece or Italy. The project involves 54 youngsters from the deprived neighborhoods of Roubaix, Liverpool and Brussels and from Greece and Italy in volunteering projects supporting vulnerable migrants.

THE PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT ALLOWED VOLUNTEERS TO:

- Better understand the migration crisis and the situation of the migrants
- Interest them in social issues
- Develop a feeling of mutual understanding and tolerance
- Avoid develop extremism ideas
- Develop personal, profession and intercultural skills
- Build autonomous life project, increasing their employability
- Promotes integration and civic engagement
- Perceive the real meaning of the European citizenship

ACT project allowed 46 young people from France, Belgium, United Kingdom, and to 9 young people from Greece and Italy to be engaged in a cause, promoting participation and civic behaviors, while developing professional and personal skills. The project has supported youth empowerment and European values such as democracy, peace, solidarity, cultural diversity, citizenship and was developed as an innovative solution to social isolation of young people from disadvantaged neighborhoods.

The aim of this kind of initiative is to using cultural differences as tools (through different activities, workshops, discussions and the everyday life), both volunteers and target groups have the opportunity to broaden their horizons and develop a feeling of mutual understanding and tolerance.

In addition, volunteers can bring their experience back to their community and help developing a constructive dialogue regarding migration issues/cultural differences. Intercultural learning allows the volunteers to re-evaluate their vision of the world and develop a more complete perspective on certain topics.²⁵

²⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/ACTYouthinMovement/>

CoCora

Across Europe, we are now facing an increased need to fight against hate speech that is a form of extremism. In order to act against these phenomena, ADICE has also participated in projects to raise awareness and prevent extremism.

The CoCoRa project (Erasmus + program) provides an innovative approach to the European prevention scene by developing and implementing a community-based prevention strategy, built on the active involvement of local communities and the systematic linking of prevention and empowerment to active citizenship on democratic terms. One of the overall objectives was to strengthen the efficiency in the prevention efforts against violent extremism such as hate speech by improving the collaboration between professional youth workers and local communities in civil society.²⁶

EXIT

Currently, such action of prevention involving local communities is important to prevent and respond to hate speech. ADICE also participates to an ISF project, another initiative in this way.

Although the title may seem ambiguous, the EXIT Europe project is a two-year project, funded by the European Fund for Internal Security (ESF). "EXIT" here means exit program (from extremism). Faced with the growing risks of extremism in Europe, the EXIT Europe project aims to develop local exit programs, which enable radicalized individuals to de-radicalize, disengage from different forms of extremism such as racist behaviors.

The project is co-managed by the Austrian Ministry of the Interior and the organization Cultures Interactive in Germany, whose scientific expertise will be put to good use. ADICE is therefore a partner in this project in the same way as the Italian, Belgian and Slovak and Spanish organizations.

Prevention activities in partner countries will be based on the construction of a specific training and a local network to fight and prevent different forms of extremism.²⁷

²⁶ <http://cocoraproject.eu/>

²⁷ https://www.bmi.gv.at/210_english/start.aspx

VII. Conclusion

The terrorist event on 7 January 2015 against the Charlie Hebdo newspaper revived debates on the limits of freedom of expression in a democracy. Mass demonstrations celebrating press freedom - and paying tribute to the victims of January: journalists and cartoonists, but also police officers and Jewish citizens - have been followed by controversies, sometimes hate speech. Freedom of expression necessarily knows limits in a democracy, set by other freedoms and by the social interests that the law must also protect²⁸.

The dilemma concerns racist, anti-Semitic or Islamophobic statements, and more generally all those now referred to as "hate speech". While legal formulations and philosophical conceptualizations vary, and sometimes contradict each other, this term generally refers to expressive acts that denigrate certain individuals or groups because of an assigned identity trait. In France, while restrictions on freedom of expression in matters of "simple" insult or defamation are well established and little contested, legal provisions against insulting, defaming, and inciting hatred, discrimination or violence against specific groups are the subject of considerable controversy. The observed increasing incidents of racism, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia since the attacks of January 2015 has also led the President of the Republic to announce his intention to change certain provisions of the Freedom of the Press Act of 29 July 1881 into the Criminal Code, in order to strengthen the repression of "hate speech".

²⁸ L'Europe face au(x) discours de haines : https://www.revuegeneraledudroit.eu/wp-content/uploads/ER2015_11.pdf - 2015

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