

Summer 2005

Edition



THE INTERNATIONAL HARD OF HEARING YOUNG PEOPLE MAGAZINE

# Ifhohyp News

## Study session approved by Council of Europe

Good news! Ifhohyp President Karina Chupina informed us early this summer that **IFHOHYP study session "Safeguarding human rights of youth with hearing disability: coping with discrimination and violence in education and employment" has been approved!** The official confirmation and proposed dates for the session will come later and be sure we'll inform you as soon as possible. However it seems probable that Council of Europe will propose the Study Session to be held in the Spring of 2006 in Strasbourg. Stay tuned for more news and check [www.ifhohyp.org](http://www.ifhohyp.org) periodically.



## EUROPEAN YOUTH SUMMIT WARSAW 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May 2005

The 2<sup>nd</sup> European Youth Summit was held in the senate of Warsaw, Poland on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of May, 2005. This event paralleled the 3<sup>rd</sup> Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe. These events exemplified the importance of having the voice of the European Youth heard. Vanessa Migliosi, Advisory Council on Youth

member and EDF representative, participated in this event and worked as the rapporteur of the Working Group on Diversity. Among the outstanding guests who spoke at the summit was Lech Walesa, Nobel Peace Prize winner and first President of the third Republic of Poland. During the two-day summit, the following workshops were ar-

ranged:

- SOLIDARITY: TO FEEL GOOD OR TO DO GOOD?
  - 1 - SOLIDARITY IN EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL SOCIETIES
  - 2 - GLOBAL SOLIDARITY
- DIVERSITY: BASIS FOR UNITY?
- YOUTH ORGANISATIONS: TAKING HUMAN RIGHTS A STEP FURTHER?
- YOUTH RESPONSE

## EUROPEAN YOUTH SUMMIT WARSAW 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May 2005 ( continue )

### TO VIOLENCE

- REBORN DEMOCRACY
- ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP: REACTION OR ACTION?
- EUROPE WITHOUT DIVIDING LINES, PRETENTS OR REALITY?
- YOUR PAPER, (PLEASE)!
- IS IT PROHIBITED TO PROHIBIT?

In the workshop on Diversity, several issues were tackled. It was aimed at taking some concrete steps towards the 2006 new campaign "All Different, All Equal" whose name comes from the 1995 successful campaign against racism and xenophobia. The participants were invited to discuss diversity in the perspective of the campaign and to make some proposals on activities. They started by defining their personal concept of diversity and the definitions reflected the different backgrounds of the participants. This was followed by a hard brainstorming session to get new and feasible ideas about how to construct the next campaign on Diversity. At the end of the workshop, concrete proposals were presented.

On the last day of the summit, the **Youth Declaration** was endorsed (you can read the integral version in the [www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int) website) by acclamation and it must be empha-

sized that the words diversity and disability are mentioned. In particular, this document contains the following landmark sentences:

"...in the Europe, intended as whole (48 Council of Europe member countries), ensuring peace and building social cohesion on the basis of diversity remain a major challenge..."

"We therefore call upon the Heads of State and Government to recognize the crucial role of the Council of Europe in the European architecture, both in supporting and sustaining democracy, and in implementing the principle "All Different All Equal", as the basis of our shared values, and to recognize and support the role of young people, and youth organizations as key actors in the European construction."

"...fostering social inclusion and by entering into a political process to overcome obstacles to mobility" "promote diversity, as an added value to build peaceful societies based on respect, diversity and inclusion"

"support youth organizations and networks in their work for equality and social cohesion tackling discrimination on the grounds of disability, health status, sexual orientation, gender role, ethnic, cultural or religious background, socio-economic background , minority

status, citizenship, or living in rural and remote areas."

"...we first and foremost call upon European Heads of States and Government to launch a large scale action of the Council of Europe... This action should be a European Youth Campaign aimed at encouraging and enabling young people to participate in building peaceful societies based on diversity and inclusion, in a spirit of respect and mutual understanding."

For more information about the 2<sup>nd</sup> European Youth Summit, please check the following website: [www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int)

*By Vanessa Migliosi*



## 2007: "European Year of Equal Opportunities for All"

*The European Commission has designated 2007 as 'European Year of Equal Opportunities for All' as part of a concerted effort to promote equality and non-discrimination in the EU. The European Year is the centrepiece*

*of a framework strategy designed to ensure that discrimination is effectively tackled, diversity is celebrated and equal opportunities for all are promoted. The strategy is set out in a Communication adopted by the European Commis-*

*sion today.*

European Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities Commissioner, Vladimír Špidla, said: "Europe must work towards real equality in practice. The Euro-

pean Year of Equal Opportunities for All and the framework strategy will provide a new drive towards ensuring the full application of EU anti-discrimination legislation, which has encountered too many obstacles and delays. Fundamental rights, non-discrimination and equal opportunities will remain key priorities for the European Commission."

The four core themes of the European Year proposed by the Commission are:

- Rights - raising awareness of the right to equality and non-discrimination
- Representation - stimulating a debate on ways to increase the participation of under-represented groups in society
- Recognition - celebrating and accommodating diversity
- Respect and tolerance - promoting a more cohesive society

The Year's proposed budget of €13.6 million will cover preparatory actions in 2006 as well as the various activities taking place during the European Year itself in 2007.

The framework strategy on non-discrimination and equal opportunities for all, which accompanies the draft Decision to set up the European Year, aims to ensure that EC anti-discrimination legislation<sup>[1]</sup> is fully implemented and enforced. The European Court of Justice has already condemned four Member States (Austria, Finland, Germany and Luxembourg) for not adequately transposing EU anti-discrimination legislation. The strategy also looks at what more the EU can do to tackle discrimination and promote equality, beyond legal protection of people's rights to equal treatment.

In addition to the European Year, new initiatives announced by the Communication include:

- A feasibility study to look at possible new measures to complement existing EC anti-discrimination legislation
- The creation of a high-level advisory group to look at the social and labour market integration of minorities, including the Roma

Gender issues will be taken on board in the context of the European Year and the non-discrimination

strategy. This will complement the EU's specific efforts on gender equality and sex discrimination, including the proposed Gender Institute and the Communication on gender equality planned for 2006. The framework strategy and the European Year follow on from a wide public consultation conducted in 2004 on the basis of the Commission's Green Paper *Equality and non-discrimination for all in an enlarged EU*.

More information: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment\\_social/fundamental\\_rights/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/fundamental_rights/index_en.htm)

*By Karina Chupina*



**We are on the web at:  
[www.ifhohyp.org](http://www.ifhohyp.org)**

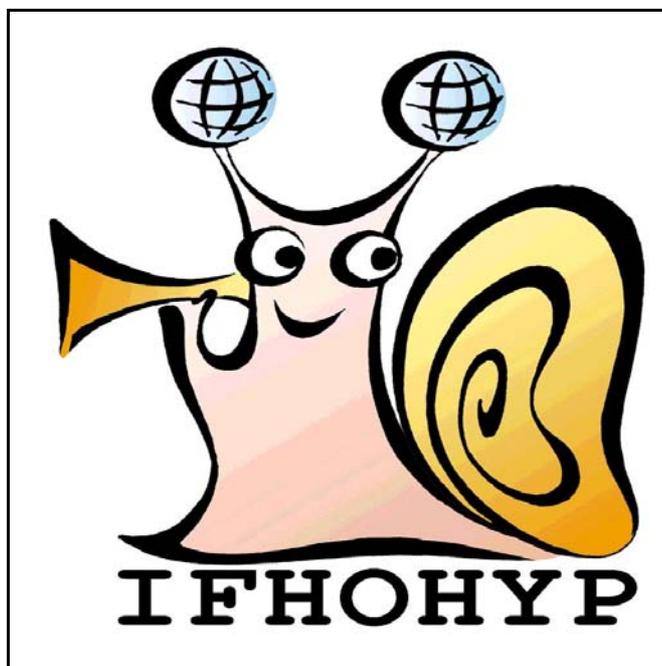
**THE INTERNATIONAL HARD OF  
HEARING YOUNG PEOPLE  
MAGAZINE**

President:  
**Karina Chupina ( RUSSIA )**  
[travelmind21@yahoo.com](mailto:travelmind21@yahoo.com)  
[karinac@hotmail.ru](mailto:karinac@hotmail.ru)

VicePresident:  
**Maria Lopez Garcia ( SPAIN )**  
[Logarma6@hotmail.com](mailto:Logarma6@hotmail.com)

Secretary:  
**Christi Menheere  
( THE NETHERLANDS )**  
[Christi-ifhohyp@home.nl](mailto:Christi-ifhohyp@home.nl)

Treasurer:  
**Greet Penneman ( BELGIUM )**  
[greet-ifhohyp@hotmail.com](mailto:greet-ifhohyp@hotmail.com)



## **Announcement for Symposium “ All Different- not Indifferent”**

“The Symposium “All Different – Not Indifferent” will be held this October in the European Youth centre Strasbourg. This is a real chance for IFHOHYP to be heard on the wider level! Symposium includes preparations for the next year’s campaign “All Different – All Equal” 2006. We hope that IFHOHYP will fully participate in this Campaign.

In this case, it will be the first time for IFHOHYP to participate in and to contribute to the Europe-wide anti-discrimination, intolerance and anti-racism Youth Campaign of the Council of Europe!

Deadline for application to the Symposium is September 5, 2005.

Check out [www.ifhohyp.org](http://www.ifhohyp.org) for more information and for application forms.

