

Surname
First name
Gender
Date of birth
Place of birth
Address
Signature

Intolerance, is:

Racism

Xenophobia

Antisemitism

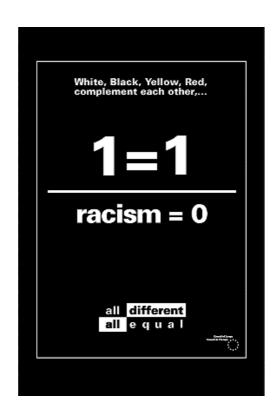
Sexism

Homophobia...

I,

Undertake to resist any act of intolerance.

Affirm that Greater Europe must be a place of tolerance and hospitality, open to the world, in which every human being is protected by the European Convention on Human Rights.



What is racial discrimination?

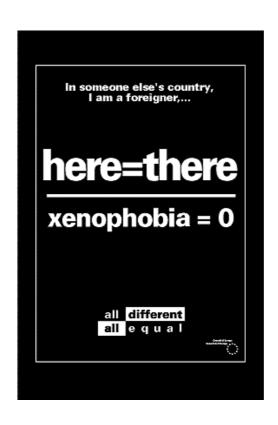
The term "racial discrimination" means any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origin which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life.

(Article 1 of the International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination)

Discrimination is contrary to the European Convention on Human Rights:

"The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in the European Convention on Human Rights shall be secured without discrimination on any ground such as sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status."

(Article 14 of the European Convention on Human Rights)



What is a racist doctrine?

It is a doctrine of superiority based on racial differentiation. This doctrine is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous, and that there is no justification for racial discrimination, in theory or in practice, anywhere.

(taken from the Preamble to the CERD)

What is an act of racism?

An act of racism means refusing someone, something or some service to which he or she is entitled, on the grounds of his or her origin or beliefs.

It also means:

Physical or verbal abuse on the sole grounds of a person's ethnic background, race, nationality or religion.

Incitement to racial hatred, violence and discrimination.



Accordingly,

In most member countries of the Council of Europe,

No-one may be refused access on the grounds of their origin to a café, restaurant, supermarket, youth club, bank, discothèque, theatre, concert hall or cinema, or to public transport including taxis.

No-one may be refused enrolment at a school or allocation of social housing on grounds of their origin.

No-one may be evicted or refused a lease, refused a job or be dismissed, refused the opening of a bank account or the issue of an insurance policy on grounds of their origin.

No-one may be refused family allowances or unemployment benefit, building premiums, celebration of a civil wedding or celebration of a religious service on grounds of their origin.

No-one may publicly utter words inciting others to practise discriminatory or violent behaviour towards any person or group on the grounds of their origin.

No-one may post up or publish a notice prohibiting a group from renting an apartment or entering a café or discothèque on the grounds of the origin of its members.

No-one may join or support an association whose regular activity consists in practising or advocating racial discrimination and violence.



What to do if you are the victim of an act of racism?

You must:

Immediately take statements from witnesses

You can:

depending on the situation in your country,

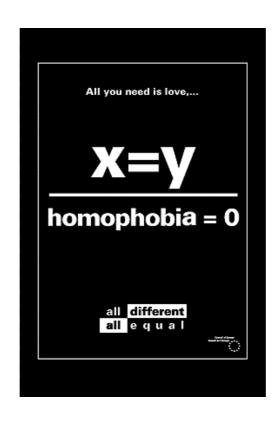
Contact a lawyer, who will advise you.

Contact your local Bar Council who will advise you about the possibility of obtaining legal aid.

Write to the Public Prosecutor at the Regional Court of the area where the incident occurred.

Report the matter to the nearest police station.

Contact human rights associations who can take up the matter on your behalf.



What to do if you are a witness to an act of racism?

You must:

- Let the victim know you are a witness and give him your name and address.
- Write on a separate sheet a summary of what you have witnessed, consistent with the following model:

"I, the undersigned, (name, surname, nationality, address) certify that I have personally witnessed the following:

.....

I make this sworn declaration knowing that it may be produced as part of the judicial process and that any false statement may render me liable to prosecution".

- Send this statement to the Prosecutor at the Regional Court of the area where the incident occurred.
- Gather other witnesses' statements.

In Vienna, in October 1993, the Heads of State and Government of the 34 member states (*) of the Council of Europe made the following declaration:

"We:

- Condemn in the strongest possible terms racism in all its forms xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance and all forms of religious discrimination;
- Encourage member States to continue efforts already undertaken to climinate those phenomena, and commit ourselves to strengthening national laws and international instruments and taking appropriate measures at national and European level:
- Undertake to combat all ideologies, policies and practices constituting and incitement to racial hatred, violence and discrimination, as well as any action or language likely to strengthen fears and tensions between groups from different racial, ethnic, national, religious or social backgrounds;
- Launch an urgent appeal to
 European peoples, groups and
 citzens, and young people in
 particular, that they resolutely
 engage in combating all forms of
 intolerance and that they actively
 participate in the construction of a
 European society based on
 common values, characterised by
 democracy, tolerance and
 solidarity."

(*) Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgarra, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweder, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.

Useful Addresses:

In each of your countries, you can apply to:

- the courts, the police, specialist government agencies;
- human rights associations;
- 1. To obtain particulars of your country's national committee, call the Council of Europe, Campaign Secretariat:
 Fax +33 (0) 3 88 41 39 87.
- 2. To obtain particulars of your country's member of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, call the Council of Europe, Secretariat of the Commission:

Fax + 33 (0) 3 88 41 39 87.

European Passport against Intolerance

adapted from the passport produced by France-Libertés Fondation Danielle Mitterrand

for the
European Youth Campaign
against Racism,
Xenophobia, Anti-Semitism
and Intolerance
Council of Europe

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