

EURO-MERNET NEWS

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May 2017

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Monthly newsletter of the Euro-Mediterranean Resources Network (Euro-Mernet)

Arts as viewfinder: Perception of culture, identity and belonging

Exploring "otherness" & "togetherness"



ast month saw the Euro-Mernet team's active involvement in one of the leading arts events in the city. Euro-Mernet team supported Fabrica, a popular arts organisation in Brighton, by publicising their art exhibition, "They/Onlar" by Turkish artist Ipek Düben, as well as by taking part in a talk on the perception of "otherness" and "togetherness".

After being previously seen at SALT, Istanbul, Ipek's Düben *They/Onlar* arrived in Brighton at the beginning of April to be presented at Fabrica until 29th of May 2017. The artist, who was born in Istanbul and spent different years living, studying and working in the United States, devotes herself to identity, cultural, religion, gender, migration and violence topics.

Ipek Düben's issue-oriented work comes at all times from new perspectives, as in the case of *They/Onlar*, a multi-screen video installation displaying the fragmentation of the Turkish world.

The exhibition, They/Onlar, invites the audience to discover how Turks perceive "the other", a diversity of ethnic, religious and community groups: Kurds, Alevis, Armenians, Jews, Rum (Greek) and Romanis on one side, LGBT people,

women wearing hijab and women who are subjected to domestic violence, on the other.

After reaching the conclusion that Europe defines its identity in relation to the "terrible Turk", "the other" of Europe, Ipek Düben brings to the UK a series of intimate and confidential narratives of common people, long-length interviews that completely make us getting into that life, giving a glimpse of the others' otherness, the Turkish society, which displays itself as a mosaic of many coexisting groups, living side by side.

One of the events connected to the exhibition, was the talk "Us and Them: exploring Otherness and Togetherness", held on the 19th of April at Fabrica, in which Euro-Mernet coordinator Ümit Öztürk took part, together with Ipek Düben, Venetia Porter, an expert on Islamic Art from the British Museum, and Louise Purbrick, an art historian.

The talk, facilitated by Liz Whitehead, director of Fabrica, also marked the publication launch of *Understanding Territoriality: Identity, Place and Possession*, a two year partnership project produced by four cultural organisations including Fabrica.

The speakers explored the themes of *They/Onlar by* highlighting

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both their personal experiences and past social tensions, also with intercultural stories on stereotypes.

After going through the life and work of Ipek Düben, trying to define the notion of "the other" and the endless root-causes of its existence, the focus of the talk shifted to the concept of identity itself, looked at through the lens of exile, an emblematic status.

Exile leads to the loss of identity and requires the adjustment to a new one, a kind of metamorphosis in which perception changes, laying bare the very roots of identity and the mechanisms governing it. The condition of exile lays the path towards "de-territorialisation" of identity, revolving around the notion of "territorialisation" in quest for a new ground, showing how "the terrain is vast" and otherness is just one of a thousand possibilities.

Ipek Düben recreates the meeting-place of identities, a literally dark space, where voices play the major role and listening to them has been made possible. In this kind of void and intimate place, identities are allowed to move freely, "They" become just "us" and the dividing walls fall down under the fluidity of identity.

Klaudia Kwiecien

Editor's letter



Dear friends,

Last month most of our team members attended international events in various countries. Matteo was in Budapest, Debora in Prague, and yours truly in Strasbourg, France and Nicosia, Cyprus. You can see the reports by us, the "Three Airport Musketeers", in this issue.

All four events we attended have the same common focus that is one of the main areas work of our organisation: the importance of tackling extremism and hate speech, and working on developing alternative and counter narratives.

The illusion and mindset in linking extermist and violent behaviours to just one single culture, faith, or political organisation does not offer a satisfactory answer anymore.

As Debora quoted from UNITED For Intercultural Action in her report on page 4, the stark reality of hate speech and a culture of violence and intolerance are "no longer on the fringe of society, but originate from the middle of it."

One opportunity to analyse and discuss together the root causes of intolerance and rejection has arrived last month. As detailed in Klaudia's report on the front page, we took part in a discussion on the cultural, psychological, sociological, and philosophical factors that lead to the rejection of the "others" and the suggestion of "togetherness".

Talking about mindsets, stereotypes and unawareness; we hope that you will like the summary of the radio interview we had with our lovely friend Viv. She enlightens us with the fact that since the genocide 23 years ago, Rwanda shouldn't be remembered as a sad country where life has stoped since. On the contrary, Rwanda recovered fast and moved on: it has a dynamic youth population now and 65% of the MPs in its Parliament are women.

In this issue, you will also see brief reports from our local events and *Film Club* secreening on page 3, and a publicationreview by Matteo on page 7.

Love, peace and solidarity. \Box

Ümit Öztürk

Budapest report: Youth against violent extremism



rom the 24th to the 28th of April, The European Youth Centre in Budapest hosted "United Youth against violent extremism", a study session organised by Human Rights Education Youth Network (HREYN), European Youth Press (EYP), UNITED for Intercultural Action in co-operation with the Youth Department of the Council of Europe.

The joint effort of these international networks brought together young trainers, youth workers, volunteers, activists, media professionals from all over Europe, all holding an appreciable experience in countering hate speech within the No Hate Speech Movement (NHSM) and its partner organisations.

This first encounter aimed at deepening participants' knowledge of educational methods and tools elaborated by NHSM, inviting them to share good practices and encouraging them to co-operate in developing strategies and activities involving young people in combating hate and violence across Europe.

The organisers facilitated a session with sincere and fruitful interaction between the participants on the different technique and approaches used in the various field of youth work, as well as a reflection on our diverse point of views on the interpretation of keywords such as "extremism", "radicalisation", "social exclusion" and more.

The organising team led the group through various activities and workshops with remarkable professionalism, carefully valuing the experience of each individual participant and paying great attention to keep an open attitude towards any kind of feedback from the group.

Expert speakers also gave their valuable insight:

First speaker was Simone Rafael from Amadeu Antonio Stiftung, an independent non-governmental organisation based in Heidelberg whose aim is to strengthen democratic civic society

and eliminate neo-Nazism, anti-Semitism and any other form of bigotry and hate from Germany.

Balint Josa, program coordinator at UNITED for intercultural action and a pioneer of No Hate Speech Movement among many other things, talked about the history of the campaign and of the aims, the ideas, the people.

Ron Salaj, Social Media consultant and trainer, enlightened us about the possibilities that a proper use of internet and digitals tools offers to youth workers and activists.

All these positive inputs helped inspiring the participants to plan a variety of common offline and online actions, local events and international partnerships, all aimed at encouraging young people to stand against violence and hate speech.

A particular focus was put on activities to take place around three dates of particular relevance to No Hate Speech Movement, UNITED for intercultural action and the struggle against extremism: 17th of May, International day against homophobia, transphobia and biphobia; 20th of June, World refugee day; 23d of July, European day for the victims of hate crime.

After this thriving intermediate phase, the group will then gather again in September for a second study session that will also see the participation of a number of youngsters directly involved in the intermediate phase.

Until then, the Euro-Mernet team is determined to continue with its mission of empowering and uniting youth against violence and hate.

As always, we invite our readers to keep in touch with us to take part in these initiatives, starting with the numerous activities we are putting together to mark World Refugee Day and Refugee Week, from the 19th to the 25th of June. You can follow our news updates on our social media pages.

Matteo Haenen







Words, Sights and Sounds of... Enlightenment, Entertainment, Amazement. Explore the global cultural diversity through the monthly club sessions at our "People's University". Completely FREE, forever FREE.



EURO-MERNET FILM CLUB LUNCHBOX

The Euro-Mernet film club hosted on the 4th of April 2017 the romantic comedy by Indian director Ritesh Batra: *Lunch Box*. The film won the Critics Week Viewers Choice Award also known as Grand Rail d'Or.

The title of the film derives from the typical lunchbox delivery system in the city of Mumbai, named also "dabbawalas" that picks up and delivers lunches from restaurants or homes to people at work.

A mistaken delivery links a young and married housewife, Ila, with an old man, office worker Saajan. Discovering the mistake, they start exchanging messages with each other, under advice of Ila's neighbour aunt, in which they talk about their own lives and particular memories.

The letters reflect the unsatisfaction about their lives, in particular Ila, as while thinking how to restore her marriage, she discovers her husband has an affair and she decides to move to Bhutan.

In the background we watch other two marriages that reflect, as the Ila's marriage, the loneliness and how it's difficult to carry on. The film also depicts the chaotic Indian city life and the funny way of life, habits and food culture in Mumbai.

Lunchbox is a film that makes you think about relations we have in our own life and the adversity we are called to face, highlighting also the missed connections in the life, but stating perhaps that -as one Saajan colleague says- ... "the wrong train can get you to the right station"!

Anna Maria De Biase

All our film screenings are FREE. You are always welcome to join Euro-Mernet Film Club.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT (WELL)BEING TOGETHER

On the 28th of April, a public event, "Wellbeing, Equality and Diversity", took place at the Brighthelm Centre. The gathering was attended by many community organisations, including Euro-Mernet. The event was coordinated by Trust for Developing Communities (TDC). Euro-Mernet has been a founding member of the TDC anchoring groups partnership.

The participants were welcomed with a soothing music from Zimbabwe, by the musical collective Zimbaremabwe, Linos Wengara Magaya and Gary Cove, to be then welcomed by Terry Adams, TDC's BME Mental Health & Community Development Worker.

Euro-Mernet's projects manager Debora Barletta introduced Euro-Mernet activities and initiatives, accompanied by a slide show with examples of recent work.

The associations promoted at the event have highlighted a wide range of human needs that formed the core of their work:

Communication services provided by Sussex Interpreting Services; general migrants' needs, by BHCC International Migrants Needs Assessment project; friendship and sense of belonging, by Sussex Syrian Community Group, Hangleton & Knoll Multi-cultural Women's Group and Moulsecoomb Women's Group; services for the elderly, by the BMECP 50+ group; and spirituality and physical wellbeing services by Shen Long Tai Chi Association, Brighton Natural Health Centre, the music of Mellow Baku and the project Look-A-Ladies-Ukulele which started in Leicester. \Box

Klaudia Kwiecien



GUEST SPEAKER IN TOWN IYAD BURNAD'S TALK

Euro-Mernet team were invited to attend a talk by a Palestinian guest speaker at the Annual General Meeting of the Brighton and Hove Palestinian Solidarity Campaign (BHPSC) on 29 April. The guest speaker, Mr Iyad Burnat, is the head of the *Bi'lin Popular Committee against the Wall*, a nonviolent campaign against the Israeli West Bank Barrier. Bi'lin village is near Ramallah, with a population of 2000.

Iyad Burnat stated that, after the Six-Day War in 1967, Bi'lin was occupied by Israeli forces and in 2004 the Israeli military started to build the wall separating farmers from their lands, removed olive trees and limited travel in order to protect Israeli settlers.

Since 2005 Iyad Burnat and people of Bi'lin village have been protesting non-violently every Friday. Iyad Burnat was severely injured and detained on several occasions. He also showed photos and videos of their nonviolent demonstrations. He added that, during a demonstration in December 2010, activists dressed up as the fictional blue-skinned characters of the Na'vi tribe from the film Avatar, which resulted in a small victory for his village: Israeli authorities re-routed the wall's construction, which gave back to the village 30% of its land.

In March 2013, upon request by the UK national cinema chain Picture House, Euro-Mernet helped with the Brighton screening of the Oscarnominated documentary on Bi'lin, "Five Broken Cameras", by director Emad Burnat, Mr Iyad Burnat's brother. Mr Emad Burnat was also interviewed on Radio EuroMernet. □

Anna Maria De Biase

Rewind Radicalisation @@@







Youth work in Building up Strategies against Extremism



By **Debora Barletta**, Projects Manager of Euro-Mernet

his year the UNITED spring conference, entitled "Rewind Radicalisation - Building up Strategies Against Extremism", was held in Melnik, near Prague from the 7th to the 12th of April and it was focused on youth radicalisation and the rise of violent extremism in Europe. More than 70 participants came together to learn and work together.

As long-time supporter of UNITED, Euro-Mernet took part in this conference to contribute in addressing this complex issue that affects young people, in Europe and around the world.

First sessions focused on activities such as Danger of Words, which helped on reflecting upon some common terms used in relation with radicalisation. It was followed by panels by experts with different backgrounds and experiences in working with radicalised youth.

A nice introduction for this conference was certainly the debate, which was streamed live. It was conducted in the Karl Popper style, with two factions who were given exactly the same amount of time to expose their arguments and to reply to the

counterarguments, with the debate evolving around the statement: "Europe is radicalising".

Participants also took part in a series of workshops aiming to lead to a prospective campaign addressing youth in risk of radicalisation.

In order to achieve a feasible result, the organisers decided to divide the activists in groups according their expertises. These were respectively: Campaigning, Education, Media, Community and Advocacy, all of which being vital parts in the building of an effective strategy.

This technique turned out to be widely effective with regards to the outcomes, as it proved that the production of a common strategy was in the interests of everybody and the reason why the whole conference was conceived in the first place. As UNITED stated itself:

"During the last few years, a rising level of interest in far-right ideologies has been noticeable in almost all European countries. This has not only been the case since the Brexit referendum and the growing influx of refugees from the Middle and Far East. Xenophobic, homophobic, anti-Roma islamophobic and anti -Semitic associations are no longer on the fringe of society, but originate from the middle of it.

In such times, not only official European institutions, but also civil society and its activists need to join forces to fight against increasing right-wing radicalisation of individuals and society on different levels and in different ways." bit.ly/1mR7b5m

Whilst it's discussed whether Europe is radicalising or if it has always been radical, what is certain is the rise in violent attitude in younger generations. From online language to personal interactions, hatred and intolerance are becoming widespread. If we want achieve a more peaceful future we need to ensure more peace and understanding for those who would make that future: the young people.

Being part of a network with others alike reminds us that we are not alone in our struggle against discrimination and violence, and that much more can be done if we cooperate and start believing in ourselves and others alike.

So Love, Peace and Solidarity everyone - and #STAYUNITED!

To draw or not to draw lines in the cyber sand... and how...

Freedom of Expression Online

Day conference in Nicosia discusses the standards, jurisdiction, legal measures, and civil liberties on the internet.



By Ümit Öztürk, Coordinator of Euro-Mernet

uro-Mernet participated in a day -conference on 28th April 2017 in Nicosia, Cyprus, to discuss the issues and challenges surrounding cyber liberties. The event, entitled "Freedom of Expression online: Evolving European jurisprudence and standard-setting activities in the digital age" was co-organised by the Supreme Court of Cyprus and the Council of Europe (CoE).

During the event judges, lawyers and representatives of governments, intermediaries, civil society groups and academia discussed the legal and practical aspects of freedom of expression online.

After the opening speech by Myron Nicolatos, President of the Cypriot Supreme Court, the first speakers were Jan Kleijssen, Director of the Information Society and Action against Crime Directorate of the CoE; Ionas Nicolaou, Minister of Justice and Public Order of Cyprus; and Jean-Marc Sauvé, vice-president of the French Conseil d'État.

In the first panel of the day, on Strasbourg Case Law and Standard-Setting, moderated by *Maria Giannakaki*, Secretary General for Transparency and Human Rights at

the Greek Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, the panellists were George Nicolaou, former Judge of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR); Pavlo Pushkar, CoE's Department for the Execution of Judgments of the ECtHR; Matthias Traimer, member of the CoE Committee of Ministers' Steering Committee on Media and Information Society; and, Monica Horten, Visiting Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science. The panellists discussed the judgments from the ECtHR, legal arguments on freedom of expression and privacy, legal complexity of the execution of the judgments, and the challenges during copyright enforcement.

In the second panel, on Responsibilities of Internet Intermediaries, moderated by Silvia Grundmann, Head of CoE's Media and Internet Division, the panellists were Ineta Ziemele, Justice of the Constitutional Court of Latvia; Maciej Szpunar, Advocate General at the Court of Justice of the EU; Arnd Haller, Regional Legal Director, Google; and, Karmen Turk, Media law attorney (Estonia). The panellists discussed the Article 10 of the Euro-

pean Convention on Human Rights, the roles and liabilities of intermediaries in the EU, practice of intermediaries in identification and removal of illegal content, and respective legal implications.

In the third and last panel of the day, on Contemporary Challenges to the Freedom of Expression, moderated by Wolfgang Schulz, Chair of the CoE Committee of Experts on internet intermediaries, the panellists were Robert Spano, Judge of the ECtHR; David Anderson, former Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation in the UK; David Diaz-Jogeix, Director of Programmes, Article 19 (UK); and, Flutura Kusari, European Centre for Press and Media Freedom. The panellists discussed the limitations to the freedom of expression online in the context of national security concerns, the maintenance of independent oversight in the fight against terrorism and radicalisation online; blocking, filtering, algorithms and automated decisionmaking and their compatibility with international human rights standards, and online media self-regulation.

Euro-Mernet delegate pointed out the importance of consulting with civil society organisations in all stages of research, analysis and internet regulation.

Full report & photos on: http://bit.ly/2qlKIai

Rwanda Youth Information Community Organisation





It's not just all have new clothes. If fun, it's about the part of the property of the property of the part of the

(Rwanda Youth Information Community Organisation), an organisation that provides education and training for young people in Rwanda.

uring one of our weekly Radio

Euro-Mernet shows, to com-

memorate the anniversary of geno-

cide in Rwanda, on 7th April, we have

had the pleasure to interview Vivenie

Mugunga, a co-founder of the RYICO

What kind of picture do you see about present day in Rwanda? Has Rwanda revived and made progress since the painful experience over two decades ago?

Yes, Rwanda has moved on. Now Rwanda is one of the fastest growing economy country in Africa, and it is among the cleanest countries in the world.

In present day Rwanda, at the end of every month, the shops close so people can go outside and do some community services: cleaning the roads, filling in the gaps in the streets, planting trees.

And, most significantly, it's a country led by women. We have a quote which shows that 65% of MPs in the Parliament are women.

Let's talk about the past and present activities of RYICO and your current project. How did it start?

My project support young boys and young girls, in Rwanda. I set up this project 13 years ago, to empower young people who are full of energy, and young people who are vulnerable. We work with them and try to rebuild Rwanda.

At the beginning, RYICO provided education and training, and we reached out to young people who live on the streets, so I raised money in UK and then sent it to Rwanda.

We tried to create a cooperative for young people with the structure and the model of a cooperative. The cooperative works when the groups are more educated. When they have a high level of education, they understand the business structure, and they are connected to the world.

We used all these models but it didn't work effectively and we are introducing a new way of setting up the business and get young people to be employed.

So these young people have entrepreneurial spirits, but they don't know which direction they should take, and you guide them through, showing them a path?

We are having a trial period on a project. We have just set up a manufacturing place to produce clothes in Rwanda. In Africa, 99% of clothes are second hand clothes that came from Europe and America.

I think that people should choose if they want to wear - second hand clothes or new ones. Maybe, the current government could ban the second hand clothes, because a lot of people have skin issues. So we chose it to be part of this new era where Africa produce its own clothes.



Radio Euro-Mernet:
"Global voice of the local communities,
Local voice of the global communities"

It's not just about the right to have new clothes. It's about having fun, it's about the pleasure to learn about design and fashion. So that we can keep our own material, play with it, and sell outside. We can create employment, alleviate the poverty and help young people to be creative.

We have already started manufacturing uniforms for schools. We now want to make casual clothes for the entire population of Rwanda.

An initiative like yours, it's a like a light on their path, so they can move ahead and can be useful for themselves and their country.

Yes, indeed. We set up this project six months ago and I had no idea that these young people could learn so fast and I have just made the film that I hope to show around July. It shows how they are able to make clothes thanks to six months of intensive training.

Soon we want to do more training and buy industrial machines. But poverty is still a problem. Why should it? RYICO wants to find a different way to support people and take them out of poverty.

This is a trial, we are like investors and we are setting up a business and we train poor people and give them the right to have a good wages. \Box

www.ryico.org



Transcription by: Roberta FischettiFull length interview on:
www.mixcloud.com/radioeuromernet

This Month in History

May 1, 1707 - Great Britain was formed from a union between England and Scotland.

May 2, 2011 - Osama bin Laden was killed by U.S. Special Operations Forces during a raid on his secret compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

May 4, 1494 - In his second journey of exploration in the New World, Christopher Columbus discovered Jamaica.

May 5, 1818 - Communism founder Karl Marx (1818-1883) was born in Treves, Germany. He co-authored Das Kapital and The Communist Manifesto.

May 6, 1856 - Psychoanalysis founder Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) was born in Freiberg, Moravia.

May 10, 1994 - Former political prisoner Nelson Mandela became president of South Africa. Mandela won the first free election in South Africa.

May 13, 1981 - Pope John Paul II was shot while he was in an open car in St. Peter's Square in Rome, by Turkish ultra nationalist terrorist Mehmet Ali Agca, who was arrested and later convicted of attempted murder.

May 18, 1804 - Napoleon Bonaparte became Emperor of France.

May 19, 1925 - Black nationalist and civil rights activist Malcolm X was born in Omaha, Nebraska. Later when in prison, he adopted the Islamic religion.

May 21, 1991 - Former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated during a re-election campaign..

May 22, 1947 - The Truman Doctrine was approved, assuring U.S. support for Greece and Turkey to prevent the spread of Communism.

May 26, 1878 - The dancer Isadora Duncan was born in San Francisco. She rebelled against dance tradition, by developing a free-form style.

May 28, 1961 - Amnesty International was founded by London lawyer Peter Benenson. Today Amnesty International has over a million members in 150 countries working to stop torture, the death penalty and in favour of human rights for women.

May 29, 1453 - The city of Constantinople was captured by the Turks, who renamed it Istanbul. It became the capital of the Ottoman Empire.

May 29, 1917 - John Fitzgerald Kennedy (1917-1963) the 35th U.S. President was born in Brookline, Massachu-

Compiled by: Anna Maria De Biase and Ezgi Daglayan

Publication Review

CoE Study: Blocking, Filtering and Takedown of Illegal Internet Content



n November 2014, the Council of geted at regulating the internet, while Europe appointed the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law (SICL) to carry out a comparative study on laws and practice of all the 47 Council of Europe member states regarding filtering, blocking and takedown of illegal content on the internet.

The research produced a report for each member state, structured on a common questionnaire that analysed the legal sources, legal framework, procedural aspects, general monitoring of internet mechanisms and assessment to the case law of the European Court of Human Rights. Comparative considerations drawn from individual country reports constitute the core of the first part of the present publication.

Two distinct regulative models are classified regarding how states approach this subject: in certain countries a specific legislation to block or remove illegal internet content has been implemented, while in others the lack of such a law is justified with the impossibility for the legislator to keep up with the pace of digital technology development.

In the first case, differences emerge regarding the legislative regulation of procedural aspects of blocking access to illegal online content: in relation to particularly sensitive matters (such as child abuse, terrorism, hate crimes, threats to national security) police or administrative authorities are usually entitled to order internet service provider to remove illegal content without a prior judicial authorisation, which on the contrary is normally requested to pursue intellectual property, privacy or defamation rights infringements.

Some states provide for a subsequent court approval of the blocking order, others recur to a "splash" web page in replacement of the blocked content, explaining why the blocking is in place and how it can be challenged.

In countries where a specific legislation on illegal online content is not in place, many states rely on an general legal framework not tar-

in other cases the regulatory vacuum addressed by self-regulations adopted by the private sector.

The report highlights some particular issues regarding the compliance of blocking or takedown regulations and practices with respects of human rights, primarily freedom of expression. Firstly, the practice of voluntary blocking (as in, blockings carried out by internet service providers without a legal basis) doesn't exonerate states to monitor on the respect of freedom of expressions of all citizens and their right to a fair trial.

It is also worth noting that, due to recent changes to European Union law, as from 2017 voluntary blocking without a legal basis is not allowed in the 28 EU countries. On another hand, legal basis envisioned by member states to carry out a blockage must comply with article 10 of the European Convention of Human Rights, which provide the mandatory lists of legitimate goals that justify legal limitations of freedom of expression, provided that measures taken by the state respects the limits of proportionality.

The rules provided for by article 10 are also relevant to the issue of removal of illegal content and the liability of the host provider as a co-perpetrator of the law infringement, which in some case corresponds to serious criminal violations.

Liability risk may push the host to over-removal, with a significant impact on freedom of expression of internet content providers. On this aspect, the report concludes that from the perspective of human rights it is preferable (if not necessary) to implement specific legislation on "notice and takedown" procedures, a mechanism according to which the host provider is notified about existence of illegal content and given the option to remove it before authorities proceed to take it

The full study, comprehensive of the 47 individual country reports, is freely available at the Council of Europe website: http://bit.ly/28fwhWS

Matteo Haenen

What's on, where, and when... Compiled by: Matteo Haenen

BRIGHTON AND HOVE

Beachwatch: Brighton Beach clean-up event for over 50s The Marine Conservation Society is promoting a project to involve over 50s in helping clean up Brighton coastline. Meeting location will be on Brighton Seafront, in front of the Ohso Social Beach Bar. Registration is completely free and available on the event website. *7 June, 3pm - 6pm* 250A Kings Road Arches, Brighton BN1 1NB

Info: http://www.mcsuk.org/beachwatch/beach/brighton-beach/event/2017-06-07

Take Part Festival 2017

Take Part Festival returns to Brighton to celebrate Sport and Physical Activity in Brighton & Hove. A rich program of events around the city for all ages, abilities and interests thanks to the support of local organisations. And all the events are free! 17 June - 2 July http://bit.ly/2re6Mpc

ACROSS THE UK

Refugee Week 2017

As every year, The United Kingdom observes Refugee Week, revolving around World Refugee Day, 20 June. Dozens of events will take place in various cities across the country to celebrate the cultural heritage of migrants and refugees communities, to raise awareness about their human rights and to advocate for their inclusion in our society. http://refugeeweek.org.uk/refugee-week-2017

#Minsmerebioblitz

Minsmere is a beautiful coastal nature reserve owned and run by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. The site hosts more than 57000 species of birds, bugs and plants, and RSPB guides want to help you discover as many as possible! Normal entrance fee to the reserve apply: Non-member adults £9, children (under 19) £5, Under 5s free, students £6, family offer: one child free with two paying adults. 27~May-4~June

Minsmere Nature Reserve, Saxmundham, IP17 3BY

Info: http://bit.ly/2sfqvUy

Edinburgh International Film Festival

Inaugurated in 1947, it is the world's longest continually running film festival. It's organised by Centre for the Moving Image, a Edinburgh-based national organisation that aims at developing film industry and culture across Scotland. As every year, the 2017 program aims at keeping a balance between old and new, combining celebrations of cinema history and of emerging talents in various venues across the city. Free outdoor screening will be held in St Andrew Square from Friday 16 to Sunday 18 June. 21 June - 20 July, Edinburgh

Info and tickets: https://www.edfilmfest.org.uk

ACROSS THE REGION

Sónar

Created in 1994, Sónar is the international festival of advanced music and new media art that brings together people of Barcelona thanks of its combination of a playful nature, the avant-garde and experimentation with newest trends in dance and electronic music. 15 - 17 June, Barcelona, Spain https://sonar.es/en/2017

Fiera do Livro

The Lisbon Book Fair (Fiera do Livro), taking place since the 1930s at Eudardo VII Park, is one of the oldest cultural festivals held in the city. Visitor can enjoy exhibitors and buy old and rare volumes from the numerous stalls. Large part of the books are in Portuguese, but you can find a lot of English publications too!

1 - 18 June, Parque Eduardo VII, Lisbon, Portugal

Info: http://feiradolivrodelisboa.pt

Karneval der Kulturen

The Karneval der Kulturen (Carnival of Cultures) is a four-day urban festival with a free and open program to celebrate the diverse and dynamic community of Berlin. Music, dance groups, street-stages and off-stages will bring all sort of people together to bring the city alive! 2-5 June, Berlin, Germany

Info: http://www.karneval-berlin.de/en

Support our work: Donate, subscribe, volunteer...

BECOME A EURO-MERNET VOLUNTEER – Euro-Mernet is entirely run by volunteers. We always welcome volunteers/interns to maintain the highest possible quality of work. We have a variety of volunteering roles. Contact: volunteering@euromernet.org

DONATE - Contact: <u>donate@euromernet.org</u>

Euro-Mernet does not have its own revenue generating funds or investments. The sustainability and strength of our work relies on the continuity of our success in fundraising, including individual donations. No donation is too small. Thank you for your generosity.

WAYS OF DONATING

- Send your donation by cheque to our office address: Euro-Mernet, Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG.
- You can request a copy of our Standing Order Mandate by telephoning, faxing or emailing to us.
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