

Advocacy for an inclusive Europe



Actively Contributing to European Policy-making

CEJI advocates for an inclusive environment that values diversity and works to overcome antisemitism, racism, and all forms of discrimination. It is a priority for CEJI to contribute actively to policy-making processes within the European Union, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and within the wider spectrum of European organisations and networks active in these areas.

Through our advocacy work, we aim to:

- Promote an inclusive Europe and the positive strategies to create it – specifically through the inclusion of diversity and citizenship education in school curricula
- Confront that which prevents an inclusive Europe, such as discrimination and hate speech.

CEJI is:

- Recognised with Participatory Status at the Council of Europe
- A Civil Society Partner with the Fundamental Rights Agency of the European Commission
- A Steering Committee Member of the Platform for Intercultural Europe
- A Member of the European Network Against Racism
- A Regular Participant in the OSCE ODIHR events concerning the “human dimension” – racism, intolerance, human rights and education

Impact:

A recognised centre of expertise in these fields, CEJI’s voice is heard by various international and national governments and institutions, and the organisation is asked regularly to provide interventions at conferences and debates.

Highlights

CEJI advocates for the passage of the proposed Equality Directive which is still under discussion in the European Council. As described in CEJI’s Position Paper on the subject, it is a much-needed instrument that will fill a gap in the European Union’s current legislation. The current existing legislation has created a ‘hierarchy of suffering’, in which certain groups mentioned in Article 13 are afforded more comprehensive protection against discrimination than others. The proposed Equality Directive would remedy this situation and afford legal recourse at the European level to ensure equal opportunities and treatment for the other groups. For instance, the proposal would be effective in rendering illegal the recent action of a public school principal, who stated that Jewish children would no longer be welcome in his establishment, claiming that their presence would make other children feel uncomfortable and raise tensions in the school . To download CEJI’s Position Paper, go to www.ceji.org .

As a partner of the Inter-parliamentary Coalition on Combating Antisemitism, CEJI garners support among Members of the European Parliament for the London Declaration on Combating Antisemitism. The issue of recurring antisemitism in Europe is brought to the fore, and CEJI promotes a model of prevention and intervention measures that can serve all forms of discrimination. To download the Declaration, go to <http://www.antisem.org>.