

# ENCATE

## Terms of Reference

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### **BACKGROUND**

The European Network for Countering Antisemitism through Education (ENCATE) was initiated by Kreuzberg Initiative against Antisemitism (KIgA e.V.) as an informal platform for learning and exchange in May 2019.

The network has initially been supported by the German Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ). The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) supports ENCATE as regards to relevant content and educational resources on the Holocaust.

There is rising antisemitism in Europe and a growing recognition that the existence of antisemitism is a serious problem that threatens the life and security of Jews in Europe and constitutes a threat to democracy. No community should confront hatred by themselves, and an explicit goal of this network is to create broader coalitions between Jewish organizations and other stakeholders against antisemitism.

### **MISSION AND OBJECTIVE**

ENCATE has the mission of strengthening the capacity and recognition of civil society organizations that educate society against antisemitism.

It understands education as an essential, although not the sole, tool to counter antisemitism and connects organizations that have programs in the context of formal education and informal or non-formal learning.

ENCATE acknowledges the relevant past and current work of Jewish organizations and communities as well as of international institutions, networks, and NGOs as a frame of reference. Our work strives to be complementary and to add value to the field.

ENCATE is a platform to share, to learn, and to grow our impact together. Supporting this mission it employs two particular objectives:

### Objective 1: Co-learning Platform

The first objective of ENCATE is to be a co-learning and exchange platform for its Member Organizations to facilitate the acquirement of new knowledge, educational resources, and skills.

The Member Organizations explore and exchange new tools, methodologies, theoretical approaches, and materials in the field of education to prevent contemporary forms of antisemitism.

### Objective 2: Recognition and Visibility

ENCATE aims to increase the recognition of its Member Organizations in educational, social, and political areas, and it focuses on developing communication strategies for this intention.

ENCATE aims to compile and formulate the needs and demands of its members and to convey the everyday realities of educators into the agendas of decision-makers and international organizations. It identifies and reaches out to stakeholders, who can provide resources or facilitate activities of our Member Organizations.

It develops communication strategies to disseminate information from the network as well as other stakeholders and find out inspiring stories about what educators are doing on the ground against antisemitism and bigotry.

## **DEFINITIONS**

The term "education" may include a wide variety of domains, approaches, and formats. ENCATE concentrates on educational activities of non-profit and not-for-profit organizations realized at schools or out of school, in which participants can range from pupils to migrant communities to police officers. Similarly, durations and formats of activities can vary as long as countering contemporary forms of antisemitism is a deliberate goal.

Organizations can employ different approaches and define their work in different realms of education, such as

- / Civic/political education
- / Holocaust education
- / Education with minority or migrant communities
- / Human rights and democratic citizenship education
- / Anti-discrimination education
- / Education to prevent extremism

ENCATE prefers the term "education for countering antisemitism" to define the above-defined scope.

To have a common understanding of the subject of antisemitism, ENCATE adopts and uses the IHRA's working definition of antisemitism including annexed examples:

"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred towards Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."<sup>1</sup>

## **GOVERNANCE AND MEMBERSHIP**

### Governance

Until the establishment of a prospective legal entity, the **Coordinator Organization** of the network is Kreuzberg Initiative against Antisemitism (KIgA e.V.), which is also responsible for general management of funds and good governance, and the cooperation of the **Member Organizations** for the goals mentioned above.

ENCATE has a **Steering Committee** consisting of 5 experts, one from the Coordinator Organization and four from the Member Organizations. This committee has the role and responsibility to develop the contents of the network activities together with the Coordinator Organization and partner organizations. The Coordinator Organization facilitates the work of the group. Similarly, other ad-hoc working groups can be formed when necessary.

ENCATE can designate advisors, including representatives from the project supporters mentioned above, among others, to provide advice on various aspects of the work of the network.

### Membership

Organizations of the following nature can be a Member Organization:

- / Non-profit or not-for-profit organizations;
- / Located in one of the Council of Europe countries;
- / Having educational programs to prevent contemporary forms of antisemitism;
- / Being in exchange with Jewish communities about the threats they encounter;
- / Open to intersectional approaches to confront different kinds of group-focused enmities (including antisemitism, racism, anti-Muslim bigotry, misogyny, homo- and transphobia, and antigypsyism.);
- / Willing to learn and employ inclusive educational methods that consider sensitivities and experiences of different target groups, including groups like migrant communities, refugees, rural residents, the Roma, or Muslims;
- / Willing to learn and share their educational knowledge and experience with other Member Organizations;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/node/196>

- / Assign at least one contact person who has the capacity to influence the educational strategies of the organization.

ENCATE prioritizes to have geographical and methodological variety.

To be a Member Organization, candidates must complete an application form and approve the Terms of Reference. Consequently, their application will be evaluated by the Steering Committee (if not formed yet, by the Coordinator Organization).

ENCATE shares the name and logos of its Member Organizations and information about their work through its communication channels. The Member Organizations transparently inform their constituencies about their membership.

The Member Organizations have full access to the network activities within the financial and organizational frameworks that the Coordinator Organization and the Steering Committee formed.

The Member Organizations can withdraw from the network at any time by a formal notification sent to the Coordinator Organization.

If a Member Organization acts against the aims and values of the network, its membership can be terminated, upon recommendation by the Coordinator Organization or upon request of at least 1/5 of all members, by resolution of the Steering Committee, at which at least 1/3 of all committee members are present or represented and deciding by the majority of the votes.

### Working Language

The working language is English.

## **ACTIVITIES**

The network creates and conducts relevant activities to increase the capacities of its members -- such as workshops, exchanges, study visits, and pilot projects. The activities are primarily open to the Member Organizations, but we may also involve observers and partners upon need. The below list includes main activities:

### 1. Network Meetings

These meetings are the essential yearly gatherings of ENCATE, consisting of two main components. The first part is a learning platform, where Member Organizations share their educational practices and experiences. The second part of the meetings is more about governance issues within the network.

### 2. Study Visits

ENCATE organizes study visits for its members, where they can explore new ideas, methods, and approaches. They address specific issues or give them the chance to explore the work of important institutions in relevant areas like antisemitism, remembrance, and Holocaust education.

### 3. Bilateral Exchanges

ENCATE organizes bilateral or multilateral exchanges as an in-depth knowledge and experience transfer activity.

### 4. Pilot Projects

ENCATE members can develop pilot projects to address any need in the field of education, which genuinely complement gaps in the field. The leader of such projects will be the applicant organization in close communication with the Coordinator Organization. ENCATE supports to disseminate the calls and results of the activities in its communication channels if they are in line with the network goals.

### 5. Grant-making

ENCATE can provide grants to non-profit organizations, activists, and educators for the activities relevant to its objectives.

### 6. Communication

ENCATE launches websites and social media accounts to inform relevant stakeholders about its work and that of its Member Organizations. The network can share its expertise and recommendations on educational policies of national, European, or international institutions.

## **GENERAL TERMS**

Conflicts that are not foreseen in this document will be dealt with by the KlGA e.V. board decisions, grant agreements, and German law.

This document will be void when a new document for terms of reference is published, or a legal entity for ENCATE is established. The legal entity will overtake the work and responsibilities of the Coordinator Organization, KlGA e.V.

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