

# **Report INACH Members Assembly 2020**

#### This report is not a public report and for INACH members only

On the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of June INACH organised its Members Assembly, due to the Corona Crisis, for the first time online. Around 38 representatives from the 26 members attended the two afternoon sessions. The goal of the Members Assembly was to discuss the progress, and to exchange knowledge and good practices.



Members Assembly 2019

Members Assembly 2020

#### <u>Day 1</u>

The session on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June started off with a fun energizer to get everyone engaged and comfortable with the online meeting before continuing with the agenda, with a price to be won for the winner of the game. The agenda was comprised of an update from the INACH Secretariat, news from the INACH Projects Department and some time to reflect together on ideas and work not covered (yet) as a follow-up to the Members Assembly 2019. Below you will find a summary per topic in bullet points, full presentations can be found on the members page of the INACH website:

#### News from the INACH Secretariat

First half of 2020 the INACH Secretariat worked (amongst other things) on:

- Publishing the report on the Monitoring Exercise 2019
- Preparing the first Monitoring Exercise of 2020 with the sCAN project
- Preparing an online Members Assembly and online Annual Conference
- Preparing to move the counter-speech trainings for law enforcement agencies and young people to an online training space, expected to be ready for use by August 2020
- Starting a cooperation with Samurai Labs to develop the final task to be made by the participants in the online trainings
- Collecting research connected to pandemic related racism from the INACH members to publish a network wide overview.
- Fundraising for an online campaign to reach a broad public for the online trainings
- Developing and launching the online members area on the INACH website
- Maintaining the network, contacts with international organisations (EC/Coe) and social media companies



# News from the INACH Project Departments

Claudia Schaefer, Director of the INACH Project Department gave an update on what has been done within the Project Department that was established around a year ago with the goal to foster collaboration within the network and stabilize it:

- Design thinking workshop on how to initialize and organize project development at INACH
- Design and development of a partner section on the INACH website based on information from the members
- Development and implementation of a partner search & match making tool on the partner section of the INACH website
- Acquisition of project partnerships
- Involvement in two projects, one of the projects is 'Re-ACT' which is coordinated by INACH
- Involvement in three project proposals currently under evaluation

## Follow up Members Assembly 2019

The session of day 1 ended with a reflection on ideas, work not covered (yet), topics and other suggestions the members would like to see INACH to work on in the future. The following suggestions were made:

- Focus on rising Antisemitism
- Focus on hate against the LGTBQ community and bring specialised organisations to the network
- Media monitoring (especially where there is a connection between traditional media and social media; monitor the output of supranational media corporations in different countries)
- Bring more anti-gypsyism organisations within the network
- Make visible to the members which members are involved in (online) trainings
- Facilitate cooperation between members by organising subgroups for members who want to work together on specific topics
- Examine where political and/or legal intersections occur internationally, use these as reflection points for policies and actions and focus energy together on individual items.
- Work together against hate speech in Snapchat profiles

## Day 2

At the start of day 2 the members had the opportunity to get to know each other and each other's organisations even better with a Pubquiz. As during day 1 there was a unique INACH mug to win, to be collected by the winner the next time there is a live meeting.







## News from the members

In preparation for the Members Assembly, the members were asked to share a one pager about their organisation and the most important developments since the Members Assembly 2019. All submitted one pagers were made available for the members via the INACH members page. Members who wished to do so, had the opportunity to further elaborate on specific developments during the 'News from the members session'. The following topics were highlighted:

- Founding of the Israelian NGO <u>Fighting Online Antisemitism</u> by Tomer Aldubi in early 2020. FOA works with approx. 80 volunteers to monitor antisemitism and hate speech in general in 10 to 11 languages. Volunteers are educated and receive tools for monitoring via FOA's online trainings. FOA will start monitoring TikTok and Snapchat, and will participate in an educational programme of the Ministry of Education in 2021.
- Launch of the campaign <u>Stop Hate for Profit</u> by ADL in cooperation with other leading Human Rights organisations in the US. After a long dialogue with FB on content moderation it was decided to go public. The campaign calls on business to not advertise on FB in July.
- Update on OpCode by Active Watch: several INACH members work together in the OpCode project. A shadow monitoring exercise (ME) was finished recently. The findings suggest that the networks might have mechanisms in place that can detect when an ME is taking place, which will be looked further into. In September the first Hackathon will take place online. Furthermore, Active Watched finalized an interesting research on the effects of the Corona virus which will be published and shared with INACH. Active Watch is also the co-organizer of the INACH Annual Conference 2020.
- ZARA highlighted that 2020 was a tough year for their counselling unit against online hate. In 2019 the unit had 1900 cases in total, for 2020 there are already more than 1600 cases. The Corona virus plays an important role. Starting with Chinese and refugees now also Muslims and Jews get targeted culminating in fake news and conspiracy theories. FB seems to have difficulties in providing the usual moderating services. ZARA also notices that although there is new thinking stemming from the 'Black Lives matter' movement, there is also more hate against people with a black skin colour.
- Ursa Vale was introduced as the new coordinator at Spletno Oko. On the 4th of July 2019, the Supreme court of Slovenia set an important legal precedent in a case involving hate speech against the Roma. More about this can be read in the one pager. Spletno Oko currently works on the project Behave to educate and empower teachers in South Eastern Europe.
- Theresa Ostertag and Julia Wolrab introduced themselves as the main contact persons at Gegen Vergessen. Gegen Vergessen started a new project with Jugenschutz.net and Ramsa (Muslim Academic Student organization) in 2019 aimed at strengthening young Muslims to stand up against online hate speech. A team of 50 young people is formed who developed their own workshop to give to their peers.
- Czech Helsinki Committee monitored hate speech in general, and member of governmental committees on Child Rights and Torture. CHC reports hate speech against minorities, especially Roma and discrimination against Roma children.

## Presentation European Online Learning Platform

Day 2 ended with a presentation by Lovestorm about the online training platform that was launched in 2018 by Lovestorm, DigiQ, Human Rights House Zagreb and the University of Florence. The platform was followed by a mobile app in September 2019. Via role plays participants can practice



realistic interventions on the platform and develop their own strategies and have ideas ready to be used in real situations, even under stress. The platform will include e-learning for individual learners as well. The second target group is educators. Teaching resources will be developed that fit with the needs of different subgroups of educators. For the European platform different language groups will be created, so that all partners can run their own workshops. Next to that an international 'train the trainer group' will be established by April 2022, a training that could also be given for INACH members. The 2.0 version of the platform is expected by May 2023.

*The INACH Secretariat thanks all participants for their contributions and participation in the Members Assembly. The next meeting will be the online INACH Annual Conference on 14-15 of October 2020.* 

\*\*\* End of the report \*\*\*