

CENTRE FOR PEACE STUDIES



December 5th 2023
Human Rights House Zagreb

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Centre for Peace Studies

Civil society organisation, protects human rights and pursues social change based on the values of democracy, anti-fascism, nonviolence, peacebuilding, solidarity and equality using activism, education, research, advocacy and direct support. We work with communities, initiatives, organisations, media, institutions and individuals in Croatia and internationally

1. Supporting Inclusive Society

2. Educating and Empowering for Social Change

3. Protecting and Promoting the Right to Asylum and Migration

4. Affirmation of Economic and Social Rights

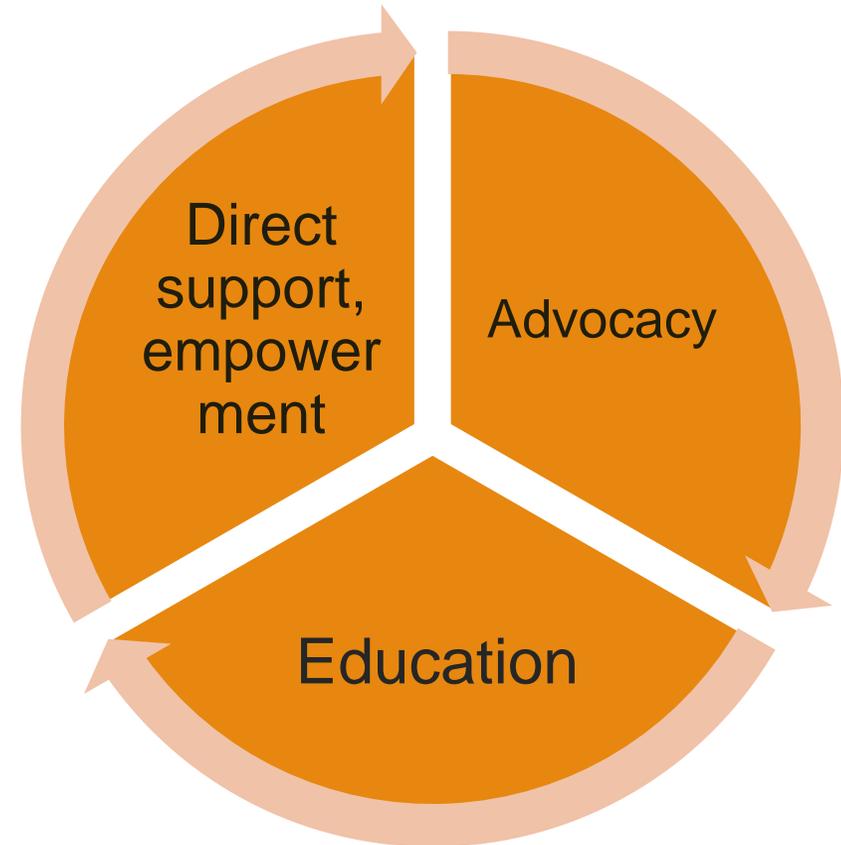
International networks: ENAR, SOLIDAR, ECRE, NSC, Human Rights House network, FRA

Methods and approaches

Advocacy: research, policy work,
campaigning

Direct work, support, community building

Education: non-formal, formal, informal



1. Supporting Inclusive Society

- Within the Supporting Inclusive Society program unit, we want to ensure that integration is approached in a multi-departmental and multi-sectoral manner and that refugees and foreigners are well accepted in our society and enjoy human rights.
- We want to encourage society to be more open to differences → we undertake efforts to make discrimination and violence motivated by hatred and prejudice unacceptable.
- We make institutions aware of the necessity of introducing institutional practices for the prevention and sanctioning of structural violence and discrimination.
- We develop networks of activist resistance for progressive social change in combating racism.

To achieve these program goals, we **advocate, collaborate and conduct research** with different stakeholders: institutions, individuals, the media and within the civil society sector.

2. Educating and Empowering for Social Change

- The Educating and Empowering for Social Change program unit works towards empowering individuals and groups for progressive social change.
- The basic principle of our work is designing and implementing different non-formal education and learning programs, providing support to different groups and individuals and advocating quality policies in education.
- Our long term goal is to **contribute to the democratisation and inclusiveness of the education system, to raise the civic competence of students, teachers and young people and to empower citizens for activism.**

3. Protecting and Promoting the Right to Asylum and Migration

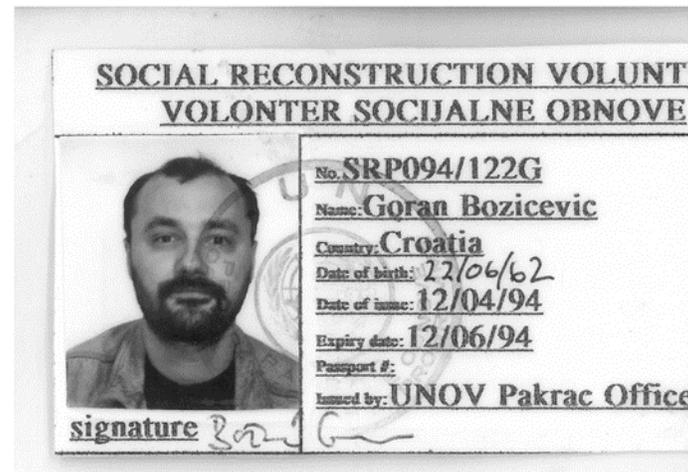
- Within the Protecting and Promoting the Right to Asylum and Migration program unit, we want to protect the asylum system and ensure safe and regular pathways for migrating and obtaining status.
- Through **direct, research, legal and public advocacy work**, we strive to stop illegal and violent practices towards refugees and other migrants, encourage the improvement of the legislative framework and practice concerning asylum and safe and regular migration routes, fight against the criminalisation of solidarity, and inform refugees and other migrants on rights in accessing asylum and regulating status.
- To achieve this program goal, **we cooperate with international, regional and domestic networks, institutions and organisations, lawyers, media and individuals.**

4. Affirmation of Economic and Social Rights

- Through the Affirmation of Economic and Social Rights program unit, we want to encourage citizens, the public and institutions to recognize economic and social rights as human rights and to enhance access to economic and social rights, particularly for marginalised groups in our society.
- To achieve this program goal, we cooperate with international, regional, and domestic networks, institutions and organisations, legal experts, academia, the media, and individuals.
- Also, by developing our own human and financial capacities for our work in the field of economic and social rights, we ensure long-term work on this topic of building a more socially and economically just society.

GOING BACK TO THE ROOTS...

Volunteer Project Pakrac



Volunteer Project Pakrac



PAPIGA - Mauer, von Stadtkindern bemalt, plus Tor zum Hof und Keller-Clublokal. Das romantische Häuschen oben rechts hat eine total zerstörte Rückseite. Im PapiGA finden alle gemeinsamen Anlässe statt. Kinder-nachmittage, Frauenclub, Sprachkolektionen, Volunteer-Meetings, Ausstellungen. Es ist unser Treffpunkt.



Volunteer Project Pakrac



Educating and Empowering for Social Change

Peace education



Creating preconditions for sustainable - **positive peace** – connections, cooperation, affecting institutional mechanisms

- **Horizontal:** among people, initiatives, organizations, groups
- **Vertical:** among people and institutions, among institutions

CPS' Peace Education

1. Connections with schools - formal education
2. Non-formal education programs

1. Formal education: Research

- 2010. research *Analytical and Normative basis for the introduction of values, content and methods of peace education in the formal educational system in Croatia* – research report
Learning for Peace
- Main findings:
 - Peace education in Croatia cannot be an independent subject***
 - It should be linked to human rights, nonviolence, democracy***
 - Civic education curricula***
- First steps for the GOOD Initiative

Connections with formal education

In 2014 the Parliament adopted the new **Strategy of education, science and technology**

- **advocating for the quality introduction and implementation of civic education in schools as an obligatory subject and cross-curricular theme - within the GOOD initiative - 2016 protest where 50.000 citizens gave support to Curriculum Reform**



- **supporting, mentoring and providing professional development courses for teachers and school staff**
- **creating resources for schools and teachers** - toolkits, lesson plans, interactive material, web compendiums of good practice
- providing **opportunities for extra-curricular activities** through projects (national and international)
- **encouraging community work of schools and dialogue**

COMMUNITY
ACTION
GUIDELINES
COMMUNITY
ACTION
GUIDELINES
COMMUNITY
ACTION
GUIDELINES



2. CPS: Non-formal programs of peace education

- 1. MIRamiDA – peacebuilding trainings** (5 – 10 days), since 1995. 40 trainings
- 2. Peace Studies** (one year long, 200 hours), since 1997. – 25 generations
- 3. Trainings for Teachers**, since 2012.
- 4. Human Rights School** for students (7 days), NHC – 2003 - 2011
- 5. Training for Trainers** (specific issues, participatory methods) (3 x 3 days)
- 6. Intercultural Mediators** (3 x 2 days), since 2017.
- 7. Trainings on request** – tailor made

Principles of peace education/Peace Studies

1. Encouraging participants to explore war and peace **interdisciplinary**
2. Focus is not on diplomacy and policy-experts – it **focuses on civil society and citizens and their role in building a more just world**
3. Peace studies are **values-based** - important to have academic objectivity – acknowledging the ethical approach to peace and social justice
4. **Needs to be transformative**: society needs alternatives to status quo – different leadership in politics, and economy – peace is the result of radical transformation of values, social arrangements, and international relations
Negative peace → **positive peace** = prevention of wars, social justice, respect of human rights – **fighting structural violence and oppression**
5. Academic field (?) leans on different educational concepts

Peace Studies - CPS

- 1992 - 1996 Social reconstruction in war affected and post-war societies – Western Slavonia
(help in reconstruction, social activities, workshops for children and adults, laundry, communication between war-affected sides)
- Peace Building, UN 1992: International volunteers project Pakrac
- Network: Anti-War Campaign Croatia
- Share gained experience
- 1997 Centre for Peace Studies
- 1997 - 1998 Peace Studies pilot-program

CPS: Peace Studies: Principles and methodology

- Combining theory and practice
- Participatory learning
- Experience exchange
- Equality in the process
- Empowering to act (transferring motivation) - Transformative experience – personal and citizens competences (society, politics)

me – me and others – me and society

Peace Studies – for restless citizens

- Non-formal education for adults (young participants)
- Deconstructing society, politics, strategies, laws – analyze practices and empowering people to cooperate and act for change
- Finding alternatives to structural violence



3 clusters, 110 hours, practical work, 30 participants every year



1. Skills for cooperation

Basic content:

- Nonviolent communication, Understanding and transforming conflicts, Mediation skills, Understanding direct, Structural and cultural violence, Power

2. Approaches and Analyses for better societies

Basic content: Human Rights and Antidiscrimination policies; Feminism, gender and sexuality, War and anti-war legacies, Human Security and Migrations, Globalization and Social Justice

3. Praxis for Social Change

Basic content: Activist practices and Social Change – organizational and cooperation skills in practice for long term activism and policy work; Student actions (mentored group work, small actions or social change)



SIJEČANJ – LIPANJ 2024. / 18.00 – 20.00
UTORKOM I ČETVRTKOM + 4 RADNE SUBOTE

MIROVNI

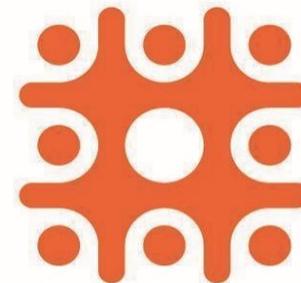


STUDIJI

WWW.CMS.HR/HR/MIROVNI-STUDIJI
PRIJAVE DO 10.12.2023.

Thank you!

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