

**Brussels, 2 October 2026
(OR. en)**

13811/26

**JAI 1224
FREMP 302**

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Council conclusions on combating racism and related forms of hatred and discrimination in the European Union: Safeguarding Fundamental Rights and European Values

Delegations will find in the annex the Council Conclusions on combating racism and related forms of hatred and discrimination in the European Union: Safeguarding Fundamental Rights and European Values, approved by the Council at its 4197th meeting held on 2 October 2026.

**DRAFT COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS on combating racism
and related forms of hatred and discrimination in the European Union:
Safeguarding Fundamental Rights and European Values**

The Council of the European Union

- a. **HAVING REGARD** to the Treaty on European Union, notably the preamble and Articles 3(3) and 6 thereof, and in particular Article 2 whereby the Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities, which are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail;
- b. **HAVING REGARD** to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 10, 19 and 67(3) thereof, the latter of which obliges the Union to endeavour to ensure a high level of security through measures to prevent and combat crime, racism and xenophobia;
- c. **HAVING REGARD** to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;
- d. **HAVING REGARD** to the Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin (Racial Equality Directive);
- e. **HAVING REGARD** to Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA of 28 November 2008 on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law;

- f. **HAVING REGARD** to Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, as revised by Directive 2026/1472 (Victim's Rights Directive), of 17 June 2026, which specifically mentions victims of hate crime;
- g. **HAVING REGARD** to Council Recommendation (EU) 2021/C 93/01 on Roma equality, inclusion and participation of 12 March 2021, which recognised antigypsyism as a specific form of racism against Roma people, a root cause of their exclusion and discrimination, and a major obstacle to equality; **RECALLING** the commitment to addressing antigypsyism through the effective implementation of measures aimed at preventing and combating discrimination, hate speech, hate crime, and structural exclusion.
- h. **HAVING REGARD** to Council Directive (EU) 2024/1499 of 7 May 2024, on standards for equality bodies in the field of equal treatment between persons irrespective of their racial or ethnic origin, equal treatment in matters of employment and occupation between persons irrespective of their religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, equal treatment between women and men in matters of social security and in the access to and supply of goods and services, and amending Directives 2000/43/EC and 2004/113/EC, and recognising the essential role of equality bodies in enforcing anti-discrimination law and supporting victims of discrimination;
- i. **HAVING REGARD** to Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a Single Market for Digital Services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act), which establishes obligations for intermediary services to address illegal content;

- j. **HAVING REGARD** to the Code of Conduct on Countering Illegal Hate Speech Online+ and the ongoing cooperation between the Commission, the European Board for Digital Services, Digital Services Coordinators, civil society organisations and intermediary services to prevent and counter the dissemination of illegal hate speech online;
- k. **HAVING REGARD** to Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence (Artificial Intelligence Act), and amending Regulations (EC) No 300/2008, (EU) No 167/2013, (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1139 and (EU) 2019/2144 and Directives 2014/90/EU, (EU) 2016/797 and (EU) 2020/1828, which promotes the uptake of human-centric and trustworthy artificial intelligence (AI), while ensuring a high level of protection of health, safety, fundamental rights, including the right to non-discrimination;
- l. **HAVING REGARD** to the Council Conclusions of 16 December 2024 on the use of Artificial Intelligence in the field of justice, and recognising the relevance of AI systems to the fair administration of justice and the risk of algorithmic bias in judicial contexts;
- m. **RECALLING** the Council conclusions of 4 March 2022 on combating racism and antisemitism; **HAVING REGARD** to the joint communication to the European Parliament and the Council “No place for hate: a Europe united against hatred” of 6 December 2023;
- n. **RECALLING** the Council Declaration of 15 October 2024 on fostering Jewish life and combating antisemitism;

- o. **HAVING REGARD** to the Commission communication on “A more inclusive and protective Europe: extending the list of EU crimes to hate speech and hate crime” of 9 December 2021, and noting subsequent developments in the legislative process in this area;
- p. **RECALLING** the need to ensure the universal ratification and the full and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), as well as the need to implement the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA), and to rationalise and streamline, where needed, their follow-up mechanisms;
- q. **HAVING REGARD** to the European Convention on Human Rights, in particular Articles 9 (freedom of thought, conscience and religion), 10 (freedom of expression) and 14 (prohibition of discrimination), to which all Member States are parties;
- r. **WELCOMING** the European Commission’s adoption of the EU Anti-Racism Strategy 2026 – 2030 and the principled strategic approaches outlined therein, including tackling structural racism, improving the collection of equality data on racial or ethnic origin and other grounds of discrimination, enforcing anti-discrimination legislation, strengthening social equality and cohesion, stepping up protection against racial hatred, including online, and strengthening and fostering key partnerships with civil society organisations, equality bodies, and communities affected by racism, while recognising that Member States are best placed to design specific measures at national level;
- s. **WELCOMING** the ongoing efforts by the European Commission and the Member States to counter racism, including structural racism and racism online, in particular through the work of the expert group on Anti-Racism that brings together representatives of Member State governments and relevant international stakeholders, and the work of the Commission Coordinator on combating racism;

- t. **WELCOMING** the ongoing efforts by the European Commission and the Member States to counter hate speech and hate crime, in particular through the work of the High-Level Group on Combating Hate Speech and Hate Crime that brings together representatives of Member State governments, international organisations and civil society;
- u. **WELCOMING** the ongoing efforts by the European Commission and the Member States to implement the EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life (2021-30), in particular through the working group that brings together representatives of Member State governments, representatives of Jewish communities and other relevant parties, and through the work of the Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism and fostering Jewish life;
- v. **WELCOMING** the ongoing efforts by the European Commission and Member States to combat anti-Muslim hatred¹, including through the work of the Commission Coordinator on combating anti-Muslim hatred and structured dialogues with representatives of Muslim communities and civil society organisations; and acknowledging that anti-Muslim hatred constitutes a specific form of discrimination, which can appear as a combination of discrimination based on religion as well as on ethnicity, and which can compound existing socioeconomic disadvantages and undermine the fundamental rights and dignity of persons belonging to Muslim communities, or persons perceived as such, across the Union;

¹ The terminology used to refer to the phenomena varies: “anti-Muslim racism” is used in some Member States, while “anti-Muslim hatred” or similar terms are used in others. The two terms may also be used interchangeably. The wording used in these conclusions should not be construed as a position by the Council on which terminology should be used.

- w. **WELCOMING** the ongoing efforts by the European Commission and the Member States to implement the EU Roma Strategic Framework for equality, inclusion and participation 2020-2030, including through national frameworks, with the participation of representatives of Roma communities and civil society organisations, and in particular the commitment to combat antigypsyism as a specific form of racism and discrimination; and to achieve the EU headline targets set by the Commission for 2030.
- x. **HAVING REGARD** to the work carried out by the Council of Europe's European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), in particular the General Policy Recommendation No. 1 on combating racism, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance adopted on 4 October 1996, the revised General Policy Recommendation No. 5 on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination, adopted on 16 March 2000 and revised on 8 December 2021, the General Policy Recommendation No. 9 on preventing and combating antisemitism adopted on 25 June 2004 and revised on 1 July 2021, and the General Policy Recommendation No. 13 on combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma adopted on 24 June 2011 and amended on 1 December 2020;
- y. **HAVING REGARD** to the work carried out by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, especially the Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)16 of 20 May 2022 on combating hate speech and the Recommendation CM/Rec(2024)4 of 7 May 2024 on combating hate crime.
- z. **HAVING REGARD** to the UN General Assembly Resolution 79/174 of 17 December 2024 on Freedom of Religion and Belief that strongly condemns all forms of intolerance, discrimination and violence based on religion or belief.

- aa. **HAVING REGARD** to the UN General Assembly Resolution 79/193 of 17 December 2024 proclaiming the Second International Decade for People of African Descent 2025-2034, recalling the commitments under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action that recognize the importance of enhancing national action and international cooperation and the calls contained in the Declaration urging the participation of people of African descent in all political, civil, economic, social and cultural aspects of society;
- bb. **HAVING REGARD** to the UN Human Rights Council Resolution 47/21 of 13 July 2021 on the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and of people of African descent against excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers through transformative change for racial justice and equality; and acknowledging that discriminatory profiling practices have a detrimental impact on social cohesion and may lead to racial discrimination;
- cc. **HAVING REGARD** to the UN General Assembly Resolution 76/254 of 15 March 2022, which declared March 15 as the "International Day to Combat Islamophobia";
- dd. **HAVING REGARD** to the UN General Assembly Resolution 76/250 on Holocaust denial of 20 January 2022;

- ee. **RECOGNISING** that racism can be experienced over a lifetime, accumulating and posing persistent barriers, a phenomenon commonly referred to as structural racism, the impact of which can be more harmful than isolated instances of racial discrimination, as it denies access to equal opportunities and can persist through generations, and that such barriers may be compounded where racial or ethnic origin intersects² with other characteristics such as sex, disability, age, religion or belief, sexual orientation or gender identity, as documented extensively by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights;
- ff. **RECOGNISING** the crucial role of civil society organisations in combating racism and related forms of hatred and discrimination, while deeply concerned about the shrinking of civic space, including disinformation campaigns, hate speech online, reductions in funding, legal harassment, and physical threats against anti-racism organisations, activists, and human rights defenders, therefore **WELCOMING** the adoption of the Civil Society Strategy and **RECALLING** Directive (EU) 2024/1069 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 on protecting persons who engage in public participation from manifestly unfounded claims or abusive court proceedings (Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation – SLAPPs);
- gg. **RECOGNISING** that online platforms and emerging technologies can facilitate the rapid dissemination and amplification of illegal hate speech, racism, xenophobia and other forms of discriminatory content, including anti-Black racism, anti-Asian racism, anti-Muslim hatred, and antigypsism, as well as antisemitism; and that algorithmic systems and generative artificial intelligence may create, reproduce or intensify existing societal biases and contribute to the spread of harmful content online and targeted disinformation campaigns;

² In carrying out such activities, equality bodies can take into consideration specific situations of disadvantage resulting from intersectional discrimination, which is understood as discrimination based on a combination of grounds protected under Art. 5(2) of Directive (EU) 2024/1499.

- hh. **RECOGNISING** that racism may lead to concrete, measurable inequalities, including in areas of employment, housing, education, healthcare and participation in public life, which may be further deepened by intersecting forms of discrimination, and that, according to recent OECD estimates, racial and ethnic discrimination costs the EU up to EUR 12.7 billion in lost GDP each year, underscoring that combating racism is not only a moral and legal imperative but also a strategic investment in Europe's prosperity and cohesion;
- ii. **WELCOMING** the work of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) to collect comparable data on experiences of racism and related forms of hatred and discrimination.
- jj. **RECOGNISING** with great concern that racism damages society in many ways, causing a large number of people in Europe to face discrimination, affecting their human dignity, their life opportunities, their prosperity, their well-being, and often also their personal safety;
- kk. **ACKNOWLEDGING** with great concern that the increase of anti-Muslim hatred, including attacks on Muslim individuals and premises, has led to many Muslim people adopting coping mechanisms in public, at the workplace, in social life or in education to avoid stigmatisation, discrimination or hostility.
- ll. **ACKNOWLEDGING** with great concern that the significant increase of antisemitism, particularly following the brutal terrorist attacks conducted by Hamas and other terrorist groups against Israel on 7 October 2023, the subsequent war in Gaza and other conflicts in the Middle East has impacted severely on Jewish life in Europe. Attacks on Jewish premises and individuals, as well as antisemitism affecting persons in everyday life, have led to many Jewish people hiding their identity in public, at the workplace and in education or higher-education institutions.

The Council of the European Union,

1. **RECALLS** that racism is incompatible with the core principles and values on which the Union is founded and undermines social cohesion, equality and the full participation of all persons in society, and emphasises the need for a coordinated effort involving the Union institutions and agencies, the Member States, regional and local authorities, equality bodies, social partners, the private sector and civil society.
2. **REAFFIRMS** its commitment to combating racism in a comprehensive and sustained manner, including by mainstreaming anti-racism across relevant Union policies, and by fostering regular exchanges in relevant Council configurations and Working Parties.

The Council of the European Union, bearing in mind the principle of subsidiarity, invites Member States to:

I. Give effect to EU anti-racism strategies and equality frameworks

3. **SUPPORT** a robust implementation of the EU Anti-Racism Strategy 2026-2030 at national, regional and local level by working closely with the designated Commission Coordinator, by building partnerships and ensuring sufficient support to civil society organisations, and by contributing to the mainstreaming of anti-racism objectives across relevant policy areas, including education, employment, housing, health security, and digitalisation; and regularly share information with the Commission on progress and challenges.
4. **SUPPORT** the ongoing implementation of the EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life (2021-2030), working closely with the designated Commission Coordinator to ensure effective implementation, including the supportive measures aimed at fostering Jewish life across the EU;

5. **REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO** the ongoing work to combat anti-Muslim hatred, which can appear as a combination of discrimination based on religion as well as on ethnicity, ensuring that horizontal anti-racism actions applicable to all forms of racism also address anti-Muslim hatred;
6. **ENSURE** the implementation of national Roma strategic frameworks in line with the EU Roma Strategic Framework for equality, inclusion and participation 2020–2030, with a particular focus on addressing antigypsyism and delivering concrete progress in the areas of education, employment, housing and healthcare for Roma people;
7. **ENSURE** the effective application of the EU's anti-discrimination legal framework, including in cases of intersectional discrimination on grounds of racial or ethnic origin combined with other grounds of discrimination, including sex, disability, age, religion or belief, sexual orientation; and **STRENGTHEN** enforcement mechanisms and remedies with respect to rights relating to employment, social protection, health care, education and access to and supply of goods and services, including housing, to ensure consistent application across the Union;
8. **ADVANCE** efforts to ensure socio-economic equality, including by investment in socio-economic inclusion, to address the impact of structural racism, for example in such areas as education, employment, access to services and housing;

II. Address specific forms of racism and related forms of hatred and discrimination, and prepare targeted national measures

- 9. DEVELOP, ADOPT, IMPLEMENT OR RENEW** targeted measures against racism and racial discrimination, notably national actions plans, programmes or strategies, ensuring that they align with European and international standards, address structural racism, adopt an intersectional approach, and are subject to continuous monitoring and periodic evaluation; similarly adopt dedicated strategic approaches addressing specific forms of racism when appropriate; and consider the appointment of national coordinators to strengthen coordination, accountability and stakeholder engagement;
- 10. RECOGNISE** that different forms of racism and discrimination can present and manifest differently in different countries and contexts, and that each Member State is best equipped to develop national action plans, programmes, or strategies as appropriate in the national context to prevent and address racism and discrimination within its own society;
- 11. ACKNOWLEDGE** that while antisemitism and racism overlap, as both phenomena deny equality between individuals, they are distinct in their characteristics and require firm political responses that consider their specificities as well as their commonalities. **COMMIT** to continue to implement and give effect to the EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life (2021-2030), as it remains the primary EU policy document for the fight against antisemitism. In line with their previous commitment, the Commission and all Member States are encouraged to continue to use the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism.

12. **STRENGTHEN** the fight against antigypsyism as a specific form of racism and discrimination, including through promoting the use of the non-legally binding working definition of antigypsyism/anti-Roma discrimination by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) to raise awareness.
13. **ADDRESS** anti-Black racism as a specific form of racism, deeply entrenched in historical legacies, including colonialism, enslavement, and migration, and recognise that it requires sustained attention in national action plans, programmes or strategies, as appropriate in the national context, as well as in EU-level strategies.
14. **RECOGNISE** that anti-Muslim hatred³ can be a specific form of discrimination, directed against Muslims or those perceived as Muslims, involving hostility and prejudice that can appear as a combination of discrimination based on religion and culture, as well as on ethnicity, and that it requires sustained attention in national action plans, programmes or strategies, as well as in EU-level strategies.

III. Combat both online and offline, hate speech, hate crime and discrimination

15. **CONTINUE** assessing the remaining gaps in the EU framework with regards to combating hate speech and hate crime, taking into account their serious impact on individuals, social cohesion and democratic values across the EU.

³ The wording used in these conclusions should not be construed as a position by the Council on which terminology should be used to refer to anti-Muslim hatred/racism.

16. **ACKNOWLEDGE** that geopolitical developments, societal crises and the growing use of new digital technologies may contribute to increases in racism, and related forms of hatred and discrimination, illegal hate speech and hate crime within the Union, and **COMMIT TO** ensuring that national authorities are equipped to respond rapidly and effectively to such developments, including by measures such as:

- strengthening the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice authorities to identify, record, investigate and prosecute hate crimes and illegal hate speech, while strengthening also their capacities to respect human rights, especially the right to freedom of opinion and expression as the foundation of a democratic society;
- providing, as appropriate and without prejudice to the independence of judicial authorities and differences in the organisation of the judiciary across the Union, targeted training to law enforcement personnel, judicial actors and civil servants on recognising and countering racial bias, discriminatory profiling and hate crime;
- ensuring that victims have effective rights to information, protection, support, and access to justice;

17. **ENCOURAGE** victims and witnesses of all incidents of racism and related forms of hatred and discrimination to report those incidents and explore ways to **IMPROVE** the systems for submission of complaints, including through the relevant use of alternative reporting mechanisms, such as online reporting tools that offer anonymity to the complainant if desired, while ensuring that complainants are supported throughout the process;

18. **STRENGTHEN** mechanisms for law enforcement agencies and civil society and victim support organisations to collaborate when possible on the monitoring of incidents of racism and related forms of hatred and discrimination, in the interests of developing a more complete picture of such incidents in each Member State while ensuring and protecting the independence of CSOs; and **ADDRESS** significant underreporting, to the relevant actors, of racial discrimination and racist hate crimes and hate speech, including online, by increasing trust between affected communities, law enforcement and public administration.
19. **ENSURE** the security of persons belonging to minority ethnic and religious groups, including their places of cultural significance, worship and remembrance and take appropriate protective measures during religious and cultural gatherings that may be at heightened risk;
20. **ENSURE** full enforcement of the Digital Services Act obligations relating to the mitigation of systemic risks linked to illegal hate speech online, and to the right to non-discrimination, and **ENCOURAGE** continued and meaningful participation by online platforms and other providers of intermediary services in the Code of Conduct on Countering Illegal Hate Speech Online+;
21. **ENCOURAGE** sustainably and **SUPPORT** civil society organisations and other entities to pursue recognition as Trusted Flaggers under the Digital Services Act, and to use this status to ensure that action against illegal online content of a racist or discriminatory nature is taken more quickly and reliably in a consistent, manner, while also protecting CSOs from strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPPs) in line with Directive (EU) 2024/1069;

22. **RECOGNISE** both the dangers and benefits of new and emerging technologies such as generative artificial intelligence and agentic artificial intelligence, and **TAKE STEPS** to prevent and address algorithmic discrimination, racial bias and the amplification of illegal hate speech throughout the lifecycle and value chain of such technologies, in line with the Artificial Intelligence Act and other applicable Union law, including anti-discrimination law, ensuring favourable rules for victims to prove algorithmic discrimination, organising technical testing of algorithmic systems for biases and discrimination, and setting up effective cooperation mechanism between market surveillance authorities and fundamental rights bodies;
23. **ENSURE** that victims of online illegal hate speech have access to effective reporting mechanisms, legal remedies and support services, in line with the revised Victims' Rights Directive, and that national authorities are trained and equipped to investigate and prosecute online hate crimes effectively;

IV. Collect equality data

24. **EXPLORE** possibilities to improve the collection, quality and comparability of equality data at national level, in line with applicable national frameworks, which could include data broken down by racial or ethnic origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability and socioeconomic status, in full compliance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (the General Data Protection Regulation) and with respect for the principle of voluntary self-identification; and **ENCOURAGE** the development of common methodological frameworks in cooperation with the Commission, the FRA and Eurostat to enable meaningful cross-national comparison and evidence-based policymaking, with full respect for the conditions and needs that prevail in each Member State;

V. Promote education, awareness and prevention

- 25. RAISE AWARENESS** among their population of the benefits and richness of diversity of people within the EU, of the right not to be discriminated against on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin, the remedies available to victims of racial or ethnic discrimination, and available support services, particularly equality bodies, of the adoption of the Anti-Racism Strategy 2026-2030, and of further EU and national strategies to counter racism in all forms, including through national awareness-raising campaigns; also **FOSTER** dialogue among different groups while emphasising our common identity as Europeans and our common values in the EU, such as democracy, liberty and human rights.
- 26. OBSERVE** relevant international dates, such as the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and remembrance days related to the history of colonialism and enslavement;
- 27. CONTINUE** to ensure Holocaust remembrance and education and pro-actively call out Holocaust denial, distortion and trivialisation, in line with the IHRA's non-legally binding working definition of Holocaust denial and distortion;
- 28. ENGAGE** with the Commission's joint project with UNESCO to strengthen anti-racism education aligned with the priorities of the second cycle of the strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training towards the European Education Area and beyond, and the EU Youth Strategy, as outlined in the EU Anti-Racism Strategy 2026-2030, and address racism in all its forms in and through education by including diverse historical and contemporary perspectives to prevent violence, bullying, hate speech, mis- and disinformation and racial discrimination, and to foster inclusive and equitable learning environments, and to integrate the teaching of historical perspectives, for example colonial history, the transatlantic slave trade and effects on indigenous peoples, as core components of anti-racism education;

VI. Strengthen democratic resilience

29. RECOGNISE that the resilience of European democracies is enhanced by protecting our core values including the protection of democracy, the rule of law and fundamental rights, and that the Union's values are a critical line of defence against foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI) and disinformation campaigns, which systematically exploit racism, discrimination, and societal divisions, and that measures to uphold those values, including by countering racism in all forms, constitute an integral dimension of the Union's broader democratic resilience agenda as set out in the European Democracy Shield.

30. WELCOMING the Commission's initiatives and in particular:

- The adoption of the first Anti-Racism Strategy 2026-2030, building on the outcomes of the EU Anti-Racism Action Plan 2020-2025;
- The appointments since 2015 of the Commission Coordinator on combating racism, the Commission Coordinator on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life, and the Commission Coordinator on combating anti-Muslim hatred, taking note of their respective mandates, while calling for adequate and equal resources;
- The development of a comprehensive legal framework for online safety, accountability, and transparency across the European Union by means of the Digital Services Act;

- The continued financial support to Member States for projects aimed at safeguarding diversity and civil rights, most notably through the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme and its proposed successor CERV+ as part of the AGORAEU program, without prejudice to the ongoing discussion on the next Multiannual Financial Framework;
- The concerted effort to empower, protect, and promote strong democracies across the EU through the European Democracy Shield and the EU Strategy for Civil Society;
- The provision of a harmonised regulatory framework for AI systems in the EU through the phased implementation of the Artificial Intelligence Act.

INVITES the Commission to:

31. CONTINUE supporting the implementation of the EU Anti-Racism Strategy (2026-2030) and related Union of Equality strategies⁴ in line with national circumstances by mainstreaming anti-racism and non-discrimination considerations into relevant Commission proposals and policy initiatives; ensuring that the Commission's policies on combating racism, antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred are implemented in a coordinated and mutually reinforcing manner and aligned with related equality strategies to give full effect to the intersectional approach underpinning the Anti-Racism Strategy;

⁴ Gender Equality Strategy 2026-2030; LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy 2026-2030, the Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030, the EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation 2020-2030.

- 32. MONITOR AND REPORT** on the implementation of the Union of Equality, including the Anti-Racism Strategy, in a comprehensive, structured, transparent and regular manner, enabling continuous evaluation of progress made, including through regular progress reports, drawing on data and rights-based analysis from the FRA, Eurostat, national equality bodies and civil society; continue to work with relevant EU agencies on equality data collection, including through an intersectional approach; assessing progress, identifying persistent gaps and recommending any necessary adjustments;
- 33. CONTINUE** to monitor the implementation and enforcement of the anti-discrimination legislation, in particular the Racial Equality Directive and the Directives on standards for equality bodies, the Digital Services Act, the Artificial Intelligence Act, and the Framework Decision on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law;
- 34. SUPPORT** Member States in developing, implementing and monitoring national anti-racism action plans, programmes and strategies, in particular through technical assistance, mutual learning exercises, facilitation of study visits, publishing guidelines and handbooks, and by facilitating regular meetings of the expert group on the national implementation of the Anti-Racism Strategy;
- 35. SUPPORT** and **FACILITATE** ongoing joint efforts to develop non-binding working definitions on structural racism and anti-Muslim hatred, taking existing definitions and the corresponding work of ECRI fully into account;
- 36. ENSURE**, without prejudice to the ongoing discussion on the next MFF, adequate and dedicated financial support for civil society organisations and equality bodies; and facilitate the Anti-Racism Civil Society Forum and the establishment of a broader Civil Society Platform in line with the EU Strategy for Civil Society;

- 37. STRENGTHEN** cooperation with civil society organisations and human rights defenders, especially those working on anti-racism and the rights of indigenous peoples⁵, equality bodies and relevant international organisations, and **FACILITATE** regular thematic exchanges between Member States and these stakeholders.
- 38. SUPPORT** the efforts of FRA and stakeholders to conduct studies and surveys, including on quantitative data collection alongside qualitative research, in order to improve the understanding of all forms of racism and discrimination.
- 39. REINFORCE** its commitment to combating all forms of racism and discrimination and to upholding fundamental rights and European values; and **REAFFIRM** that combating racism in all its forms is a fundamental, legal and strategic imperative for the European Union, and that a genuine Union of Equality requires sustained, ambitious, and adequately resourced action at all levels of governance.
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⁵ The rights of Indigenous Peoples as set out in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and international human rights law.