

THE HRSI Herald

HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE

November/December 2015

Aware. Concerned. Engaged.



Environment and development. How can the new Global Goals help us achieve both? A talk by Mr. Erik Solheim On November 13, HRSI in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy organized the public lecture „Environment and development. How can the new Global Goals help us achieve both?“ Mr. Erik Solheim, Chair of the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate and former Norwegian Minister of the Environment and International Development spoke about the importance of having environment integrated into development. The public lecture was opened by Ruben Mnatsakanian, Head of the Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy and it was attended by over 40 CEU students.



16 days of activism against gender-based violence at CEU (1/2)

The Human RightS Initiative has once again organized the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence. It is part of an international campaign taking place between November 25th (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) and December 10th (Human Rights Day) to raise awareness on related topics. This year's campaign has included a wide range of events covering many different issues. The campaign kicked off with an installation in Octagon (Nov25-Dec2) - „Silent Witnesses“ to commemorate victims of gender-based violence, including trans women. This was followed by a two week-long exhibition dedicated to body positivity (Nov26-Dec9) in the Laptop Area. Apart from the ongoing elements, there were a number of specific events and activities as well: an info table with informative materials such as the Consexual Guide, Understand and Combat Violence Guide and with offering white and purple ribbons was set up in the Octagon (Nov25).

Conference Freedom from Fear in Diverse Societies? The Case-Study of Hungary

The conference 'Freedom from fear in diverse societies? The Case-Study of Hungary' was organized on Nov19 as a satellite event of the Council of Europe's World Forum for Democracy held in Strasbourg on November 18-20, 2015. The Forum explored the democratic responses to a diverse range of threats – from violent extremism to economic, technological, environmental and geopolitical risks. With the growing number of refugees and economic migrants, societies increasingly face new challenges. The CEU conference took Hungary as a case-study and aimed at putting the issue of migration and the influx of asylum seekers into a broader context of public acceptance and integration by questioning the legitimacy of the broadly understood integration claims. The keynote speaker, Alexandria Innes from the University of East Anglia addressed the myths and crises that stem from immigration to Europe, while the first panel elaborated on the Hungarian example of fear-mongering and the politics of diversity, not only in relation to refugees but also the Roma population living in the country. The second panel gave an opportunity for some civil organizations to reflect on the movement, their achievements and failures.

16 days of activism against gender-based violence at CEU (2/2)

Exploring the topic of rape culture, we organized the public lecture „No means No” with Dr. Charolyne Dumesnil, Terre des Hommes Foundation, France and Assoc. Prof. Mathias Moschel, Department of Legal Studies, CEU. Also, interested in discussing different forms of violence, in particular of domestic violence, we organized the screening of Culoirle (The Colors), an awareness-raising movie. Moreover, on the occasion of World AIDS Day (Dec1) we organized an info table in the Laptop Area providing the CEU community with informative brochures about HIV testing possibilities in Budapest, free condoms and red ribbons. We celebrated and concluded the campaign with the First Human Rights Quiz organized at CEU (Dec.9). Six enthusiastic teams participated at the Quiz and had fun through learning new facts about human rights.



Movement Amy Edgington

I want to see a ballerina with hairy legs and underarms;
a fat ballerina with huge breasts;
a ballerina who wears dreadlocks;
one who's old and grey in ordinary clothes.
I want to watch a ballerina stumble and laugh or pirouette in a wheelchair;
I want to see her clasp another woman and lift her high.
Then I will be moved.



Shoebox Full of Love Campaign

HRSI has been organizing the campaign for several years now, and this year, thanks to many enthusiastic students and staff members, we have managed to collect more than 40 packages of toys and presents destined for children coming from a disadvantaged background. The main beneficiary this year were pupils of the *Miklós Zrínyi Elementary School*, located in the 20th district of Budapest, as well as their families. Distribution of donations was coordinated by the local minority self-government (in Hungarian: kisebbségi önkormányzat) which has ties with local communities. We would like to thank the support of the CEU community once more!



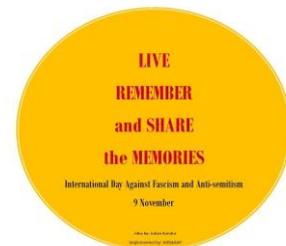
Economic dimension of menstruation. Teaser campaign II

HRSI organized the second teaser campaign related to the menstruation campaign initiated in November, 2015. The focus of the second campaign was on the economic dimension of menstruation. We tried to find out how much menstruation costs in different countries per month. In this regard, we prepared three informative posters about the costs attached to menstruation in three different countries, namely Hungary, Colombia and Lesotho. The information displayed on the posters was obtained through discussions with CEU students originally coming from these countries. Therefore, it should be treated as such and it aims to provide you with a basic understanding about how much menstruation can possibly cost in one country or another. You can see the posters below.



Events commemorating the Day Against Fascism and Anti-Semitism

HRSI was pleased to support an initiative of *RGPP and RELP students* regarding the International Day Against Fascism and Anti-Semitism. On the occasion, an info table was organized in the Laptop Area providing the CEU community with stickers and informative materials, as well as short stories written by RELP students about the Roma Holocaust. Furthermore, a screening of an award-winning film, „*Just the Wind*” was held on November 9th which was followed by presentations prepared by RGPP students about racist attacks on Roma communities that occurred in different countries. In addition to the events organized at CEU, a guided tour was organized to the *Holocaust Memorial Centre* in the 8th district of Budapest (Nov11), following a brief presentation on the persecution and prejudices against Roma throughout the history of Europe.



Living Library for the first time at CEU

On the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (Dec3), HRSI organized a living library for the first time. The CEU community had the chance to read seven interesting and tremendous “books” that shared their experiences of living with disabilities. Living Library is a method created to promote respect, dialogue and to challenge stereotypes and discrimination between different social groups.