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The Press Council in BiH and the Association "BiH Journalists" realized

The Regional conference about the fight against hate speech in South East Europe

"LIVING TOGETHER"

Sarajevo, 17-18 November 2011

The Press Council in BiH and the Association "BH Journalists", in partnership with the Council of Europe, realized the regional conference about the fight against hate speech, under the title "Living Together" held on the 17th and 18th of November 2011, in Sarajevo.

The main purpose of the Conference was to raise awareness about the problem of hate speech in media, exchange of experiences and finding ways to solve this problem.

The Council of Europe standards for the fight against hate speech in media, a culture of tolerance, the role of self-regulation in the fight against hate speech and hate speech on the internet were only some of the topics of the Conference.

Special attention, during the second day of the Conference, was placed on the phenomenon of hate speech against the Roma population, which was indicated by lectures of prominent lecturers from the region.

The participants agreed that the topic in question is of great significance for BiH, and that it is important to define the level of responsibility of the authorities and the level of responsibility of media in the context of hate speech.

The message sent from the Conference was that hate speech in the media needs to be taken and treated seriously, especially considering its growth tendency and the ever-increasing harm that it causes.

Persistence in the execution of laws on hate crime repression, better self-regulation, higher quality of cooperation amongst government institutions, media and the academic community, education and definition of hate speech, were some of the outstanding propositions from the two day Conference about the fight against hate speech in South East Europe, titled "Living Together".

The Conference was opened by the Minister of Justice of BiH, Mr. Barisa Colak.

Participants of the conference were journalists, editors, experts, and representatives of judiciary institutions and the Ministry of Justice, as well as international organizations from BiH, Serbia, Croatia, Monte Negro, Macedonia, Kosovo, Finland, Great Britain, Belgium, Bulgaria and Romania.