

**Europe-South Asia
Exchange
on Supranational (Regional)
Policies and Instruments
for the
Promotion of Human Rights
and the
Management of Minority Issues**



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Seventh Framework Programme
of the European Commission*



Human rights, and especially minority rights, have a clear supranational dimension both in Europe and in South Asia.

Europe has made wide use of the mechanisms and 'soft' law approaches developed and implemented at regional level by the OSCE, the Council of Europe and the European Union.

In South Asia there is a long tradition of study and robust experience in the field of cultural, religious, linguistic and ethnic management, including the gender dimension, within national boundaries (India in particular).

However, it is only recently that some albeit attempts have been made to enhance regional and supranational cooperation on these very sensitive issues. Studies carried out by South Asian scholars have created the knowledge base underlying the first attempts by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and the foresight initiatives of human rights NGOs and activists.

Utilizing and examining the European experience, the overall objective of EURASIA-Net is to enhance the requisite knowledge-base for new policies and instruments to reduce ethnic-religious conflicts and to foster stability and security in South Asia. Achievements in this area are likely to create a favourable environment for cooperation with Europe and to contribute to the exchange of knowledge for the mutual benefit of both regions.

EURASIA-Net project starts on 1st January 2008 and will last until June 2010.

All the activities (Seminars and Conferences, Study Visits and Exchanges, Summer Schools, Publications, EU officials Information Sessions, Trans-regional Platform) will be organized jointly by the Consortium.

For more information visit our website!

<http://www.eurac.edu/eurasia-net>



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Work Packages (WP)

The work plan is organised in 5 Work Packages

WP1 - Eurasia Scholar Exchange

Leader: Prof. Javaid Rehman, Co-Leader: Dr. Ranabir Samaddar

The focus of WP1 is mutual learning and exchange among scholars. This aim is pursued by a variety of means: seminars, joint publications, study visits and exchanges.

WP2 - Summer Schools

Leader: Dr. Günther Rautz, Co-Leader: Ms. Tanveer Jahan

The aim of WP2 is to widen the scope of research cooperation by engaging young researchers, stakeholders and decision-makers, who participate in two trans-regional Summer Schools, which take place in Pakistan and in Italy.

WP3 - EU Officials Information Sessions and Exchange

Leader: Prof. Rainer Hofmann

WP3 is designed to make information available to EU officials and institutions. The focus is the analysis of trends in South Asian regional integration and human and minority rights issues relevant for the development and implementation of EU policies.

WP4 - Trans-Regional Platform

Leader: Dr. Ranabir Samaddar

The Trans-regional Platform (WP4) is a forum for the exchange of knowledge and best practices and to coordinate the dissemination of results.

WP5 - Project Management

Leader: Ms. Cristina Boglia

WP5 will accompany the whole project to ensure the smooth management of the different activities.

EURASIA-Net project is supported by the following Associates:

Council of Europe - Directorate General of Human Rights www.coe.int

National Human Rights Commission (India) www.nhrc.nic.in

University of Bielefeld - Faculty of Sociology (Germany) www.uni-bielefeld.de/soz

University Denis Diderot - Paris 7 (France) www.univ-paris-diderot.fr

University of Copenhagen - Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies (Denmark) www.tors.ku.dk

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