



**Words that lead to hate.
Hate speech in Greece and Europe today
Words Are Stones, Greece National Meeting**

On 17 May 2019, ANTIGONE - Information and Documentation Centre on Racism, Ecology, Peace and NonViolence organised the national meeting “Words that lead to hate. Hate Speech in Greece and Europe Today” which was part of the Words Are Stones Programme.

During the meeting participants heard the results of the Greek national report which documents incidents of hate speech that took place in the Greek public sphere during 2018. The Greek national report summarises the legal framework of the country with emphasis on the Greek anti-racist law. The report also lists the available mechanisms in the country that document hate speech as well as hate and racist crimes.



The second part of the meeting was a workshop during which participants were separated into three groups that discussed counter narratives and strategies to combat hate speech. The groups were moderated by Athanasia Teliou, Marianna Karakoulaki and Verena Fink of Antigone, and Effie Gelastopoulou of Solidarity Now.



During the afternoon session of the national meeting those who participated had the opportunity to hear from experts in depth analyses of hate speech and freedom of Speech. Iliia Trochidis of Symbiosis presented the role of hate speech in the media. In addition, Akis Parafelas, PhD Candidate at the Law School of Aristotle University introduced and explained the Greek legal framework of anti-racism efforts in Greece. Finally, Dr Andreas Takis and Dr Ioannis Igglezakis both of the Law School of Aristotle University discussed the limits of freedom of speech both online and off line in a heated debate.

The results of the Greek National Meeting will be included in the final version of the Greek National Report.