Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Recommendation 2290 (2025)[1]

Multiperspectivity in remembrance and history education for democratic citizenship

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Parliamentary Assembly, referring to its Resolution 2584 (2025) "Multiperspectivity in remembrance and history education for democratic citizenship", underscores that history education is key to enabling democratic debate and sustaining and strengthening pluralism and democratic values in society. Moreover, multiperspectivity and the appropriate handling of controversial and sensitive issues in history lessons can be a powerful tool to support peace and reconciliation in societies. By learning about a difficult period in history from the angle of human rights and democracy, using interactive and co-operative learning methodologies, young people will gain confidence and competence in discussing complex and controversial historical events affecting their communities and societies from a multiperspective and nuanced point of view.

2. The Assembly welcomes the political momentum provided by the 2023 Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education for the renewal of the civic mission of education, and emphasises that the Council of Europe's "Quality history education in the 21st century – Principles and guidelines" and the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture are excellent tools to be further promoted and broadly implemented in member States as part of the new Council of Europe Education Strategy 2024-2030 "Learners first – Education for today's and tomorrow's democratic societies" and the European Space for Citizenship Education.

3. The Assembly considers that education for democratic citizenship should be part of school curricula, both as a distinct compulsory subject and as an integral component of other relevant subjects, such as history teaching, during all stages of formal education (primary, secondary and higher education), as well as in vocational training and non-formal education. Partnerships between formal and non-formal education – including with sites of remembrance, museums, archives, the audiovisual sector, civil society and artists – can provide valuable opportunities for teachers and learners to co-create history lessons and exercise competences for democratic culture outside a formal setting.

4. The Assembly accordingly recommends that the Committee of Ministers:

4.1. support the different Council of Europe activities relating to history education, ensuring synergies between the different strands of the intergovernmental programme and the Observatory on History Teaching in Europe, and encourage all member States which have not yet done so to join the Observatory;

4.2. encourage the creation of further links and transversality between Council of Europe activities on culture, heritage, education and youth;

4.3. provide support and assistance to member States in reviewing their education policies and integrating the Council of Europe's guiding principles for history education and the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture into national education curricula.

1. *Assembly debate* on 29 January 2025 (5th sitting) (see Doc. 16090, report of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, rapporteur: Ms Luz Martinez Seijo). *Text adopted by the Assembly* on 29 January 2025 (5th sitting).