ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AGENCY RADAR Study visit by the Latvian police/NGO delegation to the Netherlands 21 May 2015



WHAT DOES RADAR DO?

RADAR is the largest and oldest regional Antidiscrimination NGO in the Netherlands. Main goal of the organization is to promote equal treatment and to combat all forms of discrimination prohibited in the General Equal treatment Law. RADAR works in around 60 of the 393 municipalities in the Netherlands and has offices in the cities of Rotterdam, Tilburg and Den Bosch. Regular activities and sources of income for RADAR are:

- Execution of the tasks of the Municipal antidiscrimination facilities Act. In the Netherlands, municipalities are obliged to provide an independent facility for support and recording of cases of discrimination. RADAR holds a contract with around 60 municipalities to provide in these functions and is financed for this task by these municipalities.
- 2. Tasks to prevent discrimination. RADAR provides a number of projects focussed on the prevention of discrimination. We provide training activities for NGO's, police organizations, public enterprises schools and other public or private bodies. These activities are partly paid for by government organizations, for another part financed by the beneficiaries, e.g. schools or businesses.
- 3. Research and advice. RADAR employs a number of researchers who are skilled in specialized research and advise on issues relates to exclusion, discrimination and (un)equal treatment. The execution of these projects is financed by local, national or international public bodies or privately funded. RADAR has formally been appointed independent knowledge centre for equal treatment and antidiscrimination by the City of Rotterdam.

COMPLAINTS HANDLING BY RADAR

Everyone who feels discriminated against, on any ground, can report this at RADAR. Also, people who have witnessed discrimination, can file a report.

Reports can be done in writing, by telephone, through the website, by e-mail or at the office of RADAR.

People who file a complaint are always addressed by a professional complaints counsellor. The complaints handling follows a set number of steps and is dependent on the wishes of the client.

Possible follow-ups are among others a conversation between the client and the defendant, involving a mediator, starting a complaints procedure, attracting publicity or political awareness, or starting a legal procedure. Complaints and reports are always registered. For annually, the overall picture is analysed and used to consult relevant parties in the field of tackling discrimination.

COOPERATION WITH THE POLICE IN HANDLING OF COMPLAINTS

The RADAR complaints department has built up a strong working relationship with the police and the public prosecution service in the municipalities and regions where RADAR is active. This means that:

- in cases where it is advisable to involve the police, RADAR complaints counsellors can easily contact the relevant police officers
- where possible and necessary, both RADAR and the police refer cases to each other, depending on the type and severity of the case
- RADAR and the police coordinate their case handling on a structural basis in the so-called regional discrimination consultation (Regionaal discriminatie overleg, RDO).

THE REGIONAL DISCRIMINATION CONSULTATION

Police, Public Prosecutor and RADAR periodically discuss complaints and cases regarding discrimination in a so-called Regional Discrimination Meeting. This is laid down in the Discrimination Instruction of the Public Prosecution Service.

Although there are regional differences in the implementation of RDO's and some are more fruitful than others, these meetings allow for better operational cooperation and division of tasks on

discrimination cases between antidiscrimination agencies, police and public prosecutor.

COOPERATION WITH POLICE IN REGISTRATION AND MONITORING OF DISCRIMINATION

RADAR is engaged in a long-term project which deals with data collection and analysis of several grounds of discrimination and hate crime. This project is based on a multi-agency, private- public co-operation between RADAR, the police unit Rotterdam and the police unit Zeeland-West-Brabant and the respective public prosecution services.

RADAR and the police organization Rotterdam have reached a formal agreement to share their data on hate crime and to produce mutual analysis reports. In practice this functions as follows:

- 1. RADAR researchers have been trained as special investigatory police officers perform a case screening of hate crime incidents within the police files,
- 2. The results of the case screening are used to prioritize the cases which need quick and focused attention.
- RADAR composes an overview of all hate crime cases which is used to assess progress in the handling of criminal law cases in the Regional Discrimination Consultation
- 4. The regular case screening activities of RADAR and the Rotterdam police, also result in a yearly, regional monitoring report of all the hate crime incidents which occur in the police region Rotterdam.
- 5. This also promotes the possibilities for structural preventive action and interventions and facilitates a better view on trends and developments concerning hate crime and discrimination.
- 6. The report based on the case screening of police data, is also used for the production of a national report on police data on hate crime and divers forms of discrimination. On a yearly basis, this report is presented to parliament by the Dutch government which also constitutes a political focus for the issue of discrimination and hate crime.

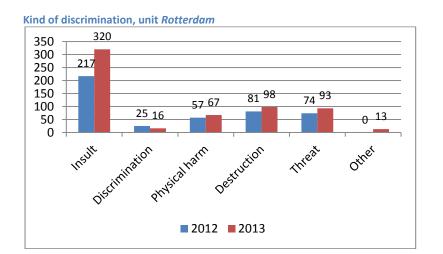
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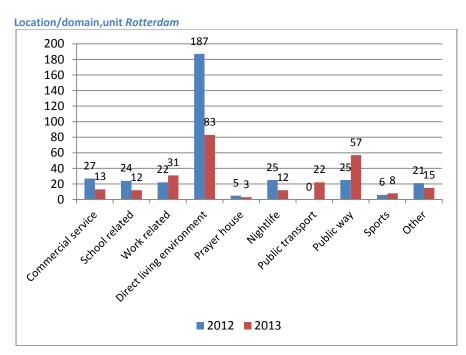


POLICE

Number of registered disrimination incidents, police, unit Rotterdam

	2012	2013
Registered discrimination incidents excluding incidents against public employees	454	248
Registered incidents of discrimination against public employees	175	275



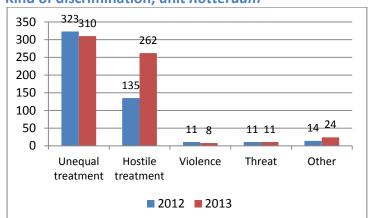


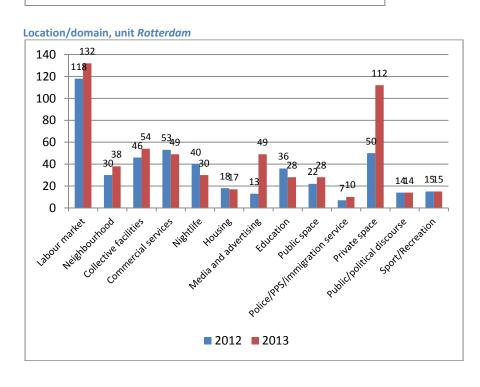
RADAR

Number of registered disrimination incidents RADAR, unit Rotterdam

	2012	2013
Complaints/reports of discrimination at RADAR	481	600

Kind of discrimination, unit Rotterdam





Explanation:

- 1) Registration and reporting is not an end in itself. We use it to understand what is happening where.
- 2) Statistics mainly provide a view on our work, but only limited view on the situation on the ground (underreporting).
- 3) Reporting statistics don't tell us everything that's happening, but they tell us where to look.
- 4) Every number tells a story.



Follow-up, interpretation and context information

- Follow-up activities with municipalities and police
- Research at neighbourhood level
- Specific signalling, e.g. on polarisation and radicalisation
- Factsheets, reporting, information requests

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