

UKREN MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name of Organisation:

Name of Representative:

Address:

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Tel: Fax:

Email:

Date: Signed:

The UK Race & Europe Network was formally constituted on 22 May 2002 as a membership organisation with two types of membership:

- a) Full Members – these include Non-governmental organisations, community based organisations, UK organisations designated as specialist race bodies under the provision of the Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin, and benevolent, charitable or philanthropic groups which subscribe to the aims and objectives of UKREN
- b) Associate Members – other organisations which subscribe to the aims and objectives of UKREN, including non-profit and social enterprises

Please tick the appropriate membership box:

- My organisation qualifies as a Full Member**
- My organisation qualifies as an Associate Member**

Please return this form to Sarah Isal by fax: 020 7377 6622 or by post to:
The UKREN Secretariat • c/o The Runnymede Trust
Suite 106 • The London Fruit & Wool Exchange
Brushfield Street • London E1 6EP • UK

PLEASE FOLLOW UP WITH A PHONE CALL TO VERIFY RECEIPT OF YOUR FORM

According to the Data Protection Act, this information will be used to inform you of the activities and events of the UKREN Secretariat and member organisations

UKREN and Its European Context

There are many reasons for feeling grave concern about the contemporary politics of Europe in respect of race, ethnicity, culture and religion. Within the European Union itself, however, an attempt has been made on the part of the nations of the region to transcend their histories of tension and conflict, and there are important signs that social movements in Europe are rallying to a principled stand against any revival of racism.

Working at community level, or through trades union, professional or faith organisations, often under the leadership of black and minority ethnic communities, an anti-racist network has come into existence which is determined to challenge new manifestations of racist and xenophobic policies.

Prominent within this new network is ENAR – the European Network Against Racism. Over the last few years ENAR has focused attention on immigration and asylum policy, the meaning of European citizenship, and the relationship between religious discrimination and race. Its activities are conducted through support networks in 25 member states, and in the UK this work is undertaken by UKREN – the UK Race & Europe Network.

UKREN is primarily concerned with developments in Europe in respect of policies which impact on issues of social justice, community cohesion and racial equality. It aims to influence the development of these policies, and to contribute to the construction of a Europe which is inclusive, cohesive and pluralist. UKREN does this by acting as an information link between UK organisations and European policymakers in the field of race relations, immigration and asylum.

UKREN seeks to work in an open and democratic manner. Through its network structures it aims to make itself accountable to the widest possible spectrum of UK organisations active in the field of anti-racism and racial equality. In particular, it is conscious of the need to provide a platform for the expression of the views of black and minority community organisations on issues of race and Europe, and to establish a high profile for its leadership in campaigning against racism and related forms of discrimination in Europe.

Contact Details for the UKREN Secretariat:

c/o The Runnymede Trust • Suite 106
The London Fruit & Wool Exchange • Brushfield Street • London E1 6EP
tel: 020 7377 9222; fax: 020 7377 6622; email: s.isal@runnymedetrust.org

Overcoming Racism

UKREN – Your Link to Europe

Informed and informing, the UK Race & Europe Network puts organisations in touch with their European counterparts through exchange of views and participation in debates on the EU anti-racism agenda

The UK Race & Europe Network (UKREN)

Who we are

Established in 1996, UKREN is a UK-wide network representing over 100 organisations. These organisations – predominantly non-governmental and community-based in nature – are involved in race relations and in working to eliminate racism at local, national or European level. UKREN exists to ensure that all such organisations in the UK, local and national, can be kept informed of the latest developments in European race relations.

UKREN KEY FACT

- **Informs UK NGOs of European developments in race relations**

Another role for us at UKREN is to maintain a formal relationship with the European Network Against Racism (ENAR). Based in Brussels, ENAR represents a wide range of NGOs across the European Union. At UKREN we coordinate ENAR's activities in the UK, and an important aspect of our remit in this respect is to ensure that ENAR takes account of the voice of UK NGOs, both within its own work programme and when lobbying at European level.

What we offer

Members of UKREN receive up-to-date information both in written form and through the medium of meetings – some regularly scheduled, some specially convened. We offer:

- **Briefing Notes** on European developments affecting community organisations in the UK
- **National Consultations** on relevant issues debated at EU level, to ensure that UK community-based organisations are kept informed about them and can comment and respond
- **Annual Seminars and Roundtables** to enable a large number of participants to comment on the work programme and direction of the network, and to share information on current and future steps in European legislation and policy
- **Contact with ENAR** and its activities, including invitations to ENAR conferences and training courses (usually two of each a year)

UKREN KEY FACT

- **Founded by Non-Governmental Organisations for Non-Governmental Organisations**

UKREN's Recent Activities

Involvement with the World Conference Against Racism (WCAR)

UKREN's role has been to engage with UK non-governmental organisations both in preparation for the WCAR IN 2001 and to provide effective follow-up:

UKREN KEY FACT

- **Conveys the views of UK NGOs to Europe's policymakers**

'UKREN and other European NGOs successfully lobbied for the inclusion of specific paragraphs in the final governmental Programme of Action. These called on all governments to work with civil society to implement the outcomes of the WCAR.'

Europe and Race Equality Legislation

UKREN supports the adoption and implementation of EU Equality Directives:

'In the process leading up to the adoption of the anti-discrimination Directives, UKREN and its member organisations actively promoted this important legislative initiative and raised awareness of its significance at national and EU level, through workshops and seminars across the UK.'

European Migration Dialogue (EMD)

UKREN values migration as essential for the vitality of European society

'UKREN has participated in the "European Migration Dialogue" (EMD) promoted by the Brussels-based Migration Policy Group since its inception in 2002. The Dialogue brings together representatives from most EU Member States to monitor developments on economic migration policies. UKREN plans to take a leading role in migration policy discussions in 2004/2005, particularly in the context of the UK's assumption of the presidency of the European Union in 2005.'

Electoral Impact of Far-Right Policies

The need to organise against parties of the far right is recognised and upheld by UKREN

'UKREN's efforts, together with active national campaigns, contributed to the BNP's failure to get a Member elected to the European Parliament in Strasbourg. Extreme-right parties did not fare as well as they (or others) might have expected: from the UK, Spain, Portugal and Sweden not a single far-right candidate got themselves elected to the European Parliament. UKREN's campaigning efforts should now go beyond the UK in support of other European NGOs, challenging the rise of the extreme right. In addition, it is important to keep monitoring the various alliances that extreme-right parties are building.'

UKREN KEY FACT

- **Connects with Brussels via ENAR, providing an extra mechanism for UK NGOs to make their contribution to EU decision-making**

Join the UKREN Network

From its inception, UKREN has benefited from the expertise of its members in bringing added value to UK organisations working in the field of race equality. Our members represent various sectors of work, and all contribute to a better understanding of the issues around race relations, ranging from anti-discrimination legislation, immigration and asylum, to victim support, religion and belief, gender and racism, youth, traveller communities, and so on. Becoming a member of UKREN is therefore an opportunity not only to benefit from this wide-ranging expertise, but also to contribute to a collective effort that brings more information and knowledge to the network on issues relating to race equality with a European angle.

So why not join us. Membership is free, and offers you information and a policymaking voice on anti-discrimination in Europe.

By becoming a Member you can:

- Receive regular Information on European developments
- Involve yourself in National Consultations
- Participate in Annual Seminars and Roundtables
- Establish a Connection with ENAR

Join the Network by:

Completing the membership form reproduced overleaf
or

Downloading a membership form from our website on:
<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/projects/europe/UKRENstructure.html>

Obtain UKREN publications

Recent publications include:

- *Overcoming Racism, Why a European Perspective is Crucial: A UKREN analysis of the relevance of European policy for UK race equality organizations* (October 2004)
- *The Rise of the Extreme Right: Lessons from Europe*, a report of a UKREN seminar held at the UK Office of the European Parliament, London (6 February 2004)
- *4th Annual National Roundtable, Adopting a Constitution for UKREN*, report of UKREN constitutional meeting held at the National Union of Teachers, London (22 May 2002)
- *Final Report: Consultation of UK NGOs in preparation for the World Conference Against Racism* (July 2001)

All our publications are available on the website:

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/projects/europe/UKRENpublications.html>