

<Annual Human
Rights Campaign>

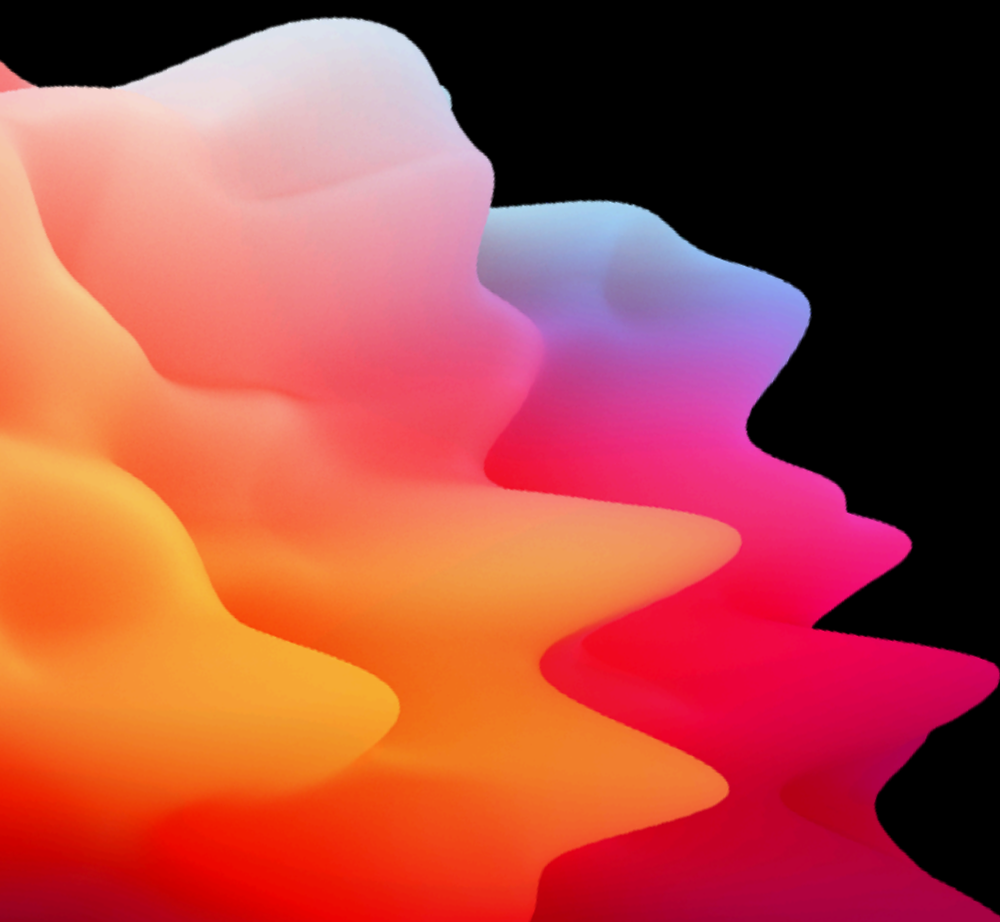


The European Law Students' Association

ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN ANNUAL REPORT

"HUMAN RIGHTS AND CLIMATE JUSTICE"

TERM 2025-2026



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

2. FOREWORD

Dear Reader,

The 14th Annual Human Rights Campaign has been a year of growth, collaboration, and meaningful impact. Under the topic Human Rights and Climate Justice, ELSA once again came together to educate, advocate, and raise awareness of human rights through hundreds of initiatives across Europe.

This year also marked an important milestone for the Campaign as it became an ELSA Flagship Project, while new initiatives strengthened the support provided to organisers and increased the Campaign's visibility across the Network.

This report reflects the work of the International Board and the Human Rights Team, but above all, it is a testament to the dedication of every National Coordinator, Local Group, organiser, and volunteer who contributed to the Campaign. Their commitment is what continues to make the Annual Human Rights Campaign a meaningful platform for human rights education across Europe.

Enjoy reading.

Anastasios Vavvas
Vice President in charge of Academic
Activities International Board of ELSA
2025/2026

Nishan Huelbig
Director for Annual Human Rights Campaign
2025/2026

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3. Annual Human Rights Campaign 2025-2026

3.1. ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN

The Annual Human Rights Campaign (AHRC) is ELSA's advocacy initiative dedicated to promoting and raising awareness of human rights across the Network. Each year, the campaign focuses on a different human rights topic, encouraging National and Local Groups to organise activities that educate members, foster dialogue, and engage with current human rights issues.

During the 2025/2026 term, the topic of the Campaign was: *Human Rights and Climate Justice*. Through a coordinated approach led by ELSA International, the Campaign provided resources and guidance to support meaningful activities across the ELSA Network.

3.2. OUR ACHIEVEMENTS THE TERM 2025-2026

Throughout the term, our work focused on two main priorities: increasing the visibility and recognition of organisers, who are at the heart of the Campaign's impact, and strengthening the organisational structure of the Annual Human Rights Campaign to ensure its long-term development as a sustainable annual initiative rather than a one-off project.

With these objectives in mind, the following key developments were introduced during the term:

- The Annual Human Rights Campaign was established as a Flagship Project of ELSA.
- A coaching system was introduced to provide individualised support to organisers.
- The Visibility Spotlight marketing initiative was launched to showcase organisers and their activities.
- A fair competition system was maintained to encourage active participation and recognise outstanding initiatives.
- Supporting materials were developed and shared to assist organisers in planning and implementing their activities.

3.3. FLAGSHIP STATUS

Following its approval at two consecutive International Council Meetings, the Annual Human Rights Campaign was officially recognised as a Flagship Project of ELSA.

This designation acknowledges the Campaign's long-standing impact, extensive reach across the Network, and its continued contribution to advancing human rights education and awareness. It also reflects the commitment of the many organisers, National Coordinators, and International Boards who have shaped the Campaign over the years.

Becoming a Flagship Project marks an important milestone in the Campaign's development. It reinforces the Annual Human Rights Campaign as one of ELSA's key initiatives and provides a strong foundation for its continued growth, ensuring that it remains a sustainable and impactful platform for human rights advocacy across Europe.

CHAPTER 7. FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

Article 1. Definition

1.1 The Flagship Projects of ELSA are well-established projects of key importance to the National Groups and ELSA International organised and/or coordinated by ELSA International.

1.5 The Flagship Projects of ELSA are:

- a. the ELSA Law Review;
- b. Rule of Law Education;
- c. Annual Human Rights Campaign;
- d. the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition;
- e. the Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition;
- f. ELSA Traineeships;
- g. ELSA Law Schools;
- h. ELSA Delegations.

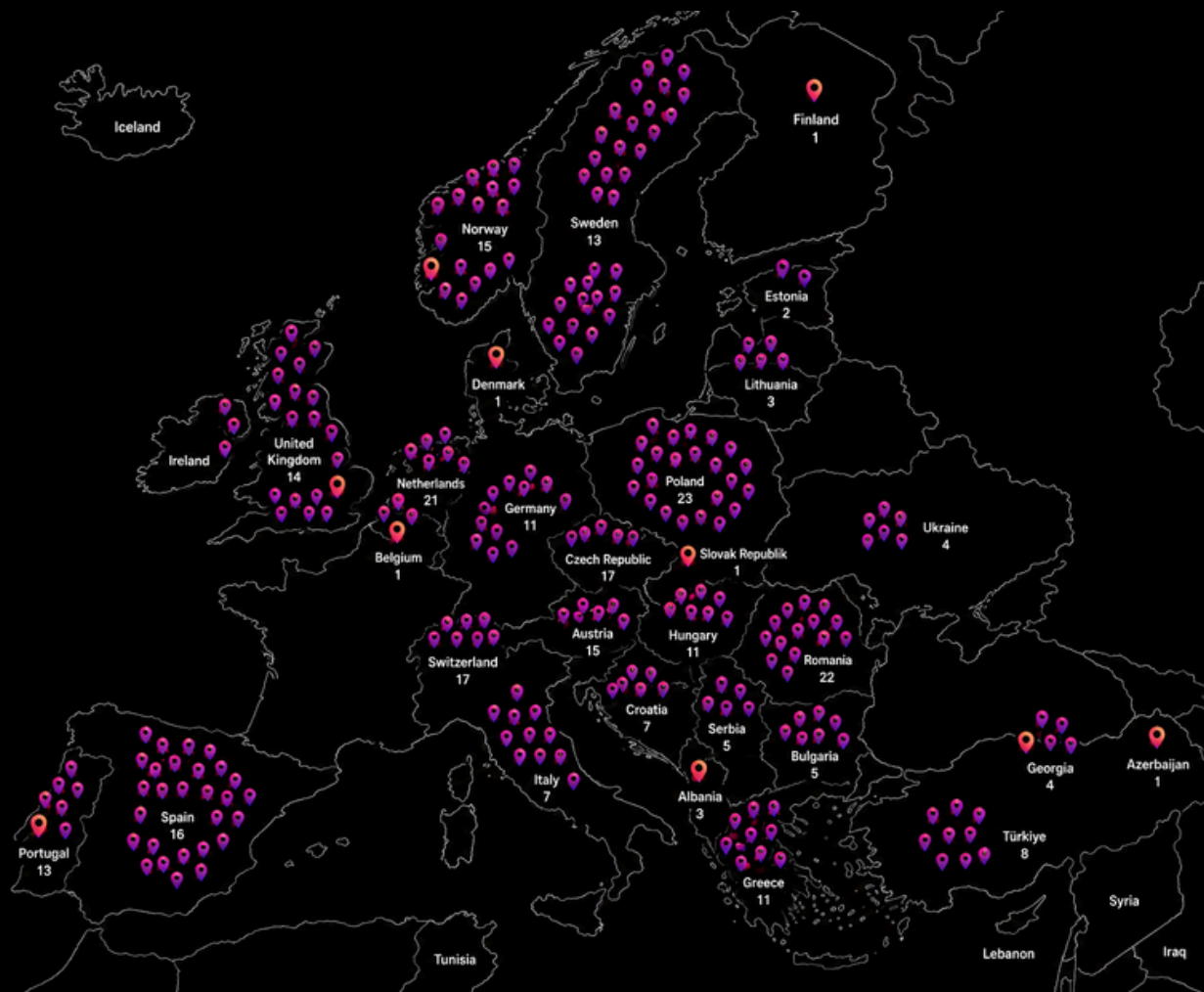
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elsa
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ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN
FLAGSHIP REPORT
ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES 2025/2026

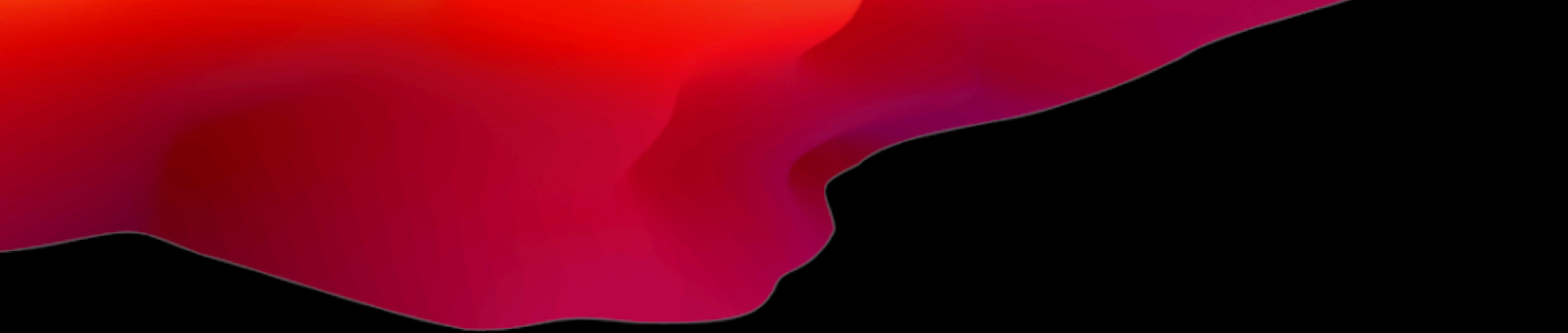
3.4. OUR IMPACT 2025-2026

The Annual Human Rights Campaign differs from a regular project in the way it can adapt and take shape within National and Local Groups. Rather than following a specific methodology or project format, the Campaign thrives through the diverse approaches and voices of the ELSA Network in advocating for and educating others about Human Rights and Climate Justice.



ACHIEVEMENTS IN NUMBERS:

- NATIONAL GROUPS PARTICIPATED: 29
- LOCAL GROUPS PARTICIPATED: 110+
- PARTICIPANTS REACHED THROUGH EVENTS AND SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS: 29.000+
- DIFFERENT EVENT FORMATS ORGANISED: 25+



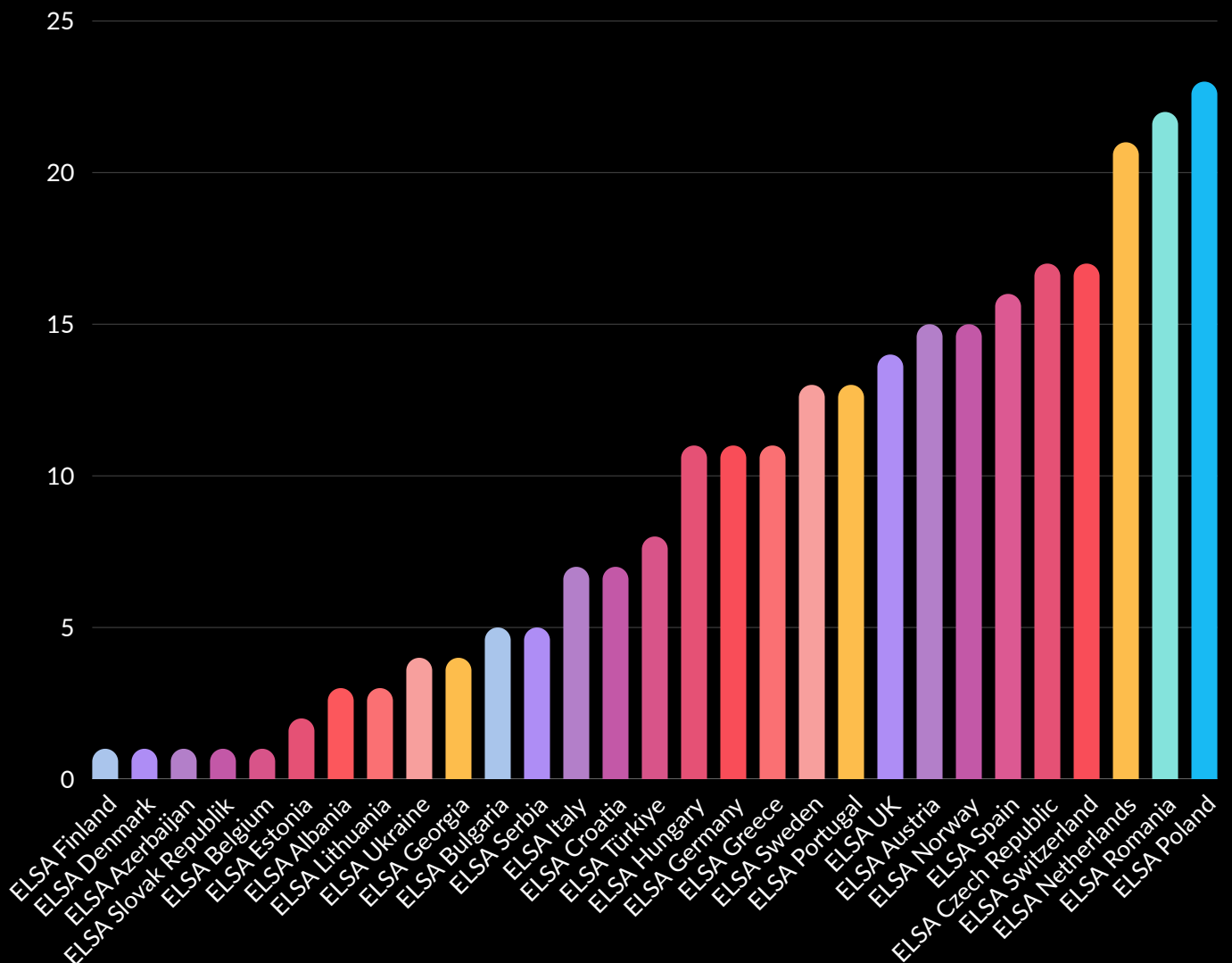
CAMPAIGN in ACTION

The Annual Human Rights Campaign delivers its impact through national campaigns consisting of various events and activities!

4. NATIONAL GROUPS PARTICIPATED

A total of **272** events were reported across the ELSA Network. These figures are based solely on the Evaluation Form submitted by the AHRC National Coordinators; however, the actual number of events is estimated to be at least 20% higher. Across 29 countries, ELSA came together with one common goal: to educate and raise awareness on Human Rights and Climate Justice.

Number of events per National Group



The number of events in each country naturally depends on the size of the National Group and the number of active Local Groups. We are grateful to all National Groups that successfully engaged their Local Groups, with many achieving the participation of more than 75% of their Local Groups in Annual Human Rights Campaign initiatives.

4.1. LOCAL GROUPS PARTICIPATED

In addition to participating National Groups, 117 Local Groups organised a wide range of activities, bringing the Annual Human Rights Campaign to life at the local level.

Overall, 29 National Groups and 117 Local Groups contributed to the successful implementation of the 14th Annual Human Rights Campaign, making it one of the most widely implemented initiatives within ELSA and demonstrating the Network's commitment to promoting human rights across Europe.

Below is an overview of all participating Local Groups:

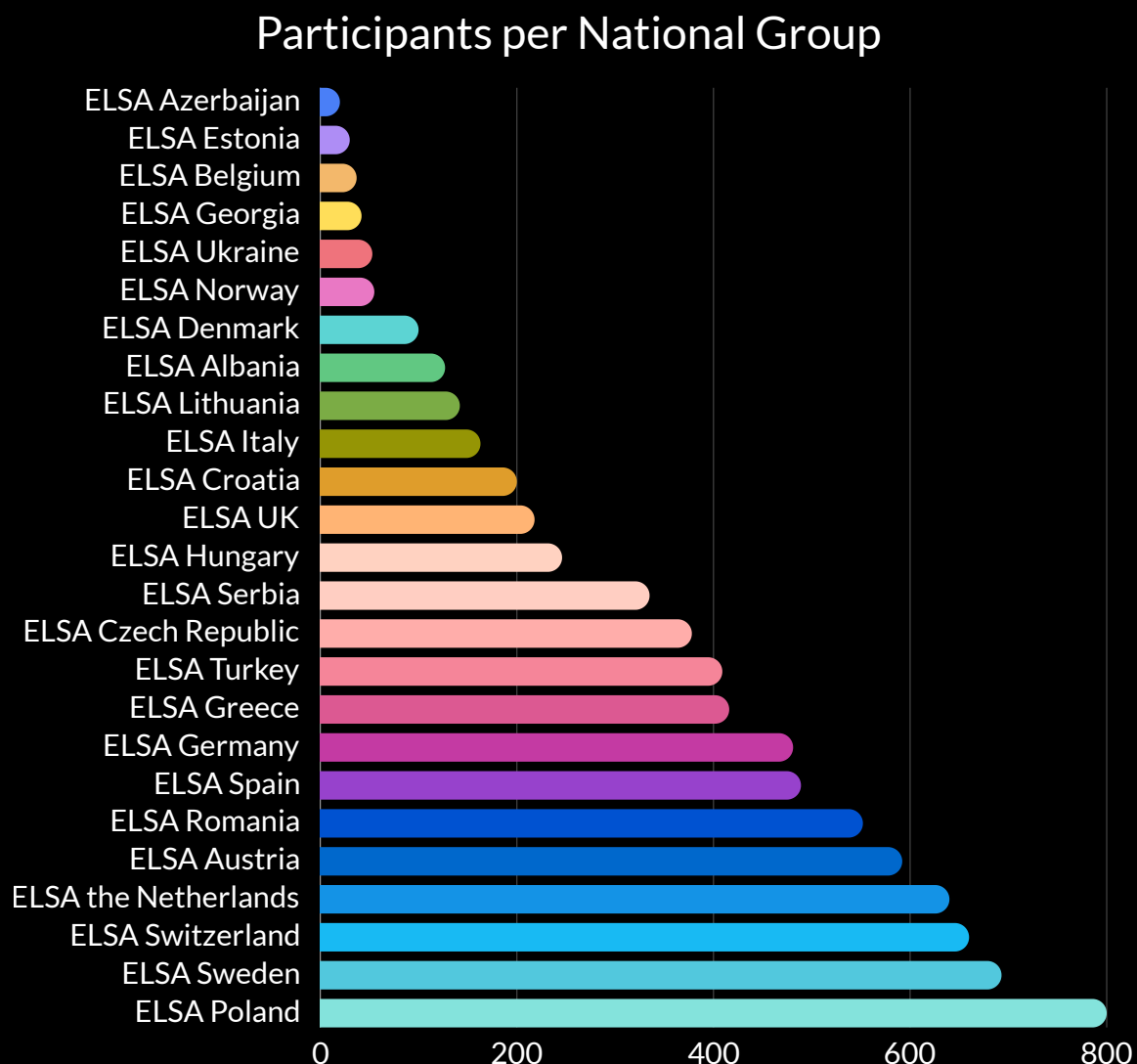
ELSA Groningen	ELSA Belgrade	ELSA Bucharest	ELSA Kutaisi
ELSA Brno	ELSA Niš	ELSA Constanța	ELSA Rovaniemi
ELSA Pilsen	ELSA Neuchâtel	ELSA Craiova	ELSA Miskolc
ELSA Łódź	ELSA Göttingen	ELSA Timișoara	ELSA Pécs
ELSA Bergen	ELSA Komotini	ELSA Suceava	ELSA Győr
ELSA Braşov	ELSA Szeged	ELSA Fribourg	ELSA Debrecen
ELSA Iași	ELSA Kraków	ELSA Geneva	ELSA Budapest
ELSA Athens	ELSA Olsztyn	ELSA Basel	ELSA Białystok
ELSA Uppsala	ELSA Rzeszów	ELSA Luzern	ELSA Gdańsk
ELSA WU Wien	ELSA Stockholm	ELSA Heidelberg	ELSA Lublin
ELSA Bologna	ELSA Karlstad	ELSA Kiel	ELSA Poznań
ELSA Lausanne	ELSA Ternipol	ELSA Augsburg	ELSA Szczecin
ELSA Thessaloniki	ELSA Rijeka	ELSA Marburg	ELSA Toruń
ELSA Tbilisi	ELSA Innsbruck	ELSA Hagen	ELSA Warszawa
ELSA Maastricht	ELSA Berlin	ELSA Hamburg	ELSA Umeå
ELSA Tilburg	ELSA Catania	ELSA Bonn	ELSA Örebro
ELSA Katowice	ELSA Cosenza	ELSA Frankfurt am Main	ELSA Gothenburg
ELSA Opole	ELSA Perugia	ELSA Münster	ELSA Linköping
ELSA İstanbul	ELSA Trento	ELSA Frankfurt (Oder)	ELSA Lund
ELSA İzmir	ELSA Barcelona UB	ELSA Manchester	ELSA Chernivtsi
ELSA Zagreb	ELSA Milano	ELSA KCL	ELSA Dnipro
ELSA Prague	ELSA Pavia	ELSA Belfast	ELSA Madrid-UAX
ELSA Roma	ELSA Oslo	ELSA Roehampton	ELSA Ankara
ELSA Cluj-Napoca	ELSA Kristiansand	ELSA Durham	ELSA Trabzon
ELSA Oradea	ELSA Tromsø	ELSA Essex	ELSA Salzburg
ELSA Sibiu	ELSA Stavanger	ELSA Westminster	ELSA Graz
ELSA Târgu-Mureș	ELSA Alba Iulia	ELSA Edinburgh	ELSA Olomouc

4.2. PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Participation in the Annual Human Rights Campaign continued to grow throughout the term. To provide a clearer overview of the Campaign's reach, a distinction is made between event participants and social media reach. Event participants refer to individuals who attended activities such as conferences, webinars, discussions, workshops, or legal publications, while social media reach includes all individuals who were exposed to campaign content across different platforms.

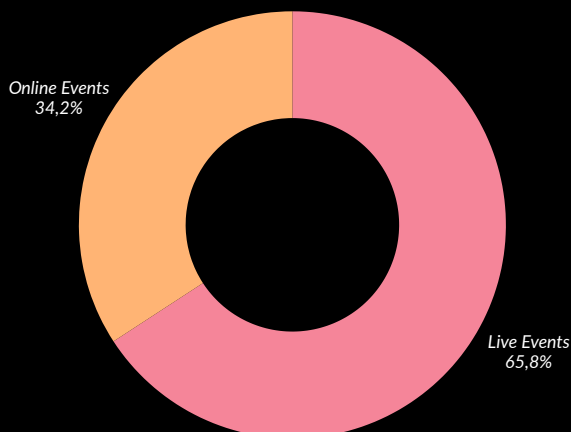
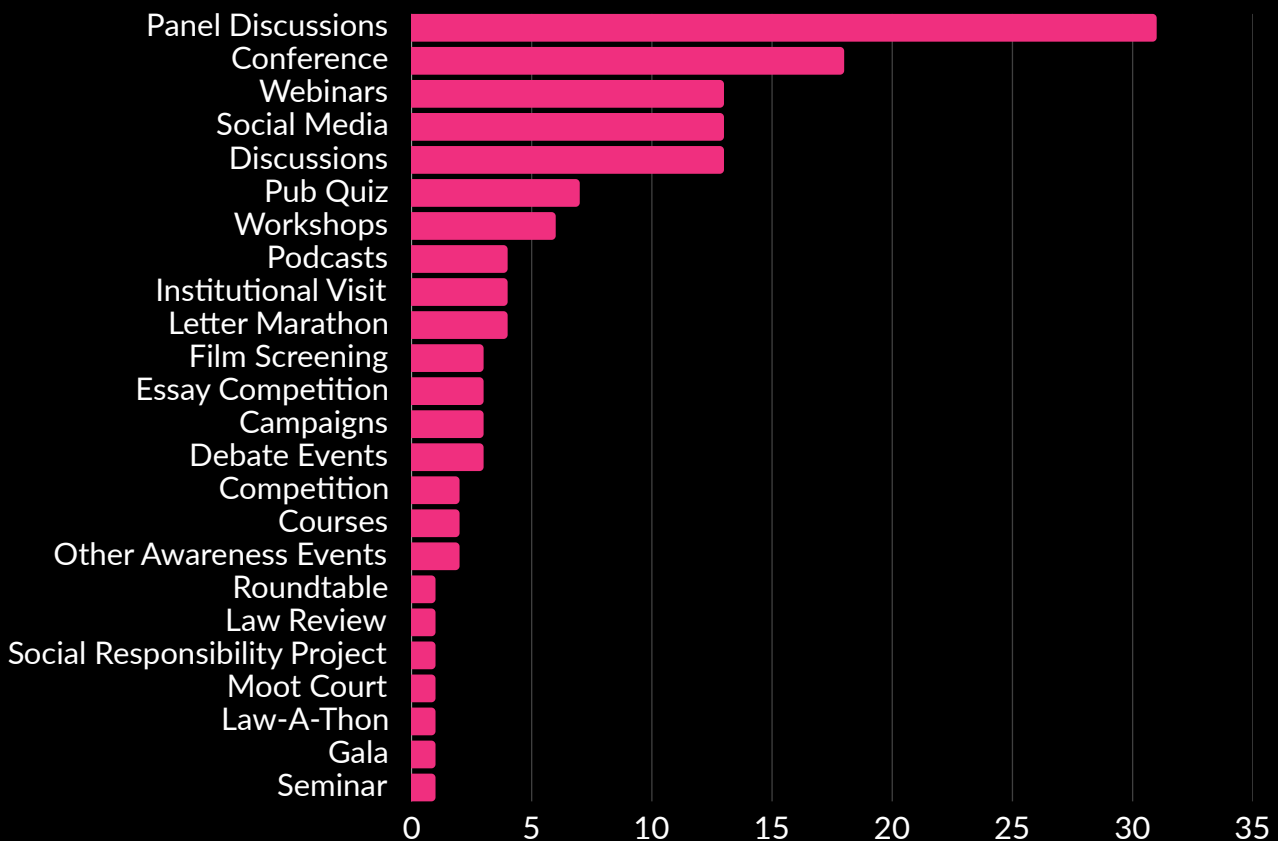
During the 2025/2026 Campaign, **7,884 participants attended events**, while the Campaign reached **28,709 people through events and social media combined**.

The chart below presents the number of participants in physical and online events only, broken down by National Group.



4.3. TYPES OF EVENTS

The Campaign's dynamic lies in the different experiences and approaches organisers use to address the same issue. This year, more than 25 different event formats were used to educate participants on Human Rights and Climate Justice.



OUT OF ALL EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE, 179 WERE LIVE EVENTS WHILE 93 WERE ONLINE.

5. THE AHRC COMPETITION

5.1 COMPETITION OVERVIEW

To inspire and encourage organisers to take a leading role in advancing human rights, the Annual Human Rights Campaign features an integrated competition, managed by ELSA International, recognising outstanding project management. Since the Campaign's inception, this competition has celebrated the dedication and excellence of its organisers while continuously evolving in both format and purpose.

Through an enhanced collaboration with the Council of Europe, ELSA now offers more than a symbolic trophy to the winning National Group. The National AHRC Coordinator of the winning country receives a unique personal reward: a four- to eight-week Study Visit to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. This opportunity enables the winner to work and learn alongside ELSA's long-standing Human Rights Partner and one of Europe's foremost institutions dedicated to the protection and promotion of human rights.

With this initiative, we aim to recognise the exceptional commitment and dedication required to lead a successful national campaign while providing a meaningful incentive for participation. The AHRC offers not only recognition within the ELSA Network, but also a tangible opportunity for professional and personal development in the field of human rights.

With 19 National Groups competing this year, numerous dedicated ELSA Officers demonstrated remarkable creativity, leadership, and commitment. While only one could claim the overall victory, several campaigns stood out for their exceptional achievements. The following honourable mentions celebrate those National Groups whose campaigns excelled in specific areas and made a lasting contribution to this year's Annual Human Rights Campaign.

5.2. COMPETITION TIMELINE

Date	Milestone
01.09.2025	Release of the AHRC Specification Form
01.09.2025	Release Supporting Materials September - December 2025
20.09.2025	Closing of the AHRC Specification Form
26.11.2025	ELSA Day
30.12.2025	Release Supporting Materials January - April 2026
09.03.2026	Deadline for new AHRC topic proposals
03.04.2026	Closing of the AHRC Evaluation Form
22.04.2026	Announcement of the Competition Winner 2025/26
22.04.2026	Announcement of the new topic
01.05.2026	Release Supporting Materials May - July 2026

5.3. SCORING PROCESS AND CRITERIA

Following the submission process, 19 National Groups were evaluated by the AHRC team of ELSA International. Each National Coordinator submitted the initiatives organised within their national context, together with supporting evidence demonstrating the existence of the events, their branding, and their compliance with the Campaign's quality standards.

The evaluation process consisted of two levels: event-level assessment and overall campaign assessment. Each event was evaluated based on its scientific quality, advocacy value, interactivity, connection to the campaign topic, collaboration, participant engagement, and adherence to ELSA branding requirements. Additional factors, such as event format, participation scale, and whether the initiative had been properly specified at the beginning of the term, were also taken into consideration.

The overall National Campaign score additionally considered the structure and management of the campaign at the national level, including the use of supporting materials, achievement of campaign goals, continuity of activities, and the engagement of the Local Groups. After a two-week scoring period, National Groups were ranked according to their final Campaign Score, and the winner was determined.

5.4. COMPETITION WINNER

This year, ELSA Romania, led by their National Coordinator Ilinca Bunescu, has proven itself to be the best AHRC organiser.

ELSA Romania has organised the overall best national human rights campaign under the AHRC, reaching meaningful impact through thoughtful planning, internal structuring, swift cooperation, and providing all the right incentives to direct organisers.

They truly shine as a bright star, the tip of the spear in our fight for human rights. For this achievement, Ilinca will receive a 1 to 2-month Study Visit at ELSA's Human Rights Partner, the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France.

AND THE WINNER IS...

ELSA ROMANIA

 **Ilinca Bunescu**
NATIONAL COORDINATOR

 **Alexandra Busuioc**
VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

21
EVENTS

+500
PARTICIPANTS

11
LOCAL GROUPS
ENGAGED

6. INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

Throughout the year, we focused on strengthening the role of the National Coordinator as the key person responsible for the structure and coordination of the Annual Human Rights Campaign at the national level.

To support National Coordinators and organisers, periodic Supporting Materials were developed and shared, providing relevant information and inspiration for the organisation of events and national campaigns.

Additionally, for the first time, an AHRC Coaching System was introduced. Members of the AHRC team were assigned to support specific National Groups, maintaining regular communication and meetings throughout the term to provide tailored guidance and assistance to organisers.



6.1. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A NATIONAL COORDINATOR?

Being a National Coordinator means more than completing the specification and evaluation forms. It means leading and coordinating the implementation of the Annual Human Rights Campaign at the national level by supporting Local Groups, ensuring effective communication, promoting participation, and facilitating the use of campaign materials. Through their role, National Coordinators connect local initiatives with the international campaign, helping to develop national strategies, increase visibility, and ensure that human rights education reaches communities in an engaging and meaningful way.

6.2. NATIONAL COORDINATORS



This year's AHRC campaign has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my time in ELSA. Coordinating local groups and events across the country and witnessing the dedication everyone put into making human rights advocacy visible and meaningful was a journey in itself. Receiving the distinction for the best AHRC national campaign at international level was a wonderful and honestly unexpected surprise and I couldn't be prouder of every single person who worked to make that happen.

Ilinca Bunescu - ELSA Romania



This year in the Netherlands, we focused on making AHRC events more interactive and advocacy-driven. As a result, several of our initiatives were recognised by the Council of Europe as among the most impactful AHRC events of the year. My role as National Coordinator was to develop this vision, support Local Groups in implementing engaging activities, strengthen collaboration across the network, and ensure that our events empowered participants to actively engage with human rights issues rather than simply discuss them.

Goncha Huseynzade - ELSA the Netherlands



As National Coordinator, I ensure that our members are informed about the Annual Human Rights Campaign and help raise awareness of this year's campaign theme. The main event of this term was a Quiz Night, where participants had the opportunity to learn more about climate justice and its connection to human rights in an engaging and interactive way.

Virginija Barauskaite - ELSA Lithuania

6.2. NATIONAL COORDINATORS

Regarding the Annual Human Rights Campaign and this year's topic, our aim as National Group was to ensure the meaningful integration of the Campaign throughout the year, so that it would become an integral part of our portfolio. Through coordination between ELSA Greece and our three Local Groups, this goal was successfully achieved, as the Campaign was incorporated both into standalone activities and, at the same time, a social media campaign further highlighted the impact of the Annual Human Rights Campaign and contributed to raising public awareness of the climate crisis.

Maria Remoundou - ELSA Greece



As a National Coordinator, my main role was to support, advise, and encourage our local groups throughout the campaign, helping them bring the topic of climate justice closer to their communities. What I enjoyed most was seeing people become more motivated and engaged with the campaign. The AHRC was especially meaningful because, after many years, we managed to bring the campaign back to life in Croatia. It was inspiring to be part of that process and to see the impact we could create together.

Nika Bakula - ELSA Croatia



Throughout the campaign, I promptly shared all received materials and relevant instructions with the local groups, encouraged their active participation, prepared social media posts in coordination with the Marketing team, completed the specification and evaluation forms, and selected and submitted photos for the Visibility Spotlight. I was especially happy that two of our projects received educational materials from the Council of Europe, which provided valuable support for their implementation.

Elene Gatchava - ELSA Georgia



6.3. COLLABORATION WITH THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE



Since 2008, ELSA has maintained a Human Rights Partnership with the Council of Europe, which continues to play an important role in the Annual Human Rights Campaign. During the term, two regular meetings were held at the CoE's headquarters in Strasbourg to review the Campaign's progress and further strengthen our cooperation.

This year, the Council of Europe expanded its support by providing promotional materials to the 60 highest-quality AHRC events, instead of the traditional 40. These outstanding initiatives are also highlighted on the AHRC website.

The AHRC Competition was also enhanced. From this year onwards, the winning National Coordinator is awarded a 4–8 week Study Visit at the European Court of Human Rights, creating a valuable professional development opportunity while further strengthening the partnership.

Finally, the Council of Europe's visual identity was integrated throughout the Campaign's branding, making our long-standing Human Rights Partnership visible across publications, presentations, and social media.



6.4. THE ERA OF CONTENT

This year's addition to the Campaign featured the Visibility Spotlight, a chance for organisers to showcase their events and for the Network to see the impact of the Campaign and their events in other regions.

This year there was a Visibility Spotlight post for ELSA Day and a Visibility Spotlight post for the recap of this term. Outstanding activities from National or Local Groups are showcased here. Short Reel-style videos feature impressions from events that have taken place. The selection hereby focuses on the quality of the content (creativity, visibility, adherence to theme).

Alongside this initiative, we continued using our social media platforms to advocate for Human Rights and Climate Justice. A monthly content calendar guided the team's research and publications, ensuring regular posts on the Campaign topic and key international days. Through consistent and informative content, we aimed to keep the conversation on climate justice active and continue educating our audience throughout the year. We express our admiration and gratitude to the Marketing Team for their extraordinary work and the collaboration throughout the year, especially to Kat Bonello, VP in charge of Marketing of the International Board of ELSA.



6.5. THE TEAM BEHIND

While an internal matter, the Annual Human Rights Campaign International Team makes up the core circle that supports the International Board in making the project possible. During this term, the team consisted of one Director and three Assistants, who worked across all aspects of the Campaign, from supporting National Coordinators through the newly introduced coaching system to reporting, scoring, research, and the preparation of campaign materials.

Under the guidance of Nishan Huelbig, the team members Arya, Ana, and Tomás played a key role in the successful delivery and continued development of the Campaign.

We also extend our sincere gratitude to Ndeye Fatou Ndiaye Diop, who began the term as Director of the Team. Although she was unable to continue in the role due to personal reasons, we are grateful for her dedication and contribution to the Campaign.

Below is an overview of the Annual Human Rights Campaign Team and its members during the 2025/2026 term.



Nishan Huelbig
Director for AHRC



Arya Gerda Haager
Assistant for AHRC



Ana Picado
Assistant for AHRC



Tomás Vicente
Assistant for AHRC

7. CONCLUDING REMARKS

A year has passed, and our focus topic, Human Rights and Climate Justice, brought the ELSA Network together under one common purpose: to educate and raise awareness on human rights across Europe. Thanks to the dedication of our organisers, National Coordinators, Local Groups, and partners, this goal was achieved through hundreds of initiatives across the Network.

This term also marked an important milestone in the Campaign's development. Becoming an ELSA Flagship Project, introducing new support mechanisms for organisers, and strengthening our partnership with the Council of Europe have laid a strong foundation for the Campaign's future.

As we look ahead to the 15th Annual Human Rights Campaign on Human Rights in Digital Democracy, we do so with confidence. The achievements of this year demonstrate the strength of the ELSA Network and provide momentum for the Campaign to continue growing and creating meaningful impact in the years to come.



ANASTASIOS VAVVAS

Leader of the 14th Annual Human Rights Campaign
Vice President in charge of Academic Activities,
International Board of ELSA 2025/2026

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