

NECE Conference 2018
Brave New Worlds?! The Future of Democracy and Citizenship Education

#NECE2018

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Dossier of biographies

Hermann J. Abs has been professor of educational research and schooling at the University of Duisburg-Essen since 2013. He also serves as director of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Integration- and Migration-Research. In an earlier position he worked as researcher and project leader at the German Institute for International Educational Research (DIPF) in Frankfurt, where he was responsible for the evaluation of a pilot programme on school democracy.

Alberto Alemanno is the Jean Monnet professor of EU law at HEC Paris, Global Professor of Law at New York University School of Law and initiator of the civic start up “The Good Lobby”. His latest book, “Lobbying for Change: Find Your Voice to Create a Better Society”, provides a timely analysis and guide to levelling the democratic playing field by empowering ordinary citizens to speak up and inform policy decisions at local, national and international level.

Béatrice Angrand is secretary-general of the Franco-German Youth Office since 2009. Being an expert in Franco-German relations, she has modernized and optimized the functioning of the institution, developed new programmes and conceptualized as well as put into place many projects and events. Working at Arte from 1999-2009, she went from head of the channel’s development plan to senior advisor to the French and German presidents. She also worked at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1991-1996 as Attaché of University Cooperation, and director of the Institut Français of Rostock and Timisoara.

Alain Arnaudet is director general of the Friche la Belle de Mai, Marseille. Before starting his work as a director of the Friche in 2001, he was the head of the French cultural centre of Cambodia.

Katarína Bajžíková is working as Global Education programme coordinator and consultant at the Slovak NGO “Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia” based in Bratislava. She started with her interest towards the sub-Saharan African region during her university studies in international relations focusing in development strategies, security challenges and peace-building programmes in specific African countries in Western Africa. Nowadays with NGO environment she continues with African issues in realm of awareness-raising and educational activities within Africa Day in Slovakia.

Malina Baranowska-Janusz is cross-culture psychologist, trainer, coordinator of antidiscrimination projects organised by the Center for Citizenship Education and a Polish educator at the Museum of the History of Polish Jews. She graduated from University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Warsaw and completed the postgraduation School of Psychology Teacher Training at Laboratorium Psychoedukacji. Malina Baranowska-Janusz specializes in intercultural competences, cross-culture communication, cultural adaptation and re-adaptation as well as anti-discrimination education. She also works with schools and runs trainings for teachers and students and is a licensed CoResolve Youth Speak and Deep Democracy Facilitation instructor (Lewis Method).

Marie-Noëlle Battaglia works as documentary maker. Coming from a background in social sciences, she works as video director and sound documentary producer, focusing on issues related to territories, migrations and precarity.

Sébastien Boistel is a journalist working for the satirical newspaper “le Ravi” and president of Medias Citoyens Paca, an association trying to federate alternative medias in the south of France. He coordinates with his assistant Margaux Capel, member of “Media Fellow”, the European programme for the Federation of Participative Audiovisual.



Irina Bondarevskaya is associate professor at University of Educational Management (Department of Management Psychology) and senior researcher at the Institute for Social and Political Psychology (Department of Mass Communication and Media Education), member of NAES of Ukraine as well as of the NECE Focus Group “All=In Network: Learning Citizenship for Inclusion and Diversity”. Furthermore she is author of a monograph and scientific articles in the fields of social, organizational, gender and media psychology. Irina Bondarevskaya is founder and coordinator of the annual seminar “Political and economic self-constitution” since 2013 as well as editor of the seminar’s proceedings. She is member of editorial board of the journals “Testing, Psychometrics, Methodology in Applied Psychology and Problems of Political Psychology”.

Hélène Bourgon is journalist. She spent six years in the Middle East as freelance reporter, reporting for Radio France and other French speaking media. After her return to France, she created – together with colleagues, journalists and documentarists – a monthly online, multimedia magazine, “15-38 Méditerranée”, which aims to provide information and in-depth analyses about all countries around the Mediterranean Sea as well as media education in schools.

Seyda Buurman-Kutsal has been active Europe-wide as trainer and coach within the field of diversity and inclusion since 1994, working for organisations such as ministries, NGOs and police forces. She is certified coach and trainer for the “Blue Eyes – Brown Eyes” exercise. Seyda Buurman-Kutsal is also founder and director of the “Seyda Buurman diversity consultancy” and lecturer in diversity and (citizenship) education at Fontys University of applied sciences in the Netherlands.

Petr Čáp works as a community-led local development adviser at the Czech Government’s Agency for Social Inclusion. Formerly, he was director of the Civic Education Centre at Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. He is actively engaged in the development of citizenship education programmes for public libraries in rural areas, postcolonial global citizenship education and popular education programmes with the Homeless Action Group.

Alina Cebotarenco comes from a volunteering background, her main experience coming from a youth led organisation. She is interested in combining tech, innovation and IT with education. Alina Cebotarenco has been involved as Alumna of a local committee of “Association Internationale des Etudiantes en Sciences Economiques et Commerciales” and has been a member of EENCE (Eastern European Network for Citizenship Education) since 2015. She also has a bright interest in combining digital media with social engineering in order to grasp the benefits of a virtual non-formal educational model.

Ellen Claes is assistant professor in political science and responsible for the teacher training in social sciences and philosophy at the KU Leuven. Taking a didactic perspective on political science, her work explores the effects secondary schools have in shaping democratic knowledge, behaviour and attitudes of young people and what the role of teachers is in this socialization process. Ellen Claes is national research coordinator of the International Civic and Citizenship Education Study 2016 in Flanders.

Nelly Corbel is executive director of the Lazord Foundation and independent consultant in citizenship education working with universities and governments around Europe and the Mediterranean. Prior to this, she served as associate director of the Gerhart Center for Philanthropy and Civic Engagement at the American University in Cairo until March 2015, where she has been providing leadership to a number of programmes.

Mia Cortes is school consultant, facilitator and teacher in conflict management in Danish schools through the non-profit organisation “Youth Town”. “Youth Town” develops educational materials and courses for students and their teachers in Danish primary, secondary and high schools as well as and other education programmes for youth. Currently, Mia Cortes is part of the project team in the pilot programme “Democracy for All” that is testing CoResolve Youth Speaks in Danish secondary schools and high schools. Mia Cortes has furthermore co-founded the organisation “HØRT”, an NGO that operates at the intersection between civic engagement, aesthetics and performativity. She is also volunteer facilitator of courses and workshops in conflict management for NGOs and youth organisations in the Danish Centre for Conflict Resolution.



Maarten de Groot is EU Democracy Campaign Coordinator for the ECI Campaign, a politically independent civil society organisation working towards the successful reform and implementation of the European Citizens' Initiative, the world's first-ever instrument for transnational, participatory and digitally facilitated democracy. Previously, Maarten de Groot was vice-president and external relations director in the international board of AEGEE, European Students' Forum (2016-2017). In that capacity, he was also involved in the organisation of the European citizens' initiative "More than education – shaping active and responsible citizens". Maarten de Groot was in charge of the development of a strategy paper for NECE on "European Prospects for Citizenship Education".

Kayleigh Dearstyne-Hulin is from Albany and New York but has been spending most of the past two years in the UK. She is double majoring at the University of St Andrews with international relations and sustainable development. As an incredibly passionate student, Kayleigh Dearstyne-Hulin loves learning and fun-facts. The past summer she has spent helping to develop the consultancy of "My Life My Say" learning about Brexit and youth voices.

Niels Dekker is project officer at the education department of ProDemos – House for Democracy and the Rule of Law, The Hague. He was trained to be a social science and citizenship teacher, used to be a teacher in secondary schools and has worked at ProDemos as an educational guide. Now he works mainly on developing ProDemos' educational interactive excursions in The Hague, guest lectures and teaching methods for several political institutions such as the Dutch Ministry of Justice and Security and the Dutch Water Authorities. Within the education department Niels Dekker is also responsible for developing European programmes.

Claire Demesmay has been head of the Franco-German Relations Programme of the German Council on Foreign Relations since 2009. She was previously researcher at the Institut français des relations internationales in Paris and taught French and Francophone studies at the Technical University Dresden. Claire Demesmay studied political philosophy in Dijon and at Paris 4 Sorbonne. She obtained a PhD on "Political Liberalism and the Future of the Nation-State" at the University of Paris 4 Sorbonne and the Center for French Studies at the Technical University of Berlin. Her areas of expertise are the Franco-German relationship, issues of European integration, as well as migration and integration policies in France and Germany.

Thomas Desset is co-producer of the radio broadcast "Presse libérée" and working for the participative television Télé Mouche. By creating media contents and training volunteers, his main concern is to promote freedom of expression for everyone.

Maja Dobiasz-Krysiak, culture anthropologist and ethnographer, is culture education expert and project coordinator at the Center for Citizenship Education in Poland. Currently, she finishes her PhD thesis on educational social movements and democratic breakthrough in Central Europe.

Mira Dutschke manages the Civics Academy project of the Hanns Seidel Foundation in Johannesburg, South Africa. Before joining the foundation in 2016 Mira Dutschke worked as a legal researcher, writer, human rights educator, legal reform advocate, and independent documentary filmmaker in various positions. Her professional background is in Law and International Human Rights. She is passionate about empowering young people as well as networking and collaborating with people with similar visions for a more just and equitable world.

M'hamed En-Nosse is general director for the international foundation for training and development and president of the Moroccan forum for youth tolerance. He is actively involved in associations on a local, national and international level and represented Morocco at several international events and workshops on leadership, social entrepreneurship, youth participation, responsible citizenship and inter-culturalism. In July 2011, he was chosen to a Moroccan delegation, which presented Morocco at a top-level international summit and which was organized at the United Nations headquarter in New York and to the delegation of Moroccan youth at the fourth forum of the alliance of civilizations of the UN Qatar in 2011.

Šimon Ferstl graduated from the Academy of Performing Arts in Theatre Acting. He focuses in his current career on directing and writing. He considers the "Bistro Afrika" project as a symbiosis of authorial theatre and NGO education programme, which is in tune with his mindset.



Judith Fiebelkorn has been an editor of the European press review euro|topics since 2014. She completed a cross-media traineeship at “Evangelische Journalistenschule” in Berlin and worked for the German media outlets “Tagesspiegel”, “Frankfurter Rundschau”, “Stuttgarter Zeitung” and “Bayerischer Rundfunk”.

Artemis Fyssa is sociologist by trainings and is currently working as a researcher and grant proposal writer for ANTIGONE Information and Documentation Centre on Racism, Ecology, Peace and Non Violence. She holds a Master of Arts in “Music Culture and Communication” by Kapodestrian University of Athens and the Master of Science “4 Cities Unica Euromaster in Urban Studies.” She is currently working as a researcher and grant proposal writer for ANTIGONE Information and Documentation Centre on Racism, Ecology, Peace and Non Violence.

Laetitia Gau is filmmaker, video editor and scenarist. She works as member of the “Boulègue” TV’s team.

Amélie Godfrey works as the fundraising and events manager at “My Life My Say”. She has a B.A. in history as well as a B.S. in international studies from the University of California, Irvine, and has recently completed her M.A. in international relations and politics from New York University. Her master’s thesis focused on immigration law and patterns in Germany and Great Britain. It is this interest in British immigration patterns that has focused her attention on Brexit and the impact it will have on both the United Kingdom and the European Union.

Ulrike Guérot is a German political scientist. She is founder and director of the European Democracy Lab (ECL) Berlin. She is also lecturer at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt/ Oder and at the Bucerius Law School. Ulrike Guérot published extensively in German and European newspapers and magazines on European and transatlantic issues and published in 2013 a manifesto for the “Creation of a European Republic”. Since 2016 she is the Head of the Department for European Policy and the Study of Democracy at the Danube University Krems (University for Continuing Education) and researches in various fields as the Franco-German relations, right-wing populism and the future of democracy in Europe.

Florent Guignard is an entrepreneur with a scientific background. He started to work as an engineer specialized in energy and environment, before starting to be an activist in French civic tech and democratic innovation. Always fascinated by debates and media, he created with Antoine Dujardin a civic newspaper called “Le Drenche”. “Le Drenche” is the first debate newspaper offering to every citizen two opposing argumentations to help them make their very own opinion and escape their filter bubbles, as well as tools and ways to become an active citizen.

E.M. (Eddy) Habben Jansen is executive director of ProDemos – House for Democracy and the Rule of Law, The Hague. From 2010 to 2016 he was deputy director, responsible for the ProDemos visitor’s programme in parliament. Eddy Habben Jansen has been working in citizenship education since 1992 and was involved in the development of StemWijzer (VoteMatch) since 1994. Since 2008 he co-ordinated the development of the new educational centre of ProDemos, including programmes for secondary schools as well as a number of exhibitions.

István Hegedűs is chairman of the Hungarian Europe Society, a Budapest-based NGO focusing especially on European Union issues. He became liberal member of the first free elected Hungarian Parliament in 1990 and also served as vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee. He received his PhD in sociology at Corvinus University of Budapest in 2004. Amongst others, he had courses as a free-lance scholar and lecturer the University of California located at the Eötvös Loránd University of Sciences in Budapest.

Vincent F. Hendricks is professor of formal philosophy at the University of Copenhagen. He is director of the Center for Information and Bubble Studies sponsored by the Carlsberg Foundation and was awarded the Elite Research Prize by the Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation and the Roskilde Festival Elite Research Prize, both in 2008.



Nina Henkelmann is the euro|topics correspondent for France and the Francophone communities of Luxembourg, Belgium and Switzerland. She studied Romance languages and literature, cultural studies and communication in Germany and France, and works in media and publicity, language teaching and translation in Germany, France and Italy.

Patricia Hladschik is co-director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights and director of polis – the Austrian Centre for Citizenship Education in Schools in Austria. She is board member of the Austrian League for Human Rights and the WUK, one of Europe's largest socio-cultural centers and Viennese sister of La Friche. She has been working as translator of francophone North African literature. Since 2018 she is Austrian expert for the Council of Europe's European Policy Advisers Network.

Ola (Aleksandra) Hnatiuk is professor at the Center for East European Studies at the University of Warsaw and, since 2010, visiting professor at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Kyiv. Ola Hnatiuk was a Harvard University Ukrainian Research Institute Shklar Fellow in 2001-2002 and served in the Polish diplomatic corps from 2006 to 2010 as the First Counselor. She has received numerous awards, including “Polonia Restituta” (Republic of Poland highest state award) and the “Antonovych Foundation Award” for fostering Polish-Ukrainian cultural cooperation.

Caroline Hornstein Tomić works both in academia as well as in the civil and public sectors. She has been employed at the Ivo Pilar Institute of Social Sciences in Zagreb since 2008 and as Senior Research Associate since 2014. From April 2016 to March 2018, she was Head of the Operative Division at the German Federal Agency for Civic Education. Between 2010 and 2016 she worked as a lecturer and assistant professor at the Chair for Anthropology at Zagreb University. Between 2005 and 2017 she was a member of the Advisory Board of the ERSTE Foundation, and is a founder and Chair of the Management Board of the foundation “Wissen am Werk / znanje na djelu” in Croatia. Caroline Hornstein Tomić has widely published on migration with a focus on skilled mobility, as well as on identity politics, state-building and reform processes in Southeast Europe.

Michal Hvorecky is author and translator. His books of fiction have been translated into eleven languages. He studied art history and was fellow at the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa. Michal Hvorecky works at the Goethe Institut in Bratislava and is contributor on culture and politics to various daily papers and magazines in Slovakia, Austria and Germany.

Latifa Ibn Ziaten is a French-Moroccan activist. Her son Imad Ibn Ziaten, a service member of the French military, was killed in March 2012 as first victim of the terrorist Mohammed Merah. In the name of her son, Latifa Ibn Ziaten founded the association “Imad Ibn Ziaten pour la Jeunesse et la Paix” which aims to help young people in deprived areas and to promote secularism and interreligious dialogue in order to prevent religious radicalisation – the motto is “no more Merah”. In 2015 she received the Prize for Prevention Conflict by the Fondation Chirac, and in 2016 she received the International Women of Courage Award.

Irina Ilisei is social researcher, civic education trainer and activist. She is founder and president of Plural Association where she coordinates international and national level projects with young people, teachers and youth workers – on topics such as anti-discrimination, memory work, gender equality and Roma issues. Her most recent publication looks on how the Romanian transition towards democracy shaped the situation of under-privileged social categories such as women, ethnic minorities and members of LGBT+ community.

Israel Ilunde is the executive director of Youth Partnership Country-Wide (YPC). He is also the head of the Secretariat and Secretary to the Board of Directors. He is a member of CENESA's Interim Steering Committee.

Edit Inotai earned her PhD at Corvinus University in Budapest, after that, she worked as a correspondent in Berlin. She served as a journalist at the Foreign Desk of “Népszabadság” from 1997-2003 and her main areas were European affairs, Spain, Latin-America with a special envoy to Madrid, Buenos Aires and Santiago de Chile. In 2010 she became the foreign editor of “Népszabadság” and served in this position until 2014.



Michalis Kakos is senior lecturer in education at Leeds Beckett University in UK where he leads a postgraduate programme on inclusive education. Previously he was leading the Postgraduate Certificate in Education course in citizenship education at the University of Leicester. Michalis Kakos has also held research fellowships in the Centre for Citizenship and Human Rights Education, University of Leeds and in the Centre for Research in Inclusion and Diversity at the University of Edinburgh.

Marianna Karakoulaki is an award winning journalist and researcher based between Greece and the UK. Her reports focus on migration as well as social protests and works on the recent perspectives of migration. She is the articles editor and a director of the Editorial Board of E-International.

Basil Kerski is a German-Polish manager of culture, editor, publicist, and political scientist. He is the director of the European Solidarity Centre in Gdańsk and since 1998 an editor-in-chief of the bilingual Polish-German journal DIALOG and contributor to "Przegląd Polityczny" (Political Review). He worked as an expert in international politics, authored more than twenty books analysing history and politics and is a frequent contributor to Polish and German-language magazines and newspapers.

Samir Khebizi has devoted himself to both the cultural and socio-cultural domains. In 1996, he founded and took over management of the association "Les Têtes de l'Art", a major structure in the Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur region in the domain of mediation and support for participatory art initiatives and in consultancy and training of key players linked to this field. Since 2014, Sam Khebizi is an active member of several networks in the Euro-Mediterranean region working on culture, citizenship and democracy.

Elten Kiene is co-founder of "Woorden Worden Zinnen" (spoken word platform) in the Netherlands, leader of the Hip Hop Group "Brandwerk" and creative entrepreneur. Elten Kiene currently gives a lot of spoken word workshops and recently led four Next Generation Speaks workshop series. He was also involved part off Art 4 Act as one o the coaches. Most of all, Elten is a creative genius and a master in getting the impossible done, he inspires people with his positive mindstate.

Christoph Klavehn manages the European Council on Foreign Relations' data-driven research projects and focuses on surveying, data analysis and visualization. As part of the "Rethink: Europe" project he helps develop the flagship datasets EU Cohesion Monitor and the EU Coalition Explorer that illustrate European cooperation in new ways. Before joining ECFR Christoph Klavehn worked on several transatlantic convening fora including at the German Marshall Fund of the United States and "Atlantik-Brücke".

Jacek Kołtan is philosopher, political scientist and deputy director for research at the European Solidarity Centre in Gdańsk. His research interests cover social and political theory, history of the solidarity idea, social movements, hermeneutics as well as social design and anthropology. He teaches social design theory at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk.

Chris Krier is an elementary school teacher from Luxembourg and has been incorporating games into his classroom to motivate and engage his students. He is working on and organizing several projects to introduce digital games into the curriculum. During the year of 2016, he also worked as a freelancer for the Luxembourgish Government to support and coach schools in implementing ICT into their schools.

Thomas Krüger is director of the German Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb). After being a founding member of the Social Democratic Party in the former GDR, and becoming the executive director of the SDP in Berlin (East), Thomas Krüger became deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) in Berlin (East/West). Subsequently, he was the city's Senator for Youth and Family Affairs (1991-1994) and a member of the German Parliament, the Bundestag (1994-1998).



Jarosław Kuisz is co-director of the project “Knowledge Bridges Between Poland, Britain and Europe” at St. Antony’s College, University of Oxford, and assistant professor at the Faculty of Law and Administration of the University of Warsaw. He is editor-in-chief of the Polish political and cultural weekly “Kultura Liberalna”. Former visiting scholar at the University of Chicago Law School and Columbia Law School, at the moment he is also Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow at SAXO Institute, University of Copenhagen.

Benjamin Kurc works in the field of cultural diplomacy as director of the Institut Français in Saxony-Anhalt (Germany). He co-created and run the French organisation “Vote&Vous,” working in the field of citizenship education and democratic participation where he built up a co-operation between the German Federal Agency for Civic Education and the French-German Youth Office.

Claudia Lenz is working as a teacher educator at the Norwegian School of Theology. Previously she was affiliated with the European Wergeland Centre. Her fields of research include historical consciousness, memory culture and memory politic with regard to World War II and the Holocaust.

David Lopez is policy officer for international and European affairs at the “Ligue de l’Enseignement” in Paris. He is also secretary general of the National Committee of Associations for Youths and Public Education and Chair of the group “Lifelong Learning” at the European platform SOLIDAR. Further David Lopez is a member of the European Humanist Federation Bureau and acts as European expert on citizenship education.

Françoise Lorcerie is research director at the National Center for Scientific Research and has devoted her work to the analysis of ethnic processes in social relations. She works on their presence in public debates and political decisions, particularly in the field of education, and directed the first comprehensive French book on the subject. Mindful of the deployments of urban, social and school policies in France in the name of correcting inequalities and integrating immigrants and their children, she has followed the conflicts concerning the reinterpretations of secularism and the wearing of the Islamic headscarf. She is a founding member of the International Network for Education and Diversity (RIED).

Agata Łuczyńska is co-founder and president of board of the “School with Class Foundation”, a renowned Polish NGO working in the field of school reform, equality in education and the development of 21st century skills. She develops and runs programmes that help schools to become open and friendly environments, engaged in solving social problems, supporting diversity, where relationships based on mutual respect and trust prevail. She is a co-author of various programmes and publications for teachers focused on developing students’ overall digital literacy, critical thinking, collaboration and problem solving skills.

Khalid Mahmood delivered community capacity building and adult education programmes in Leicester until August 2004, when he joined the School Development Support Agency (SDSA). As complementary schools coordinator he developed the country’s first ever independent umbrella organisation, the Leicester Complementary Schools Trust which was established to help and support complementary/supplementary schools. Seconded to ContinYou in December 2006 as a Regional Development Manager for the National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education, Khalid Mahmood was responsible for the national development of this programme. In 2007 he returned to SDSA and took the responsibility for the Islam and Citizenship Education (ICE) Project. This project developed teaching resources which are being used by a wide range of independent Muslim schools and Muslim supplementary schools across England and in other parts of the world. Khalid Mahmood is now facilitating a number of local, national and international networks that aim to improve outcomes for children and young people.

Nurana Mammadova has a bachelor degree in International Economic Relations and an advanced master degree in Diplomacy. She works as coordinator of educational projects, team coach and facilitator of Project Management. Nurana Mammadova adores learning languages and meeting new people and is convinced that citizenship education is the key to self-realization and self-expression.



Godefroid Manirambona is the president and the legal representative of the Observatory of Government Action, positions he has held since April 2013. He is also a lawyer with a professional experience in the fields of justice, governance and human rights. In addition, he has worked in various local and international human rights organisations such as the “Support to the Second Edition of the Codes and Laws of Burundi” project of the Center for Studies and Legal Documentations with the support of the Belgian Technical Cooperation and the NGO Avocats Sans Frontières Belgium. He is a member of CENESA’s Interim Steering Committee.

Tatjana Meijvogel-Volk has been working as project manager at ProDemos – House for Democracy and the Rule of Law in the Netherlands since 2006. She is the contact person for NECE at ProDemos and the project manager for the Europe Direct Center The Hague. Former appointments of Tatjana Meijvogel-Volk were with the German Office of Foreign Affairs, the OSCE and the EU Administration of Mostar (Bosnia-Herzegovina) in fields of humanitarian aid, protocol and democratization.

Volha Melnik is researcher in the field of psychological sciences and active participant of projects of the Council of Europe on multicultural education, democratic citizenship and education in the field of human rights. She is the head of the postdegree department (PhD) and lecturer of the Department of Psychology in state educational institution “Academy of Postgraduate Education” (Minsk, Belarus). She worked as an expert and trainer in the field of multicultural education and the formation of a democratic culture in the information age, created more than 50 publications analysing democratic and civic education in the field of diversity.

Mathias Menu is filmmaker, scenarist and video editor. Furthermore he is member of the TV team of “Boulègue”.

Andrea Michalcová is deputy director of the “European Values Think-Tank” and head of projects within the “Kremlin Watch Program and Education Program”. Since 2016, she has worked as a project manager organising a number of successful events, notably the series of STRATCOM SUMMITs, which have been attended by over 400 participants from more than 30 countries. She is the supervisor of the think-tank’s education programme and also conducts regular workshops on media literacy for secondary school students around the Czech Republic.

Niccolo Milanese is co-founder of European Alternatives, a poet and philosopher. He has over a decade’s experience in civic education, civic organising and cultural projects throughout Europe and the Mediterranean. He is author with Lorenzo Marsili of ‘Citizens of Nowhere: How Europe can be Saved from Itself’ (Zed Books 2018).

Almut Möller is head of the Berlin office and a senior policy fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations. Previously, she headed the Alfred von Oppenheim Centre for European Policy Studies at the German Council on Foreign Relations, worked as an independent political analyst based in London and as a research fellow at the Centre for Applied Policy Research (CAP) at Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich.

Moez Ali is a Tunisian civil society key actor focusing on human rights, countering violent extremism and corruption. He is also co-founder and president of “Union of independent Tunisian for freedom” (UTIL) created after the Tunisian uprising which played a central role in the national democratic transition. UTIL worked very closely with youth, women and regional NGO’s on democratic awareness, citizenship awareness and involvement of women and youth in the public life. Moez Ali is also the founder of the Tunisian Association Front, coordinator of Tunisian civil coalition against corruption and coordinator of the Tunisian civil coalition against terrorism. He was awarded a certificate of completion for the Strategic management of NGO leaders Program, in 2015, from Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Executive Education. He is the General Manager of “MA & Consulting” since 2005. Moez Ali also held positions in the US government administration and private companies.



Elhossien Mohamed is a civic educator and project manager based in Cairo, Egypt. He is the founder of "My Point – Center for Human Development" which implements civic education programmes for children and youths. He is also the founder of the Arabic website elsyasi.com which provides political and human rights knowledge in Arabic. He is member of the steering committee of Networking Arab Civic Education (NACE) and supports the connection of diverse civic initiatives all over the Arab world.

Grace Ubaruta Mugiraneza is a Rwandan youth activist, currently working with Governance for Africa as head of programmes. She volunteers with different youth organizations as the Global Institute for youth. She is the Rwanda Deputy country coordinator of Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network. Grace Ubaruta Mugiraneza is a member of various regional networks, i.e. member of the steering committee of CENESA, member of the African Youth Commission and of the Young African Leaders Initiative. She is a social media enthusiast and held different campaigns with various national public institutions.

Sheila Muwanga is the deputy executive director (programmes) at the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) in Uganda. She has 18 years' experience working on various human rights issues at FHRI. She is also one of the vice presidents of the FIDH in Paris. Through local and international fora, petitions and urgent appeals, Sheila Muwanga through these platforms worked for peace and social justice in Sudan, South Sudan, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, among others. She is a social worker by profession. She is a member of CENESA's Interim Steering Committee and carries out the interim coordination role.

Jan-Werner Müller is professor of politics at Princeton University, where he is also the founding director of the project in the History of Political Thought at the Center for Human Values. His research field covers publications on liberal democracy and populism.

Christoph Müller-Hofstede coordinates the NECE initiative, promoted by the German Federal Agency for Civic Education, bpb. He is co-editor of the "Country Report China" in the publication series of the bpb. He has studied Sinology and Political Science in Berlin, Beijing, and Hong Kong. He has been a consultant at the German Federal Agency for Citizenship Education/ bpb since 1988 and has been running projects and initiatives on migration and integration, including a Focus Group on "Hard to Reach learners", today named the "All=In Network".

Alexandrina Najmowicz is currently director of the European Civic Forum, a transnational network of associations across Europe, working to protect civic space, enable civic participation and build civil dialogue for equality, solidarity and democracy in Europe. In this capacity, she led different campaigns and initiatives aiming at strengthening the capacity and the role of civil society organisations to stand and act for these values, at defending citizens' rights and become influential in the decision making process. She represents the European Civic Forum in different stakeholders' groups within the European Commission, the European Economic and Social Committee Liaison Group or the Council of Europe's OING Conference.

Péter Neumann studied sociology in Budapest, Hungary. During and after his studies he was active in small grassroots organisations focusing on poverty relief, social justice, and Jewish community revival in Hungary. Since 2014 he is the programme manager of Haver Foundation. Haver is a Jewish educational organisation that aims at overcoming anti-Semitism, through informal educational methods. Haver activities bring together trained young Jewish volunteer educators and non-Jewish high school/university students. Péter Neumann is responsible for managing key educational partnerships, developing new educational modules and fundraising.



Adam Newmann Turner is education consultant with extensive experience in multicultural education including twenty years of senior management, school headship and local government work. He was Principal Associate (education) for the Institute of Community Cohesion (Coventry University) and is currently an associate for the School Development and Support Agency in Leicester. Much of his work specialises in school improvement through equalities, diversity, active global citizenship, student participation and open leadership. Adam Newman Turner is a skilled conference facilitator and has led trainings in Africa, Australia, Canada, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Korea, Spain and Turkey. He co-coordinates the NECE All=In Network (Citizenship Learning for Inclusion and Diversity) with his colleague Khalid Mahmood of SDSA.

Ezra Ollen Mwalubunju is the executive director of the National Initiative for Civic Education. He has over 20 years' experience in gender, constitution and constitutionalism, human rights, elections, HIV/AIDS, rule of law, access to justice, conflict management and peace-building, transparency and accountability, governance and democratisation with governments, regional economic communities and the African Union, parliaments and civil society organisations in Africa. He is a former Commissioner for the Malawi Human Rights Commission, founding executive director of a human rights defender and advocacy group and a senior programme manager of the Centre for Conflict Resolution in South Africa.

Emily O'Reilly was first elected as the European Ombudsman in July 2013. Following the European Parliament elections, she was re-elected for a five-year mandate in December 2014. As the European Ombudsman she investigates maladministration in the institutions and bodies of the European Union. For her work she was awarded the Schwarzkopf Europe Award in 2017. From 2003 until 2013, Emily O'Reilly was the first female Ombudsman and Information Commissioner in Ireland and was additionally appointed Commissioner for Environmental Information in 2007. As national Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly was conferred in 2008 with a Honorary Doctorate in Law by the National University in Ireland for her work in promoting human rights throughout her career. In 2014 she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Law from the University College Dublin for her decade long commitment as Irish Ombudsman. As a former journalist, author and political editor Emily O'Reilly's career attracted significant domestic and international recognition including a Harvard University Fellowship in 1988 and multiple national awards.

Alicja Pacewicz is co-founder and senior advisor at the Center for Citizenship Education, one of the leading Polish NGOs working in the area of quality education, civic engagement and school reform. She is the co-author of numerous programmes and publications on citizenship and human rights education, competences for democratic culture, instruction methods and learning environments. For her merits in building civil society in post-communist Poland, she was awarded Officer's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta.

Višnja Pavlović is youth worker, project manager and trainer at Forum for Freedom in Education in Croatia. As the manager of Volunteering and Active Citizenship Programme, she creates and manages projects that promote creativity, active citizenship and social justice in education of young people. Višnja Pavlović is a co-author of several publications on school volunteering.

Filip Pazderski is lawyer and sociologist. After his studies at University of Warsaw, he has also graduated from European Master's Degree Programme in Human Rights and Democratization in Venice. Currently at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences he is finishing his doctoral thesis on the collective memory and social integration of people from Warmia region living in Germany. Since 2010 he is a policy analyst and project manager in the Civil Society and Democracy Programme of the Institute of Public Affairs in Poland, where he works on civic engagement, public participation, quality of democracy and citizenship education, being an author of numerous researches, expert opinions and publications on these subjects. Since 2003 he is active in civil society building, as well as promotion of human rights and democratic standards while cooperating with several different NGOs in Poland and abroad.



Eli Pijaca Plavšić works as an executive director of Forum for Freedom in Education. She has been active in different civil society organisations since 2001 with the special emphasis on education policy development, educational management, and development of teacher training programmes and projects with the focus on development of teacher's competences in the field of personal and social development, minority/migrant education, inclusive education, citizenship education and school governance. She has extensive experience in policy development by participating in the main policy boards and working groups at the national and international level.

Bettina Pocsai is from Budapest, Hungary. She is currently studying sociology and social anthropology at Central European University. She is volunteering at Uccu Roma Informal Educational Foundation for nearly four years now.

Claude Proeschel is lecturer in political science at the University of Lorraine and researcher at the Societies, Religions, Secularisms Group (Groupe Sociétés, Religions, Laïcité). She works on the relationship between religion and politics in the present-day context, and on their implication with respect to citizenship. Her research activity covers secularism in Europe and its involvement in teaching.

Tahar Rabahi is consultant to the Chamar association, whose main vocation is to create new artistic and cultural bridges between Muslim and Western civilizations. He was trained as a sports educator with a decade of experience in this field. Tahar Rabahi received his PhD in movement sciences related to cognitive neuroscience at University of Lyon 1 in 2014. He then taught neurosciences and psychology of learning at the University of Metz and Toulon.

Marie Reiter is school consultant, facilitator and teacher in conflict management, active citizenship and general life skills in Danish schools through the organization Youth Town – a Danish non-profit organisation developing educational materials and education programmes for students and their teachers. Youth Town is also the Danish national coordinator of UNESCO's Associated Schools. Marie Reiter is a part of Co-Resolve Youth Speaks, by Deep Democracy – The Lewis Method and has trained and tested the method with teachers and students. She uses the tools to facilitate challenging conversations in classrooms and to create democratic spaces where teacher's and student voices can be heard.

Alistair Ross is emeritus professor of Education at London Metropolitan University and a Jean Monnet Professor. He founded and directed the Institute for Policy Studies in Education at London Metropolitan as well as the European Academic Network Children's Identities and Citizenship in Europe. His current research interests are in social inclusion and social justice in education and citizenship, and in young peoples' political and social understanding and learning. Since retiring from full time academic employment, he has engaged in a one-person study of how young Europeans construct their political identities. He co-edited the NECE book "Beyond Us and Them: Citizenship Education with hard-to-reach learners in Europe".

Lisa Schenkel has a bachelor degree in political sciences and French and is currently participating in a Masters of Education Programme at the University of Muenster. She works as a research assistant at the Chair of Social Science Education and is specialized in citizenship education didactics and the French citizenship education system. Furthermore she participated in the project "Forschen mit GrafStat – Wie bin ich geworden, wer bin ich?", financed by the German Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb) and supports researchers in the ZUNAMI-project ("Zusammenhaltsnarrative miteinander erarbeiten") which aims at exploring narratives of social cohesion in urban areas. For six months she has been working as a language assistant in France.

Thorsten Schilling is head of the multimedia department of the Federal Agency for Civic Education, hereby Editor in Chief of fluter, bpb.de and Eurotopics.net. After his studies he worked as freelancer in East Berlin and was press speaker for the magistrate of Berlin (East) as well as for the Senator of Youth and Family Berlin. From 1995 he was project manager for the gallery Eigen+Art, Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art and organized 1997 with G. Lovink and P. Schultz the hybrid workspace – a temporary media lab at documenta X Kassel. He is founding member and was chair of mikro e.V., an association to promote media culture in Berlin. Thorsten Schilling was director corporate communications of the company Subotnic.



Michèle Schilt is a trained historian, a history teacher and deputy director of the Centre for Citizenship Education in Luxembourg (ZpB). In her work she focuses on formal and non-formal citizenship education.

Jürgen Schlicher is co-founder and managing partner of Diversity Works. With over 20 years of experience as trainer and consultant. He is an expert in anti-discrimination and diversity management. Jürgen Schlicher was trained by Jane Elliott to deliver the “blue-eyed – brown-eyed” exercises, which he has adapted for the German context.

Bojana Selakovic is currently programme director of Civic Initiatives, founded 1996 in order to promote and strengthen citizenship education and citizens’ participation in Serbia. Prior to that, she has been working as a manager of public policy programme since 2013. Bojana Selakovic had worked in the area of law and entrepreneurship, and has been active in the civil sector since 2001, with minor pauses as an activist, volunteer and expert. She has initiated and participated in several dozen campaigns for raising awareness and public advocacy on the national and local level, large number of projects and initiatives oriented towards enhancing activism of the citizens, as well as those entities that provide direct help and assistance to vulnerable social groups.

Livingstone Sewanyana is the founder and executive director of the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) in Uganda and recently appointed by the UN Human Rights Council as the UN Independent Expert on the promotion of a Democratic and Equitable International Order. He has written and published widely in world-renowned scholarly journals and books on human rights, corporate governance, public sector management, citizenship education and access to justice.

Sugárka Sielaff is euro|topics' Hungary correspondent. She has been a freelance journalist for over ten years and has worked for German broadcaster NDR and “Die Zeit” weekly newspaper. She studied German language and literature, journalism and Finno-Ugrian studies in Hamburg and completed a training programme at NDR.

Sabine Sommer has worked in the field of democracy, diversity and non-discrimination as facilitator, educator and developer for over 20 years. Within her work she focuses on reflectiveness, structure-response relationship, activating creativity in conflict-resolution and empowerment. Almost from the beginning of the method’s development in Europe, she assists in “blue-eyed – brown-eyed” exercises.

Andreea Stetco joined the “Les Têtes de l’Art” association team in October 2017 as international project manager. Enthusiastic and polychronic, she is managing multiple artistic and (inter)cultural European projects from inception to completion.

David Stoleru is architect and educator graduated from the Mandel Leadership Institute, Jerusalem and Paideia’s Project Incubator 2010. After ten years working in heritage preservation architectural projects, he decided to use his skills in education. His current domain of interest is on how urban heritage can creatively be used as a powerful educational tool. His field of experiment includes new pedagogical possibilities and the creation of urban nomadic schools around Europe, situated in the urban space.

Andrea Szukala holds a full professorship for Social Science Didactics at the University of Muenster. She took an undergraduate degree in Franco-German Studies at Sorbonne-Nouvelle University, a Masters in Political Science at University of Cologne and then completed her Ph.D. at the University of Cologne. She was researcher at the Department of Political Science at Cologne University, at the Humboldt University of Berlin, at the Department of Sociology of the University of Bielefeld, and professor at the Universities of Duisburg-Essen and Siegen.



Philippe Ternes is consultant in international and EU affairs active in a variety of European cities as well as in the MENA region. He serves as Europe for Citizens contact point in Luxembourg, supports the European Parliament Ambassador School programme and teaches International and EU Affairs to public servants. Philippe Ternes has also recently developed a democracy rallye, offering people of various age groups to boost their skills in video-journalism, online democracy campaigns, negotiations, media literacy and speech-writing. He further serves as co-head of network of the Anna Lindh Foundation in Luxembourg and tries to bridge the needs of society, sustainable businesses and the democratic sphere. Philippe Ternes is also the founder of the NGO Our Common Future which aims to contribute to the development of future democratic models.

Eva Thesling has a Bachelor degree in sociology and French and is currently participating in a Masters of Education Programme at the University of Muenster. She works as a research assistant at the Chair of Social Science Education. Eva Thesling is specialized in citizenship education didactics and has a special interest for the French education system. Furthermore she participated in the project "Forschen mit GrafStat – Bundestagswahl 2017", financed by the German Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb) and supports researchers in the ZUNAMI-project ("Zusammenhaltsnarrative miteinander erarbeiten") which aims at exploring narratives of social cohesion in urban areas.

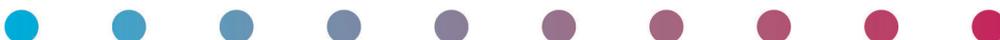
Susanne Ulrich has been head of the Academy Leadership and Competence at the Centre for Applied Policy Research at the University of Munich since 2003. She focuses on diversity and conflict management, Europe, democracy, tolerance, participation and evaluation. C·A·P's own proposals are complemented by methods and experiences provided by partners from all over the world. Susanne Ulrich adapted and created programmes for the use in the educational sector in Germany.

Joachim Umlauf is director of the Goethe-Institut Lyon/ Marseille since 2015. Before moving southwards, he was director of the Goethe-Institut Netherlands and director of the Goethe-Institut Paris. He holds a doctoral degree in French studies and history of art and is a guest lecturer at the University Aix-en-Provence, the Sorbonne Nouvelle (Paris) and at the University of Lorraine (Metz) where he is involved in the development of a Master module "Culture management". He authored and edited various books and articles with a special focus on Franco-German relations.

Fernando Vallespín is a political science professor at the Universidad Autónoma in Madrid, where he has been director of the Centre for Political Theory, chairman of the Political Science Department and Vice-chancellor of the University. From 2004 to 2008 he has been president of the "Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas", a government related and publicly founded institute for public opinion and opinion polls. He was also academic director of the Ortega y Gasset Foundation and president of the Spanish Political Science Association. He has written several books – the last on Populism – and more than a hundred academic articles and book chapters. His main area of interest is political and democratic theory. He is a staff columnist at the Spanish newspaper El País.

Stefanos Vallianatos is the head of the Department of International Relations of the Hellenic Foundation for Culture, the coordinator of the Greek National Network of the Anna Lindh Foundation and co-founder of Fotoessa, a centre for Education, research and action. By default, he is also an active member of EUNIC, at the corporate level and at the cluster level (of Athens). Stefanos Vallianatos has also taught Middle East Politics at the International Centre for Hellenic and Mediterranean Studies, and frequently publishes on issues related to Middle East politics and civil society in the Mediterranean region, whereas he is also a certified trainer of the Creative Entrepreneurship Programme.

Joke van der Leeuw-Roord is historian, founding president, former director and currently special advisor of EUROCLIO, The European Association of History Educators and former secretary general of the Brussels Platform for Lifelong Learning. Currently she is board member of the Europeana Initiative and member of the ET 2020 Working Group on Promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education. She is an international expert on innovative and trans-national history, heritage and citizenship education. In that capacity Joke van der Leeuw-Roord has initiated and coordinated a multitude of national and transnational capacity building projects in most European countries, but also beyond, amongst others working in Georgia, Israel, Lebanon, Russia, South Korea, and Turkey. She operates as consultant for the UNESCO, OSCE, Council of Europe and the European Union and published widely on questions related to responsible and innovative approaches to inclusive history, citizenship and heritage.



Tereza Vávrová is lecturer on social science with a focus on citizenship education and historical issues. She works as a project manager for the Civic Education Centre, Czech Republic. Previously she worked as a trainer of intercultural and experiential learning for educational NGOs and schools. She is PhD candidate working on her thesis “The perspectives of citizenship education through modern history”.

Mads Vestergaard researches political philosophy at the interdisciplinary Center for Information and Bubble Studies at the University of Copenhagen. His research focuses on political opinion formation, education and self-determination in the novel digitalized media environment, attention economy and post-factual society. He has recently co-authored a book about fake news and conspiracy theory.

Samuel Wahl works as journalist, writer and filmmaker. He is chief editor of “Boulègue”, the participative television of the 3rd district of Marseille, involved in education to the medias, cultural mediation and digital activism.

Karin Wahl-Jorgensen is professor in the Cardiff School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies at Cardiff University, Wales, and also serves as director of research environment and development in the school. Her research focuses on journalism and citizenship, and she has authored or edited nine books.

Grace Rose Wakesho Maingi is the executive director of Uraia Trust and serves as the secretary to the Board of Trustees. Previously she has worked at the Federation of Women Lawyers, Kenya, as the deputy director and the executive director, at the Law Society of Kenya as the deputy secretary and at the Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists.

Marischa Weiser is project manager in the department of Active Citizenship at “MitOst e.V.”. She is managing the capacity building projects “Tools for Citizens” and “Civil Society Exchange” which focus on strengthening civil society actors in Turkey and Greece and fostering relationships between Europe and Turkey. Marischa Weiser has a background in intercultural communication, Franco-German relationship, literature and theatre.

Karolina Wigura is sociologist, historian of ideas and journalist. She is head of the Observatory of Public Debate of Kultura Liberalna (Liberal Culture), one of Poland’s leading centrist think tanks. Karolina Wigura is also an assistant professor at Warsaw University’s Institute of Sociology. Former fellow of the IWM in Vienna and GMF, she is also a member of the ECFR Council.

