

### 3. INTERNATIONAL MAYORS' CONFERENCE NOW

#### 'Children under the Radar'

30-31 January 2017, Vienna, Austria

At the upcoming NOW Conference experts, MEPs, Mayors, civil servants, NGOs, refugees, immigrants and local residents will exchange their knowledge, experience, ideas and approaches. On the one hand, the aim is to learn about the realities of refugee children in their home countries, on their way to Europe and in their countries of refuge as well as about the dangers they are exposed to and the trauma they carry within them. On the other hand, the aim is to examine the realities and challenges local children and youth face in the receiving countries, and based on this, develop a holistic approach to address the needs, identify areas of interventions and share good practice solutions for a better future of all children.

### CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Location: ÖBB-Werkstättenhalle, Spittelauer Lände 33, 1090 Vienna

#### Monday, 30 January 2017

08.30 h **Registration**

09.00 h **Opening**

**Muna Duzdar, State Secretary, Austrian Federal Chancellery**  
**Patricia Kahane and André Heller, Act.Now**

09.30 h **Voices of Mayors**

**Host: Hannes Swoboda, MEP (ret.), President of The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies – wiiw, Board Member, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue**

**Hassan Alrhaibeh** Mayor, Um Al Jimal, Jordan

**Luigi Ammatuna** Mayor, Pozzallo, Italy

**Andreas Babler** Mayor, Traiskirchen, Austria

**Ali Mattar** Mayor, Sahel El Zahrani, Lebanon

**Lefteris Papagiannakis** Vice Mayor, Migrant and Refugee Affairs, Athens, Greece

**Mustafa Tosun** Mayor, Dikili, Turkey

10.30 h **Panel 1 - Educational realities of refugees in the MENAT Region**

This panel is dedicated to educational realities of refugees in the MENAT Region – Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Syria. It aims at exploring the realities, challenges and future perspective regarding a better access to education. Offering good quality education to Syrian refugees in the MENAT region is one of the most challenging aspects for international and national stakeholders.

**Host: Viola Raheb, University of Vienna, Senior Fellow, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue**

**Thaera Badran** Project Coordinator, Centre for Lebanese Studies, Lebanon

**Catherine Barnett** Coordinator of the "No Lost Generation" Initiative, UNICEF, Jordan

**Lina Farouqi** Regional Director, Middle East Children's Institute, Jordan

**Lale Hazar** Founder and Project Director, ODGEDER, Turkey

**Camilla Lodi** Education Specialist, Norwegian Refugee Council, Palestine

11.30 h **Coffee break and interactive discussion**

12.00 h **Panel 2 – Diversity and social cohesion in European classrooms**

European societies are challenged to integrate refugee children in their school systems. Yet, this challenge reaches beyond refugees. It concerns other groups within the host societies themselves, e.g. children with migration background, socially deprived children local children and other groups. This panel will focus on opportunities for addressing diversity and social inclusion in the educational sector.

**Host: Viola Raheb, University of Vienna, Senior Fellow, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue**

**Nihad Bunar** Professor, Child and Youth Studies, Stockholm University, Sweden

**Barbara Herzog-Punzenberger** Director, Education & Migration, Linz University, Austria

**Annette Korntheuer** Researcher, Netzwerk Flüchtlingsforschung, Germany

**Lutine de Wal Pastoor** Researcher, Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies, Norway

**Josef Zollneritsch** Head of department for school psychology and advising, Styrian School Board, Austria

13.00 h **Interactive discussion**

13.20 h **Lunch**

14.15 h **Building of Reflecting Groups**

14.45 h **Workshops (incl. Coffee break)**

16:15 h **Summaries and Feedback**

17:00 h **Voices of Europe**

**Host: Hannes Swoboda, MEP (ret.), President of The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies – wiiw, Board Member, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue**

**Gerald Knaus** Chairman, ESI - European Stability Initiative

**Ulrike Lunacek** Vice President of the European Parliament

**Rainer Münz** Adviser on Migration & Demography to the EPSC, European Commission

**Michael O’Flaherty** Director, EU Agency for Fundamental Rights

**Kati Piri** Member and Rapporteur for Turkey, European Parliament

**Josef Weidenholzer** Member and Vice-President of the S&D, European Parliament

18.00 h **Concert - Sounds of Hope and Connecting**

The initiative of the Mobile Music School developed last year as a cooperation between Marwan Abado and NOW and has been conducting several music workshops since. This year, children and youth of diverse - local, migration and refugee – backgrounds, will perform together and present songs from various traditions, instrumental music and Hip Hop dance. The sound of their music connects them and brings hope.

**Initiator and Director: Marwan Abado**

Partner institutions: Music School Vienna, Kulturkontakt Austria, UMF Haus Liebhartstal – House for unaccompanied minor refugees, NMS School Koppstrasse 110 Ottakring

Partner Artists: Gudrun Eber, Amirkasra Zandian, Elisabeth Bertel, Mirjam Klebel

19:30 h **Dinner**

**Tuesday, 31 January 2017**

- 09.00 h **Voices of Refugees**  
**Hosts: Robert Misik, Journalist, Author, Curator, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue**  
**Viola Raheb, University of Vienna, Senior Fellow, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue**
- Farah Abdulahi** Blogger, Writer and Human Rights activist – Refugee from Somalia based in Germany  
**Meera Jamal** Journalist – Refugee from Pakistan based in Germany  
**Yamen Hussein** Poet & Journalist – Refugee from Syria based in Germany
- 10.00 h **Panel 3 - Human trafficking and exploitation - daily realities of refugees on the move**  
 Hundreds of thousands of refugees are victims of human trafficking and exploitation. Abuse, sexual violence, human trafficking and exploitation are but some of the dangers refugees are experiencing both on the journey and during their stay in the countries of refuge. This panel will shed light on major aspects of human trafficking and exploitation and ways to counter them.  
**Host: Helga Konrad, Former Austrian Federal Minister for Women, Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing & Combating Human Trafficking, Austria**
- Claire Healy** Researcher, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, Austria  
**Olivier Peyroux** Sociologist, Migration and Human Trafficking, France  
**Barbara Preitler** Psychotherapist, Hemayat, Austria  
**Bakhtyar Hadi Hassan** Trauma Educationalist, Jiyan Foundation for Human Rights, Iraq  
**Jihane Essaid** Mid-way Houses Program Manager, Gender Equality Programme, ABAAD, Lebanon
- 11.00 h **Coffee break and interactive discussion**
- 11.30 h **Panel 4 – Children’s rights: Conflict between universality and cultural particularity?**  
 One of the major challenges in dealing with old and new societal requirements involves addressing social and legal realm that would insure a real integration and avoids new divisions in society. This panel will address the phenomena of child marriage and the way European countries are dealing with it, as an example for “parallel structures”.  
**Host: Anna Sporrer, Vice President of Higher Administrative Court, Vienna**
- Shams Asadi** Human Rights Commissioner & Head, Human Rights Office of the City of Vienna, Austria  
**Marjo Buitelaar** Professor of Contemporary Islam, University Groningen, Netherlands  
**Majdoleen Hassan** Lawyer and Human rights activist, Syria/Austria  
**Barbara Preitler** Psychotherapist, Hemayat, Austria  
**Helmut Sax** Key Researcher, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, Austria
- 12.30 h **Interactive discussion**
- 13.00 h **Lunch**
- 14.00 h **Reflecting Groups**
- 14.30 h **Workshops (incl. Coffee break)**
- 16.30 h **Summaries and Feedback**
- 17.15 h **Closing event**

## WORKSHOPS

**Monday, 30 January 2017**

Six parallel Workshops from 14.45 till 16.15 h

### Education

Offering equal educational opportunities to all children is one of the major challenges our societies are facing. Whether working with refugee, migrant, and or socially deprived children, positive models of quality intercultural education is needed.

**Workshop 1: Good practice models on integrating refugee and socially deprived children in the MENAT region.**

Hosts: **Rima Doany** Executive Director, Ana Aqra Association, Libanon  
**Sabine Larribeau** Director of Psychosocial Services at St. Andrew's Refugee Services (StARS), Egypt

**Workshop 2: Good practice models on social-cohesion and pluralism in European classrooms.**

Host: **Daniel Landau** Education Expert and Teacher, Austria

### Children facing Violence and Trauma

Experiences of violence, abandonment, broken families, war, refuge, migration which lead to trauma have devastating impact on the life of children and young people. This workshop is dedicated to explore helpful support structures and interventions, that would help children in school environment reduce the risk of their vulnerability strengthen their self-confidence, and unfold their potentials and abilities to learn and develop.

**Workshop 1: Support in school environment for traumatized refugee children**

Host: **Gabriele Siebert** Trauma Educationalist, Interface, Austria

**Workshop 2: Support in school environment for local children with violence, neglect and deprivation experiences in the receiving countries.**

Host: **Ulrike Madzar** Psychotherapist, Director, Oskar Spiel School, Austria

### Intercultural

Classrooms in Europe are very diverse. Different languages, cultures, ethnic and religious groups learn together every day. Which intercultural competences are needed for unfolding the rich and added value of an inter-cultural oriented education that fosters understanding, acceptance, and diversity?

Host: **Doris Englisch-Stölner** Centre for Language Development, Vienna School Board, Austria

### Mayors

Local municipalities and their role in addressing and supporting quality education, for refugee children and socially deprived children in their constituencies.

Host: **George Antoun** Country Director and Regional Program Advisor, Mercy Corps, Lebanon

**Tuesday, 31 January 2017**

Six parallel Workshops from 14.30 - 16.30 h

## Exploitation

**Workshop 1: How to better help and support refugee Children and children on the move facing exploitation and violence.**

Host: **Geneviève Colas** Expert, Secours Catholique - Caritas France: Trafficking in human beings. Unaccompanied minors. Juvenile justice., France

**Workshop 2: How to better help and support girls and young women facing violence specifically gender-based violence.**

Host: **Brigitte Holzner** Gender Expert and Chair, TAMAR - Counseling Centre for (sexually) abused women, girls and children, Vienna, Austria

## Trauma

**Workshop 1: Accompanying and supporting children and young people with violence trauma.**

Host: **Ulrike Schneck** Psychological Director, Regional office Tübingen of Refugio Stuttgart, Germany

**Workshop 2: Accompanying and supporting families of children and young people with violence trauma.**

Hosts: **Susanne Stein** Consultant and Author, Germany

**Marianne Alkhelewi-Brainin** Psychotherapist, Hemayat, Center for Torture and War Survivors, Austria

## Masculinity

This workshop will focus on Gender roles and gender justice with special focus on masculinity.

Host: **Philipp Leeb** Chairman, POIKA - NGO for Gendersensitive Boys' Work in School and Education, Austria

## Mayors

Local municipalities and their role in addressing and supporting children experiencing different kinds of exploitation in their constituencies.

Host: **George Antoun** Country Director and Regional Program Advisor, Mercy Corps, Lebanon

**Please bring a valid identity card or passport with you to the conference location for security checks. The conference will be held in ENGLISH, translations from and to Arabic, German, Turkish and Italian will be provided.**

## CONTRIBUTORS - TEAM - ORGANISATION

### International Mayors Conference NOW Vienna 2017

initiated by **Act.Now** | André Heller, Patricia Kahane, Elke Zuckermann

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**Viola Raheb**, University of Vienna, Senior Fellow, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue

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