



You are cordially invited to

# **New Paths to Social Inclusion for Safer Cities**

## **7th Conference on Global Citizen Education**

October 11th 2016

9am - 4pm

**The House of the European Union,**

**Wipplingerstraße 35, 1010 Vienna**

The immense and fast urban population growth poses a number of challenges in implementing the United Nations declared migrant rights, and even more specifically the right to a socially inclusive and safe city. One of the most recent multicultural challenges faced across Europe is the integration of the asylum-seeking refugees and economic migrants, because of the perceived public safety issues for them and other urban residents.

These challenges may be addressed in terms of good governance and public space management practices, helpful for the strengthening of peaceful and inclusive communities, cities and countries – one of the major goals of the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda. With a view to contributing these practices to the implementation of that Agenda, a 1-day conference on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016 in the European Parliament (Vienna, Austria) for academics, educational planners, schools and NGOs will deal with the following governance and managerial issues, starting with analytical observations and ending with a pragmatic outlook and sustainable goals to pursue through good practices.

### **Panel I Urban Space and Culture of Lawfulness for Safer Cities**

This panel looks into the city practices in the above regard and analyses the challenges in integration of immigrants across the public spaces and cities' residential areas.

### **Panel II Global Citizen Education as a Multicultural Tool for Peaceful and Inclusive Cities**

Migration and urbanization are intrinsically related. This panel analyses respective public educational policies and challenges for a Culture of Lawfulness in these cities with a view to overcoming the challenges for a participatory environment and gender-sensitive global civic society appreciating critical thinking for common good.

### **Panel III The Role of Parents Towards Social Inclusion and a Healthy Society**

Goal 4 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda 2016-2030 (SDG4) will be examined in this session. Women's Federation for World Peace International (WFWPI) recently co-sponsored an afternoon conference at the European Parliament, hosted by European Parliamentarian, Flavio Zanonato on "Engaging Civil Society to Build Security and Cohesion in Europe" with two sessions: Role of women and mothers in the prevention of youth radicalization and Role of intercultural/ interreligious cooperation and education to build security and cohesion in Europe.



WFWPI aligns itself with the UNESCO agenda that Education is a human right, with bi-annual conferences on Global Citizen education with UNESCO Vienna since 2013. UNESCO believes that education is a human right for all throughout life and that access must be matched by quality. The Organization is the only United Nations agency with a mandate to cover all aspects of education. It has been entrusted to lead the Global Education 2030 Agenda through SDG4. The roadmap to achieve this is the [Education 2030 Framework for Action](http://en.unesco.org/themes/education-21st-century) (FFA). <http://en.unesco.org/themes/education-21st-century>

Europe is at a crossroad: seeking to balance the individual and collective needs, our need for interdependence without losing our sense of independence. The BREXIT debate highlights that. We are being confronted with demands to open wide our doors and share our home and our privileges. The founding principles of the European Union, as well as our personal convictions make us want to respond generously, but find our capacities overwhelmed and our core values tested. Looming are conflicting concerns related to the successful integration of our increasingly multicultural societies and the opposite concerns alluding to European self-extinction because of the shortage of labour force. If done well, the benefits all around are great, but if not, the sense of exclusion and dissatisfaction can be a breeding ground for more concerns: among the immigrants and the increasingly older native population.

#### **Panel IV Core Value Pillars: Education of Heart, Enabling a Healthy Lifestyle, Best Practices**

Governments alone cannot solve these imminent issues. Our concern and our engagement has to begin in civil society, within each family. Radicalisation or any disengagement from social and civic participation happens over time and is preventable at early stages. The underlying desire of our youth is to be relevant, to make a difference. We have great minds and hearts working on these issues, but there are gaps. Our religious and cultural influences and the authorities representing them also have an important responsibility to provide a vision and model for peaceful, cohesive communities. Similarly, our educational institutions, and the curricula that frame them, will play a significant role in providing incentive for good citizenship and wise governance. How can we decide together and work together towards a vision of healthy, inclusive families and communities where **"no one will be left behind"**? Is our current course in Europe, even our application of human rights standards, taking us towards a social environment that reflects the United Nations founding vision of one "Human Family" that makes all efforts to "leave no one behind"?

This conference will look at these questions from diverse elements of society and expertise, including the voices of youth. We hope that you will be able to bring in your specific local or global knowledge and best practices to broaden our debate and recommendations.

**Registration:** Renate Amesbauer +43 (0) 650 7514073; [renate.amesbauer@gmail.com](mailto:renate.amesbauer@gmail.com)

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**1230 Wien, Erlaaer Platz 5/19; Z.V.R. 367192876**

Erste Bank Wien: Kto.00007808755; BLZ. 20111 IBAN: AT652011100007808755; BIC: GIBAATWW

