DOSSIER OF BIOGRAFIES

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.

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Petra Grüne (organiser & NECE Partner) has been in charge of the German Federal Agency for Civic Education’s Events Department since 2006. She has been working there since 1991 in a number of different fields and positions, including heading a comprehensive evaluation of the “bpb” in 1999 that eventually led to a reshuffling of the organisation. Together with Christoph Müller-Hofstede Petra Grüne is responsible for the NECE initiative promoted by the Federal Agency for Civic Education/ bpb. Petra Grüne has been running the Focus Group “Exchange between Europe and North Africa”, since 2016 a sister network of NECE, named NACE – Networking Arab Civic Education.

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Emily Helmeid is Head of Research and International Relations at the French National council for School System Evaluation (Cnesco), where she has worked since its inception 4 years ago. Emily Helmeid has over 10 years of professional experience in education policy planning and analysis, including more than 3 years managing projects at the international level (OECD, UNESCO). Her current work is primarily focussed on citizenship education and includes the national “School and Citizenship” survey as well as the international “ACTive citizenship projects to enhance pupils’ social and civic competences” project financed by the “Erasmus+ programme under Key Action 3 – Support for policy reform.

Boris Jokić (NECE Advisory Board member) has been research associate at the Institute for Social Science in Zagreb (Croatia) since 2010. His fields of interest include educational sciences, psychology with a special focus on the advancement of primary and secondary education in Croatia. He was one of the authors of the Strategy of Education, Science and Technology and a leader of Comprehensive Curricular Reform of Croatian Education.

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, he is an active member of several networks in the Euro-Mediterranean region working on Culture, Citizenship and Democracy.

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Daniel Lafond is working in the international development cooperation sector as a Consultant for GFA Consulting Group in Hamburg. He is responsible for climate-friendly energy projects in the EMENA (Europe, Middle East and North Africa) department. Passionate about citizenship education and having a franco-german background, Daniel Lafond co-founded Vote&Vous in 2014. He has been its co-chairman and treasurer since then. He holds a double Master's degree in Political Science from Sciences Po Lille and the University of Münster.

Léa Lazic has been working as a project manager for Eurocircle since 2016, coordinating European and international projects in the field of social inclusion and civic education. In the 5 years prior, she worked and studied in the field of intercultural cooperation, in South and Central America, Morocco and various European cities. She also realised a documentary film called “Manana Inshallah” and co-produced the short documentary “Riski”, about the situation of migrants at the European borders. The latter has been screened at different international festivals.

Sandra Mayer has been supporting labconcepts since 2007, specialising in the fields of international co-operation, sustainability and European politics she is also involved in the coordination of the NECE projects. She studied “Regional Sciences of Latin America” majoring in political science at the University of Cologne, Germany. She develops workshop concepts, facilitates sessions and consults in terms of sustainable event management solutions.

Nicolò Milanese (NECE Advisory Board member) is a founding director of European Alternatives, a poet and a philosopher. Asides from European Alternatives he has been involved in initiating Europe+ campaign for a democratic EU and Civil Society Europe in which he currently chairs the civic space and fundamental rights working group, and several trans-Mediterranean initiatives including Cultural Innovators Network and YAANI Policy Hub.

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Christoph Müller-Hofstede (organiser & NECE partner) has been a consultant at the German Federal Agency for Civic Education/ bpb since 1988. In the bpb he is running projects regarding international relations, and issues of migration and integration in Europe. He is co–editor of the “Country Report China” in the publication series of the bpb. Together with Petra Grüne, Christoph Müller-Hofstede is responsible for the NECE Initiative promoted by the bpb. He has been running a Focus Group dealing with so called hard to reach learners in citizenship education since 2013.

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Martin Schiller (organiser & NECE partner) joined bpb in 2017 as a consultant, in charge of advising the agency on it’s international strategy. Previsouly, he worked as a researcher at the Free University Berlin where he analysed foreign news coverage of the 2011 Arab Upheavals in French and German print media. Martin Schiller has a degree in political sciences and studied in Paris, Berlin and St Andrews.

Louisa Slavkova (NECE Advisory Board member) is director and founding member of Sofia Platform, a democracy and citizenship education organization, based in Bulgaria. She has got experience working in the largest pan-European think tank ECFR as programmes manager, as well as democracy adviser of Bulgarian MFA Nickolay Mladenov at the time of the Arab spring. Louisa Slavkova is a frequent contributor to Bulgarian and European outlets on issues related to democracy and the future of the EU. Louisa Slavkova has been involved in the Focus Group “Exchange between Europe and North Africa”, since 2016 a sister network of NECE, named NACE – Networking Arab Civic Education.

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