

NECE Preparatory Workshop 2018

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

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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.

Alexis Artaud de La Ferrière is Lecturer in the Department of Politics and International Studies at SOAS, University of London, and Associate Researcher at the Groupe Sociétés Religions Laïcités (EPHE/CNRS). His research focuses on the political sociology of migration and religion. He holds a PhD from the University of Cambridge, where his doctoral research focused on the politics of education and governance in Algeria during the Algerian War of Independence, and a BA (Hons) in philosophy from the University of Sheffield.

Marinko Banjac (NECE partner) is an assistant professor at the chair of theoretical political science, Faculty of social sciences, University of Ljubljana (Slovenia). His research interests are political theories, citizenship theory, democracy and citizenship education. His work has been published in Slovenian and international scientific journals.

Elisabeth Berger is head of the division intercultural education at the Franco-German Youth Office (OFAJ, Office Franco-allemand pour la Jeunesse) in Berlin.

Sophia Bickhardt is currently the project Head of the weltgewandt ("open to the world") Institute for Intercultural Political Education based in Berlin. Her main focus lays on political-economic education, culture of remembrance and integration/inclusion. These areas of expertise are subjects of local and European projects (Lifelong Learning Programme, Erasmus+).

Tsveta Dobreva, originated from Bulgaria, studied media science at the Ruhr University Bochum in Germany, and cultural management at the University of Montpellier, France. She worked for several film and theater festivals (blicke, Bochum; Printemps des Comédiens, Montpellier) and international events, inter alia the European Capital of Culture RUHR2010. Since June 2014, she is working at the Goethe-Institut, first in Paris, then in Marseille, where she is responsible for the culture programme.

Ingrid Fichter works for the French ministry of education as a Franco-German Relationship Officer in Paris. Her expertise includes international relations, especially between France and Germany, administrative law and youth education. She studied at the Pantheon University in Sorbonne (Paris I).



Alban Genty is Project Manager at the Berlin based think tank Das Progressive Zentrum since May 2015, where he coordinates international activities with a focus on the coming European elections. Actively committed to the citizenship education in France and Europe as co-founder and co-chairman of the French organisation Vote&Vous. He studied political science at the University of Münster, at Sciences Po Lille and at the College of Europe in Warsaw.

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.

Eddy Habben Jansen (NECE partner) is director of ProDemos – House for Democracy and the Rule of Law, The Netherlands. He is responsible for the ProDemos visitor's programme in Parliament. He was involved in the development of StemWijzer (VoteMatch) since 1994. Since 2008 he co-ordinated the development of the new educational centre of ProDemos in The Hague, including programmes for secondary schools, a number of exhibitions and the development of the building in The Hague.

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.

Christian Kiefer works as a Director of Studies at the Europäische Akademie Otzenhausen (Germany) in the department of European Youth Education. He focuses his work on European citizenship education for young adults from the age of 16. His thematic expertise is on questions of European integration and its current challenges, especially populism and political disenchantment, as well as intercultural communication. He studied political science, law and international relations at the University of Erfurt, University of Kent, Universidad Jaime I, and Uniwersytet Warszawski.



Benjamin Kurc (NECE partner) is co-founder and co-chairman of "Vote&Vous", a French organisation working in the field of citizenship education in Europe. He is highly committed in the Franco-German relations and specializing in the "Weimarer Dreieck".

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 coproduced 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.

Niccolò 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.

Jean-Daniel Mitton studied book trade and ethnology in Bordeaux and is programme grant holder from the German-French Youth Ofice (OFAJ, Office Franco-allemand pour la Jeunesse) in Berlin (1988), ARBEIT UND LEBEN Projektbüro Ost, Berlin (1990-92). Since 1992 he has been education advisor, responsible for the Franco-German projects in the German federation ARBEIT UND LEBEN BAK (based in Wuppertal) and OFAJ trainer in the educational field (youth leaders, teachers of vocational training).

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.

Sarah Oel works as a project assistant at the agency labconcepts in Berlin, Germany. She studied European Studies with focus on French culture and European history at the University of Passau and langues étrangères appliquées at the Aix-Marseille-Université.



Anja Ostermann is managing director and project manager at the agency labconcepts in Bonn/Berlin, Germany. Her fields of expertise include discourses on Europe, culture and media, economics, process support and scientific advise in the area of Europeanisation and network-building of citizenship and cultural education. She has studied Comparative Literature, History, German Language and Literature at the University of Bonn and St. Andrew's University in Scotland.

Rachel Owoko works as a project officer at the agency labconcepts in Berlin, Germany. Her fields of expertise include development co-operation, migration and interreligious discourses. She studied Social Anthropology, French Philology, Media and Communication Studies at Freie Universität Berlin (M.A.) and at Paris West University Nanterre La Défense.

Susanne Pöschko works as a project manager at the agency labconcepts in Bonn, Germany. She holds a master degree in Franco-German Relations of the University of Freiburg and the École Normale Supérieure de Lyon. Her fields of interest include the history of political thought with a focus on questions relating to the European democracy.

Tomaž Pušnik (NECE partner) is a young researcher at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. His broader field of research is political theory with a focus on citizenship, citizenship education, mobility and EU policies. He has been involved in several EU and national projects, including "Citizen(ship) in a New Age: Citizenship Education for the Multicultural and Globalized World", Jean Monnet, "Building the Future", European Social Fund, and the Erasmus+ project "Recognize it! Recognition of non-formal learning".

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.

Andrea Szukala is professor of Social Science Didactics at the University of Muenster, Germany. Her recent research interests include knowledge politics and curriculum design practices; teacher education and diversity; metacognition and inquiry learning. She is the editor of several social studies textbooks, tutorials and online teaching materials and she worked as a didactical consultant e.g. for the Office of Citizenship Education in North-Rhine-Westfalia, Düsseldorf. She is speaker of the SOWI-online project group and of the DVPW-Section Citizenship Education, vice-president of the DVPB/NRW and she is in charge of GRAFSTAT, the online learning platform for inquiry learning in citizenship education of the German Federal Agency for Civic Education, Berlin.



Sonja Thielen works as a project assistant at the agency labconcepts in Bonn, Germany. She studied Social and Cultural Anthropology at the KU Leuven, the LMU Munich, and the Universiteit Leiden. Her fields of expertise include political participation and mobilisation from below, national movements, minorities and multiculturalism in Europe.

Joachim Umlauf is director of the Goethe Institute Lyon/Marseille since 2015. Before moving southwards, he was director of the Goethe Institut Netherlands and director of the Goethe Insitute 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.