European Conference
Closing the empowerment gap through citizenship education: How to address educationally disadvantaged groups
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Biographies

Siamak Ahmadi currently works as a dialogue facilitator for the Federal Agency for Civic Education/bpb, Germany. Prior to this he studied Human Nutrition and Psychology at the Bournemouth University and the University of Sunderland in Great Britain. His interest in psychological flourishing led to the Master thesis on narrative identity processing of growth. Alongside his studies, he was employed as a mental health facilitator for the charity organisation “Mind” and for the National Health Service where he worked with adults and adolescents suffering from anxiety and mood disorders.

Krisztina Arato is associate professor and deputy director at the Institute of Political Science within the Faculty of Law, ELTE (Hungary). Her teaching areas and research interests include the history of the European Union, theoretical and institutional aspects of civil society and civil and social dialogue. She is the general secretary of the Hungarian Political Science Association. She has been teaching political science at ELTE since 1995. She received her PhD degree in International Relations at the Budapest University of Economics and Public Administration in 2001 after her graduation in History and Russian Language and Literature at ELTE University in 1992 and getting her MA degree in European Politics at the Victoria University in Manchester, UK in 1994.

Christiaan Baillieux has gained hands-on experience in the field of sustainability, international development and youth participation in the past years. He has experience in project management, consultancy and concept development. Due to his work he has created a diverse network in the profit and non-profit sector. Currently he is working for NJR het Bureau. NJR het Bureau is an advisory company on youth participation, communication and policy development. They are specialised in concept development, research and strategy. Clients are governmental organisations, NGOs and companies.

Benjamin R. Barber is a distinguished senior fellow at Dēmos, president of the international NGO CivWorld at Dēmos and the Interdependence Movement. He is Walt Whitman Professor of Political Science Emeritus, Rutgers University. As an internationally renowned political theorist, Dr Barber brings an abiding concern for democracy and citizenship to issues of politics, globalisation, culture and education in America and abroad. He regularly consults with political and civic leaders in the U.S. (President Clinton, Howard Dean) and around the world (Germany, U.K., Libya, Finland, Syria). He is currently writing a book on Global Democratic Governance for Yale University Press. He received honorary doctorates from Grinnell College, Monmouth University and Connecticut College, and has held the chair of American Civilisation at the Ecole des Hautes Études in Paris. He was a founding editor and for ten years editor-in-chief of the distinguished international quarterly Political Theory. He holds a M.A. and a Doctorate from Harvard University. Together with Patrick Watson he wrote the prize-winning ten-part PBS/BBC series “The Struggle for Democracy” and contributed to the British series Greek Fire.
Franco Barrionuevo Anzaldi has been a research fellow and a PhD Candidate in the Department of Culture, Media and Society at the University of Hamburg since 2009. His main research interests are Urban Studies, Urban Consumer Culture and City Tourism. Before he studied Political Science and Latin American Studies from the University of Hamburg/Universidad Torcuato Di Tella in Buenos Aires. His topics of publications are “Transcultural bodies in the culturalised city” and “Political Tango” as well as “Intellectual battles for dance culture in the sign of Peronism”.

Anita Baschant, project consultant at the agency lab concepts in Berlin and manager of the Berlin office of lab concepts, studied Pedagogic and Cultural Studies at the University of Karlsruhe. During her studies she worked as a graduate assistant at the Institute of Pedagogy, was a trainee at the “Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg” and initiated and organised several projects for students of Pedagogy and Cultural Studies. As project consultant Anita Baschant supports lab concepts especially in the fields of European education debates and international cooperation. She is also responsible for the conception of youth formats and events, as well as for the coordination and management of projects within the framework of the NECE initiative.

Helle Becker is a culture and education expert who worked at the international level until 1987. Since 1995 she has worked as freelance researcher and author, project manager and trainer with the office “Expertise & Kommunikation für Bildung” (expertise and communication for education) in Essen. Her areas of expertise include theory of education, cultural education and education for democratic citizenship, European youth and education policy and practice, co-operation of schools and youth work. Dr. Helle Becker has written for a number of periodicals and news agencies as columnist and reporter. She has lectured at a variety of universities.

Elena Alenka Begant is a HRE/EDC practitioner and expert. She was the former Amnesty International HRE coordinator for Slovenia and the delegate for SE Europe on the first AI HRE global summit in USA. Moreover, she was the founder and president of EIP Slovenia – School for Peace for over ten years. Now she is working at the Center for Citizenship Education in Maribor, Slovenia, as a Programme Director in charge of national and international projects. She is also a translator and author of numerous HRE/EDC manuals and learning materials in Slovenian, among them First Steps and Compass.

Tony Breslin is a public policy analyst, specialising in education, participation and the third sector. He is Chair of the Charity Human Scale Education, director of the consultancy Breslin Public Policy Limited and Visiting Research Fellow at Birkbeck, University of London. As a former Chair of the Association for the Teaching of the Social Sciences, Tony Breslin is a qualified schools’ inspector and an experienced teacher, examiner and education adviser. From 2001 to 2010, Tony Breslin was Chief Executive at the Citizenship Foundation, an independent education and participation charity. Tony has published and spoken widely on education and participation issues. His latest book, “Teachers, Schools and Change” is to be published early in 2012 and follows “Developing Citizens”, co-edited with Barry Dufour, published in 2006. He is about to embark on an edited collection that critically explores the concept of the Big Society from a progressive perspective and is also working on the establishment of a new education think tank and consultancy, Transform Education, as well as the formation of a practitioner network, Creative Forum.
Ulrike Bretschneider works as a project consultant at agency lab concepts in Berlin. Before she worked as a junior manager in Public Relations for contemporary photography. She studied Art History and Art Education. Furthermore, she completed an additional training in Fundraising and Project Management.

Arne Busse has worked since 2006 at the department for non-political target groups. He holds primary responsibility for spielbar.de, bpb's interactive platform on digital games, and for digital game-based learning. He has also worked since 2001 for the Federal Agency for Civic Education/ bpb, Germany. He studied Theatre Studies, German language and literature, North American Studies as well as Fine Arts and Cultural Studies in Munich and Berlin.

Petr Cap has been the director of the Civic Education Centre at the Masaryk University in Brno (Czech Republic) since 2011. He studied pedagogy and worked as trainer of citizenship education and global education. From 2009 to 2011 Petr Cap was a manager of education programmes in Angola.

Matej Cepin is the director of the Social Academy, a Slovene NGO, which is active in life-long-learning in the field of active citizenship and social responsibility. During his studies of computer science he gained experience as a youth leader, project manager and trainer in the youth field. After graduation he got employed in the youth organisation Youth Guild, in which he was responsible for the national programme of non-formal education of youth leaders and youth workers. He was one of the founders of the Social Academy, which was established in 2004. He is also active as a researcher in the fields of active citizenship, non-formal education, development of civil society and intergenerational cooperation. He is continuously developing innovative educational approaches and models. He cooperates in many national and international development teams and projects. His articles and publications are well known among Slovene youth workers, civil society activists, trainers and decision makers.

Pavel Chacuk is currently expert at the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) at the Organisation of Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). Until recently he held a position of a Human Rights Adviser and was responsible for Human Rights Education and Training Programme (Human Rights Department). He holds degrees in International Relations (Central European University, Budapest) and in Law (Grodna State University), and has been a trainer in human rights and law-related education.

Marta Dąbrowska is interested in the issue of civil education since 1996. She has worked in creating many non-government educational projects for young people, combining her educational and business experience to succeed in her current role at the Europe for Citizens Contact Point where she has worked since 2010. As part of the tasks of the Contact Point, she informs, consults and advises applicants seeking to gain funding for projects dedicated to the development of civil society. She also leads informational meetings and training, which prepare potential grant recipients for the European funding application as part of the Europe for Citizens Programme. She sees social responsibility as one of the most important business skills, which affects the efficiency of action.
Peter Dahlgren is professor emeritus at the Department of Communication and Media, Lund University, Sweden. His work focuses on media and democracy, using the horizons of late modern social and cultural theory. Most recently he has focused on the Internet and civic identities, looking at how the net, combined with other factors, can promote or hinder civic participation, especially among young people. He is active in European academic networks and has also been a visiting scholar at several universities in Paris, Grenoble, Stirling, South Africa, as well as at the Annenberg School for Communication. Along with journal articles and book chapters, his recent publications include “Media and Political Engagement” (Cambridge University Press, 2009), and the co-edited volume “Young People, ICTs and Democracy” (Nordicom, 2010), “Young Citizens and New Media” (Routledge, 2007). He is manuscript reviewer and editorial consultant for several journals and book publishers.

Richard Deiss is policy officer in the unit dealing with analysis and indicator development of the Directorate General of Education and Culture of the European Commission. Richard Deiss has a social science background and joined the European Commission in 1993. He worked in the Transport Directorate and in Eurostat before moving to the education policy unit in DG Education and Culture in 2002. Since 2004 Richard Deiss is working in the field of analysis and indicator development. Together with other colleagues from the analysis unit he is preparing each year a report on progress towards common European objectives in education and training. Richard Deiss is participating in various OECD, Eurostat and IEA fora on education indicator development and has worked on the development of new indicators in the field of civic skills, ICT skills, science graduates and learning mobility. Richard Deiss has coordinated research work on a composite indicator on civic competences and is chairing an expert group on indicators on education and active citizenship. He has published more than 20 books on various subjects.

Jean-Marc Ferry holds the chair for European philosophy as a professor of Political Philosophy at the University of Nantes. He is honorary professor of Political Science and Moral Philosophy at the Free University of Brussels and director of the Centre of political theory. Since 2000 he has been doctor honoris causa at the University of Lausanne. Further he is a former fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Bonn and author of numerous works.

Erik Flügge is junior researcher at the Sinus-Institute Berlin and target group analyst for fischerAppelt tv media. His main research areas are election campaigns and new methods of citizen’s participation in consideration of socio-cultural diversity. Before he became a researcher he had developed event formats bringing young people into contact with politicians. The focus of these events was always to enable well-educated as well as less-educated young people to articulate their own interests. Working with so-called educational-distant classes was always important to him. Therefore, he designed a new programme for adult education centres on the basis of socio-cultural knowledge on the so-called educational-distant classes.

Maciej Fornal has worked mainly with Polish Television SA, but also with Canal + (MultiProduction), Polsat, ATM, VisionHouse and others. He specializes in mixing live broadcast (vision mixer - 6 to 24 cameras), and in TV production (television director) including live programs since 2006. He has an extensive experience in working with OB Vans. In his professional work he also used to be production manager / executive producer for the Film School. He mainly works on 35 mm, the average length of 20 days shooting with teams of 15-30 people. He has studied the Cinematography and Film Production in Film School in Lodz, Poland.
Petra Grüne has been in charge of the Federal Agency for Civic Education's Events Department since 2005. Petra Grüne has been working at the German Federal Agency for Civic Education 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. After the restructuring, she initially headed the ‘Principles’ Department. Together with Christoph Müller-Hofstede, Petra Grüne is responsible for the NECE initiative promoted by the Federal Agency for Civic Education. She studied Sociology, Sinology and Communications Research in Bonn and Shanghai.

Marianna Hajdukiewicz is manager of education programmes developed by the Center for Citizenship Education Foundation (CCE) and author of educational projects, handouts for teachers, training programmes dedicated to the culture, history, heritage, media. She graduated at the Applied Social Science Institute, with a master of sociology specialised in Anthropology of Modern Culture - animation of local activity. For over 15 years she was involved in non-governmental organisations in Poland.

Matthias Haß is a freelancer in the fields of history politics from an international perspective, civic education work, and intercultural encounters. He studied political sciences in Berlin, gaining his degree in 1995 and his doctorate as PhD in 2001. 2003 he prepared a conference on devising Topography of Terror in partnership with the Federal Agency for Civic Education and from 2004 to 2005 he was involved creating the new permanent display at the House of the Wannsee Conference Memorial and Educational Site. 2004 he gained his post-doctorate at York University in Toronto (2004) and from 2005 to 2009 he was the USA country commissioner for Action Reconciliation Service for Peace in Philadelphia (2005-2009). From 1996 to 2000 he has organised international exchange seminars between German and American young adults for the Berlin training institute of the Heinrich Böll Foundation and from 2000 to 2004 international exchange seminars between German, Canadian and Polish students in cooperation with York University in Toronto.

Justyna Hofmokl is a sociologist specializing in understanding social influences of new technologies and new modes of production and sharing of cultural goods. She works at Centrum Cyfrowe where she coordinated work on “Roadmap to Open Government in Poland”. Justyna Hofmokl serves as public lead of Creative Commons Poland. She wrote a book entitled “Internet as a new commons”, edited several conference proceedings and published many articles in various areas of sociology of Internet, free culture. She has prepared an in-depth publication introducing open access in Poland. Justyna Hofmokl also worked for the European Commission in the area of digital inclusion.

Bryony Hoskins is a senior lecturer in the School of Education, University of Southampton. Currently she is leading a European funded project called, ‘Active Citizenship in the EU’ which analyses Active Citizenship across the 27 member states of the European Union. The research project combines both quantitative and qualitative analysis in order to examine levels, trends and factors that are facilitating Active Citizenship. Prior to joining Southampton, Bryony Hoskins was leading an international project on Inequalities at the Institute of Education, University of London. She has also worked widely in European Institutions including the European Commission, Centre for Research on Lifelong Learning (CRELL) based in Italy and the Council of Europe based in France. Whilst at the European Commission she was responsible for leading projects on the development of indicators on Active Citizenship. She was also part of the Project Advisory Committee of the IEA International Citizenship and Civic Education study (ICCCS) 2009.
Petya Kabakchieva is associate professor and head of Sociology Department at Sofia University. Her main research interests are in the field of political sociology – civil society and civic participation, new nationalisms, processes of Europeanisation and institutional change as well as education policies. She is author and editor of several books, the most important of them being “Rules’ and ‘Roles’. Fluid Institutions and Hybrid Identities in East European Transformation Processes” (1989 – 2005), co-editor with Alexander Kiossev (Lit Verlag, 2009); and “Civil Society vs State: the Bulgarian Case” (2001). She is co-author of the only civic education textbook in Bulgaria “World and Personality” (2002). Petya Kabakchieva was chair of the Board of Open Society Institute in Sofia from 2006 to 2010.

David Kerr has just been appointed as director of Educational Programmes at the Citizenship Foundation in London. He is also a research associate at NFER and Visiting Professor in Citizenship Education at Birkbeck College, London. He is associate research director for the IEA International Civic and Citizenship Education Study (ICCS) with responsibility for the study’s European module. He directed the Citizenship Education Longitudinal Study (CELS) and currently co-directs the ESRC funded Citizens in Transition (CiT) study. He was seconded previously to DfES (now DfE) and QCA in support of the citizenship education initiative in England. He was the professional officer to the Citizenship Advisory Group, chaired by Professor (Sir) Bernard Crick, which recommended the introduction of Citizenship as a school subject in England. He works as an expert advisor to the Council of Europe in its promotion of education for democratic citizenship and human rights education (EDC/HRE). He has spoken and published widely in the field of citizenship and human rights education.

Barbara Klimek is a civic activist and trainer and graduated in Culture Studies. She is interested in civic participation and social inclusion matters. Barbara Klimek is member of the Association Leader of Local Civic Groups to which she has been related since 2007. The last three years she has been working within the programme Civic Money. She is participating in Budgeting on the Local Level, aimed at supporting people and institutions working with Solecki Fund.

Kalle Kosthorst is studying European Studies at Maastricht University. Within the framework of his studies, he was able to follow an internship at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg in the field of Higher Education as well as Youth. During the current semester, he is enrolled as an Erasmus student at Warsaw University. Before he has studied one year Intercultural Communication, History and French, Cultural Sciences at Saarland University after he was doing his civil service abroad for the Foundation of Polish-German reconciliation (linked to Foundation EVZ) and has graduated the high school with a bilingual Franco-German degree. Throughout since 2006, he has been active as “Young EU Professional”, a peer-education network provided by the Federal Agency for Civic Education/bpb, Germany to bring European topics into schools. Besides, he is also active within the Federation of Young European Greens in their working group on Migration, Culture and Identity.

Jacek Królikowski is a training specialist at the Information Society Development Foundation. He is a graduate of the History Department of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan and a specialist in training methodology and project management. He started his professional carrier as an elementary school teacher. From 1993 to 2001 he worked for the National In-Service Teacher Training Centre and was responsible for the implementation of civic education programmes and foreign cooperation. From 2001 to 2004 he worked for the Foundation in Support of Local Democracy where he was responsible for development and implementation of training projects in Poland and abroad (including the Rural Development Programme and the „Transparent Poland”). As an expert of the Council of Europe he participated in programmes conducted by this organisation, mainly in the Balkans. Since 2005 he has been a freelance expert and provides services in the area of social analysis and research, project development, training and project management for firms, non-governmental organisations and public institutions. From 2006 to 2008 he...
managed large training projects for the civil service implemented by the UNDP and the Delegation of the European Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in Croatia. Since 2008 he has been working as training specialist in the Library Development Programme in Poland.

Thomas Krüger is the president of the German Federal Agency for Civic Education. In 1989, Thomas Krüger was a founding member of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) in the former GDR, and he became executive director of the SDP in Berlin (East) in 1990. After a stint as first deputy to the mayor of East Berlin, Thomas Krüger became deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) in Berlin (East/West) from 1990 to 1992. From 1991 to 1994 he worked as the city's Senator for Youth and Family Affairs. He was also a member of the German Parliament, the Bundestag, from 1994 to 1998, a board member of the cultural forum of the SPD, and a member of Berlin's International City Commission. Thomas Krüger was appointed president of the German Federal Agency for Civic Education in July of 2000. He studied Theology in Berlin and Eisenach.

Lora Lalova is involved in fundraising activities and identifying various sources of funding. She holds a Master’s Degree in European Studies from the University of Maastricht and a Bachelor’s Degree in International Relations. She has experience mainly in the non-governmental sector in Bulgaria with focus on project development and implementation and event organisation. Combating trafficking in human beings, promoting human rights and child protection services are some of her professional interests and specialisation. In the private sector Lora Lalova has been engaged in organisation and conduct of corporate trainings and seminars.

Peter Lange is currently studying at Dresden Technical University to become a teacher of English and citizenship education. He is also part of the university's project team, which evaluates the website's progress. His thesis will cover possible opportunities of web 2.0 elements for citizenship education amongst educationally disadvantaged groups.

Carsten Lenk has been project head of the programme field “International Relations Central and South Eastern Europe, CIS, China” at the Robert Bosch Foundation, working focus “Policy and civil society” in Central and Eastern Europe since 2004. He deals with Central Europe under historical and contemporary perspectives, in particular under the point of view of inter-cultural communication. From March 2000 until 2011, he has been a member of the coordination board / advisory board for the German-Czech Discussion Forum. From 1997 until 2004 he was head of the coordination centre for German-Czech youth exchange – Tandem in Regensburg. Before Carsten Lenk studied the subjects Ethnology, Music Studies and Romance Studies in Regensburg and Hamburg. In 1995 he gained his doctorate at the Ludwig Uhland Institute for Empirical Cultural Science in Tübingen. This was followed by a post-doctorate at the postgraduate college ‘Regional Identity/ies and Political Integration’ in Regensburg.

Jarosław Lipszyc is the president of the Modern Poland Foundation, which conducts a number of projects within which are created some open educational resources, available on free licences: “Free Lectures” (internet school library), “Free Textbooks” and “We read listening” (audiobooks with lectures). In 2008 he was an initiator and co-creator of an Open Education Coalition (KOED) – an organisation uniting other institutions and organisations that support the idea of developing open educational resources. He is head of the Praesidium of KOED. He was also an initiator of an “Open letter against programs patents” (2005) and “Open letter against DRM” (2006), which are digital systems that can limit access to culture.
Katarzyna Lorenc works as a press officer for HALMA, the European Network of Literary Centres in Berlin. She studied German Studies and focused on Comparative Literary Studies in Frankfurt am Main and Krakow. After graduation (MA) on Construction of the Nazi-Germany in the GDR-literature in 2009, she was awarded with the scholarship ‘Shaping Europe - Civic Education in Action’ founded by the Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb) and the Robert Bosch Foundation. She is dedicated to projects connecting education, literature, art and historical issues. The focus of her work is on the non-governmental sector.

Katharina Ludwig is a freelance journalist in Berlin writing about social issues in the city like labour, migration and education. She publishes in newspapers and magazines e.g. “Der Tagesspiegel” and “Missy Magazine”. She also produces radio documentaries for public radio stations like rbb. In the field of citizenship education Katharina Ludwig has worked with lab concepts in Bonn/Berlin and with the Institute for New Culture Technologies/t0 in Vienna. Katharina studied Political Sciences in Vienna and Paris until 2007.

Grzegorz Makowski holds a PhD in Sociology and is senior analyst and head of the Civil Society Programme at the Institute of Public Affairs, Poland. Since 2003 he has been involved in the realisation of the project KOMPAS, which focuses on building of friendly legal and institutional environment for Polish civil society organisations. One of the main aspects of this project is an issue of participation of NGOs and generally citizens in decision-making procedures. Grzegorz Makowski is lecturer at the Collegium Civitas (Warsaw). In the past he worked as an assistant professor at the Institute of Applied Social Sciences of the Warsaw University. From 2000 to 2002 he was also coordinator of the Anticorruption Programme, the joint undertaking of the Stefan Batory Foundation and the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights.

Barbara Malak-Minkiewicz is a manager at the IEA Secretariat in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. She received a PhD in Social Sciences from the University of Warsaw, Poland. Her MA is in Psychology and her major professional experiences come from an academic framework. From 1969 to 1988 she worked at Warsaw University in the Department of Psychology teaching courses in social and developmental psychology and conducting studies on socialisation, social identity formation, interpersonal and inter-group conflict and aggression. She was involved in Solidarnosc movement in the Mazowsze Region. Barbara Malak-Minkiewicz was, among others, responsible for operations of the Committee for Independent Science. In 1990-1991 she served as a spokesperson for Solidarnosc Trade Union. After communism collapsed, her professional interests switched to the transformation processes in Central-Eastern European countries, and especially – changes in education. From 1990 to 1996 she was involved in a number of projects aimed on civic education reform in former communist countries.

Ondrej Matejka is project manager at the Civic Education Centre at Masaryk University Brno (Czech Republic). In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the Masaryk University, he established this new institution in 2009. Its vision is to broaden the concept of civic education in the Czech Republic. Studying at a bilingual grammar school gave Ondrej Matejka the opportunity to learn German history of the Czech lands. He followed this topic all through his history and political science studies from 1998 to 2005. Subsequently in his professional career, Ondrej Matejka started to work in the Czech-German field for various NGOs. In 1998 he became a member of the group called Antikomplex and in 2005 its director. Antikomplex provides a critical reflection on the German speaking history of the Czech lands. Since 2005 Ondrej Matejka has been examining the recovery of civil society in the Sudetenland in his PhD studies, a part of the Czech Republic formerly inhabited by Germans. Since the winter term 2007/2008, he has been teaching a course on civil society theory at the Faculty of Humanities, Charles University, Prague.
Tatjana Meijvogel-Volk has been working as a project manager for International Politics at ProDemos - House for Democracy and the Rule of Law (The Hague), formerly known as the Institute for Political Participation (IPP) since 2006. In this position she is dealing with international citizen participation projects (as for example the ‘European Citizens Consultations’ in 2007) and with participatory and educatory projects in the Netherlands having an international scope (for example the ‘Consultants Evenings over Europe’, in cooperation with the Dutch Parliament in 2007) or peer education projects on the European Union for Dutch high-school students. Tatjana Meijvogel-Volk is also coordinating the international Politeia association, a network for citizenship and democracy in Europe involving organisations from ‘old’ and ‘new’ member states in Europe as well as organisations originating from candidate member states.

Jacek Michałowski has been the head of the Chancellery of the President of Poland since July 2010. From 2000 to 2010, he was the programme director for the Polish-American Freedom Foundation. He managed tasks related to social diplomacy and the sharing of experience related to the transformation of the political system in Poland with other countries from East-Central Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. Within the foundation, he was also involved in activities aimed at establishing a civil society and animating local communities in small towns and villages. From 1998 to 2000, he was the managing director of the Chancellery of Jerzy Buzek, the President of the Council of Ministers. From 1989 to 1998, he was employed by the chancellery of the Polish senate – the first non-communist office in Poland, created from scratch. Within the office, he was the director in charge of the Studies and Analyses Office and advisor to the vice-speaker of the senate. In the 1980s, he was a psychologist-psychotherapist at the Synapsis Psychiatric Health Centre in the Ursynów district. Since 1975 he has been a member of the Catholic Intelligentsia Club in Warsaw.

Niccolo Milanese is a founding director of European Alternatives, an organisation promoting transnational culture and politics with offices in London, Paris, Bologna, Rome and Cluj Napoca, and active local groups throughout the continent. European Alternatives conducts projects promoting active citizenship and runs campaigns throughout Europe, including the TRANSEUROPA festival each spring, and increasingly works in other countries of the world including China, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia.

Marcin Mitzner has been in the Third-Sector since high school. For more than six years he has been working in several non-governmental organisations such as: Center for Citizenship Education, Ośrodek Karta Foundation, Institute of Public Affairs etc. Nowadays he has projects as coordinator and trainer in Civis Polonus Foundation. He is specialised in civil, cultural and history education. For almost two years he has also been working as an urban games developer for different NGOs and public institutions. His main focus lies on applying various new methods of educating youth.

Almut Möller is a political analyst in the fields of European integration and foreign policy. Based in Berlin, she heads the Alfred von Oppenheim Centre for European Policy Studies at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP). Her research focuses on the institutional development of the European Union, EU Foreign and Security Policy in North Africa and the Middle East region, and Germany’s foreign and European policies. She publishes regularly in academic journals and is a frequent commentator in the German and international media. Almut Möller is also the founder and editor-in-chief of “berlinbrief.org: Foreign Policy in the German Capital”, a newsletter on German foreign policy for an English-speaking readership. Prior to joining DGAP, Almut Möller worked as an independent analyst based in London. From 2002 to 2008 she was a researcher at the Centre for Applied Policy Research (CAP) in Munich. For many years, Almut Möller has been a trainer in civic education focusing on the European Union, among others with “CIVIC –
Institut für Internationale Bildung” (Institute for International Education) and the German Federal Agency for Civic Education. Almut Möller studied Political Science, History and International Law in Münster, Aix-en-Provence and Munich and obtained her MA at Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich.

Katharina Müller has been working since July 2011 as a dialogue facilitator for the Federal Agency for Civic Education/ bpb, Germany. She holds a Bachelor’s degree in the Trilingual European Language and Business Studies at the Cologne University of Applied Sciences. Katharina Müller’s deep interest for European Politics was intensified during a Postgraduate-Programme in European Studies at the Free University of Berlin where she specialised in European Asylum Policy. After an internship in the Department for European Affairs at the Federal Foreign Office, she worked as a project assistant for the German NGO “A world of difference”.

Christoph Müller-Hofstede has been a consultant at the German Federal Agency for Civic Education since 1988 focusing on the development of China in international relations, the national and European aspects of migration, integration, and Islam. Currently he is running a national project aimed at establishing new formats of citizenship education for the growing group of young people with a migrant and/or Muslim background in German schools. Together with Petra Grüne, Christoph Müller-Hofstede is responsible for the NECE initiative promoted by the Federal Agency for Civic Education. He has published about the history of Chinese-Western relations and the topic of migration. Christoph Müller-Hofstede studied Sinology and Political Science in Berlin, Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong in the 1970s and 1980s.

Olga Napiontek is head of Executive Board of Civis Polonus Foundation. She has studied sociology at University of Warsaw and at University of Bielefeld. Now she is preparing her PhD dissertation focused on democratic transformation and civic education. Olga Napiontek is author of several researches and articles devoted to citizenship education and civic dialogue. She is graduated from Human Rights School of Helsinki Human Rights Foundation. Olga Napiontek has been working in nongovernmental sector since 15 years – as a volunteer in Centre for Citizenship Education (first edition of “Kids Voting”), project coordinator in Foundation in Support of Local Democracy and Institute of Public Affairs. Currently she works at the Civis Polonus Foundation and is developing projects, which aim is to create space for young people to experience democracy in everyday life, such as school councils, district youth councils in Warsaw and debates on youth policy of Warsaw. Olga Napiontek is also engaged in supporting cooperation between NGOs working in the field of citizenship education in Poland.

Tit Neubauer is a researcher and graduate (MSc) student of Political Science at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana. He has been involved in the largest citizenship education project in Slovenia, entitled “Citizen(ship) in the New Age: Citizenship Education for a Multicultural and Globalized World”. His latest research includes analysis of informal and non-formal citizenship education in Europe and Slovenia, with particular emphasis given to the formulation of policy proposals for enriching the field. He has also been involved in researching the effects of contemporary ICTs in socio-political contexts and in particular the use of social media in citizenship education.

Knut Neumayer has been director of the Europe programme at ERSTE Foundation since 2005. Previously he was head of marketing at the Austrian newspaper “Der Standard”, where he set up an innovative cross-media campaign with A1, an Austrian mobile service provider, and won two Golden Lions at the International Advertising Festival in Cannes. Prior to that, Knut Neumayer worked at the Austrian Cultural Service (ÖKS) designing and implementing programmes in the field of Arts and Education.

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Conferences, Workshops
Michael Newman was previously Treasurer and Secretary of Children’s Rights Alliance for England; Executive Committee Member of British Humanist Association; Education Committee Member of the Society for Storytelling in Ipswich and Norwich Co-op. He is active at conferences either as a delegate or a speaker on citizenship, rights and educational innovations including social enterprise, science and storytelling. For the past six years, he has been a school project worker for active global citizenship working with primary and secondary schools in Tower Hamlets and east London, working on children’s and human rights, local democracy, sustainability, ICT, community cohesion, and co-operative enterprise. Michael Newman has worked at A.S. Neill’s Summerhill School for over eleven years as a teacher and then houseparent, facilitating the children’s campaign to save the school in 1999, and organising events with them in order to share Summerhill’s history and philosophy with other children and educationalists, including UN Special Session and UNESCO. He is trained as a secondary school science teacher and studied history and philosophy of science. For 8 years he taught science and English in Italy.

Kacper Nowacki has been programme-coordinator for the “Culture and Citizenship in the Library” at the Center for Citizenship Education in Warsaw since 2011. Prior to this he was programme assistant in 2010. Since 2011 he has been doing his Bachelor’s Degree in Philosophy at the University of Warsaw at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology and his Master of Arts in Cultural Sciences at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, at the Institute of Social Sciences. From 2009 to 2011 he studied Philosophy at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan at the Institute of Social Sciences and from 2006 to 2011 he studied Cultural Sciences at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan at the Institute of Social Sciences. He worked for the AdArte Foundation at several film festivals like the Short Movies Festival „Short Waves”, “Vivisesja” Festival, Short Movies Festival „Future Shorts” and the Love Films Festival and for the Malta Foundation at the Nostalgie Festival and the Radiohead Concert.

Anja Ostermann is managing director and project manager at the agency lab concepts in Bonn-Berlin, Germany. She worked as a freelance editor for the German Federal Agency for Civic Education. Anja Ostermann was responsible amongst other things for the publication of the “Länderbericht USA” (Country Report USA, 1992, 1994, 1998, 2004, 2007). Since 1995, she has been actively involved in the design and the implementation of various education and cultural formats, especially for public sector clients. Anja Ostermann has provided process guidance/academic support in the Europeanization of cultural and citizenship education and the formation of political and cultural education networks. She has studied Comparative Literature, History, German Language and Literature, Business Administration and Italian at the University of Bonn and St. Andrew’s University in Scotland.

Alicja T. Pacewicz serves as co-director of the Center for Citizenship Education (NGO), responsible for programmes and educational resources. She studied at the Central School of Commerce in Warsaw and Sociology at Warsaw University, earning a MA in Economy (thesis on economic and social aspects of advertising). She worked as a researcher at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences and as a teacher trainer at the Centre for the Development of Educational Skills. Her main interests include citizenship education, teaching methods, project- and problem-based learning, ICT in education, school reform and teacher education. Alicja T. Pacewicz is the author and editor of numerous publications and textbooks on civic education and innovative instruction methods. She has participated in expert groups in the areas of national school curriculum, student assessment, education for democratic citizenship and Holocaust education.

Gabriella Patriziano is working as a Human Rights Officer and Human Rights Education Programme Coordinator for VIS (Volontariato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo), an Education NGO working in 32 countries to promote and protect the human rights of vulnerable children, to foster their human development and to enlarge their capabilities. She is a member of the pool of Trainers of the Forum Nazionale Giovani (Italian Youth Forum) and she works as a trainer for the Council of Europe and several national and international youth associations.
Gabriella Patriziano is doing a PhD on Human Rights Education at Università Pontificia Salesiana, Rome. She has a degree in Education Sciences at Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna, a Master Degree in Peace Studies: International Cooperation, Human Rights and Policies of the European Union, at the University of Roma and a Diploma of International Centre for University Human Rights Teaching, in collaboration with The International Institute of Human Rights René Cassin of Strasbourg.

Yulia Pererva is part of the team working on the Council of Europe Programme on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights. This Programme is a European contribution to the UN World Programme for Human Rights Education, and is implemented in close co-operation with other regional and international institutions and organisations. Prior to that, she contributed to a number of Council of Europe co-operation programmes in the field of human rights, youth and education. She had worked in the Delegation of the European Commission in Moscow before she moved to Strasbourg in 1997 to work for the Council of Europe.

Julia Pfinder is coordinating the network “Verstärker: Netzwerk zielgruppenspezifische Bildungsarbeit” on behalf of the bpb. She graduated her studies in Political Science, Law and Intercultural Communications. She works as a freelance project manager, trainer and consultant in the field of education and participation. With her emphasis on civic education, intercultural understanding, international youth exchanges as well as sustainable development, she has worked e.g. for the Federal Agency for Civic Education/bpb, the Society for International Cooperation and the state capital of Munich. Julia Pfinder managed the nationwide youth participation project “Aktion09” in 2009. The concept based upon the peer-to-peer-approach, 60 disadvantaged youth were qualified as multipliers to implement their own projects and activities for other adolescents.

Georg Pirker is since 2007 elected secretary of the DARE network (the European network for Democracy and Human Rights Education with 50 member organisations from 28 countries) and represents DARE’s view in various political bodies on European level. Further he is the person responsible for the department of European and international educational work at AdB (Association of German educational organisations) an umbrella organisation of civic educational NGO’s in Germany. He is an expert for non-formal Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education in both adult and youth learning in Europe and supervises the international work of about 180 German educational centres.

Petra Podobnikar is a researcher and graduate (MA) student of Political Science at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana. As a researcher she was involved in implementing one of the largest citizenship education projects in Slovenia, entitled “Citizen(ship) in the New Age: Citizenship Education for a Multicultural and Globalized World”. She is also the co-author of a recent European and Slovenian study on citizenship education of vulnerable groups. Her research interests include metaphor analysis, religion, political theory and political philosophy.

Konrad Pruszyński graduated from the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of Culture at the University of Warsaw and did Postgraduate Museum Studies at the Institute of Art History at University of Warsaw. Right now he is working on his PhD about local museums and their ability to help socially disadvantaged people. Since 2007 he has been vice-president of Expatria Association - a Polish non-governmental organisation based in Warsaw.
Filip Radunovic is currently working as a project manager for the Europe programme at ERSTE Foundation in Vienna (Austria), where he oversees initiatives focusing on gender issues, urban development and community affairs of the foundation. He studied Communication Studies and Political Science at the University of Vienna, Austria. His master’s and doctoral thesis concentrated on semiotics and media psychology. Filip Radunovic worked as a researcher at the Institute for Communication and Media Science in Vienna, where he contributed to projects on journalism in crises and conflict situations and surveyed effects of print and television advertisements. Beside his academic interests, Filip Radunovic has also contributed to the reform of the Montenegrin vocational education system working for KulturKontakt Austria in Podgorica. He continues to pursue his research interests as a lecturer of media theories at the University of Montenegro.

Gabriele Recknagel has 15 years of experience of developing and coordinating projects in Further Education and in the Third Sector. One key area has been adult learning for active citizenship at Exeter CVS, a Third Sector infrastructure organisation in England (exetercvs.org). Following involvement in a national pilot, she co-founded the Take Part Network in 2009 (takepart.org), which is dedicated to promoting active citizenship learning in a framework of social justice. In collaboration with her employer and the ‘Take Part’ active citizenship research cluster she is currently undertaking PhD research in Social Policy at Goldsmiths College with Professor Marjorie Mayo. Her bugbear has been that despite her commitment to active citizenship, she herself, as a German national in Britain, is ineligible to vote in (any) national elections.

Calin Rus is director of the Intercultural Institute of Timisoara (www.intercultural.ro) since 1996. Since 2010 he is training coordinator of the ROMED European Training Programme for Mediators working with Roma, initiated by the Council of Europe in 2010 and since 2004 initiator and facilitator of the Romanian National EDC Network. He is an expert of the Council of Europe on Education for Democratic Citizenship, Intercultural Education, Intercultural Dialogues Roma and Minority Issues, since 1998. Participation in various activities on EDC and Intercultural Education in Romania, as well as in countries of South-East Europe, South Caucasus. He has a MA in Sociology and a PhD in Social Psychology.

Justyna Rutkowska works as a producer, interpreter and researcher. She has wide-ranging experience in film and television production. She has worked for BBC, CNN, NHK, Discovery Europe, POLSAT, Wall to wall, Tiger Aspect, Sky One, CBC, and many others. She has a years-long experience in news and television production. In 2006 together with Krzysztof Dzieciolowski they established a production company – Vision House. Being in Vision House gave her an unique opportunity to work with best professionals like i.e. Christiane Amanpour, Harry Enfield or Jerry Springer. In 2010 she was a production manager in Vision House’s first feature documentary “Chopin Reloaded” premiered in August 2010 on BBC World to coincide with bicentenary of Chopin’s birth.

Jan Sisko obtained a one-year contract in the department of citizenship education in the Federal Ministry for Education, the Arts and Culture of Austria (BMUKK) since 2011. Before he worked directly after his studies as a language assistant in Lille in France. He studied political science with the focus on the international and European political system. Jan Sisko developed his thesis on the French foreign policy in Kosovo. One year of his studies he spent in France at the Université d’Angers. Besides that he was engaged in the youth network of JEF, participating in and organizing numerous international and national seminars as well as leading a campaign to raise awareness on the European Parliamentary Elections in 2009.
Christian Spatscheck is professor for Theories and Methodology of Social Work at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Applied Sciences Bremen. After studies in Social Work and Pedagogy he received his PhD in Social Pedagogy with a study on the relationship between youth cultures and social work. His main interests in research and development are theories and methodology of social pedagogy and social work, the spatial paradigm in social sciences, youth work, social development and international social work. His work is based on a longer practical experience in different fields of youth work and child and youth welfare. He is a Visiting Scholar at the School of Social Work at Lund University, has taught at different other German and European university departments for social work and social pedagogy. Christian Spatscheck is the author and editor of different books on social work and youth work and a co-editor at the public access online-journal sozialraum.de.

Oliver Steinke is an employee of the Organisation for the Economic Development of Skilled Trades SMEs (LGH), which is a joint service institution set up both by the chambers and the confederations of skilled trades in the German Federal State of North-Rhine Westphalia (NRW). He has been working as a director of state-wide education-projects in the department for vocational training for many years and is deputy of the head of department. His key aspects are the enhancement of occupational participation of socially disadvantaged young people, the development of media-based learning systems (e.g. e-learning, serious games, web communities) and the improvement of the skills of the training staff within the skilled trades training centres. Oliver Steinke studied at the Heinrich-Heine-University in Düsseldorf, North-Rhine-Westfalia and graduated with a degree in Adult and Youth Education.

Agata Tomaszewska is project coordinator at Polish Donors Forum. Previously she worked as project coordinator at Komandor Foundation and Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland. She has also been involved as educator in various non-governmental educational programmes for youth and teachers. She graduated from Cultural Studies at Warsaw University and she completed postgraduate training in NGOs Management at Collegium Civitas.

Györgyi Tóth has been a women's rights activist for 14 years, and has been working as a freelance human rights trainer for over eight years. She joined the Active Citizenship Foundation in 2008 as training and development coordinator, and has been responsible for the creation of the „Dream Citizen” programme manual in Hungarian, which is an educational programme on active citizenship designed primarily for the age groups 10-12 and suitable for implementation in public schools with a more traditional structure. Since the completion of the manual, Györgyi Tóth has been in charge of developing and organising trainings for teachers, youth workers and other adults planning to use the Dream Citizen programme.

Christiane Toyka-Seid is project manager of “Shaping Europe - Civic Education in Action”, a fellowship programme of the Federal Agency for Civic Education and the Robert Bosch Stiftung for young professionals from Central and South Eastern Europe. Christiane Toyka-Seid is running cts text-line, an agency for civic education. She is in charge of the conception and implementation of several educational formats and editor of www.hanisaauland.de, the children’s website for politics of the Federal Agency for Civic Education. She is also author (with Gerd Schneider) of the young Dictionary for Politics.
**Chana van der Velden** is an advisor at NJR het Bureau specialised in youth policy and youth participation. She is giving local governments (professionals) advice about positive youth policy, based on different methods, which proved their effects. She gives answers to clients about reaching and involving youth in many ways. Research is a very important base for her advising work and the reason why she is still doing a lot of research among (risk) youth. For example about young care takers, drinking problems, practice of safe sex and the acceptance of homosexuality.

**Kamila Wieczorek** has worked since 2011 as programme assistant for the project “Young Activists of Presidency” at the Center for Citizenship Education. Therefore she is responsible for the written blog and promotion of the programme, the animating blogs of participants, preparing and animating the Internet festival, writing articles and the website redaction. She worked before on the evaluation of the project of the University of Warsaw: “Education, disability, information, technology – eliminating barriers for the access of disabled people to education” and also worked for the Social Consultancy for the Centre of Social Communication of the City of Warsaw. In 2010 she did a professional practice in „Fundacja Bieszczadzka”, which is part of the programme “City helps students. Students help locally” and worked on the sociological project of Birkbeck “Young people and the cultural performance of belief” at the University of London.

**Andy Williamson** is an internationally recognised consultant, researcher and commentator on digital and new media strategies with an in-depth understanding of effective citizen engagement, online democracy and digital campaigning. Focussing on social media, society and policy with a background in software innovation, Andy Williamson was recently described by the UK’s Observer newspaper as a ‘prominent democrat’. As a New Zealander based in London, he holds a PhD from Monash University in Australia.

**Katarzyna Zakroczymska** is sociologist and has been working since 1997 for the in-service teacher training system in Poland. She is also a former national coordinator of the Council of Europe Education for Democratic Citizenship Programme. She is engaged in different innovative initiatives concerning the education system in Poland and for international cooperation. Now she is working at the Warsaw Centre for Socio-Educational Innovation and Training as a person responsible mainly for operational projects connected with Warsaw Educational Policy and for cooperation with parents and NGO’s.