

Strasbourg, 12 October 2016

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## Agenda

European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA)

Conference on “Migrants, asylum seekers and refugees  
in the context of major risks prevention and  
management”

organised in cooperation with the North-South Centre of the Council of  
Europe and the support of the INGO Conference of the Council Of Europe

Ismaili Centre  
Lisbon, Portugal

14 October 2016

[www.coe.int/euoparisks](http://www.coe.int/euoparisks)

## Background and aim of the Conference

Through its EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement, the Council of Europe is promoting improvements in emergency planning, disaster response and risk mitigation for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

International population movements pose a challenge to member states in particular in the context of disaster risk management for vulnerable groups; policies and practices have to be adjusted for the greater mobility of people, and the increasingly complex relationship between risk and mobility. For those currently working in civil protection, this is an unfamiliar issue. Many agencies seem to be responding to situations instead of anticipating them. Civil protection organisations need to take the specific needs of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees into account in their interventions.

The Resolution on “Ethical principles relating to disaster risk reduction and contributing to people’s resilience to disasters”<sup>1</sup>, is the basis for the current EUR-OPA work programme. The Council of Europe has convened a working group to produce a survey of current developments in Europe on migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in the context of major risks prevention and management. A Training Workshop took place in the summer on “Reducing the vulnerability of migrants in emergency situations”<sup>2</sup>. This event will be followed by an implementation workshop in one of the member states.

At the conference, a compilation of good practices, guidelines for action and a declaration with recommendations for action across Europe will be discussed; these documents will be formally adopted at the 13<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Session of the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement<sup>3</sup>. Discussions at the Conference will focus on how to take forward initiatives in this field in order to improve the quality of services designed to support migrants, asylum seekers and refugees who are confronted with emergencies or disaster risk.

Migration is predominantly an urban issue, since towns and cities are the main destination for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. A broad-based, flexible and inclusive approach is taken, looking beyond the current refugee crisis. Civil protection should work with many other support organisations and groups, including the formal and informal organisations of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers themselves. There is an important role for civil society organisations of many kinds to give practical help, show solidarity and cultural exchange.

The results of this project will be a contribution to The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> adopted in 2011; (Resolution 2011 – 1) <http://www.coe.int/en/web/europarisks/resolutions>

<sup>2</sup> Organised in a joint venture by IOM and Council of Europe at the Centro Universitario Europeo per i Beni Culturali in Ravello, 28-29 June 2016.

<sup>3</sup> From Advocacy to Action: building more disaster resilient societies in Europe and the Mediterranean region. Lisbon, Portugal, 25 October 2016.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.wcdrr.org/>

## Participants

Policy makers, representatives of local, regional and national governments, agencies, voluntary associations (mainly in civil protection and care and assistance of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers), INGOs, Intercultural cities network; academics, and all stakeholders working with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and disaster risk reduction.

## Languages

The working languages of the conference are English and French.

## Organiser

The Council of Europe, in close cooperation with its North-South Centre, the INGO Conference and the Portuguese authorities.

## Market Place:

Possibility to display material during the Conference



**Conference on**  
**“Migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in the context**  
**of major risks prevention and management”**  
**Friday, 14 October 2016**

08.30-09.00	Registration
<b>Opening of the Conference</b>	
09.00-09.20	<p><u>Greeting Messages sent by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Panagiotis Kouroumplis, Minister of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction, Greece</li><li>■ Tomas Bocek, Special Representative of the Secretary General on migration and refugees, Council of Europe</li></ul> <p><u>Welcome speeches</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Mr João Afonso, Deputy Mayor for Social Rights, Lisbon, Portugal</li><li>■ Dr Eladio Fernández-Galiano, Head of the Democratic Initiatives Department, Acting Executive Secretary, European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA), Council of Europe</li><li>■ Dr Jean-Marie Heydt, Chair of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre</li><li>■ Mr Nazim Ahmad, Ismaili Imamat and Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) Representative</li></ul>
<b>1. Political commitment</b>	
09.20 – 10.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Dr Pedro Calado, Alto-comissário para as Migrações, Government of Portugal. Integration policies of migrants in Portugal: what works?</li><li>■ Ms Paola Albrito, United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction UNISDR (by video link)</li><li>■ Dr Stephen Curzon, DG-ECHO Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection, European Commission (by video link)</li><li>■ Ms Anna Rurka, Chair, INGO Conference, Council of Europe: The quality of interaction between public authorities and civil society organisations - a strong success factor for migration policy, respectful of human rights and of the needs of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Dr Nikolaos Sitaropoulos, Deputy to the Director, Office of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Effective respect of Council of Europe human rights standards is vital for mitigating migration risks</li> <li>■ Mr Duarte Marques, PACE, Parliamentary action to address forced migration</li> </ul>
10.45-11.15	Coffee break
<h2>2. Keynote Speeches</h2>	
11.15-11.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mr Vangelis Avgoulas, Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform, Greece, Major risks, refugee/migration crisis and vulnerable social groups: day – to – day practice indicates a need for management and social integration</li> </ul> <p>Questions/discussion</p>
<h2>3. Project Outcomes</h2>	
11.45-12.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Dr Mechthilde Fuhrer, EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement, Council of Europe</li> <li>■ Dr John Twigg, Prof. Bertrand Pauvert, Prof. Audrey Morel Senatore, Mr Silvio Sagromola, Members of the Working Group</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The publication: Migrants, Refugees, Asylum Seekers: Inclusion in Disaster Preparedness and Response</li> <li>• Guidelines for Assisting Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees during emergencies and disasters</li> <li>• Recommendation on the Inclusion of Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees in disaster preparedness and response</li> <li>• Compilation of inspiring examples on Major Hazards and Migrants: their Involvement in Disaster Preparedness and Response</li> <li>• Open floor discussion</li> <li>• Acknowledgment of these documents, to be submitted to the EUR-OPA Committee of Permanent Correspondents on 25 October 2016 and adopted at the 13<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Session of EUR-OPA on 26 October 2016 in Lisbon.</li> </ul>
12.30 -13.00	Press Conference
12.15-14.00	<p>Lunch break : in parallel Market Place and Presentations in the Foyer</p> <p>Poster presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mr Viktor Poyarkov, European Centre of Technological Safety (TESEC), Ukraine, Migrants in the Case of emergency</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Dr Diana Reiners, Prof. Dr. Gilles Reckinger, Bitter Oranges, European Association of Teachers, University of Innsbruck, Austria</li> <li>■ Dr Lorenzo Guadagno, IOM/MICIC, Geneva, Reducing the vulnerability of migrants in emergencies.</li> <li>■ Dr Alessandro Barelli, San Marino, ImMigrants Project</li> <li>■ Dr Radostina Primova, Director Climate and Sustainable Development Programme, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung European Union, Conclusions of the study TIME TO ACT and HBS work on climate migration</li> <li>■ Sofoklis Panagiotou, Smile of Child, Greece</li> </ul> <p>During the lunch break (starting at 13.00) there will also be a guided tour through the Ismaili Centre.</p>
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## 4. Practical experiences

<p>14.00-15.45</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mr Jérôme Hamilius, Director for European Cooperation &amp; Strategy, Council of Europe Development Bank, CEB's recent activities and experience</li> <li>■ Ms Lisette Robles, Keio University, Japan, Linkages in disasters: Perspective on a migrant inclusive disaster risk reduction and recovery.</li> <li>■ Dr Khadija Qesmoun GREM (migration research group) of CERSS (Centre for studies and research in the social sciences), Morocco's immigration policy: between regulation, integration and the fight against illegal immigration</li> <li>■ Mr Franck Iyanga, ODT, (trade union working with African migrants), Morocco, The experience of a union of migrant workers in a developing continent faced with the migration issue.</li> <li>■ Mr Jean-Michel Caudron, FIAPA ; member of the Bureau of the INGO Conference, in charge of migration issues, member of the Executive Bureau of the North South Centre, The advisability of international response teams of gerontological and geriatric emergencies</li> <li>■ Ms Carmen Diego Gonçalves, Jesuit Refugee Service, Portugal, "JRS-Portugal - Reception of migrants and refugees. Reducing vulnerability towards risk and promote resilience"</li> <li>■ Mr Daniel Guery, MIAMSI France, INGO Conference, Considering what is required to ensure a better protection of people migrating</li> <li>■ Mr Jean-Luc Simon and Mr Mohammed Hannan, DPI, France</li> </ul> <p>Questions/discussion</p>
<p>15.45-16.15</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>

## 5. Co-ordination and continuity

16.15-17.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Dr Alex Robinson, Risk, mobility and access: Opportunities for inclusion under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.</li><li>■ Dr Robert Rozinsky, Language Department, Landesverteidigungsakademie Austria, Multilingualism und intercultural competence as a contribution to the security and the integration of adult migrants</li><li>■ Ms Bodil Høyer Damsgaard, Social educational work with refugee minor asylum seekers, AIEJI</li><li>■ Prof. William Yule, Emeritus Professor of Applied Child Psychology, King's College London; Chair British Psychological Society Presidential Task Force on Refugees and Migrants, Needs of unaccompanied minors</li></ul>
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## 6. Strategic planning and Enlarging the vision

17.00 – 17.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Ms Lora Pappa, Laureate of the North South Prize, President of METAdrasi, Greece</li><li>■ Dr Daniele Del Bianco, Ms Chiara Bianchizza, ISIG, Italy, Bridging technologies to increase community resilience</li><li>■ Mr Akiyoshi Kikuchi, Multicultural Society Coordinator, Sendai, Disaster prevention practice and promoting collaboration of diverse groups to realize a fair multicultural society</li><li>■ Mr Malte Schönefeld, University Greifswald, Cascading effects and cultural competence of civil protection staff</li></ul>
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## 7. Closing Remarks

17.45 – 18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Ms Ana Freitas, Civil Protection, Portugal, Vice-Chair of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement, 13th Ministerial Session of EUR-OPA on 26 October 2016 in Lisbon</li><li>■ Mr Tony Varo, Civil Protection, Monaco, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement</li><li>■ Dr. John Twigg, Concluding remarks and closure of the conference</li></ul>
	Bus transfer from the Ismaili Centre to the Centre of town
19.00	Reception and official dinner hosted by the Lisbon Municipality