

## Global Education Thematic Seminar:

### “The benefits of an intercultural and holistic approach to education for sustainable development: a North-South perspective”

*Valletta (Malta), 19 April 2024*

#### Speakers and Moderators



**Natalija Aceska** has been active in education for more than twenty years in Macedonia. She started as a biology teacher and worked her way up to becoming a high school principal. Now, she advises the Ministry of Education and Science and leads an NGO called "Knowledge Harvest" in Prilep.

Throughout her career, Natalija has gained various certifications and achievements. She became a certified GLOBE International trainer in 2007 and has been a Scientix Ambassador for Macedonia since 2013. She's also recognized as an expert in European policy networks and plays a significant role in a Council of Europe project focused on sustainable development education.

Natalija's main focus is on improving education. She conducts training sessions for teachers and emphasizes the importance of STEM education and education for sustainable development. She's written research papers on democratic education, sustainable development, and STEM initiatives.

In her academic pursuits, Natalija completed a doctoral dissertation on integrating sustainable development into education. She's passionate about equipping educators with the skills they need to prepare students for the future.



**Andrew Azzopardi** is an Associate Professor and Dean of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing and Head of the Department of Youth and Community Studies. His lecturing and research focus on inclusive education, sociology, critical pedagogy, disability politics, youth and community studies. He has contributed extensively to a number of lauded journals, and has published various texts on disability politics, young people, and inclusive education. He is a Member of the Editorial Panel of the highly acclaimed International Journal of Inclusive Education, and co-editor of Inclusive communities: A Critical Reader (2012). Azzopardi has also edited Youth: Responding to Lives – An International Reader (2013), co-edited Perspectives on wellbeing – a reader (2019) and also co-edits *societas.expert*.



**Nevena Čabrilo** is a highly experienced and accomplished professional in the field of education. With over 30 years of experience and master's degree in biochemistry, she currently holds the position of senior advisor at Montenegro's Bureau for Educational Services. Throughout her career, she has gained extensive expertise in curriculum development for primary and secondary schools, education for sustainable development as well as in the integration of key competences into the education system of Montenegro.

In addition to her role as a senior advisor, Nevena is an active member of various international and national bodies for education and has authored numerous publications. Furthermore, she is teacher trainer and coordinator of various projects.



**Federica Cicala** is a trainer and a learning designer of global citizenship education programmes. From 2008, she has been active in the youth field, becoming vice president of a youth organisation in Rome and collaborating as international officer with the Italian National Youth Council, where she designed and implemented capacity building programmes for trainers and youth leaders in the framework of the Euro-African and Euro-Arab and Mediterranean youth cooperation processes. She has been coordinating the Training of Trainers on Global Education and Youth for the North South Centre of the Council of Europe between 2012 and 2017, and she is the co-author of the revised version of the Global Education Guidelines of the NSC of CoE edited in 2019.

Currently, she works for an international NGO as learning and development specialist where she creates connections and synergies between formal, non-formal and business learning methodological approaches, to enable the recognition and the enhancement of individual and collective competences boosting human value, social innovation, employability, and quality of life with a global perspective.



**William Grech** has been involved in the fields of international development cooperation, global education, refugee support and the non-profit sector since 2002. He has been designing, managing, implementing and monitoring social impact projects since 2007. Moreover, he is an experienced trainer in project cycle management and global education. He has held different roles within a number of organisations and networks, also at board level. Currently, he is Chairperson of SKOP (the National Platform of Maltese development NGOs) and the National Focal Point for AidWatch, representing SKOP in CONCORD structures, particularly in advocacy and monitoring of international aid for sustainable development. He works full-time as the Executive Director of the Maltese non-profit organisation Kopin (VO/0200).



**Ahlem Jelalia Kchaou** is a principal inspector of preparatory and secondary education specializing in Life and Earth Sciences (SVT), as well as a researcher in educational sciences. Holder of a master's degree in biology teaching, she is currently doing doctoral studies in the field of education for sustainable development, focusing on the training of teachers in citizenship education with reference to the field of social representations.

She is the vice-president of the Tunisian association of digital and educational culture (ATCNP), the secretary general of the association of SVT teachers in Sfax (APSVT) and member of the education committee in the Mediterranean Organization for Development of Cultures in Tunisia (MDC).

With extensive experience in the education sector (evaluation, training and innovation), she regularly participates as an expert in the development of benchmarks, guides and modules for awareness raising and training in environmental and sustainable development education. She also seeks to develop teachers' skills in new teaching methods and in information and communication technologies that are adapted to scientific teaching in the 21st century.



**Alexandros Kassapis** is a young Cypriot environmental activist. He has a background in Law (University of Warwick) and Law & Sustainability (University of Utrecht). For the past year, he has been working for the international NGO Youth and Environment Europe (YEE) as a biodiversity lead and environmental law assistant. He is passionate about intergenerational equity and intersectionality in addressing the triple planetary crisis. He is also active in non-formal education environments where he likes to raise awareness and empower youth to become active citizens and collectively address the crises of our times.



**Mark Mifsud** is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Centre for Environmental Education and Research (CEER) at the University of Malta. He has more than 25 years' experience in the sector and he designed and currently co-ordinates both the Master in Education for Sustainable Development and the Certificate in Environmental Education and Interpretation.

He is the Deputy Head of the European School of Sustainability Science and Research based in Hamburg and the Chief Examiner (worldwide) of the International Baccalaureate 'Environmental Systems and Societies'. Mark held academic posts at the University of Ca Foscari Venice, Italy, at Southern New Hampshire University, North Central University and James Madison University in the US and at the University of Yaounde, Cameroon. He was a visiting Professor at Gdansk University, Poland in 2023. In the last years Mark has published more than 50 peer reviewed publications in high impact refereed journals, five books, edited two volumes of the World Sustainability Series by Springer, and co-edited the 17 volume SDG book series by Emerald.



**Dr. Momodou Salla**, is the Director, Centre for Academic Innovation, and a Reader in Globalisation and Global Youth Work at De Montfort University, UK. He is also a founding Director of Global Hands, which is a Social Enterprise/Charity operating in The Gambia and UK, with a focus on capacity building and social good. In June 2013, he was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship by the UK Higher Education Academy.

In November 2015, he was named the "Most Innovative Teacher" in the UK by Times Higher.

He has more than 20 years' experience working with young people at local, national and international levels; from being the Youth Director of Gambia Red Cross Society to a Senior Youth Worker at the Leicester City Council, UK. Dr. Sallah has numerous publications in the fields of poetry; work with black young people; young Muslims; and globalisation/global youth work. His research interests include diversity, participatory methodologies, globalisation in relation especially to young people, and public engagement.



**Dr. Namrata Sharma**, an international consultant, is on the faculty at the State University of New York. She is an expert with the [United Nations Harmony with Nature Knowledge Network](#). She has served on the Boards of several professional organizations in Europe, India, Middle East, and USA.

Her research interests focus on International and Comparative Education, Global Citizenship Education, and Sustainability Education, drawing meaningful linkages between teaching the UNESCO-led initiatives of Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Education. She has authored several journal articles and books including, *Value-Creating Global Citizenship Education for Sustainable Development* (2020). For more see [DrNamrataSharma.com](http://DrNamrataSharma.com)





Professor Tamar Shuali Trachtenberg is PhD in Pedagogy. She holds an International MA Degree in Peace conflict and Development Studies. (University Jaime I Castellon) and MA in Theory of Education (Valencia University). She is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Science of Education and Teacher Education, Catholic University of Valencia. She is the Director of the European Institute of Education for Democratic Culture of the UCV and Co-Chairs the Simone Veil Chair on prevention of racism, antisemitism and enhancement of Interculturality in the Complutense University in Madrid.

She is a board member of the Spanish Comparative Education Society, and member of the Spanish society of Pedagogy and the International association for Intercultural education. Since 2019 She leads the Research contract for the JRC -EC on the development of Intercultural and Democratic Competences in teacher education and since 2020 form part of the CoE Expert group on the RFCDC implementation in teach education.



**Karim Tedjani** is a consultant and trainer whose journey began in 2010, as an environmental activist, with the creation of the first web portal in Algeria entirely dedicated to ecology, the environment and sustainable development. The portal was named “Nouara” after the first name of his great aunt, a rural woman from the northeast of Algeria who played a big role in his education in Algerian nature, both literally and figuratively.

With several thousands of press and scientific articles as well as hundreds of editorial articles by Karim Tedjani, “Nouara” quickly became a reference site for all those active in Algeria in all areas related to the environment. Karim travelled his vast country to understand on the ground the environmental issues affecting Algeria, to make them known to the general public and advocate to mitigate their effects. From 2018 onwards, he became a consultant and trainer for numerous Algerian or international associations and companies. He is the founding father of a concept, “Darology” which is a North African approach to political ecology and sustainable development.